

Ontario Medical Journal.

SENT TO EVERY MEMBER OF THE PROFESSION IN ONTARIO, BRITISH COLUMBIA,
AND NORTH-WEST TERRITORY.

R. B. ORR, EDITOR.

J. A. CREASOR, ASSOCIATE EDITOR

TERRITORIAL EDITORS:

No. 1.—DR. J. H. DESCAN, Chatham.
" 2.—DR. M. F. LUCAS, Ingersoll.

No. 3.—DR. W. T. WEEKS, London.
" 4.—DR. JOHN CAMPBELL, Seaforth.

No. 5.—DR. GEO. ACHESON, Galt.
" 6.—DR. A. R. HARVIE, Orillia.

All Communications should be addressed to the Editor, 147 Cowan Avenue, Toronto.

VOL. III.]

TORONTO, MARCH, 1895.

[No. 8.

Contributions of various descriptions are invited. We shall be glad to receive from our friends everywhere current medical news of general interest. Secretaries of County or Territorial Medical Associations will oblige by forwarding reports of the proceedings of their Associations. Physicians who do not receive their Journal regularly, or who at any time change their address, will please notify the editor to that effect.

Editorials.

THE ACT TO AMEND THE ONTARIO MEDICAL ACT.

During the last election for the Legislative Assembly, a very important class of the community in Ontario, representing the farming element, made a fairly successful attempt to get representation of their own in the House, irrespective of the two old parties. The movement is an old one brought up in a new form, and promises to be of some use, both to that particular part of the community and to the public at large.

The members elected are men of good standing, and presumably of good understanding, being supposed to be the strongest in the riding for which they were elected. Whether they are the strongest, or, indeed, whether they are strong, they have still to show, as their actions so far, both in the line of voting on measures on which they built their platform, and on measures promulgated among themselves as new Acts or the repeal of Acts, are a source of wonder to ordinary thinking men.

Politics are far from our line, but one bill,

brought forward by Mr. Haycock, with the Patron support, is most decidedly our business, namely, "The Act to amend the Ontario Medical Act." It was our intention to give an expression of opinion on this bill to the medical public before the second reading, but, unfortunately, through unforeseen circumstances, we are publishing too late. An apology is hardly necessary for the delay, but if anyone wishes it we are quite willing to give it.

The gist of the bill was ridiculous in the extreme, both from the standpoint of benefit to the profession and benefit to the general public. All the good clauses in the Act were to be repealed, and many others, almost iniquitous ones, to be added, giving scope to any kind of quacks, fakirs and midwives. We are satisfied that if it had become law the Patrons would surely have been the first ones to ask for a repeal of their own legislation after a trial of one year, as their constituents would certainly have been that part of the people most open to the workings of the class they were allowing into the profession.

The questions dealt with showed their real value when every member of the House, except the Patrons themselves and one other, voted against them *in toto*. There was no thought to