

equal number of other medical gentlemen, equal in social and professional respectability, bringing forward a theory totally conflicting.

Were these eight gentlemen members of rival schools—disciples of Stahl Hoffmann, Hahnemann or Prusnitz on the one hand; or of Callen on the other—a key might be found to unlock the mystery, but 'tis not so—all disciples of the same school—all deriving their information from the same sources probably—all having opportunities of verifying or rectifying any preconceived views, varied and extensive. One, the *doyen* of the profession in Montreal; four, professors in two respectable and friendly schools; one, physician to one of our largest hospitals; another, house surgeon to the same; and one, the writer, bearing no higher title than that of a medical practitioner.

The whole thinking public has become a talking public, and remarks, not at all complimentary to the disciples of Esculapius, have been freely indulged in. The members of a profession hitherto always treated with respect in investigations requiring their aid, have been censured for having mystified what was plain, and medical evidence generally, such as is forthcoming upon similar occasions; stigmatized by the presiding judge, as having obtained such proportions as to have become here, as in England, a nuisance to which it was high time to put a stop. The following is a report of the case.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.—HON. JUSTICE AYLWIN, PRESIDING.

FRIDAY, Jan. 13th 1860.

The Court opened at 10 o'clock. A mixed jury was sworn in the case of James Connell who stood charged with having, on the 24th of May last, in this City, murdered his wife, Sarah Nolan.

Mr. Johnson, Q.C., conducted the prosecution: Mr. Devlin, with Mr. Morin, for the defence.

Mr. Johnson opened the case, by narrating briefly the circumstances to the jury. The first witness examined was,

*James Brennan.*—Lived in the same house with the prisoner, in Wellington Street. Knew the deceased. On Monday evening he smashed all the delf and was arrested shortly afterwards, there was nothing but quarrelling from that until the day she died. During that interval I often had to come down out of my room at night to save her, having heard her cries of murder. I saw him kicking her about the shins and thighs and also saw him catch her between the breast and stomach, and twist her by the flesh and then punch her with his fist about the body. This was about two or three days before her death. A very short time before her death, she came to my room for protection, he wanted to drag her down stairs, my wife then came between the two. The prisoner struck at deceased with an axe handle; my wife ran between them and received the blow on her shoulder. [The axe handle was here produced and identified.] This occurred three or four days before her death, and they continued to quarrel up to the time of her death. About 6 o'clock upon the evening she died, I heard a noise in the prisoner's apartments; and heard his voice in a high tone. Shortly after this my wife went down stairs; she immediately came up in haste, and I heard a footstep after. It was the prisoner; he wanted her to come down stairs, she said she would not as he would murder her as he had done his wife. I left the house and had the prisoner arrested in his own room. Deceased was then in bed in her own room. I went over to the deceased and spoke to her, but I could not understand her answers; at that time there was a kind of froth in her mouth. I immediately sent her son for a medical man, who arrived about half an hour after. The prisoner and his wife quarrelled over a dozen of times to my knowledge, within six or eight days of her death about money which she had in the bank