

perhaps two" of the functionaries of the College "may have interfered with these endeavours"; let him disprove the foregoing statement by respectable authority if he can. The petition sent to the Legislature in 1845-6, in opposition to the bill brought forward by Mr. Sherwood (with the concurrence of the Medico-Chirurgical Society) was signed by Messrs. Beaumont, Gwynn and Sullivan, members of the Medical Faculty of the College; the movement originated with them, and the petition itself owed its paternity to Mr. Beaumont. Let Verax disprove this fact by respectable authority if he can. But the hostility of the University was not confined to the Medical Faculty: it is well known that other and higher functionaries regarded with dislike the idea of the incorporation of the Medical Profession; and if such exposure did not unfortunately involve a breach of confidence, I would name them. The fact that Mr. Beaumont's petition has been the cause of the humiliating position in which the profession in this part of Canada finds itself placed at present, does not admit of the shadow of a doubt. To Mr. Beaumont and his associates chiefly the members of that profession are indebted for the insults heaped upon them by the tag-rag and bob-tail of the House of Assembly—by such men as Billy Flint, Peter Perry—(Phœbus! what a name!)—Mr. M'Connell, Mr. Morrison, and last, not least, by Mr. Merritt—but for that interference we should now have been a corporate body of several years' standing.

A Country Practitioner has adduced, in support of his remarks upon the disorderly character of the convocation which formed part of the subject of his first letter, the newspaper reports of the proceedings and the notoriety of the fact. He supports his charge of artful manœuvring against the medical aspirants to the chair of anatomy by a reference to the fact that one or two of these gentlemen proposed, in convocation, that the offices of the College should be given in preference to members, &c. &c.—and how does Verax meet these arguments? Why, by nothing more than his own stupid and sententious *ipse dixit*.

A trifling inadvertence of a Country Practitioner has proved a perfect God-send to Verax, and he triumphs gloriously. Let us examine the grounds of that triumph. The Senate, according to the statute, is composed at present of 24 members, six of whom are not members of the University, the other eighteen members have hitherto, I

believe, formed a large majority of the convocation; and I think that most of your readers will agree with a Country Practitioner that the composition of both bodies "may be regarded as identical," inasmuch as three-fourths of the whole number of the Senate form very nearly three-fourths of the convocation, even by Verax's own showing: for he names only eight members of convocation who are not members of the Senate. The Practitioner's assertion, therefore, that an aspirant to office might be affected by the individuals composing the convocation, is perfectly true.

Verax challenges a Country Practitioner to show a shadow of proof of the inconsistency of the high church Tory party. I hold it inconsistent in Dr. M'Caul, Dr. Beavan, Dr. Lundy, Mr. Smith, Mr. Cruikshank, Dr. O'Brien, Mr. Stennet, Mr. Draper, Mr. Barron, and others who form part of the high church party, who have denounced so vehemently the Godlessness of the University, to take parts in the election of officers for that institution, and to elect one of their own number to fill the office of pro-Vice-Chancellor. A Country Practitioner, who is a member of the Church of England, condemns as loudly as any one the change in the character of the University; but he detests the spirit, and despises the inconsistency, of those members of the Church of England who have fought for its offices.

Verax, in his first epistle, admits that the Senate is scandalously corrupt. In his second letter he repels with indignation (and without any explanation of the "change that had come o'er the spirit of his dream") a charge of the Colonist newspaper to the same effect. Shall we imitate his mode of dealing with an opponent, and charge him roundly with ignorance of classical literature? I fear there is nothing else for it. The lines quoted by a Country Practitioner beginning with the words "fingit solennia campus," admit of but one construction—their meaning is unmistakable; and Verax has admitted, in referring to these lines, that they "may be applicable to the Senate in the final choice of the professor of practical anatomy." This admission places him, to quote his own language, "on the horns of an awkward dilemma—he must either hold ignorance or falsehood."

I am, Sir,

Your most obt. humble servant,

A FRIEND OF THE
COUNTRY PRACTITIONER.

Home District, C.W.

September 13, 1850.