

ing about a new era in the administration of our civic sanitary affairs, for it is notorious how deplorably deficient these are.

Prof. Archibald, of McGill College Law Faculty, has also been elected Alderman for St. Antoine Ward. The upright character, wide learning, and high attainments of this gentleman will no doubt prove of eminent service in the councils of our city.

Medical Items.

AN OLD DEFINITION OF THE MEANING OF "DOCTOR."—A. Cresswell Rich writes to the *British Medical Journal*: The following epigram appears at the end of the preface to "The Practice of Physic," by Lazarus Riverius. From my study at Montpelier, July 1, 1653. It is signed "W. R.":—

"Doctors, or Teachers, they of *Physick* are
 (Whether by Pen they do it, or in Chair,
 With lively *Voyce*), that teach the way to know
Man's Nature, Health and Sickness, and do show
Diseases, Cause, and Cure. But they who spend
 Their Life in *Visits*, and whose Labours end
 In taking *Fees*, and giving *Paper-scrouls*,
 FACTORS of *Physick* are; and none but *Owls*
 Do count such *Doctors*, that no *Latin* know.
 From whence that *Name* did to our Language flow.

W. R., Doctor, and Factor of *Physick*."

—In Manchester, Eng., a druggist dispensed "three pennyworth of quicksilver and three pennyworth of aquafortis" to a man who wished to mix them to make some sort of an ointment. The man had bought these articles before, but they had always been put up separately. On this occasion they were put in the same bottle, which the man placed in his breast pocket, and left the shop. Very soon the bottle exploded, burning his face and eyes so seriously that he died at the Manchester Eye Hospital.

Maltopepsyn.—Since its introduction into the Dominion of Canada, some four years ago, Maltopepsyn has met with a constantly increasing demand. This has no doubt been to a great extent created by the support of the medical profession. It is also said to be gaining ground in Great Britain, and to have been received there with much favor. It continues to sustain its reputation for the alleviation of digestive disorders and the cure of infants' troubles, such as cholera infantum, &c.