The Canada Lancet

VOL. LI.

TORONTO, MARCH, 1918 No. 7

EDITORIAL

CHIROPRACTIC.

This abomination of modern times is like all bad weeds, hard to uproot. It advocates are grossly ignorant of the true science of medicine; and, in proportion to their ignorance, are endowed with a boldness to advocate that which is false that would put Autolycus to shame. There is no science in chiropractic unless it be that of humbugging the people and making some money by its practice. As a splendid example of what we are now stating we publish the following letter:

Los Angeles, Cal., February 11th, 1918.

"Dr. John Ferguson, M.A., M.D.,

"Dear Sir,-I have been reading your article, 'False Systems of Healing' No. 3." Having had eight years' experience with chiropractic, giving nearly 4,000 treatments per year, with no vacations and with no advertising; having made an extended study as a layman of the various systems of medicine, and also having had brains enough to make a success in life before I began to study chiropractic at 50 years of age, I claim to be well qualified to pass judgment upon your articles on the subject.

"I say this-that chiropractic is all that is claimed for it by its conservative advocates. That it is beyond comparison more successful than any system of drug treatment, allopathic, homeopathic or eclectic, and in the hands of competent practitioners very much more so than osteopathy. That many surgical operations are entirely needless. That many cases, hopelessly incurable by medicine or surgery, are brought back to health by chiropractic. That as a preventive of disease it is without a rival. That its foundation principles are absolutely correct and in no wise out of harmony with proven anatomy.

"In speaking of chiropractic we refer to its practice in the hands of competent men. Unfortunately it has been exploited by cheap men and schools and correspondence courses and large numbers of that kind of chiropractors have been sent out to misrepresent the science. But you