

every thing that relates to the preservation or restoration of health?—How *fatally* do men mistake their *best interests* by paying close attention to every other subject to the neglect of this? How deplorably wretched is that man's condition who, on being suddenly arrested by the fatal grasp of disease, finds that madman like, he has left the consideration of Religion to the Priest, and Physic to the Doctor, thus rendering himself the *lawful* prey of the designing hirelings of both professions? However careless or inattentive he may have *formerly* been to the subject of health, *now* it appears of greater consequence than all his worldly attainments put together. For, do we not all see that even the exalted hope of future happiness in a better world, in a great measure depends upon it? for there is no "*work or device in the grave,*" and the mind that is prostrated by bodily disease, is absolutely unfit to contemplate, and act upon the sublime principles of moral purity which constitute the elements of future happiness, and as all are at some period of their lives placed in this situation, it becomes every man to investigate the physical laws of his existence, the sure penalties for a violation of which, are disease and death, and also while in health, pay proper attention to the success of the various modes of medication practiced around him, in order that he may be properly prepared to judge of their comparative merits when compelled to choose for himself or for his family. In no country is there a greater necessity for general knowledge on this subject than in Canada. The population is extensively scattered. The mistaken policy of class Legislation that has heretofore placed the professors of

one particular medical creed or system at the legal door of Medical study and practice, has enabled them to close that door against all that do not comply with their arbitrary and unnecessary requirements, and physicians of this class have consequently become, like angel's visits, few and far between. In 1840, the proportion of Licensed practicing physicians did not exceed one to every two thousand of the inhabitants of Upper Canada. Nor is it probable that this relative proportion has materially altered up to this time. Many a large and populous township is without a single resident, practicing physician of this class, but although the physician is thus put far away, and for all cases requiring prompt attention, rendered to many of the people, as inaccessible as the man in the moon, physic, however, is not quite so easily legislated away, or made the subject of monopoly. The Canadian farmer has only to look abroad upon his woods and fields to see the means of curing or alleviating his diseases growing spontaneously in rich and endless variety around him. Many persons have been taught to believe that the subject of *disease* and *cure* is necessarily a very mysterious one, far beyond the comprehension of a person of ordinary mind and common education. They have gaped in *perfect awe* at the incomprehensibly big words of their Learned doctor, and when they were sent with his Latin prescription to the shop of the village apothecary, and there beheld the great display of foreign medicines covered with Greek and Latin labels, they have been led to suppose that all this jargon served some *very important* purpose in the cure of the disease, and was some how or other, identi-