

every hour. If we desire to stay the progress of epidemic diseases, there should be every effort made to limit the number of pupils to the area of class-room accommodations. Well might Dr. Thomas, Rochester, remark at the Medical Society meeting in June, 1876, that "Education was not in all instances the unmistakable blessing which it seemed to be, for it became necessary to acquire it at too great a risk," and, under such circumstances, he recommended that every school district should have a competent and well paid medical director, who should devote himself thoroughly and conscientiously to the many hygienic duties of the position. It is impossible to over-estimate the importance of this subject which at present is engaging the attention of public men in every country. Dr. Bowditch in his address at the International Medical Congress, Philadelphia, 1876, stated that over 200,000 persons are annually slaughtered in the United States by preventable diseases. What the death rate in the school children in the Dominion may be, or in those of the Province of Ontario, now numbering 496,000, between the ages of five and sixteen years, I could not offer an estimate. From personal observation, I fear that the cramming system of the present day is not likely to produce a generation equal to the one now passing away. The most useless individuals in society are those who know everything and can do nothing. Our country is rapidly developing and we require workers; workers not converted into drones, by excessive ill-directed application in the buvant period of youth. Let our education be directed towards the object in view, surrounded by the principles of common sense, and the outcome will be more lasting, the results more practical, and the rising generation, one quite able to grapple with the varied emergencies of certainly a trying age.