

hands upon anything authentic from a medical eye witness; and those given vary so much, as to show at a glance their complete unworthiness. The opinion of the *London Medical Circular* of the 12th of April is that the disease is nothing more than malignant typhus, aggravated by peculiar circumstances injuriously affecting the Scythian population. As it has appeared in Prussia and Germany, we have reason to fear that by some chance, emigration might introduce it amongst us. We think we have clearly shown that it is the duty of our Health Committee to act, and that promptly, in the work of thoroughly cleaning the lanes, yards, drains, sinks, &c., of accumulated filth; yet we have but faint hopes, we must confess, that the matter will be taken up; for on reference to files of the medical journals in existence at the two last visitations of cholera, we find that their editors wrote in much the same strain as we are now doing, no attention was given to the warning voice, and the fell destroyer came—then it was work, work, work, but it was too late—and many fell who might have been spared had those, whose business it was, simply done their duty. Let us hope and pray we may be spared the visitation of any epidemic, but by all means let us be prepared for it, if it does come. Prevention is better than cure any day.

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Our profession has certainly but few safeguards whereby its practitioners are guarded against annoyance caused by men totally unqualified, who proclaim themselves able and willing, for a consideration, to relieve humanity of all the ills flesh is heir to. Year after year as our country increases in population, and our cities grow larger, we find these gentry making their appearance in greater numbers, and with unblushing impudence proclaiming to the world their wonderful power to cure. In Lower Canada, the profession have turned to the College of Physicians and Surgeons as their natural protector, and have expected that body to prosecute and obtain convictions against those who are not properly qualified to practice. For various reasons, year after year passed away, and no action was taken in the matter, but a year ago, when the College met in Montreal, the Secretaries were authorized to prosecute the delinquents. In Montreal, Dr. Peltier, the Secretary for this district, took no little trouble to obtain a conviction of these against whom actions were taken, but owing to some strange flaw in the drawing up of the indictments, all were discharged, putting the College in for pretty heavy expenses, without any corresponding advantage to the profession.

Believing thoroughly, as we do, that it is our duty, not only to ourselves, but to the public, to guard them against the machinations of those