

opinion, when that blissful state is amply sufficient to secure an exemption from an examination with its concomitant grim array of imaginary horrors. In the report however, Dr. Laterrière abandons his concession in regard to the Army and Navy Surgeons, but retains it in reference to the midwives. How anomalous is the position in which Dr. Laterrière and his coadjutors place themselves. In few words, it resolves itself into a scheme, in which the door of practice is to be closed against the most educated, except upon the most humiliating conditions, but opened freely to the most ignorant, whose operations throughout the country districts generally are so notorious, that they should call forth measures of the most stringent, instead of those of a patronizing character. Surely this simple statement is itself sufficient to condemn the proposed Bill of Amendments.

Lastly, with regard to the eighth question; of the propriety of a Law for Upper Canada, similar to that of Lower Canada, there cannot exist two opinions. It is much to be desired that the professional chaos which reigns there should be reduced to some kind of order and precision. Admitting the Englishman's privilege and inherent right, to die in any manner, and by whatever means he pleases, there exist contingencies, independent of this consideration, which should not be lost sight of by a legislature, operating for the greatest good of the greatest number, and among these is the legitimate practice of the healing art, after a scientific and prescribed course of instruction. Adopting the weakest argument which could be urged in favour of the measure, and even admitting that no others could be adduced, it becomes the duty of the Government and the Legislature to protect the medical man in the legitimate exercise of his profession, when it is spending large sums of money annually in enabling him to receive that instruction which is necessary to qualify him for his duties. To act otherwise bespeaks inconsistency. It is preaching to the ear but mocking to the sense; and while the Legislature will reject Dr. Laterrière's Bill, I hope to see it extending the provisions of our own act of Incorporation to the profession of the sister Province, modified however according to its wishes.

A. HALL, M. D., E.

Montreal 8th, March, 1853.