

himself out as a surgeon unless he received a license from Lajus, the deputy of the king's prime surgeon. Moreover, the curé, the seigneur, and the people of St. Anne were rebuked for holding such a meeting and forbidden to hold the like again without permission, while the notary who certified the proceedings was also warned not to certify such minutes.

It does not appear that Phlem ever took out a certificate to practise; but he certainly continued in his course, attending the sick and even receiving them into his private hospital; for in July, 1738, one Nicholas Marion died at his place; in 1738, Paul Desmarts died of dropsy under his care; and in 1742, Gabriel Desmaisons of the same disease.

Phlem died at St. Anne, and was buried there in September, 1749.

It is not to be wondered at that this empiric took cancer for his favorite field of labor; in all ages that has been the case, and in all ages there have been many marvelous cures of "cancer." Every benign tumor is liable to be denominated cancer and every cure of such a tumor heralded as a medical triumph. Accordingly, the percentage of cures by the cancer quack is very high, and it is no wonder that Phlem had a *réputation surtout pour les chancres où il a fait des cures considérables connues dans toute l'étendue de la colonie.*

Good John Wesley used tar water for cancer. He tells us: "A cancer under the eye was cured by drinking a quart of tar water daily, washing the same with it, and then applying a plaster of tar and mutton suet melted together. It was well in two months, though of twenty years' standing." Or if there is a cancer in the mouth, he recommends the ash of scarlet cloth blown into the mouth and throat. That, he tells us, "seldom fails." Another tried cure of his for cancer is this: "Take horse spurs (a kind of wart that grows on the inside of a horse's forelegs), dry them by the fire till they will beat to powder. Sift and infuse two drachms in two quarts