

*Answer.*—With wrong headed people anything may lead to collisions, but with a little good sense and good feeling all tension and strife can be easily avoided. In Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, and other towns there have been no such collisions or disturbance. Mr. Hamilton, in his pamphlet, magnifies every little breeze of irritation into a hurricane, but he and other opponents omit to mention that there is abundant evidence to show that medical men who were either neutral, doubtful, or actually hostile to notification, have become, after a brief experience of the system, reconciled to it, and even to admit its public benefit. I am not aware that any medical supporter of the system has, after experience of it, withdrawn his approval. In the districts where it is in operation, the total number of resident medical men is about 1,417, and opponents of the measure have endeavoured to elicit from them an adverse opinion. The Opposition Association of Liverpool has not, I believe, published the replies received, and until that is done, it is fair to infer that the replies were not encouraging to the Opposition. All Mr. Hamilton has hitherto given to the public is an extract or two from several private letters, with the limitation not to publish the writers' names; if this represents all the medical opposition in thirty-one cities and towns, having a total number of 1,417 resident medical men, it is fair and reasonable to describe it as of no serious moment.

6. The public opinion of these districts is said to be opposed to the local Acts, on the ground of the vexatious interference with individual liberty, and the hardship and loss entailed on small shopkeepers and others.

*Answer.*—The Local Authorities concerned have officially declared to the Government that public feeling is in favour of the Acts, and if dissatisfaction exists to any considerable extent, it is a singular circumstance that it finds so little expression by the usual channels—petitions to Town Councils and to Parliament, public meetings of citizens, and the local press. As to the hardship and loss entailed on shopkeepers and others, calamities come to us all, and each man has to bear his own portion. Mr. Hamilton's claim to permit these people the liberty of spreading disease and death among their customers, rather than remove the infected person to hospital, or isolate him at home, is wholly preposterous. On the other hand, it is easy to prove, and has been conclusively proved hundreds of times, that sanitary measures are, in a special manner, a protection and benefit to shopkeepers and others who depend upon public custom.

7. The dual system of notification can never be successfully carried out in face of the open or covert hostility of the medical profession; Why, then, not adopt the system favoured by the profession—viz., "Hart's Model Clause?"

*Answer.*—Without the cordial co-operation of the profession it is perfectly hopeless for any local authority to deal effectively with infectious disease. But the profession is open to conviction.