

"The Thunderer." Let us pursue it to its logical conclusion. Of course there would be no one in the whole medical Utopia to find fault; no more actions for mal-practice. Every one might elect the Allopathic "big jorum," the Homœopathic eleventh dilution, the Hydropathic wet blanket, the vegetarian cabbage and corn salad, or the Hygienic melange, *a la Ryder*, according to the dictates of his own sweet will. And of course every one could be his own Editor, and Printer,—it is so easy to write leading articles and set type, you know;—his own lawyer, butcher, baker, tailor, cook, laundress, clergyman,—who could not write a sermon, that would please himself, and preach to his own satisfaction?

In fact there is nothing to prevent one from being everything to himself, and absolutely independent, from the day he is weaned to the day of his death! I can't quite see how he could be his own undertaker; true he might solve the difficulty by becoming a convert to "cremation," he could then build his own funeral pile, ascend it at the time he had decided upon "shuffling off" this mortal coil," and, by means of a time-fuse, both fix the date of his own demise and funeral, and actually dispose of his own ashes. I merely throw this out as a suggestion; doubtless the *Globe* will discover a "better way."

I have no doubt, Mr. Editor, but that by the time the Editor of the *Globe* understands "the nature of digestion, the circulation of the blood, the qualities of drugs and their effects on the human frame," "I and every other" Regular Practitioner will not only be able to write leading articles on subjects we know nothing about, but will also be able to set the type, put them in form and print them.

In conclusion, let me whisper in the sapient editors' ear "*ne sutor ultra crepidum*."

Yours truly,

A REGULAR PRACTITIONER.

Toronto, May 15th, 1874.

A MONSTROSITY.—ONTARIO MEDICAL ACT &c.

To the Editor of the LANCET.

SIR,—On March 4th, I delivered a woman of a full grown, dead, female child, whose heart was outside the chest. The aorta, pulmonary artery and veins and venæ cavæ passed out over the

interclavicular notch of the sternum and were adherent to the skin, which thinned down and changed to serous membrane, so far as naked eye appearance indicated, where it rested on the heart. The pericardium was absent, and the heart considerably flattened. From the condition of the child and the statements of the mother, I judge it had been dead two weeks before labor came on, which seemed to have been delayed that time. I was not allowed to open the chest, consequently cannot describe the internal arrangement of the organs. There was six or eight times the usual quantity of liquor amnii. The placenta was very tender and slightly adherent, which compelled me to pass my hand into the uterus and scoop out the contents. The woman made a good recovery.

The Ontario Medical Act, which you published in the May number of the LANCET, ought to prove both a professional and public blessing. Here, in New Brunswick, we are without any law to regulate the practice of medicine. Hence the Province is overrun with quacks of the most barefaced description. Some of them go from house to house, seeking for victims to "cure," and when one is found willing to employ them, the most unreasonable promises of cure are made, which in too many cases prove disastrously false.

It is desirable that the Ontario Act become a Dominion Act as speedily as possible, with such wise modifications and amendments as will make it apply to all the Provinces.

Every M.D. who runs into politics and obtains a seat in the Dominion Parliament, should use his influence to get such a law enacted. The general public are extremely ignorant of medicine, and ought to be protected by law from quacks and impostors generally.

HUMANITARIAN.

Salisbury, N. B., May 17th, 1874.

Selected Articles.

ROTHELN, OR GERMAN MEASLES.

BY ROBERT LIVEING, M.D., F.R.C.P., PHYSICIAN TO THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.

GENTLEMEN,—In April, 1870, Dr. Murchison directed attention in this theatre to two cases of German Measles then under his care. Since that time until the present summer (1873) I am not aware that any similar cases have been admitted into our hospital; indeed, the malady is of so mild