

Part 3,--Editorial.

PROGRESS OF ECLECTICISM IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

Those who have been enlisted in the cause of Medical Reform for many years, and have struggled long and untiringly for the support of a liberal science, when they take a retrospective view of the past, have cause for rejoicing and encouragement, although at present there is a great work for them to accomplish, which still requires energy and perseverance. Only a few years since, there could not be found one who espoused Eclectic principles, whose abilities however transcendent, and whose acquirements however extensive and thorough, upon whom was bestowed the degree of Doctor of Medicine. Even those who received their license to practice physic and surgery according to the provisions of the statute, and through Allopathic courtesy, if they did not live up to the faith of their *Alma Mater*, were excommunicated from those Medical Societies, published as irregular physicians, disqualified to practice medicine, unworthy of public confidence, and upon them was meted out a full measure of obloquy. The dissenter, though improved in his practice, must, without an examination into the practical results of his deviation, be subjected to a *party* inquisition, which might at pleasure deprive him, as far as possible, of his well-earned standing and reputation—gained, perhaps, by a successful competition with the legitimate sons of Allopathy.

Legislation interposed and granted the Allopathists exclusive favors, and likewise deprived every deviating practitioner of all reward for his medical services. Indeed, this act virtually deemed the dear people incompetent of judging correctly, with whom they ought to entrust their lives in a time of trial and danger. Even the erudite physician, who, having seen the folly of Heroic medication, and desirous of trusting more to nature and the kindly operation of milder medicines, deviating from orthodoxy, must now act only in the humiliating capacity of nurse, and dispense his services gratuitously to his patrons. The finger of scorn was frequently pointed at him deridingly, because he did not conform to the requirements of so-called Science and because he did not abide by the wholesome law of the land, and urged