

will not publish anything against what is drawing water to their own mill. The medical profession has no funds to carry on a thankless warfare in which the press and the public construe their efforts as movements of jealousy and self interest. The gullibility of the people in matters affecting their health is something amazing. Yes, people who are intelligent in everyday business transaction will allow the tramp, the scallawag, the swindler, deceiver, and ignoramus to take charge of their health: if he only has brass and impudence to declare that he is a doctor. In this Island we have had several characters itinerating in our midst as *quack* doctors. About two or three years ago an *ignorant* Frenchman from Tracadie in New Brunswick belonging to a family named *De Roche*, made his appearance under the assumed name of Frank, alias Rossin. He located at Summerside and gave out that he was a woman's doctor, and that he could cure all ills to which the poor females, and the womb in particular, was heir to. The methods by which this individual attempts to gull people is rather amusing. His methods of diagnosis and bold assertion are calculated to impress weak minded people and silly women, who imagine that boldness of assertion means proof every time.

The ignorance of this pretender is best verified by the fact that a Charlottetown druggist, who is fond of fun, sold him an instrument used by old people to slip on their shoes, as an improved tongue depressor and received therefor the handsome sum of two dollars. Without inquiring into this man's antecedents and learning that his only profession was that of a tramp, working in a saw mill for a season at Miramichi as a common day labourer, and finally chased from Fredericton for appropriating two gold watches not his own without education or knowledge of even the ordinary kind—there are people who believe that this man can do wonders and will submit their wives and daughters to his inspection and examination. There is no other portion of this Dominion where this tramp would be allowed to vegetate one hour. Talk of the injurious effects of poisonous patent nostrums on the people who use them imagine the benefits that could possibly proceed from an ignoramus without any knowledge of physiology or pathology or therapeutics and reflect on the intelligence of the people the Si-washes tribe of

Indians in British Columbia would not tolerate the beast one hour. Medical men alone recognize the cases of maltreatment of quacks and ignorant pretenders, where their action has produced and aggravated deadly diseases, and if the people were aroused to a proper sense of their duty they would be more chary in employing men who have nothing to recommend them to confidence but their own unblushing impudence and assertion. There are but few people, if any, who would be inclined to trust an individual whom they had detected in the act of cheating them by offering a *forged* check. They would take the precaution of handing him over to justice. Yet, strange to say, a man can assume a false name, and sail under a forged name, and no notice is apparently taken of the matter.

The medical men all over Canada must unite and put forth their talents and abilities in educating the people setting legislatures right. If we did but use half or quarter of our collective energy and intellect in combatting these things, quackery would disappear. Combination is the order of the day in the world of trade, and if the people of this Dominion are to be saved from the evil effects of quackery and quack nostrums, the medical profession must be united and secure the co-operation of the press and every intelligent person to neutralize the pernicious influences at work and discountenance the "sneak advertiser" and the "news paper doctor."

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