

themselves as a "Godless University," presented altogether such a scene of human folly and recklessness, as I should hope, for the honor of the College, was never witnessed before on a similar occasion—beneath the dignity of literary satire, and unworthy even of the pencil of the caricaturist. Not the least repulsive part of the performance was the total absence of all discipline, dignity, and reverence for their seniors and superiors, exhibited by some of the beardless youths who took part in the proceedings, one of whom to cap the climax of absurdity was elected pro-vice Chancellor!!

In the discipline and management of the University, the members of our Profession, generally, can feel but little interest; but with the conduct and opinions of the members and dignitaries of that institution, in so far as these affect the welfare of our class, we have much to do.—The University has proved a stumbling-block to us on several occasions: its functionaries, with the exception of Drs. King and Nicoll, have openly arrayed themselves against us in all our endeavours to obtain an Act of Incorporation. In every bill or schedule of a bill, brought forward yet, we recognize their influence. The medical faculty of this College have erected themselves into a privileged class, a patrician order, claiming for themselves the right to govern, or to guide their humbler brethren, whose ignorance and simplicity unfit them for self government; and if our former attempts at rebellion were not punished with the same degree of vigor, as that which the Lacedæmonians were wont to inflict on rebellious Helotes, I suppose we must ascribe the circumstance to their forbearance. How long shall we submit to this usurped authority? What say you, heroes of the lance, not the lance, shall we take up arms again, or adopting the suggestion of Hamlet make our quietus with a bare bodkin. But, alas! the matter in hand is too serious for pleasantry; blighted hopes, empty pockets, and degraded position, are evils of too great magnitude to be made the subject of a jest. Redress, full and complete redress, is the only remedy that can avail. The means are within our reach: shall we seize and employ them and live in honor, competence, and usefulness, or basely pass them by, and sink, step by step, until we arrive at the last round of the so-

cial ladder? I address this question to the great mass of the profession in Western Canada, *but particularly to the country Practitioners.*

I am not a member of Kings College, and consequently I cannot be a Candidate for, or Professor of, any office in the new College; for, according to the dicta of certain members of the convocation, no person who is not a graduate of their college ought to be eligible for any office among them: and although this opinion is at variance with the act of Parliament, they have the power to enforce it and undoubtedly they will do so. Thus we see already one of the provisions of the new constitution virtually set aside, and the ceremony of throwing open a vacancy in any of the faculties to general competition, according to law, is reduced to the level of a practical joke. Let us fancy the caput assembled for the purpose of selecting three individuals, from among a dozen candidates, for the chair of practical anatomy, some of them strangers of superior merit: what an awkward and painful dilemma! How would they dispose of the pre-election which it is well known has taken place.

"*fugit solennia campus;
Et non admittit dirimit suffragia plebis:
Decantatque Trubus, et vana versat in urna,
Nec cœlum servare licet; tonat augure surdo;
Et læta jurantur aves bubone sinistro."*

This is the way in which like difficulties were settled in ancient Rome, and the practice is worthily transcribed here.

The honor of the caput will not be exposed to so trying an ordeal; for the stranger who would stake his pretensions against the surgeons and M.D.'s (*ad eundem*) of King's College, must be a bold man indeed: only three gentlemen as I am informed will propose for the honor, all of them members of the College.

It is no disparagement, I conceive, of either of those gentlemen, to assert, that among the many hundreds of practitioners in this Province, several might be found who are their superiors in the natural endowments, and their equals in the professional acquirements necessary to form a good teacher. Yet one of the three must be elected; however, I shall not attempt to quarrel with the decision of the Caput in this matter. If the public and the Government are satisfied with this "sub rosa" mode of settling such matters, we who are placed