

for the sick poor than the daily press is entitled to send these people a year's subscription gratis—an unheard of thing. The doctor should be recompensed for his attendance upon the sick poor by the municipality, so that ail would then be bearing a part and a portion of this indebtedness. We sincerely hope that lodge practice in British Columbia is doomed, both for the sake of the honor of our profession, as well as for the sake of the poor lodge patient. The lodge devotee who is able to pay for his medicinal attendance—for him we have nothing but contempt. We express our sympathy for the physicians of Victoria who are fighting this battle. We feel that if they stand firm and true that theirs, which is the right, will triumph. We regret that Dr. Hall and Dr. Gibbs should have arrayed themselves against their professional brethren in that city in a cause that can have no good argument on its side. True, Dr. Hall may champion the cause of the masses, but with all due respect to his views on lodge practice—and we think he will hardly expect us to consider them as very strong arguments in favor of the continuance of the system—he is on the wrong side; and the sooner he acknowledges the corn and the error of his ways in this particular business, the sooner will a dying cause expire peaceably, if not the world over, at least in Victoria.

THE EXAMINATION OF 'SPUTUM FOR TUBERCLE BACILLI.

Whilst it may be at times a comparatively easy matter for the adept diagnostician to determine the existence of pulmonary tuberculosis before the appearance of the specific micro-organism in the sputum of these patients, it is a matter of the most vital importance to be able to do so immediately the bacillus can be demonstrated therein. It will create in the mind of the patient a confidence in the skill of his physician, which will be of undoubted advantage in the future treatment of the patient. All general practitioners, therefore, ought to qualify themselves in the methods necessary for the microscopical detection of the bacillus in a disease which is the paramount issue in present-day medicine. Were these methods of an intricate and delicate character, requiring much time and patient labor in carrying out their detail, there would be some excuse for not acquiring the requisite knowledge for the work; but when the knowledge can be easily attained, and the execution of the work quickly carried out, there seems to be no valid reason why all should not do the work for themselves. In the August number of *Medicine* Dr. Carl Weidner, Professor of Physiology and Histology in the medical department of Kentucky University, gives