

The fourth letter is from Dr. Von Iffland of Quebec, one of the Vice-Presidents. It will be observed he holds a different view to ours of the responsibilities of practitioners generally, in putting down quackery. As far as we know, the only mode in which the profession collectively or individually can assist, in what should be a general and rather desire, is by giving the College—the engine legalized for that purpose—the support necessary for carrying on the warfare, and this we believe they are prepared to do if she in turn will shake off her lethargy. We fear, however, if the present state of things persists, the few members she now numbers, exclusively of the Governors, will gradually drop off, feeling they derive no protection, nor advantage, nor honor from connexion with her, and that their yearly contributions may easily find a more profitable disbursement.

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THE APOTHECARY'S BILL.—We publish the following sketch of a proposed Bill for the regulation of the studies of Apothecaries and sale of poisons. It was submitted in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Governors of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Lower Canada, at their last semi-Annual Meeting held in Quebec, for consideration, by the members of the said College.

The Bill to clause VI. we consider very desirable, because it will provide for the education of druggists, and secure the services of competent assistants, while it will endow licensed members with certain privileges in which, others not similarly qualified, cannot participate. The portion, however, from clause VI. to clause X. we look upon as open to many amendments and extensive excisions; and invites much discussion, which no doubt those whom it most concerns will render in justice to themselves before any decided action is entered upon. We would here briefly observe that clause VI. appears to us to have been constructed thoughtlessly. Many remedies are purchased adulterated, and are not known to the dealer to be impure, is he therefore, when the discovery is made by a more expert analyst, to be subjected to incarceration or the payment of a heavy fine? In fairness he can only be held responsible for the sale of drugs that either he wilfully sophisticates or disposes of knowing to be impure. Clause VII. is open to the objection which we made, about this time last year, against a similar provision in a bill of Mr. Alleyn's; it is this, that no provisions are made in favor of prescriptions. If it were legalized, in strict compliance with its obligations, every time a physician ordered a dose of any of the substances named or understood, he would be compelled to send with his receipt a certificate drawn up according to the form described. Again, we would remark the production of a similar certificate is no guarantee that the substances obtained may