

The remedies he used were all vegetable, as all mineral medicines being "deadly poisons," and some ranked as No's. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.

No. 1 "To cleanse the stomach, overpower the cold, and promote free perspiration. Emetic Herb *Lobelia Inflata*."

No. 2 "To retain the internal heat, and cause a free perspiration. *Cayenne capsicum*."

No. 3. "To scour the stomach, and remove the canker."

No. 4. "Bitters to correct the bile."

No. 5. "Syrup for the dysentery."

No. 6. "Rheumatic drops to remove pain, prevent mortification, and promote a natural heat."

This No. 6 was composed of "high wines or fourth proof brandy, gum myrrh and cayenne," and was therefore specially indicated in such a disease as cholera, where coldness of the whole body was an invariable and prominent symptom. If "promoting heat" could ward off death, No. 6 should have been pre-eminently beneficial, for a teaspoonful, the ordinary dose, made a man feel, from the lips to the stomach, as if he had swallowed so much liquid fire.

Thompsonianism survived for many years, especially in the country districts, and was succeeded by eclecticism which, while discarding the theory of disease as laid down by Thompson, continued the prohibition of everything but vegetable remedies. I am free to confess that eclecticism has conferred a benefit, inasmuch as, unhampered by pharmacopœias, it has investigated the medicinal properties of many vegetable substances, which have proved to be of great benefit in the treatment of disease.

REGULAR MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

In these early days, York enjoyed the services of several practitioners of great attainments and skill, of whom the Hon. Dr. Widmer was the admitted head.

I have no means of ascertaining the exact date of Dr. Widmer's settlement in York, but it must have been long prior to 1826 for in that year notice was published, in "*The Loyalist*," of his entry into partnership with Dr. Diehl on account of "his extended professional engagements."

Dr. Widmer had had great experience in surgery, having served through the peninsular wars, retiring as staff surgeon in the cavalry.

His portrait, which adorns the office of the General Hospital, was taken in his declining years, and gives but a faint idea of his former energy. His jaunty step and his consummate horsemanship, were the admiration of the town. He was quick and generally correct in his