

Technical and Bibliographic Notes / Notes techniques et bibliographiques

Canadiana.org has attempted to obtain the best copy available for scanning. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of scanning are checked below.

Canadiana.org a numérisé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de numérisation sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- Coloured covers /
Couverture de couleur
- Covers damaged /
Couverture endommagée
- Covers restored and/or laminated /
Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée
- Cover title missing /
Le titre de couverture manque
- Coloured maps /
Cartes géographiques en couleur
- Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black) /
Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire)
- Coloured plates and/or illustrations /
Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur
- Bound with other material /
Relié avec d'autres documents
- Only edition available /
Seule édition disponible
- Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion
along interior margin / La reliure serrée peut
causer de l'ombre ou de la distorsion le long de la
marge intérieure.

- Coloured pages / Pages de couleur
- Pages damaged / Pages endommagées
- Pages restored and/or laminated /
Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées
- Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/
Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées
- Pages detached / Pages détachées
- Showthrough / Transparence
- Quality of print varies /
Qualité inégale de l'impression
- Includes supplementary materials /
Comprend du matériel supplémentaire
- Blank leaves added during restorations may
appear within the text. Whenever possible, these
have been omitted from scanning / Il se peut que
certaines pages blanches ajoutées lors d'une
restauration apparaissent dans le texte, mais,
lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont pas
été numérisées.

Additional comments /
Commentaires supplémentaires:

Continuous pagination.

THE UNFETTERED CANADIAN.

Vol. I. Brockville, March, 1849. No. III.

POETRY.

For the Unfettered Canadian.

MR. EDITOR.—Knowing you to be a true friend to the water cause, I send the following verses. I copied them from a piece of paper, found! It was so crumpled, and the pencilling so faint that I could hardly read the verses, still I think this copy of them is correct.

Yours A SON.

Gananoque April 1849.

Cold Water.

Let drunkards extoll the sweets of the bowl
And ladies sing praises of tea
Still, I will sing in winter, and spring,
My song, pure cold water to thee,

In thee my delight, at morn, noon, and night
To bathe or to drink as may be
While drunkards at orgies do quarrel and fight
And ladies grow pale at their tea,

In thee let me splash my carcases to wash
And drink myself as full as can be
No dangers arise to my nose, or my eyes,
Not so, using BRANDY or tea,

But see the poor sot, his face red and hot,
His nose as if stung by a bee,
And see that death's form, with tea cup and pot,
The sad works of BRANDY and tea.

THOU WATER! thou gem of the cloud!! blessing earth

With health and each fair thing we see,
May I still love thee, If next knew thy worth
They'd drink neither BRANDY nor tea.

THE CANADIAN.

BROCKVILLE, MARCH, 1849.

THE UNFETTERED CANADIAN.

We have much pleasure in being able to state, that our prospects are brightening every week, gradually and surely. Our banner of *Unfettered rights* was first issued without a subscription list, in the full confidence that a sufficient number of tried friends could be found between Gasp and Sandwich, ready and willing to second the measure in a style which would render success inevitable. The confidence which in that hour of threat and

degradation, and infamy, nerved our hands to immediate action, we are happy to say remains firm and unmoved! as we have, thus far, received all the encouragement which we anticipated. This, to us, is cheering and animating! and cannot fail to stimulate the friends of our cause to employ the utmost vigilance, in securing the permanent establishment of the Unfettered Canadian; which can be readily accomplished, by faithfully continuing the labours of extending the circulation so auspiciously commenced.

It also affords us pleasure to state, that having commenced to lecture publicly as intimated in our last number, the results are such, as to increase rather than diminish our confidence in the measure.

Before our next issue, we expect to visit Gananoque, Kingston and a few of the towns west, in addition to making a tour of the Bathurst District.

Our friends are of course aware, that our first number bears date of January, though not published till afterwards; we dated back in order to have the Vol commence with the year, and this is the reason why the March number is now published in May, we will crowd the numbers forward upon each other as closely as possible till the necessity of post-dating is removed, and then we will have all things in season, and each Vol appropriately beginning with the year. This explanation will we trust, reconcile all to the discrepancies referred to, and enable them to tolerate the incongruity till rectified, which cannot be accomplished speedily without prompt remittances, which we therefore feel the more free to urge upon all our friends who are willing to be identified in feeling with every feature of our enterprise.

We frequently receive orders for our *little pioneer*, from individuals who state that it has just fallen into their hands, and from such we will doubtless still continue to hear for months to come! many of whom will unquestionably feel that they ought to have been

apprised of our first movement, if not consulted in relation thereto. In palliation of whatever neglect we may be chargeable with, we beg to state that our late "eleventh hour" discovery of the dark designs of our Monopoly Drs. against our liberty and rights, left us no time for correspondence or consultation! The work was first thought of on the one day, and commenced on the next with an energy which enabled us to send a flood of the first number into both Houses of Parliament, before the medical inquisition bill had reached its second reading, which was carried by a majority of *one solitary vote!!!* In producing this feeble majority the Unfettered Canadian is entitled, perhaps, to a share of the credit.

"What has become of the Medical Bill?"

This question so often asked of late, and with so much curiosity, is still doomed to meet the hackney response, "*In the hands of the committee.*" This committee appears to have met with a "*hard case,*" and the learned gentlemen have certainly highly boasted authority and precedent for giving the patient all the advantages of a "*long treatment,*" so, that some ignorant quacks have the audacity to insinuate, that the treatment will be lengthened out, till the patient's "*long home*" is quietly and safely reached.

It will be remembered that when this bill passed its second reading by the smallest possible majority declared, at the time, that they would oppose certain objectionable clauses when the bill appeared in committee an opposition, which, we are now inclined to think must have assumed a more serious character than the Drs. expected, seeing they have not yet brought the bill forward to its third reading—a delay so long and ominous, that many are asserting that the monster must certainly die in the hands of the committee, as they are understood to be employed in the excision of its horns, for it is confidently believed that the *life* of every animal of this species, is, "*some how or other,*" strangely locked up in these appendages. This anomalous fact is well known to the authors of its existence, yet rather than disclose this secret, rather than it should spread among the vulgar they would it is considered, prefer to en-

dure all the agony and torture of seeing their beloved offspring writhing in the agonies of death under the saw of the operators. It is thought, moreover, to be their choice that this their progeny should not survive the loss of its aggressive capabilities; because should it obtain a legal existence though thus demanded, it would, at once, "*burk,*" an older progeny of theirs, now stretching its neck over the whole of Upper Canada, and tossing on high a splendid set of antlers, designed to terrify all aspiring competitors of our monopoly loving Drs. Now it is not to be endured, that this noble looking protector of their rights should be deliberately cloven down atrociously burked, and then supplanted by a hornless elf—a protector, object to as a beast of defence, mainly because its horns could not be made to gore the people without passing through a jury box; a thing which in Upper Canada, is found to be composed of materials absolutely proof against all manner of the goring propensities. It is certain, then, that if our medical friends foresee, that their new bill cannot pass the house without the loss of its penal clauses, they will never allow it to obtain a legal existence at the expense of the existing law, until they become satisfied that it affords them no protection whatever; which (thanks to the jury box) is a truth scarcely to be questioned.

Robinson's Lectures.

We were pleased to find the suggestion in Dr. Clark's letter, that this manly defence of medical reform should be presented in the Canadian; this we had determined upon, and were therefore easily persuaded to commence the work at once. The lectures are fifteen in number, and will each occupy from four to six pages of our journal while they last, our friends may rely upon the enjoyment of a monthly treat.

The Montreal Medical Journal.

We condescend to inform the gentlemanly (?) Editor of this work, that the people of Canada, East and West, are reading the Unfettered Canadian for themselves. Let him consider the answers which have been given to the following statements of his pronouncing.

1st. "Ho," (the editor of the U. C.) "glo-

ries it
vario
An
neith
where
In a
our fr
know
gret t
meas
know
ity wi
tempt
2d.
fetter
enne.
An
place
have
in the
false.
We
ments
in the
favor
disting
perso
serio
lic ju
respe
asha
parl
we u
R.
roun
in th
mad
ic D
and
tro
cal
ent,
the
sou
suc
wh
bre
the
con

ries in his freedom from an intimacy with the various articles of *Materia Medica*.'

Ans. this statement is utterly false, for neither it, *nor its shadow*, can be found anywhere in the Unfettered Canadian.

In addition to the above we beg to assure our friend, that we glory in the little we do know of these various articles, and only regret that our knowledge of them is not immeasurably superior to his—a degree of knowledge which, we are persuaded, his vanity will not allow him to speak of with contempt.

2d. "He proclaims himself everywhere as fettered to the employment of Lobelia, cayenne and steam."

Ans. Had the word *nowhere* occupied the place of *everywhere* the declaration would then have been perfectly correct, but as it stands in the Medical Journal *nothing could be more false*.

We are prepared to adduce other two statements equally as false as the above, so that in the few lines with which our friend has favored us, he has penned no less than *four* distinct and palpable falsehoods, all aimed personally at us. We ask him candidly and seriously if such conduct is worthy of a public journalist. Let us in future say nothing respecting each other, of which we would be ashamed should we meet face to face in the parlor of a mutual friend—though opponents we need not be enemies.

FOR THE UNFETTERED CANADIAN.

RESPECTED EDITOR:—I perceive by the accounts from the Eastern Factory, the only place in this delightful County where machines can be made for the purpose of manufacturing scientific Doctors; that the endeavors of a few liberal and patriotic members of our Legislature, to introduce a bill to grant equal privileges to all Medical practitioners, have been thwarted for the present, and indeed how could it be otherwise under the circumstances; since the *celebrated* Dr. Nelson, poured in upon the House, in rich profusion, such a torrent of unclouded eloquence? Really, when I had the pleasure of perusing the only abbreviated report, which has yet come to hand, of that wonderful out-pouring of scientific genius, I could not wonder at the fate of our bill. Nor

need we marvel that there was a great uproar at the conclusion of the Drs. speech, when he could have the cool impudence to intimate that he "did not oppose the bill from personal motives"—I trust his motives may be better appreciated by referring to the course pursued by the learned Dr. in reference to the Medical Inquisition bill, introduced by Sherwood of Toronto, a measure, alike *unasked for, and undeserved by the great body of the Canadian people*. A measure granting monopoly privileges to a certain *clique* of would be gents, who were themselves, *and they only the petitioners*; and who have in this act, sacrificed all claims to public confidence.—Notwithstanding they have endeavored to hide the deformity of their dark doings under the fig leaf mantle, the futile pretence of protecting the people from the imposition of Medical quacks, in the mean-time they are endeavoring to impose on the community, the services of a class of Medical pretenders, who have been verily rejected by the insulted intelligence of a justly offended public.

I trust however, the friends of the Botanic system will take courage, since they have only to present a few more petitions; that they may fully draw out the boundless resources of Dr. N., Craneum, and their claim to legal protection will be fully established; inasmuch as his arguments upon the Thomsonian bill, so far as they have yet come to hand, can surely be regarded in any other light than a tacit, or indirect confession of the superior efficacy of the Thomsonian remedies; and of their strong hold upon public sympathy, and confidence; the Dr. clearly instructs the House in this important fact, that if they loose the manacles, and unfetter the Thomsonian system, it will be vain for Ministers to endeavor to prop up the Allopathic system, by voting money to the McGill college. That factory of Allopathic physicians, as such commodities, he very justly assumes, would be so far below par in the market of public sentiment, that it would be a losing business. Again he appears to think that the watchful and discriminating eye of an intelligent public, has been able to discover the real difference between poisoning and healing, and hence he very properly concludes, that if a patient chance to die under a Thomsonian treatment, that it would be difficult to induce the friends of the deceased *to perjure themselves by depositing to impossibility*;—that the patient had been killed by harmless vegetable remedy—and we admit there may be some truth in the above

remark, as several instances have fallen under our observation (some of which may be hereafter noticed) where young persons have been made cripples for life, through the scientific humbugging of law made Medical experimenters, and even these have not been made (as they ought to have been) example of by public prosecutors, in order to deter others of the same class from committing the like acts of injustice and inhumanity. The Dr. is represented as dilating largely upon 'the term quack. I should really have supposed, that with the assistance of some able and honorable Medical Authors, he might have arrived at the true position in reference to this point without occupying much time. One Medical author in speaking of the popular practice of medicine, says: "it is horrid, unwarrantable, murderous quackery." Another exclaims, I am sick of horrid quackery,—another, Dissections daily convince us of our ignorance of the seats of disease, and cause us to blush at our proscribers, and adds, "What mischief have we done under the belief of false facts, and false theories? We have assisted in multiplying disease, we have done more, we have increased their mortality." The same writer adds, "Those physicians generally become the most eminent, who have the soonest emancipated themselves from the tyranny of the school of physic." In speaking of the practice of medicine, Dr. Robinson says: "The authority of books, has often set at defiance the authority of God, and trampled down the peace, and sense, and independence of man. But the good Doctor consoles himself with the belief, that though "the powers of prejudice, and the empire of pride, may prevail for a season, [the enlightened] will at last arise and reassert the majesty of its own notion, and shew unto the world that there are gifts beyond the power of art, and which learning can never bestow."

In conclusion I would suggest the propriety of getting up petitions at as early a date as possible, that there may be a chance to circulate them generally through the province. We have no cause for discouragement. Our physicians are generally well sustained, and have an extensive practice, and can reckon among their patrons, many of the wealthy and respectable portion of the community. The cause is evidently progressing in Canada. All that is wanting is to have union of purpose and concert of action, its friends will second with energy, to enable the Botanic system of medicine, soon to take that high stand

among the various theories of medicine to which its intrinsic merit justly entitles it.

THOMAS CLARK.

N. B. I would also take the liberty to suggest the propriety of re-publishing Sam'l Robinson's Lectures on Medical Botany, if each No. of the U. Canadian, could contain one entire lecture. You will of course be the judge, &c. T. C. Hallimand, C. W.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE UNFETTERED CANADIAN,

SIR:—As questions are now frequently agitated respecting the origin and progress of our Thompsonian Society, please publish the following documents as a general answer to all these inquiries.

Requisition to John G. Booth Esq.

SIR:—We, the undersigned, inhabitants of the Johnstown District, being desirous of seeing the abundant Vegetable Medicine of our own Country, brought more extensively into use, and efficiently applied to the cure of diseases incident to our climate, and as Thompsonian or Botanic practitioners, (almost the only persons endeavoring to develop these natural medical resources of this Province,) labor under great disadvantages for want of a proper union for mutual support and improvement, we therefore deem it advisable that you (being one of the oldest and most influential Practitioners in the District) should call a meeting of the Thompsonian Practitioners and other friends of Medical Reform, to consider the propriety of forming a Medical Botanic Association.

H. W. BLANCHARD, H. WILLIAMS,
ALPHEUS HAMBLIN, IRA LEWIS,
DANIEL DERBYSHIRE, JOHN KETCHUM,
ARZA PARISH, PHILIP WING.
DAVID G. BOYCE.

In compliance with the above requisition, I hereby give notice that a Meeting of the Botanic, or Thompsonian Practitioners of the Johnstown District, and other friends of Medical Reform, will be held at Farmersville, on FRIDAY the 27th day of OCTOBER, inst., at 12 o'clock noon, to consider the propriety of forming a Botanic Medical Association, and to form such Association, if necessary, by a majority of those present.

JOHN G. BOOTH.

Unionville, October 10, 1848.

A Meeting or Convention of the Thompsonian or Botanic Practitioners of this District, and other friends of Medical Reform, was held at the Court House in Farmersville this day, in accordance with the public notice previously given. The attendance was not nu-

merot
matte
The
Wm.
and E.
act as
ted th
fore tl
wholl
act as
of Mr
It w
second
Res
ation
to use
own C
tion to
ciples
Bot
Resol
resolu
minut
cessit
tion, r
incial
tain th
ular r
drunk
bors,
vison
gentle
rights
pract
demo
pract
learn
cure,
edget
prese
ory
with
pow
as th
are
some
ber
the
cal
poss
pen
ers.
cour
his
by y
ove
ted-
of s
ma
ble
res
car
T
suc
A

merous, though respectable, considering the matter and the state of the roads.

The Meeting was organized by calling Dr. Wm. Howey, of Kempville, to the Chair, and H. W. Blanchard, Esq. was requested to act as Secretary. Mr. Blanchard having stated the probability of his having to leave before the business of the Meeting would be wholly through, A. Parish was requested to act as Secretary, and did so on the retirement of Mr. Blanchard.

It was then moved by J. G. Booth, Esq., seconded by Dr. James B. Howard,

Resolved, That a Botanic Medical Association be now formed to assist in bringing into use the natural Medicinal resources of our own Country, and facilitating their application to the cure of disease on scientific principles.

Both the mover and the seconder of this Resolution spoke some time in support of the resolution, and the first speaker read from minutes in his possession, evidence of the necessity and probable utility of such association, not only to sustain the progress of Medicinal Reform in Upper Canada, but to maintain the long exercised and indispensable popular right of making our own herb tea, and drinking it ourselves or giving it to our neighbors, as we please—noticed some of the provisions of a bill got up by sundry Medical gentlemen of Toronto, to prostrate those rights—showed that Medical science and practice has always been more indebted to the demonstrated facts of the humble domestic practitioner, than to the hypothesis of the learned profession for successful modes of cure, and proved by facts and the acknowledgements of late Medical Authors, that the present state of the Old School Medical Theory and Practice, sought to be established with extraordinary unconstitutional Legal powers, is neither as *scientific* nor as *efficient* as the Thompsonian or Botanic system, they are thus endeavoring to put down; stated some statistical facts to prove that the number of Licensed Practitioners compared with the number of the people and the geographical extent of the Country, would preclude the possibility of forcing the people by law to depend exclusively upon that class of practitioners. The seconder of the resolution gave an account of some interesting facts that came to his knowledge in the course of his practice, by which the superiority of the Thompsonian over the Old System was clearly demonstrated—and read some statements of the origin of some valuable discoveries that have been made in application of our Canadian Vegetable Medicines to the cure of disease. The resolution was then put and unanimously carried.

The following resolutions were then put in succession and adopted by the Meeting.

Resolved, That the object of this Associa-

tion shall be not for the mutual improvement in the discovery and application of the natural Medical resources of this Country, but to procure the enactment of such equitable laws relating to the study and practice of Physic in this Province as will at once recognize and protect the Thompsonian or reformed practice, and respect the people's right to choose between the different systems or means of cure.

Resolved, That this Association shall be called the Thompsonian Medical Reform Association.

Resolved, That the following gentlemen, viz: H. W. Blanchard, A. Parish, J. G. Booth, Wm. Howey, and James B. Howard, be appointed a Committee to draft a Constitution and By-Laws for this Association, to be submitted for approval to the next general Meeting or Convention.

Resolved, That J. G. Booth and H. W. Blanchard, Esqrs. be appointed to collect statistical and other information on this subject, to be laid before the public in general and particularly before the members of the present Legislature, in pamphlet or other printed form.

ARZA PARISH,

Secretary.

Farmersville, 27th Oct., 1848.

Botanic Medical Convention.

The second General Meeting or Convention of Thompsonian Practitioners, and other friends of Medical Reform, will be held at Farmersville, on Wednesday the 27th day of December next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to adopt a Constitution and By-Laws for the future government of "the Thompsonian Botanic Medical Reform Society;" to elect the official members required by the Constitution that is then adopted; and to discuss and act upon any other matter that may be thought necessary to promote the objects of the Association.

The Committee appointed to draft and report a Constitution, will meet at Farmersville the previous day, Tuesday the 26th, to prepare their report for the general Meeting.

JAMES B. HOWARD,
WM. HOWEY,
JOHN G. BOOTH,
HIRAM W. BLANCHARD,
ARZA PARISH.

FARMERSVILLE, December, 27th 1848.

The Convention called by the preceding notice, met this day in the large Hall of the Farmersville Temperance House, Rev. Robt. Dick, one of the conductors of the Brockville Academy, being called upon to preside, and J. G. Booth to act as Secretary, the following resolutions were then passed.

Resolved 1st, That the first 14 articles of the Constitution as presented by the committee be adopted.

The 15th and 16th Articles of the Constitution were then amended by the committee, when it was

Resolved 2nd, That the 15th and 16th Articles of the Constitution be adopted as amended. (See Constitution on page 12, first number of the Canadian.) The following officers were then appointed:

Peter Schofield Esq. M. D., President and member of the Board of Censors.

Doct. Wm. Howey, Vice President and member of the Board of Censors.

Rev. Robt. Dick, Librarian, Treasurer, and member of the Board of Censors.

John G. Booth Secretary, and member of the Board of Censors.

Alexander Sheriff member of the Board of Censors.

Resolved 3d, That the duty of collecting and publishing information thrown by the former meeting on J. G. Booth and H. W. Blanchard Esqrs., be now assumed by the Board of Censors. J. G. BOOTH,
Secretary.

The Board of Censors was immediately organized, and after some conversation, adjourned to meet again on the following day at J. G. Booth's, Unionville, at ten o'clock in the forenoon.

UNIONVILLE, December 18th, 1848.

The Board of Censors, or official Committee of the Thompsonian M. R. Association met this day pursuant to adjournment.

Ordered 1st, That Doct. Wm. Howey and J. G. Booth, be a committee to draft By-Laws and rules to submit to the Board for the regulation of its future proceedings.

Ordered 2nd, That the information required to be collected and printed, be published as soon as practicable in the form of a Medical Reform Journal; and that the Rev. R. Dick, be requested to act as Editor. J. G. BOOTH,
Secretary.

BROCKVILLE, May 1st, 1849.

The semi-annual Meeting, the Board of Censors met here this day, Doct. Howey Vice President, in the chair.

Ordered, That the qualification required of students by this Board, to entitle them to receive certificates as junior practitioners, shall be "A good moral character—temperate habits—not under seventeen years of age—literary ability to write English composition with propriety, enabling them to keep a creditable journal of their daily practice—a general knowledge of the structure and organization of the human system, of the natural causes, history, and changes of the several diseases to which it is subject—of the remedies used in the Thomsonian or Botanic system of practice and of the usual manner of compounding and administering them. The candidate who honorably sustains an examination in the foregoing particulars, signs the practitioner's declaration and agrees to keep a diary of his practice, shall receive a certificate as junior practitioner.

Ordered, That this Board regards a properly kept diary of practice, well authenticated, as one of the best proofs of successful practice required by the 4th Section of the Constitution.

Ordered, That the adjourned meeting of this Board, be held in Kingston, on the 20th of June next ensuing, at ten of the clock A. M., and that Doctors A. Sheriff, and H. Kilborn be requested to obtain a place for the meeting, and make the necessary arrangements for a lecture to be delivered on the occasion, relative to the objects of the Association; and that all practitioners, and friends of Medical Reform be requested to attend.

J. G. BOOTH,
Secretary.

BROCKVILLE, May 4th, 1849.

Medical Error and Monopoly, vs. Medical Reform and Freedom.

This case which is now pending before the court of parliament in Montreal, is exciting more than ordinary attention, both in and out of the House. The plaintiff's attorney learned in the Law and well practiced in Toryism, is Henry Sherwood Esq, member for Toronto; he is ably assisted, in *this case*, by Dr. Nelson M. D. learned in physic, and skilled in Whiskeymaking and Rebellion, this curious coalition of opposite (?)

ultrais
some
inal of
Thom
Ignor.
name
called
these
ed, and
ignora
object
must b
which
ronto
hibited
real si
not th
Gover
wicke
by pre
and th
with
Coun
cating
Medic
must
ical R
impris
the de
from
herb t
some
corro
to ren
safe, t
them
public
stopp
ance
tiff's
appe
be re
and l
fact a
bold:
right
from
1839,
erm
the F
Medi
The
done
publi
still

ultraisms, unites in charging the defendants with some of the blackest Crimes known to our criminal code. Medical Reform, in the person of the Thomsonian or Root Doctor is charged with Ignorance, Quackery being unworthy of the name of men, Murders &c. &c., the House is called upon in all the well known eloquence of these two members; to protect the *great, Learned, and wise* Medical corporations from the poor ignorant Thomsonians! and to accomplish that object, these little Mordcais's of Medical Reform, must be hung upon the gallows 40 cubits high, which the Medical Hamans of Montreal and Toronto have prepared for them, and which was exhibited in the first number of the Canadian. The real sins of these modern Medical Mordcais are not that they will not bow or do reverence to the Government favored Medical Haman, but will wickedly persist in spoiling the *Medical Trade* by prescribing for, and curing people in English, and that too, upon plain philosophic principles, with the common vegetable medicines of the Country, and withal most pertinaciously advocating the liberties of not much hated prisoner Medical freedom, who, as the prosecutors declare, must be hung up by the side of his Mother, Medical Reform, or else kept with him in perpetual imprisonment, to prevent them from beguiling the dear people of Canada, who must be removed from their dangerous proximity to bathing and herb tea, and brought by free of Law into wholesome contact with Calomel, Arsenic, Opium corrosive Sublimate, Bleeding Blistering, &c. And to render these *regular* means of health doubly safe, the practitioner must be qualified to sugar them over with Greek and Latin. All other *public or private highways to health*, must be stopped, and the tolls of *this* become the inheritance of "The Medical Corporation". The plaintiff's counsel, learned in Law and Physic, being apprehensive that *many and strong reasons* would be required to support these extraordinary claims, and being aware that a too rigid adherence to *fact and truth* would spoil the whole scheme, very boldly ventured to assert for his clients a *vested right in Medical Monopoly*, arising, as he stated, from the *several years continuance* of their act of 1839, before it was disallowed by the Home Government, in the face of the well-known fact, that the Home Government strangled that ill-favored Medical Monster, before it became a yearling.-- The truth-loving Doctor, not willing to be outdone in the art of *drawing* the "Long Bow," publicly declared that our Republican neighbors still retain their restrictive Medical Laws, not-

withstanding the *notorious fact* that such laws have not been permitted to disgrace their Statute Books for at least six years past. Now, although every body at all acquainted with the subject knows that their calumnies and charges against the Thomsonians are as false as the assertions we have above alluded to, yet it would be neither fair nor charitable to infer, that these gentlemen, constitutionally or habitually, love to indulge in *falsehood* where the truth would answer the purpose as well, or better; the probability is that, if they could, in the whole range of their knowledge and experience, have recollected even *one solitary truth* that would favor the cause of Medical Intolerance, they would have advanced it. Nor is that cause more *honorably sustained* out of the House. It is but reasonable to infer that if Dr. Hall, who edits the organ of the corporation in Montreal, could have sustained the claims of his Corporation of Medical *wrong doers* by any course of *Moral Right*, he would not have sought to do so by "*bearing false witness against his neighbor*," as he has done, by saying in one of his late numbers that the Thomsonians are *all Quacks*, and that there is *not one honest man amongst them*.-- But the medical corporation can bring more than one editor into the field against the Thomsonians. Dr. Barker, Editor of the Kingston Whig, is, I am told, an M. D., as also is the very *learned and talented* editor of the Kingston Argus. As is usual with M. D.'s, both these exhibit their love of quackery that *will pay*, by publishing lengthy notices of *patent medicines* with the usual puffs of "*most extraordinary cures*;" and he, of the Argus, occasionally exhibits his very *disinterested and consistent* hatred of all kinds of Medication, that do *not pay tribute to him*, by publishing a long editorial headed QUACKERY, charging the Thomsonians as being Murderers, Robbers, ignorant Rascals, and other opprobrious epithets. Nor do the Hydropathies, Clergymen, or Lawyers escape, unless they assist in some way to build up his medical aristocracy. But of all other non-paying classes, the incorrigible Thomsonians are the *worst*. They neither advertise in his columns, buy his Diplomas, or bow to his supremacy, although he very gravely tells them, that if they only comply with his *terms*, they may come into his society, murder and rob Her Majesty's subjects after *his fashion*, or *their own*, as they please, with perfect legal impunity, and strongly intimates that by so doing they may become perfect Medical Watch-makers, capable of controlling, mending, taking apart, and setting up the human system, as the

watchmaker does the watch. And besides all this, attain to the distinguished honor of becoming, like himself and his medical associates,

"SONS OF ESCULAPIUS."

It is very common for persons or communities claiming undue ascendancy over others, to attempt, in the absence of a better title, to maintain their tottering position by claiming connection or descent from some Noble ancestry; thus the Jewish pharisees (when shown by the Saviour the absurdity of their cherished errors and pretensions) claimed to be Sons of Abraham, but He kindly assisted them to trace their origin and affinity to a very ancient and distinguished personage, to whom they bore a stronger resemblance, in spirit and doings, than to Abraham.— In like manner our haughty Canadian medical pharisees frequently claim the right to persecute and destroy every other system of physic, or class of physicians but their own; because they and their party are learned sons of *Esculapius, Hippocrates or Galen*. Authentic history says but little about Esculapius, except that he was an ancient physician, wore a bushy beard, and walked with a knotty cane, and that under this representation, he was, after death, Deified for his former success in curing disease, a thing not very likely to happen to any of our medical pharisees, so long as they pursue a system of medical practice that gives the lie to *Nature's Law*, and tramples upon her best resources. "This did not" *Hippocrates or Galen*. History says of Hippocrates that he B. C. 456 years, that he was the founder of Medical science—that he was a zealous, unwearied observer of nature, and considered disease with a *free spirit*, unprejudiced by any system—that his principal *merit in medicine* consisted in his clearing this science from the useless subtleties of the many philosophical sects of that period, and in making it, instead of the exclusive property of the priest, a *common good*, open to every one who wished to study it. He directed the attention of physicians to the importance of external influences to the healing powers of nature; and faithfully communicated his experience. Galen, the successor of Hippocrates, followed him in opinion and practice, and both these ancient *unlicensed* physicians, applied themselves like the Thomsonians of the present time, to improving the *Materia Medica*, by classifying and bringing into use the natural vegetable medicines of the respective countries in which they resided. Thus far these fathers of physic are the progenitors of the Thomsonian or Botanic system of Practice, and did they live in Canada

at the present time, they would share with them the odium of being dissenters from legal orthodox physic, and become as obnoxious to the hue and cry of "Root Doctor! Mad Dog! Murder! Rascal! Robber! All Dishonest," &c., &c., which the Medical Pharisees have raised against Medical Reform, as are any portion of the community that advocated the principle. But, although these M. D. P.'s have even less right to claim affinity with Hippocrates and Galen, than had the Jewish P.'s to claim it with Abraham, yet not wishing to leave them *fatherless*, we cut from a medical work in our possession, the following account of their origin. Of its correctness we leave the public, who know their *spirit and conduct*, to judge:—

"Paracelsus was the father of the present mineral system; he was a native of Switzerland; he pursued a rambling, vagrant life, was intemperate, and mingled in the lowest and most degraded company. Hoozer, in his Medical Dictionary, page 153, says—'He appears to have possessed the talent of impressing upon mankind in an eminent degree;' and his followers, with some honorable exceptions, have by no means *degenerated*, but rather *improved*, in this respect."

We would not wish to be understood as intending, (much less saying like the Organ of the medical Corporation in Montreal) that all who oppose us in medical matters are immoral or dishonest; there are probably many moral sons of Paracelsus who sincerely believe like Sydenham "that the blood is some how or other the cause of disease, and that, if they draw that off, they will generally effect a cure!" or with the majority of our *Regular* practitioners and their old Medical Authors, that Nature's increased action to remove obstruction, is disease! and if that action is not diminished by depletion or poison of some kind, (not by removing the obstruction, the cause) the patient will die from excess of life! A large proportion of their patients may sink in *detail*, as they do ordinarily under that kind of treatment; or by wholesale, as hundreds of them have done in Montreal, Kingston, and elsewhere. The same diseases may be treated successfully, and the patients in nine cases out of ten saved as has been the case in the same vicinities by Thomsonians and others, yet all this will fail to awaken the attention of the Medical *Pharisee*, or cause him to doubt the propriety of his course, while, with the Jewish one, he believes that all without the pale of *his sect* must necessarily be in darkness, ignorance and error, and that to fine and imprison them for presuming to see

and judge for themselves, or believe others, would be doing God service.

We need not expect a *miraculous* "light above the brightness of the sun" to arrest the Medical Pharisee in this course of calumny and persecution, while we have *ample* means in our own hands to stop this disgrace to the Medical Profession. If *reason* and *argument* fail to convince the aristocratical loving members of the Legislature, that *Medical Reform* and *Freedom* are as necessary to the people's welfare as is political and religious liberty. We can do it through the press, by public lectures and at the hustings; until this is done, the great favored Medical class, will, as heretofore, be more distinguished for their proficiency in the science of * Haughty culture than in that of any other science. Although we regret that a portion of the Profession has so far degraded itself by falsehood and calumny, yet there is no reason for Thomsonians, or other M. Reformer following their example and using their language. Our *cause* does not require it. We ask nothing for ourselves in the name of the public, which we are unwilling to grant to others.—We are glad, however, that since these people will deal in calumny, that it has come out openly, as this will lead to a more rigid investigation of the lists of mortality in the different systems of practice. From an investigation like this we have nothing to fear, but we should not be surprised if it convinced some of our opponents ere it is done with, that they had better have taken the following advice of Dr. Morrell to Dr. Battie.

"Confine yourself to *License* given
Nor dare beyond your trade,
Though you are free to kill the living
Yet pray thee, spare the dead.

We not only concede to many of them, the merit some of them refuse to us, that of HONESTY and SINCERITY in their Medical errors, but we have abundant, and gratifying proof that many of them, especially in the neighboring States, are opening their eyes to Medical truth as the following renunciations, made and published by experienced and distinguished M. D's. will show. We commend the list to the especial attention of those regulars, who have hitherto contrived to remain ignorant of the fact, that a single one of their number ever renounced their system, in favor of Thomsonism.

Dr. S. Robinson, M. D., says—"I have renounced the *poisoning* and *depleting practice* altogether, and from this day forward my life

* A term lately brought into use, to designate the art of promoting aristocratical class ascendancy.

shall be spent in diffusing a knowledge of the excellency and superiority of the Thomsonian system, however much I may be abused by my former brethren."

Dr. John P. Lambert, M. D., of Springville, Pa., in his renunciation of the old poisoning practice, says—"I have been led to abandon the mineral practice altogether, and am happy to say that I now meet with *success* in the cure of disease, where before I only met with disappointment and chagrin.

"The baneful influence of the mineral practice," continues Dr. Lambert, "has consigned MILLIONS to the tomb, and I may safely add that MILLIONS will yet meet with a similar fate, offering themselves willing sacrifices upon the altar of medical caprice."

Dr. Stephen Butts, M. D., of Indiana, in 1837, wrote to Dr. Samuel Thomson as follows—"About 15 years ago, when a resident of the state of New-York, I became acquainted with your son Cyrus. At that time I was a 'regular' practitioner of the old mineral school, and had been so for ten years; but the unshaken confidence which your son Cyrus placed in your mode of practice, planted in my breast the seeds of discontent and investigation, which after two years ended in the sacrifice of (truth? No,) SCIENTIFIC PRIDE upon the altar of universal benevolence to mankind.

"I purchased a set of your books," continues Dr. Butts, "which with one year's study enabled me to become a much better physician than *four years' study* and *ten years' practice* did upon the old system.* My success has exceeded all previous expectations; my loss of patients during 13 years not exceeding 2 per year—although my practice has been constant and extensive, and like all other Thomsonian physicians, I have had to encounter almost all the difficult and far gone cases in all the surrounding country." ††

** It is frequently said by way of objection that Thomsonian physicians do not study *long enough* and that one or two years cannot qualify a man to prescribe to the sick. Now here we have the voluntary assertion of an experienced and able man, who had himself tested the matter, that one year devoted to the study of the Botanic system made him a much better physician than *all his study and practice on the old school plan*.

†† This remark is too obvious to need proof; wherever Thomsonism has been introduced a large majority of cases placed in the hands of Botanic physicians are those which the calomel doctors have tinkered and tampered with until their bodies are literally filled with *poisonous minerals*, and being brought to death's door are deemed fit subjects for the despised "steam doctor!" who is expected to restore them to health after *science* (?) has been unable to perform a cure! Thomsonians have to

Dr. Wm. K. Griffin, M. D., of Clinton, Oneida co., N. Y., says—"While pursuing the old mineral practice I was never satisfied, and after a critical and impartial investigation of Thomsonian's system I became its bold, firm and undaunted friend, (why?) from the fact that his medicines are safe, simple, speedy and efficacious."††

Prof. Powell, of Vermont, says—Dr. Samuel Thomson is in my opinion justly entitled, to great praise, for notwithstanding the greatest persecutions have been heaped upon him by his medical enemies he has stemmed the torrent of abuse, and now has the satisfaction to see his system of medical practice triumphantly received by the people."

Prof. Powell adds—"It has been alleged by the enemies of the Thomsonian practice that Dr. Thomson and his followers use but one remedy to cure all complaints; and it this be a fact, and produces the desired effect, it is so much the better, for I have long been convinced that our Materia Medica furnishes a catalogue altogether too numerous. So far as I am acquainted with the articles which Dr. Thomson and his followers use, I am of the opinion that they make use of as many articles of medicine as ever ought to be used."

Prof. Waterhouse, of Cambridge, Mass., says—"I remain firm in the opinion that the system and practice of Thomson is superior to any now extant; for by a judicious use of his remedies, as much can be accomplished in three or four days as can be done by the regular physician in about as many weeks,††† and that too without injury to the patient. I consider Thomson as standing upon higher grounds than Paracelsus, who was born in

contend with the poisons of the mineral faculty as well as with disease—and those poisons are often more difficult to eradicate than the disease itself.

†† Babbling gossips and old women—we mean those who are the dupes of the fashionable doctors—often assert that our remedial agents are "pisin," and thus deter the wavering from making a trial of our medicines.—Now we have the testimony of this learned M. D., that Thomson's medicines are "SAFE, SIMPLE, EASY, and EFFICACIOUS." Who is most competent to decide—old women who have neither disposition nor industry sufficient to examine for themselves, or intelligent men who have tried both systems?

††† Which system is the best—that which removes disease in a few days without injury to the system, or the one which reduces you to the verge of the grave, keeps you in extreme suffering of body and dreadful anxiety of mind, and saturating the human system with calomel sows the seed of disease, perhaps even worse than that which is only apparently, in many instances, removed?

1693. I have said thus much, with the assurance of performing a grateful office and duty to the afflicted, and in fact to all around me; and I remain, and hope to ever remain Thomson's firm and sincere friend."

Dr. Phos. Hersey, M. D., one of the most learned and talented regular physicians which the U. States have ever produced, says—"I have devoted more than forty years of my life to the ancient or regular practice of medicine. Ten years I have spent in investigating and ascertaining the claims of the Thomsonian system.††† The first step was a partial leaning, and the next a mixed practice, in which I found I could never succeed. I discovered that I must be a Thomsonian altogether, or abandon the cause. I resolved upon the former, and I was astonished at my success."

Dr. Hersey adds—"I was a surgeon in the late war in the army of the U. States; I was elected surgeon extraordinary to the Petersburg volunteers and Maj. Stoddard's two companies of artillery; I was one of the founders of the Western Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania, and am also a member of the Medical Society of the state of Ohio; my practice has been extensive, and my opportunity for experience and observation has seldom been exceeded;—but I venture to pledge myself upon all I hold sacred and valuable in the profession, that the medical discoveries of Dr. Samuel Thomson, have a decided preference, and stand unrivalled by all that bears the name of ancient or modern science of medicine"

We might proceed and adduce similar testimony from the same source, until a volume of some hundreds of pages could be filled; but it is sufficient to give direct and pointed testimony from sixteen eminent regular physicians, that Thomson's system is vastly superior to the old calomel practice; and if any one, after reading such evidence, will not be convinced, in our opinion he would not "though one should rise from the dead," or and angel descend from heaven, to be testimony to the same. P.

††† If any individual in the Union can point to a man who has studied and practiced both systems as long as Dr. Hersey has, and then honestly repudiate the Botanic system, we pledge ourself that our tongue and pen shall ever after be silent on the subject of Thomsonism.

Medical Profession (U. C.) Incorporation Bill.

Mr. Sherwood (Toronto,) moved the second reading of this bill. He was aware that several Hon. Members had an objection to the principle of this Bill, inasmuch as the root Doctors and persons of that description considered that they had as much right to

practic
brough
ada bef
lature i
of the I
Assent
corpora
years, a
propert
Colonit
Surgeo
been in
the pro
for inc
same a
religio
ciety of
pal by
now as
objecti
could t
which
Mr.
Mr.
undue
ties of
with th
objecte
es wh
censed
of a he
country
the pe
Thom
fect r
dence
tion a
system
asked
and h
now,
test o
ed in
the b
mont
Dr
carr
tion
mun
the i
prot
ted,
ada
of
sche
uca
if y
pra
for
pro
ber
of
fre

practice, as these who had been regularly brought up to the profession. In Upper Canada before the Union, a bill passed the Legislature incorporating the Medical profession of the Province, that bill received the Royal Assent and the profession was accordingly incorporated under it and went on for several years, acquiring a library and other valuable property, but by some influence excited at the Colonial office in England by the College of Surgeons, the bill was disallowed after it had been in operation for some years, and now the profession had applied to the Legislature for incorporation. The principle was the same as that of incorporation of the nuns and religious Societies of L. C. and the Law Society of U. C. it was to agree to that principle by reading the bill a second time that he now asked the House: if there was anything objectionable in details of the measure, they could be altered in a special committee to which he intended to refer it.

Mr. McLean seconded the motion.

Mr. Flint opposed the measure as being an undue interference with the rights and liberties of the people and entirely at variance with the spirit of the age and country. He objected especially to the 7th and 10th clauses which prevented any person not duly licensed from practicing medicine under pain of a heavy penalty. In the back parts of the country where there were no regular doctors, the people were obliged to employ these Thomsonian doctors: besides they had a perfect right to employ them if they had confidence in them. In these days of free navigation and free trade, they ought to have a free system of medicine. This measure was not asked for, by the people of Upper Canada, and he was convinced that if they passed it now, they would, next session, receive a protest of at least 50,000 of the people. He moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Bell that the bill be read a second time this day six months.

Dr. NELSON hoped the measure would be carried: what! in those days when protection was extended to all classes of the community, was the medical profession—one of the important of all professions not to receive protection? More especially when the United States, and up to this time in Lower Canada it had been protected. What was the use of endowing and encouraging medical schools and universities for giving a good education to those desiring to practice medicine, if you let loose upon Society, these persons to practice all kinds of quackery? He hoped for the safety of society and the honor of his profession that this motion would prevail.

Mr. MERRITT enquired of the Hon. Member, whether there was any law in the State of New York, preventing any practitioner from practicing?

Dr. NELSON replied, that when he was in

the United States in 1839-40, and 41, the medical profession in Cash County, was incorporated—the board met once a year, and all new practitioners had to appear before it and undergo an examination.

Mr. MERRITT briefly stated his grounds for opposing the bill; there had formerly been laws of this kind in New York State, but they had now been abolished and there was nothing to prevent any man from practicing, who thought fit. He agreed with the Hon. member for Hastings, that, in a country so widely populated as some parts of Upper Canada, and where the population was so much scattered, a bill of this kind would do much injustice and cause very great inconvenience, particularly by preventing the female midwives who were so generally employed, from practicing. He thought these root doctors were doing a great deal of good in the country, and he should vote against the bill as it would deprive them of the right and opportunity of doing that good.

After a few words from Mr. ROBINSON in favor of the second reading of the bill, Mr. BURRITT opposed it, but in so low a tone of voice, as to be quite inaudible in the reporter's gallery.

Dr. SMITH was not so much for protecting the physicians, as of protecting the public from those who palmed themselves off upon the public, as understanding the practice of physic. He was opposed to some clauses of the measure, but as it was to be referred to a special committee, in which the obnoxious clauses could be expressed, he should vote for the second reading.

Mr. FLINT said a few words in support of his amendment, and was followed by Dr. LEVILLÉ who highly supported the amendment.

Mr. SHERWOOD said that this bill was not the mere application of people who were going to build a warehouse, but was the application of the whole medical profession of Upper Canada, for the purpose of enabling that profession to take a proper standing, and enable them to prevent empirics from going about the country, who in many cases, as he could safely say, had done a great deal of mischief. It was the request of the whole Society, and conferred on them no privilege that they did not possess under the present law, except the power of punishing quacks in a more summary manner than the present law directs. Now he had been told that there was no law in the United States for the protection of the medical profession. He would require good authority for that statement, for he could scarcely believe it. But why go to the States at all? Why not take example by the practice of the English Parliament who know full well the advantage of a thorough education, and therefore make it compulsory on every person practising medicine to be properly

qualified. Many of these men had come to this colony, and with others already here demand nothing but what they had a right to expect, and they were opposed by the Hon. President of the Council! If Hon. gentlemen thought it was really desirable to admit old women to the practise of medicine, and practise of midwifery, he could propose it when the house went into Committee, and there could be no doubt that it would be carried.— He hoped Hon. gentlemen would not consent to the proposition of the Hon. member for giving the Bill a six months hoist, as it would in reality be a declaration that the medical profession had no right to expect protection at their hands; but they would rather aid him in making it as perfect a possible in its details in Committee.

Mr. RICHARDS was opposed to the bill for various reasons. It appeared to him that the bill was not calculated to give the medical profession protection, so much as the power of punishing particular parties. The process of prosecuting at present, it appeared was too tedious, and in order to satisfy the profession, it was necessary to give them the power of laying the question before a magistrate, who could at once sentence the unlicensed practitioner to a fine of £5, and send him to prison. The Hon. member for Toronto had called on them to follow English practice. If the Hon. gentlemen would refer to the Medical Review he would find that the law for the protection of the medical profession had given general dissatisfaction at home, and had made the colleges of surgeons in Scotland exceedingly unpopular, and the effect here would be exactly similar. The Hon. member appeared to be ignorant of the fact, that in those States where protective laws had existed, they have been repealed, whilst in others there never were any, and it was generally admitted that since the abolition of those laws, the regular practitioners had obtained a larger share of practice, and been able to take a higher stand, when the quacks have been deprived of the sympathy which people had for them, then when they were liable to prosecution under the protective laws. He was opposed to the bill, also, because it would deprive sick people in the back country, where the population is spreading, and where it would be impossible to procure the services of a regular practitioner, of the only medical assistance within its reach. He was also opposed to the bill, because a large number of the medical profession did not wish it to pass he should therefore support the amendment.

The amendment was then put—Yeas 22; Nays 28.

Mr. MERRITT replied to the member for Toronto. He had asked what was the use of Colleges, &c. unless these privileges were granted to those who studied there. That was easier asked than answered; but those

studies gave the gentlemen great advantages, and they had besides the right of incorporation, but now they wanted something in the way of privilege that no other person had. If carpenters or masons came before the House to demand such privileges as to exclude competition, it would be thought monstrous; why should the learned professions have a monopoly? He would occupy more time, but hoped the privilege granted would be as limited as possible.

Mr. WILSON would vote against the bill because these privileges were more detrimental than otherwise to the profession. He had known two neighborhoods in which quacks were indicted by medical men, and the feeling was so strong against the prosecutions that the medical men were driven out, whereas had they trusted to their superior abilities, derived from education, they would have driven the quacks out.

Mr. LYON was at first disposed to vote against the Bill, but found that the Hon. member for Toronto was willing to alter the parts found to be objectionable.

Mr. SMITH (Durham) remarked that the present Bill was more stringent than the old law, inasmuch as the offence under the latter consisted in the quack having acted for hire and gain. The present bill made it a crime to do so under any circumstances. If it passed there would be plenty of informers.

Mr. MCCOMMEL opposed the bill, because it was a sort of second edition of the medical bill in Lower Canada—the most unpopular bill which had ever been passed. The 10th clause would exclude the women, now he had once been given up by the doctors and cured by an old lady.

Dr. BEAUBIEN desired no other protection for the medical profession than good colleges and good professors. But it was proposed by this bill to bring the student before the college and make him pay fees for the members, without on their side being obliged to furnish any instruction. He did not want any exceptional laws for the medical profession: let the profession here form schools of medicine like the College of Surgeons of London, or the Royal College of Paris.

Mr. MORRISON opposed the bill, for he believed the medical profession did not wish it to pass; first, because it was not good; second because it would put them into antagonism with the people of the province. The people were jealous of these privileges. He was glad to hear the remarks of the Hon. President of the Council, and sorry to hear those of the Attorney General. He desired if the bill were not to pass, that it should be thrown out at once, and lose no time.

The discussion was afterwards continued to a great length; but without bringing out any new arrangement against the measure.

Dr. LATERRIERIE said, it appeared there

were
objec
desti
who
and
but i
gent
touch
hear
weri
draw
blac
no r
ions
and
M
Pres
inco
shoe
med
read
prin
wou
Th
the c
T
sion
certa
This
is al
new
wort
the
Yea
O
port
al w
selle
no
O
the
am
St,
pan
C
mo
def
Ca
the
bill
lim
Du
we
the
in
ri
so
w
ac
S
no
R

were many quacks in Upper Canada, and the object of this bill was to check quackery, so destructive to every thing good. The men who discovered the circulation of the blood, and vaccination were not ignorant quacks; but instructed professional men. The Hon. gentleman here narrated some anecdotes touching a Dr. Solomon, which we did not hear very distinctly, and concluded by answering the Hon. President of the Council by drawing a distinction between the trades of blacksmiths and carpenters, which involved no responsibility, and those liberal professions to whose care were committed the lives and fortunes of the public.

Mr. BALDWIN did not see why the Hon. President of the Council who was so ready to incorporate any companies to make boots and shoes, &c., should refuse to incorporate the medical profession. He voted for the second reading of the bill, because he approved of principle of organizing the profession; but would perhaps not object to alter the details.

The bill was then read the second time: the division being Ayes, 26; Nays, 25.

The next question that came under discussion was a bill to secure title to real estate to certain parties naturalized in Lower Canada. This case—that of Joseph Donegani, Esq.—is already familiar to the public, and nothing new, or of sufficient public interest, to be worth reporting, was elicited in the course of the debate. The bill was ultimately carried, Yeas, 25; Nays, 14.

On motion of Mr. BADGLEY, a bill to incorporate the Horticultural Society of Montreal was read a second time, and referred to the select committee on private bills.

On motion of Mr. HOLMES, bills to amend the acts incorporating the City Bank, and to amend the acts of incorporation of the Lake St. Louis and Province Line Railroad Company, were read a second time.

On motion of Mr. LEMHUX, a bill to remove doubts as to the right of securing and defending suits *in forma pauperis* in Lower Canada, was read a second time.

The House then went into committee on a bill introduced by Mr. MORRISON, to authorize limited partnerships in Upper Canada, Mr. DUMAS in the Chair, the clauses of the bill were passed without the least discussion, there being only twenty-one members remaining in the House.

Another bill also introduced by Mr. MORRISON, to require filing of mortgages of personal property in Upper Canada, was likewise passed through committee, and the house adjourned about eleven o'clock.

The following which we cut from "the Sun" shows that Prince Edward District is not asleep on the subject of Medical Reform.

RESPECTED EDITOR,

Whereas there has been a bill intro-

duced into the Legislature, to establish a medical inquisition for the benefit and special protection of its numerous inquisitors, or at least for the protection of their ancient faith,—a faith hallowed, like the pagan religion, more for its antiquity than for its establishment upon true philosophic principles. And as the legislature will doubtless wish to obtain all the information within their reach, relative to the effect of such an arbitrary, oppressive, inquisitorial measure; I will here insert a short piece clipped from the *New York Weekly despatch*.

SHOCKING DEATH.—A lad named Ront, 16 years of age, died at Covington, Kentucky, a short time since from the effects of mercury, administered ten weeks previous, by a physician to alleviate typhoid fever. It appears that in a few weeks after the mercury was administered spots made their appearance on each side of the face, followed by mortification and sloughing of the parts, the usual result of mercurial action when thus manifested.—For several weeks the poor sufferer lay thus, the poison augmenting its awful work, until the whole jaw, with the exception of a small portion of the chin, was exposed to view from loss of surrounding flesh. The upper and under lips were entirely gone, and the appearance was presented of a skull covered with flesh, excepting the teeth and jaws—a most pitiable sight. On the right side of the face the mortification extended to the eye, scalp and ear, and had the youthful sufferer lived but a few days longer, he would have lost his right eye, ear and all the flesh on that side of his face and head. But fortunately for himself and friends, death has kindly come to his aid and relieved him from misery.

I do not offer to the Canadian public, this extract from the *Despatch*, because it contains any new, or novel feature, as it is a fact capable of being supported from high medical authority, and which none of the faculty, I trust will attempt to deny, that the medicine in question often produces similar fatal effects; and also that it is impossible for the medical practitioner when he administers it to know whether its operation will be beneficial or prejudicial to the life of his patient. I would advise the legislature to a way with their pretended medical incorporation bill, and give us the real old fashioned Spanish Inquisition, with all its vast and ample resources, viz. Fire, Rack, and Sword, which may be fully equal to the task of converting from medical heresy, all those stubborn sinners, who have become seriously affected with that fatal contamination, of rejecting all mineral poisons, and depending exclusively upon simple, harmless, vegetable remedial Agents. But to be serious about this important matter, we have no particular objection that that portion of the medical profession,

who practice the Allopathic system should be incorporated for the management of their own affairs; provided their powers be carefully defended, and restricted exclusively to those who practice their system: and provided also, that the same power and privilege be granted to those medical Gents who practice the Botanic system of medicine. This would appear to be a portion of that justice, for which the Liberals of Canada have long been contending; and which it will be impossible for a popular Government long to withhold. I am however free to express my dissent to incorporating Medical societies, not believing it to be conducive to the best interest of the medical profession, nor to afford to the community a guarantee against the impositions of quackery. It surely is a fact that no sane man will attempt to disguise, that there is a far greater amount of quack medicines vended by those druggists who are of the privileged order than by every other class in Canada.

I would however be willing to ask some of the friends of medical monopoly, what good to the community have ever been effected by medical laws? Have they been the means of qualifying the Medical practitioner, successfully to attend the bed of the sick? Have they led to any new and important discovery, or to the simplest, safest, and speediest means of relieving suffering humanity? Have such discoveries generally emanated from the schools of Physic? I trust the observation of every intelligent man has prepared him to answer these questions in the negative, and must necessarily extort the confession that such discoveries, have generally emanated from some obscure and illiterate individual, like Dr. Thomson "whose name" says Dr. Waterhouse, "will be transmitted to posterity as a benefactor of mankind." Allow me to ask what would have been the fate of the Botanic system of medicine, for the discovery of which, Dr. Thomson was so nobly and justly eulogized had it been left to the tender mercies of those physicians enjoying the protection of Medical Laws. It does not need the spirit of Prophecy to predict this answer, that had not public opinion been more powerful than even legislative enactments, and kindly lent its nurturing care, sheltered it safely under its protecting wing, that best of all medical systems; that great boon to the world had died in embryo, and it and all the great blessings designed by it to doctor-ridden world have been swept into oblivion.

In conclusion, I would say I discovered that the leader of the great liberal party, in Canada West, voted for the second reading of the obnoxious measure. The course he may see fit to pursue at its third reading, and his success in stripping it of its objectionable laws, will be duly noticed. And I would suggest for his consideration the expression

of a respectable medical Gent living not far from Picton, who said, that Teetotalism, Radicalism, and Thompsonianism, all run in the same channel. Not a bad compliment indeed, paid to the Botanic. *A short sentence, but full of meaning*,—that that intelligent portion of our community, who had been endeavouring to apply the great moral lever, to uproot the heinous vice of intemperance, to reform and renovate our social, and political system, had not forgotten that our medical system was still imperfect. I trust I will not be exceeding my privilege, when I say that those Gentlemen, Messrs. Merritt, Flint, and others, who so honorably opposed a measure calculated to cultivate the persecuting spirit heretofore manifested by the medical faculty, and extend their power to indulge therein,—have well earned for themselves the thanks of the friends of the Botanic system of medicine in Canada, and on their behalf I feel great pleasure in thus tendering it to them.

T. C.

Crafton, 1849.

TO THE READER.

A COMBINATION of causes induced me to examine the system of Medical Botany, and deliver this course of lectures. Of the character of an author I am neither ambitious nor repugnant. Were the Items summoned together, "of all that creep and all that soar," in this department of literature, the amount of remuneration might not be very seductive. I am but a pioneer in a path unknown, and may have stumbled in my course, or failed to clear the way; still I am persuaded enough has been done, to excite the attention of the curious, and rouse the penetration of the profound. Of all the interests of this mortal life, the preservation and care of health, is one of the most important and absorbing.

I know the subject on which I have discoursed is one highly unpopular; and may subject me to the reproach of some of my best friends: but the die is cast, and the ordeal I am willing to encounter. From the

convic
shoul
is sus
and p
deri
ken a
mate
ferr
forti
of ma
sion o
will o
casm,
malig
ing th
for th
bear;
and d
timati
sourc
ses of
haps
bilit
morta
of any
my o
the a
buna
ery p
rior u
ACH
TI
oblig
kind
ed th
than
othe
mur
and
the
sen
so i
tach
hea
lect
ma
not
it b
tac

conviction, that even though I should have failed, the cause itself, is susceptible of vast improvement, and progressive elevation, I shall derive a solace which cannot be taken away. The prospects of ultimate success, and the view of conferring future benefits on society will fortify the mind against the danger of many evils, and the apprehension of the bitterness of censure. It will obtund the keen edge of sarcasm, and defeat the purposes of malignity, to know that we are serving the cause of humanity and truth: for though the lip of scorn is hard to bear; as we instinctively love *fame*, and desire to stand high in public estimation; yet there is a higher source of happiness than the applauses of the world. With a mind perhaps as deeply imbued with sensibility as generally falls to the lot of mortals, I was never much afraid of any thing but the *reproaches of my own heart*. Let me have but the approbation of that invisible tribunal, and I feel as secure from every pointed dart, as the Grecian warrior under the shield and armour of ACHILLES.

The physicians of whom I was obliged to speak, I have spoken with kindness and candor. I have treated them with much more deference than they have accorded to each other. To reflect on a whole community and succession of learned and eminent men, might appear to the inconsiderate, as the very essence of madness and folly. And so it was said, when GALILEO attacked the Ptolemaic system of the heavens, and LORD BACON the dialectics of ARISTOTLE. Great names may give splendor to error, but cannot transform it into *truth*. And let it be remembered, I have made an attack upon the Faculty; they, them-

selves, have alternately made it on each other. I have merely introduced passages from their own writings for the sake of argument and illustration. They have all admitted the *uncertainty* of medical practice, and its great susceptibility of improvement and reduction. To spurn the humble effort of a humble labourer, willing to toil in removing the rubbish and re-edifying the superstructure, would neither patriotic nor philosophical. Let every ray of truth shine upon a subject confessedly obscure; let every improvement and discovery be cast into the balance, so long and fatally *found wanting*; let all come forward, from every corner of the land, to aid in the reduction of the great sum of human misery suffered by disease; and close up, by all the powers of human skill, the avenues of death.

In this cause I have been laboring, and to this end I have directed my efforts; with what success let others testify. I now bid the reader farewell, with this single assurance, that if in any thing I have erred, or have been mistaken or deceived, or have set down ought in malice, let it be shown; let any point it out with kindness and candor, and

"Cuncta recantabo maledicta, priora rependam
Laudibus, et vestrum nomen in astra feram."

S. ROBINSON.

LECTURE I.

INTRODUCTORY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

We have assembled on this evening, for the purpose of introducing a course of lectures on Medical Botany—generally denominated Thomson's System of Medicine.

I am well aware that the prejudices against it are numerous and strong: and so they have been a-

gainst every new discovery, or invention, since the beginning of the world. Since the day that NOAH built the ark, and had to encounter the mockery and scorn of the Antediluvian race, till the present hour, obloquy and proscription have assailed every new and untried experiment of man.

This spirit forms one of the most *unseemly* traits in the human character. It indicates a state of mind neither resting for success upon the resources of its own power, nor relying on the superintending care of a just, a wise and holy providence. Because we ourselves are not *first* in the *discovery*, or because it might militate against our *interests* we would wish it buried; yes!—no matter how useful or benevolent!—we would wish it forever buried in the cave of Cyclops.

Pride and presumption lie at the foundation of all this hostility. It presumes, either that all which can be known is already discovered; or that our own fair fame must not be tarnished by the superior penetration of exalted minds. If we had humility to remember, that progress of mind is endless as duration, and the question of the inspired ELIHU, "who had searched out the works of the Almighty to perfection?" we might be willing to concede to others, with all complacency, the signal honor of having added one single item to the great sum of human knowledge.

Let us remember, in the language of the eloquent writer, that pride is unstable and seldom the same.—That she feeds upon *opinion*, and is *fickle* as her *food*. She builds the lofty structures on sandy foundations—the applause of beings are every moment liable to change.—But *virtue* is uniform and perma-

nent; and fixed upon a rock are the towers of her habitation: For she looks for approbation only to HIM, who is the same, yesterday, to-day and forever.

The road to glory would cease to be arduous if it were trite and trodden. Great minds are not only ready to seize upon opportunities, but they make them for themselves.—Alexander forced the Pythian priestess on the Tripod, on a forbidden day; the Pythian exclaimed my son thou art invincible. It was all the Oracle the warrior desired!—On another occasion he cut the Gordian knot, which others had endeavored to untie in vain, and thus accomplished the oracle which ascribed to him the empire of Asia. Nelson, when the statue of victory was holding her laurel wreaths in either hand, uncertain where to bestow them; Nelson seized upon *both!* Those who start in the career of glory, must like the mettled steeds of Actæon, pursue the game not only where there are paths, but where there none. For it is given to man, and is the high distinction of his mental powers, not only to explore the whole circle of human science—but passing that awful and venerable limit—bearing in his hand the torch of intellect—enter, alone, the trackless wilderness, untrodden by mortal feet; to travel on a path *which the vulture's eye hath not seen, nor the lion's whelps trodden, nor hath the fiercer lion passed thereon.* Enclosed on every side by the magnificence of Jehovah's works, he may exclaim with the prophet, *the works of the Lord are great, and sought out by all that take pleasure in them!*

It is sweet and dear to the mind, the acquirement of knowledge.—But in the acquisition of a new truth

gained
dusry;
divine
obtain
the lab

From
materi
gleaned
well as
ressive
est atte
ception
very th
ison wi
rah, hi
pour it
intellec
blow o
and ma
lees sp
where
glory,
nor ear
into th
the ma
beams
the av
heaven
and cu
ions, a
that o
splend
silence

If th
to ma
borne
sition
—But
ploug
man
had s
the v
super
that h
cover
and
and
and
endur

gained by the efforts of our own industry, there is a sort of holy and divine *unction*, which is not to be obtained by wisdom derived from the labor of others.

From the very nature of our immaterial structure, and every thing gleaned from its operations, we are well assured that wisdom is progressive and eternal: That our highest attainments are but as the preceptions of infants, crawling on the very threshold of *being*, in comparison with that knowledge of Jehovah, his *works and ways*, that shall pour its radiance on the unclouded intellect of man, as he rises from the blow of death, and wing his mighty and majestic flight amidst the boudlees splendors of eternal worlds; where he shall look on that ineffible glory, of which eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, nor hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive the magnificence of its uncreated beams! The inspired writer, from the awful elevation of the third heaven, suddenly dropt his wing, and cut short the history of his visions, at the awful remembrance of that overwhelming sight of dazzling splendor, which filled his soul with *silence and adoration!*

If the wise and learned only were to make discoveries, it could be borne; a strong prejudice and opposition would be rooted from the mind—But that the illiterate, the mere plough boy, and the peasant—a man like Samuel Thomson, who had spent his life among the clods of the valley—and himself but little superior to the dust he walked on—that he should pretend to make discoveries in the science of medicine; and *invent forms*, and *medicines*, and *rules*, to enlighten its exclusive and profound professors, is not to be endured by men, *proud* of their at-

tainments, and fortified by all the *tenacity of system!*

* * * * *

Let the brightest son of medical science, suppose a change of cases with Dr. Thomson, and but for the care of that good and holy Providence, of whom, perhaps, he has never acknowledged the existence, he might have been consigned to the plough-tail, and Dr. Thomson to the wisdom of the schools. And thus situated, would he have considered it a crime in himself to have forced his way through all the *asperities of nature*, the *obstructions of property*, the *absence of education*, and the iron and heavy hand—the combined phalanx—of science of wealth, and power, and popularity, arrayed against him, to spurn, to trample him down, and crush him to the earth, and plunge him in oblivion forever! would he have thought it criminal in himself to resist this terrible array, to rise superior to the blow that would have cloven his fortunes down; and by the unaided innate vigor of his own intellect have forced his way, in despite of enemies to wealth, and rank, and fame, and taken his station among the benefactors of the human race? No, I am persuaded he would not; for it is the very path in which superior minds do most delight to travel—the untried, stormy journey of perilous adventure—according to the saying of that modern sage, Dr. Johnson, “The man that can submit to *trudge* behind, was never made to *walk* before.”

Beyond all this, we are presented with solemn facts from history, to show us that, perhaps the *learned* are as much indebted to the *illiterate*, for their observations, as the latter are to the former for their science. They are equally necessary

to each other, in forming the sum of human things, from

"The poor Indian whose untutored mind,
Sees God in clouds, and hears him in the wind,"
to the soaring spirit of the philosopher, traversing the starry sky.

In vain do enlightened nations boast, that they have gathered within themselves all the arts and sciences. The earth is covered over with vegetables and animals, the simple vocabulary of which, no scholar, no academy, no nation, whatever, will ever be able perfectly to acquire. No, nor all the human race, in their united wisdom, shall be ever able to find out the limits, the name and nature of her innumerable millions!

We, therefore, with all humility, in consideration of our profound ignorance, should be willing to glean from every source, which promises an accession to the stock of our materials.

"And it is to savages, to men utterly unknown, that we are indebted for the first observations which are the sources of all science. It was neither to the witty and polished Greeks, nor the grave and stately Romans, but to nations which we denominate barbarous, that we are indebted for the use of *simples*, of bread, of wine, of domestic animals, of cloth, of dyes for cloths, of metals; and for every thing most useful and most agreeable for human life. Modern Europe may glory in her discoveries; but the art of printing, which ought to immortalize the inventor, has been ascribed to a person so obscure, that the world could scarcely fix upon his name, or ascertain his identity; so that several cities of Holland, of Germany, and even China, laid claim to the discovery as their own!

Galileo would have never weigh-

ed and calculated the gravity of the air, but for the casual observation of a fountain player who observed in his presence, that water could only rise thirty-two feet in a forcing engine. And the sublime Newton would have never read these heavens, but for the occurrence of some children, in the isle of Zeland, playing with the glasses of a spectacle maker; which first suggested to him the idea of the telescopic cylinder; And perhaps the arms of Europe would have never been able to have subdued America, had not an obscure monk made the discovery of gunpowder.

And whatever glory Spain may attribute to herself for that discovery, the nations of the East, the savages of Asia, have founded mighty empires of splendor and renown, over that vast continent, which Spain could never rival, notwithstanding her boasted wisdom and erudition! And the great discoverer himself, Christopher Columbus, whose name this vast portion of the globe shall bear upon its bosom to immortality, would have perished with all his followers, and his discoveries perished in the ocean with him, had not the kind hospitality of the simple aborigines furnished him with food." "It was the fortuitous observation of the Colonel of a marching regiment, which instructed the great Sydenham in the utility of bleeding in inflammatory fevers!"

Let, then, academies accumulate their machines, and models and books, and systems, and eulogium; the chief praise of all is due to the ignorant who furnished the first materials!

Let those who have reached a boundary at which they have designed to stop, not envy, or impede

the prog
mined to
ney shal
of the st

Amidst
of know
tention
be none
ligion or
shall cou
the follo
Art. F
body, lil
may ret
usefulne

Such
der the
sympath
element
gies of t
ing out
ping the
clay; w
tinal s
Thus ci
forward
so man
from w
is not a
the sou
shold b
latter,
labors

Med
only o
interes
who, s
its pro
their
great
fesses
own

To
tranq
tiquit
seven
studi
they

the progress of him, who is determined to press forward till his journey shall end in the dark valley of the shadow of death.

Amidst all the innumerable branches of knowledge, which solicit the attention of human minds, there can be none of so much importance, religion only excepted, as that which shall constitute the subject of the following lectures—the Healing Art. For the soul in the diseased body, like the martyr in his dungeon may retain its value, but has lost its usefulness!

Such is the nature of man, under the strong power of sense and sympathy; influenced by all the elements around him, and the energies of thought within him; wearing out his immortal covering; sapping the foundation of his house of clay; while the passions pour a continual storm upon the wheels of life. Thus circumstanced, and impelled forward by the combined actions of so many agents, to that "bourne from whence no traveler returns," it is not astonishing if man, although the soul is superior to the body, should bestow upon the care of the latter, the principal portion of his labors and his life.

Medicine is therefore a study, not only of curious inquiry, but of deep interest, to families and individuals, who, after what has been done by its professors, ought, in fact, to be their own physicians. And this great desideratum Dr. Thomson professes to aid and establish, by his own discoveries.

To promote health of body and tranquility of mind, the sages of antiquity labored with the most severe and incessant toil. They studied the constitution of man, that they might find out the seat of his

maladies, and the sources of his misery.

To assuage the sorrows of the of the heart, and lift the load of melancholy from the desponding mind; to restore to the wounded spirit its elasticity and vigor; they exhaust all the powers of reason, and all the arguments and arts of their divine philosophy. Sometimes they succeeded, but they often failed. It was from a deep sense of the inadequacy of their feeble powers to eradicate the disorders of mind, that led them to look for divine succor, to that benevolent Being, who sits upon the circle of the heavens, and showers his mercies down upon the world. And this aid was not implored in vain. The day arrived. The veil of superstition was rent in fragments.—The apostle from the hill of Mars, led them to the knowledge of their unknown God. He conducted them to the infinite sources of wisdom and consolation, in *Him in whom there is fullness of joy, at whose right hand are pleasures for ever more.*

In their application to the disease of the body, the Greeks were more successful than in their application to the mind. And if we may believe the current testimony of ancient writers, they had more power over their patients, in stemming the inroads of dissolution, than the moderns have obtained after all the improvements of advancing science.—It is certain, they often arrested the career of death when he appeared in his most awful and end terrific forms. Athens was rescued from the plague by the skill of a single man!

It was in the commencement of the second year of the Peloponnesian war, that the plague broke out

in Athens; and never before had this dreadful scourge of the human race, ravaged so many countries and climes. Rising on the burning brow of Africa, through Ethiopia, Egypt, Lybia and Persia, Syria and Cyprus, and Lemnos, together with many other places of Asia and isles of the Ægean sea, it held its dreadful and desolating course. The nations stood appalled in its presence, and thousands perished by its breath! A merchant vessel landing in Piræus, brought the disease to Athens; and this fell destroyer raged with a fury before unknown, over that city of Minerva. Its fearful and rapid progress seemed to bid defiance to all mortal skill.—From the first attack of the disease, the powers of the mind seemed blotting out, while the body acquired new and additional strength; as if the enemy, on purpose, had augmented the power to suffer. The torment was terrible. The *sick* were seized with despair, and the *sound* confounded with madness.—All the laws of equity and social order trample down. Scenes of riot and confusion, and reckless tumult, surrounded the march of death! The diseased was first smitten in the head; from this the malady passed down through the whole body, leaving in one shapeless mass, that noble form divine. But the sufferers seldom waited for this terrible catastrophe; but, in the beginning, in the fury of distraction, plunged into wells, rivers, and the sea, to quench the consuming fire that devoured within them!

It was in this awful crisis of his ruin, that one man, one single man, skilled in the use of those divine remedies, which the God of Nature has lodged in the herbs and flowers of the field, entered the devoted city,

and shook off, with a giant's strength the deadly grasp of the destroyer. The sound of his very name poured hope and consolation through the torn bosom, filled with the agonies of despair! This man was the far famed Hippocrates. He dwelt in the Island of Cos. At the breaking out of the plague in Persia, Artaxerxes the great, king of the empire wrote to the physician to hasten to the relief of his dominions. He allured him by the most magnificent promises; the most splendid offers of wealth and honors. But the physician replied to the great king, that he had neither wants nor desires; and he owed his services and his skill, whatever they might be, to his country, rather than her enemies! This magnanimous reply so enraged the monarch, that he sent a squadron to bring him by force of arms; but Hippocrates had sailed far Athens. And the power of his fame upon the mind, and his skill over the body, scattered the shadows of death, and shed around him a radiance of joy and hope, as if an angel's visit had lighted upon the City.

To purify the air, he caused large fires to be kindled in all the streets and lanes of Athens. And to relieve the suffering from the consuming heat which devoured their entrails, he placed them in warm baths to expel the infection by the surface of the skin; and, to support their weakness, caused them to drink the rich wines of Naxos.

The great examples of success and diligence in the healing art, to discover and apply new modes of cure, when we find all the *common* and *established* forms baffled and confounded, should dispose us to cherish, as the martyr would his faith, whatever discovery may be-

calculate
and sim
train of
fallen rac
rived, all
had eithe
victims.
Their se
than to r
dying.
much co
Because
of relief;
down, at
the destr
From:
from the
yet in hi
ion of its
brated pr
venerable
an *unroo*
the top, a
tions, un
ory of an
id basis
in the su
patholog
him: fr
deeply
which I
any me
misery,
what ha
found e
After
disaster
Rush c
mating
often p
the day
al know
to the
would
disease
life a s
retreat
confid
lence

calculated to deliver us, by a short and simple process, from the long train of diseases entailed upon our fallen race. Before Hippocrates arrived, all the physicians of Athens had either fled or fallen with their victims. They had no success. Their seemed rather to aggravate than to remedy the miseries of the dying. Why had Hippocrates so much control over the pestilence? Because he applied a new method of relief; one that seemed to strike down, at once, the strong hold of the destroyer!

From all these considerations, and from the fact, that the healing art is yet in his infancy, by the confession of its most successful and celebrated practitioners; the great and venerable Dr. Rush compares it to an *unroofed temple*, uncovered at the top, and cracked at the foundations, unless you admit his own theory of animal life, as a sure and solid basis; for he scatters like atoms in the sun beam, all the systems of pathology, that have gone before him: from all these, we ought to deeply ponder the peradventures which Providence may elicit, by any means, to diminish the sum of misery, before we spurn from us, what has been discovered, tried, and found effectual.

After bewailing the defects and disasters of medical science, Dr. Rush consoled himself with the animating prospect that *hope*, which he often proclaimed from his desk, that the day would arrive, when medical knowledge should have attained to the apex of perfection, that it would be able to remove all the diseases of man; and leave not for life a single outlet, a single door of retreat, but old age; for such is my confidence, said he, in the benevolence of the Deity, that he has plac-

on earth remedies for all the maladies of man. I remember still, with a thrill of love and gratitude, to that admired and venerable professor, with what enthusiasm and transport, and prophetic vehemence, he used to pronounce that sentiment at the close of his lectures. His confidence in the benevolence of the Deity was boundless; and his own soul largely partook of that divine character of the Almighty! We shall not, shortly, look upon his like again. *Quam de inventient parem?*

The influence of this *hope*, so feelingly expressed and deeply felt, by every noble mind, that all diseases shall yet yield to the power of medicine, in its perfect state, ought to be abundantly sufficient to determine us to examine with candour, every new discovery, that is presented by the care and experience of man, whatever may be his state or condition in life. *Great men* are not always *wise*; and the very *meanest* is not beneath the *care* of a kind Providence, nor the influence of his *holy Spirit*.

"For thy kind heavenly Father bends his eye,
On the least wing that flits across the sky."

And if, perchance, the grand Panacea shall be at last found, that Moly of Egyptians, and the Elixir of the Greeks, who would not deem himself more honored by contributing the smallest item to the great discovery for relieving the wretchedness of the human race, than if he had bestowed upon him the Empire of the world? I saw *one fever* rage, and prostrate its victim, over which the physician's skill had no influence. To have saved *that life*, to me so precious, I would have given the universe, had I possessed it, and would have considered it but as dust in the balance. No doubt others feel as I do. And if the period shall arrive, when the heart strings shall no more be torn, and lacerated, who would not exult in the joyful anticipations of that coming day. And this dream of a universal medicine, which has pervaded the nations of

the earth, since the days of Isis and Osiris, is not at all a dream; for the days shall come, saith the Lord, when there shall be nothing to hurt, or destroy, in my holy mountain, no pain to hurt, nor sickness to annoy.

But whether diseases shall be banished from the globe, in that glorious period of the Millenium; or the grand catholicon be discovered, to remove them, the data do not determine. But this we know, the earth shall have health and peace; and Dr. Busn's hope will be fulfilled, even beyond the limits of his most sanguine expectations; for the child shall die an hundred years old.

It is the purpose of this course of Lectures, to lay before the people, a succinct account of THOMSON'S System of Medicine, that they may judge from the mode and the result of this new practice, of its fair and honest claims to the public confidence and admiration.—There is no design to gild over errors, nor to mislead the mind, of the unwary. We shall submit it, simply, in its own merits, to the grand criterion of all new discoveries—the understanding and reason of man. Whatever is true and valuable, let it be retained; but if there be any thing false or pernicious, let it be given to the winds; or discarded to that oblivion, where all have perished that could not brook the light!

And in thus submitting the "*New Guide of Health*," to the public scrutiny of their fellow citizens, the friends and followers of Dr. THOMSON, have pursued the path marked out to them by many of the greatest men of antiquity; who often turned aside from the forms and dogmas of the schools, or submit their cause to the tribunal of public opinion. And they were never deceived: For God has lodged the fund of common sense in the mass of the assembled multitude. These assemblies were dear to every land of liberty; and it was on the appeal to that assembly, and its decisions, that the ancients established the maxims, so often in their

mouth, *Vox populi, vox Dei*. The voice of the people is the voice of God.

Dr. THOMSON says, "It has long been a subject in which I have taken a deep interest, to publish something not only useful to the world, but also, that would convey to them my system of practice; in order that they might reap the advantage of curing disease, by a safe and simple method of my own invention." "One other object, also, I have had in view; that is to lay before the public a fair statement of facts; that they may have a correct knowledge of the trials and persecutions which I had to endure, in bringing my system of medicine into use among the people."

Dr. THOMSON was not brought up in the schools and colleges of the learned. But he was trained in one far superior, for eliciting the powers of an original mind, the severe school of adversity, that perilous ordeal where the feeble minded perish; but the great of heart come out of the fires, purified and and resplendent in tenfold brightness. They rebound by the very impulse and pressure of the blow, that was designed to crush them, and reach their elevation in the sky; to refute an objection made against the goodness of Divine Providence, that the *virtuous* were often, not only destitute of the blessings of fortune, but of nature, and even the necessaries of life.

To this objection St. PIERRE returns to the following beautiful and profound answer: To this, said he, I reply, the misfortunes of the virtuous often turn to their advantage. When the world persecutes them, they are generally driven into some illustrious career. Misfortunes are the road to great talents; or, at least, to great virtues, which are far preferable

It is not in your power, said MARCUS AURELIUS to a friend who was exhausting his breath upon the unequal distribution of the favours of the gods, it is not in your power to become a great natural philosopher, a poet, a mathe-

matician, but it is in your power to be a virtuous man, or to be a god. For the gods have no power to give you anything that you do not desire. For the gods are far from being their possessors. The study of the laws of the mind, the nervous system, all his friends. The people more ready than the timely gifts of his studies.

Inter as the people through very pleasant profitable hold the night last dreams he is not disconsolate lectual happiness the world an evident letter heart of draw the reason posed, it pangs lamities soul. and even succor a broken heart. mit of ing, he his own that su

matician, an orator, or an historian ; but it is in your power to be an honest and virtuous man, which is far superior to them all ! Use well the gifts the gods have given thee, and leave off re-pining at the good they have denied.— For the very talents thou sighest after, are far from conferring happiness on their possessors.

The splendour derived from successful studies, seldom repay the occupant for the lassitude and exhaustion of the mind, the feverish debility and throb of nervous excitement which thrill through all his frame.

The peasant in his cot, perhaps has more real enjoyment, and certainly has more peace, and calm contentedness, than the philosopher, crushed to an untimely grave by the very magnitude of his studies.

Inter silvas academi querere verum, as the poet says : To search out truth through academic groves may be a very pleasing, but often is a very unprofitable occupation. You may behold the scholar, pale, over his midnight lamp, and far distant the golden dreams of honour and applause, which he is never destined to realize. How disconsolate is the condition of an intellectual being, who thus suspends his happiness on the praise and glory of the world ? The good AURELIUS gave an evidence, worthy of being inscribed in letters of gold. He who places his heart on material objects, or expects to draw the streams of consolation from the resources of the world, must be exposed, in every vicissitude, to the keen pangs of anguish. The slightest calamities will disquiet and trouble his soul. In adversity he is cast down, and every stay, on which he leaned for succour, like the infidelity of Egypt, as a broken reed, will pierce him to the heart. From the gay and lofty summit of his pride, and presumptive darning, he sinks to the deplorable level of his own weak and worthless presumption. *Quantum mutatus ab illo ;* is that sunken, hopeless condition.

This glory of the world, uncertain as it is, is not within the grasp of many minds. And even those who are able to seize the gay and gilded prize, it stings in the very embrace, and perishes in the enjoyment. But the path of virtue, that leads to happiness on high, lies open to every traveller ; and he can neither be mistaken in his course, nor disappointed in his acquisition. He has with him, and around him, in the darkest hour, in the lone desert or the crowded city, a Being who knows his pain, and hears every sigh of his complaints. He made the soul, and is able to delight and ravish its inmost faculties with the communication of joys unspeakable.

How noble was the sentiment expressed by Sir ISAAC NEWTON : Speaking of infinite space he said, " it was the *sensorium* of the Deity ;" as if a fibre touched, in the most minute, remote, or worthless of all its creatures, could move the spirit of the eternal *Godhead*. This view of his power and his providence, inspires the heart with a holy hope, and high dependence, far above the influence of a troubled and a fleeting world.

Queen ELIZABETH, when her triumphant fleet had swept from the ocean the *invincible* armada of Spain, had medals struck, with this most beautiful and appropriate motto : *Afflavit Deus, et dissipatur.* He blew with his wind, and they were scattered." How exalted the thought ! The belief of a divine and superintending Providence, taking care of us and our concerns, elevates and ennobles the mind. It transports a mortal creature to the high and holy meditations of angelic beings, and fills the soul with the purity and peace of heaven.

PROCEEDINGS IN PARLIAMENT.

Botanic Medicine.

Mr. FLINT then moved the House into a Committee of the whole to consider the report of the select Committee on the petition of J. H. Aussen and others on the subject of Botanic Medicine. Mr Burritt in the Chair.

Mr. FLINT moved that a Bill should be brought in to accord to those who practiced the Thompsonian system of medicine, the

same rights as other medical men; they asked for equal rights but nothing more, they desired the privilege of receiving pay for their services, and if those services were valuable he could see no reason why they should not be paid. They used no mineral medicine, but only medicine made from roots and herbs and practiced on a different system from other medical men. All they wanted was to be allowed to practice as they thought proper, without studying three or four years at a system which they never intended to practice in order to obtain a diploma. In the U. S. the Thompsonian doctors were allowed to practice and the same right should be accorded to them here, to enable them to give their system a fair trial. It might be said that persons practicing this system had destroyed valuable lives—granted; but had not many valuable lives been also sacrificed by the regular physicians? The only difference was, that one sacrificed life contrary to law, the other according to law. (Hear, Hear, and laughter.) It was said that "the grave reveals no secrets," but he believed that if it could, there would be many men found to have been killed by the regular physicians.— ("No, no.")—He thought the majority of the regular physicians in Upper Canada were in favor of this right being accorded to the Thompsonians, and he could see no reason for refusing the bill he proposed. The system of persecution going on against this class of practitioners would raise them in public estimation; and, indeed, in many of the isolated parts of the country they did a great deal of good. He (Mr. Flint) was satisfied that the more this system was tried, the more it would prevail. He hoped the Committee would, therefore, allow him to bring in a bill to amend the law, so as to accord the petitioners the privileges they sought for.

Dr. Nelson hoped the Committee would believe that he did not oppose the bill for personal reasons, but because he was well aware of the great danger frequently arising from the practice of the Thompsonian system.—Sorry was he to say that he had known two cases of death in this city, clearly and undoubtedly caused by the Thompsonian medicine. The parties who practised it, were in general, perfectly ignorant of the theory of medicine, and very frequently most illiterate, and with the utmost recklessness experimented on the living bodies of the unfortunate patient entrusted to their care. Such conduct was most atrocious, and the quacks who acted in that manner were scarcely worthy of the name of men. The hon. gentleman then went into a long description of the genus "quack," describing their characteristics, their ignorance, and their absurd pretensions which frequently impose upon the ignorant and unsuspecting. If that bill were passed, if the House chose to sanction the practice of

these people, he called on the Ministry to refuse to give one farthing to Mc Gill College. What would then be the use of taxing the country for the support of a college which taught a system that was vitally condemned by the bill, and by the vote which would pass it into law. It would be said that there was one protection for society. It would be said that if the root doctor caused any injury by his medicines, he could be prosecuted; but who would be willing to prosecute except in very glaring cases? And even then, the party who had lost a member of his family would perhaps step in to protect instead of prosecute. He called on the House to uphold its dignity, and reject the bill, and not so far insult the profession as to put a set of ignorant men on the same footing with those who had spent large sums of money, and years of their early life, in acquiring a knowledge of their profession.

Dr. DAVIGNON moved, amid great uproar, that the Chairman do leave the Chair.

MESSES. CAUCHON and Mc CONNELL took the floor simultaneously to address the Chair, and remained standing for some time amidst great disturbance, and cries of "chair" and "dispense."

The Chairman having decided that Mr. Mc CONNELL was up first, the hon. member proceeded to address the Committee, and bore testimony to the advantages of medicine composed of roots and herbs. We had, he said, a Liberal Ministry, who should endeavor to give equal rights and privileges to all men, and they should therefore give these Thompsonian doctors the privileges they petitioned for.

Mr. FLINT said the difference between the regular practitioner and the quack was this, that the regular practitioner treated his patient this way—

"He bleeds, he pukes, and he sweats him, And if he dies, why then he lets him!" whereas the Thompsonians—whom the hon. member for Richlieu called "quacks"—did not bleed in any case. (Laughter.)

Dr. DAVIGNON'S motion was then carried by a very large majority, and the committee rose.—H. Radd.

Misfortunes of the Poor.

The slightest misfortunes of the great, the most imaginary uneasiness of the rich, are aggravated with all the powers of eloquence, and held up to engage our attention and sympathetic sorrow. The poor weep unheeded, persecuted by every subordinate species of tyranny.

GOLDSMITH.