

This sample of J. J. truthfulness is not so alarming; but to even grossly slander the Ferris wheel without any use or provocation whatever, shows a very mean disposition.

The letter of thanks which he states the Eppstein family wrote to him, is another myth. He wrote it himself and became so obtrusive to the family that they finally signed it to get rid of him. Any one doubting this may address B. Eppstein, 3144 Wabash Avenue.

No one who is acquainted with the Omnicura will find it strange that J. J. Russell does not want to be connected with this "new medical discovery." Imagine a string or piece of tape, joined at the ends and hanging loosely about the neck, with a number of little plasters attached to it, which are claimed to possess the miraculous power of drawing every known disease out of the system; curing Bright's disease, consumption and every ailment imaginable; this is the Omnicura. The price is \$10 and is based on profound psychologic reasoning. It is well known that a man who is swindled out of a quarter is apt to talk about it; but when the amount is \$10 nothing but silence can keep him from ridicule.

This is the individual whom any physician in this city may meet some day at the bedside of a patient, telling the latter how badly he looks and how hopeless his case is without the Bracelin cure. In one case antitoxin has been used an hour or two before his intrusion—and his nostrum has cured diphtheria when antitoxin had failed. In another a patient is gradually recovering from pneumonia or some other illness—and he was cured by Russell after his physicians had given him up.

Formerly a politician in Iowa, he now uses even physicians as willing or unwilling tools to advertise his nostrum; a fact which must bring a blush of shame to the face of every honest medical man. With overwhelming effrontery he has even brought a mandamus suit against Dr. Reilly, Chief of the Board of Health, because he was refused access to the daily reports of contagious diseases. When a physician resents his impudence he is made an example of in the *Tribune*, by being exposed to public ridicule. The name of Dr. Edwin Kuh, a man of the highest professional standing, is held up to every reader of Russell's pamphlet on the Bracelin cure, as a warning to others who might have the temerity to question its claims, in a letter refilled with new spelling, the main argument being, that Kuh means cow in English.

Quackery will exist as long as there are dupes among mankind, but it must be kept out of contact with legitimate medicine, the quack or his agent is as much out of place in a physician's office or at the bedside of his patients, as a prostitute in the home of a virtuous woman. Our legislation has made enough concessions to mountebanks, without physicians adding thereto. Legalize quackery as such is a well paying business and heeds no encouragement from medical men.

MARTIN MATTER, M.D.

The Wisconsin Diploma Mill.

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL,
MADISON, WIS., June 13, 1896.

To the Editor:—Your JOURNAL of April 25 was forwarded to me by one of the good physicians of this State and furnished valuable information to this office for the purpose of bringing an action to dissolve the Wisconsin Eclectic Medical College at Milwaukee.

We have just prepared a complaint and I take great pleasure in forwarding a copy to you. You are at liberty to use it as you see fit. You will notice that I have obtained leave from the Supreme Court of this State to bring an action to annul its charter. This action will be brought in Milwaukee county. I have to-day mailed the papers to the sheriff of that county requesting his service.

Yours truly,

W. H. MYLREA, Attorney General.

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT FOR MILWAUKEE COUNTY.

State of Wisconsin ex re W. H. Mylrea, Attorney General, Plaintiff, vs. Wisconsin Eclectic Medical College, at Milwaukee, Defendant.

The State of Wisconsin, upon the relation of its attorney general, respectfully informs the Court:

That the defendant, the Wisconsin Eclectic Medical College at Milwaukee, is a corporation formally organized and colorably existing under the statutes of this State, and that it was so organized for the nominal purpose of teaching students the science of medicine and preparing and educating them to practice as physicians, and conferring upon them, upon having been examined, and they having succeeded in passing such examinations as to their knowledge of said science, the degree of Doctor of Medicine, or such other degree which might be proper, according to their knowledge exhibited on such examination.

That the date of its supposed organization was on or about the 31st day of December, A.D. 1895, and in the preliminary papers preparatory to organization its principal office and place of business is stated to be in the city of Milwaukee and county of Milwaukee aforesaid.

That heretofore, on the 27th day of May, A.D. 1896, upon the application of W. H. Mylrea, attorney general for the State of Wisconsin, it was by the consideration and judgment of the Supreme Court of said State of Wisconsin ordered that leave and permission be and they were then granted by said Court to said attorney general to commence an action in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee County and State of Wisconsin, upon his relation, against the corporation known as the Wisconsin Eclectic Medical College, to vacate its charter and annul its existence as a corporation, together with such other and further relief as to the Court may seem just and equitable.

And thereupon the State of Wisconsin, by its said attorney general, complaining, shows to the court and alleges:

That on the 23d day of December, 1895, Fred Rutland, Ann Neve Rutland and H. Meyer associated together for the purpose of forming a corporation the object and business of which was stated in the articles of association to be as follows:

1. "For the purpose of teaching students the science of medicine and preparing and educating them to practice as physicians and conferring upon them, upon having been examined, and they having succeeded in passing such examination as to their knowledge of such science, the degree of Doctor of Medicine, or such other degree which may be proper, according to their knowledge exhibited on such examination.

2. "The name of such corporation shall be the 'Wisconsin Eclectic Medical College at Milwaukee,' and its location is in the City of Milwaukee, County of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin.

3. "This corporation is formed without capital stock.

4. "The general officers of this corporation shall consist of a president, a treasurer and a secretary, the office of secretary and treasurer may be held by one person.

5. "The Board of Directors shall consist of three persons who shall hold their office for five years and shall be elected by the members of the corporation. The Directors shall have the general charge, control and management of the corporation, its affairs and property. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the members of the corporation; the Secretary shall preserve the seal, archives and correspondence of the corporation and attend to all business incidental thereto. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse funds of the corporation and shall keep the accounts of the corporation and books belonging to it. Any of these officers may act for the other officer in the absence of the same, and the office of secretary and treasurer may be filled by one person.

6. "Every person of good moral character having a diploma entitling him to practice as a physician may become a member of this corporation by a majority of the vote of the members of this corporation.

7. "Regular meetings of the members of this corporation for the election of directors and for the transaction of other business shall be held annually on the first Tuesday after the first day of January of every year.

8. "The signers of these articles are at the time of the signing thereof the only members of the corporation, and the first meeting of the members thereof for the purpose required by law shall be held at Room 7 of Lipp's Block, City of Milwaukee and County of Milwaukee, on the 27th day of December, 1895, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon."

Said articles were signed by Fred Rutland, Ann Neve Rutland and H. Meyer, on the said 23d day of December, 1895, recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Milwaukee County, and on the 31st day of December, 1895, duly filed in the office of the Secretary of State of said State of Wisconsin.

Complainant further complaining denies that he has any knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to whether or not a Board of Directors for said corporation has ever been elected, or as to whether or not the person "H. Meyer," one of the alleged signers of said articles of incorporation, has any existence in fact.

Complainant alleges upon information and belief that no record has been kept of the meetings of the Board of Directors of said corporation, if it has a Board of Directors, and that no by-laws have been adopted by said corporation, and that no record of any of the acts or doings of said corporation has been kept or preserved in any manner. That said corporation pretends to be carrying on the business of a medical college at 1809 Fond du Lac Avenue, in the City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in certain rooms above a store building located at that place, which rooms are adapted for residence purposes only and are utterly unfit for the purpose of the business of carrying on a medical college. That said corporation has no apparatus or paraphernalia of any kind suitable for the carrying on of a medical college, or for the giving of instruction therein. That it has no medical library of any kind suitable for the use of teachers or students. That it employs no teachers to give instruction to persons desiring to obtain a medical education. That it has never exercised the rights and privileges intended to be conferred upon it by its articles of organization, and does not intend to exercise any of the rights and privileges so intended to be conferred upon it.

Complainant further alleges upon information and belief that said Fred Rutland, Ann Neve Rutland, the wife of said Fred Rutland, and said H. Meyer, if there be a person by that name, did not organize said corporation in good faith for any of the purposes mentioned in its said articles of organization, but fraudulently and unlawfully organized said corporation for the sole purpose of enabling them to issue to ignorant and unskilled and wholly incompetent persons, spurious and bogus diplomas purporting to confer upon such persons the pretended authority of practicing medicine and surgery with intent thereby fraudulently to procure from such persons large sums of money in payment therefor.

Complainant further alleges upon information and belief that after said association had thus been formally organized in accordance with the laws of this State, the said Fred Rutland and Ann Neve Rutland, his wife, in furtherance of the unlawful and fraudulent scheme aforesaid,

procured from the Secretary of State of said State a certificate such as he is required by law to issue, certifying that there had been on the 31st day of December, 1895, filed in his Department "an instrument in writing, purporting to be articles of association of a corporation to be known as the Wisconsin Eclectic Medical College at Milwaukee, without capital stock," the business and purposes of which was to conduct a medical college, etc., and that, therefore the State of Wisconsin did certify and grant unto the said Wisconsin Eclectic Medical College at Milwaukee, the powers and privileges conferred by Chapter 66 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Wisconsin, and all acts amendatory thereof, for the purposes above stated, and in accordance with their said articles of association."

In witness whereof the said Secretary of State affixed his hand and official seal on the said 31st day of December, 1895.

Complainant further alleges upon information and belief that thereafter Fred Rutland and Ann Neve Rutland, for the purpose of carrying out their fraudulent scheme as aforesaid, caused a large number of advertisements to be inserted in newspapers throughout this and other States, and a large number of circulars soliciting persons to apply to it for diplomas and licenses such as would permit them to practice medicine and surgery in this and other States, said advertisements and circulars among other things stating in substance that if the applicant should be able to answer before a notary public of his own town certain questions to be submitted by said corporation, and upon the payment of a fee prescribed by said corporation, that said corporation would issue a diploma to such persons, which diploma would enable such persons to practice medicine in this and other States of the Union, and in proof of its authority to issue such diploma, and for the purpose of inducing persons to act upon these statements, said Fred Rutland and his wife would send out with such circulars a copy of the certificate issued by said Secretary of State, as aforesaid, and would further allege in said circulars that the State of Wisconsin had satisfied itself that the purposes of the corporation were regular and in accordance with the law, and had accepted a fee for incorporation and affixed its seal to the charter of said corporation, which charter declared the purposes and methods of the corporation, and that the State thereby had sanctioned such purposes, and that therefore no person or power could disturb either said college or its graduates.

That by means of the authority apparently conferred upon said corporation by its articles of incorporation and through said advertisements and said circulars the said Fred Rutland and wife have induced a great many persons to apply to them for and to pay them considerable sums of money for such diplomas, and have issued a great many of such diplomas to such persons, who have made no preparation or study of either the science of medicine or surgery, and who are wholly unfit and incompetent to practice either the science of medicine or surgery.

Complainant denies that he has any knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to how many of such diplomas have been issued, but alleges that a large number of them have been issued, and that Fred Rutland and Ann Neve Rutland, his wife, have by the means aforesaid fraudulently procured considerable sums of money, the exact amount of which complainant is unable to state, but he alleges upon information and belief that said Fred Rutland and wife have received for each of said diplomas a sum varying from \$15 to \$50, according to the ability of the applicant to pay for the same.

Complainant alleges upon information and belief that not only was said corporation organized as aforesaid solely for the purpose of enabling its incorporators to carry on the fraudulent business above described, but that said fraudulent business above described is now and will continue to be its only business so long as said corporation shall be permitted to exist.

That the carrying on of said business is detrimental to the advancement of the science of medicine and surgery, as well as contrary to good morals and public policy. That it directly tends to encourage ignorant, unscrupulous and wholly unfit persons to practice the important professions of medicine and surgery, thereby greatly endangering the welfare and good health of many of the people of this State.

In short, that the carrying on of said business by said corporation is clearly a wilful misuse and abuse of the privileges and franchises conferred upon it by its articles of incorporation.

WHEREFORE, Complainant prays the Court that it will vacate the charter and annul the existence of the said Wisconsin Eclectic Medical College at Milwaukee, together with such other and further relief as to the Court may seem just and equitable.

Medical Society of State of Pennsylvania.

HARRISBURG, PA., June 15, 1896.

To the Editor:—In your issue of May 30, page 1092, it is stated the "next convention will be held at Pittsburg in September, 1897." The next meeting of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania will be held in Pittsburg, Pa., the third Tuesday of May, 1897. There was some mention of September, but May is provided for in the By-Laws. Convention is not a good word to use for meetings of medical men, though a good many journals use it, our JOURNAL should set a better example. The above correction of date and title is so you can have the list of meetings correct. Very truly,

W. T. BISHOP, M.D.

The Journal Itself.

NEW CASTLE, IND., June 5, 1896.

To the Editor:— . . . It is the best medical journal published, the best the ASSOCIATION has ever had, and improving weekly.

G. W. BURKE, M.D.

LIBERTY, MO., June 14, 1896.

To the Editor:—Allow me to compliment the JOURNAL as one of the best in the United States.

J. M. ALLEN, M.D.

CHICAGO, June 6, 1896.

To the Editor:—In enclosing my vote, I take pleasure in asking to be allowed to thank you for your good work on our JOURNAL. I think it is the high-class weekly for the general profession in the United States. Cordially yours,

ALBERT B. HALE, M.D.

CLYDE, N. Y., June 12, 1896.

To the Editor:—With great pleasure I acknowledge the receipt of my much wished for copy of the JOURNAL of Dec. 28, 1895. I am more than ever tenacious that there shall be no break, as, without flattery, under the present editorial conduct, it is a library of itself, and the best medical journal now published.

I assume to be a competent judge, as I have been a reader of it since its first publication in the weekly form.

Yours truly, D. COLVIN, M.D.

CINCINNATI, June 5, 1896.

To the Editor:—I enclose to you my ballot, as also my check for \$5 for yearly dues.

Now, my dear Doctor, I want to thank you for your distinguished services as Editor of the JOURNAL. I think it ranks with the journals of the East.

The tone of the JOURNAL is high. It firmly supports the Code. In my opinion, it will grow and grow, and show the world that no section can control the Western and Southern profession. Wishing you and the JOURNAL all success, I am

Yours truly, JOHN A. MURPHY, M.D.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

Dr. Bond of Gloucester, Eng., sends us a copy of a useful leaflet drawn up by him and entitled "Our duty in regard to Vaccination, or fifteen reasons why we should believe in the efficacy of Vaccination as a Preventive of Smallpox." This might be distributed broadcast in those districts where recalcitrant Board of Guardians have failed to do their duty.

Low Sickness-Rate in the German Army.—It is pleasant now and then to put one's finger on a fact that sustains faith in the application of hygienic measures. The General Staff Surgeon of Prussia reports that by the energetic application of hygienic measures—which include vaccination and revaccination—the invaliding among troops has been reduced 42 per cent. since 1868, and the mortality has been lessened 57 per cent., which means that two thousand men were alive at the end 1895 who would not have been had the former conditions obtained.

Schools and Disease; A Model Preventive System.—Dr. Leslie McKenzie, the Health Officer for the Borough of Leith, refers in his annual report for 1895 to the system followed in the town for the better prevention of the spread of infectious disease by the agency of schools. Each day an official of the School Board of Leith calls upon the health officer for the purpose of receiving lists of infectious cases notified to him, and then proceeds to distribute particulars to the different masters whose schools are interested in the cases, with the view of at once securing the absence from school of all children from an infected house until the house has been declared to be disinfected, etc., to the satisfaction of the health officer or some medical practitioner. Headmasters also notify to the School Board all cases of sickness coming to their knowledge, and thereupon similar steps are taken. The system is modeled on that obtaining at Glasgow, and gives satisfaction. Given the strict carrying out of the plan it ought to succeed.—*British Medical Journal*.

Annual Death Rate in Peru.—Odriozola's address at the Commencement of the University at Lima, contains the statement that the annual death rate at Peru is from 35 to 40 per thousand, of which a third is due to tuberculosis, while many of