

serpents, &c. He recovered, but has remained quite deaf. The second, a boy of eight, was taken down three weeks later with similar symptoms and, in addition, great pains in certain muscles, and inflammation in the metacarpo-phalangeal joints of one hand—delirium very great for a long time. Recovered. Two weeks later the baby ten months old—fever, vomiting, retracted head, tetanic spasms accompanied by sharp cries, and prolonged somnolence—purpura upon the trunk and limbs. Recovered. Ten days later two more were attacked, a boy of four and a girl of six. The former was reduced to a mere skeleton, but ultimately got well. The latter, a delicate child, after the symptoms above detailed, fell into a state of stupor with dilated pupils, strabismus and marasmus, and finally died. We are not aware of this disease having been observed elsewhere in this form in Montreal, and such a local outbreak as this is difficult to account for.

THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

A recent number of the *British Medical Journal* takes up the subject of the formation of branches of the British Medical Association, and urges upon the profession in Canada the advantages that would result from their joining in the movement. An application has already been received from the medical men of Halifax, N.S., for the organization of a Branch in that city, and other cities are expected to follow. What would be gained by having direct connection with the parent Society in Great Britain is thus alluded to by the *Journal*:

“The pages of the *Journal* afford to all the Branches the opportunity of a systematic record of their proceedings and the means of addressing what is now practically the whole body of the educated and intelligent practitioners of Great Britain. The by-laws by which each Branch is governed, subject to certain general regulations which time and long experience have shown to be advantageous, are capable of very large modification to suit the needs and wishes of the Branch; while the influence which the British Medical Association has gathered in its long years of growth by the efforts of the many able, eminent, and self-sacrificing men who have guided its councils, and raised it to great power in the profession and in the State, is always at the command of any of its Branches in response to every legiti-