

ended fatally, and at this moment there is a workman dying in hospital from lead poisoning.

The local Board of Health should take this matter in hand, ask for reports of cases, investigate the alleged causes of the poisoning, and, where it is possible, do away with them.

THE ROYAL VICTORIA HOSPITAL.—The work of blasting the rock for the foundation of the new hospital is in active progress. The outline of the base of the building can now be made out. The approach to the hospital will be the head of Upper University street.

IMPROVEMENTS AT THE MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL.—At a recent meeting of the governors of this institution it was decided to construct nurses' quarters by the addition of a Mansard roof to the building. By this means comfortable bedrooms will be provided for the hard-worked nursing staff as well as for the servants of the hospital. An efficient staff of trained nurses is an essential requirement of a modern hospital, and to secure recruits for such a staff, as well as to enable the committee to retain the services of reliable nurses, it is an absolute necessity that they should be well housed and, more particularly, well fed. A nurse's hours of duty are long, and are spent in an atmosphere not of the purest, it should therefore be an object with committees to provide every means of enabling these deserving women to pass their hours of rest in a wholesome as well as a pleasant atmosphere. The scaffoldings are already erected, and it is expected that the whole work will be completed by the 1st of November. It is probable that the old nurses' rooms in the annex of the Morland wing will be made to serve as isolation wards for cases of erysipelas.

APPOINTMENT.—Dr. H. S. Birkett has been appointed one of the Demonstrators of Anatomy in the Medical Faculty of McGill University. The college career of Dr. Birkett was one of great distinction. His accurate knowledge of anatomy, and the care and attention he bestowed upon his dissections, won for him the Demonstrator's Prize in Practical Anatomy. In the session of 1884-85 he did good work in the dissecting-room as prosector