

had previously failed. The subject, a sailor, with popliteal aneurism. "The limb was enveloped in the bandage from the toes upwards, but the bandage was pressed very lightly over the knee, so as to exercise little pressure on the sac, and the thigh then enveloped, to the middle third." The elastic ligature was passed round the thigh and kept on for fifty minutes, when pain above the seat of its constriction, necessitated its removal, after which all pulsations ceased, the aneurismal tumour became quite hard, and the patient made a rapid recovery. The result in this single case, was certainly satisfactory, but it will require the extended observation and experience of the profession, to determine, how far the efforts of surgeons, since the days of John Hunter, to encourage the desposition of fibrine, by consecutive layers, or laminæ, (by a retarded current of blood,) are to be supplanted by a system of sudden coagulation, such as described. It does appear more reasonable, that firm fibrous obliteration should be preferable to rapidly arrested circulation, as specified, in which various parts are liable to suffer, as Mr. Pemberton remarked in his address, at the British Association, Birmingham (1872). He advances the idea that we require in those cases a deposition of fibrin, rather than a coagulation of blood. The reputation of Esmarch is known everywhere, and should his apparatus, in time prove productive of good results in the treatment of aneurism, one more will have been added, to the already numerous applications of his *ingenious elastic*.

An address on "Hygiene and Preventive Medicine" was delivered by Dr. Henry L. Bowditch, of Boston, President of the State Board of Health of Massachusetts, in which the progress of this department of medical science was ably reviewed. At present only twelve States, have State Boards of Health, and only in four of the States have County Boards of Health been established by law. Twenty-four States report that nothing has been done for the drainage of land, and about "two thirds" of the people of the United States, are living utterly regardless of whether they are drinking pure water, or water impregnated with filth. Such questions are applicable to our Dominion but thus far, the entire subject of Public Hygiene is comparatively in obedience, there being no regulated system, to carry such measures into active operation. The laws of health are of vast impor-

tance, as well to the citizen, as the physician, and cannot be overlooked or disregarded without serious consequences. In England and in Canada, our profession is gradually receiving more of the fostering care of Parliament. Lord Palmerston, in his day did much to forward all measures of public utility, connected with health. Lord Beaconsfield, when Prime Minister, placed Hygiene and its bloodless victories on a level with the sanguinary achievements of the greatest generals. Mr. Cross followed in the path of his old leader, and expressed forcibly and well, that "to rid the city of those plague spots, which have spread disease and misery throughout the whole metropolis, was worthy of the attention of city authorities, whose power if rightly employed, would be a means of conferring a great benefit, on the community at large." It is quite evident the importance of sanitary measures is gradually assuming its proper position.

In each of our Medical Schools, a knowledge of Sanitary Science, is required of every student, and in course of time it is anticipated, that a system (guided and directed by either the larger or smaller Parliaments of Canada,) will be introduced; then and not until then, need we expect anything like perfection, in carrying into operation Sanitary Science in the Dominion of Canada. As an initial step, a system of medical topography might be introduced, including general surface features of country, water supply, temperature, and general statistics of disease, in the various portions of each medical division. The data thus gathered would more than compensate for the time and trouble. Such a plan adopted in Ontario, and other Provinces as well, by resident physicians, would convey much valuable information. Forbes commenced his life, as a provincial physician and established his reputation by *Medical topography*. The public and profession as well, have been looking to Parliament, to bring about these results, by a *Bureau of Health and Statistics*. With our moderate resources, and the vast undertakings of the present, some time will doubtless elapse, prior to carrying out a general system in sanitary matters, however desirable and praiseworthy, so advanced an undertaking. Having passed in review a few topics of the many discussed at the Congress, there is evidence that the *solid fabric*, on which the success of such a magnificent undertaking rested, was developed by