

## CANADA

# Medical and Surgical Journal.

MONTREAL, SEPTEMBER, 1878.

### YELLOW FEVER.

This scourge still continues to infest southern cities, and it is surmised that it will continue until the frosts of winter have set in. It has apparently extended farther north on this occasion than during any previous epidemic. This is accounted for from the continued rain with an unusual hot term, and the disease appears to have been aggravated by the neglect of sanitary precautions such as efficient drainage and cleanliness. Dirt and neglect of sanitary means is not held to be sufficient to generate the fever, but there can be little doubt that during the prevalence of an epidemic it will greatly add to its virulence and fatality. We read of whole families being swept away in Grenada. This probably is somewhat exaggerated, as there appears to be a panic amongst the people and it is the fashion now a days, at least with some people, to deal with inflation even in our miseries. That the fever is bad enough and fatal enough is sufficiently evident by the report of Dr. Woodworth, of Washington, Surgeon-General to the U. S. Marine Hospital Service. The following abstract of that report we take from the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* :—

*New Orleans*.—During the week ending 30th August, 1878, there were 1,204 cases of yellow fever in that city, of whom 333 died. Since the outbreak of the epidemic there have been 2,877 cases with 867 deaths. This gives an average of a little over 30 per cent.

*Vicksburg*.—It is estimated that there have been from the outbreak of the epidemic in this place 800 cases of yellow fever