

each succeeding year will show such advancement by the increased excellence of our original matter.

In making our selections from the vast number of journals received, we have to exercise the greatest care and consideration. We have made arrangements by which we will be able to give everything of interest to the general profession in all departments of medicine. This involves a large amount of labour, because we are compelled to abridge and rewrite a great deal that appears in our columns; but we do this very cheerfully for the benefit of our subscribers, in order that they may learn something about all subjects of interest. We will continue to keep our readers informed about those matters which practically concern our own country, while we will not omit to notice the more important events transpiring in other countries.

As will be seen by looking through our advertisements, their numbers have been recently greatly increased. Manufacturers of medicines, Faculties of Medical Schools, and other parties have discovered that moneys spent in our advertising pages are unusually well invested. We have been compelled to increase our rates to a certain extent, but not at all in proportion to the large increase in our circulation. We are unable to accept all advertisements offered to us, and, in fact, will insert none of a purely medical nature unless we are in a position to vouch for the respectability of the advertisers and the excellence of the things advertised. The days of the old atrociously bulky and nasty mixtures are numbered, and we are learning to appreciate more and more the importance of choosing those preparations which are palatable and small in bulk. We wish our readers to remember that our advertisements are always worthy of a careful perusal, and their presence in the PRACTITIONER involves a guarantee on our part that the statements of the advertisers are perfectly reliable.

We are always mindful of the fact that our success depends largely on the kind assistance of our friends, and we venture to ask for a continuance of that cordial support and active sympathy which has been so generously extended to us in the past.

THE WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CONGRESS.

As our readers will doubtless remember, the next, or ninth, International Medical Congress is to be held in Washington in 1887. The Committee of Organization met in Washington, November 29th, and elected the following officers who, it is expected, will hold the same positions in the Congress:—

President—Dr. Austin Flint, sen., of New York.

Vice-Presidents—Dr. Alfred Stille, of Philadelphia; Dr. Henry I. Bowditch, of Boston; Dr. R. P. Howard, of Montreal, Canada.

Secretary-General—Dr. J. S. Billings, U. S. Army.

Treasurer—Dr. J. M. Brown, U. S. Navy.

The Executive Committee will consist of the President, Secretary, Treasurer (*ex-officio*); Dr. I. Minis Hays, of Philadelphia; Dr. A. Jacobi, of New York; Dr. Christopher Johnston, of Baltimore; and Dr. S. C. Busey, of Washington.

The work of Congress will be divided into 18 sections, viz.: 1. Medical Education; 2. Anatomy; 3. Physiology; 4. Pathology; 5. Medicine; 6. Surgery; 7. Obstetrics; 8. Gynecology; 9. Ophthalmology; 10. Otology; 11. Dermatology and Syphilis; 12. Nervous Diseases and Psychiatry; 13. Laryngology; 14. Public and International Hygiene; 15. Collective Investigation, Nomenclature, and Vital Statistics; 16. Military and Naval Surgery and Medicine; 17. Experimental Therapeutics and Pharmacology; 18. Diseases of Children.

The general meetings will be reserved for the transaction of the general business and for addresses of scientific interest more general than those given in the sections.

Notices of papers to be read, with abstracts of the same, must be sent to Secretaries of Sections before April 30th, 1887. Such papers after being read are to be handed to the Secretaries.

The official languages will be English, French, and German. Each paper or address will appear in the *Transactions* in the language in which it was delivered by the author, but the debates will be printed in English: at the same