

there are six medical schools, each enjoying the advantage of large hospitals, and dispensaries. Assuredly we do not expect too much, in looking to the officers of these institutions for help, in the way of original communications of worth and general benefit. We do not depend alone upon this source : we look forward with confidence to the intelligent practitioners throughout the country,—and their name is legion,—to give the results of their observations. New and peculiar phases of disease are of daily occurrence : many there are capable (aye, and we feel willing,) to give to the world their bed-side experience. It is to be hoped that all will become identified in the good work ; for, as we said before, this journal can alone be sustained by the united efforts of all. Let every man feel that he is personally interested in its success. We devote ourselves to the task : we are, gentlemen, your servants, working for the common weal : will you assist us, not alone by your subscription,—that of course is a necessity, without it the printer cannot live,—but what we regard of equal importance, a fair and meritorious contribution of bedside observation. Many we believe there are who, possessing the ability, will be stimulated to respond freely and heartily to our call for aid, and give to the *Canada Medical Journal* a permanent existence. To you we leave the issue.

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#### THE CAUSE OF THE INNOCENTS.

We resume the publication of tables of mortality compiled from the returns of interments in the City Cemeteries, and however unreliable and defective they may be, they at least serve to show the actual death rate. On a former occasion we drew attention to the necessity of enforcing a uniform system of enregistration, pointing out the defects which existed, and suggesting as a type to be copied with advantage, the laws and ordinances relative to the preservation of the public health in the city of New York. It is to be regretted that so little notice has been taken of this important subject. We cannot too urgently call upon our city authorities to mark the increasing mortality, especially among infants. A careful search into the causes which lead to this waste of human life, and the best means of applying the remedy becomes an imperative duty on our health committee. What has become of the notices of motion which have been laid on the table of our City Council to appoint a medical commission, with the avowed object of investigating into these causes, and of giving a report on the best means of removing them—have they fallen through, or is the suggestion to form a large public slaughter house, deemed sufficient ? What is the health committee doing ? We ask for information. We have heard it rumored that