

pressions of cold, why has she, who has been otherwise so lavish of her gifts, denied them to woman. It may be urged that woman is not so much exposed, nor so necessarily, to the inclemencies of season, as man. But this argument does not hold true with regard to many nomadic tribes, whose women are equally as much exposed as the men. It has been again asserted, that the want of beard in woman is atoned for by the greater development or depth of adipose tissue in her neck and breast. Surely it is enough only to state such an argument, to avoid the necessity of exposing its absurdity.

Bichat's reasoning is consonant with experience, that there does seem a connection between an excess of hair on the chin (and body we will add) and muscular ability. But that this corporeal energy is any way affected by tonsorial procedures, is a point to which every man of common sense will at once demur. In the case of Samson, the locks upon which his physical strength were made dependent, were situated on his head, not on his chin, and this is very probably the origin of the idea, as it is well known that when the were removed by Delilah, his strength departed. Our barbers are not now-adays Delilahs.

In fact, the more that the arguments for permitting the growth of the beard are examined, the more untenable do they become, and in some instances the more absurd. The practice of shaving is a good one in many respects. Above all it possesses the argument of cleanliness in its favour. We admit that there may occur instances or occasions, in which it might become a matter of necessity to permit the beard to grow, as for example, in the case of cutaneous diseases affecting the lips, chin or throat; or in the case of an army in the field, where it might be impossible to secure the time or the essentials for the operation; but under all ordinary conditions of civil life, we think the practice of permitting moustachios and beards to grow, one that has nothing in the shape of common sense to recommend it, but on the contrary, suggestive of everything but what is cleanly or gentlemanly. And what is more, we do not consider the argument for wearing a beard as a protective against cold, at all comparable with frequent and plentiful ablutions with cold water without one.

THE GENERAL HOSPITAL OF THE DISTRICT OF RICHELIEU.

We are pleased to observe that steps are taken to build and establish an Hospital in this town. A subscription list has been liberally signed by the inhabitants of the town itself, but complaints are uttered that the wealthy inhabitants of the surrounding country are backward in supporting the project. As it is by no means improbable that the majority of the future patients will come from the country districts, we much fear that this lukewarmness on the part of those the most interested, will prove the means of excluding many a deserving object of charity. It is contemplated to commence the erection of the new edifice in the ensuing spring, the plan of which is pronounced extremely fine. We sincerely wish the promoters of the project the most complete success.

During the last Session of the Legislature an Act was passed (23 Vict., cap. 142), to incorporate this Hospital, and investing in the Governor General the