

securely bandaged with strips of adhesive plaster to the lower limbs of the cross. The pelvis and chest were also securely fixed to the apparatus. In this way the movements of the child were securely controlled. A perfect recovery was the result: and Dr. Buchaan says he shall in future employ this operation, not only in the case of children, but also in adults, where the operation for strangulated hernia has been performed.—*British Med. Jour.* May 17, '79.

**A NEW ELASTIC SUTURE.**—The following elastic suture is recommended by Dr. Vogel for closing a gaping superficial wound, and for drawing the edges of the latter together. Wide strips of sticking plaster are placed on both sides of the wound, from one to two inches from the edge. Several small holes are then made in that portion of the strips which is near the edge of the wound, and small-sized studs are placed into the openings. A narrow India rubber band is then laid across the neck of two opposite studs, slightly tightened and fastened. This new suture is said to have answered very well in cases where the metallic suture either caused suppuration or could not be applied because the edges of the wound were too far distant.

**DISPOSAL OF EXCRETA.**—In his address on hygiene at the meeting of the British Medical Association, Dr. Fergus said in reference to the disposal of excreta that, "after years of further study and investigation, I can only adhere to my opinion, expressed many years ago, that 'if it is true that organic poisons producing disease may pass from sewage; if it is true that cholera, diphtheria, typhoid fever, and diarrhoea are traceable to taking into our systems, by air or water, the results of decomposition of human excreta; if it is true that these diseases and others from the same causes, swell our death-rate and carry off some of the most valuable of our population, then, gentlemen, I affirm that the only true sanitary solution of our difficulties is, that all excreta shall either be returned to the earth or subjected to chemical action rendering decomposition impossible; and I am furthermore sure that if a tithe of the time, skill, and ingenuity, and one-thousandth part of the money that have been devoted to water-carriage had been spent in investigations in this direction, the problem of the sewage question would have been solved long ago."

**CONVULSIONS OF CHILDREN.**—Dr. Jules Simon, recommends the following enema when the infant cannot be got to swallow, preceding it by an ordinary enema. Musk, 20 centigrammes; camphor, 1 gramme; chloral hydrate,  $\frac{1}{2}$  gramme; yolk of one egg, and 150 grammes of water. The child should also inhale ether, and be placed in a hot-water and mustard bath, until the skin reddens.

## CANADA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

### MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS.

The twelfth annual meeting was opened in London, Ont., on the 10th ult., at which were present Drs. McDonald, Botsford, Workman, Bucke, Robillard, Campbell, Osler, Gardner, Harrison, Burritt, Burgess, Fraser, Roddick, Ross, Mullin, Buller, Sloan, Riddell, David, and others.

Dr. McDonald, President, took the chair at 10.15, a. m., and declared the meeting opened.

The committee of arrangements reported the credentials of Dr. Brodie, of Detroit, as a delegate from the American Medical Association, as correct; and Dr. Brodie was requested to take a seat on the platform. Dr. Dunlap, of Springfield, Ohio, and Dr. Goodwillie, of New York, were elected members by invitation, and also requested to take seats on the platform.

The minutes of the afternoon session of last year were read and confirmed. Letters of regret at not being able to attend the meeting, were read by the General Secretary, from Drs. Acland, White, Hutchison, Rochester and Stuart.

On motion, Drs. Burgess, Payne, King, Drake, Stevenson, Lumley, Jones, Burns, and Millman, were duly elected permanent members.

It was moved and seconded, that the President's address be not now read, but be the first order of business of the afternoon session, which was carried.

Dr. Osler reported verbally for the Publication Committee.

Dr. Botsford read a short report from the Committee on Climatology, exhibiting a map of the unhealthy portions of the city of Montreal, sent him by Dr. Larocque, health officer of that city.

The General Secretary then read a telegram just received from Dr. Hamilton, of St. John, N. B., regretting his inability to be present at the meeting, and also a letter from Dr. Stephen Dodge, of Halifax, enclosing his subscription, and withdrawing from the Association.

On motion, the following members were named as the Nominating Committee: Drs. Bucke, Workman, Burritt, and Harrison, for Ontario; Botsford and Hamilton, for New Brunswick; and Campbell, Osler, Ross and Hingston, for Quebec.

Dr. Bucke submitted an excellent paper on "Alcohol in Health and Disease," in which he pointed out that this stimulant could be very well done without in the practice of medicine. He related his experience in connection with the London Lunatic Asylum, and after making exhaustive experiments he had discontinued its use in the institution altogether. Alcohol was either a stimulant or it