

dence may be brought forward—the Montreal General Hospital and the Hotel Dieu. The statistics of the former now lie before me, and during a period of twenty years, from 1825 to 1846, not a single case of calculous disease was admitted within its walls. Since 1846 to the present period, two cases only have been admitted. I acted as attending physician and surgeon to this institution for sixteen years, from 1836 to 1852, and during that period, not a single case presented itself, either among the in-door or out-door patients. Dr. Munro has attended as physician at the Hotel Dieu for the last twenty years, during which period only five or six cases presented themselves, and he has operated twice. Now, if the disease was a common one in this district, there would exist the most ample evidence of its prevalence in the records of hospital practice; but the hospitals are silent also on the subject.

I may observe, lastly, that before the breaking up of the classes at the Christmas vacation, the following question was put to the students of this district in attendance at McGill College, and at the French School of Medicine; and by both schools the district may be supposed to be fairly represented:—"Are you aware of the existence of any cases of calculous disease at present in that part of the country from which you come?" And from the gentlemen in attendance I have derived the information, that in a population, according to the last census, of upwards of half a million, which is that of the district of Montreal, there existed only *one* case, known to the parties, at the conclusion of the last year.

I think that I have thus most clearly substantiated the correctness of the opinion expressed to Dr. Gross, and embodied in his work, that *calculous disorders are rare in the district of Montreal*, and I feel happy that that opinion, which was given as the result of my own personal observation, has been so amply and so generally sustained. It follows, therefore, as a corollary, partially quoting the *Lancet*, "that if Prof. Gross' other statistical authorities are of the same stamp as the one in Canada," NONE "of the merit of his book is lost," while it is shewn to possess GREAT "value in a statistical point of view."

It is quite possible that in writing this paper, I have given myself an unnecessary amount of trouble, and I feel persuaded that Prof. Gross will think so; but it was due to him and to his work, that the opinion expressed in it should be substantiated, although I can scarcely imagine that the learned author will think much of the criticism of the *Lancet*. A journal which can praise, and fulsomely adulate, such a publication as Bedford's Obstetric Clinique; devote page upon page of its monthly numbers to reports of his lectures, thus unfitting them for entrance into any respectable house whose inmates it is not desired to demoral-