

TO THE EDITORS OF THE MONTREAL MEDICAL GAZETTE.

GENTLEMEN,—Having observed in the 11th number of the Medical Gazette, “some remarks on Bronchocele or Goitre” which you have transferred from the pages of the London and Edinburgh Medical Journal; I take the liberty of noticing an assertion therein which I conceive is not supported by facts, and which if permitted to occupy your pages unnoticed would be tacitly admitting its correctness and giving it confirmation and authority. I allude to the statement that this “unsightly disease” “has in consequence of the clearing of the woods, *entirely disappeared* from certain parts of North America,” where it had previously greatly prevailed, upon which assertion the author bases a novel opinion as to the origin or cause of the malady. It would be a very unnecessary waste of ink and time, to tell you or your readers, that our great City and other populous towns and “clearances” of North America still exhibit very numerous and aggravated cases of “the unseemly malady,” and that many of these cases (even at the present day,) originated in immigrants from the “Old World,” after their arrival here, who have from the first located in our Cities, and have never exposed themselves to any of the more acknowledged evils, of the primeval forest; I therefore think the author must look to other causes before he is likely to discover the unknown source of this malady, its prevalence in “Merry England,” on the summits of the Alps, or on the Hymalaya Mountains, as well as in Southern or Northern America, refute the idea of its dependence on the damp and close atmosphere of the forest. I shall pass over the fancied connection between Goitre and Rheumatism, which the author notices, as I have not remarked their association. I would however take the liberty of noticing a rare circumstance which I met with about three years ago, viz: a case of congenital Goitre, only two cases of which I can find on record. The patient was brought to me two days after birth, in consequence of a considerable tumor on the front and sides of the neck, occupying the situation of the thyroid body, the hypertrophy still remains, as nothing has been done for it, a tumor of somewhat similar character likewise arose on the mother’s neck, during her puerperal state, a few months before her accouchment, which I believe has wholly or in great measure disappeared. I notice this rather extraordinary coincidence, without in any way attempting to theorize, or speculate on these mysteries.

I am Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

J. CRAWFORD, M.D.

St. James Place, 17th Feb. 1845.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE MONTREAL MEDICAL GAZETTE.

Darby-House, Stamford, C. W. Feb. 5th.

GENTLEMEN,—I have addressed the Honorable, the Attorney General-Smith on the proposed Medical Bill, now before the House, for the purpose of entreating him to delay the passage of the Bill until the next Session, when the sense of the profession can be obtained, by calling public meetings at Toronto, Kingston, and other large towns,