

practical exclusion of the naval representative from their councils.

It is well-known that to Dr. Reed is due the credit of having conceived the idea of such a congress. As the chairman of the temporary committee for organization, he has shown great ability and wondrous energy, and we are glad to see that he has accepted the important office of General Secretary on the permanent committee. Dr. Pepper is well-known at home and abroad as a man of strength and influence, and has shown himself on several occasions to be possessed of great executive ability. We believe that his election to the important position of president was very fortunate in all respects. As to Canada's position in the congress, we will have something to say shortly.

LABORATORY COURSE IN BACTERIOLOGY.

Professor Ramsay Wright proposes to give a practical course of instruction in bacteriology in the Biological Laboratory of the University of Toronto probably during next May. The course, it is expected, will last four weeks, during which Professor Wright will lecture from nine to ten each day on the subject of the work to be performed in the laboratory during the rest of the day (from ten till four) under his supervision. The preliminary outlay necessary to adapt his laboratory will be considerable, and a fee of \$25 will be charged to assist in paying the expenses of the University in the undertaking, although the learned professor will receive no remuneration for this large amount of extra work so kindly volunteered in the interests of science.

Professor Wright, in making his preparations, would like to have some idea of the number who propose to take the course, and would be pleased to hear as soon as possible from such parties. If any further particulars are required as to the nature of the course, they may be obtained by communicating with Professor Wright. The course will be interesting and useful, especially for medical health officers, members of our graduating classes, and graduates who wish to learn both the science and art of medicine, and for all who intend to devote themselves especially to science. We may say that the fee of

\$25 will cover all instruction given, the use of microscope, and all material required. We hope this highly generous and disinterested offer on the part of Prof. Wright will receive the appreciation and encouragement it so richly deserves.

THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The United States is a great country for medical societies—probably the greatest in the world. This is a broad and somewhat indefinite statement, but we do not at the present time propose to occupy much space in attempting to make it more definite. We may say, however, in a general way, that there are organizations in many states, and occasionally groups of states, such as we in Canada know nothing about. In many such the most perfect parts of the organizations are the county societies, which work individually and collectively in the interests of the larger state associations. Among the most prosperous of American societies is the one known as the Mississippi Valley Medical Association, which held its seventeenth annual meeting in St. Louis on Oct. 14, 15, and 16, 1891. There were, according to the *Buffalo and Surgical Journal*, about three hundred present, and the meeting was highly successful from both a social and a scientific point of view. The next meeting will be held in Cincinnati in October, 1892, under the presidency of Dr. Chas. A. I. Reed of that city.

Meeting of Medical Societies.

TORONTO MEDICAL SOCIETY.

October 8th, 1891.

The president, Dr. A. A. Macdonald, in the chair.

TUMOR OF SPINAL CORD.

Dr. J. E. Graham read a paper on a case of tumor of the spinal cord.

A.B., barber, married, æt. 41, Canadian, four years ago had two attacks of pleurisy, from which he completely recovered. Twelve years ago he drank to excess, and continued to do so for four years, during which time he was often exposed to cold. For the past six years he has been temperate and worked steadily. No his-