

CANADA

MEDICAL & SURGICAL JOURNAL.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Case of Leucocythæmia,—History and Autopsy. By JOHN BELL, A.M., M.D.

(Read before the Medico-Chirurgical Society.)

Amongst the patients, at the Montreal Dispensary, when I commenced attending for the quarter beginning April, 1875, was Henry G., a French Canadian, 56 years of age, who was, and had been suffering from ascites and dropsy of the legs and feet. His illness, I believe, commenced about a year previously. His hair and eyes were brown and his complexion, which had been of the brunette type common to his race, was pale and sallow. His face was thin, and wore a sad and distressed expression which did but little justice to his contented and happy disposition. His body was throughout much attenuated, and contrasted strongly with the round distended belly. After talking for a very short time he was oppressed with want of breath. I examined him only in the erect posture, and discovered what seemed to be a hard nodular deposit on the inside of the abdominal wall, most distinctly felt in the left inguinal region, extending downwards to the crest of the pelvis. From his wasted cachectic appearance, and influenced by the fact that râles were heard throughout the lungs, I thought that he was suffering from tubercular or cancerous infiltration of the peritoneum, and prescribed a pectoral mixture and Iron tonic. There was no pain in the belly, or distress except what arose from the pressure of the fluid on the