Montreal Medical Journal

Vol. XXI

MAY, 1893.

No. 11

Original Communications.

ON THE INTER-COMMUNICABILITY OF TUBERCU-LOSIS FROM ANIMALS TO MAN AND FROM MAN TO ANIMALS.

D. McEachran, F.R.C.V.S., V.S. Edin., D.V.S.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:

Having been asked to assist to night in bringing this most important subject before you, I accepted the invitation with much pleasure; not only on account of the importance of the subject as a study of comparative medicine having a vast bearing on the public health, but on account of the fuller knowledge which we now possess, as compared with what was known of the causation and means of diagnosis when I first brought it before your Society in 1870, twenty-three years ago.

SECTION I.—Shortly after coming to Montreal I was consulted about a disease which was decimating a herd of dairy cattle in the neighbourhood of the city. This disease I found to be tuberculosis. The history of the outbreak pointed very clearly to the introduction of a cow from a herd at some distance. This cow coughed and did not thrive well and finally died of general tuberculosis. Others of the herd contracted the disease, and the herd was practically decimated.

Another farmer three miles from the city introduced the disease in the same way and from the same herd and lost his cattle.

Read before the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal, March 17, 1893.