

THE CANADA MEDICAL RECORD.

VOL. XII.

MONTREAL, AUGUST, 1884.

No. 11

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Society Proceedings.

CANADA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The seventeenth annual convention of this association was held in Montreal August 25th and following days. There was a very large attendance of medical members from all parts of the Dominion and also of the medical gentlemen from England, members of the British Association. Dr. Mullin, the retiring president, opened the proceedings by introducing the president, Dr. Sullivan, of Kingston, who then took the chair. The following gentleman, together with the ex-presidents, were invited to seats on the platform: Dr. Brodie and McGraw, delegates from the United States, and Mr. Samson Tait, F.R.C.S., of Birmingham, England. Dr. Hingston, chairman of the Reception Committee, extended a hearty welcome to members from other points and invited all to a complimentary dinner which was given by the medical profession of Montreal on the following evening. The secretary having read the minutes of the previous meeting the following reports of committees was received:

Dr. Fulton, chairman of the Committee on Necrology, reported that there had been thirty-six deaths in the profession during the past year, some of whom were ripe in years, and some only entering the threshold of life. The medical population was estimated at between 3,500 and 4,000, so that the death-rate could not be said to be high. It might be that all the deaths were not reported, but, assuming them to be forty-six, or even fifty, and considering the hardships incidental to the profession, especially in a sparsely settled country, the rate

was still low. Then followed a list of the names of deceased members, prominent among which were those of Dr. Reddy and Dr. Trudel, of this city. The report was adopted unanimously.

Dr. McCammon not being present, there was no report from the Committee on Education.

In the absence of Dr. Canniff, the secretary read the report of the Committee on Climatology and Public Health. The committee has had under discussion since last December the advisability of forming a Dominion Board of Health. Dr. Harding, of St. John, N.B., had drawn up a scheme which would be simple and inexpensive, and which was in substance as follows:—The name of the organization to be the Dominion Health Institute, and to be an institution under the patronage of and supported by the Federal Government. The object of the Institute to be, first, to obtain information from all possible sources; and, secondly, to provide for the diffusion of all information obtained, which, after being sifted, would tend to effect the definitely stated ulterior object of educating all the people, as far as possible, in health matters. The outline of the plan was as follows:—“A general Board of Health to be appointed, to consist of (1) professors of hygiene of all colleges of Canada; (2) medical men and laymen versed in public health matters; (3) local provinces, selection to be made on some suitable ground; (4) president and secretary to be paid, but no others; (5) an annual report; (6) number of members to be considerable; (7) medical men to be a majority; (8) bureau to meet once a year; (9) an executive or council to meet oftener.” As a provision for securing efficient working it was suggested that there should be