

THE CANADA MEDICAL RECORD

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TO OUR READERS.

We have to apologize to our readers for our very tardy appearance of late. The chief cause of this has been the removal of our printers into a building in rear of the one they previously occupied. The old one is being torn down and will be replaced at once by a large and beautiful building which our publishers hope to enter by the end of the year. We will soon make up leeway, and hope to be more regular in future.

The Committee to select a site for an Asylum for the Protestant Insane have been running round the Province in search of a location.

It is a question whether they know *what* they want, as grounds varying in size from a 15-acre lot upward have been inspected.

To our mind their duty is clear: Estimate the probable number of male inmates, look to the probable increase in the future, and at least an acre for each male patient must be the minimum quantity of land secured. It is wasting time to travel about the country looking at locations that cannot begin to give this *necessity*. Moreover it opens up the question whether the committee is fit for its duty.

At the quarterly meeting of the Governors of the Montreal General Hospital, to be held on the 13th of August, the proposed change in the by-laws, viz: to name a Gynecologist and a Laryngologist to the Institution, will come up for ratification. Although, from what we hear, there

may be some objection to the by-law, yet it will beyond doubt be carried.

It is a question whether, when the by-law has been passed, it will be wise to proceed, after ten days, as we believe may be done, to make the appointments.

Who will receive these appointments is of course a foregone conclusion. Two gentlemen on the out-door staff will be thus promoted. Their election will not cause competition, but for the two vacancies thus to be created, there are several candidates. If the election takes place, as permitted by law, it may place some of these gentlemen at a great disadvantage. Many of the Governors of the Hospital will at that time be out of the city, while many others will be deeply engaged in preparing for the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

There is no reasonable excuse for hurrying these appointments. The November meeting of the Governors will soon come round. Then our city will have recovered from the excitement of the great scientific meeting, and those in whose hands these appointments lie will have time to consider the claims of the various candidates. We have heard this view expressed by many interested in the Hospital, and we trust that those who have been the prime movers in suggesting these additions to the staff, will show their good sense by not pressing an immediate election.

While upon the subject of the Montreal General Hospital it may not be amiss to say that those who for years have been able to carry their nominee at all elections, at this moment occupy a very delicate position. The last election developed an opposition which they little thought to exist in the strength which it then exhibited. That opposition is a powerful and a wealthy one; it has contributed handsomely to the support of the Hospital in the past. If it is to continue to do so in the future will largely depend upon the action of the party hitherto in power. Financially the Hospital is in a critical position; it needs the support of ALL. If they act wisely this support can be assured. If they