

grees up to 103. It should be remembered, however, that this does not diminish the combustion but merely abstracts the heat. In the foregoing remarks we must be understood not as having attempted to write a treatise on the treatment of typhoid, which would be out of place in these columns, but merely to have thrown out a few practical observations which might prove of use to the family physician.

OBITUARY.

DR. R. PALMER HOWARD.

It is with a sense of almost irreparable loss that we chronicle the death of Dr. R. P. Howard, Dean of the Medical Faculty of McGill University, which occurred on the 28th March, after a short illness from pneumonia. The crisis of the illness was reached on the ninth day when instead of a rally, heart failure intervened, and he gradually sank. From the beginning of his sickness Doctors Ruttan, Roddick, Findlay, Sutherland, and Osler, in addition to the attending physicians, Drs. Ross, MacCallum, and Craik, took their turn at his bedside night and day. In conversation with one of his *conféres*, Dr. Howard stated that he fully realized the seriousness of his sickness and feared that he would not recover. He thanked them all for their attention, hoping that he had not trespassed too much on their kindness. At no time, he said, did he suffer any physical discomfort, only extreme mental anxiety as to whether when the crisis came he would rally. In fact, Dr. Howard appeared to understand his case better than those attending him. He was perfectly conscious till within a few hours before his death, and bore his sickness with wonderful patience and fortitude. The news of his death will be received with profound sorrow by hundreds of McGill College men throughout the Dominion. He had a long and honourable career. He was born in Montreal on the 12th of January, 1823. His father carried on business here as a merchant, having settled in the city some years before on his arrival from Ireland, of which country both he and his wife were natives. Having a desire to follow the medical profession Robert on leaving school entered McGill College, pursuing his studies later on in the medical schools of Great Britain and France. Returning in 1849, he practised as a general practitioner for over 30 years, until in 1880 he gave up entirely the practice of surgery. He first appeared as a teacher in 1853, when he was appointed demonstrator of anatomy in McGill College. He

subsequently filled the chair of clinical medicine and medical jurisprudence. On the death of Dr. Holmes in 1860 he succeeded that gentleman as professor of the theory and practice of medicine, a position which he occupied till the day of his death, and on the death of Dr. Geo. W. Campbell in 1882 he was elected Dean of the Medical Faculty. Three years ago the honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred upon him in recognition of his services in the University. During his career Dr. Howard has figured prominently as an office bearer in the leading medical societies. He was at one time president of the Canada Medical Association, president of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Quebec, president of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal, and at the time of his death was one of the vice-presidents of the Association of American Physicians. Two years ago he was elected Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia on the occasion of the celebration of their centennial anniversary. The Montreal General Hospital was the object of his special attention, he having been 22 years an attending physician, though for some years past one of the consulting staff, and 33 years secretary of that institution. As a member of the Board of Governors of the Medical Council of the Province of Quebec, Dr. Howard did his utmost to elevate the standard of medical education and requirements, and it was his earnest desire to have a general medical council established for the Dominion of Canada. As an author Dr. Howard contributed largely to medical literature during the past 30 years. His studies on pneumonia, phthisis, and on heart disease have made him a recognized authority in the profession. The work on *Anæmia* which he prepared for the International Medical Congress in 1876 was one of the important contributions to the subject. The most elaborate article on rheumatism and allied affections from his pen published in the "System of Medicine" by American authors, 1885, is perhaps the most exhaustive in the English language. The Canadian and American journals contain many lesser contributions from his pen. As a teacher, Dr. Howard has been eminently successful. To him are due many of the improvements of and advancements in medical education in Montreal, the endowments in the Medical Faculty of McGill College being one of the results of his energy and perseverance. One of the most, if not the most, prominent English representatives on the Medical Board of this Province, Dr. Howard was always in the front in the endeavours of the members to establish that body on a proper basis. As a practitioner Dr. Howard was well and favourably known, and had the distinction of being one of the leading consulting physicians in the Dominion.