

The symptoms of alimentary toxæmia have been described many times, and yet we do not know what the toxin is. Care must be taken that the term be not used in a loose way such as has come to be the case with the terms rheumatism, gout, uric acid diathesis, etc. Many diseases, such as cystic degeneration of the breasts, duodenal ulcer, and cancer in different parts of the body, have been attributed to intestinal toxæmia; but proof is lacking to show that those who are said to suffer from intestinal stasis are more liable to these diseases than are a similar number of others. It must not be overlooked that intestinal stasis is much more common among women than among men, and yet duodenal ulcer is commoner among the latter.

It has not been satisfactorily proven that intestinal stasis is a cause of Bright's disease. In the same manner the claim that an operation for the cure of stasis has cured exophthalmic goitre is not good reasoning, as some cases of this disease get well with rest and ordinary care.

It is not possible to remedy intestinal toxæmia by avoiding the ingestion of the bacteria. Some have advocated intestinal antiseptics, and they may do some good, but their value has been greatly overestimated. Many cases are benefited by the use of aperient waters. Of late operations have been performed for the cure of stasis and toxæmia; but Dr. White does not feel convinced they do the good that has been claimed for them. If most cases were properly treated in their earlier stages, they would never require an operation. What the final outcome of operative treatment may be time must decide; but rhetoric should be checked by logic.

THE LONDON MEETING OF THE DOMINION MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The medical profession in London are making strenuous efforts to make the next annual meeting of the Dominion Medical Association an unqualified success. The meeting will be held on the 24th, 25th, 26th and 27th of June. Already arrangements are well advanced. The first two days will be devoted to Sections in Medicine, Surgery, Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Pathology, Public Health, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat, and X-rays. On the forenoon of the third day, Dr. McPhedran, of Toronto, will open a discussion on Diseases of the Stomach, and Dr. Stockton, of Buffalo; Dr. Martin, of Montreal; Dr. Aaron, of Detroit; H. J. Patterson, F.R.C.S., London, Eng., and others will take part. On the afternoon of the same day a symposium on the Thyroid Gland will occupy the attention of the association. Dr. Ochsner, of Chicago,