

of towns of the same size in Great Britain. To sum up we may give the figures of the late Sir James Y. Simpson in an article which appeared shortly before his lamented death, as proving the beneficial influence of Dr. Jenner's great discovery, in saving from death from small-pox, some 80,000 persons annually, provided the same rate of mortality from that disease existed as did exist at the close of the last century ; whereas, the present annual average mortality in Great Britain is about 5000 souls—all too many when it is conceded on all hands that small-pox is a preventible disease. We have illustrated small-pox in this connection because it is prevalent throughout this country at present, but the same may be said of other contagious diseases.

On a recent occasion the Right Honorable Dr. Lyon, Playfair, M. P., in speaking about the House of Commons and sanitary matters, stated that, "the distinguished man who is now at the head of the Government" had said to that house "that the keynote of the parliament was to be 'Sanitas Sanitatum omnia sanitas' * * relating to all subjects connected with the social welfare of the people, he (the speaker) had always admired this, that the House of Commons, of which he had the most experience, forgot altogether that it was divided into two great political parties, and acted as one body in trying to frame measures most productive of good for the public interest." We can only utter a fervent hope that the Government of this Dominion will take a leaf from the British House of Commons and in legislating for the people cast aside all the littleness of party politics and engage in the earnest and much needed reform of sanitary legislation.

We have great pleasure in announcing that our friend and colleague Gilbert Prout Girdwood, M.D., M.R.C.S. England, Professor of Practical Chemistry McGill University, was on the 26th August last elected a member of the Society of public Analysts of Great Britain.