

cases of peritonitis,) but to prove the erroneousness of his pathology?

Another distortion only I shall notice. He says, "Dr. H. asserts that had C. lived, there would have been considerable sloughing," and then triumphantly asks, "what constitutes a slough, and if it be not sphacelus or gangrene?" not condescending to notice the difference between the present and the future. My words were, "I think it probable that had the man lived, suppuration to a considerable extent, with *perhaps* sloughing of a portion of the cellular and muscular tissue, *might* have ensued."

The Doctor seems pleased that I have admitted that the stomach was inflamed, (though but in a part of its mucous coat,) and says, "but mark, this had nothing to do with the other diseased actions of the abdominal viscera, not at all," &c. &c. Now this was a point which might "have edified or instructed" more than "even the merest tyro in physic." He might, then, with some "little advantage to the profession," have explained how, in a case of intense peritonitis, the whole external surface of the stomach was of its natural whiteness; and allowing that the mucous coat was inflamed, he might have pointed out why it happened to be only along the small curvature, at the greatest possible distance from the seat of the injury.

I am, &c.

A. F. HOLMES, M.D.

Montreal, November 20, 1844.

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TO THE EDITORS OF THE MONTREAL MEDICAL GAZETTE.

GENTLEMEN,—I hand you for insertion the notes of two cases lately under my care in the Hotel Dieu, should you agree with me in considering them worthy a place in your columns.

They formed the subject of my Clinical Lectures this week to the students of the College of Medicine, many of whom had seen the cases in the Hospital.

I shall avail myself occasionally of your columns, (if agreeable to you,) to lay before my professional confrères, the particulars of cases occurring in the Institution with which I have the honor to be connected, and I cannot but express the hope, that the officers of all the Hospitals in the Province will also, through the same channel, present to the members of the profession, the particulars of cases coming under their charge, and this for two reasons: 1st. Because, occupying these situations, it is expected of them both by the profession and the public; and 2d, Because many forms of disease are met with, as a matter