

## Correspondence.

## LODGE PRACTICE.

To the Editor of the CANADA LANCET.

DEAR SIR,—The question of "Lodge Practice" and the best means of doing away with it, has been prominently before the minds of the medical practitioners of Toronto for some time. A meeting was called, and the following gentlemen were present:—Drs. A. R. Macdonald, J. B. Moran, T. J. Moher, Geo. Acheson, J. A. Stevenson, and James Hird. Dr. Macdonald was elected chairman, and Dr. Acheson secretary.

After all had expressed themselves as thoroughly in sympathy with the proposed plan of getting rid of the evil of lodge practice, it was moved by Dr. Stevenson, seconded by Dr. Moher, and *unanimously* carried,

"That we, the undersigned physicians, residing and practising in the town of Trenton, Ont., do hereby pledge our honor not to enter into any contract with any society, club, lodge, company, or corporation, to give medical attendance, advice, or medicine, to the members thereof, for any stated period at a fixed rate per member, or for a lump sum per annum, or to do what is commonly known as 'lodge doctoring'; or to give our professional services to such on any other terms than to the general public: providing that this agreement does not affect existing contracts terminating at the end of the current year."

At a subsequent meeting Drs. J. T. McKenzie and H. H. Hawley were present, and agreed to the resolution; and on November 1st it was signed by the following medical men:—

A. R. MACDONALD, A.B., M.D.

JOHN A. STEVENSON, M.D.

J. B. MORAN, M.D.

J. T. MCKENZIE, M.D.

THOMAS J. MOHER, M.D.

GEO. ACHESON, M.D., M.A.

H. H. HAWLEY, M.D., M.R.C.S.

It was also unanimously determined not to make examinations for life insurance in any company or fraternal benefit society for a fee of less than two dollars.

We trust that the profession as a whole, will unite in an endeavor to stamp out the pernicious contract system, and that our example here may

stimulate others to assist in bringing about a much-needed reform.

I have been authorized as secretary to make this communication to your journal.

Yours respectfully,

GEO. ACHESON.

Trenton, Ont., Nov. 21st, 1893

IPECACUANHA IN HÆMATEMESIS.—Dr. Burland, writing in *The Lancet*, gives some cases in which severe and apparently hopeless hæmatemesis was checked by large doses of ipecac. He says:—I have selected these three cases on account of their exceptional severity. I would emphasise the necessity of keeping the patient motionless with the spine arched forwards by means of hard pillows placed beneath the dorsal column. Nothing whatever should be given by the mouth except the ipecacuanha; this should be fresh, and a few drops of tincture of opium ought to be added to sufficient glycerine to mould the mass into a bolus. Especial care should be taken that no fluid is given either by the mouth or the rectum for at least two hours after the administration of the drugs. The patient's strength should be supported by nutrient peptonised enemata, and stimulants should be taken in the same manner. Brandy given by the mouth is almost invariably rejected and keeps up the vomiting. I am persuaded that in ipecacuanha administered with the precautions I have named there exists a remedy of singular potency in the treatment of hæmatemesis.

A CASE OF PNEUMONECTOMY, performed by Dr. Lawson, is reported in the *Brit. Med. Jour. Med. and Surg. Rep.* The operation was commenced by the removal of the interior third of the second and third ribs; the parietal layers of the pleura were opened, and after separating a number of extensive adhesions, the apex of the lung was pulled out. It was then transfixed with a needle and strong silk; firmly tied and removed. The pneumothorax which developed, gave very little trouble; the respirations being at first forty-four, but soon dropped down to twenty-four. The pulse also showed a similar course. The highest point reached by the temperature was 101.8. This occurred in the second week, and lasted five or six days, with complete morning remissions. By the end of the third week the wound had entirely healed.