

becoming more rare, is the custom of favouring the determination of the circulation to the brain, by covering the head with warm caps while in-doors and when asleep. Connected with this disease is the next I will refer to—

*Infantile Cholera.*—28 cases of death are recorded from this cause, all being from the returns of the Mount Royal Cemetery, no case occurring or rather being returned as such from amongst Roman Catholics. This fact cannot fail to strike the reader, more forcibly, perhaps, if on reference to these tables he finds 30 cases of deaths registered as from teething occurring during the month of July, and 20 in August from the same cause. We have the evidence of Dewees and other eminent writers that this disease is one of the most fatal afflictions of children in the large towns of the United States, and I think the same may be said of Canada. Infantile cholera, as a general rule, is met with in all ill-ventilated localities, and is favoured by over-crowding in low and marshy districts, where drainage is imperfect, or altogether wanting. The months of June, July, and August appear to be most favourable to its development. There is no doubt of its originating in an atmosphere loaded with putrescent or mephitic effluvia. This is borne out by the fact of its more frequent occurrence in the children of the poor, or amongst those exposed to these influences, by its occurrence at the season of the year above specified, when from the high rate of temperature noxious vapours arise from decomposing vegetable or animal matter, by its appearance at the same time with cholera of adults, and by its being frequently accompanied with fever of remittent type. Another common cause of this disease is premature weaning; errors in diet, and improper clothing. Of the 28 cases of death reported, 14 occurred in the St. Antoine and St. Ann's wards.

Under the heading *Inflammation* there are recorded 24 deaths. What disease or form of inflammation this is intended to imply, I am at a loss to conjecture.

*Charbon or Malignant Pustule.*—This disease, of epizootic origin, and of comparatively rare occurrence proved fatal in two instances. One of the above cases fell under my own observation. It occurred in a man of over eighty years of age; he traced the attack to having assisted in skinning a cow which had died in the neighbourhood. I have seen several cases of this disease, but this was certainly the most severe I had ever met with, probably from its having run on without treatment of any kind. There was situated on the dorsum of the hand a black slough of about the size of a shilling; the hand and arm was enormously swollen and discoloured as high as the shoulder and stretching on to the chest and back; the whole of the skin affected had a peculiar hard brawny feel; the hand and forearm were covered with vesicles of variable size, containing a bloody serum. He complained of very little pain; so little indeed had he suffered, that he had worked in the fields till late the evening previous to my visit. He complained of feeling faint, but this he attributed to having spent a restless night. There was very little constitutional disturbance for the amount of disease existing. I saw him for the first time a few hours before death; from the time I saw him he sank rapidly, retaining his consciousness to the end.

The last disease, if it deserves that designation, which I shall notice is *Infantile Debility*. Under this heading 35 cases are recorded as occurring among Protestants, and no less than 1344 are from the Roman Catholic returns: o