

# The Canada Medical Record.

MONTREAL, DECEMBER, 1878.

## CONTENTS.

### ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Lecture on the Varieties of Phthisis. By Andrew Clark, F.R.C.P., of London, England, Senior Physician to the London Hospital, 57. Case of Extra Uterine Pregnancy. Death. By Richard A. Kennedy, M.D., C.M., Professor of Midwifery, Bishop's University ..... 65

## PROGRESS OF MEDICAL SCIENCE.

On the Absorption of Lime Salts, 68  
Removal of the Lower Portion of the Left Lung, Recovery, 68. New York Academy of Medicine, Section on Obstetrics, 69. Moist Hands, 71. A Clinical Lecture, 72. Magic Effects of Hypodermic Puncture of Morphia in cases of Dysentery, 72. The Arsenical Treatment of Chorea, 73. On the Use of Chloral Hydrate Enemata, 76. The Physiological Action of Purgatives..... 76

## EDITORIAL.

To our Subscribers, 77. Dr. Clark's Lecture on Phthisis, 77. Maltine, 77. Hunyadi János and Apollinaris Water, 77. Billing's Index to Medical Periodicals, 78. *Scribner* for January, 78. Medico-Chirurgical Society, 79. Births and Marriages 80

## PHARMACEUTICAL DEPARTMENT.

### Original Communications.

*Lecture on the Varieties of Phthisis.* BY ANDREW CLARK, F.R.C.P., of London, England, Senior Physician to the London Hospital. Delivered in the Hall of the Natural History Society, Montreal, December 5th, 1878.

(Specially reported for the CANADA MEDICAL RECORD.)

On motion of Dr. R. P. Howard, Dr. G. W. Campbell took the chair. The latter said: I have very great pleasure in introducing Dr. Clark, Senior Physician of the London Hospital, who has been kind enough to say that he would give us a lecture on Phthisis. With these few remarks I shall call upon Dr. Clark.

Dr. Clark said:—"Dr. Campbell and gentlemen, —When I desired to have the privilege of laying these drawings before you, and of setting forth in short and simple outline the views which I have formed concerning the varieties of phthisis, I did not presume to think that, in a place so distinguished for its additions to science as this is, and in the presence of persons many of whom have contributed, and are contributing, to distinction, that I could say any thing particularly new; still I desired to lay these drawings before you, and to set forth the views which I have formed, after somewhat long study, on the subject of phthisis. I desired this that I might have the benefit of your friendly criticism of the subject, and that I might learn from it how far your experience corrected or affirmed those conclusions. It is not my intention, and it would be out of place, to enter into any critical or historical sketch of the various theories which have been promulgated regarding this disease. I shall proceed at once to the heart

of the subject, and endeavour, in the fewest words and in the plainest manner, to lay before you the conclusions at which I have arrived. By phthisis I mean 'the ulcerative or suppurative destruction of more or less circumscribed chronic deposits in the lungs.' I say, by phthisis I mean 'the ulcerative or suppurative destruction of more or less circumscribed chronic non-malignant deposits in the lungs.' I do not pretend that this definition is perfect, but I claim for it that it is an easy, good working definition, and it has this enormous advantage—an advantage which I should be glad to see many other terms in medicine possess—that it involves no hypothesis, and, whatever our views of Phthisis may be, we may retain the name whilst our ideas may change. You will observe in this definition I have set entirely on one side the disease with which we are all familiar as acute tuberculosis. The chief thing I have to say about that disease before dismissing it is, that I think it has no special relation to phthisis at all. In its methods of approach, in the phenomena which attend its progress, in the pathological anatomy which we find after death, in the state of the organs during life it exhibits almost all the characteristics of what we call zymotic disease; and I look upon acute tuberculosis really as a sort of fever which has for one of its anatomical expressions the little thing we call tubercle. I appeal to the experienced, and any one present who has had the opportunity (not very often acquired) of examining a number of cases of acute tuberculosis; I am sure he will endorse what I say, that acute tuberculosis rarely issues in what we call phthisis, or in any disease which would come within the terms of the definition I have made. The acute primitive phthisis beginning often either in