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**MANITOBA, NORTHWEST AND BRITISH COLUMBIA LANCET.**

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**WINNIPEG GENERAL HOSPITAL.**

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On September 3rd we had the pleasure of seeing external urethrotomy performed by Dr. A. H. Ferguson in the new operating theatre of the hospital, which was used for the first time. We understand the theatre was designed by the Medical Superintendent, Dr. O'Reilly. It is well adapted to its requirements, and capable of accommodating a considerable number of visitors, and the seats are so arranged that all onlookers have a good view of the proceedings. We hope that now the hitherto existing want of an operating theatre is so well supplied that the staff of the hospital will be able to fix on a certain day and hour weekly for the performance of the majority of the operations which may become necessary. Such an arrangement will not only be advantageous to medical men who are not connected with the General Hospital, but will largely tend to increase professional interest in the institution. Being the hospital of the province, it is incumbent that such regulation should be early adopted. No doubt, the present arrangements "which we regret to see there appears to be no intention of amending," with regard to the professional service of the institution renders the carrying out of this suggestion somewhat difficult. But we have no doubt that the advantages to the profession and the hospital, which must manifestly follow such a course, will enlist the sympathies of the staff in its adoption, and further, that no distant date will see a reorganization which will give it a better status as a clinic than under existing circumstances it can possibly hope to attain. The magnitude, income and importance of the institution entitles it to a full staff of physicians and surgeons. In the interests of the public and the students who in its wards acquire that knowledge of disease and its treatment which hereafter entitles them to practice. The Winnipeg General Hospital demands a full medical and surgical staff. The time has gone by

when the professional provision for a country infirmary was ample for its requirements. It is now the hospital and teaching school of the province, and as there is no difficulty, so should there be no hesitation in completing its efficiency.

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**SUSPICIOUS DEATH.**

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The daily papers of last week contained various paragraphs concerning the death of a young girl, aged 16 years, under unusual circumstances. If we are informed aright, this girl was in the enjoyment of good health up to the evening of her illness, when two medical men were called in to see her, and found their patient suffering from violent convulsions with well marked opisthotonos, and, notwithstanding all their attempts to relieve her, the girl died while they were yet in the house. No opinion could be formed at the time as to the origin of these convulsions, and to arrive at some conclusion as to the cause, a post mortem examination was asked for from the relations, which, however, afforded no satisfactory results, and the poor girl was consigned to her last resting place on the vague certificate of death from convulsions. It appears that a neighbor gave information to the Chief of the City Police and her statement was of such a nature as to cause him to bring the coroner to investigate into the death. Both these officials made certain enquiries, but the fact remains that this young woman was buried and that the cause of her death is still a mystery. We do not desire to infer that any dark deed has been accomplished, causes perfectly natural may have led up to this fatal termination, but, we desire to draw attention to the looseness of the laws which permit of such laxity of procedure. In this case a searching enquiry was imperatively demanded and a careful post mortem examination and analysis of the viscera under the direction of the crown officials acting on the coroner's warrant, should most undoubtedly have been held. We venture to say that so far as the law is concerned that the protection against foul play by poison in this Province is most inefficient, especially in the country