

And if, though a plain English scholar, he will persist in writing Latin prescriptions, he can not be too strongly urged to compare them with those of our formularies before sending them off to torment the printer. We need hardly add that in their composition he will be expected to limit himself to the use of a single language.—[American Practitioner.]

THE CINCHONA ALKALOIDS.

Dr. Joseph Dougall, a surgeon of the Madras army, has published a thesis on this subject, which obtained the gold medal of the Medical Faculty of the University of Edinburgh in 1872, in the Edinburgh Medical Journal for September last. The three most important alkaloids,—cinchona, quinidia, and cinchonidia,—are obtained so largely in the manufacture of quinia from some common cinchona barks that the question of their utility has become one of great practical importance. Dr. Dougall has made a series of comparative trials of these alkaloids, and with very conclusive results, in well-marked cases of malarious fever. He gives a selection of cases of intermittent fever out of the 108 which were treated at Russelkondah with one or other of the alkaloids. Quinidia was given in 39 cases, cinchonidia in 35, and cinchonia in 34. There was very little difference between in the necessary duration of the treatment; but a difference was observed in the doses required. Quinidia is the most powerful, cinchonidia next, and cinchonia the least active: but even cinchonia is energetic, and in an adequate dose a sure remedy. It was discovered that they were most serviceable when administered during the paroxysm only. Among the symptoms induced by the remedy, and an important concomitant of cure, was bilious purging, which occurred in nearly one-half of all the cases treated. When the alkaloids failed to act on the bowels singly, advantage was found in administering along with them a little podophyllin or other cathartic. It was very rarely that the fever was not brought speedily to an end after bilious purging. This connection is explained by the fact that congestion of the liver, with yellowness of the conjunctiva, was commonly present in the cases of fever at Russelkondah.

MEDICAL NEWS.

Mr. Tuffnell has been appointed Vice-President of the Irish College of Surgeons.

Hospital Sunday is now a successful institution in Australia. We are impatient to hear of its being established in the United States and Canada.—Lancet.

Several deaths from small-pox have occurred at Napanea. This fatality has induced the local authorities to take more stringent precautions than were at first adopted.

In Edinburgh, Professor Traquair, of Dublin, has been appointed Keeper of the Natural History Department of the Museum of Science and Art, lately held by Dr. Wyville Thomson.

One result of the working of the Adulteration Act in England is a depreciated value of good green tea. After the recent prosecutions, grocers are diffident about selling green tea; hence the wholesale trade lost heavily.

Mental anxiety and confinement are doing their untoward work on Marshal Bazaine, who now exhibits unmistakable evidence of impaired health. The Marshal

is suffering from nearly continuous headache, with paroxysms of feverishness and cold sweats.

Dr. Ferrier has received a grant from the Royal Society, for the purpose of enabling him to pursue his investigations upon the brains of monkeys, etc. The results of his experiments will in due time be embodied in a paper which he will read before the Society.

The British Minister at Lisbon, Sir C. A. Murray, has gone with the British fleet to Madeira, there to establish a sanatorium for invalids from the Gold Coast. The Portuguese Government has given the necessary sanction. Sir C. A. Murray will establish a similar sanatorium at Gibraltar.

Dr. Speier, of Fulda, has been secured by the Japanese government as Professor of Natural Sciences at Yeddo. A very handsome salary has been guaranteed to him by the Japanese embassy at Berlin. Other appointments are expected to follow in the Departments of Experimental Physics and Medicine.

It is said that in consequence of failing health, the Emperor of Germany has been advised by his physicians to spend a few months at Florence. Kaiser William, however, grim and confident, as loth to leave the badly drained city on the Spree. Though "his age be like a lusty winter," it is not difficult to imagine decrepitude overtaking the stalwart lieutenant who in 1814, marched into Paris with the English troops.

Sir Henry Holland died a wealthier man than most members of the profession. His personality was sworn under 140,000 pounds. From the first, indeed, Sir Henry was comfortably off, and at all times it was his concern to keep his income within limits which should leave him time to cultivate those literary and social talents for which he was as famous as for medical skill.

Tobacco, it is well known, is often serviceable to the soldier on the march and on sentry-duty, and, above all, when provisions become scanty. Besides conserving tissue, it has a soothing and sedating influence—facts which did not escape the keen eye of the First Napoleon in the Russian campaign. Medical authority has prescribed its use in the Aahantee campaign, and accordingly supplies of it are now on the way to be served out to the troops.

The Lyon Medical states that on opening, a short time ago, the will of a Mr. D—, the following clause was found:—"I request that my body be delivered to the Paris Gas Company, for the purpose of being placed into a retort. I always used my mental powers for the enlightenment of the population at large, and I desire that my body be used to enlighten the people after my death." As cremation is not allowed by law in France, the request cannot be carried out.

The Registrar General for Ireland, in his return for the second quarter of the year just issued, states that the births registered during the period were 39,364, while the deaths amounted to 26,128, or in the annual ratio of 19.6 per thousand. The death of a woman at the extraordinary age of 127 was registered in the Lurgan Workhouse. Another lady, at the ripe age of 105 years, having "never troubled a doctor or took his physic; she fed her pigs the day before her death."

The Roman Fanfulla, commenting on the scientific congress lately held in the Eternal City, states that two Neapolitan physicians, submitted a liquid preparation for stopping instantaneously the flow of blood from wounds of every description. A commission of physicians have just performed experiments on it in the anatomical theatre of the Santo Spirito, and have reported on it as one of the happiest of recent discoveries, and as particularly serviceable on the field of battle.

The following precautions have been taken to prevent the spread of small-pox in Montreal. It has been decided to print 8,000 circulars, containing the names and residences of the public vaccinators. In the event of the epidemic greatly increasing, house-to-house visitation will be ordered. A separate physician and a separate dispensary has been provided for the small-pox ward of the General Hospital, to prevent the communication of the disease to the other patients.

PROSPECTUS.

THE CANADIAN

MEDICAL TIMES.

A NEW WEEKLY JOURNAL,
DEVOTED TO PRACTICAL MEDICINE.
SURGERY, OBSTETRICS, THERAPEUTICS, AND THE COL-
LATERAL SCIENCES, MEDICAL POLITICS, ETHICS,
NEWS, AND CORRESPONDENCE.

The Undersigned being about to enter on the publication of a new Medical Journal in Canada, earnestly solicits the co-operation and support of the profession in his undertaking.

The want of a more frequent means of communication between the members of this well-educated and literary body has been long felt; since monthly publications such as alone have been hitherto attempted in this country, do not at times fully serve the requirements of the controversies and pieces of correspondence which spring up. It necessarily diminishes the interest of a correspondence to have to wait a month for a reply and another month for a rejoinder; and it is in consequence of this drawback, no doubt, that many important or interesting points are not more fully debated in the monthly medical journals.

THE CANADIAN MEDICAL TIMES, appearing weekly, will serve as a vehicle for correspondence on all points of purely professional interest. It is also intended to furnish domestic and foreign medical news; the domestic intelligence having reference more particularly to the proceedings of city and county Medical Societies, College and University classes, public and professional appointments, the outbreak and spread of epidemics, the introduction of sanitary improvements, etc. Many interesting items of this nature, it is hoped, will be contributed by gentlemen in their respective localities.

If the interest of a correspondence can be maintained and its freshness preserved by a weekly publication, it must be yet more valuable to have weekly notices instead of monthly ones of the advances which are continually being made in the medical art. Obviously the sooner a medical practitioner hears of an improvement the sooner he can put it in practice, and the sooner will his patients reap the benefit. In this manner, the value of a weekly over a monthly or semi-annual medical journal may sometimes prove inestimable. Medical papers and clinical lectures, in abstract form or in extenso, will regularly appear and constitute a considerable portion of the new journal. In this way it is intended to furnish the cream of medical literature in all departments, so that a subscriber may depend upon its pages as including almost every notice of practical value contained in other journals.

Original articles on medical subjects will appear in its pages. The growth of medical literature in Canada of late years encourages the hope that this department will be copiously supplied. Notices of cases have been kindly promised, and an invitation to contribute is hereby extended to others who may have papers for publication. If the profession would encourage the establishment of a worthy representative medical journalism in Canada, its members should feel that upon themselves rests the onus of aiding in the growth of a national professional literature.

In order to gain a wide-spread circulation for the new journal, the publisher has determined on making it as cheap as possible. It will appear in the form of a quarto newspaper of twenty-four wide columns, containing a large quantity of reading matter, and be issued weekly at the low price of Two Dollars per annum. For cheapness this will go beyond anything as yet attempted in a medical journal in Canada.

It will be the aim of the editor to make it at once an interesting, practical, and useful journal, indispensable to the Canadian practitioner. It will be the aim, further, to make the MEDICAL TIMES the organ of the profession in Canada, as its columns will be freely open to the discussion of any professional matter, whether of medical politics, ethics, or of questions in practice.

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