

I have heard that some of my medical brethren have been following up the above suggestion, and I learn the application has given satisfaction; my object, however, not being for the purpose of recording cases, but rather to offer a hint generally to the profession, that the application may be fully and fairly tested, I have preferred giving merely my own personal experience on the present occasion.

I believe almost every one will admit the inefficacy of the several applications hitherto recommended, for the above contemplated object, as well as the disagreeable nature of most of them, or the difficulty of their application. The tincture of Iodine will be found, I apprehend, not only more efficacious, but also more manageable, and endurable by the patient; I am of opinion that the advantages derivable from its use, will in a great measure depend on its employment in the earliest stages of the eruption, and its steady and daily repetition,—by which means the inflammatory action is moderated, and thereby the destruction of the cutis vera, and subcutaneous cellular substance, and consequent pitting prevented; and also from the relief it affords to the itching, preventing the involuntary scratching and tearing, so frequently a cause of great evil; how far it may be judicious to make a more extended application of the remedy over the body, I am not prepared to say: from what I have witnessed I feel favorably disposed to it.

I shall trespass a moment longer, to notice an observation which has been made to me on one or two occasions, namely, "are we not likely, by an interference with the progress of a specific disease, to repel a morbid poison on the system, which nature appears to be endeavoring to throw off?" Without attempting any refutation of this antiquated view of the pathology of the disease, I shall merely notice, that the regular progress of the eruption is not interfered with, that the moderating of the inflammatory symptoms, by this application, renders the disease milder, and it is evident that whatever tends to effect this object, without depressing the vital powers, will be the surest means of saving the life of the patient, and of obviating the other dreaded consequences.

Hoping that your attempt to establish a Medical periodical in this city may be attended with success. I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JAMES CRAWFORD, M. D.

VESICATING APPLICATIONS.

BY JOSEPH SMITH, ESQ.

Oleum Cantharidis. Re: Pulv. Cantharidis uncias iv. ℞: olive uncias viii macera cum leni calore per dies 4, subinde agitans, tunc exprime.

Emplastrum Cantharidis. Re: ol. Cantharidis uncias iv. Cere flavæ vel albæ uncias iv. Resinæ seneciæm Fiat emplastrum.—*Pharmaceutical Transactions*, Oct., 1841.

The Montreal Medical Gazette

Omnes artes, quæ ad humanitatem pertinent, habent quoddam commune vinculum, et quasi cognitione quadam inter se continentur.—*Cicero*.

MONTREAL, MARCH 1, 1844.

On the publication of the first number of the *Montreal Medical Gazette*, it becomes necessary to address a few words to our readers, as to the objects of the work and the manner in which it is proposed that it shall be conducted.

The projectors of this Journal have long regretted in common with their professional brethren, that there existed not in the whole length and breadth of United Canada, a channel through which they could communicate to the members of the Medical profession, those circumstances occasionally presented to their notice in the course of their practice, upon which they would have desired either to have obtained the opinion or advice of their confrères, or at all events, by mentioning the occurrence, to have requested thereto the direction of their future attention, with a view to afford a satisfactory solution.

Under hitherto existing circumstances, they have felt, that the only media through which they could attain to this wished for information, (the daily newspapers) were not always the best suited for those technical disquisitions, which must necessarily emanate from men pursuing a particular vocation, nor indeed from their comparatively uninteresting nature to the majority of their readers, would the conductors of these Journals have been ordinarily found willing to admit such into their "reading for the millic."

Canada a country comparatively new, numbers at the present time, many periodicals far above mediocrity, the greater part of which are supported by the mass of the people.

The Editors of the *Montreal Medical Gazette* see no reason, why a class of men amounting, in the United Provinces, to several hundreds, generally of enlightened and liberal education, many of them men of high professional attainments, and all possessing an ardent desire to see their profession occupying its just position among the other recognized and learned bodies should not be both able and willing to support, as well by their pecuniary as their mental aid, a Journal, whose pages are to be exclusively devoted to subjects appertaining to the Science of Medicine and the collateral branches—and which, moreover, is to be considered as their own especial property.

It would be a work of supererogation in the Editors, were they to labour to impress upon their readers, the advantages derivable from periodical literature, or state to those, who have not the advantage of access to extensive libraries, the insignificant price at which they can be made acquainted with the labours of so many, and of men scattered over the face of the