

force in Lower Canada, as may have fixed the period of prescription with regard to the claim (demande) of any person duly licensed to practise Physic, Surgery or Midwifery for professional services, attendance or medicine, shall be, and is hereby repealed; and any such claim shall be prescribed by the lapse of five years from such attendance service or medicine furnished, without any act having been done to interrupt the prescription, and not before; Provided always, that nothing herein contained, shall be construed to revive any such claim actually prescribed before the passing of this Act.

And be it enacted, That this Act shall be a public Act, and taken and received as such in all Courts of Justice, and by all persons in this Province.

(Attested.)

J. TAYLOR,

Clerk Ass't & D'pty Clerk Leg. Council.

Health of the City.—Judged by the mortality reports, and general professional experience, the health of the city is improving; although the ratio of deaths from fever is still inordinately high. For the last ten weeks the weekly returns of mortality from that cause alone are as follow:—

June.		July.				August.				
19,	26,	3,	10,	17,	24,	31,	7,	14,	21,	28,
3	4	12	56	53	60	68	37	40	36	31

yielding ratios far above those of New York or Boston. Other prevailing diseases are dysentery and diarrhœa, the former of which is more than usually prevalent this season. From all accounts the sanitary state of Quêbec has not improved much; typhus fever, introduced by the immigrants, being remarkably prevalent; while at Grosse Isle, though matters seemed to be improving, the mortality among the immigrants is still immense. On Sunday the 22d, at 10 A.M., there were 2,048 patients in Hospital; and the deaths for the week ending the same day at noon were 228. At the Emigrant Hospital, Point St. Charles, on August 30th, there were 1198 sick; and 20 deaths took place during the preceding twenty-four hours. Now, however, that the temperature of the air has become cooler, we may anticipate a more healthy condition of both the cities.

Appointment of Lecturers at the School of Medicine and Surgery.—Dr. Horace Nelson having resigned his lectureship of Anatomy, and in consequence of the provisions of the Act regulating the study and practice of medicine, several appointments to lectureships have lately taken place at a special meeting of the Corporation. Dr. Bibaud, lately lecturer on *Materia Medica*, has been appointed to the chair of Anatomy, vacated by Dr. Nelson; Dr. Coderre to the chair of *Materia Medica*; Dr. Peltier, to that of Institutes of Medicine; and Dr. Boyer to that of Medical Jurisprudence. The chairs are all worthily filled, although we much regret the loss which the school has sustained in the resignation of Dr. Nelson. This gentleman, from his

talents and amiability of disposition, had secured to himself a large circle of attached friends; and much as we regret his departure from this city, for Plattsburgh, the scene of his present professional labours, we hope that a relaxation from the arduous duties accruing to his lectureship will restore him a full measure of that health which had become seriously impaired.

Ledoyen's Disinfecting Fluid.—Having perused several interesting Parliamentary documents in relation to this fluid, any person at all conversant with chemistry may easily detect its composition, which would appear to be a solution of nitrate of lead. It may be easily prepared by decomposing a solution of acetate of lead by nitric acid, thus setting free acetic acid, the use of which as a disinfectant, so called, has been long known. It strikes us, however, that the name is a misnomer. A solution of nitrate of lead, one can readily imagine, can purify an apartment, &c., by decomposing the sulphuretted hydrogen, or hydro-sulphuret of ammonia existing in it; but it cannot be, with propriety, termed a disinfectant, unless it be shown, that infectious miasmata consist essentially of sulphuretted hydrogen, or its combination with ammonia, facts not yet demonstrated. The application of the nitrate of lead, however, to purifying purposes, is, we believe, original on the part of Mr. Ledoyen, and is really as deserving of attention, as it seems to be well calculated to ensure success in this particular.

Abolition of the Concours in France.—The Chamber of Peers has come to a vote by which the system of election by Concours in France is abolished. Some of the noisy advocates of this electioneering practice are about to present a protest to the Chamber of Deputies against this vote, and to require a restoration of their favourite panacea for bringing out professional talent! But the feeling of the most eminent and experienced men in the profession is decidedly against the re-establishment of this system.—*London Medical Gazette.*

Medical Schools in the United States.—The following corrected list of the Medical Schools in the United States, which we copy from the pages of our esteemed contemporary, the *Western Lancet*, published at Lexington, Ky., will be found to possess considerable interest. They have been carefully arranged by the editor of that well-conducted Journal in chronological order, from the statement submitted to the last National Medical Convention, by the Chairman of the Committee appointed to report on Medical Schools:—