

examinations, and doing much for different centres, and many more names could be mentioned to whom the Association is indebted.

Centres have been established at Malta, so long the *chef lieu* of the Knights of St. John; at Gibraltar, Guernsey, Chatham, Worthing, Shetland and Orkney Islands, and various other places in Great Britain too numerous to mention. The work has also been carried to India, Australia, and France, and in Russia the handbook of the Association has been translated into the Slavonic language. There, as well as in Germany and the United States, work on the lines laid down by the St. John Ambulance Association has been successfully begun.

At the outbreak of the Egyptian campaign, the Association tendered its services, which were gratefully acknowledged, though the speedy termination of the campaign made it unnecessary to accept the proffered help.

Attendance at a course of lectures is necessary to becoming a member of this Society. This course consists of five lectures, followed by examination, in which all females who are successful, are eligible for a second course of lectures on nursing. The subjects taught will be found in the Syllabus of the Association; and the last half hour of each lecture is devoted to practical work, such as restoration of the apparently drowned, lifting the injured, carrying on stretchers, the application of splints and bandages, etc., etc. Certificates of proficiency are awarded to successful candidates, and any one pupil on re-passing the examination after the lapse of a year, receives a medallion. The object of these lectures is to impart such knowledge to all receiving them as shall enable them to give intelligent "First Aid to the Injured," and in fact to do those things which often tend to save a life, till skilled aid can be procured. Many times in such cases "knowledge is power," and the right remedy quickly applied preserves life and saves loss of strength until the physician arrives. Esmarch's triangular bandage is used, and in Germany, where this Association has made rapid progress, each soldier in the army is provided with one of these, and a small package of lint.

A boundless area of usefulness lies before this Society, which has already won for itself a very high reputation, and the approval of the public.

ZIPP.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

OUR MONTREAL LETTER.

Cities, like individuals, experience many vicissitudes, and in their histories may often be found the records of some great commercial depression or internal disorder, which at the same time cast a gloom over its people and gave to everything a mournful appearance. When the history of Montreal for the year 1885 comes to be written, the present epoch will be regarded as a time of unutterable woe, the baneful effects of which were felt for many years.

SMALL-POX.

Since this dreadful disease first made its appearance in March of this year, no fewer than fourteen hundred persons have succumbed to its ravages, and many are probably yet to follow before it will be effectually stamped out. Fortunately our citizens have at last realized the fearful dangers to which they are exposed, and the precautionary measures lately taken are such as to assure all, that they are able to successfully cope with it, sparing neither trouble or expense for that end.

WHAT PRINCIPALLY HAS RETARDED

the exertions of the Health Committee, is the antipathy which the greater portion of the population has evinced to vaccination, the only recognized prevention to small-pox, the efficacy of which the medical profession here, with very few exceptions, recognize. It was the antagonistic feeling against this preventive, kept for a time in violent ebullition by a few enthusiasts, which caused a few days ago those riotous proceedings, which are now recorded to the detriment of this city.

THE RIOT.

as it may be justly termed, was occasioned by the carrying out of the laws made by the Board of Health, and which the exigencies of the time necessarily demanded. A considerable number of French-Canadians deemed this an infringement on their national liberties, and imagined they were being coerced into the adoption of measures for the prevention of the disease which they never considered beneficial, and for which they have always entertained unwarrantable prejudices. The consequences of the disturbance, which might have proved more serious, resulted only in the breaking of the glass in the City Hall and Health Office, and the demolishing of the shop windows of a few unoffending druggists, whose only crime was the sale of vaccine. A few peaceful citizens were also slightly injured by the throwing of stones; and the chief of police, while acting in his official capacity, received a severe blow on the head, which immediately placed him *hors de combat*, and necessitated his removal for a few days from scenes of trouble and anxiety to a place of comfort and rest in the bosom of his family.

FOR A FEW DAYS.

after the demonstration of the anti-vaccinationists, intense excitement prevailed. The entire military force, with the exception of the 65th regiment, the French corps, was called out, and the means taken seemed effectual in quelling the opposition of those inclined to disturb the peace. As the death rate was on the increase, the city representatives in conjunction with the Health Committee, thought it time to provide a suitable hospital for small-pox patients, as the house which was used as an apology for one, had long since been filled to its utmost capacity, and one of the exhibition buildings was accordingly selected for this purpose. As this is situated within the confines of a neighboring municipality, the inhabitants of that

district, where the disease was very prevalent, objected to having it in their vicinity, and while completing arrangements for its better accommodation, a strong military force was kept there to provide against an attack from the enraged people of that locality. It was while doing guard duty at this place that Mr. I. Samuels, a member of the Victoria Rifles, was

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.

The affair happened from one of the guards loading his gun when orders had only been issued to provide ammunition, as word had been received that a mob was gathering which intended attacking the hospital. When it was found that several of the men had misunderstood the command they were ordered to unload, and it was in doing this that one of the guns went off, resulting so fatally to Samuels. He lingered only a few hours, and died after great suffering. Samuels was a young dentist of much ability, a universal favorite, and his untimely death cast a gloom over the whole city. He was buried with military honors and his coffin was decked with floral tributes, the offerings of his friends, and various clubs in the city of which he was a prominent member. The affair was rendered still more sad by the fact that he was shortly to be married to a young lady in New York, who hearing of the accident immediately came on to Montreal. The young man who shot him was one of his most intimate friends, and the mournful event has naturally prostrated him with grief.

THE LOSS TO THE CITY

and the injury done to business on account of the small-pox, will be felt long after the disease is stamped out. Hotel proprietors are among those who lose most by the epidemic. As if pecuniary loss, and the presence of a virulent disease amongst us were not deemed sufficient, that harmony and good feeling which should naturally exist in any city at all times, especially during the time of affliction, has been severely impaired by the very means taken to save the city from the calamity which is now hanging over it. Public opinion considers that the city authorities are to blame for allowing the disease to gain such headway, and it is certainly justified. A law should exist which would oblige all children to be vaccinated shortly after their births were registered, and a proper hospital should be at all times ready to receive persons afflicted with the disease. When the person who first brought the disease here arrived from Chicago, he had nowhere to go, but was driven about the streets on a cold stormy night and was refused entrance to the hospitals to which he applied, until his physician, not knowing the nature of the disease, gave him an order for admittance to an hospital where he was put with other patients. It is needless to say, had a proper place been in readiness to receive this patient, such dire results would never have come from one case of small-pox. This should be a warning to all civic authorities who are solicitous about the welfare of their people.

J. M.

ANSWER TO TIT-TAT.

MR. EDITOR,—“Tit-Tat,” whether he is Assogais or some other M. D., has referred to my communication in the *Morning Herald* of the 2nd inst. in a style that would impress one that he is grandfather or progenitor of the whole profession. My patronizing friend surely cannot be one of those who would or could not comply with the requirements of the Provincial Board, and in consequence thereof was not admitted to its privileges. If such, the green-eyed monster is fully aroused, and to appease it, he fires his random shots all around, which fall as harmlessly as rain upon a duck's back. Now, “Tit-Tat,” please don't exercise your peculiar cleverness by saying I am a “quack,” because I have used the word duck.

“Tit-Tat” acknowledges that one of the Halifax Medical College graduates has been a success, and it may number its successful graduates by scores for aught he knows, and yet he or “Assogais” unblushingly asserts in his eccentric style that they are “cheap doctors and quacks.” Chestnuts not only grow in Chester, but in other places as well. In my communication I did not intimate that there were no other physicians in Halifax who were capable to attend to the Hospital, and I do not think there is any other than “Tit-Tat” who will assume I did. The names of some of those in attendance at the Hospital is a guarantee that they will conscientiously discharge their duties there, as far as in them lies. Of others, the public will want proof of their capacity before confiding in them. In reference to my statement as to the facilities offered to medical students in the Provincial and City Hospital to familiarize them with disease, “Tit-Tat” says, “How is it when there are no diseases to treat?” Has “Great Caesar's Ghost” which he called to his aid paralyzed his optic nerves and beclouded his mental vision? Are there no occupants in those one hundred beds at the present time? or have all been cured and sent home to proclaim the great skill of that great cure-all, the Board of Charities? or has the unqualified and unparalleled act of the Board in connection with the Hospital consigned them to the place where diseases cease from troubling, and their persecuted bodies are at rest? If there are no diseases to treat in the Hospital, why, allow me to ask, the appointment of the new Hospital Medical Staff? The public will have every confidence in any of them in treating empty beds, and in performing surgical operations on the bedsteads legs.

“Tit-Tat” also says “the Halifax Medical School has been before the public a long time, and has now tumbled to pieces. Therefore it must have been a bad thing.” Will not my respected instructor halt for a time in his war dance, and cease brandishing the gory scalp of the Medical College long enough to calm his excited imagination, and let his better reason predominate? If he will, I know he must admit that the “bad thing” was not the Medical College, but the act of the men that caused it to tumble. Proof is yet to come that the downfall of the Medical College is regarded as a “boon” by the profession and the public.