

listen to various courses of lectures in two successive years is so absurd when all the circumstances of the case, with the greatly increased requirements of all sorts of laboratory and hospital work, are considered that even the Ontario Medical Council must see it before long, and provide the remedy.

### CRANIOTOMY.

The history of craniotomy during the present century has been a somewhat curious one; although the operation with its various modifications is quite ancient it never became very common until a comparatively few years ago, at a period which is quite within the recollection of some of our veteran practitioners. The frequency of its performance was probably the first serious blot on the brilliant record of the justly celebrated Dublin School of Obstetricians. In the rotunda, during the masterships of Clarke and Collins, craniotomy was performed once in every 208 to 211 cases, or about three times as frequently as the application of the forceps. One of the first to raise his voice against it with no uncertain sound was Tyler Smith, who, in his lectures delivered in the fifties of this century, described it as only less horrible than Cæsarean section.

During recent years the vast improvements in our methods of abdominal surgery, and the greatly increased success of the modified Cæsarean section have modified the opinions of the medical world very materially. One of the subjects for discussion at the September meeting of the American Association of Obstetricians and Gynæcologists in Cincinnati is this: "Is craniotomy justifiable in living children?" The operation and its alternatives, abortion, premature labor, forceps, version, Cæsarean section, laparo-elytrotomy, the porro operation will be fully discussed. We know of no more interesting subject for discussion, and we hope the time has now arrived when the profession can say that craniotomy should never be performed in living children.

AFTER THE VACATION.—Coles—"Back from the country?"

Boles—"Yes."

Coles—"Feel recruited?"

Boles—"Haven't been back long enough to feel the benefits yet."

### NOTES.

DR. S. WEIR MITCHELL has published a volume of poems entitled "The Cup of Youth."

THE next International Congress of Dermatology will be convened at Vienna in 1892, with M. Ricord as its President.

BRAVO France! In that country the physician's claim on the estate of a deceased patient takes precedence of all others.

DR. J. H. RICHARDSON has been nominated for the senate of the University of Toronto since our last number was issued.

DR. S. LUSTGARTEN, late assistant to Prof. Kaposi, of Vienna, has left Austria to make his home probably in New York. He was the discoverer of the bacillus of syphilis in 1885.

THE Swiss Government is so intolerant to the English visitors as to disallow an English physician in a hotel prescribing for an English visitor, and also forbids the druggists dispensing his prescription.

AT the triennial meeting of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the Province of Quebec the following officers were elected: President, Hon. Dr. J. J. Ross; vice-presidents, Drs. R. F. Rinfret and Gibson; treasurer, Dr. Dagenais; secretaries, Drs. Campbell and Belleau; registrar, Dr. L. Larue.

BROMOFORM IN WHOOPING COUGH.—Dr. Stepp, of Nürnberg (*Lancet*), publishes in the *Deutsche Medicinische Wochenschrift* a large number of cases of whooping cough, in which he claims to have obtained most satisfactory results from the internal administration of bromoform. The drug has, according to the author, no ill effect of any kind, and his numerous observations have proved that bromoform as applied by him, is non-poisonous, and that the pulse and temperature remain unaffected by it. The action of bromoform is entirely different from that of bromide of potassium, as has been observed in epilepsy, the former being rather an excitant than a sedative. Children