DOMINION MEDICAL MONTHLY.

A CASE OF TUBERCULAR PHTHISIS CURED.*

BY A. H. GARRATT, M.D., TORONTO.

J. S., a bartender, thirty years of age, consulted me, May 30th, 1892.

He suffered from dyspnœa on exertion, a slight cough with expectoration, loss of flesh, and profuse night-sweats. I found his temperature to be 102° F. On physical examination, there was evidence of consolidation at the apex of the right lung.

I prescribed iron creasote and cod liver oil, with a pill of atropia sulph. to be taken at bedtime; but could not persuade my patient to stop working for a part of each day.

On June 9th, I advised a consultation with Dr. J. E. Graham, who gave a very grave prognosis, agreeing with me that my patient was suffering from tubercular phthisis. On June 11th, twelve days after my first examination, I asked Dr. John Caven to examine the sputum, and his report stated that the specimen contained the tubercle bacilli in large numbers.

About this time I succeeded in alarming my patient and his relatives to such an extent, that he stopped work and went to the country for six weeks.

He secured board at a farm-house on a hill not far from Toronto. There his appetite improved, and he ate freely of fat pork, eggs, and butter, and drank large quantities of milk with a little whiskey. He continued to take iron, cod liver oil, and creasote three times a day, and did not object to the taste of his medicine.

His night-sweats gradually ceased, his cough stopped, and in fourteen weeks from the time he went to the country he returned to his work feeling as well as ever.

I advised him to continue the creasote for a long time, as I feared a relapse, but he stopped all treatment about October 1st, 1892 (four months after consulting me first), since when he has taken no medicine, nor felt the need of any.

The patient, who is here for your examination, has a good family history. There is no history of tubercular disease in any of his ancestors.

* Read at Meeting of Toronto Medical Society.