

of the time of the Association, but the enforcing of the very excellent rule of limiting the length of papers read has largely corrected this difficulty. The benefit to be derived from attendance at such meetings is due, not so much to the listening to learned essays, but to the free interchange of opinion and hints of practical value to the busy practitioner.

As usual, a number of our American confrères were present and contributed to the success of the occasion.

It is much to be regretted that many practitioners throughout the Province still fail to take part in the meetings of their Association. Certainly it is time profitably and pleasantly spent, to interrupt thus briefly the routine and drudgery of professional work, to renew old friendships and to form new ones, and to aid or be aided by an interchange of clinical experiences. Socially, everything passed off nicely, the luncheon tendered to the members by the Toronto brethren being held in the cool and attractive Island club house of the Royal Canadian Yacht Club. The camera fiend was abroad and, as a result, we have had forwarded to us a very excellent souvenir photograph of the members.

CROTALUS HORRIDUS.—The homœopathic materia medica has received something new, which would appear to us to be popularly known as fluid extract of rattlesnake. If homœopathic principles be correct, this preparation should certainly commend itself as a specific for delirium tremens. The following appeared in the *Boston Med. and Surg. Journal*:—

The following description of the initial steps in the securing and preparing of the "mother tincture of *Crotalus Horridus*" receives the sanction of two homœopathic medical journals. A box of twenty-four large rattlesnakes was received by a museum proprietor in Rochester. Having provided a long hempen-cord, a bottle of ammonia and some whisky, "to be prepared for an emergency," the owner, known as "Rattlesnake Pete," unfastened the lid of the box and, as a large snake darted out, seized it by the neck and carried it to a table, while the long lithe body coiled round his arm and the rattles were "singing away like grasshoppers."

Now comes the interesting part of the performance. A piece of common window-glass was placed near the snake's open mouth, and the rattler struck his wicked-looking fangs, which were nearly an inch in length, against the glass, a thin stream of yellowish-looking liquid spurting upon it at each stroke. "Oh, he's full of it," said Pete. "There's poison enough right there to kill twenty men." While he spoke he walked toward the den, and giving the snake a quick twist, released him. The poison on the glass was absorbed with sugar of milk, scraped into a bottle and carefully sealed. The poison thus obtained is sent to certain London homœopathic physicians, who use it in their practice as a medicine for diphtheria and other diseases of a similar nature. The poison is supposed to be very valuable. The process just described was repeated with snake after snake, until all in the box were transferred to the den. After the first three or four were taken out, Pete plunged his hand among the mass of wrigglers with seeming impunity, dragging out his next victim with a quick but certain motion. "These fellows will give up their poison more readily tomorrow; they are a little sluggish on account of having been kept in such close quarters for the past forty-eight hours," said Pete, in response to the writer's query.

"Besides selling the poison, which I have told you about," added Pete, "when a snake dies, I try-out the fat of the reptile, and obtain from one and a-half to two ounces of a very penetrating oil, from a fair-sized snake. This oil is worth eight dollars per ounce, and is used as a specific for deafness."

THE MIGRATION OF THE OVUM TO THE TUBE.—Lode, *Archiv. für Gynäkologie; Univ. Med. Mag.*, has investigated this interesting subject by a series of experiments upon guinea-pigs. In one experiment he injected fine coal particles into the peritoneal cavity. The animal was killed thirty-six hours afterwards and the coal particles were detected in both tubes. In a guinea-pig four months old, in which the sexual organs were not yet fully developed, the particles were found only in the fimbria. In another series of experiments he used the ova of the *ascaris lumbricoides*, as they were larger than the coal particles. The injections were made