

outside of that, chemical laws bear sway. In the process of germination, growth, development, and sustenance, we have an invariable order of nature. But, when a body, which has been formed by vital processes, ceases to possess vitality, then, it is submitted, that body comes under the rule of chemical laws. And it is in the order of nature that such a body should be resolved into its original elements, unless some other chemical power be applied to prevent it, as in the use of common salt to preserve meat, and carbolic acid to prevent putrefaction.

Respectfully,

WM. CANNIFF, M.D.,

M.R.C.S., England.

Toronto, 13th Dec., 1876.

[We have long entertained the belief that the cleanliness and care had more to do with the success of Lister's method than the special virtues of carbolic acid had.—ED.]

ATROPIA AS AN ANTIDOTE TO HYDROCYANIC ACID. Jackson. (*Druggists' Circular*, Jan., 1876.) In experimenting on dogs, Dr. J. says: Sulphate of atropia, in doses of one-fourth of a grain to one grain, injected under the skin, gave prompt relief in every case, even when large doses of the acid had been given. When the two poisons are administered at the same time none of the effects of prussic acid are developed; but if as much as a grain of sulphate of atropia be injected, all the symptoms of atropia poisoning are observed. In some instances the antidote was withheld until the animal would fall down, and the respirations would be as few as six per minute, the dog being unconscious, then one-fourth grain of the antidote would relieve him immediately.—*Chicago Med. Journal and Examiner*.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—On Monday, the 6th inst., a general meeting of this Society was held, Mr. W. Adams, President, in the chair. Amongst others a most important resolution was proposed by Dr. Hare, seconded by Dr. Lawson, and unanimously carried by the Society, to exclude persons of the female sex from either becoming fellows of the Society or from being introduced to it as visitors.

Miscellaneous.

EXTRACT FROM ORDER IN COUNCIL.—“That the several Schools of Medicine, affiliated or claiming to be affiliated with the University of Toronto by the Report of the Senate of the year 1854, be no longer considered affiliated with the University, and that said former affiliations be deemed to cease at the expiration of the Academic year now current.

REMEDY FOR DANDRUFF.—A French physician (*Apoth. Ztg.*) claims to cure this troublesome affliction by applying a solution of chloral hydrate, containing 5 per cent. of the latter, by means of a sponge, and repeating it every morning. If the hair has fallen out in consequence of the dandruff, it is claimed that the said hair will reappear in a month.—*N. Y. Medical Record*.

CAUSE OF DECAY OF THE TEETH.—Dr. L. B. Palmer, of New York, has been led to conclude from a series of experiments that the decay of teeth is not, as is generally supposed, due to acids, but to alkalies. With alkalies he reproduced decay of the teeth as it is seen in the mouth, but was unable to do so by acids. With the assistance of an electric current, acids simply acted on and destroyed the whole of the enamel.—*N. Y. Medical Record*, from *Am. Jour. of Dent. Sc.*

POISONING BY MEDICINAL DOSE OF IODIDE OF POTASSIUM (*The Medical Press and Circular*, August 2, 1876).—Dr. Charles Drysdale reports the case of a man, æt. 36, who was suffering with right hemiplegia, which had evidently been caused by an embolism, as there were abnormal sounds of the valves of the heart. As some symptoms in addition pointed to dilatation of the ascending arch of the aorta, he had on three several occasions prescribed ten-grain doses of the iodide of potassium thrice daily in water. On the first two occasions the effect was to produce a crop of acne-like pustules on the face. The last trial, which lasted three days, brought forth an alarming-looking eruption on the backs of the hands, as well as on the face and chest. Blebs were formed containing a bloody fluid, which lasted without desiccating for some weeks.