

THE
Canadian Practitioner

A SEMI-MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE PROGRESS
OF THE MEDICAL SCIENCES.

Contributions of various descriptions are invited. We shall be glad to receive from our friends everywhere current medical news of general interest.

When a change of address occurs please promptly notify the Publishers, THE J. E. BRYANT COMPANY (Limited), 64 Bay Street.

TORONTO, JUNE 1, 1889.

FROM ENGLAND TO BANFF.

THE *British Medical Journal* has published the circular of Dr. Bell, the General Secretary of the Canada Medical Association, which was recently sent to the members. As intimated therein, efforts are being made to secure special rates from Liverpool to Montreal, and it was hoped that a number of physicians of Great Britain would be induced to attend. It unfortunately happens, however, that the meeting of the British Medical Association will take place about the same time, and it is thought that this fact will keep many of the Britishers at home who otherwise would have come over to see our Banff among the Rockies.

THE BANFF MEETING.

WE understand that the officers of the Canada Medical Association, especially the President and General Secretary, are making the most strenuous efforts to complete all arrangements for the coming meeting at Banff in as satisfactory a manner as possible. Toronto will probably turn out a pretty strong contingent, which is likely to include the following: Drs. J. H. Richardson, R. A. Reeve, L. McFarlane, F. Grasett, C. O'Reilly, J. E. Graham, Adam Wright, Carlyle, W. H. B. Aikins, J. H. Burns, E. E. King, G. S. Ryerson, G. R. McDonagh, I. H. Cameron, J. E. White, C. Sheard, Lehmann and Strange. We are requested by Dr. Bell, the Secretary, to ask physicians who intend to present papers to notify him as soon as possible.

PUERPERAL FEVER IN MATERNITY
HOSPITALS.

WE have heard much frequently about the freedom from puerperal fever in large maternity hospitals under modern antiseptic methods. The records of large lying-in hospitals during the last few years have been as a rule very satisfactory, but in each and all endless and sleepless vigilance is required to prevent a return of the dread enemy—septicæmia. We learn from the *Medical Press and Circular*, that puerperal fever of an epidemic character has lately broken out in the Third Maternity Klinik of the University of Vienna, which is under the directorship of so careful and skilful an obstetrician as Dr. Gustav Braun, and as a consequence the klinik has been closed. It is quite likely that the causes in this particular instance can without much difficulty be discovered. They are probably simple carelessness and negligence on the part of some who came in contact with the patients. If so, such conduct is almost, or altogether criminal, when considered with our modern light, and should receive its proper reward of punishment.

THE COUNCIL EXAMINATIONS.

THE results of the recent examinations of the Medical Council have, from the students' point of view, been somewhat startling. The "slaughter of the innocents" at the primary was terrific, 54 per cent. "getting left." An occasional good man has had what the students call hard luck in getting spun with a good average record, but a deficit of one or two marks in one subject. Such accidents are apt to occur at all stiff examinations, and we do not see how they can be avoided. Generally speaking, the candidates who knew their work were passed, and the other fellows were plucked. We understand from some members of the Council that this is the very purpose for which the examination was instituted, and consequently the rejected will have to accept the inevitable with the best grace they can. The profession of Ontario will accept the results without much excitement, because they will tend to elevate the standard of medical education in the Province, while at the same time sufficient of the finals have passed to supply all immediate and pressing demands.