

to state that I consider such affections by no means frequent. I have been in practice in Montreal for upwards of twenty two years, and for the last nineteen years I have been one of the staff of the Montreal General Hospital; during the whole of that period I do not think I have met with more than a dozen cases of renal, and eight of vesical calculus. I have performed lithotomy three times myself, and have witnessed the operation four times in the practice of my professional acquaintances.

For the last twenty-two years, there have been only three † operations for stone in the Montreal General Hospital, with an average during that period of about eighty patients, and an extensive daily attendance of out-door cases at the Dispensary.—I remain, &c.,

GEO. W. CAMPBELL, M.D.

Montreal, 18th Dec., 1855.

From WILLIAM BELIN, M.D., L'Assomption

MY DEAR HALL,—I have just received yours of the 20th instant, and hasten to reply.

I have been practising in the District of Montreal for nearly thirty years, during which period I have had under treatment, so far as I can recollect, but three cases of urinary calculi; two of these were in children, and one in a man of nearly sixty. None of them were cases requiring lithotomy.

Although I occasionally hear of a case, yet I do not consider the disease to be one of frequent occurrence in Lower Canada.—I am, &c.,

L'Assomption, Dec. 22, 1855.

WM. BELIN, M.D.

From JAMES BELL JOHNSTON, M.D., Sherbrooke.

MY DEAR HALL,—I was absent for two or three days when your letter of the 18th reached this place. In reply to your request for information about the number of cases of lithotomy Dr. R. Nelson may have had, &c., I may state that I have no precise data to go upon, but I should certainly think "*that over a hundred*" was more than double the probable number. Again, Dr. R. Nelson must have been in practice nearer thirty than twenty years. I was in his surgery for five years, (from 1826 to 1831,) and I should think that the number of cases of vesical calculus that he operated upon during that period was, at most, from eight to ten; they were not all French Canadians, and some were from a great distance from the city of Montreal. I have a recollection of a gentleman from the West Indies being operated upon with success by Dr. Nelson, in Montreal. Then, again, the fact of Dr. R. Nelson being, at that time, almost the only lithotomist in Lower Canada, would, of course, give him a preponderance of cases of calculous disease. I agree with you in opinion that vesical calculus is rather rare in Lower Canada. During upwards of fifteen years that I have been in active practice in

* One of these cases was the removal from the bladder of a piece of lead-pencil encrusted with a deposit of lithic acid or lithate of ammonia, and cannot, therefore, be deemed a case of idiopathic disease.

† One of these cases is the case referred to in the preceding note.