

his "De l'Influence de la Position dans les Maladies Chirurgicales" (1851), being a nearly exhaustive list of his writings. Of these the most important as well as the best known is the treatise on surgical pathology (1844-59), of which the first three volumes only were written by him, the remaining two being from the pen of Dr. Jamin. They are eminently characteristic of their author—clear, precise, and methodical.

Nélaton was, above all things, a practical man; operative surgery and clinical teaching he excelled in. As a lecturer he was not like Velpeau, erudite, versatile in all departments of surgery and obstetrics, and fond of generalisation. He was absorbed in practice and in clinical tuition. In diagnosis he had no superior—patient, searching, cognizant of every circumstance, careful in balancing evidence, and, as a rule, exact and conclusive. Having made his diagnosis, his powers as an operator were equal to every occasion. He was dexterous with his instruments, ingenious in resource, and attentive to all matters affecting the patient, such as his mental condition, his need of rest, and so forth. Though constitutionally cautious, he could be daring when required, and in all respects was a most accomplished surgeon.

In the clinical wards his prelections were attractive from their method, their clearness of classification, their exhaustiveness, and the simple, effective language in which they were conveyed. When attached to the Hôpital de la Clinique he drew around him auditors not only French but foreign, including students, surgeons, and visitors, who assembled in such force that it was difficult to get near enough to catch his words.

In manner he was pleasant, while reserved; far more a man of the world than the brusque and comparatively rustic Velpeau. He was eminently fitted to be what he subsequently became, the fashionable surgeon of Parisian life. Among the more memorable of his professional feats may be classed his journey to Caperna, when he put the English and Italian surgeons to shame by successfully extracting the bullet from Garibaldi's foot, after the affair of Aspromonte. His fame by this time was world-wide, and when, a few years later, a carriage accident befell the Empress Eugénie and her ladies-in-waiting in Switzerland, he was telegraphed for and thereafter appointed surgeon to the Imperial family. His *clientele* was immense—greater than ever Dupuytren or Velpeau commanded in the zenith of their fame. Before the war his income amounted to 500,000 fr. [\$100,000] per annum.

Nélaton remained faithful to his Imperial protectors after their downfall, and paid several visits to Chislehurst, after one of which (probably the last) he returned to Paris with sombre views of the Emperor's health. He had often called the attention of the Emperor to the urgent necessity of complete rest, when the war broke out and his Imperial patient was exposed to the fatigues and hardships of the campaign.

Nélaton was never the same man after the downfall of the Empire. Valvular disease of the heart gradually declared itself. The death of his

Imperial master still further affected him; and he died on the 21st September, lamented by a wide circle of friends, and by pupils and patients in every quarter of the globe.—*Lancet*.

MEDICAL NEWS.

The epidemic of cholera is decreasing in Paris. The deaths from September 12th to the 19th were 125, including the town and hospitals.

Prof. Donati, the director of the Astronomical Observatory in Florence, died at Vienna on the 19th inst., of an attack of cholera.

Her Majesty's screw steamship Victor Emmanuel is being rapidly prepared in Portsmouth dockyard as a hospital ship for Cape Coast.

A private letter from Bangkok, published in the North China Daily News, gives a harrowing account of the ravages of cholera in the town. A desolation as great as that of London during the great plague had fallen on the place, and the few inhabitants who had not fled were threatened with famine.

Dr. Ross, medical officer of health for St. Giles, in his report to the Board of Works, points out the necessity of regulating eleemosynary medicine. The facility with which artisans earning good wages can obtain medical relief by simply applying for it in any and every district of the metropolis is, he thinks, an incentive to improvidence.

There is good news from Liverpool. Last week Dr. Trench made the gratifying announcement that no death from typhus had occurred in the previous week, an exemption not reported since 1848—in other words, for twenty-five years. Of course it is easy to say that such an exemption ought to be more frequent, and less remarkable. Nevertheless, it has not been procured, even in the autumn of 1873, without much labour and thought, and we congratulate Dr. Trench on the result.—*Lancet*.

BRISTOL HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN.

In commenting some weeks ago on the disrespectful conduct towards one of the physicians to the hospital by Miss Eliza Walker, the recently appointed house-surgeon to the Bristol Hospital for Diseases of Women and Children, which led to the resignation of all the honorary members of the medical staff, we suggested that the only proper course open to the lay committee was to call for the resignation of their house-surgeon, and to beg of the physicians and surgeons of the hospital to resume their appointments. The lay officials failed to appreciate this advice, and have now been saved the annoyance of taking any active measures to promote the interests of their hospital by the voluntary resignation of Miss Walker, who felt that such a course alone could save the management from serious embarrassment. So far Miss Walker deserves the thanks of the profession; but we regret that we cannot congratulate her on the manner in which she retired, for she neutralises the effect of her profuse apologies by subsequent attempts to vindicate her conduct, and charges her opponents with unfairness and even injustice. She argues that, as some of the members of the staff professed to recognise the principle of a female house-surgeon, they ought to have been lenient to her faults, knowing the importance of the success of the experiment of her appointment to the cause which she represented. But in all this she fails to see the imperative necessity of her implicit obedience to the reasonable dictates of her superiors. A little discretion, respect, and good taste would doubtless have obviated the unpleasant issues of the case, and certainly done no injury to the cause which Miss Walker has so much at heart.

We trust that the lesson taught by this case will not be lost on those medical and lay officials who may desire to see the medical care of their patients entrusted to women doctors, and we would impress on the female aspirants to medical practice that if they wish to compete successfully with male rivals they must not infringe the canons of professional decorum.—*Lancet*.

PROSPECTUS. THE CANADIAN MEDICAL TIMES.

A NEW WEEKLY JOURNAL,
DEVOTED TO PRACTICAL MEDICINE,
SURGERY, OBSTETRICS, THERAPEUTICS, AND THE COL-
LATERAL SCIENCES, MEDICAL POLITICS, ETHICS,
NEWS, AND CORRESPONDENCE.

The Undersigned being about to enter on the publication of a new Medical Journal in Canada, earnestly solicits the co-operation and support of the profession in his undertaking.

The want of a more frequent means of communication between the members of this well-educated and literary body has been long felt; since monthly publications such as alone have been hitherto attempted in this country, do not at times fully serve the requirements of the controversies and pieces of correspondence which spring up. It necessarily diminishes the interest of a correspondence to have to wait a month for a reply and another month for a rejoinder; and it is in consequence of this drawback, no doubt, that many important or interesting points are not more fully debated in the monthly medical journals.

THE CANADIAN MEDICAL TIMES, appearing weekly, will serve as a vehicle for correspondence on all points of purely professional interest. It is also intended to furnish domestic and foreign medical news; the domestic intelligence having reference more particularly to the proceedings of city and county Medical Societies, College and University pass-lists, public and professional appointments, the outbreak and spread of epidemics, the introduction of sanitary improvements, etc. Many interesting items of this nature, it is hoped, will be contributed by gentlemen in their respective localities.

If the interest of a correspondence can be maintained and its freshness preserved by a weekly publication, it must be yet more valuable to have weekly notices instead of monthly ones of the advances which are continuously being made in the medical art. Obviously the sooner a medical practitioner hears of an improvement the sooner he can put it in practice, and the sooner will his patients reap the benefit. In this manner, the value of a weekly over a monthly or semi-annual medical journal may sometimes prove inestimable. Medical papers and clinical lectures, in abstract form or in extenso, will regularly appear and constitute a considerable portion of the new journal. In this way it is intended to furnish the cream of medical literature in all departments, so that a subscriber may depend upon its pages as including almost every notice of practical value contained in other journals.

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