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EDMOND JULIEN BARBEAU

Since the last issue of this journal there has passed away one of the staunchest friends of the Montreal Homœopathic Hospital. Edmond Julien Barbeau was a homœopath by the conviction of experience. He had seen in his own family the beautiful workings of the principle of Similia and ever thereafter was a vigorous and intelligent advocate of its merits. A man of conservative judgment and of logical mind, his convictions were always the result of a careful examination of all the facts and he was therefore a counselor of exceptional value. He was instrumental in founding the Montreal Homœopathic Hospital, was one of its first life governors; a contributor to the building fund and quite recently gave a very handsome sum toward the extinction of its floating debt. He was one of the most constant attendants at the Governor's meetings and gave valued counsel when points of difficulty were encoun-

tered. His presence at those meetings will be much missed and his place will be difficult of filling. He was one of the three trustees of the Hospital's Jubilee Endowment Fund and it will be the sad duty of the Board at its first quarterly meeting to elect his successor.

EXPERIENCE WITH APPENDICITIS

At this time of radical differences of opinion and practice in the profession in regard to appendicitis, the experience of Dr. R. N. Foster, as published in the May number of the "Medical Visitor," is very significant, to say the least.

Those who believe this dreaded disease may be best cured without the knife, will be glad to have so good an authority as Dr Foster on their side.

"I have no specific record of the number of cases coming under my observation during the past five years, but it is easily within the mark to say that in all there were thirty cases. Eight of these cases were seen by other physicians, and were classified without hesitation as appendicitis. If the diagnosis was correct in these eight cases, it was also correct in the remaining twenty-two, in which number I include no case that could be regarded as doubtful. Two of the cases were chronic and recurrent. The others were acute. Two were operated upon by very skillful surgeons. Both died. The operation was undertaken in both cases as a forlorn hope merely. No discredit should attach to the operation in either case, both being undoubtedly fatal without operation.

"I do not feel sure that all of the cases were to be classified simply as appendicitis. Peri- or para-appendicitis may frequently be the proper designation,