

Nevertheless Dr. Nelson received his license. Dr. Nelson was an honorary M.D. of McGill College. He died in 1863.

There are many others whose names I might bring before you, but as I have merely alluded to the leading ones, and this paper is already so long, I have to refrain.

In 1843, the Montreal Dispensary was established, but it had to close for a couple of years owing to want of funds, but re-opened with renewed vigor, and still continues to do much good.

In the year 1845 the Medico-Chirurgical Society of this city took the initiative in trying to form a convention of the different societies of other places in Canada, and issued circulars to them, asking them to send delegates to a meeting to be held in Montreal, to which they cordially responded, and named delegates accordingly; but some gentlemen thought such action ought to originate with the profession at large, and called a public meeting in accordance with these views, and at that meeting, which was a very stormy one, a motion was carried to the effect "that the delegates from the Montreal Medical Society be not permitted to vote," consequently these delegates, with Dr. Hodder of Toronto and Dr. Marsden of Three Rivers, who had been sent to attend the meeting, retired under protest, and thus ended what might have been a useful union of all the medical societies then in existence.

In 1847 what was termed "ship fever"—maculated typhus fever—was brought in ships by the emigrants, about 33,000 having arrived that year. Sheds were opened at Point St. Charles, and thousands upon thousands were carried off by that disease, and were buried near where they died. The ground is now marked by a high rough stone monument, erected by the builders of the Victoria Bridge and the Grand Trunk Railroad.

In 1849 the Asiatic cholera again visited this country, and the Government established a "Central Board of Health," of which Dr. Wolfred Nelson was appointed president and the writer secretary.

In 1851 the "St. Lawrence School of Medicine" was opened, but it only lasted one year, although it was attended by seventeen students. It was killed by medical politics, which at that time ran very high. In the same year "The St. Patrick's Hospital" was established in connection with this school, but, after a useful existence of over twelve years, it was swallowed up by the Hotel-Dieu. In 1844 Drs. Badgley and Sutherland started a medical journal,

the *Montreal Medical Gazette*. The first number was published in English and French, but the other numbers were printed all in English, this being the first entirely English Medical Journal ever published in this country. Some twenty years before this, a medical journal was published in Quebec, but it was half French and half English. In 1851 the writer, with the late Dr. Robert L. Macdonnell, published the *Canada Medical Journal*, and in 1854 Drs. Wright and McCallum published the *Medical Chronicle*. All these journals had but an ephemeral existence, actually dying from inanition, from want of proper support by the members of the profession. In 1865 Dr. G. E. Fenwick and Dr. F. W. Campbell started a new journal, giving it, by permission, the name of the journal published by the writer in 1851. This very able journal existed for ten or twelve years, when the connection of these two gentlemen with it was dissolved, owing to medical politics, and it was merged into two separate journals, which still exist, the *Canada Medical Record*, edited by Dr. F. W. Campbell, and the *Canada Medical and Surgical Journal*, edited by Drs. Geo. Ross and W. A. Molson.

I have now, gentlemen, given some of my reminiscences of many of your predecessors in the profession in this city. As a matter of course I have not attempted to mention any who are still with us—I leave that for other and abler pens.

During the fifty-two years that have passed since I entered upon the study of medicine I have seen many changes, changes of various kinds, changes in books and journals, and in the practice of medicine and surgery. Anæsthetics, antiseptics, and bloodless operations have all had their rise and are certainly surgical triumphs. The introduction of the use of the microscope is of wonderful utility. By the operation of ovariectomy alone it is said 40,000 years of life have been gained for women. The cure of reflex epilepsy by nerve-stretching is a great advance in therapeutics. Excision of the kidney or spleen, of part of a cancerous bladder or prostate, of the rectum and of the pylorus are now common, and attended with improving results; and, lastly, the introduction of the hypodermic syringe has perhaps on the whole been the greatest of all the improvements that have been introduced.

The world has always been full of, and is still full of *hypotheses* and *speculation*, full of new remedies, new instruments, and new appliances, but whether these are all really and truly improve