

## PHYSICIANS' SIGNS.

There is no absolute law as to the form or size of a doctor's sign, which must depend to some extent on individual tastes. The *New York Medical Record* tells us something about the customs in various parts of the world, as follows: "The fashion in various cities in Europe as to the door-plates and signs of physicians is interesting in its variety. In London a large door-plate of brass or silver is the thing. In Brussels the outside of the house is sometimes decorated à la New York, but generally with more taste. There professional men do not hesitate to announce their specialty. In Berlin, where a celebrated man may be one or more flights up, a porcelain plate neatly inscribed with black letters, sometimes with the specialty, and always with the office hours, is in good form. In Paris there is such an absence of signs or door-plates that it is in many instances difficult to know that you are at the right house, so modest or negative are the indications. In Paris, too, distinguished specialists sometimes live very high up, in great apartment houses without elevators. Philadelphia and Boston outdo New York in the magnitude and splendor of door-plates and office-signs. It is doubtful if they are ever of any particular use, except for those who are looking for a doctor in an emergency, and a very simple indication would be as well as the great sprawling tin, or black marble, or brass affairs that disfigure many a good-looking house."

Those who have watched the evolution of medical sign-growing in this city must acknowledge that in some respects Toronto "beats the record." Our abominations in variety and vulgarity are becoming positively unique. In olden times a plain brass or silver door-plate sufficed. Then came the ugly fanlight with its letters in black, gold, etc. Next in order came window decorations of various kinds. Then in rapid succession the ornamentation extended to walls of the house, gates, fences, conveniently situated trees, etc. The walls of neighbors and finger posts were in due course called into requisition, and signs such as the following are to be seen: "Dr. Wiseman, — doors north." Occasionally a sign, in the shape of a pine board, decorated with the name of some distinguished phy-

sician, and a huge hand with forefinger pointing in the direction of his residence, may be seen nailed to a post on a vacant lot on some of our more remote streets. It doesn't take a man long to find a doctor in Toronto; and if he should happen to miss the physician or surgeon he is quite likely to strike a druggist who is ever ready to treat a fractured skull or a diseased heart. Verily Toronto is twice blessed, if not more so.

## INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF GYNECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS.

Another congress is under way with the above title. The first meeting will be held in Brussels, September 13 to 19, 1892. It is proposed that the congress shall assemble every four years, and it is hoped that the various countries of Europe and America will give it a cordial support. Mr. Lawson Tait has been asked by the committee of management to act as chairman, and has consented to do so. It has been arranged that there shall be three special discussions on the following subjects:

- (1) Pelvic Suppurations. Referee, Dr. A. Legon, of Paris.
- (2) Extra-uterine Pregnancy. Referee, Dr. A. Martin, of Berlin.
- (3) Placenta Previa. Referee, Dr. Berry Hart, of Edinburgh.

The secretary-general of the congress is Dr. Jacobs, of Brussels, and the secretary for America is Dr. Fernand Henrotin, of Chicago.

## Meeting of Medical Societies.

## TORONTO MEDICAL SOCIETY.

February, 1892.

The president, Dr. A. A. Macdonald, in the chair.

Dr. Allen Baines read the following notes on a case of

## PAROVARIAN CYST.

Mrs. G., aged twenty-five. I attended this lady first in February, 1887. At that time I found her suffering from pelvic cellulitis, caused by cold caught in the sleeping car coming from Montreal. She had her menses, which commenced the day before starting. The flow was stopped and she felt some slight pain. Cohabitation with her husband was tried, but the intense pain she suffered caused him to desist. Next day he sent for me. I found her in a high fever, rapid pulse, etc., all the regular symptoms of inflammation—great