The meeting was highly successful, there being 127 present. Since that time the Association has steadily grown from year to year, and now it is undoubtedly the strongest society we have in Canada. The meeting this year, which will be held June 3 and 4, promises to equal or surpass any of its predecessors.

THE MEDICAL COUNCIL CURRICULUM.

The committee to consider this subject has held some meetings, and will probably bring in a complete report at the June meeting of the Council. In our last issue we referred to the fact that much information had been received respecting the courses in foreign Universities. Expressions of opinion have been received from the various medical teaching bodies of Ontario, and from McGill, of Montreal.

We are pleased to find that a general interest has been awakened in this direction, and a general desire has been shown to keep this province well to the front, as far as medical education is concerned. The members of the committee have evinced a determination to investigate the subject very fully, and deserve much credit for their zeal, apart from any consideration of the conclusions arrived at.

Meeting of Medical Societies.

PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF TORONTO.

December 18th, 1890.

The Society met in the Biological Department, the President, Dr. J. E. Graham, in the chair.

A large number of visitors were present, on the invitation of the Council, to hear the paper of Honorary Member Dr. A. R. Robinson, of New York, on

PSOROSPERMOSE FOLLICULAIRE VÉGÉTANTE,

(published on page of 245 THE CANADIAN PRACTITIONER.)

In the discussion which followed, Dr. A. B. Macallum said:

In Paget's disease of the nipple, as well as in epitheliomata, there are structures which are of great interest in the settlement of the problem of the pathology of the disease. Similar structures are, as Dr. Robinson has just demonstrated, present in keratosis follicularis. The nature of these structures has now become a matter of discussion amongst pathologists, some maintaining that they are parasitic; others, that as the tissues in which they are found are pathological, it is not surprising that the latter produce abnormal elements. One observer considers them to be endogenously formed cells. In regard to the latter theory, it may be stated that there is no well authenticated observation of the occurrence of endogenous cell-formation, as pathologists understand the phrase, in the animal and vegetable kingdom. The conditions under which life has existed and does exist on the globe are so varied that, if cell life is capable of reproduction in this fashion, numerous instances would be at hand for exemplification. If we grant that in neoplasms there is but an exaggeration of the elements of the normal tissue growths, and if we admit that in normal cells and tissues there are no endogenously formed cells, we must be prepared to reject this explanation of the origin of the structures found in epitheliomata, Paget's disease of the nipple, and in keratosis follicularis. My own view as to the origin of these structures is divided between the two explanations:

(1) That they are parasitic (sporozoa).

(2) That they are leucocytes.

Against the first explanation, it has been urged again and again that the structures cannot be sporozoa because they do not manifest the mode of reproduction and other points in the sporozoon best known, viz., *Coccidium oviforme* of the rabbit. This objection indicates, I think, a rather inexact acquaintance with the characters of the sporozoa; the occurrence of sickle-shaped spores, which one objector urged as the test in this case, being only found in some forms, while our present knowledge of the characters of the class demonstrates that there is a great diversity in the form of the reproductive elements, and even in the mode of reproduction. At present the characters of this division of the protozoa are too little known, and therefore we are not in a position to determine the exclusion from it of forms which may after all be only aberrant examples of the class.