

union was obtained at the upper part of the incision where I had placed sutures; a healthy and abundant suppuration was established on the second day in the rest of the wound. This rapidly granulated; between the eighth and the twelfth day all the ligatures came out, and in three weeks there remained only a linear wound the granulations of which I had several times to repress. A month after the operation the healing was complete. There had not been the slightest threatening of a local return, and the general health continued perfect. The family, entirely given up to the joy of a result that our prognostications did not permit them to hope for, thought of nothing but of enjoyment with their child restored to them, and I lost sight of my little patient. In the following month of September Madame L. brought me back her son. For several days she perceived the abdomen to have increased in size, presenting at a certain point extreme hardness. The general health had continued good, nevertheless Madame L., remembering the fears that we had expressed on the subject of the future of the case, came in great haste to ask me whether they were about being realized. The following is the result of my examination:—Normal coloration and plumpness. At the level of the cicatrix and of the cord no swelling could be discovered. Glands of the groin normal. Abdomen presents in left hypochondrium a manifest arching, which extends on one part from the median line as far as the external border of the quadratus lumborum, and on the other part from the border of the false ribs with which it seems continuous to the umbilical line. On a level with the iliac fossa in forcing the fingers deeply into the pelvic cavity, nodosities are perceived which must be degenerated glands. Respiration normal. Patient has no cough. I did not conceal from Madame L. that I regarded her child's condition as beyond the resources of art. Notwithstanding this prognosis, the family determined on having recourse to homœopathy, and a second time I ceased to see my patient. Three weeks after I was called in afresh. The promises of the homœopath had been belied by the result, and the unfortunate child, pale, drawn and emaciated, had arrived at the last moments of its existence. The abdomen had become larger and contained evidently fluid; the respiration anxious, frequent, interrupted by paroxysms of a short dry cough.

No appetite, fever in the evenings. The cicatrix continued healthy. Death occurred in the first days of October. With difficulty I obtained permission to make an autopsy. The cord was healthy starting from cicatrix to an extent of four centimetres; at this point a sort of fibrous cord began, hard, resisting, formed evidently by one or several lymphatics, full of cancerous matter. This cord bordered on a tumor, softish, elastic, which was nothing else than an hypertrophied lumbar ganglion. All the ganglions in this region had undergone a similar change. The principal tumor was constituted by the spleen, which was very large and presented several nodosities, one the size of the fist. Both lungs were infiltrated with nodules, varying in size from millet seed to a hazel nut. Under the microscope these tumors were recognized of the character of enchondroma (myxochondrome).

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the CANADA LANCET.

STR,—Will you kindly allow me space in your journal to call the attention of the Medical Council and the profession generally to what I consider a piece of gross mismanagement, and wilful determination to act illegally, on the part of the Western and St. Clair Division Medical Association.

At their regular meeting in Chatham in February, 1877, contrary to the spirit, as well as the letter of the law, the Association elected a chairman from its ranks for the current year. The Act distinctly says that "the representative in the Medical Council *shall be* ex officio chairman of such Division Association." I hold that since that time all the transactions of the Association are illegal and void. Section 6 of the Ontario Medical Act erects the medical profession into an incorporated body, having all the powers of a legally constituted joint stock company, and any departure from the course laid down by law for their guidance, subjects them to penalties which would follow an illegal act on the part of a joint stock directory.

By the 18th clause of the same Act, certain powers are delegated to "Division Associations," but the spirit of the Act evidently intends to retain a member of the Medical Council to preside over the deliberations of Division Associations.

This being the case, it devolves upon the Med-