

instance it must have been exceptionally developed spontaneously. The judge clearly laid down that the agreement of all the scientific witnesses as to typhoid fever being a germ disease was inconsistent with the view taken by the plaintiff, and the jury found for the defendants, replying in the negative to the three questions put to them by the judge—viz., Were the closets improperly constructed so as to be unwholesome? Was there negligence and was the room unwholesome as distinct from unpleasant? And was the fever caused by any circumstances existing on the premises?

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### ETHER AS AN INTOXICANT.

In certain parts of Ireland ether is taking the place of whiskey as an intoxicant. The Synod of the Church of Ireland have petitioned the Government praying that the ether traffic be regulated and restricted. This form of vice is chiefly prevalent in the counties of Londonderry and Tyrone. In the former the police reported that ether was constantly used as an intoxicant, and the resident physician of the lunatic asylum reported that in his district insanity is produced in many instances by an indulgence in this pernicious habit combined with other causes. Ether drinking in the County Tyrone is confined to two localities according to the police report, and in the local lunatic asylum no cases have been observed which could be referred to this cause.

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### THE DEAN OF THE MEDICAL FACULTY OF McGILL UNIVERSITY.

The Board of Governors of McGill University, at a recent meeting, appointed Dr. Robert Craik to the position of Dean of the Medical Faculty of McGill University, rendered vacant through the death of the lamented Dr. R. P. Howard. This appointment has given unbounded satisfaction to his colleagues in the Faculty and University, and will, we are confident, be received with equal pleasure by the hundreds of his former pupils, now scattered far and near. Dr. Craik's connection with McGill University has been a long and prominent one. In 1856 he was appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy, which position he