

Botany prize—C. E. Vidal, St. Johns, P. Q.

Senior Anatomy prize—F. H. Pickel, Sweetzburg, P. Q.

Junior Anatomy prize—C. E. Vidal, St. Johns, P. Q.

The following gentlemen received honorable mention, having won first-class honors in the primary branche : A. E. Phelan, F. H. Pickel.

The medical oath was then administered by the Registrar, Dr. Kennedy, to the four gentlemen who had passed the final examinations, they also affirming their allegiance as British subjects, the National Anthem was afterwards sung by all present. The Dean next presented the candidates for the degree of C. M., M.D., which was conferred upon them by the Vice-Chancellor.

The medals and other prizes were then given. The *ad eundem* degree of M. D. being conferred upon Dr. Rowell, Professor of Anatomy. The valedictory, an interesting and able one, was delivered by Dr. Saunders, a recent graduate of the College. This will be found elsewhere in our columns. After additional remarks by the Vice-Chancellor, the meeting was dismissed by benediction.

### THE BLOOD-PLAQUE.

We have read with pleasure one of the Cartwright Lectures, recently delivered before the Association of the Alumni of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, by our esteemed friend Dr. Osler, on Blood-plaque.

The third corpuscle or blood-plaque is colorless disks of protoplasm measuring 1.5 to 3.5 micro-millimetres. Various terms have been used by writers to indicate this body, for example : *elementary corpuscles*—Zimmermann; *granular debris* or *Schultz's granule masses*; *hæmatoplast*, Hazen's; *blutplättchen*, *blood-plate* by Bizzozero. The term *plaque* has lately been given to this body by Kemp of John Hopkin's University. They probably exist in the blood of all mammals. In man in a state of health they are found in the proportion of 1 to 18 or 20 red corpuscles, or 35 or 40 to 1 white corpuscle. There are from 200,000 to 300,000 per cubic millimetre.

They may be well seen in the thin, transparent vessels of the omentum of a white rat, if the current is slow. When removed from the blood-vessels they rapidly change and disintegrate, but may be examined and preserved by receiving the blood into a solution of  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 per cent. of osmic acid

or into Pacini's solution. Like all protoplasmic bodies they may be stained with the aniline dyes.

They are circular disks, and probably flat although they sometimes seem to alter a little in form, and closely resemble a biconcave disk. In the recent state they present no nucleus, but after the addition of preserving fluids there appear a collection of granules having very much the appearance of a nucleus, and which in dried preparations take a deeper stain in the hæmatoxylin than the remainder of the plaque, and is regarded by Hazen as a nucleus.

They seem to be most numerous in weakened, debilitated conditions of the system. In acute diseases they are not more numerous at first, but increase in numbers, during the 2nd, 3rd and 4th weeks. This is true of typhoid fever. In the 3rd and 4th weeks of this exhausting fever they may be found in great numbers. Patients debilitated by cancers, tubercle, etc., have them in marked excess. In blood diseases they are variable. Dr. Osler states that he has found them in extraordinary numbers in Hodgkins' disease, while in some cases of pernicious anæmia they may be absent or scanty.

Different views are held as to their origin, many believing them to be the debris resulting from the disintegration of leucocytes, but Dr. Osler, from his observations of the plaques in the newly-born rat, thinks this theory of their origin untenable. There is said to be no evidence that they result from the degeneration of the red corpuscles. Many believe them to be independent elements in the blood, and others agree with Hazen that they are young red corpuscles.

### PERSONAL.

The death of Professor Fehling, at Stuttgart is announced. The re-agent for testing the presence of sugar in urine bears his name. He had attained the age of seventy-five.

Dr. George E. Fenwick, of Montreal, has been elected an Honorary Member of the New York State Medical Society.

### REVIEWS.

*Minor Surgical Gynecology* by PAUL F. MUNDÉ, M.D. New York, Wm. Wood & Co., 1885.

Even in these days of uterine specialism when the average Medical Journal is crowded with notices of books having reference to Gynecological