

Obituary.

DR. J. J. HUNT.

We regret to learn of the untimely death of Dr. J. J. Hunt, of Lambeth, Ont., one of the graduates of the Class '81 of McGill University. He had gone to England to prosecute the study of diseases of the eye and ear, and when on a visit to some friends in Scotland was attacked by dysentery, which proved fatal. His death will be greatly regretted by his classmates and friends, with whom he was a great favourite. As a student he was specially careful and industrious, and had made considerable progress in the specialities to which he purposed devoting himself.

Medical Items.

THE POETRY OF LAY-MEDICINE.—An editor of an Indiana daily paper discusses the subject of septicæmia in connection with the case of the President in the following terms: "There are sleeping organisms in the blood which fever wakes at 102° Fahr. Then death summons its drowsy cohorts in tiny legions for their ghastly work. But they have slept there since babyhood waiting for the signal. We begin to die when we begin to live. In all parts of the body are colonies of animalculæ as independent of us as we are of the stars, but no more so. As complete is their organization as ours, and with as good a reason for existence, as clear an office, and possibly as bright a future. In the crystal chambers of that masterpiece of nature, the eye, they revel or rest, living out like us their day. And more wonderful still, even they have parasites as dependent and as independent. All this we say we know, but we know it in that misty, hazy way we know the stars go round, because somebody said so, and nobody contradicted him."

VERY EARLIEST INSTANCE OF ANÆSTHESIA.—When Sir James Simpson proposed the use of chloroform in confinement cases, the religious zealots in England got up an agitation