

been almost as varied as the material of their structure; some surgeons have inclined simply to close the arteries without wounding their coats; and some, as of old, to cut into these. One will cut off one end only of the ligature, while another will take away both and leave the knot to be dealt with by absorption. The conclusion at which I have arrived is that, as regards the whole subject, we are, for the moment, off the track, and are erring from true principles. I hold that the laws laid down by Jones as long ago as 1805, and afterward affirmed and substantiated by the late Mr. Hodgson, based as they were upon the safe ground of exhaustive experimental research, are as true now as they were when first promulgated, viz., that the only safe way of securing an artery is fairly to divide the inner and middle coats of the vessels, and that the only ligature to be trusted to do this efficiently is a well made firmly twisted round cord of silk; that elastic threads, after dividing the coats, if they do so at all, lose their elasticity, yield when they should hold on firmly, and thus permit the efflux of blood; that catgut softens too readily, bursts or slips, and is thus unsafe; that silk ligatures, when cut off at both ends, fail to become absorbed, and become prolific sources of after mischief; and that horsehair fails not only to be absorbed, but acts as a source of direct irritation from first to last. With both these two last, when cut short, I have seen wounds heal perfectly, and all seem well; but later on small abscesses have formed in various parts of their track, and from each of these, when they have given way, I have had to remove the unabsorbed knots and minute circlets of ligature before they have finally become firm and sound.

**ELASTIC CRAYON OF NITRATE OF SILVER.**—Dr. Pajot takes a laminaria-tent, two millimetres ( $\frac{1}{12}$  in.) in thickness, dips it in some thick mucilage, and rolls it in finely powdered lunar caustic. When it dries, he has a crayon, of the usual thickness of a stick of nitrate of silver, which can be introduced into the cavity of the uterus without fear of breakage. In the same manner applications can be made to other cavities, and if necessary, with stronger remedies.—*Allg. Med. Cent. Zeit.*

The Medical Board of the Manchester Infirmary have recently decided to admit students to their weekly consultations, a the custom adopted at St. Bartholomew. The first open consultation was held in the theatre last Thursday, when several of senior students availed themselves of opportunity thus afforded of hearing the discussed by the different members of honorary staff. The case is first commented upon by the surgeon or assistant surgeon introducing it; then questions are by any member of the staff, and afterward the patient having left the room, the opinion the members present are taken, beginning the junior, and passing to the senior surgeon.

**BEWARE OF HURRY.**—The maxim of safety to avoid physical hurry and mental hurry alike—is, prepare, deliberate; in a word, adopt an orderly method. The man with a weak heart who endangers his life by hurrying to catch a train, unless under altogether exceptional circumstances, is probably the victim of a defect in early training, which leaves him the mercy of impulse without order; or he is striving to fill a place in life for which chief qualification has been the faculty of accomplishing by effort more than can be achieved naturally by steady labour. No persons are ever hurrying after their engagements; others are goaded onward by pressure behind them; but however "hurry" is produced, it is full of peril to the peace of mind and health of body, and it ends by exhaustion, if not premature accident, it kills.—*London Lancet.*

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths

### BIRTHS.

In Montreal, on the 17th December, the wife of Dr. J. B. McConnell of a son.

In Barrie, on the 18th December, the wife of Oliver of a son.

At Galt, on the 22nd November, the wife of Sylvester of a daughter.

At 144 Duke Street, Toronto, on the 30th November, the wife of I. H. Cameron, M.B., of a son.

At Hawkville, on the 12th December, the wife of Dr. T. W. Vardon of a daughter.

### DEATHS.

In Montreal, on the 18th December, Dr. J. Desloges, of Pembroke, Ont., aged 31 years.

At Kincardine, on the 4th December, Marybeth Matthie, wife of De Witt H. Martyn, in the 30th year of her age.

## UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

The time for acceptance of the **CERTIFICATES OF MATRICULATION** before the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario been extended to MARCH 1st, 1879, after which date such certificates will not be accepted in lieu of Matriculation in this University.  
W. G. FALCONBRIDGE, M.A., Registrar.