

THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The 27th annual meeting of the American Medical Association was opened in Philadelphia on the 6th of June, and remained in session four days, Dr. J. Marion Sims, President, in the chair. In his address, the President touched upon medical education and the code of medical ethics. The points in the code to which he alluded were the restrictions as to advertising, patenting of instruments, and the secrecy of the consulting room, all of which he condemned. In fact, Dr. Sims does not wish to be hampered by cast-iron rules, but would rather trust to the higher code of honor and honesty which should ever prevail in a liberal profession. He then took up the subject of syphilis, and urged with great force the desirability of legislation, with a view to meet and combat this terrible scourge. He remarked, the sea was the great highway for syphilis, and sailors were the great carriers of the poison, and suggested that they should be put under strict quarantine. A very interesting paper was read by Dr. R. C. Kedzie of Michigan, on "Natural Purifiers," in which he contended that water and air held the first place. In conclusion, he moved a resolution that "no municipality should introduce a water system without at the same time providing an extensive sewer system." Dr. Garcelon of Maine, read a paper on surgery. Dr. Seguin introduced the subject of Medical Records. A most interesting and instructive paper was read by Dr. Woodward, on the Differential diagnosis of blood corpuscles, in which he took occasion to say that he would *not* swear that corpuscles from *dried* blood-stains were or were not human, if it involved the life of a human being. The draft of a Bill, by Dr. Baker of Lansing, Mich., to be sent to Congress, was read before the section on State Medicine. Dr. Busey read a very able résumé of Gynæcology during the past year. Dr. Martin of Boston, moved a resolution on the subject of bovine or animal vaccination, and secured the appointment of a committee to report at next meeting of the Association. In the section on surgery, Dr. Sayre exhibited his plan of treatment for the cure of Potts' disease of the spine, which was highly commended. A communication was read from the Medical Society of Victoria, asking for a list of medical colleges recognized by the

American Medical Association. This occasioned a warm and exciting discussion, and was finally tabled.

Dr. Bowditch, of Boston, was elected President for the ensuing year, and Chicago was selected as the place of the next annual meeting, on first Tuesday in June, 1877.

CANADA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.—The ninth annual meeting of the Canada Medical Association will be held in Toronto, on Wednesday, 2nd August, 1876. The chair will be taken at 10 A.M. Members intending to be present, can obtain certificates entitling them to return tickets at reduced fare, from the local secretaries, Dr. Zimmerman, Toronto; Dr. F. E. Roy, Quebec; Dr. Gordon, Halifax, N. S.; Dr. McLaren, St. John, N. B., or from A. H. David, M.D., Ed., General Secretary. Montreal.

SPECIAL HOSPITALS.—The London *Lancet*, in a late issue, has an article on the desirability, from an educational point of view, of establishing special departments in the large general hospitals, rather than the multiplication of small hospitals for special diseases. Specialists and special hospitals have been growing into disfavor of late, the reason of which is in great part due to their being overdone. The evil, if evil it be, will work its own cure.

An Englishman who insulated his bedstead by placing underneath each post a broken-off bottom of a glass bottle, says that he had not been free from rheumatic gout for fifteen years, and that he began to improve immediately after the application of the insulators. A local paper quoting this item wisely adds: "There's many a fellow who could cure his gout, if he would break off the bottoms of his glass bottles in time."

The medical profession of Lyons, France, are not in favor of the establishment of small-pox hospitals; which leads a facetious journalist to remark that they deserve to be "pitted."

HONORS.—M. D. Stark, M.B., Trin. Coll., Toronto, passed the examination before the Royal College of Surgeons, Eng., on 17th May, and received the diploma of that body.