

Meetings of Medical Societies.

NORTH-WESTERN BRANCH OF THE ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The first regular meeting of the above Association was held in Palmerston, on Wednesday, Feb. 15th. The following members were present: Drs. Clarke, Collinge, and Stewart, of Palmerston; Nichol, Philp, Dillabough, Burgess, and Dingman, of Listowel; Allan and Cowan, of Harriston; Yeomans, Ecroyd, and Jones, of Mount Forest; McLaren, Baird and McArton, of Paisley; Holmes and Graham, of Brussels; Martyn, of Kincardine; Stalker, of Ripley; Mackid, of Lucknow; Clapp, of Mildmay; Hodge, of Mitchell; Gun, of Durham; Holstein, of Cedarville, and Stewart, of Brucefield.

Communications were received from Drs. Henderson, of Arthur; C. E. Barnhart, of Owen Sound; Robertson, of Markdale; Hyndman, of Exeter; Sloan, of Blyth; Gillies, of Teeswater; McDonald, Bethune, and Tamblin, of Wingham, regretting their inability to attend.

During the early part of the meeting the chair was occupied by Dr. Clarke, of Palmerston, and afterwards by the President, Dr. Yeomans, of Mount Forest.

Dr. Collinge, of Palmerston, read a very carefully prepared report of a case of Gangrene which he had recently under observation. The patient was a married woman, aged 32, who, when she first came under Dr. Collinge's care, on the 29th of July, 1881, complained of a pain in the lumbar region, general weakness, and a discharge from the vagina. On examination there was found some abrasion around the os uteri, which, with the discharge, entirely disappeared in a week after the application of nitric acid. On the 4th of August she complained of numbness and loss of power in the left arm, followed in a few days by a similar condition of the right arm. She vomited frequently, became drowsy and semi-conscious. A blister to the nape of the neck was followed by a permanent disappearance of the cerebral symptoms. On the 17th of August she was suddenly seized with a violent pain in the

gluteal region, extending down the outside of the thigh. The right thigh and leg were found to be larger than the left. On the 24th of August the right great toe had a purplish hue, and was painful. In a few days the color was changed to a white, mottled appearance, and the gangrenous process had now involved the whole foot. There was a line of hardness along the course of the right internal saphenous vein in the lower part of the thigh. The gangrene steadily progressed until an oblique line of demarcation formed, four inches above the ankle-joint. Previous to her death, on the 28th of September, the gangrene had extended upwards to within four inches of the knee-joint, and the soft tissues over the sacrum, to the extent of 5x3 inches, sloughed away. The great toe of the left foot was livid and painful. The reading of this paper was followed by a discussion, in which Drs. Allen, Cowen, Clarke, Burgess, Gun, McLaren, Clapp, and others took part.

Dr. Graham, of Brussels, read a paper on "Pernicious Anæmia." He gave the details of two cases which well illustrate the wonderful hæmatinic powers possessed by arsenic. The first case was that of a married woman, aged 35, who was found in the following state five weeks after her confinement: The hæmorrhage during the labour was trifling. Her face was swollen and bloodless. Mucous membranes pale. Troubled frequently with diarrhœa and vomiting. She had frequent and severe pyrexial attacks. The blood was found to contain a large number of microcytes. The red corpuscles varied much in form. There was no increase in the number of white cells. Under quinine and iron she became rapidly worse. Under arsenic she rapidly and permanently recovered. The second case is a somewhat similar one, occurring in a female, aged 24, who two weeks after her confinement presented the well-known symptoms, including the pyrexial attacks of pernicious anæmia. Arsenic was soon followed by complete recovery.

Dr. Stewart, of Brucefield, read a paper on "Some of the Uses of the Sphygmograph in Practical Medicine."

Traces, illustrative of the actions of alcohol,