

ery during the five past years, he said we had to be careful, and that a good deal of work yet needs to be done in diagnosing accurately cerebral disease. He was followed in his remarks by Mr. Victor Horsley, of London, and Drs. Keen, of Philadelphia, and Stone, of New York. The lecturers had numerous papers of interest, some of which we hope to again refer to at length.

We are placed in a somewhat difficult position when we have to refer to the meeting of the Canada Medical Association in the same article with this great Congress. Judging by the numbers and geographical distribution of those present at the Ottawa meeting, Canadian national sentiment is still in an embryonic state, and, speaking from a teratological standpoint, the development is likely to be of the decidedly monster type. There was scarcely a representative of Ontario physicians west of Toronto present, and very few physicians from outside a short radius of the place of meeting. The programme, good as some papers undoubtedly were, seemed to be a somewhat diminutive descendant of the Smithsonian Institute by true Apostolic suc-

cession. We trust that its next year's meeting at Banff, attended even for a pleasure trip, will partake of a more representative character than the one just over.

Dr. J. E. Graham's paper on irregular and rapid action of the heart, with clinical reports of cases, was of much practical interest and elicited no little discussion. The general address on "Some of the recent advances in Surgery," by Prof. F. J. Shepperd, of Montreal, was of much interest, giving, as it did, special attention to the advances in abdominal surgery, surgery of the gall, bladder, and kidney; advances, too, in the surgery of the bladder were also remarked upon. MacEwen's fame in cerebral surgery (an abstract of his latest work being found in this number), was commented upon in terms of praise. Altogether the papers given by leading members showed regarding the profession in Canada, as remarked by Dr. Ross, "Many evidences of a better condition of things than formerly prevailed, of a greater interest in the scientific side of medicine, and a desire not to practice on, and from a purely perfunctory, a financial point of view."

GENERAL NOTES

THE Central Sanitary Department of Japan has just published a report on the cholera epidemic of 1886, which was the most violent since 1879. There were in all 155,574 persons attacked, and of these 110,086 died. The gravity of the epidemic is attributed to the impurity of the water.

SLOWLY, but surely, with the great increase of immigration, cases of leprosy are finding an entrance to American soil. The two centres of supply seem to be China on the west, and Norway and Sweden on the east. The State Board of Health of Iowa has notified the American Consul at Christiania of two cases having come to that State from Stavangen, Norway, and further states that any new cases will be returned if found in Iowa.

THE contract for the construction of the new water works at Brantford has been awarded to the Watrous Engine Works Company, Brantford, and a by-law submitted to the people to approve of the proposal and to raise the money for the purchase of the old works and the construction of the new ones has been carried. The intention is that the city shall construct and own the works. The al-

ternate scheme was, that the proposals of the home company to own and maintain the works be accepted. Says the *Expositor*, "As far as the question of cost is concerned, we believe the city is getting an excessively good bargain, and that they will get a first-class system."

ACCORDING to *Progrès Médical* the *corps médical* of Paris, including medical men and pharmacists, has undergone a terrible increase since the year 1866. Then it numbered 6,506 persons, but now contains some 10,360. It does not appear to exceed our own Toronto with its 300 medical men and 200 druggists.

THE question of the contagiousness of leprosy is still controverted, the latest opponent being Dr. Zambaco of Constantinople. Speaking of experiences obtained during a recent visit to Egypt, Syria, and other leprosy countries, he says: "I may say I am acquainted with all the places in the East where this terrible malady exists, and I have never seen a single case of contagion. The malady is certainly hereditary, however." We are afraid he did not stay long enough.