

panther is trapped or slain by the young brave to form *great* medicine, while the more timorous supplements his dream with racoon, porcupine, weasel or civet.

The Aborigines had their surgery—simple but effective—to which even their usurpers were sometimes forced to have recourse. Contused wounds and bruises were treated by cold douches from springs and running streams; and suppurating wounds with the bark of the mucilaginous slippery elm (*Ulmus flava*) and bass wood (*Silia*) and the resinous bark of the Tamarac (*Larix americana*); all excellent emollient and stimulant cataplasms; and ulcers were stimulated to granulation by the inner wood and berry of the Juniper (genus *juniperus*).—They reduced dislocations by main force, and also, it would appear, by a rotatory method, which seemed somewhat like that introduced to the profession by that distinguished American surgeon Nathan Smith. Fractures (which rarely occurred among them,) were carefully set, and splints of cedar or broom, ingeniously padded by the squaws, with leaves or grass, were bound upon the limb with withes of the young birch, (genus *Batula*); and amputations were performed at the joints with knives of flint or jasper (and in some places of copper) polished and keen as steel*—the spouting vessels were seared, and hæmorrhage arrested, with stones heated to redness. Those practices are still continued among the tribes far removed in the interior.

With, or soon after the advent of the white man, and his higher wants, his higher civilization, and his diseases of a commensurate complexity and intricacy, came the Medicine White-man, the *Te ho pe nee wash ce* of the West, or the *Maskiki inini* of the north, who fraternized not with his red confrère—upsetting the old adage “*similis simili gaudet*,” It may not be generally known that the members of the legal fraternity were not allowed, while the French were yet masters, to reside in Canada, and practice their profession; the reason assigned being, say the chronicles of the time, experience had taught they had sowed trouble wherever they went (*ils semaient le trouble partout ou ils allaient*.) Canada during French domination, realized, in this respect, the day-dream of Sir Thomas More, who excluded lawyers from his Utopia. (By way of parenthesis it may be observed, those who now enjoy the *quiet* luxury of their presence will admit that the disciples of Justinian have much improved since then.) The first mention of a surgeon destined for Can-

ada is in 1640, when M. Maisonneuve, obliged by a storm, which endangered his vessel, to put back to France, three or four persons deserted him, among whom was “*Celui qui lui etait le plus necessaire de tous, le chirurgien*.” Admiral Courpon, however, who had preceded him, and who had arrived at Tadousac, was told of the mishap, especially in the loss of the surgeon, whose services would have been indispensable in the formation of the new establishment, which could not, Maisonneuve observed, be effected without the effusion of blood. DeCourpon generously offered his own surgeon, and the latter, apprised of the urgent need of him, had his chest lowered at once into Maisonneuve’s boat, and cheerfully followed. What his name was, is not stated. The first mention of a commission to teach surgery was in 1658 when Jean Madry obtained, from Sieur François Banroin, first surgeon in ordinary to the King, and Provost of the Royal College of St. Côme, in the University of Paris, not only letters of “*surgeon*” for himself, but also the power to establish, in Canada, the mastership of surgery in all the towns and villages, in order, said the edict of the time, “*dans leur besoins, les passants et les habitants puissent être mieux et surement servis, pansés et medicamentes*.” But these letters patent, though registered, became dead letters. The first student in Medicine, and the only one of that time, was Paul Prudhomme, brother-in-law of Madry, who, for the space of three and a half years, so the document says, was to be taught “*son art de Chirurgien et tout ce dont ils’ occupait et entremettait dans cette profession de Chirurgie, Medicine et Pharmacie*.” The earliest practitioners were all called surgeons—the term physician or *medicin* was not used by the early settlers. Surgery, therefore, had precedence in this colony over Medicine, as both had precedence, in point of time, over law; and whilst practitioners treated diseases, prepared medicaments, and operated on the wounded, in all the early public acts they were called surgeons, and were qualified by that title; and on the vessels the name of surgeon was given to the officer of health who accompanied. The reason given was this: that in a country where the whites were exposed incessantly to the attacks of the natives, in which nearly all the first colonists were destroyed by them, the art of surgery was, as the documents state, “*d’une nécessité plus pressante, et d’un usage plus frequent*.” For twenty years thereafter, there were but five (5) surgeons in what is now the largest city in the Dominion; their names are given, and a writer of that period wonders how so many could have subsisted. But to prevent any possibility of interfering with each other’s inter-

* The preparation of these instruments was often times the work of years