

tients are suffering from troubles of the digestive organs, not secondarily but primarily. They are living witnesses of the literal truth of the saying, before quoted, "he eats so much that it makes him poor to carry it." For the physician to recommend a continuance of an over-generous diet under these circumstances, is to aggravate the evil. Even in the case of the under-fed it may be improper to do so, for in a weakened condition of the system it is easy to overtax the organs of digestion and so defeat all attempts at striking at the root of the malady. That physician who best excels in gauging the wants of the system and its power of assimilation, will be most successful in the cure of disease.

We do not contend that there are no under-fed or starved people in the world, or no ailment traceable to this cause. Unhappily there is too much of both. Still, outside the great centres of population, the number of the debilitated and diseased from lack of food is small, in this country. Happily for our people they have a goodly heritage, where food is both abundant and cheap, and easily obtainable by all who are able to work for it. This great and inestimable blessing is not unmixed with evil. A well laden table is sure to lead to over-indulgence, and hence we find in this country, and amongst our neighbors, more dyspeptics than can be found in all the world besides. Let over-indulgence be discontinued and the saving thus effected given to the poor, and two classes shall speedily and simultaneously disappear—the dyspeptic and the hungry.

THE CANADA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The seventeenth annual meeting of the Canada Medical Association was held in Montreal on the 25th, 26th and 27th of August, and was largely attended. To say that this was by far the most successful meeting in the history of the Association is but to express the simple truth. A number of the members of the British Association for the Advancement of Science not only honored the meeting with their presence, but also took an active part in the proceedings, and gave increased interest and zest to the discussions. The papers were upon the whole very good, and were in most instances fully discussed. The event of the meeting was of course the address on "Abdominal Surgery," by Mr. Lawson Tait, of Birmingham, which will be found in another column. He was accorded a very

enthusiastic reception, and the address was received with marked attention. He is a man of fine presence, speaks with a slightly Scotch accent, has a good style of delivery, and speaks with the confidence of a man who knows his subject thoroughly. The discussion which followed was also very interesting and instructive. Among those from abroad who took an active part in the proceedings may be mentioned, Drs. Protheroe Smith and his son Heywood Smith and Dr. Harley, of London; Dr. Struthers, of Aberdeen; Dr. McMillan, of Hull; Drs. McGrath and Brodie, of Detroit; Dr. Brush, of Utica; Dr. Elsberg, of New York, and others.

The Association, as in former years, was divided into two sections—Medicine and Surgery. Dr. Thorburn, of Toronto, was appointed chairman of the former, and Dr. Roddick, of Montreal, chairman of the latter. The sections met in the afternoons and evenings, and the forenoons were devoted to the general work of the Association.

The President's address consisted of a brief review of the founding of the Association and the general progress of medical science and medical education in Canada. He took occasion to praise our one-portal system of licensing in Ontario and expressed the hope that the sister Province of Quebec might soon follow in our wake, and that ere long we might have one portal for the entire Dominion. An epitome of his address will be found among the proceedings.

The profession of Montreal, so noted for their hospitality to strangers, far exceeded any previous effort in this direction, and the occasion will long be remembered by those who participated. The banquet at the Windsor was a most magnificent spread, the large dining hall being filled with guests. About two hundred sat down to dinner, among whom were a goodly number of the members of the British Science Association, both medical and lay. Dr. Hingston presided and acquitted himself in his usual happy manner, and was ably supported by Drs. Grant, F. W. Campbell, T. Rodger and Roddick in the vice-chairs. The after-dinner speeches were very good and a pleasant evening was spent by all who had the good fortune to be present.

Dr. Osler was unanimously chosen President for the ensuing year, and Winnipeg selected as the next place of meeting, on the third Tuesday in August, 1885.