

Notwithstanding his advanced age, he enjoyed good health. On Sunday, October 22nd, on attempting to rise from the table, after lunch, he made a sudden inclination towards the left side, and would have fallen if he had not been supported. Afterwards the left leg was found to be weakened, and he walked with great difficulty. He was visited soon after by his old pupil and friend, Dr. George Johnson, to whom he calmly said, "This is the beginning of the end."

On October 26th, after some exertion he was suddenly seized with difficulty of breathing, and he believed himself to be dying. There appeared to have been some sudden failure of the heart's action; but in the course of an hour or two the distress passed off. He was then carried to his bed; and from that day he did not leave his room.

At length on December 11th, came the final rest for which he had longed and prayed. To quote his own words with reference to an old and beloved friend, "Ripe in years as he was, and ready in spirit for the solemn change, his death must long be the subject of tender and sacred regret among the nearest and dearest of his surviving family and friends; nor will his memory soon cease to be reverently cherished throughout a much wider circle."

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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Montreal, Jan., 1883.

To *Editor* MEDICAL RECORD.

SIR,—Permit me to call the attention of prescribers to the fact that the solubility of chlorate of potash is 1 in 16 of cold water. It is much more soluble in hot water, but when the temperature of the solution drops to 60° Fahrenheit the salt crystallizes out.

A great many prescribers try to get too much into a bottle. For instance I have before me now a prescription in which 2 drams of chlorate are ordered in a 6 oz. bottle, but what with tinctures and syrup only two ounces of water are present to hold in solution the 2 drams of chlorate. Blunderbuss mixtures are not extinct in Montreal, and some of our physicians in attempting too much make a sad mess of it.

The simplicity and common-sense displayed in the prescriptions of a certain much respected physician, who was professor of chemistry for a number of years at a University in this city, and who it is to be presumed knows something of that science, shews that simplicity in prescribing is not incompatible with a knowledge of chemistry.

Before concluding also allow me to draw the attention of prescribers to that monument of medical and pharmaceutical skill the new Pharmacopœia of the United States, just issued from the press, and which is now official in that country. It is a great pity we cannot make it official here in place of the antiquated British one.

Truly yours,

"CHEMICUS."

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No. 49 BEAVER HALL TERRACE,

Montreal, Jan. 8, 1882.

*Editor* CANADA MEDICAL RECORD.

SIR,—In your December edition I notice in the report of a meeting of the Boston Medical Society several instances of foreign bodies being swallowed and no ill effects resulting therefrom, and I wish to place on record an instance of recovery under exceptional circumstances.

A lady, aged 24, received a severe shock, and while gasping for breath felt something sharp passing down her throat. On recovering, she discovered that she had swallowed a dental plate with one tooth attached. It reached the stomach after cutting its way downwards, and causing severe pain. I was called in, and at once administered milk and oatmeal porridge as quickly as it could be made. I also advised her to eat plentifully, but the third day having passed and no sign of the foreign body, and the patient complaining of severe abdominal pain, I administered a dose of castor oil, and on the fourth day it passed away in a bloody stool, having apparently almost cut its way down. I advised a change of air, as the effects were so serious, and a sea voyage was taken with the happiest results and complete restoration to health.

Yours respectfully,

L. O. THAYER, M.D.