

# Canada Medical Journal.

---

MONTREAL, MARCH, 1866.

---

## A HEALTH OFFICER.

Although we have written strongly in previous numbers of the journal of the apathy of the Health Committee—we feel that as they have at last moved in the matter of sanitary reform, we can extend to them our congratulations upon having taken a step for which the entire city will commend them. The Finance Committee, having agreed to recommend an appropriation of \$1600 for the employment of a medical man as Health Officer for the City of Montreal for eight months, the Health Committee advertised for applicants. On the 2nd of this month the Committee met, and opened a number of applications. After mature deliberation, it was decided to recommend the appointment of Gilbert Prout Girdwood, M.D., M.R.C.S.E., late assistant-surgeon 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards; and without detracting from the merits of other applicants, we think, that from the high testimonials presented on behalf of Dr. Girdwood, (a requisition in his favour signed by all the leading English practitioners being presented) the Committee could not well come to any other decision. At the time we write, the Council have not met, and the appointment has not therefore been made, but, in the meantime we congratulate Dr. Girdwood on the probability of his appointment. When made, we trust he will at once enter heart and soul into his work, and practically show the value of his labours—when, we believe, the city will see they cannot dispense with his services. As we said in our last number, the appointment of a Health Officer should be permanent, and we trust that he may so become.

---

## DR. MARSDEN'S PLAN OF QUARANTINE.

In our February number, we inserted an article from our friend Dr. Marsden, of Quebec, giving the details (along with a plan) of a system of quarantine which he has suggested, and which, we understand, he is