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## Original Communications

### ARTERIO-SCLEROSIS.

By G. T. ROSS, M.D., *Professor of Physiology in Bishop's College, Montreal.\**

On the 24th of last month I was called at 1.30 a.m. to see Mr. A. B., a wholesale merchant of this city, who was taken suddenly ill. When I reached his house, fifteen or twenty minutes later, he was dead, and I received the following history: He had attended to business as usual that day, but feeling some indefinite pains in his chest, had called upon an M.D. on the way home, who prescribed a nerve tonic, not noticing anything serious in the superficial examination made at the time. The same evening he had enjoyed more than ordinarily the company of friends and relatives, retiring, in apparent good health, at 1 a.m. Some twenty-five minutes later, his brother in the next room

was attracted by a peculiar noise, and on entering found a dying man. Breathing ceased within two or three minutes from the time he was thus discovered. A month and a half before this occurred he was laid up with what was called Grippe, while visiting London, Ont. He never recovered his usual spirits after this attack, but told his wife frequently that he felt as if death were impending. His temper became irritable, and a marked loss in weight was noticeable after the sickness mentioned. His depressed state of mind was not seriously regarded, as his disposition naturally was to exaggerate any illness he might have. Notwithstanding his wife's persuasion, he refused to consult an M.D. until the day he died.

With the exception of two or three days sickness in January last, from which he fully recovered, his record of health seemed remarkably good for many years past. No specific history could be elicited, but about ten years ago he was said to have used alcohol excessively for a time. The chronic illness of a brother to whom he

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