

such as multiple sarcoma and epithelioma, arsenic is very useful, especially in the form of Donovan's solution.

#### Discussion.

Dr. Reeve had found arsenic useful in the furuncular habit in patients so affected.

Dr. Sweetman had used it with marked benefit in two cases of keloid.

Dr. Ghent related a case of psoriasis of nine years' standing which had been cured by giving a course of brisk purgatives, extending over a period of three weeks, and followed by a tonic of ferri carb. and port wine. Pot. chlor. was also given freely. The external treatment consisted in a wash of pot. carb. to dissolve the crusts, followed by the application of thick rice water, which formed a thin wax-like or gelatinous layer which excluded the air. Complete cure took place in about two months.

Dr. MacMahon read a paper on

#### THE ALCOHOL QUESTION.

Scientists of the present day rank alcohol among the starches and sugars as a heat producer. He claimed for it great usefulness for convalescents, for anæmic persons, for those whose digestive powers are below par, and also for those who are subjected to a large expenditure of nerve-force. No bad effects follow its moderate use. Alcohol-drinking nations are characterized by more intelligence, and better physical development, than are nations of total abstainers. To combat the evils of intemperance the fermented beverages, as light wines and beer, should be substituted for the distilled liquors. Adulteration should be prevented, and the condition of the lower classes ameliorated. Above all, he believed in acting on the moral natures of men to induce them to abstain from over-indulgence.

**ETHEREAL SOLUTION OF SULPHUR.**—Dissolve 10 grains of washed sublimed sulphur in rectified sulphuric ether, aiding solution by placing the bottle in hot water. Twenty-five or thirty drops in half a wine glass of sweetened water, the glass filled with seltzer water, were taken. This formed Dr. Roux's celebrated cholera remedy in Paris in 1849 and 1852.

## MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY OF MONTREAL.

STATED MEETING, Nov. 19th 1886.

J. C. Cameron, M.D., President, in the Chair.

Dg. Major exhibited the following cases taken from his clinic for

#### DISEASES OF THE NOSE AND THROAT,

at the Montreal General Hospital:

1. *Complete paralysis of the right vocal band*, the result of pressure exerted by a fibroid on the right recurrent laryngeal nerve. The patient, aged 47, a painter by trade, applied for treatment. On examination, the right vocal cord was found in a state of complete immobility, and occupied a position midway between that of full inspiration and phonation. A blue line on the gums and abdominal colic pointed also to lead poisoning. This latter complication, however, in no way nor at any time influenced the laryngeal condition.

2. *Early Laryngeal Oedema (tuberculosis)*, with no recognizable pulmonary infection. The patient, aged 50, applied for relief of dyspnoea and a barking, choking cough. Oedema of the left arytenoid body alone was present, the swelling was grey in color and of the size of an acorn, and interfered with voice production and deglutition. After a lapse of a couple of weeks a similar condition developed in the right region. Some days later the epiglottis showed signs of swelling and thickening, and later on pulmonary signs became apparent. The lactic acid treatment was adopted, and local improvement followed. The condition of the chest would lead to the opinion that temporary arrest of the disease had taken place there also. The gradual development and extent of the oedema and subsequent lung signs are the interesting features of the case, as was also the general improvement under purely local treatment.

3. *Three cases of Laryngeal Papillomata.\**

#### PERFORATION OF THE GALL-BLADDER.

Dr. W. G. Johnston gave an account of an autopsy he had performed for Dr. R. P. Howard. The abdomen was found distended, panniculus and omental fat excessive. The abdominal cavity

\* Vide writer's paper, "Rest and Tracheotomy," *Canada Medical and Surgical Journal*, December, 1882.