

Sir J. A. Macdonald used formerly to say that all matters connected with statistics belonged to the Provincial Legislatures, but he has seen reason to change this opinion, and would be ready to admit the control of the general government over statistics and such like matters which are necessarily intimately connected with sanitary legislation. They had recently held a meeting of the profession of Nova Scotia at Antigonishe, and had been able to lay the foundations for taking their share in the proposed plan of concerted action. The report of the President was received, and laid on the table for future discussion.

Moved by Dr. Botsford, seconded by Dr. Steeves, that the following compose the Nominating Committee: Drs. Robillard, Ross and Fenwick of Montreal, Dr. Eccles of London, Drs. D. Clark and A. H. Wright of Toronto, Drs. Lawson and K. F. Black of Halifax, Dr. Steeves of St. John, and Dr. Atherton of Fredericton.—*Carried.*

Dr. Hill of Ottawa then read for Dr. Grant of Ottawa a short paper descriptive of a method of using the ordinary enema-syringe for a stomach-pump.

Some members objected to the method, that it would be found very difficult to introduce a flexible and soft tube down the esophagus, but Dr. Hill said that he had been assured by Dr. Grant that in trying the instrument he had not experienced this difficulty.

The Association adjourned at 1 p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The President took the chair at 2.30 p.m., and proceeded to read his address on "Medical Ethics." He stated that it was with some difficulty he had selected a subject for an address which might be of practical interest to the Association, and he finally determined to review the present code of ethics by which we are guided, and make some remarks upon certain of the clauses. He entered fully into the duties of the members of the profession towards the public, towards each other, and towards themselves. Towards the public, in leaving nothing undone tending to the restoration to health of those entrusted to their care; towards each other, in the most delicately honorable bearing; towards themselves, in not neglecting those much needed recreations and moments of rest which the generally over-worked practitioner so much requires. He strongly deprecated any assumption of superiority, pointing out that the

proper line of conduct for a physician was that of the unobtrusive gentleman; advised free untrammelled consultations in all cases when difficulty or doubt presented themselves; and endeavored, throughout his address, to show that a code of medical ethics could not be otherwise than in harmony with a Christian code of ethics. But charlatanism, in or out of the profession, received a severe castigation. The address was of a very practical character, and cannot fail of having a beneficial tendency in recalling attention to many of those points upon the strict observance of which depends the existence of harmony amongst our *confrères*.

The report on Therapeutics, read by Dr. Stewart, was next discussed. Several members gave their views on the comparative safety of chloroform and ether, the former being the favorite.

Dr. Atherton said that in his opinion the bad results in Great Britain from chloroform were chiefly to be attributed to two causes. 1st, the complicated apparatus frequently made use of; and 2nd, the dread which they appear to have of it. In Edinburgh it is given freely and he thinks carelessly. In judging of the comparative merits of various anæsthetics we should be guided more by the opinions arrived at by those who are in the habit of daily administering it, and not so much from the results obtained by experiments. He gave some particulars concerning a case (published in the *Canada Lancet*) where he had performed tracheotomy for the purpose of resuscitation from chloroform poisoning.

Dr. Hingston asked why, in this case, a tube might not have been passed *per vias naturales*, avoiding the operation. The answer was, that opening the trachea was the idea which first presented in the urgency of the moment, and it was fortunately successful.

Dr. Fitch spoke strongly in favor of ether, which he uses exclusively. He thinks that drawing the tongue forcibly forward should always answer every purpose for admission of air into the trachea.

Dr. Stewart said that many were in the habit of entirely neglecting the pulse, regarding the respiration only. He thought that this was a mistake, that the pulse should be carefully observed. Kepler has shown by sphygmographic tracings that in all dangerous cases there is great fall in the blood-pressure. He knew of three deaths in three years in Edinburgh alone. French exper-