

or else, if necessary, to crush and remove it in pieces, (for it must be remembered that the patient had no positive knowledge of the nature of the body). Accordingly, on the 11th of March, a moderate quantity of urine having been purposely retained for some hours, a closed lithotrite was passed into the bladder, and the object sought readily made out lying behind and to the left side. This was then seized in the jaws of the instrument and raised free from the bladder-walls. On making simple pressure upon the male blade it was found that the substance was readily compressible, and not hard or friable. It was therefore squeezed pretty firmly, and the lithotrite withdrawn. It was found to contain the whole compressed substance of a large white bean. It was evident that this had been grasped in the long diameter, and fortunately so, for if seized across its middle it would probably have refused to be extracted whole, and if broken, would almost surely have left some fragments behind which might have given rise to some further annoyance before being got rid of. He was discharged the next day, a happier and a wiser man.

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## Correspondence.

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TORONTO March 25th, 1875.

*Editor of Canada Medical and Surgical Journal.*

DEAR SIR,—As a member of the Canadian Medical Mutual Benefit Association, and feeling an interest in its welfare, I wish to draw the attention of the members of the profession who are still without its pale, to the fact that it is a real live institution, and that its members are sparing no pains to ensure its success.

It is destined to supply a much felt need, and ought to be the means of drawing the profession together in one strong bond of unity; and we should feel a common inter-