

this evil. From the discussion which followed, it was clear that the members were strongly of opinion that it would be advisable, in the interests of the profession, of science, and of justice, to have autopsies for judicial purposes performed as far as possible—that is to say, particularly in the cities and towns—only by such persons as should be recognized as fully skilled and competent for that special work.

We are not aware that the Association has acted further in the matter. It would be well if it could be pushed to a conclusion. Many cases have occurred in Canada where much dissatisfaction has been felt owing to the discredit thrown upon the medical evidence concerning *post-mortem* indications. We need only allude to a recent case in Montreal, where the effects of some poisonous substance in meat was strongly suspected, and where the scientific evidence submitted as to cause of death was opposed to the common sense of the whole community; and, further, to that other notorious case in which an individual is now undergoing sentence in the Penitentiary, the verdict having been given mainly upon the results of a *post-mortem* performed in a most inefficient manner, and, in the opinion of the best judges, utterly incapable of supporting the conclusions based upon it.

Medico-legal evidence involving questions of pathology will never receive the weight it is properly entitled to until some means are taken to ensure the services of *experts*, and not, as now, any local physician.

Medical Items.

The death of Mr. Maunder, the well-known surgeon of the London Hospital, is announced in the latest English papers.

COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, PROV. QUEBEC.—The preliminary examination of candidates for the study of medicine and surgery will take place at Laval University, on Thursday, 18th September. The semi-annual meeting of the