

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE. No. 12.

LONDON, 5th February, 1858.

This has been one of the quietest medical winters thus far, since my residence in London, and nothing very striking has occurred at the Societies especially, of sufficient interest to bring before your numerous readers. There is one little fact, however, that I must not pass over. The Medical Society of London, the oldest in the Metropolis, has been out of diplomas for the last four years, during which time another member of the council besides myself unceasingly tormented the governing body to have a new plate for their diploma, which was consented to after many hard fought battles. The new diploma has, therefore, been engraved and printed, and ere this arrives at Montreal, the diplomas which should have been in the hands of my Canadian friends whom I have had the honour of getting elected from time to time, will have reached them. If an honour is conferred upon a man at a distance, a diploma most generally accompanies it; this especially applies to universities however. In Montreal it would seem parchment is either scarce or dear, for whilst feeling deeply grateful for an honour conferred upon me in that city, a simple letter without anything else made me acquainted with the fact.

The *old* Sydenham Society is numbered with the things that were, but it has been succeeded by another called the *New Sydenham Society*, under the presidency of Dr. C. J. B. Williams, and will be conducted on more liberal principles, and will give a great deal for one guinea. It is anxious to enrol as many members as possible, as the larger the number will permit of the issue of several works annually. The Society contemplates publishing translations of foreign works, papers and essays of merit, to be reproduced as early as practicable after their original issue; British works, papers, lectures, &c., which, whilst of great value, have become from any cause difficult to be obtained, excluding those of living authors; annual volumes, consisting of reports in abstract of the progress of the different branches of medical and surgical science during the year; and lastly, dictionaries of medical bibliography and biography. These included in the two first divisions will be held to have the first claim on the attention of the Society. This will afford an idea of what the Society intends to do, and may entice many members to join throughout North America.

I will now describe some of the latest novelties which have come under my notice in the hospital. On the 16th January I saw Mr. Hancock excise a large portion of the pelvis of a young woman for long standing disease of the hip joint, removing as well the head and neck of the femur. The lips and floor of the acetabulum were taken away;