

Dr. Finley mentioned a recent case of his own with chylous fluid present in the peritoneal cavity.

Dr. McPhedran, discussing case (b) questioned the efficiency of X-ray treatment or arsenic. He cited a case of spontaneous rupture of the spleen. No autopsy. He remarked that many anæmic patients cannot take arsenic at all.

Dr. Campbell, in replying, said that mast cells present to the extent of five per cent., denote myelogenous leukæmia.

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### Obituary.

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**Dr. John M. Purcell.**—The death occurred on Sunday evening, Sept. 30th, after an illness extending over a period of two months, of Dr. John Martin Purcell, at the early age of 42 years. Although not in the best of health for some time, his family and friends did not look for a fatal termination. During the smallpox epidemic in Halifax a few years ago, he volunteered his services and remained at the Infectious Diseases Hospital for some months. Previous to assuming medicine as a profession, the doctor was with A. & W. Mackinlay, stationers, of this City, and he had the benefit of a mercantile, as well as a professional training. About three years ago he was appointed Assistant City Medical Officer, the duties of which he performed to the satisfaction to all concerned.

The deceased was a son of the late John Purcell, who conducted a large business on Upper Water Street, and he is survived by one brother and two sisters, the former being Peter of the Western Union Telegraph Co's staff. One sister is the widow of the late James N. Lyons, of this city, and the other is Sister Raphael, also of this city. His mother predeceased him by about a year.

**Dr. Simon Fitch.**—The death occurred on Sept. 13th, at his residence, 152 Spring Garden Road, of Dr. Simon Fitch, in his 86th year. Dr. Fitch was born at Horton, N. S., and was educated at Edinburgh, Scotland, after taking a course at Acadia. He practiced his profession in Wolfville, St. John, N. B., Portland, New York and Halifax. He moved to this city in 1876, and worked up a large practice, which he carried on until a few years ago, when he retired. Dr. Fitch has had quite a distinguished career as a physician and surgeon.