

MEDICAL NEWS.

At the Vienna Exhibition there is on view an invalid's couch, devised by an Austrian Physician, over which a large fan of peacock's feathers is kept gently fanning. In the tropical atmosphere of the building the spectacle almost makes one wish to be an invalid.

The cholera is still sluggishly extending eastwards in the valley of the Danube, and westwards in East Prussia. The disease has shown itself in numerous places, but in no instance has it, to the time of latest information, spread to any large extent. In Italy there does not appear to be any marked extension of cholera. The number of cases in Vienna was increasing at the date of the last report, and the disease had shown itself in the suburbs.

We (Lancet) believe that the visitation is going on vigorously in accordance with the late resolution of the Council. Each examination is being visited by two gentlemen, one a member of the Council, and one not a member. The examinations of the Queen's University, Ireland, have been visited by Dr. Humphry and Mr. Power. The conjoint examinations of the Scotch bodies, of the College of Physicians and the College of Surgeons, and of the College of Physicians and the Glasgow Faculty, have been visited by Dr. Parkes and Mr. Timothy Holmes.

An important modification has just been introduced into the dietary system of the French soldier. Until now the daily ration of French soldiers had been 300 grammes of meat in time of war, and 250 in time of peace. The army surgeons, and even military commanders, had long ago recognised the utter insufficiency of this quantity of food, and since 1861 some attempt at a reform had been made by authorising the commissariat officers of each regiment to make private contracts for the purchase of meat, whereby for the sum of money they got a larger quantity of it, and could increase thus the daily ration of the soldier. Of course, with this system there were many shortcomings according to localities. Now the military authorities have adopted the more radical measure of distributing a daily ration of 300 grammes (or ten ounces of meat) to the soldiers in time of peace as well as in time of war.

London and the provinces were startled on Tuesday by a communication addressed, by Mr. J. Macandrew, M.R.C.S., to the Times, announcing a *bona fide* case of Asiatic cholera at the East-end. The clerk of the Poplar District Board of Works having ascertained that the deceased had, a few days before, received a kick in the abdomen, found on further inquiry, that Dr. Buchanan, medical officer of the Privy Council, had failed to find the smallest vestige of cholera. At the meeting of the Board, much indignation was naturally felt at the recklessness with which Mr. Macandrew had rushed into print before making a post-mortem examination; while a hope was expressed that the journals, professional and lay, would at once relieve the anxiety of the public by setting the matter right. This is not the first time that a false alarm has been sounded as to the presence of cholera, with the inevitable result of discrediting all subsequent warnings, even when they happen to be true. We could pardon such ill-considered zeal in a layman, but when such baseless announcements come forth on the authority of a duly qualified practitioner, we feel that the dignity of the profession is directly impugned.—[Lancet.]

Dr. Walter J. Channing, jun., in a communication to a recent number of the New York Medical Journal, on the Vienna Medical School, introduces us to some curious facts in connection with Professor Neumann's clinique. Among Neumann's students were three American women:—During the last course Neumann asked us if we should object to having these women present. He said he himself didn't believe in their studying medicine, but still hardly wanted to be too one-sided, and would leave it to us. We, of course, like all Americans, assented. When one naked man after another is brought in, and always looked at with the same blank stare by these women, why, we men blush, if the women don't. If they would only confine themselves to their own sex, or at least not attend such clinics with men! It is a

shocking want of modesty, and I haven't heard a person express anything but disgust at it. Even the medical local journals get in some flings at the 'American women' now and then. I think there are six of these young ladies here, one of whom is making a specialty of surgery.

In the recent competition at Wimbledon, the Belgian Challenge Cup was won by Assistant-Surgeon Frederick W. Humphreys, F.R.C.S. Eng., of the 26th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers, who there, as on other occasions, has proved himself a master of the Snider rifle. It is pleasant to find medical officers of the Volunteers taking an active interest in and contributing to the credit of their respective corps. Accurate firing we take to be the *raison d'être* of the Rifle Service, and steadiness and coolness of head and hand are valuable attributes in its surgeons, besides helping to maintain the solidarity so desirable in a Volunteer force.

CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The members of the Canadian Medical Association met in annual meeting in the Oddfellows' Hall, St. John, New Brunswick, at ten o'clock in the morning of Thursday, the 7th August. Dr. Grant, of Ottawa, the President, in the chair. The first thing that came before the meeting was the reception of the report of the nominating committee, which had met an hour earlier.

Dr. Hamilton, the chairman of the committee, read the report, which was as follows:—

For President—Dr. Marsden, Montreal.

For Vice President for Ontario—Dr. H. H. Wright, Toronto. For Vice President for Quebec—Dr. Hingston, Montreal. For Vice President for Nova Scotia—Dr. Jennings, Halifax. For Vice President for New Brunswick—Dr. S. Z. Earle, St. John.

For General Secretary of the Association—Dr. David, Montreal. For General Treasurer of the Association—Dr. Robillard, Montreal.

For Corresponding Secretary for Ontario, Dr. Fulton. For Corresponding Secretary for Quebec, Dr. A. J. Belleau. For Corresponding Secretary for Nova Scotia, Dr. J. F. Black. For Corresponding Secretary for New Brunswick, Dr. G. E. S. Keator.

The following committees were appointed on the subjects named:—

Prize Essay Committee—Drs. David, Howard, Fenwick, Rollet, and Peletier.

Medical Education—Drs. Grant, Howard, Wm. Bayard, and Parker.

Medical Literature—Drs. Black, Fenwick, Dagenais, Farne, Bethune, McIntosh, Fulton, Oldwright, Wickwire, Russell, and Hamilton.

Necrology—Drs. Campbell, Canniff, Harding, and De Wolfe.

Publication—Drs. David, Robillard, Campbell, Tronholm, Dagenais, Hingston, and Peletier.

Auditing Committee—Drs. Fenwick, Peletier, and Turgeon.

Gentlemen were appointed to write essays on medicine, surgery, ophthalmology, and new remedies, to be read at the next meeting.

A discussion then took place on the report of the committee appointed to prepare amendments to the constitution and by-laws, which were allowed to remain as they were.

Dr. Wm. Bayard brought before the Association a little girl who had been afflicted with a very peculiar, interesting, and rare injury, viz., fracture and ultimate elimination of the odontoid process of the axis or second cervical vertebra. He made some interesting remarks on the case and its treatment.

A committee was appointed, on motion of Dr. Botford, seconded by Dr. Travers, to bring the subject of vital statistics before the notice of the Dominion Parliament, for action thereon, consisting of Drs. Grant, Tupper, Hamilton, and Rollet, and the President ex officio.

The thanks of the Association were passed to the steamboat and railroad companies for courtesies, etc., to the Oddfellows for the use of their hall, also to the members of the Association in New Brunswick for favours received.

The next meeting of the Association is to be held at the Falls of Niagara.

PROSPECTUS.

THE CANADIAN

MEDICAL TIMES.

A NEW WEEKLY JOURNAL,

DEVOTED TO PRACTICAL MEDICINE.

SURGERY, OBSTETRICS, THERAPEUTICS, AND THE COL-
LATERAL SCIENCES, MEDICAL POLITICS, ERRORS,
NEWS, AND CORRESPONDENCE.

The Undersigned being about to enter on the publication of a new Medical Journal in Canada, earnestly solicits the co-operation and support of the profession in his undertaking.

The want of a more frequent means of communication between the members of this well-educated and literary body has been long felt; since monthly publications such as alone have been hitherto attempted in this country, do not at times fully serve the requirements of the controversies and pieces of correspondence which spring up. It necessarily diminishes the interest of a correspondence to have to wait a month for a reply and another month for a rejoinder; and it is in consequence of this drawback, no doubt, that many important or interesting points are not more fully debated in the monthly medical journals.

THE CANADIAN MEDICAL TIMES, appearing weekly, will serve as a vehicle for correspondence on all points of purely professional interest. It is also intended to furnish domestic and foreign medical news; the domestic intelligence having reference more particularly to the proceedings of city and county Medical Societies, College and University pass-lists, public and professional appointments, the outbreak and spread of epidemics, the introduction of sanitary improvements, etc. Many interesting items of this nature, it is hoped, will be contributed by gentlemen in their respective localities.

If the interest of a correspondence can be maintained and its freshness preserved by a weekly publication, it must be yet more valuable to have weekly notices instead of monthly ones of the advances which are continuously being made in the medical art. Obviously the sooner a medical practitioner hears of an improvement the sooner he can put it in practice, and the sooner will his patients reap the benefit. In this manner, the value of a weekly over a monthly or semi-annual medical journal may sometimes prove inestimable. Medical papers and clinical lectures, in abstract form or in extenso, will regularly appear and constitute a considerable portion of the new journal. In this way it is intended to furnish the cream of medical literature in all departments, so that a subscriber may depend upon its pages as including almost every notice of practical value contained in other journals.

Original articles on medical subjects will appear in its pages. The growth of medical literature in Canada of late years encourages the hope that this department will be copiously supplied. Notices of cases have been kindly promised, and an invitation to contribute is hereby extended to others who may have papers for publication. If the profession would encourage the establishment of a worthy representative medical journalism in Canada, its members should feel that upon themselves rests the onus of aiding in the growth of a national professional literature.

In order to gain a wide-spread circulation for the new journal, the publisher has determined on making it as cheap as possible. It will appear in the form of a quarto newspaper of twenty-four wide columns, containing a large quantity of reading matter, and be issued weekly at the low price of Two Dollars per annum. For cheapness this will go beyond anything as yet attempted in a medical journal in Canada.

It will be the aim of the editor to make it at once an interesting, practical, and useful journal, indispensable to the Canadian practitioner. It will be the aim, further, to make the MEDICAL TIMES the organ of the profession in Canada, as its columns will be freely open to the discussion of any professional matter, whether of medical politics, ethics, or of questions in practice.

As a medium for advertisements the MEDICAL TIMES will possess the special advantage of giving speedy publicity to announcements. The advertising will be restricted to what may legitimately appear in a medical journal.

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