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MONTREAL, MAY, 1874.

MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL.

At the annual meeting of the Governors of this excellent Charity, held on Thursday, the 22nd of May, the resignations of Dr. Scott, who has served the institution for some twenty-seven years, and of Dr. R. Palmer Howard, who has served about twenty-four years, in the capacity of attending physicians were received, accepted, and a cordial vote passed, conveying to them the thanks of the Governors for the faithful and zealous manner in which they had performed their duties. Although it is now becoming an established usage, that appointments to Hospitals should not be tenaciously held for a life time, yet we are sure that not a few who read the *Record*, will hear of the resignation of both these gentlemen with something like a pang of regret. For a quarter of a century they have faithfully and earnestly performed a noble work, many hundreds of medical students having, during that time, received instruction from them in the wards of the hospital. More especially will Dr. Howard be missed by the large number of students who each winter seek Montreal to benefit by the practice this hospital affords. His term of attendance was at this period, and the large class which invariably followed him around the wards, was the natural result of his ability as a clinical teacher. For this particular department he was pre-eminently fitted—rapid in diagnosis and able to impart in a fluent and ready manner, every point of interest and importance. To be gifted in this manner, is not a talent bestowed upon many. In the interest, therefore, of the profession, we feel that it is cause for regret, that Dr. Howard, when compelled by the pressure of practice to re-arrange his duties, was not transferred by the school, with which he is connected, to that department of medical teaching, which is admittedly difficult to fill, and for which he has shown most wonderful adaptedness. Clinical chairs in Montreal have, certainly of late years, been regarded as junior chairs. This we have always considered a great mistake, and if Montreal intends to remain the chief centre of medical educa-

tion for the Dominion, in this, as in some other matters, there must needs be some alteration.

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WESTERN HOSPITAL OF MONTREAL.

This new hospital has organized under its act of incorporation, and has elected the following officers for the year 1874-5. Major Hiram Mills, president; William Workman, Esq., first vice-president; Hugh McLennan, Esq., second vice-president; Henry Judah, Esq., treasurer; Geo. Wilkins, M.D., secretary. A committee was named to look out for a site for the erection of the necessary buildings, and have entered upon their work. At the first annual meeting about thirty-five new life governors were elected, making the life governors of the institution at present seventy-two.

MONTREAL DISPENSARY.

The report of this institution, which was read at its annual meeting the commencement of May, shows a most satisfactory condition. Over six thousand patients received medical aid during the year. The financial condition is also most satisfactory. After placing \$500 to the credit of a building fund, a balance of \$150 is carried forward.

HOW TO CHECK COUGHS.

Dr. Brown-Sequard, in his late Boston Lectures, says that there are many facts which show that morbid phenomena of respiration can always be stopped by the influence of arrest. Coughing, for instance, can be stopped by pressing on the nerves of the lip in the neighborhood of the nose. A pressure there may prevent a cough when it is beginning. Sneezing may be stopped by the same mechanism. Pressing in the neighborhood of the ear, right in front of the ear, may stop coughing. It is also preventive of hiccough, but much less so than of sneezing or coughing. Pressing very hard on the top of the mouth inside is also a means of stopping coughing. And, he adds, that the will has immense powder there. There was a French nurse who used to say, "The first patient who coughs here will be deprived of his food to-day." It was exceedingly rare that a patient coughed then.