

attack, and the child has been in good health ever since. Dr. Edington, who kindly examined the excised umbilicus, did not detect any special organism in it.

In remarking on this case I do not feel that I am called upon to try to decide the question whether the convulsive motor phenomena were due simply to peripheral irritation, or to the presence of some specific organism which had gained entrance at the umbilicus. I must leave the decision of that question to pathological experts.

As to the effect of treatment, my friend Dr. Brakenridge, if I remember rightly, was of opinion that, in the first place, absorption of carbolic acid by the wound; and, in the second place, the administration of sulpho-carbolate of soda internally, had a distinct influence for good. My own opinion was that the excision of the umbilicus determined the recovery.

And, lastly, the occurrence of such a case raises the question whether the umbilical cord of newly-born children should not be treated more carefully than it generally is. I am in the habit now of tying the cord with thread soaked in corrosive sublimate solution, of directing the nurse to wash the cord with the same, then to surround it with sublimated wool, and to bathe it with the solution from time to time should any putrefactive odor occur.—*Edin. Med. Jour.*

THE Canadian Practitioner

A SEMI-MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE PROGRESS
OF THE MEDICAL SCIENCES.

Contributions of various descriptions are invited. We shall be glad to receive from our friends everywhere current medical news of general interest.

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TORONTO, FEBRUARY 16, 1891.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

The annual meeting of this society for this year was held at Albany, on Feb. 2, 3, and 4. It is one of the oldest medical associations on this continent, this being the eighty-fifth annual

meeting. Its organization is complete in all respects. Representatives from the various county societies are regularly elected, and generally make it a point to attend the meetings. Certain powers are given to the society by the State Legislature, corresponding to a certain extent with those given to the Ontario Medical Council by our Government.

The society is showing a commendable desire to raise the standard of medical education in New York, and through its influence an act has been passed by the State Legislature authorizing the establishment of a central examining board. This meets with a certain amount of opposition, which causes considerable trouble in properly carrying out the details. It will probably be some time before their methods of conducting examinations for a license to practise are equal to our own.

The meeting this year, under the Presidency of Dr. W. Warren Potter, was highly successful. In comparing it with the meetings of the Ontario Medical Association, we noticed that the proceedings were pushed along at almost railroad speed. For instance, the first morning session commenced at 9.15 o'clock, and its programme included the President's inaugural address, appointments of committees, executive business, and eleven papers. It will probably be a surprise to members of Canadian associations, who see practically nothing done on the first mornings, to learn that this programme was completed. The list of papers was a long one, and the committee decided to limit the time to ten minutes for ordinary members, and fifteen minutes for visiting members. The papers were good, but the discussions were limited in number and rather poor in quality, with two or three exceptions. It seemed somewhat remarkable that they should attempt so much work without dividing into sections.

All questions referring to matters not connected with the reading of papers were referred to committees, and much valuable time was saved thereby. They have an annual banquet which is managed in a very sensible way. It costs one dollar per head, and each member pays for his own ticket. It commences at the end of the evening session, at 9.30. The bill of fare includes a light meal and a glass of claret. Apart from this, the members may order as they