## THE CANADA LANCET.

the scalp and face it is permissible to adjust the parts and bring them fairly well into opposition. Even in such cases the surgeon must be ready on the approach of any disquieting symptoms to cut the sutures, and open up the parts freely. The proper way is to leave widely open all contused wounds.

Dr. Roca then states that the ideal plan would be to remove all foreign bodies from wounds of the extremities, and establish adequate drainage. This is very difficult to carry out in actual practice, even after a successful engagement where the army moves forward, and the wounded are picked up without delay. The laying open of all wounds showing commencement of inflammation, and the injection of antitetanic serum have done much good. The moment a wound begins to show reddening, oozing, or inflammation there should be no delay, as there are all gradations from slight to fatal infections.

In many cases a wound that is at first small and could have been readily opened up freely may, through infection, spread and demand extensive incisions and may cause the death of the soldier. While it has been abundantly proven that surgeons have erred in trusting too much to primary asepsis, it would not be wise to revert to the other and ancient custom of opening up all wounds.

## THE INSANITY OF MRS. EDDY.

Let us presume that Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy believed what she said and wrote, then there is no escape from the conclusion that she was mentally unbalanced. The proofs of this statement are so manifold and ample that he who runs may read them. We will now set forth the evidence in the case.

On 7th November, 1862, she wrote to The Portland Evening Courier as follows:

"Three weeks ago I quitted my nurse and sick room *en route* for Portland. The belief of my recovery had died out of the hearts of those who were most anxious for it. With this mental and physical depression, I visited P. P. Quimby, and in less than one week from that time I ascended by a stairway of one hundred and eighty-two steps to the dome of the city hall, and am improving *ad infinitum*."

On February 15th, 1866, writing from Lynn about the illness just referred to, she said: "Two weeks ago I fell on the sidewalk and struck my back on the ice and was taken up for dead, came to consciousness amid a storm of vapors from cologne,, chloroform, ether, camphor, etc., but to find myself the helpless cripple I was before I saw Dr. Quimby. They physician attending said I had taken the last step I ever should.