

contrary. Already a large number of patients have been admitted, and many more apply but cannot be received owing to the Committee having for the present set a limit to the number of available beds. The prospects are, however, that by another year double the number will be accommodated. The out-door department, which at first fell off in the number of patients attending, is now gradually on the increase. Altogether those who have been instrumental in accomplishing the extension and increased usefulness of the Woman's Hospital have every reason to congratulate themselves on the result.

We have been surprised to learn that a report has been circulated, that the Hospital is badly drained, and its sanitary condition defective. We can speak with certainty that its hygienic condition could not be bettered, and that there is not a particle of infection which could endanger the life of any parturient woman. Indeed all antiseptic precautions are observed, and the result is shown in the rapid recovery after child-birth. Cases of auto-infection will occur in any institution no matter how well conducted, and such have occurred, but we are happy to state that there have been none such for some time. At present the Hospital is in an exceptionally healthy condition, and the authorities invite inspection from any medical practitioner who may wish to visit the Institution, and if there are any that think the sanitary arrangements defective, we are sure that a personal visit will soon remove that idea from their minds.

PRACTICAL PHYSIOLOGY.

Five years ago the Medical Faculty of Bishop's College, through the energy of one of its Professors, opened a Laboratory of Practical Physiology. This year a second one has been established in this city, but this time in connection with the University of McGill. This latter was opened on the second instant, for the inspection of those present who came to listen to the introductory lecture of the Medical Session of 1880. The lecture was delivered by the Professor of Physiology, Dr. Osler, and, as would be expected from the well-known ability of the lecturer, was not only an able but also an interesting discourse, the advances in Physiology being fully dwelt upon. Unfortunately unavoidable circumstances prevented us

from attending, but we are informed that the laboratory is fitted up with nearly all the modern requirements of Physiological research. The apparatus is of the most improved make, and we are sure that, under the able management of Professor Osler, it will be a good acquisition to the teaching facilities of McGill. It certainly speaks well of Montreal, as a centre of Medical Education, that it should contain two such thoroughly equipped Physiological Laboratories that of Bishop's as well as the one now opened in McGill, these being the only two in Canada which can justly be so styled. Having frequently witnessed many interesting and instructive Physiological demonstrations at Bishop's we feel convinced that an immense advantage is to be derived from this sort of practical training, and it is surprising that such demonstrations are not more universally attempted. The establishment of such a course will well repay any school that may adopt it.

The cost of fitting up a Laboratory equal to either of these just mentioned would, so we are told, be about two thousand dollars, and an extra yearly outlay of from one hundred and fifty to two hundred dollars would be required for the purpose of providing the necessary material, improvements, repairs to apparatus, &c.

There can be no doubt that a more lasting impression will be made on the minds of students by demonstrations such as reflex action, as seen in the frog, on the calling into play the functions of various important nerves as shown in numerous experiments on animals, and the process by which food is digested as exhibited in test tubes. These appeal directly to the senses of the most careless student, and from being much more quickly and easily understood give more information than can be acquired through the diligent study of the same matters presented in a less interesting manner.

A NEW GOLD MEDAL.

It is with pleasure that we announce the acquisition of a second gold medal by the Medical Faculty of Bishop's College. Many will remember the late Dr. Robt. Nelson, who was distinguished as a surgeon, having made for himself a name in this city prior to 1837. Unfortunately, from taking part in the troubled politics of that period, circumstances compelled him to leave Canada for the United States, where he resided for the balance of