

THE CANADA LANCET.

**A Monthly Journal of Medical and Surgical Science
Criticism and News.**

Communications solicited on all Medical and Scientific subjects, and also Reports of Cases occurring in practice. Advertisements inserted on the most liberal terms. All Letters and Communications to be addressed to the "Editor Canada Lancet," Toronto.

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THE PAST YEAR.

Another turn of the wheel has brought us to the commencement of another new year, which, it is to be hoped, we all enter upon with bright prospects and high anticipations. In passing in review the year that has just expired, we are reminded of the fact that the times change and we change with them, that life is short, and that little is accomplished, unless by great diligence we improve each moment as it passes. That whilst the labors of many minds in different departments, and of many even in the same department, give us after all no great addition to the stores of medical lore we formerly possessed, yet in many instances the advance has been sufficient to lead us to hope for still greater achievements in the years that are to come. The most marked attention which is being bestowed during recent years, and notably during the one just past to the study of pathology, or rather the cause of disease, is a most gratifying sign of the times and one which lends encouragement to the hope that sooner or later great discoveries in this field of enquiry will reward the diligent student.

The subject of State medicine has received considerable attention both at home and abroad. The Ontario Board of Health brought into existence during the last session of the Local Legislature has been organized and brought into working order, and already some good work has been accomplished, with a fair promise of much that is better yet to follow. A Sanitary Convention under the auspices of the Board was held in St. Thomas in the month of September, and although not a suc-

cess in the ordinary acceptance of the term, was at least a fair commencement in this regard. A recent deputation to Ottawa has been kindly received by the Dominion Government, and favored with the promise of an endeavour to do something in the way of collecting vital statistics, as a beginning, which it is hoped will result in the establishment of a Sanitary Bureau for the Dominion. The International Congress of Hygiene met in Geneva, and was largely attended by representatives from all parts of the world. Dr. Covernton of the Ontario Board of Health, was present as the representative, we may say, for Canada. (For report see LANCET for November.) The meeting was a most successful one, and will no doubt contribute largely to the advancement of this most important department of medicine, in those countries where it is still in its infancy. The next meeting of this Congress takes place in Hague, Holland, in 1884, and we venture to predict that there will then be exhibited a much greater interest in sanitary reform, and a still larger attendance of representatives than ever before.

The meetings of the various medical associations and societies have been as usual well patronized, and much good work has been done in the way of advancing the highest interests of the profession. The second annual meeting of the Ontario Medical Association took place in June and was largely attended. Dr. Covernton of Toronto presided and a large number of interesting and valuable papers were read and discussed during the two days the Association remained in session. We hope to see a still larger attendance of members next year, a greater interest manifested in the work of the Association, and an improvement in the character of the papers, which should as far as possible be made to embrace the individual experience of members themselves. Dr. McDonald of Hamilton was chosen president, and the next annual meeting was appointed to be held in Toronto, on the first Wednesday in June, 1883.

The Canada Medical Association also held its fifteenth annual meeting in Toronto during the first week in September, under the presidency of Dr. Fenwick, of Montreal, and continued in session three days. The attendance was the largest yet reached in the history of the association and the papers read were of more than ordinary interest. The association was divided into two sections—medicine and surgery, which were presided