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MONTREAL, MARCH, 1889.

A POLYCLINIC IN MONTREAL.

For some years past we have been cogitating on the subject of the above heading, but the time seems to have very nearly arrived for the launching of such an undertaking. Of its advantages to the profession of Canada there can be no doubt. Medical men engaged in constant practice have not time to devote to the thorough study of any of the branches of the healing art; if they manage to read one or two journals it is perhaps all they can do towards keeping themselves abreast of the times. In some districts there is not even a medical society where they might meet for the exchange of new ideas. But if there were a polyclinic in the city, we feel sure that a great many of them would come for a few weeks for physical rest and mental refreshment. It is true that there are already several very flourishing institutions of the kind in New York and Philadelphia, which are largely taken advantage of by Canadian practitioners, but there are many reasons why the latter would prefer to attend such a course in Montreal. First, the question of expense which must always be taken into account; Montreal is a much cheaper city to live in than New York, as well as being easier to get at. As the doctor would probably like to bring his wife and daughter for a short holiday, and to do their shopping

while he is attending the clinics, the very moderate price of board here becomes a great attraction.

Then again, the majority of the profession throughout the country are not strangers to the teachers of the city, and instead of going a stranger to an American city he would be coming here among friends very often to renew the pleasant relations between professor and student of his younger days, with the difference that he would return as a brother practitioner.

By arranging the days and the hours of clinics, tramping about from one hospital to the other could be avoided; thus Monday might be made a field day at the General, Tuesday at the Hotel Dieu, Wednesday at the Western, Thursday at the Notre Dame and so on, all the staff of each hospital who were in the Polyclinic arranging to give their demonstrations on that particular day.

It would be necessary to ascertain what season of the year would be best suited for the convenience of the country practitioners, and we should be glad to hear from them on this point.

It should be the endeavor of those who organize the Polyclinic to do so on a broad and liberal basis, not limiting the teachers to any clique or section but rather to interest in it as many as possible of the teachers of the four medical faculties of the city. The distribution of fees among the teachers should be based on the actual number of clinical lectures given by each.

Although much more might be said on the subject, we think the above remarks are sufficient to give the movement a start.

THE PROTECTION OF QUACKS.

We can never forget the words we heard regularly every Sunday many years ago in a little Scotch church, when the minister was praying for the authorities: "May they not wear the sword of justice in vain; may they be a terror to evil doers and a