

life and the great sociability of the people. It does not appear that any particular circumstances of life favor the progress of the disease when once established in an individual, beyond what applies to all ailments, viz: anything which tends to depress the patient either mentally or physically has the effect of hastening the final scene.

While in the opinion of the writers the disease does not appear to be hereditary, they recognize the fact that offspring of leprous parents have transmitted to them certain organic peculiarities which render them easier preys to the disease when they are exposed to it. In answer to the question whether leprosy is dependent on or connected with syphilis or any other disease the reply is pointed, viz: that leprosy is a disease *sui generis*, and has no connection whatever with any other disease. The cause of the propagation of the disease Dr. Taché holds to be *contagion*, at the same time he recognizes the fact that leprosy is occasionally produced spontaneously. In support of the theory that the disease is contagious he instances a case of leprosy developed in a healthy young man by a discharge from a leprous ulcer coming in contact with his shoulder, the skin of which has been abraded by carrying the coffin containing the body of a deceased leper. Though his genealogy was traced for several generations back there had never been any leprosy in his family. His sister developed the disease a few years after. One husband of a leprous woman and one wife of a leprous husband have had the disease in New Brunswick. The disease is frequently manifested in the sexual organs, and the inference drawn is that if the disease can be transmitted by actual contact, sexual intercourse may be a means of so transmitting it. Lepers are not permitted to mix freely with other members of society, but segregation has not latterly been as fully carried out by violent measures as it was formerly. The clergy unceasingly use their influence with the people in the direction of segregation, and with the happy results that all lepers with two exceptions have for many years resorted to the Lazaretto and remained there till the time of their death. The Lazaretto is maintained at the public expense, the inmates are under the care of Sisters of Charity, an dard ministered to by a chaplain and visited by a physician. The sanitary conditions are good, and though all is on a modest scale it

has answered the purpose. The attendance and nursing are excellent, and the unfortunate inmates rendered as happy as they can be under such hopeless conditions.

The number of lepers in the institution in May 1885 was twenty-one, and the tabular report for the past ten years shows a decrease in the province from thirty-six in 1875, to twenty-five in 1885. This diminution in the number of lepers is due in the opinion of the authors of the report, to segregation of those affected, and to the improving condition of the population. The history of the disease shows that all medication is useless for its cure, but shows also that good hygienic conditions alleviate to a great extent the suffering of those afflicted, and lengthen the term of life left to them. The disease always kills unless the patient is carried off by some intercurrent disorder—spontaneous cure being unknown. Dr. Taché cites an interesting case which space will not permit us to give, from which he draws the following conclusions: That leprosy may attack a person free from any hereditary taint; that the fecundity of a woman *may* be preserved even when the malady has lasted a long time; that cohabitation may not communicate the disease; that children are born healthy, notwithstanding the existence of leprosy in the parents, although they may acquire it.

UNPROFESSIONAL ADVERTISING.

The question of unprofessional advertising is an old one, one which has been discussed from time immemorial, especially by the older members of the profession, who it may be supposed having made their mark by superior skill and hard work, object strongly to having their locality invaded by some young doctor, who by liberal use of printer's ink, flaming signs etc. makes or attempts to make a vigorous invasion of the older practitioner's territory. Now while the code may press heavily upon a young man who has thoroughly prepared himself for his profession, while he may and in most cases does grow restive under the silence imposed upon him, he sometimes adopts means for advertising himself which are certainly more unprofessional than gaudy fanlights, finger boards and all the other objectionable ways of letting the public know where he is. We refer to the charges made