

papers in each section were interesting and instructive, and were very fully discussed. Several of these papers will appear in future issues of the LANCET. The dinner which was given by the brethren in Chatham on the evening of the first day was a most magnificent spread, and the proceedings were thoroughly enjoyed. The speeches were excellent after-dinner efforts, and the night was far spent before the entertainment came to a close.

The first order of business on Thursday morning was the election of officers. Dr. Holmes, of Chatham, was elected President, and Quebec chosen as the next place of meeting. The election of Dr. Holmes as President for next year meets with the greatest favor. He and the other physicians of Chatham were most indefatigable, and made the meeting there most pleasant. The General Secretary, Dr. Stewart, of Montreal, is the right man in the right place, and has already shown his ability for the office to which he has been re-elected.

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE OF A PHYSICIAN IN THE USE OF BEEF PEPTONIDS.

Clinical evidence as to the value of Messrs. Reed & Carnrick's new preparation is being freely tendered, while chemists of the highest eminence pronounce it the most perfectly concentrated nitrogenous food yet offered for examination. Personal experience of its use is, naturally, of more rare occurrence, and we consider the testimony of Dr. Bell of so much interest to the profession as to call for its wide publication. We subjoin Dr. Bell's letter, and fully endorse his estimate of the recuperative properties of this admirable preparation :

YARMOUTH, Nova Scotia, Sept. 3, '85.

For the first three months of current year I was prostrated with gastric trouble, and for seven days, during latter part of third month, found it impossible to retain food upon the stomach. In this exigency Pepsin of various leading brands, as also bismuth (in powder and solution), oxalate of cerium, and ingluvin, were successively tried with no beneficial result. So obstinate and pertinacious indeed was the attack of emesis that indications pointed strongly to fatal results through inanition. At this juncture "Beef Peptonoids" was suggested by Mr. O. C. Richards, a local druggist, as worthy

of trial, and was taken up as a *dernier ressort*. Notwithstanding the fact that this preparation is continuously advertised in the medical journals, I had never tested it in my practice, and was hopeless of profit from its use after having failed with all the generally accepted remedies. The result, however, was so markedly beneficial, and the preparation so quick in action, that I consider it a duty to the profession to place my personal experience on record.

The first day's use of the Beef Peptonoids gave notable relief and accession of strength ; on the second day the vomiting was materially reduced, with steady improvement until the fifth day, when this distressing feature was entirely eliminated from my case. Convalescence was rapid under continuance of this treatment.

I need hardly add that the preparation holds high place in my esteem. I have prescribed it in many critical cases, and have no hesitation in testifying to its extraordinary recuperative properties. In dyspepsia I have found it a most valuable agent ; as a nutrient after childbirth it has done excellent work in my practice—materially increasing the quality and flow of milk,—and indeed, in all asthenic conditions I have proved it to be a constructive of rare merit.

GEORGE BELL, M.D.

JOHN MACKIESON, M.D.

We regret to announce the death of Dr. Mackieson, of Charlottetown, P. E. I. He was the oldest practitioner in Canada, having been in practice for nearly three-quarters of a century. He was a native of Stirlingshire, Scotland, was born in 1795 and was consequently in his ninetyeth year at the time of his death. He graduated in Glasgow University in 1815, and emigrated to Charlottetown in 1821. For fifty-five years he was an elder in St. James' Presbyterian church in his adopted city. At one time he was Superintendent of the Hospital for the Insane. His library contains some very rare and ancient books, and he has left the manuscript of a work on "Prescriptions and Prescribing," which we trust the administrators will hand over to some publisher.

THE RADICAL CURE OF HERNIA.—The operation for radical cure of hernia is not performed in this country nearly as often as is demanded. We can see no reason why a simple, reducible hernia should not be operated upon for radical cure in all cases, and more especially in children and persons under