

THE  
**Dominion Medical Monthly**  
... AND ...  
**Ontario • Medical • Journal**

Vol. XI.

TORONTO DECEMBER, 1898.

No. 6.



FIG. 1.—THE LAZARETTO FROM THE BOAT, D'ARCY ISLAND.

**THE LEPERS OF D'ARCY ISLAND.**

By ERNEST HALL, M.D., and JOHN NELSON, Victoria, B.C.

British Columbia has a leper colony. Its existence is not widely known, for those who compose it are of a race whose affairs rarely reach the public ear. But for years to come students of this strange disease may find in Canada's most western province, material of the most interesting and instructive nature to aid them in their researches. About a league off the eastern coast of Vancouver Island, and separated from it by the waters of the Gulf of Georgia, lies the pretty little island of D'Arcy. Viewed from the opposite shore or from the deck of a vessel as she ploughs her way seaward, it presents a delightful picture to the eye, for unlike surrounding islands it exhibits neither a dull face of shifting sand nor a forbidding reef of granite. Almost its entire surface is covered with a dense growth of pine, cedar and spruce, among which the great ferns toss their green arms in a vain upward