

not produce any effect on the digestive organs except the simple production of emesis. After its injection under the skin the pulse becomes irregular and slightly accelerated, and these changes are most pronounced at the moment of nausea and before vomiting, while after vomiting slowing takes place. In short, apomorphia affects the circulation in very much the same way as tartar emetic and ipecacuanha; a similarity that is shown by the lowering of the temperature which succeeds the emesis. It differs from these substances, however, in being altogether destitute of irritant property; its injection under the skin does not produce inflammation, and neither diarrhoea nor disturbance of digestion follows its administration. Dr Siebert found that the minimum quantity requisite to produce emesis by subcutaneous injection is, in man, from 0.09 gr. to 0.1 gr., in cats 0.03 gr., and in dogs 0.015 gr. to 0.03 gr. He could not discover the maximum dose that can be given to cats and dogs without producing injurious effects, because when doses 50 or 100 times as large as the above were given there were no symptoms of cerebral disturbance. He believes that in man the dose may be increased to 0.02 or even 0.05 gr. When given by the stomach much larger doses are of course required. Thus, a man of forty-nine years took 0.95 gr. and only nausea resulted, and when he took 1.5 gr emesis occurred, without any injurious effects.—(*Journal of Anatomy and Physiology.*)

DIGITALIS IN FEVER AND FAILING HEART.

Dr. James Little read a paper on this subject before the Medical Society of the College of Physicians (Jan. 8, 1873). After alluding to the well-known condition of the heart in fever, he advocated the employment of digitalis in cases in which the stimulants were either not well borne or were contra-indicated, as, for example, in most cases where there was renal affection; under such circumstances he (Dr. Little) has given digitalis in more than twenty cases, including six of typhus and one of rheumatic fever, the remaining being cases of enteric fever. He usually gave half-drachm doses of the tincture every three or four hours—rarely every hour—discontinuing the medicine when the pulse fell to 60; except in one instance wine and brandy were also given. Stimulants are indicated. The case in which digitalis alone was employed, was one of rheumatic fever, occurring in a merchant, aged 35, who had symptoms of rheumatism last October, and also had suffered six months previously, from dyspepsia, with considerable cerebral disturbance. On the 26th October he remained in bed, his heart was very weak, and his temperature 102 deg. He was ordered twenty minims of the tincture of the perchloride of iron every fourth hour. Four days subsequently symptoms of cardiac complication supervened. On the 11th November he was delirious at night. On the 18th November his pulse was 100, very feeble; the first sound of the heart was absent, and he had not slept for 100 hours. As stimulants could not be borne, tincture of digitalis, in half-drachm doses, was given every hour. After the eighth dose the patient fell asleep. In consequence of the subsequent occurrence of nausea the tincture was discontinued, and a hypodermic injection, composed of the one-eightieth of a grain of atropia, one-fortieth of a grain of digitine, and one-fourth of a grain of morphia, substituted. The patient eventually recovered.—*Irish Hosp. Gaz.*, Jan. 15, 1873.

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The twenty-fourth annual meeting of the American Medical Association was held in the city of St. Louis, on May 6th, Thomas M. Logan, M. D., of California, President, in the chair. Four hundred and forty-eight delegates were registered. The sections were re-arranged as follows:—

1. Practical Medicine, *Materia Medica* and *Physiology*. 2. *Obstetrics* and *Diseases of Women and Children*. 3. *Surgery and Anatomy*. 4. *Medical Jurisprudence, Chemistry, and Psychology*. 5. *State Medicine and Public Hygiene*.

Place of next meeting, Detroit, Michigan, on the first Tuesday in June, 1874. President—J. M. Toner, M.D., of the District of Columbia.

PRIZE ESSAYS.

For the purpose of advancing the cause of humanity under the symbol of the red cross in time of peace, Her Majesty the Empress of Germany, upon the occasion of the World's Exhibition at Vienna, has offered two prizes, in the sum of two thousand thalers each, for the following two essays:—

No. 1, for the best manual of technical surgery in war.

No. 2, for the best treatise on the Geneva Convention.

The manual referred to under No. 1, in describing the different methods of dressing wounds and applying bandages, and the surgical operations occurring in war, must concisely and briefly state the present standpoint of technical surgery in war, so as to form an indispensable companion and practical assistance for every army surgeon.

The prize essays, in German, French, or English, to be sent to the central committee not later than the 15th May, 1874. They must be without signature, but distinguished by a motto and accompanied by a sealed envelope, reproducing this motto on the outside, and containing within the name and residence of the author. Von Holleben, chairman of the central committee, Berlin.

NECROLOGIA MEDICORUM

JUSTUS VON LIEBIG.

Died at Munich, on the 18th April, Baron Justus von Liebig, in the 70th year of his age. He was born at Darmstadt on the 13th of May, 1803, and graduated as Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Erlangen in 1822. He then removed to Paris and prosecuted with zeal his chemical studies; and in 1824 communicated to the Institute of France his researches on Fulminic Acid and the Fulminates, which gained for him marked distinction. Through the exertions of Alexander von Humboldt he was made in that year Professor of Chemistry at the University of Giessen, and for a quarter of a century his laboratory was the centre of attraction for aspiring chemists from every quarter of the globe. In 1837 he graduated as Doctor of Medicine at the University of Göttingen. In 1845 Liebig was raised to the rank of Baron by the Grand Duke of Hesse; and academic honours poured in upon him from every country. In 1852 he accepted the Professorship of Chemistry at Munich, which he held until his death.

Liebig perfected the method of organic analysis, and may, indeed, be regarded as one of the creators of the science of organic chemistry. The works which he published were as valuable as are they numerous.

"Fuller of honours than of years the greatest of contemporary chemists has just passed away."

BENCE JONES.

Died at London on the 20th of April, of cardiac dropsy, Henry Bence Jones, M.D., aged 59 years. Dr. Bence Jones graduated as Bachelor of Arts in 1836, at Trinity College, Cambridge, and proceeded to study medicine at St. George's Hospital, London. In 1841 he enjoyed the benefit of Baron Liebig's instruction at Giessen, and in 1845 he was appointed physician to St. George's Hospital. He devoted special study to pathological chemistry of the urine. His contributions to the transactions of the various learned societies in England, and his independent publications are numerous, and have gained for him an enviable fame and many honorary distinctions.

In his death physiological chemistry has lost one of her most earnest and successful votaries, and the science of medicine one of her most useful and eminent cultivators.

PROSPECTUS.

THE CANADIAN

MEDICAL TIMES.

A NEW WEEKLY JOURNAL,

DEVOTED TO PRACTICAL MEDICINE.

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The Undersigned being about to enter on the publication of a new Medical Journal in Canada, earnestly solicits the co-operation and support of the profession in this undertaking.

The want of a more frequent means of communication between the members of this well-educated and literary body has been long felt; since monthly publications such as alone have been hitherto attempted in this country, do not at times fully serve the requirements of the controversies and pieces of correspondence which spring up. It necessarily diminishes the interest of a correspondence to have to wait a month for a reply and another month for a rejoinder; and it is in consequence of this drawback, no doubt, that many important or interesting points are not more fully debated in the monthly medical journals.

THE CANADIAN MEDICAL TIMES, appearing weekly, will serve as a vehicle for correspondence on all points of purely professional interest. It is also intended to furnish domestic and foreign medical news; the domestic intelligence having reference more particularly to the proceedings of city and county Medical Societies, College and University pass-lists, public and professional appointments, the outbreak and spread of epidemics, the introduction of sanitary improvements, &c. Many interesting items of this nature, it is hoped, will be contributed by gentlemen in their respective localities.

If the interest of a correspondence can be maintained and its freshness preserved by a weekly publication, it must be yet more valuable to have weekly notices instead of monthly ones of the advances which are continuously being made in the medical art. Obviously the sooner a medical practitioner hears of an improvement the sooner he can put it in practice, and the sooner will his patients reap the benefit. In this manner, the value of a weekly over a monthly or semi-annual medical journal may sometimes prove inestimable. Medical papers and clinical lectures, in abstract form or in extenso, will regularly appear and constitute a considerable portion of the new journal. In this way it is intended to furnish the cream of medical literature in all departments, so that a subscriber may depend upon its pages as including almost every notice of practical value contained in other journals.

Original articles on medical subjects will appear in its pages. The growth of medical literature in Canada of late years encourages the hope that this department will be copiously supplied. Notices of cases have been kindly promised, and an invitation to contribute is hereby extended to others who may have papers for publication. If the profession would encourage the establishment of a worthy representative medical journalism in Canada, its members should feel that upon themselves rests the onus of aiding in the growth of a national professional literature.

In order to gain a wide-spread circulation for the new journal, the publisher has determined on making it as cheap as possible. It will appear in the form of a quarto newspaper of twenty-four wide columns, containing a large quantity of reading matter, and be issued weekly at the low price of Two Dollars per annum. For cheapness this will go beyond anything as yet attempted in a medical journal in Canada.

It will be the aim of the editor to make it at once an interesting, practical, and useful journal, indispensable to the Canadian practitioner. It will be the aim, further, to make the MEDICAL TIMES the organ of the profession in Canada, as its columns will be freely open to the discussion of any professional matter, whether of medical politics, ethics, or of questions in practice.

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