

profession and their representatives in the Medical Council."

"This was well enough, so far as it goes, but it comes far short of what was expected. The desires and objects of the supporters of Dr. Meacham's proposed amendment to the Medical Act, which was introduced into the Ontario Legislature at its last session, are well known to the members of the Council; and yet they do not consider it worth their while to express an opinion on any one point raised."

If the writer of the above will read the address of the late President of the Council, Dr. Williams, which was delivered to, and endorsed by, every member of the Council present at its first session in June last (See CANADA LANCET, July, 1892, p. 340, *et seq.*) he must, we think, admit that they have considered it "worth their while to express an opinion on any one point raised."

It appears to us, moreover, that Dr. Bray's motion is a wise, temperate, and practical suggestion, by which the differences at issue may be adjusted, with dignity to both parties. Any amount of "resolving" and "discussing" on the part of the Council, would have been of worse than no avail, had its opponents not been present to take a part in the discussions, and to have their voting weight on the resolutions. Therefore, we say again that Dr. Bray's motion was, in its place, wise, temperate and practical.

GOLDEN RULES OF SURGICAL PRACTICE.—*Continued*—(*Times and Reg.*):

GENERAL.—Never use a hypodermic syringe in a secondary syphilitic patient.

Never permit a wet-nurse to be employed without examining into her history and state of health.

Never permit a healthy wet-nurse to suckle a syphilitic child, or child of syphilitic parents.

Never be hasty in suspecting "malingering" in any disease, certainly never in head injuries.

Never neglect to carefully bandage the *entire* limb if you have encircled it at one point to keep up pressure upon a wound.

Always shampoo gradually and with caution, as early as seems prudent, and at first with prolonged intervals of rest.

Remember three drugs are tolerated well in proportion to their need, viz.: Opium, mercury, and iodide of potassium.

Always inject ergotine or mercury into muscles, but morphine or brandy under the skin.

Never inject morphine without first testing the urine for albumen or a low S. G.

Never leave a sprain too long at rest. Too long rest is by far the most frequent cause of delayed recovery after injuries of the joints.

Avoid cathartics, deprivation of nourishment, loss of blood by incision in the broken down.

Be careful of abstracting blood from a drunkard or a child.

Be careful of opium in delirium tremens when the pupils are contracted.

Never examine any female under any circumstances without having first obtained her consent, and in the presence of one (or more) reliable witness.

Never examine any female prisoner without consent—without cautioning her that the examination will be taken down in evidence, and without a female companion being present.

Never administer chloroform without a third person being present, nor allow it to be administered in your house—nor until all artificial teeth have been removed.

Do not form hasty opinions, and if you have formed a false opinion admit your error at once.

BACTERIA IN WOUNDS AND SKIN STITCHES.—Two gentlemen working in Kelly's clinic (*Johns Hopkins Hosp. Bull.*) at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, made careful examinations of the stitches and secretions in thirty consecutive cases of cœliotomy, and in fifteen cases of perineorrhaphy, and as a result present the following:

A wound at some time of its existence always contains organisms. They occur either on the stitches or in the secretions. The number of bacteria is influenced by the constricting action of the ligatures or drainage tube, or anything interfering with the circulation of the tissues.

The virulence of the organisms present will influence the progress of the wound.

The body temperature is invariably elevated if the bacteria are virulent; and, indeed, in cases where many of the less virulent organisms are found, almost without exception, there is some rise of temperature.

Different suture materials offer different opportunities for bacterial development. The catgut