

present mortuary statistics. Action in this direction marks the prudence of the medical man, gives confidence to the public as to his professional ability, and advances the interest of the state by the proper regulation of such defects as are found to exist in carrying out the principles now being formulated by Boards of Health in various parts of Canada. In this direction the present *Canada Health Journal* is accomplishing a good work, and I trust the day is not far distant when the Dominion Government will see the necessity of establishing a Bureau of Health and Statistics such as that now approved at Washington. Thus a progressive measure would be inaugurated, and one which could not fail to save annually thousands of valuable lives. We yearly expend considerable sums of money in bringing emigration into the country, but what could possibly be more noble and philanthropic than to stay, by active measures, the present marked emigration out of the country by infantile mortality. This is a question which requires the closest attention, and let the proper authorities see to it.

There is one other point to which I wish to allude briefly, as much good can be accomplished in that direction. At present the subject of early mental training is occupying considerable attention on both sides of the Atlantic. Wherever you locate, there will most likely be some form of educational institution, and the little inmates may require your professional care and guidance. At present, the multiplicity of subjects crowded into a short period of time, and expected to be carried in the cranial cavity, are more than sufficient to make the heads of families pause before subjecting their children to this form of over-brain taxation. This subject cannot be too carefully thought over. No part of the human body endures less strain than the tiny brain—soft, pliant and pulpy, yet sparkling with evidences of intellectual activity. The period of youth is the child's sunshine, and frequently the very exhibition of natural gifts stimulates the parent to subject the child to a course of over mental strain, such as may render dull in after life those active germs of mental growth, and even thus sap the power of physical organization as well. Our prize animals are not used as dray horses until