

nurses, 15 of whom are engaged in more or less active practice in Montreal.

The Woman's Auxiliary reported a successful year; \$200 was given to the hospital painting fund, over \$500 worth of new linen was added to the stores, and the usual ubiquitous requisitions for household articles were all duly filled.

The Auxiliary had elected officers as follows:—

Hon. president, Mrs. G. D. Phillips; president, Mrs. J. T. Hagar; first vice-president, Mrs. E. Von Rappard; second vice-president, Mrs. R. L. Gaunt; third vice-president, Mrs. E. Thomas; recording secretary and corresponding secretary, Mrs. E. M. Morgan, treasurer, Mrs. Sutherland Taylor.

Mr. J. T. Hagar, the retiring president, was again nominated, but persisted in declining to serve because of lack of available time to devote to the duties of the office. His declination was accepted with much regret, and a hearty vote of thanks for past services was unanimously voted him.

The following officers were elected for the coming year:—

President—Roswell C. Fisher.

First vice-president—E. G. O'Connor.

Second vice-president—S. M. Baylis.

Secretary—T. J. Dawson.

Treasurer—E. M. Morgan, M.D.

Committee of management—Mrs. G. D. Phillips, Mrs. J. T. Hagar, Mrs. C. T. Williams, Miss A. Moodie, Messrs. J. W. Hughes, George Durnford, A. R. Griffith, Edward Packard, H. M. Patton, M.D., A. D. Patton, M.D.

Medical superintendent—A. R. Griffith, M.D.

Medical board, attending physicians—Senior, A. R. Griffith; junior, A. D. Patton. Attending surgeons, senior, H. M. Patton; junior, E. M. Morgan. Outdoor staff, O. W. Bradley and Laura Muller.

Mrs. John T. Hagar and Messrs. E. G. O'Connor, T. J. Dawson and R. L. Gaunt, were elected life governors.

Mr. A. H. Plimsoll was elected honorary auditor, and Mr. Leslie Boyd honorary solicitor.

Votes of thanks in appreciation of services rendered were passed to the officers and house staff, and donors to the hospital, and the meeting adjourned.

SURGERY IN AMERICA.

In the domain of general surgery American surgeons have figured throughout the past century. The most successful and recent methods intestinal anastomosis are due to our surgeons of to-day. We have done more to determine the operative treatment of appendicitis than all the world besides. The names of Willard Parker and of McBurney will forever be associated with the history of appendectomy. Skin grafting is decidedly an original American practice, first proposed by Hamilton, of Buffalo. The elder Warren, of Harvard, was the first to do plastic operation for cleft palate. Pancoast, of Philadelphia, was the first to do a successful operation for extrophy of the bladder. In 1849, Detmold, of New York, first opened and drained an abscess of the brain. In 1859 the method of treating obstinate neuralgia by resecting the superior maxillary nerve beyond Meckel's ganglion was worked out by an American surgeon. The further operation for removal of the Casserian ganglion is due to Hartley, of New York. And statistics show that American surgeons did about one-third of all reported operations for brain tumors; and the mere fact that operations are reported means that they met with a good degree of success.

Among operations upon bones and articulations is that of trephining for osteomyelitis, which is due to Nathan Smith. Four important excisions were introduced by American surgeons, of the lower jaw, of the upper jaw, of the clavicle, and the interscapular thoracic amputation. Bigelow, of Boston, taught the profession how to reduce a dislocated hip by manipulation. Before him Dr. Reid, of Rochester, had gone over the whole subject of manipulation of fractures, and had shown how this method would be applied to reduce dislocations. Dr. Dugas, of Georgia, about 1858, first called attention to the test for dislocation of the shoulder by placing the hand upon the opposite shoulder and trying to bring the arm down to the body.

Americans first used animal ligatures, which in the beginning were made of buckskin. Americans contributed three most difficult ligations of arteries; those of the common carotid, the common iliac and the innominate. Aneurism was first successfully treated by compression in this country. It has been recently claimed that the first nephrectomy and the first cholecystotomy were performed in this country, by Wolcott, of Waukegan, and Bobbs, of Indianapolis, respectively.

To be sure the greatest American contribution to surgery is anaesthesia. This opened the way for modern surgery, and led to operations which were