

THE
Canadian Practitioner,
 (FORMERLY JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCE.)

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—*We shall be glad to receive from our friends everywhere, current medical news of general interest. Secretaries of County or Territorial Medical Associations will oblige by forwarding reports of the proceedings of their Associations.*

TORONTO, MARCH, 1884.

SANITARY LECTURES AT THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE.

Beginning on the evening of Tuesday February 7th, and continued on the following Tuesdays a course of popular Lectures on Sanitary Subjects was delivered by members of the Provincial Board of Health at the Canadian Institute on Richmond street. The first lecture of the course, on "Preventable Waste of Life, Health and Wealth" was given by Dr. Oldright, the President of the Board of Health, to a large and influential audience in the Library of the Institute. The subject was treated in the happy and lucid style usual with the lecturer. The ensuing week Dr. Cassidy thoroughly investigated the Ventilation of Public Buildings, with particular reference to the air breathed by our school children. The last lecture of the course was given by the Secretary of the Board of Health and was upon "Our Zymotic Diseases, where they are and why."

The people are to be congratulated upon the progressive and appreciative spirit of the Canadian Institute, which induced them to inaugurate this course of lectures; and the thanks of the public should be extended, to those members of the Board of Health who evinced their zeal for the public welfare by consenting to give the interesting lectures referred to.

Habits formed by a long period of freedom from or ignorance of danger and disaster, require a corresponding length of time for

radical change. Much time, labour and patience are necessary to teach old dogs new tricks. The people must be taught the positive advantages that result from the applications of science to the laws of health. And they must be warned of the no less positive disaster which attends the neglect or infringement of those laws. The education of the present generation is being carried on by lectures such as those we are discussing. The education of the rising generation is an easier matter, yet requiring diligent care and anxious circumspection. The Board of Health, at the request of the Government, are preparing a manual of hygiene for use in our schools. When the principles of sanitary science are thus early inculcated many of the difficulties incident to the present time will have passed away, and the seeds now being sown with tedious care and anxious solicitude will bear fruit an hundred fold, and the labours of future sanitarians will be lightened. The happiness of the individual will thereby be increased. The wealth of the community materially augmented.

BODY SNATCHING.

There is abundant evidence that regulations are needed in the Republic south of us in order to insure an equable supply of anatomical material. Complaints arise from Chicago, Detroit, and other places, of the scarcity of this necessary appanage of medical schools. Heretofore, the quiet homes of the dead have alone been invaded by the sacrilegious hands of the resurrectionist; but now-a-days, the living have cause for fear. A story comes to us from Ohio, that a family of three persons were living together in a comfortable house—the building was consumed by fire, and vain search was made for the bodies of the three persons who were supposed to have perished in the flames. That this was not the case, however, was demonstrated by finding their bodies in the dissecting rooms of the Ohio Medical College in Cincinnati. Each body