

three hours after the operation. The verdict of the jury was,—death due to delay in medical treatment, and that the physicians in charge were in the highest degree censurable. Many cases of death from neglect and malpractice have come to light. A young girl was accidentally shot in the head, taken there and died. She was being buried on a certificate of "Hemorrhage of the Lungs" when the Coroner stepped in and had a *post mortem*. There was a bullet hole in the skull which had been plastered up with lime, and the bullet was found in the brain. In another case an elderly man was hit on the head with an axe. The reporter was told by the doctor in charge, "The man will die before morning; I can do nothing for him, and it would be only uselessly cruel to attempt saving him by dressing the wound. Within a week the man went out of hospital, having received only a scalp wound. We would feel sorry to meet with an accident in Philadelphia if that is the only attendance allowed in such cases.

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PRACTICAL PHYSIOLOGY.

It is with much pleasure that we are able to announce that the Medical Faculty of Bishop's College have established a chair of Practical Physiology, and thus introduced the subject into Canada. Should this action be followed by other Medical Colleges in this country, a most desirable benefit will be conferred on Medical Students. The establishment of this chair is one of the most important and most useful innovations in Medical teaching that has taken place for many years. No method of teaching can compare with practical demonstrations. Medicine, Surgery, Anatomy, Chemistry, are all taught practically as well as theoretically. Practical Physiology is quite as necessary to the physician as dissections are to the surgeon. Students who once see and understand the actual relations (physiologically) between the various nerves and organs, &c., demonstrated in the living animal, can never forget them.

The laboratory in connection with this chair, is quite distinct from the other laboratories of the College, and is most completely fitted up. Most of the apparatus have been specially prepared for it in England, France and Germany, and, we believe, are the only ones of the kind yet in Canada. Amongst them we noticed Czermach's rabbit support, Sanderson's Kymograph, Du Bois Raymond's induction apparatus and key,

electro-magnetic marking key, marking lever, moist chamber with electrodes, &c., König's vibrating pitchfork metronome, commutators, Foster's levers, Griffin's blower for artificial respiration besides a host of other apparatus.

The animals to be experimented upon are rabbits, cats, dogs, guinea-pigs, frogs and pigeons. We have been shown a large number of all these animals (except dogs) which are now in stock for use during the coming session. A vivarium is fitted up for the frogs, to keep them healthy and strong for class demonstration during the winter.

It is needless to say that no animals will be experimented upon until rendered insensible. For this purpose various agents will be used, according to the nature of the experiment. Chloroform, injection into the veins of Tr. Opii, solutions of Curare or Chloral.

The laboratory is under the charge of Dr. Wilkins Professor of Pathology, who has been appointed Lecturer on Practical Physiology.

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MORTALITY OF MONTREAL AND ENVIRONS.

The following communication based on the official bulletin for the month of July, has been tendered us:—Deaths, 767. Small-pox, 70, most of which occurred outside the city limits. This large number shows how systematically vaccination is neglected and how that neglect is fostered and encouraged by those who should know better. 55 being among children under five. Of 17 deaths from dysentery, 10 were infants. Diarrhœa, 94, 81 being infants. Infant cholera, 83. For practical purposes those might be all included under the heading of diarrhœa, and shows the high death-rate among the infant population during the hot season. The great proportion of the infantile mortality is in part due to the neglect of mothers in not sending for advice at the proper time. This is notably the case in the Eastern and Northern portions of the city. In most cases the physician is called to see the child die in order to obtain a certificate for burial. The report shews a lamentably high mortality; 46.48 deaths per 1000 contrast unfavorably with the death-rate of other cities. More accuracy is required in classification, this not being the fault of the Health Officers, but of those who made out the certificates. 74 deaths are put down to "Enfants Trouvés," this probably being the quota from the Grey Nunnery.