

late, my new friend found the Lady Mayoress, and presented me to her. I had a hand-shake and a hearty welcome, refreshments and a comfortable seat, listened to charming music, and altogether spent a pleasant evening.

At the Saturday night dinner-party in Harley Street, our hostess remarked, "Great Britain ought to feel, and does feel, to Canada, just the way that I do to my one daughter and my two sons." This was the spirit that I met in England. I received a kind welcome and great courtesy both in Exeter and in London, just because I was a Canadian.

I am, Sir, Yours, etc.,

B. M. A.

Morphine and Retention of Urine.

In a recent clinical lecture Sir Wm. Bennett relates an interesting experience which may be usefully noted for practical application. The lecture, among other aspects of difficult micturition, related to those cases in which, though the urine either is not or cannot be voided, a catheter of full size is readily passed into the bladder. To illustrate a possible cause of this condition Sir William quotes the case of a young man who at occasional intervals suffered from retention of urine, compelling the use of a catheter. This condition had brought him under the notice of many medical men, but no effective interpretation or solution of the problem had been found. A remarkable feature of the case was the fact that the patient appeared to think very little of the matter, and was almost or altogether free from anxiety and distress—this being, of course, in marked contrast to the acute alarm which inability to pass water usually excites in the ordinary individual. In the course of examination, however, it was observed that on the thighs were a number of spots suggestive of the bites of some insect and similar spots, some indurated, were present on the forearms. For these, as is invariable in such cases, the patient had an explanation in the shape of an "irritable skin." But it was manifest to the experienced eye that the marks found on his limbs were produced by a hypodermic needle, and thus the conclusion was inevitable that the patient was a victim of the morphine habit, and that the recurring retention of urine depended on an occasional excessive dose of the drug. The case illustrates the necessity of the "detective method" in clinical work, more especially where there is a mystery to be cleared away.—*The Hospital*.