CANADA HEALTH JOURNAL.

Vol. 1.

FEBRUARY, 1870.

No. 2

Hereditary Diseases.

FROM A LECTURE BY PROF. J. C. SANDERS.

IT is a high prerogative and solemn truth that in the act of im-1 pregnation we impress our offspring with our own moulds of being, with our own physical, mental and moral natures! Keep this great truth ever before the people. Let every woman know and believe that the strong frame and noble fashion, vigourous lifeforce and exalted spirit of the man she loves and marries shall determine largely the fashion and organization of her offspring, and that in their individualities she shall surely find resemblances which more than anything else will reward her sacrifices, and comfort and sustain her under all her cares and burdens. Let every man know and believe that the finely wrought physique, and purity of blood force, loveliness of spirit and charm of character of the woman he wins and weds shall stamp their outlines of grace, beauty and power somewhere, upon or within the cherub forms of his children. Conversely let every woman know that whatever of unsightliness is individualized in the physique of the man she marries, whatever of deformity in his mental constitution, whatever of baseness in his moral nature, will unmistakably impress themselves on their offspring; and let every man know that whatever uncomliness or frailty or degradation is individualized in the physical, mental and moral nature of the woman he marries, will be reflected in accurate portraiture in the body mould, and mental and moral endowments of their children. The individualities of both parents descend to their children, or to their children's children, and from this law there is no escape; and these individualities impress the race, and are never lost except as the given branch or family may perish without repro-True, that of one parent may predominate over that of the other, which may not apparently declare itself in the first succeeding generation; yet that it fails not to be transmitted we have evidence in the remarkable fact that it may always be found in one or another of the following generations, the translation taking place