

THE TRANSACTIONS OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. Instituted 1847. Vol. XX.

This volume, issued annually by the American Medical Association, is always of interest to the profession. Besides containing the report of the proceedings of that body, it has also the reports of committees appointed to investigate various subjects, and cases and papers of interest from various leading members of the profession. We particularly notice a paper from the pen of Lewis A. Sayre, of New York, on three cases of lead palsy, from the use of a cosmetic called "Lairds Bloom of Youth." Also, the following reports and papers, viz.:—Report of the committee on the relations of alcohol to medicine, by John Bell, M. D., Chairman; another on "Mollites ossium;" "Uses and abuses of quinia and its salts;" Quinine as a therapeutic agent;" "Atropia and its salts;" "Albinism in the negro race;" "Report on the epidemics of California, Texas, etc."

THE GAVEL—A Monthly Masonic Journal—Bro. Robert Ramsay Editor and Proprietor—The many members of the profession who belong to the Craft, and who occasionally lay aside the scalpel for the gavel, will rejoice with us to hear that such an excellent magazine has been added to our current Masonic literature. An additional feature of interest in this case is that the editor is a member of our own profession. The *Gavel*, besides matters of a purely Masonic nature, contains short stories which will be read with interest by the ladies. Bro. Ramsay has our best wishes for the success of his undertaking.

### Proceedings of Societies.

THE Medical Section of the Canadian Institute met on Friday evening, the 21st inst., when the Secretary reported a letter of condolence which had been sent to the relatives of the late Dr. Herbert, of Quebec, in accordance with a resolution passed at a previous meeting.

The Chairman of the Committee appointed to watch the proposed amendments to the Medical Bill, reported that he had kept his eye on them until they were withdrawn, although he did not attend any meeting of the Committee after the first,—reminding us very forcibly of the boy who, being asked to keep his eye on a gentleman's horse, reported that he did so till the horse turned the corner.

After a little more unimportant business was attended to, Dr. Geikie read a paper on "Certain Differences in the Treatment of Disease, Formerly and in Recent Times," having reference chiefly to

the practice of blood-letting, and showed that, according to the writings of Addison and his times, England did not send out half as many emigrants as the old northern nations of Europe, simply on account of the great multiplication of doctors, and the extent of the practice of venesection in the former country; and he concluded by expressing the belief, which was concurred in by several others present, that the difference between the present and the former systems of treatment, did not so much depend upon a change of type in disease, as upon a more correct diagnosis, a better acquaintance with pathology, and the exercise of more common sense in observing the natural course of disease, and the effects of the remedies used.

An animated discussion followed, and the meeting adjourned.

### Annual Dinner of the College of Dental Surgeons.

We had the pleasure on the evening of the 20th inst., of attending the second annual dinner of the College of Dental Surgeons. The company sat down to an excellent dinner at the Queen's Hotel about nine o'clock; Dr. Day, the President in the chair, supported on the right by Colonel Shaw, the American Consul, and on the left by Mr. Cockburn, M. P. P. The vice-chair was filled by Mr. O'Donnell, the Secretary, supported on his right by Prof. Canniff, and on his left by Mr. Kahn, of Stratford.

Altogether, about thirty gentlemen were present, among whom we noticed Dr. Geikie, Dr. J. Lizars, Messrs. Elliot, Snider, Callender, Myers, Chittenden, Wood, Beecher, Harding, Roden, Fairburn, &c.

After full justice had been done to the viands, the Secretary read letters of apology from His Worship the Mayor, Dr. Richardson, and Dr. Bethune, regretting their unavoidable absence.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed the health of "The Queen," to which the company loyally responded, singing the National Anthem.

The CHAIRMAN then gave "The Prince of Wales and all the Royal Family," which was duly honoured.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed "The President of the United States" in very complimentary terms—alluding to the good feeling which existed between the two countries, and also to the pleasure they felt in having among them to-night Col. Shaw, the American Consul. Drank with great enthusiasm.

Col. SHAW responded. He said he had great pleasure in being present to-night, although he had almost risen from a sick-bed to do so. He alluded very flatteringly to the progress of dental science