

Case II. Chas. Letts, aged $8\frac{1}{2}$ months, came to the same hospital at a subsequent period. His condition closely resembles that of the first case. The irides are completely wanting. There is nystagmus, but he can distinguish light well. Being so young it is impossible to test vision. No other member of the family has this defect nor any other deformity.

I find the following cases recorded: Mr. White Cooper² reports three cases in a family of four. Boy æt. 12 has only "an irregular strip of iris"; microphthalmos; sees very imperfectly. Girl æt. 9 years, similar condition to brother's; has a "few shreds of iris;" microphthalmos. Girl æt. 7 years, "irregular grey strip of iris"; eyes still smaller than others. Boy æt. 1 year and four months; well developed; sight perfectly good. Neither of the parents had any defect of vision.

Mr. Dixon,³—Woman æt. 36; had a trace of iris in left eye; opacity of lens and cornea. Strange to say she had a useful amount of sight.

Mr. Geo. Lawson,⁴—Boy æt. 13; youngest of six children, strong and healthy. After reading sight becomes dim; cannot converge simultaneously; total absence of iris; optic nerve small and white.

Dr. Paul Schröter,⁵—Woman æt. 42; irideremia; myopia; nystagmus; eyes very small. Her daughter a girl of 7, has same deformity; sight very bad; nystagmus.

Mr. Soelberg Wells,⁶—Iris totally wanting in father. Son, an infant a few months old, has same condition.

Dr. Manz, of Freiburg,⁷—Boy æt. 6; total absence of iris; cataract and cyclitis; father had same conditions.

I will now add to these four cases of *artificial irideremia*. The first was a case I saw in 1876, in Galezowski's clinique, in Paris. Galezowski performed an iridectomy for irido-cyclitis. On gentle traction to withdraw the iris, the whole organ became detached and came away. The patient made a good recovery.

The second was a similar case, in the practice of Mr. Geo. Lawson, at the Moorfields Ophthalmic Hospital. This man also made a good recovery.

Dr. Chisholm,⁸ of Baltimore, U.S., reports a

third. The iris was pulled out by an opponent in a fight. The finger nail had perforated the cornea.

The fourth case is reported by Mr. Soelberg Wells.⁹ It occurred in Graefe's clinic in 1859. Patient was a blacksmith who had been injured by a piece of iron flying up into the eye. He had prolapse of the iris, which it was desirable to remove. On seizing it, it became detached from the opposite margin. Graefe then removed the whole iris. It was followed by no reaction, little bleeding, and the patient enjoyed excellent sight.

Correspondence.

THE MEDICAL COUNCIL AND THE COMING ELECTIONS.

To the Editor of the CANADA LANCET.

SIR,—Can anything be more humiliating to us as a profession, than the knowledge that the very existence of so excellent an institution as our Medical Council is imperilled—that into so bad odour has the Council unfortunately been brought, under the leadership of a few headstrong, irresponsible men, that only a prompt and complete reversal of a policy at once illiberal, harsh and wrong, can restore to it the confidence of the profession and the public?

So far as the mere conduct of the examinations this year, is concerned, there is nothing to find fault with. It is pleasing to be able to say so, in view of the history of past examinations, but it would have been strange indeed, with a large hall belonging to the Council, to hold them in, and a years' time to get it ready, had it been otherwise. Yet never before in the Council's history, has there been so much confusion, uncertainty, and general bewilderment amongst the candidates. The Council itself fixed the precise date for beginning the examinations last year, and had this been adhered to, as it should have been, a world of discreditable trouble would have been saved. What although any other examining body did, by mistake, select the time for their examinations, already selected by the Council? That body, whichever it might be, before which only a few of the candidates would appear, would at once, and gladly have chosen another time, so soon as the clashing was discovered—for all our examining bodies are aware

2 R. L. O. H. Rep. Vol. I, p. 110. 3 R. L. O. H. Reps., Jan., Feb., Mar. 1875. 4 Same, vol. III., 272. 5 Monats, Bl. f. Augenl. Marz-Mai, 1860. 6 Treatise on Diseases of the Eye, London, 1873. 7 Zebend. Clin. Monat. XIII., Jan., Feb., Marz., 1875. 8 Lancet, June 15th, 1872, quoted by Wells.

9 R. L. O. H. Reps., vol. II., p. 190.