

TREATMENT OF PSOAS ABSCESS.

This much disputed question was brought up recently at the meeting of American Orthopedic Association and elicited views differing most widely from one another. Dr. H. Hodgen of St. Louis, inclined to the belief that the proper method of dealing with them was by early aspiration.

The treatment, although not new, had not he thought, received the attention it merited. The three methods of treating such abscesses were:

The expectant, the operative with drainage, and aspiration as soon as the diagnosis of vertebral disease could be made and the presence of pus detected. The objections to allowing the abscess to take care of itself were that there was destruction of tissue, that there was interference with function, and that there was inconvenience if not pain to the patient. The uncertainty as to where the abscess would burrow was also an objection to the expectant plan; it might burrow under Poupart's ligament, or point in the gluteal region and do no harm, yet it might enter the bladder or the intestine. In one of his cases he believed it had opened into the hip joint of the same side with the abscess. In each of his five cases the result after from two to five aspirations had been good. No evidence was left of their ever having been psoas abscess. He would not aspirate more than four, five or seven times; after that he would put on the plaster of Paris jacket and let the abscess alone.—*Weekly Medical Review*.

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NEW HOSPITAL IN TORONTO.

The Toronto daily papers state that a new Hospital will shortly be erected in that city. The Hon. John Macdonald has inaugurated the scheme by heading the subscription list with a donation of \$40,000. It is expected that the sum of \$150,000 will be required, and the University of Toronto will give the required ground.

OBITUARY.

DR. FRANCIS J. NELSON.

News has just reached us of the death of Dr.

Francis J. Nelson, late of Montreal, in Canon City, Colorado, August 28th, from pulmonary hæmorrhage.

The late Dr. Nelson was born in this city, Nov. 25th, 1861; He came of a family well known in Medicine, he being its tenth physician. He was third son of the late Dr. Horace Nelson of this city, and a grand-son of the late Dr. Wolfred Nelson, a former Mayor of Montreal.

With his brothers, Drs. Wolfred and George W. Nelson, he matriculated in the Medical Faculty of Bishop's College, in this City. Study and our severe winters told on his delicate constitution; under medical advice he left Canada, and proceeded to Atalanta, Georgia, where he graduated, in the Southern Medical College in the spring of 1884. Later he settled in the Ojai Valley, in Southern California, and had established a fair practice, when the hereditary enemy of his house, consumption, marked him out. He reported some improvement in Colorado, but a sudden hæmorrhage closed his career, while yet in the bud.

Dr. G. O. Beaudry, Professor of Physiology at the Montreal School of Medicine and Surgery (Victoria College), died on the 26th of November, of Typhoid fever, after an illness of three weeks. Dr. Beaudry will be much missed by his confrères, especially by those of his school, for he was an active worker in their interest.

PERSONAL.

Dr. Codd, Surgeon of the Mounted Infantry School at Winnipeg, has been appointed President of the Military Medical Board for the investigating of claims, arising from wounds received and sickness contracted while on service during the late Northwest Rebellion.

Dr. Rollo Campbell (M. D., Bishop's, 1887) sailed for Europe by the Allan Mail SS. Parisian on the 10th Nov. He is at present working at the London Hospital.

Dr. Duncan (M. D., McGill, 1885) has been appointed Surgeon of C. Battery Canadian Artillery recently organized, and which is stationed at Victoria, British Columbia.

Dr. Sutherland, of Winnipeg, has been appointed Resident Physician to the Manitoba Penitentiary, at Stony Mountain.

Dr. Kerr, of Winnipeg, proposes leaving the city, to settle in Washington, U. S.