

an outburst of enthusiasm from the whole audience, in which her fellow students and graduates joined most heartily. A striking feature was the reception by Mr. Edwards, a colored student from Jamaica, of the Wood gold medal for general excellence, and the Nelson gold medal for surgery. This is the second time a colored student has carried off these honors. The high standing of Miss Ritchie and Mr. Edwards in the examinations prove that intellect and industry are quite independent of either sex or color.

MATERNITY HOSPITALS.

A recent outbreak of diphtheria of the genital tract among four recently delivered women in the maternity department of one of our hospitals, which has completely put a stop to all operations there for the present, shows the urgent necessity for removing the midwifery department to another building no matter what immediate sacrifices may have to be made. Experience has proved over and over again that a maternity should never be carried on in a general hospital; but besides the sanitary reasons there is also the ethical one, that unmarried women have a reasonable objection to be operated on in a hospital which has the name of being a lying-in-one. What we would suggest is that the corporation of this hospital erect a one, or at most two storied brick pavilion on the end of their lot, of such a character as to be good for only ten or fifteen years, at the end of which time it might be pulled down to make room for a more imposing structure. The ideal maternity should not have a sewer pipe nor a drain pipe of any kind within its walls; all closets and soil pipes should be in a separate tower connected with the main building by a passage way.

APOLLINARIS WATER.

The introduction of this water into Canada is comparatively of recent date, and its consumption is now very large. Most people who can afford to use it, do so. Teto-

tallers drink it plain, and find themselves better for it. Others employ it with wine or spirit and believe it makes an excellent diluent. To encourage its use as a plain, simple beverage, medical men are fond of recommending it. To convalescents it is a grateful drink—relieving thirst and leaving behind it a pleasant taste. Its cost, though much reduced within the past few years, still keeps it within the range of luxuries. It is, however, possible to reduce its price still lower by remitting the duty upon it—as well as upon all *natural* mineral waters—and such an effort is now being made. We hope it will be successful. We have not any Canadian water, so far as we know, that can compete with it, so then nothing can be urged, so far as protection is concerned, for the continuance of a comparatively high duty. In the United States we believe it is admitted duty free, this concession being made as the result of a memorial to the House of Representatives and Senate of the United States. This memorial was signed by hundreds of the leading medical men, among them being such men as Drs. Fordyce Barker, W. Gaillard Thomas and A. McLean Hamilton, of New York; Dr. Wier Mitchell, and others of equal eminence in Philadelphia. A somewhat similar memorial is being prepared for presentation to the Canadian Government, which we hope will be successful.

IODIDE OF POTASSIUM IN THE TREATMENT OF URTICARIA.

Stern has successfully treated five cases of chronic urticaria by the administration of iodide of potassium, four of the cases having been rebellious to all the measures usually employed in this disease. The fifth case was one of acute urticaria of a few day's duration. None of the patients were syphilitic and all were rapidly cured. In one case which had lasted for four months the intolerable itching disappeared on the second day of treatment, and a complete cure was obtained after two and a half drachms of the iodide had been administered. In two other cases, one of two years' and the other of six years' duration, the effect of the iodide was equally good, cure following the administration of six and eight drachms respectively.—*London Medical Recorder*, November 20, 1890.