

ERRATUM.—In our report of the meeting of the Canadian Medical Association, in the October number, we stated that the Association adjourned to meet in Toronto on the first Wednesday in September, 1869. We should have said the second Wednesday. We trust that this important correction will be noted by our readers.

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#### DECOLORATION OF IODINE.

Dr. Baruch, of Camden, S. C., in a recent number of the N. Y. Medical Record, says that both the hyposulphite and bisulphite of soda have the peculiar effect of depriving iodine of its color, forming a perfectly limpid fluid, which does not form the purple iodide of starch on the linen, nor produce the yellow discoloration of the skin. The small quantity of the hyposulphite required for this purpose, neither adds to, nor detracts from the therapeutic properties of the iodine.

A saturated solution of the soda in water is added to the tincture of iodine, in the proportion of about one-sixth. By agitation, a beautiful clear solution is formed with the properties mentioned.

If we desire, he says, to obtain the effect of the undiluted tincture, we need only dissolve in it a few crystals of the hyposulphite, or a little of the powder of the bisulphite, and complete decoloration will be the result. While the "carbolate of iodine" may be, and doubtless is a valuable antiseptic and stimulant, there may be, he suggests, some cases in which the carbolic acid might be contra-indicated, and in which the other preparation may prove a valuable remedy.

[The decoloration is both prompt and perfect by this process, but continued exposure to the light partially restores the color.—ED.]

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#### OVARIOTOMY.

T. Spencer Wells, F.R.C.S., etc. (*Medico-Chirurgical Transactions*), has operated two hundred times. Of the first hundred cases he lost thirty-four; while the mortality in his second hundred has been reduced to twenty-eight. The most favorable ages for the operation are below twenty, and between forty and fifty. The mortality is about nine per cent. less among single women than the married.

Mr. Wells has found that the length of incision has an influence upon recovery, as the mortality has been 12 per cent. less when the incision has not exceeded six inches in length. He uniformly makes his incisions in the linea alba, and condemns the practice of making the incisions in the track of one of the recti muscles.