

The Medical Chronicle.

LICET OMNIBUS, LICET NOBIS, DIGNITATEM ARTIS MEDICÆ TUERI.

LUSUS NATURÆ.—A living curiosity has been recently on exhibition in our city, and will be shewn, we believe, in the principal cities of the United States and of this Province. It has been visited by several physicians both here and in Quebec, who have all concurred in considering it as one of the most extraordinary objects they have ever beheld. In the advertisement it is described as a child with one head, two bodies, three arms, and four legs; but while strictly speaking the statement as to the number of extremities is correct, it would, in the mind of a scientific observer, create a wrong impression in saying there were two bodies, for the second "body" appears really to be little more than the inferior half of the abdomen and subjacent pelvis, attached to the upper and outer angle of which is the third arm, and depending from which are the two additional legs. Indeed one who had not seen this wonderful creature, might pretty accurately understand its peculiarities by supposing there was before him a perfect female infant, beautiful in features and in symmetry, to whose right hip was connected the lower half of a second child with the members above specified, which are somewhat rudimentary. There are not two navels. Defecation and urination are performed by both "bodies," and at separate times. The generative system is double, and apparently complete in both. The intestinal tract in the appendix body is but a diverticulum, and not united to a second stomach. The child is remarkably healthy and good-natured. Digestion proceeds healthily, and when seen by us there was every probability of life being continued under equal chances with those of any other baby of the same age. We abstain from further remarks, as we have been led to expect a more accurate account from the pen of a gentleman who manifested a deep interest in this as in other subjects connected with his profession.

PRIZES OF THE MASS. MED. SOCIETY.—The Mass. Medical Society is authorised, by a donation from one of its members, to offer the sum of *one hundred dollars* for the best dissertation adjudged worthy of a prize on the following theme, viz.: "To what affections of the lungs does bronchitis give origin?" The above is open to physicians of every