

ciate editors, assisted by over two hundred corresponding editors, collaborators, and correspondents. Illustrated with chromo-lithographs, engravings and maps. In five volumes 1890. F. A. Davis, publisher, Philadelphia, New York, Chicago, Atlanta, and London. Agencies: Sydney, N. S. W.; Cape Town So. Africa.

We have just completed a hasty perusal of this work, and our impression may be summed up in the one word "Marvellous." We hardly know whether to admire most, the discretion of the editor, the energy of the associate editors, or the courage of the publishers. Some of the articles contain hundreds of references, and in order that these may occupy as little space as possible the ingenious plan has been adopted of giving each of the 850 Medical Journals throughout the world its own number. Thus THE CANADA MEDICAL RECORD's number is 130, and whenever this journal is referred to throughout the five volumes by any of the 270 authors it is always by this number with the date under it, in this manner 130, July, '89. Each of the editors is a well known specialist in his subject, so that it is not to be wondered at that each contribution is written with marked ability; what surprises us most is that men with such enormous practices can find time to devote to such painstaking work. Or only illustrates the adage "that the busiest men have always the most time for more work."

Besides the 850 Medical Journals referred to there are also 250 monographs each with its number. Most of these are by German, French, Italian and Spanish authors.

Much as we were struck with the enormous amount of information contained in the five volumes upon every conceivable medical topic, we were still more astonished by the completeness of the general index by Dr. Summer Witherstone of Philadelphia, comprising over 300 columns of closely printed matter. This index appears to be absolutely perfect; for after thinking a dozen times of papers which have appeared to our knowledge, some of them in obscure medical journals, not once did we fail to find them in this index.

### PERSONAL.

Dr. Francis Wm. Campbell, one of the editors of the *Record*, sailed for England in the Allan S.S. "Parisian" on July 31st. He proposes being absent about six weeks.

*L'Union Médical* gives the following formula of liniment to be used in cases of burn:

Salol	1 gramme.
Olive oil	
Lime water, each	70 grammes.

### SUMMER DIARRHŒA IN CHILDREN.

The prevalence of disorders of the gastrointestinal tract among children, during the warmer months, has, in the more recent history of medicine, caused a more scientific study of these diseases, Dr. B. K. Rachford (*Archives of Pediatrics*, June, 1890,) thinks the chief causes of summer complaint are abnormal intestinal fermentation, both acid and putrid. In the former case an albumen is indicated, in the latter a carbohydrate. The treatment according to the acidity or alkalinity of the stools, as suggested by Escherich, or by the odor, as laid down by Christopher, is theoretically simple, but practically it does not always give the expected results.

According, then, as a case is caused by the fermentation of albuminous material or carbohydrate, we may formulate the following rules:

1. Avoid albuminous food, (a) when marked constitutional symptoms are present; (b) when in doubt as to the character of the fermentation causing the disease; (c) when the stools are putrid; (d) when the stools contain mucous and blood; (e) when the nausea is constant and not relieved by vomiting.

2. Avoid carbohydrate as a food, (a) when there are no marked constitutional symptoms present, and the stools are continuously acid; (b) when there is much flatus, pain, or urticaria.

3. Where the albumens are to be avoided, the carbohydrates are, as a rule, indicated; and when the carbohydrates are to be avoided, the albumens are, as a rule, indicated.

4. Give foods such as cream, beef broths, and whisky, (a) when the foods prescribed according to the above rules disagree; (b) during the first twenty-four hours in severe acute cases; (c) when in doubt as to the character of the food indicated.

These rules are not infallible, but they are founded on sound principles. Milk is contra-indicated in the more serious cases, and in convalescence it should be given well diluted, so that its albumen and sugar may be digested and absorbed before reaching the seat of the disease in the small intestines.

Therefore, give an antiseptic cathartic, such as calomel, stop the milk and all other food except such as are directed above, and then proceed according to the rules laid down, and success will be more frequent in the management of these cases.—*Dietetic Gazette*.