

lions of children, among whom are more boys than girls. Extending our vision to the other end we behold a handful of aged people, the number of women exceeding that of the men. This latter fact, woman's longevity exceeding man's, is one of the things that never would occur to an ordinary mind. We regard woman as the weaker vessel, exposed to the trying ordeals of maternity, the victim of many fatal diseases from which men are exempted, and needing and receiving man's love and tenderest care. This fact is all the more surprising when we remember that the males start out with a surplusage of nearly ten per cent., even though half of this is lost before life is really begun, the number of still-born males greatly exceeding that of females. The first five years show a male mortality of 7.216 per 1000 to 6.016 of the females. During the first ten years 46½ per cent. of all born pass off the stage. During this period boys suffer greater mortality than girls. The period between ten and twenty years, we are told, is the only period in which there is an excess of female mortality. This is the period of sexual development and excitement. Between fifteen and twenty, females are peculiarly exposed to phthisis. Between twenty and forty is the highest period of mortality in adult life, in both sexes; it is also the period of child-bearing, and the time when we would naturally look for an excess of female over male mortality, but the figures actually show the reverse of this. At the close of this period, namely, between 35 and 40, Finlayson shows that out of 100,000 persons there will die 7042 males and 6959 females, and between 40 and 45, Ostend says the numbers are 11,107 males and 7,094 females. Marriage increases the duration of life of women. The mortality resulting from child-bearing, Tarnier puts as low as one-third of one per cent. The climacteric period, contrary to general belief, is not attended with unusual mortality. The "change of life" produces functional derangements, we know, but the belief that women are more liable at this period to be attacked by fatal diseases is clearly and fully contradicted. On arriving at the farther end of the bridge, we still find women numerically stronger. The number of women who live to over 80 are about as 2 to 1 compared with men. The statistical tables of New York for ten years, among deaths of centenarians, give seventy-two females and nineteen

males. Women's dangers in child-bearing are more than counterbalanced by the injuries to which man finds himself exposed in the pursuit of his daily avocation. How woman manages to remain "to hold the fort" after her lord and master has made his exit, affords food for further reflection.

MEDICAL ASSOCIATION MEETINGS.

The association meetings of the profession this year bid fair to outrival those of any other year in the history of medicine. Both at home and abroad there is every prospect of large gatherings and interesting meetings. The meeting of the British Association for the advancement of science, will be held in Montreal, beginning on the 27th of August, and it has been arranged by the President (Dr. Sullivan), and the local committee, that the meeting of the Canada Medical Association, which is also to be held in Montreal this year, shall take place on the 25th, 26th, and 27th, so as immediately to precede the former meeting, and thus give members an opportunity of seeing and hearing the leading scientific men of Great Britain. A large number of the members of the British Association above referred to, are medical men, and it is expected that many of them will attend the meeting of the Canada Medical Association. This will greatly enhance the interest in both meetings, and we trust the members of the Canada Medical Association will show their appreciation by being present in large numbers, so as to make the meeting a success in every respect. The Ontario Medical Association, under the presidency of Dr. Daniel Clarke, Toronto, will hold its annual meeting in Hamilton on the 4th and 5th of June, and promises to be more than usually successful. A number of delegates are expected from various kindred associations, among others Drs. Hopkins, Vanderpool and Howe, from the New York State Society. Our brethren from the neighboring Republic will be cordially welcomed by the members of the Association, whom we hope to see present in large numbers.

The American Medical Association, under the presidency of Dr. Austin Flint, sr., will hold its 35th annual meeting in Washington, commencing on the 6th of May. This is the first year since the establishment of the Journal of the Association and some degree of interest will be manifested in the