

The death of Dr. Isaac Hays, editor of the *American Journal of Medical Sciences*, on the 12th ult., at the age of 83, is recorded in our exchanges. He was at the time of his death the oldest living American editor.

Dr. John M. Woodworth, supervising Surgeon-General of the United States Marine Hospital service, died in Washington on the 14th of March.

### Reports of Societies.

#### NEWCASTLE AND TRENT MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

A meeting for the purpose of re-organizing the above association was held in Peterborough, on the 2nd ult. Members were present from Peterborough, Port Hope, Cobourg, Millbrook, Cold Springs and Mt. Pleasant.

The following officers were elected, viz. :— President, Dr. Herriman, Port Hope; General Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. Waters, Cobourg; Local Vice-Presidents, Drs. Boucher, Peterborough; Hamilton, Port Hope; Willoughby, Colborne; Local Secretaries, Drs. Bell, Peterborough; Burnet, Cobourg; Halliday, Grafton. Committee on By-Laws, &c., Drs. Boucher, Bell and Fraser, Peterborough.

Dr. Hamilton read a very interesting paper on the "Diagnosis of Croup," which elicited considerable discussion. On motion he was requested to furnish it to the "Lancet" for publication.

Drs. Fraser and Hunter promised to bring interesting cases before the next meeting, to be held in Cobourg on the first Wednesday in June. It is to be hoped all the medical men in the Division will endeavour to be then present and encourage the continuance of a flourishing association.

#### OXFORD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The second regular meeting of the Medical Association of the County of Oxford for the year 1879 took place at Ingersoll, April 10th, the President, Dr. Williams, in the chair.

After the usual routine business, the subject of Locomotor Ataxia was introduced by Dr. Smith, of Mount Elgin, who cited cases in practice, Drs. Scott, Williams, and Hoyt taking part in the discussion.

Dr. Turquand, of Woodstock, gave a description of the varieties and complications of Diphtheria, which elicited a good deal of discussion from the members present, Drs. H. M. McKay, Smith, and Williams taking part.

Dr. A. McKay was appointed Secretary, owing to the appointment of Dr. Millman to the Asylum for the Insane, London. The Association adjourned to meet in Woodstock on the second Thursday in July.

### Books and Pamphlets.

PHYSICS OF THE INFECTIOUS DISEASES," by C. A. Logan, A.M., M.D. Chicago: Janson McClurg & Co. Toronto: Willing & Williamson. Price \$1.50.

The above is the title of a little book in which some interesting matter is found, associated with a rather liberal sandwiching of dissertations on subjects, the adequate disposal of which must be very imperfectly accomplished in a few by-chapters, embraced between the boards of a diminutive octavo of 212 pages. We certainly, with all sincerity, could have wished that Dr. Logan had expanded his observations on the second and third parts of his production,—“The Physical Aspects of the Pacific Coast of South America,” and the “Medical Aspects of the Pacific Coast of South America,” to the exclusion of his wandering speculations on “the Theory of Specific Causation,” the “Therapeutics of the Infectious Diseases,” and various other matters, the ventilation of which, doubtless, pressed heavily on his long suffering conscience. In truth, we are strongly tempted to conjecture, that the author's experiences of the Pacific Coast, valuable and instructive though they certainly are, would never have seen the light, had they not afforded promise of favourable opportunity for associate exhibition of his views on a goodly number of other subjects, which are at present, and long have been, and we imagine will long yet continue to be, questions of keen controversy.

It needs but a glance over the headings of the second half of the book, to throw the reader into the prodrome of an ague shake, in contemplation of the *omnium gatherum* of ponderous and portentous subjects threatened to be discussed, the very enumeration of which is an enterprise before which our courage pales.

Among these it would be wonderful that we should not find the “*Living Germ*” theory conspicuously figuring. But of this *hete noire*, Dr. Logan makes a pretty summary disposal, in less than 5 short pages, consigning it to the “tombs of all the Capulets” with little less than magic celerity.

We are by no means assured that had Dr. Logan read the latest experiments reported by Pasteur, Joubert, and Chamberland, on “the theory of germs,” (of which a translation was given in our columns, in the numbers for December, January, and February, last), he would have so precipitately pronounced