

one can hardly blame those who decided against it and in favor of the palliative treatment adopted—a treatment which no doubt very much prolonged the life of the illustrious sufferer. The decision to adopt this course was mainly influenced by Sir Morell McKenzie, and under the trying circumstances in which he was placed, we believe that he did his duty faithfully and well, and has merited the distinguished honors bestowed upon him by his Sovereign. Throughout the case, the ablest pathologists in Germany were called upon to aid by making microscopical examinations of portions expectorated or removed for the purpose—and in the whole management of the case, the co-operation and consent of the most trusted surgeons of the Emperor's own country was obtained. The whole case is now a matter of history. Dr. McKenzie's early hopeful view, sustained as it was by the negative evidence of Prof. Virchow's reports upon the histological character, was necessarily destroyed by the subsequent course of events. He himself was certainly of opinion long before the fatal event that the affection was truly malignant disease. This statement is borne out by the fact that he reported to the present Emperor, before the post-mortem examination, that he believed the Emperor Frederick to have died of cancer. There is some reason for the opinion held by many that this view of Dr McKenzie was withheld for important state reasons. It is certain that no matter what course Dr. McKenzie followed, he would have been subjected to the unfavourable criticisms of the German press. That he has in some quarters been severely handled, is therefore no more than was expected. In looking back, however, upon the circumstances with calm and unbiased feelings, it seems certain that he acted for the best, and that the patient's life was prolonged to the utmost limit that was possible, considering the nature of his malady.

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—We learn that a new medical society for mutual improvement has been started in Vancouver, B.C. The first president is Dr. Bodington, and secretary, Dr. A. M. Robertson (formerly of Brockville and of McGill University). We are glad to see this evidence of professional activity in the Pacific Province.