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CONTENTS.

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| ORIGINAL COMMUNICATION. | PROGRESS OF MEDICAL SCIENCE | Water, 260.—Antiseptic Treatment of Abscess..... 261 |
| Santa Barbara, California, as a Health Resort..... 241 | The Analytical Study of Auscultation and Percussion, 243.—The Management of Eczema of the Anus and Genital Region, 251.—Treatment of Eczema, 257.—Calery Compound, 260.—Treatment of Gonorrhœa by Injections of Sulphurous Acid Diluted with | EDITORIAL. |
| CORRESPONDENCE. | | Dr. Bucknill on Guiteau, 261.—Amputation in Senile Gangrene, 262.—Treatment of Chorea, 263.—Reviews, 264.—Mortality of Montreal for July..... 264 |
| To the Editors of The Canada Medical Record..... 242 | | |

Original Communications.

SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA, AS A HEALTH RESORT.

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For all seeking a dry, pleasant winter climate, either for health or pleasure, Santa Barbara, California, can be warmly and confidently recommended. Public attention has been particularly drawn towards this sanitarium for several years past, both for health, pleasure and residence.

Santa Barbara lies two hundred and eighty miles southeast of San Francisco, and can be reached in thirty-six hours by steamer, sailing from the latter city every three days, or by the Southern Pacific Railroad daily to Newhall, and thence by stage to Santa Barbara, occupying some fifty-two hours. Very soon Santa Barbara will have an all-rail route of its own direct to San Francisco, greatly economizing expense and time.

Its situation on the coast makes it the best known of all the California seaside resorts. The city is laid out on a slope, extending back from its magnificent beach, the finest in all California, to the coast range of mountains—the latter gracefully surround this subtropical sanitarium, and exercise their kindly offices in depriving the chilling winds of the desert of their moisture so prejudicial to many people, and reach the city in dry gentle

currents. One may safely say that two-thirds of the city is surrounded by mountain, hill and dale—and within this natural amphitheatre nestles this charming resort. The grand old Pacific completes its surroundings. Such is the *locale* of the city, where one can enjoy the advantages of city life and the healthier pleasures of the country.

Nor is Santa Barbara void of a spice of the historic and ancient. The traveller familiar with Moorish architecture, at once notes the old Mission Church, of a purely Spanish style of architecture, now dating back nearly a century—telling its own tale of Mexican descent. The city itself may be said to be “ancient and modern,” not particularly of the High Church stripe, but a happy medium of both, taken in either sense. The city is noted for its pleasant and highly intellectual society. It being the home of families from Europe, the United States, Canada, etc.—people of easy means who have selected it for its natural beauties and healthful atmosphere. Santa Barbara is rich in natural charms, the beauty of its scenery being varied by mountain, ocean, hill and dale.

The beach of Santa Barbara is easily reached in a few minutes from the hotel by car. It deserves special mention; along it one can walk or drive for miles or sit lost in “sweet meditation” or watch the never-ceasing waves of the broad Pacific as they roll in, often freighted with beautiful shells and the most delicate of marine mosses, all the while inspiring the health-giving air. Others of a