

BOTANIC GARDEN.—Two public meetings with reference to the establishment of a botanic garden in Montreal has already been held, and an energetic committee have the matter now in hand. We understand that it has been decided to recommend the formation of a Botanic Garden Company, at the next general gathering, which will be called as soon as \$25,000 stock has been subscribed, when the locality, &c., will be reported upon and definitely settled. The Governors of McGill College have offered a portion of their extensive grounds near the mountain, adjoining the University for this purpose, to facilitate the study of their students in botany; and we are glad to learn that this offer meets with the approbation of most of our citizens, and will without doubt, be accepted.

The city of Kingston, Canada West, is before us in this matter, having an excellent botanic garden attached to Queen's College, and a Botanical Society, which holds regular meetings from October to April in the University Hall, and forms summer excursions under the direction of Professor Lawson, to investigate the natural history of the midland district of Canada. During the autumn there are daily demonstrations given by the professor of botany. Their garden is now well stocked with medicinal and other plants, this early success being due in a great measure to the liberality of Harvard University, which presented it through Professor Asa Gray, with a large collection of plants and seeds, which being followed by liberal private donations, has placed the Kingston Botanical Society in a position at present, to exchange specimens and seeds with other like institutions, in which manner, they hope constantly to increase the number of their specimens.

We have perused with much interest the details of two successful cases of ovariectomy, performed by Professor Byford, of the Medical Department of Lind University, Chicago, and published in the Chicago Medical Examiner of February last. In both cases the tumours were multilocular, the larger weighing with its contents thirty pounds. The adhesions within the peritoneum were removed by means of the écraseur. Very little blood was lost, as all sponging among the intestines was avoided. The patients were kept under the influence of opium for several days, which seemed to act well notwithstanding that the pulse kept constantly varying from 112 to 130.

We regret that no notice has been taken with regard to the protection of the bowels from the effect of cold air during the operation (in Nov. last), or of the temperature of the room afterwards.

Professor Mitchell has our thanks for his able contribution on strychnia, doubly gratifying to us, from being unsolicited, and the offspring of a friendly feeling for our lilliputian Lancet.

We notice that the Turkish Baths, situated on the corner of Vitre and Joté streets, are again in full operation after a suspension of many weeks.

On the 5th instant, the convocation of McGill College was closed, when Dr. G. W. Campbell, Professor of Surgery and Dean of the Medical Faculty, awarded the prizes and honors, and conferred the degrees on the students in medicine. Dr. Hall, Professor of Midwifery, administered the Hippocratic oath, when they were called by the principal with the usual formality. The valedictory was delivered by Dr. Horatio Burritt, one of the

graduates, and elicited much applause. This was followed by an eloquent address by Dr. Craik, Professor of Clinical Surgery. The number of students during the past session were 174, of which the following 31 took their degrees, viz:

W. W. Gordon, Bathurst, N. B.; W. E. Bessey, Georgetown, C. W.; J. L. Mason, Montreal, C. E.; W. C. Gaudin, London, C. W.; J. B. Blanchet, Quebec, C. E.; J. J. Marton, L'Orignal, C. W.; J. H. Barland, St. Johna, C. E.; A. E. Senkler, Brockville, C. W.; A. Brodeur, Valence, C. E.; H. C. Burritt, Smith's Falls, C. W.; Eli Ives, Compton, C. E.; F. H. Brathwaite, Toronto, C. W.; P. E. Brown, Lake of two Mountains, C. E.; Thomas Ross, Lancaster, C. W.; A. A. Desanlins, Rivière du Loup, C. E.; A. McDonald, Lancaster, C. W.; P. Rainville, Ste. Marie de Monnoir, C. E.; W. W. Dickson, Fackenhau, C. W.; H. Thérien, Rivière David, C. E.; J. H. Sawyer, Belleville, C. W.; G. Wood, Sheford, C. E.; F. W. Digby, Brantford, C. W.; L. P. A. Grenier, Lotbinière, C. E.; E. McIntosh, Newcastle, C. W.; J. Ayley, Aylmer, C. E.; D. J. Grant, Williamstown, C. W.; F. D. Thériault, Beauharnois, C. E.; H. Graham, Bell's Corners, C. W.; E. C. Mallock, Ottawa, C. W.; J. H. Fulton, Winchester, C. W.; F. Goforth, Thorold, C. W.

Interesting Cases.

COLD APPLICATIONS VERSUS F

Montreal, May 8th, 1863.

SIR,—Knowing that one great object of your "multum in parvo" periodical, is to collect and make known any important fact, whether new or old, that may be useful to our profession, I would inform you as briefly as possible, that being called some time ago to attend a case of accouchement some miles in the country, and having decided on my arrival upon the use of ergot of rye, I opened my pocket case to give a dose of the remedy, when to my chagrin I discovered that my secale was "non est." I had emptied my bottle, and had neglected to replenish it. What was now to be done? A thought struck me—if cold applied externally after labour causes uterine contractions, as in cases of flooding, why will it not do so before labour? I at once wrung a towel slightly, out of cold water, and applied it to the region of the womb. It produced a sudden chill, but this soon subsided, giving place to a comfortable heat; and although there had been no real labour pains for some hours, there now set in in earnest just such good old-fashioned forcing pains as a weary doctor loves to see after he has lost half a night's rest waiting for them. The woman was safely delivered in less than twenty-five minutes after the cold application, and she recovered rapidly. Encouraged by this success, I have repeatedly employed this means of exciting uterine action when arrested. During the past seven years I have had very many opportunities of testing the value of the secale cornutum, which in my practice has proved a very uncertain remedy. And I have found the cold towel to possess every advantage, and none of the disadvantages of the ergot, as in some cases the latter has seemed to cause contractions in the lower portion of the womb only, and to retard instead of hastening labour. Then, again, the danger of suffocation to the child, and the evil consequences sometimes produced upon the mother, are thus avoided. Hoping that you and others of my professional brethren may be induced to follow up this suggestion, and report on its results,

I remain, yours &c., W. F. MONAGAN, M.D.
61 Little St. James Street.

CANCER OF THE OESOPHAGUS &c.—G. K., at 53, a man of intemperate habits, was several years since troubled with some affection of the liver, and whilst taking mercury, became severely salivated (prob-