

phans of Medical Men, by Dr. John C. Griscom, of New York, who proposed a Life Insurance system.

The Association accepted a report of Dr. Mussey, that each State Society be requested to furnish a list of its regular practitioners. On the best report of treatment for the different forms of Cleft Palate, by Dr. J. K. Whitehead, of New York, and one on medical ethics.

A number of volunteer essays for prizes were accepted and referred to the sections to which they properly belong for disposition.

After adjournment, on the first day, they were entertained in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute and bountifully supplied with strawberries and ice cream.

Upon the second day the number of members in attendance was about three hundred. After preliminary business was attended to, several papers having been submitted, the following resolutions were submitted to a committee:

Resolved,—That hereafter no medical school in this country, other than those fully endowed, be entitled to representation in this Association, if the amount charged by such schools for a single course of regular lectures be less than one hundred and forty dollars.

Resolved,—That all schools charging less than this sum are earnestly requested by this Association to advance their rate of fees to the amount mentioned.

The report of Dr. Lee, the delegate to the Association of Superintendents of Insane Asylums, was offered and referred to the section on Psychology. The report of Dr. Gross, delegate to Foreign Medical Associations, together with the letter to Dr. Ehrenberg was read and referred to the Committee on Publication. Dr. Chaille, of Louisiana, submitted a proposition for a common medical nomenclature in the United States, taking as a model an official publication on the subject by the Royal College of Physicians, of London.

Dr. Yandell moved the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved,—That private hand-bills addressed to members of the medical profession, or by cards, in Medical Journals calling the attention of professional brethren to themselves as specialists, be declared in violation of the Code of Ethics of the American Medical Association.

The committee on prize essays reported that they had received two essays, one upon "The Physiological effects and Therapeutical uses of Atropia and its Salts." The other upon Quinine as a Therapeutic Agent, they recommend the award of a prize of \$100 to each of them. The Secretary broke the seals and announced that Dr. S. S. Herick, of New Orleans, was the author of the paper on Quinine and Dr. Robert Bartholow, of Cincinnati, was the author of that on Atropia. A com-

munication from the Gynecological Society was read and laid upon the table.

The committee upon the President's address, while expressing their admiration of the broad Catholic spirit which pervades it, also acknowledge with feelings of sadness the truths of the allegations made against the present condition of medical education, and the little success attending the efforts for improvement in such connection made during a score of years.

Dr. Alden March, of Albany, was appointed delegate to the Canada Medical Association.

[The American Medical Association meet next year in Washington, D. C.]

(To be continued.)

DR. TAYLOR, in a communication published in the *New York Medical Journal*, draws the attention of the profession to the importance of an early diagnosis in disease of the spine. By disease of the spine he means disease of bodies of the spinal vertebrae, and which, if not arrested, eventuates in more or less loss of substance and deformity, and is called "inflammation of the vertebral bodies," "caries of the vertebrae," "spinal arthrochondritis," or "Pott's disease" of the spine: he considers that the great apathy in the profession, with regard to this disease, arises from ignorance of the early symptoms, the want of information in the medical literature, and that information not being supplied by the teachers in our medical colleges.

He gives the results of 362 cases occurring in the orthopedic dispensary, all of which were under observation for a length of time. Many of these cases were inflammatory in their origin, and at this stage could be considered as curable. The deformity which results is not the disease. Several months intervene between the earliest symptoms and the occurrence of the deformity; and it is generally possible, by the aid of these symptoms, to trace back the disease from the point at which you first see it to the period of the original injury, if it had such an origin. It generally happens that these symptoms have not been connected with the spine, either by the patient or by his physician; sometimes very little disturbance is manifest; that is, where there is a low grade of inflammation, causing only a very slow absorption of bone or cartilage; and there are other cases where the absorption of bone goes on very rapidly. Sometimes the disease exists for years unsuspected; some of these cases occurred in ladies who had been treated for uterine disease.

The symptoms are then enumerated, but we give them as concisely as possible; one of the most persistent is gastralgia—pain in the abdomen when