

Muscular strength was retained. They were all able to sit up, lift a cup to their lips, or even walk.

They were perfectly sleepless. In two recoveries there appeared a pustular eruption on the face and lower extremities, resembling in its character poisoned wounds.

In the case of the boy Thayer, while sawing wood, an hour after drinking the wine, he was seized with violent retching and vomiting succeeded by a "fit," which from the description resembled a convulsive attack. Thumbs were turned in, with the fingers closed over them.

The amount of wine taken varied from one mouthful to 15 or more ounces.

The symptoms in every case were proportionate to the amount of wine taken.

All the fatal cases terminated in from 19 to 28 hours.

After death the features assumed a placid, quiet expression; dependent parts of the body were tinged blue."

We regret deeply that no *post mortems* were allowed, as it will in all probability be many a long day before another such opportunity will occur to ascertain the pathological conditions present in poisoning by colchicum wine.

THE LATE DR. CHARLES SMALLWOOD.

Within the last few years death has made sad inroads among our profession in the city of Montreal. Every now and again we have had to chronicle the decease of some of our number, and this month the melancholy duty again falls to us. This time, a veteran in the profession has fallen, and we all mourn his loss. We allude to Dr. Charles Smallwood, who departed this life on Monday morning, the 22nd of December, 1873.

We are sure that few announcements of the kind could excite more real and general sorrow, for Dr. Smallwood was for more than an average lifetime not only influentially identified with nearly every public and philanthropic movement amongst us, but also by innumerable acts of unostentatious kindness endeared to thousands who are living or who have passed away. We may well cherish his memory as that of one among us who was known and highly esteemed far and wide in the world without us. Canada shares with all newly and partly settled countries the disadvantage of contributing but sparsely to the world's advancement in scientific knowledge, and of only adding an occasional name to the roll of explorers and discoverers of the secrets of nature. Still

we have made our contribution; we have added some names to the honorable roll of scientific "men of the times," though they have of necessity been few. Among them the name of Dr. Smallwood will ever occupy a foremost place.

Dr. Smallwood was born at Birmingham, England, in 1812, where he received his medical education. In 1833 he came to Canada, and took up his residence at Isle Jesus, where he established a meteorological and electrical observatory and made some important discoveries. About the year 1860, he removed to Montreal, and very soon obtained a most extensive practice, which he continued to attend to until a very few weeks previous to his death. About the time that he settled in Montreal he was appointed to the Professorship of Meteorology in McGill College, a position, however, of honor more than one of active work. In January, 1871, in conjunction with Drs. David, Hingston, Trenholme and F. W. Campbell he organized in Montreal a new School of Medicine, which, in the following March, was accepted by the University of Bishop's College as its Medical Faculty. At the first meeting of the Faculty he was elected to the position of Dean and Professor of Midwifery, &c., which position he continued to fill till the middle of June, when he tendered his resignation, upon the ground that he had just received an appointment from the Signal Office of the United States War Department, and from the Canadian Marine Department, which would fully and completely occupy his time. This terminated his duties in connection with the school, but up to the day of his death, he took an active interest in its welfare. He was for many years, about his middle life, an active contributor to Medical and other scientific journals, but of late years, increasing infirmities and constant occupation prevented his doing as much in this way as he desired. He was one of those who took a prominent and lively interest in the first appearance of this Journal, and in every possible way advanced its interests. Upon many occasions we were sensible of his valued advice. As a scientific man he was far too widely known for eulogy. Probably no Canadian has contributed more diligently to the development of the one department of physical science, viz., Meteorology, to which he mainly devoted his attention, than Dr. Smallwood. The value of his observations has often been acknowledged in official reports and by the public press. He was thoroughly devoted to the Church of England of which he was a member, and to whose courts he was from year to year elected to serve as a lay delegate. Yet he was tolerant as regards the views of others, and perhaps