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TO THE EDITORS OF THE MONTREAL MEDICAL GAZETTE.

GENTLEMEN.—Observing a statement, contained in an article on the subject of “The Pneumonia of new born children,” in the April number of the Montreal Medical Gazette, viz. that “the mortality in Montreal is absolutely twice and a quarter greater than that of London,” I am induced to offer some brief observations on the subject; as the ideas I entertain on this matter, are by no means in correspondence with the above startling assertion. I perfectly coincide with the remark, as to the difficulty, (*and I will add impossibility*) of obtaining accurate medical statistics in civil life; when we can scarcely expect to obtain any information, beyond the mere record of births and deaths; and a vague, total amount of the population, derived, perhaps, from a census made long previously. You are well aware, that besides this, there is much required to be known, that is utterly hopeless to look for; to enable us to estimate the salubrity or peculiarities of climate, and the nature of the disease, which has occasioned the mortality. With the Military it is quite otherwise; every facility exists of obtaining the necessary data; and the most rigid attention to every point connected therewith, is required of the Army Medical Officers; which renders all authority emanating from this source, of the highest value. Being in possession of a series of reports on the present subject, through the kindness of an old and valued friend, I shall make a few remarks on