

6. *Histology*.—Great improvements have been made in the methods and reagents in staining, hardening and fixing tissues. Flemming and Strassburger have done an immense amount of work on the cell, but it was left for Carnoy to complete these studies. He makes four divisions of cell protoplasm: 1, the granules or chromatine bodies; 2, connecting rods between these chromatine bodies in the nucleus he named caryoplasma; 3, these connections without the nucleus he named cytoplasma; 4, the fluid in the cell he named enchylema. He rightly asserts that the chromatine bodies are the seat of life. They are diminished after secretion and exhaustion and absent in slow death of the cell, as may be seen in cell death from amyloid, colloid, or mucoid degeneration. In the light of this histology, I think there can be no doubt that

amyloid material is the enchylema or lifeless fluid, plasma holding ptomaine in weak chemical combination or solution, the latter giving the diagnostic color with staining reagents.

One more point: When I have referred to the late work done on the terminations, I have done (I have not touched on the late physiology of the nervous system). Pfluger, of Germany, demonstrated the nerves entering into the cells of the parotid gland. McCallum, of Toronto University, demonstrated the nerve terminations in the epidermis and liver. In each of these he found the ultimate endings were in the network of the cell or nucleus. The abnormal relation of the cell to the nervous system, I feel sure, will yet be the pathology of carcinoma.

EDITORIAL

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

THIS, of all the medical meetings in Canada, the largest, and in some ways the most interesting and important, held its annual sessions in the Normal School on Wednesday and Thursday, June 13th and 14th. As usual, the weather at this time of the year was perfect and the many members from outside Toronto apparently had made up their minds to profit by the meetings, and at the same time enjoy thoroughly their brief holiday.

The Committee of Arrangements have to thank the Secretary for his untiring endeavors to make the meeting move off smoothly, and in this he succeeded admirably. The number of American guests promised, failed somewhat in its realization, but conspicuous by their presence were Dr. Fox, New York, Dr. Johnston, Danville, Ky., and Dr. Rice, of New York. These gentlemen at the afternoon session, and prior to the President's address, were introduced to the Association and cordially welcomed. The address of the President, while somewhat extended, dealt rather with the general prospects of the Society and medical science than with any special subject. His suggestions that the Association affiliate with the British Medical Association, and that this Association establish an official journal were timely, and

we will doubtless see steps taken in such directions when their practicability is more apparent. Regarding the number of papers on the programme, as well as regards the character of some of them, remark, as would be expected, has not been wanting; and we are much inclined to think that the Committee on Papers are not doing all that might be done in obtaining all the best papers for the Association which the profession of the Province is capable of. Too many papers must necessarily lower the standard of the good papers, while they practically make impossible discussion on subjects which are of greatest interest and importance. This question of selection is, however, a most difficult one in all societies, and one which a committee has to deal with very *gingerly*; but we think more members would attend were they assured that *cases* were not to occupy the larger portion of the time of the meeting.

One who has opportunities for visiting similar American Associations cannot, we think, fail to be struck with the high relative quality of the Ontario profession as a whole. We speak after some experience and feel proud, as Canadians, that our professional status is high and grows year by year. Our fervent prayer is, *Crescat!* The development of electrical energy at the last session over the question of the election of the Secretary was, to say the least, unfortunate. We have endeavored to get at the origin of the trouble, and candidly confess