

Reports of Societies.

ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from last number.)

A CORRECTION.—With reference to our report of Dr. Albert A. Macdonald's remarks on Dr. R. Whiteman's case of cholecystotomy—page 179 of our June number—lines five and six should have read, "This loss would not occur after cholecystenterostomy." In line 7 cholecystotomy should read "cholecystenterostomy."

Wednesday Evening, June 6.

The first paper of this session was read by Dr. J. E. Graham, the amphitheatre of the Normal School being well filled by medical men, lady practitioners and students of medicine. The subject of Dr. Graham's paper was "SOME REMARKS ON CHRONIC DISEASES." He made special reference to Bright's disease, the anæmias and tuberculosis. Treatment of these cases required a great deal of patience and tact. Strict attention should be paid to the patient's diet, clothing and general environment. Cases of parenchymatous inflammation of the kidneys were quite amenable to treatment, prognosis was fair even after œdema occurred even in apparently chronic cases; he knew of one case in which, contrary to the general teaching, the patient did best on nearly a complete meat diet after having tried the milk diet with unsatisfactory results. Regarding anæmia, the gastric form, he had seen helped very much, in fact cured, by lavage of the stomach every second day and the exhibition of arsenic. In another case of a woman, aged 65, with a dilated heart, who had nausea vomiting, diarrhœa and considerable emaciation, accompanied by elevation of temperature, making the case

suspicious of being one of pernicious anæmia until the blood corpuscles were counted and found not diminished in numbers. It was found that there was a diminution of urea in the urine although no albumen nor sugar were present. Here the anæmia was due to the poisoning of the urea. Rest, careful dieting, administration of iron and arsenic produced a great improvement in a third case. Cases of other varieties of anæmia were referred to, where treatment based on a careful observation of the condition present led to recovery. Regarding tuberculosis most patients must be treated at home, and this could be done very satisfactorily by attention to some of the above-mentioned precautions, particularly in the first charge. As to medicine in these cases he recommended the use of creosote as being the most helpful. The points to be observed in treating all chronic affections were first, the necessity of more hopefulness in treatment; second, greater care to make an early diagnosis; third, to make a practical use of all the more recent discoveries in pathology and management of such diseases.

Dr. Bruce Smith followed and pointed out very good results that followed examination of the stomach contents. He also referred to the causation of anæmia, and in its treatment he knew of nothing better than the old Bland's pill, after the bowels had been opened with saline. He believed in pernicious anæmia that complete rest should be enjoined on the patient, and it was necessary that the functions of the body should be naturally performed before the administration of medicine. He would give arsenic in small doses first with a compound tincture of gentian. He spoke highly of the use of the stomach tube in dyspepsia, and he had found good results follow the use of a glass of hot water containing half a dram of soda half an hour before breakfast in gastric catarrh.