

say that this need frequently be done ; I only suggest that it should be done occasionally, so that our confrères may know that the profession in Ottawa is not sleeping.

Beyond the pale of our own association, I have nothing of much importance to report. Our city has been particularly free from epidemic and endemic diseases. In the early part of the summer scarlatina was prevalent, though not, generally speaking, of a malignant type. During the summer we had the usual number of infantile cases, many, of course, fatal ; the familiar "summer complaint" is, I think, the greatest pestilence we have to contend against, and one that might well occupy the renewed consideration of this association. In the fall of the year there were remarkably few cases of typhoid fever, a condition of things to be attributed, no doubt, to our improved water supply and drainage, which, together with our elevated position, ought to make the disease almost unknown in our midst. This winter, we find that, owing to the depressed times, the diseases incident to exposure to cold and want are more prevalent than usual, yet all things considered they are surprisingly few, and when we hear of places in our vicinity being visited by such diseases as small-pox and diphtheria, we, as a city, have every reason to be thankful. During the year we have held seventeen meetings, an irregularity having occurred during the summer months. We commenced by discussing "Diseases of the knee joint," and then took up in succession the following subjects : Typhoid Fever, Scarlet Fever, Puerperal Fever, Syphilis, Stricture of the Urethra, Retention of Urine, Intestinal Diseases of Children, Croup, Fractures, Obstruction of the Bowels, Placenta Prævia, Apoplexy, Osteo-sarcoma, Ovarian Disease, and, finally, Pyrexia. Several well-prepared and interesting papers were read on these different subjects, and all were discussed freely and in the most practical manner. Friendly criticism was universally courted, and each one present seemed actuated by a desire to impart any practical knowledge he possessed on the subject in question. Perfect harmony and good-will characterized the meetings from the beginning.

With your permission I will step a little off the line, and refer particularly to the paper read by Dr. Hill on "Retention of Urine." It was a prize essay, written by that gentleman forty years ago, and I am inclined to think it would be looked upon as a prize essay now. Certainly some improvements in the treatment of stricture, as a cause of retention, have taken place since that time ; beyond these, very few changes have marked the progress of science in relation to that subject. I would also like to refer particularly to a meeting held on the 24th of October, on which occasion Dr. Grant demonstrated the circulation of the blood in a frog's lung, and also the auriculo-

ventricular action of the heart in the same animal. These demonstrations were most successful, and were fully appreciated by the members present, who returned to Dr. Grant a special vote of thanks. The subjects have all been of the most practical nature, and though they have been, as a rule, rather too comprehensive, yet we must remember they are by no means exhausted, and we have the privilege of returning to them as often as necessary to do them and ourselves ample justice in that way. We have at our disposal an almost inexhaustible fund to draw from.

In conclusion, gentlemen, let me offer you my most sincere thanks for the generous way in which you have overlooked my many shortcomings while acting as your presiding officer during the past year. They are so many that I shall not attempt to enumerate them, but, trusting to the same generosity you have so far extended to me, I will believe that they are already forgotten. I must also tell you that any success we have had this year I do not attribute to myself. It is owing to the energy and earnestness of every regular attendant. Each member ought to feel that the success of the association depends upon his own individual exertions, and to remember that however much information he may give, he is safe to receive in return a fair equivalent.

As to my successor, I have to congratulate the association on their excellent choice, and towards him I can extend no better wish than that he may enjoy his year in the chair as much as I have enjoyed mine.

Dr. McDougall having taken the chair, a cordial vote of thanks was tendered to Dr. Wright for the able manner in which he had discharged the duties of his office during the past year.

An interesting discussion then took place on "Vesical Calculus"—reports of several cases being presented, after which the society adjourned.

GEO. McRAE, M.D.,
Secretary.

MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

The regular quarterly meeting of the State Board of Health was held in Lansing on January 14.

ADULTERATION OF SUGARS.

Dr. Kedzie made a verbal report on table sweets, showing the methods of adulteration now practised. One of these is by the use of glucose, which is an inferior article of sugar formed by the action of sulphuric acid on starch. In sugars thus adulterated, there is usually found sulphuric acid and copperas. Another method lately practised has been for the lessening of duties, and consists in coloring sugar so as to make it appear of lower grade. The danger comes from the poisonous