

It is not very probable that a surgeon will take the trouble of making examinations requiring the greatest nicety of judgment, and often much disagreeable labour, without remuneration. Surely the public will not submit to be deprived of what is frequently the most important testimony in criminal cases, where the lives of fellow-subjects are involved, because, forsooth, our sage legislators consider it of more importance to have the services of the bailiff, who delivers a few summonses, than to have the attendance and judgment of an intelligent medical man, who, in many cases, can alone determine the guilt or innocence of a party.

THOS. REYNOLDS, M.D.

Brockville, Dec., 1846.

*The Beauport Asylum for the Insane.*—This institution, in the neighborhood of the city of Quebec, progresses favorably in public estimation. The number of patients at present in it amount to 122; and there have been discharged from it, during the fourteen months since its establishment, twenty-seven, who were either cured or greatly relieved. In the absence of statistical documents, or any authentic statement of its operations, we are not able to furnish any more explicit information. The economical arrangements of the establishment are excellent, and the various varieties of moral treatment, which constitutes so striking a feature in the modern management of the insane, are here called into requisition. One thing is still wanting, however, to render the institution complete, namely, a resident physician, and this addition to its medical staff is the more required, when we consider the distance of the asylum from the city, some five or six miles, if we mistake not, and the probable difficulty which might be experienced in obtaining the assistance of one of the regular medical attendants in cases of emergency. This desideratum we believe it is intended to supply, at as early a period as possible; some steps have, we are informed, been already taken with this object in view.

*Law Report.*—We are indebted to a legal friend for the following report of a case recently decided in the Court of Queen's Bench. Having promised us his able assistance, we will be enabled to keep our readers supplied with authentic information on these points of interest, although we must plead guilty to entertaining the hope, that the occasions for them may be few and far between.

*Law Report.*—*Montreal, Q. B. Inferior Term, 4th Dec. 1846. Dykeman, Q. T. Plaintiff, vs. Force, Defendant.*—Action by plaintiff, a medical practitioner, against defendant, a country store keeper, for selling medicines, *to wit*, senna, pink root, epsom salts, and castor oil, without a license, contrary to the ordinance. Proof was made last term of defendant's having sold the articles.

To-day *Rolland J.* rendered judgment. The learned judge remarked, that, in a vast country like Canada, it would be most mischievous if none but a doctor, or apothecary could sell such things as defendant had: that in practice, all store keepers in the country sold such things, which were, in fact, of use otherwise than as medicines: that castor oil might be used instead of olive for many purposes, and *vice versa*: that the law, prohibiting selling medicines, entails the *penalty* rather on persons *acting* as medical practitioners or advisers, than

on persons *merely selling*, for there is no *express* penalty attached to *selling only*; the words being, "Every person *acting in any of the professions* aforesaid, without license, shall forfeit," &c. Action dismissed, with costs.

*Meeting of Montreal Medical Board.*—At a meeting of the Medical Board for the district of Montreal, held at the Court-house, on the 4th and 5th of November last, the following gentlemen received certificates for license to practise as physicians, surgeons, etc.:—

Alfred Malhiot, M. D.; John W. Wilsam, M. D.; Geo. D. Gibb, M. D.; Henri Paradis, M. D.; P. D. Moffat, M. R. C. S. L.; A. C. Lloyd; Edward Bull; Panteleon Cadieux; C. E. N. Courteau; Samuel David; Charles Brown.

#### NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

We beg to announce to our subscribers, that two collectors, Mr. Cherrier and Mr. Gemmil, will shortly leave this city, the former on a tour through Canada East, and the latter through Canada West, and will wait upon them, as far as practicable, individually. A very large amount, when collectively considered, is now due to the journal, which it is a matter of importance should be early received. We earnestly call the attention of our supporters to the circumstance; and if, from unbiassed testimony, our journal be worthy of the annual subscription demanded for it—a sum barely adequate to meet the publisher's expenses—we trust that the call upon them will be promptly responded to.

#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from Dr. Eeans (Richmond), C. W.; Dr. Sewell (Quebec); and from Dr. Grussell (Toronto). Dr. Sewell's paper will appear in the ensuing number; with some others which now lay on our table. They are for the present excluded, from having reached us some days after the original matter for this number had been placed in the hands of the publisher; that department of the Journal having been "made up" this month earlier than usual.

We take this opportunity of acknowledging the reception of Professor Croft's letter (Toronto), received in the early part of last month. Nothing further has yet come to hand. Prof. C. will understand our meaning.

Letters are hereby acknowledged, with enclosures, from Dr. McIntyre (Williamstown); Dr. Gilbert (Hatley); and through Messrs. Lyman & Kneeshaw, Toronto, from Drs. Hodden and Bettridge.

#### BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED DURING THE MONTH.

Boston Medical and Surgical Journal. December 2, 9, 16, 25.  
The Medical Examiner. December.  
The St. Louis Medical and Surgical Journal. November.  
Southern Medical and Surgical Journal. December.  
New Orleans Medical and Surgical Journal. November.  
Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal. November 4, 11.  
Dublin Medical Press. November 4, 11, 25. December 2.  
Hydropathy, or the Water Cure. From the British and Foreign Medical Review. By John Forbes, M.D., Philadelphia.  
The Medical News and Library. December.  
Summary of the Transactions of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, from September to November, 1846, inclusive.  
Buffalo Medical Journal. December.  
Missouri Medical Journal. December.  
The Dublin Quarterly Journal of Medical Science, August 1846.

¶ The New York Medical and Surgical Reporter has not come to hand lately.

Erratum.—In last number, page 204, line 32, for "lateral sinuses" read "lateral ventricles."