

belief that they will escape on account of their mental state. Dr. Walsh contends that horses and dogs can be taught by punishment so that they will not repeat certain offences. But we must never forget that the horse and the dog are not impelled by delusions as may be the case with man. Here we think Dr. Walsh's arguments fail to meet all the conditions. We agree with him fully, however, that the murderer who is mentally defective should not be allowed to escape. Such examples of punishment have a good effect on those of his class.

There is a tendency to depart from the value of capital punishment and the propriety of maintaining it as the highest deterrent of the law. It is for this reason that murder trials are so often fought out on the insanity cry. If the punishment were to be something else than the death sentence, there would be less place for this sort of a plea. Dr. Walsh is inclined to think that justice would oftener be done if the death penalty was discarded. Some punishment always is better than a severe punishment occasionally and a miscarriage of justice frequently.

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#### CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION JOURNAL.

For several years there has been a good deal of discussion over the advisability of establishing an official journal as the organ of the Canadian Medical Association. Several examples may be quoted in favor of this view.

1. There is the *British Medical Journal*, the organ of the British Medical Association.
2. The *Journal of the American Medical Association*.
3. The *Australasian Medical Gazette*, published by the Australian branches of the British Medical Association.
4. And perhaps the *Transvaal Medical Journal*, published by the Transvaal Medical Society.

These journals are sent to the members as a part of the return they receive for the fee they pay. The other rewards are the right to attend the meetings and the status of being a member.

The conditions, however, differ in all these places. In Australia there is only the *Australasian Medical Gazette*. There is virtually no local opposition. This is also true in the case of the *Transvaal Medical Journal*. When we turn to the United States the case is quite different. The medical population is large. Even when the journal was launched many years ago, the population and the number of doctors were in excess of those in this country. In Britain, again, there were many doctors to draw from when the *British Medical Journal* was first published.