

THE CANADA MEDICAL RECORD.

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MONTREAL, JANUARY, 1893.**PATHOLOGY IN MONTREAL.**

By the addition of Dr. Bruere to Bishop's College Faculty of Medicine, and of Dr. Adami to that of McGill College, the scientific department of the teaching staff in Montreal has been greatly strengthened. Dr. Bruere was for some time assistant to Prof. Rutherford of Edinburgh University, while Dr. Adami held a similar position in the University of Cambridge. In a young country like this, owing to lack of endowment, it is difficult to induce young men of talent to make the sacrifice which the devotion of their life to pure science entails, so that we are obliged to obtain such talent from the wealthier institutions of the Old World. It is greatly to be desired that some wealthy friend of science in general and of Bishop's College in particular would place this branch on a sound basis by means of a liberal endowment, so that its professor could devote his whole time to teaching and original research.

TUBERCULAR PERITONITIS.

During a recent discussion on this disease at the Medical Society of Montreal, some facts of great interest to the general practitioner were elicited. The disease is

exceedingly insidious in its onset, being sometimes mistaken for ovarian or other abdominal tumor and sometimes for typhoid fever. It is not at all hereditary, but is almost always acquired by food infection. Of the different kinds of food in which the bacilli are introduced into the digestive tract, milk is by far the most usual one. This accounts for the great frequency of the disease in young children who are fed to a great extent on milk. The more highly bred the cows the more readily may they become infected by a tuberculous milkmaid or milkman during the process of milking. Contrary to what has generally been supposed, it is not the animals which have diseased lungs which are the most dangerous, but those which have infected teats, in which situation it is difficult to detect the disease. From the milk of such an infected cow it is now easy to obtain a sufficient number of bacilli by means of the centrifugal machine to detect the germs readily with the microscope. Although Winkel thinks that the disease is frequently introduced by the genital tract, this was not borne out by the facts, this channel being rarely the one through which they gain admittance. In view of the danger of infecting the teats of cows, consumptive attendants should not be allowed to touch them, certainly not without the utmost antiseptic precautions. Indeed, every person with pulmonary tuberculosis is acting as a centre for the spread of the disease, and it is to be hoped that before long measures may be taken to isolate them as much as possible, or at least to destroy their sputum.

BOOK NOTICES.

A TREATISE ON SURGERY :—Moullin's Text-Book on Surgery was first published in April, 1891. So favorable was its reception by the medical profession and press, that in a little over twelve months it was recommended at more than twenty medical schools, and the large edition that had been prepared was exhausted. So much for past history.