

or elsewhere, it has also a large number of private rooms, yet, following the selfish and ungenerous example of the "Montreal," these are closed to all patients other than those of the favored half-dozen who constitute its staff, and in so far, therefore, as this portion of the Royal Victoria is concerned, it cannot be said that either the general public or the members of the medical profession are free to enjoy what it has believed, and what they are given to understand, would be open to all on equal grounds. Distinguished physicians who have visited this city have expressed surprise that such a state of things should be permitted to continue in the conduct of these two institutions, more especially as it contrasts so unfavorably with that which obtains in the management of the Hotel Dieu, the Notre Dame and the Western Hospitals. The Hotel Dieu, the oldest and largest hospital in Canada, opens its private rooms, at a minimum cost, to the patients of any qualified physician, regardless of creed or country, although, considering the fact that it receives no contributions from the public, it might claim and exercise the rights of a "pocket borough" with more reason and justice than those which exercise them without even the right to claim them.

Notre Dame acts with equal generosity towards the profession, and any one of its members is privileged to place his patient in the private wards. Some narrow-minded persons may advance the argument that those two institutions are under French control, and that the French are generally more polite and generous than the English. While we should repudiate this proposition on general grounds, we meet it in this particular case by the well-known fact that the Western Hospital, which is an English institution, has opened its private wards to the profession generally from the earliest days of its existence, and keeps them open to the present day, while its management in every other respect is characterized by the fullest measure of liberality. In thus drawing attention to what we consider a grievance which should be condemned by all fair-minded persons, we are influenced solely by a sense of what we owe not only to those whose particular interests it is our especial duty to protect and advance, but to our fellow citizens generally, and to all who desire to see the public institutions of the country honestly, impartially and intelligently

governed. Let us hope our remarks will be accepted in the spirit in which they are offered, and that what is now a stain on the escutcheon of our noble profession will not be permitted to remain.

A HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTIVES.

We are pleased to learn from the June number of our excellent contemporary, the *Dominion Medical Monthly*, that Toronto is about to have a hospital for consumptives, a generous citizen of that town, Mr. W. J. Gage, having offered \$25,000 for that purpose. The CANADA MEDICAL RECORD has again and again insisted upon the contagiousness of the disease as well as its large death rate, and we have continually urged the necessity for special hospitals for sufferers from this disease.

It is probably owing to the work of isolation carried out by the consumptive hospitals in England that the death rate there from this disease has gradually decreased in recent years. In the meantime Dr. Trudeau of Saranac Lake in the Adirondack Mountains is doing good service by establishing a Sanitarium which should be more heartily encouraged than it is. But we have always taken the stand that, as the disease is a national scourge, Canada as a nation should take steps to stamp it out.

PERSONALS.

Dr. N. W. Senn is engaged on a new work on tumors, and in order to obtain quiet and inspiration is spending July and August among the cool breezes in the Canadian Maritime Provinces. He intends visiting Montreal on his way home.

Dr. Hingston, we see by the Toronto Medical Journals, has been a very welcome visitor at the recent successful meeting of the Ontario Medical Association, where he was invited to read a paper. Both the latter and also his speech at the entertainment following are said to have been, the one learned and the other particularly witty.

Dr. Major is spending the summer in England and the continent, while Dr. Hamilton is occupying his residence and office in Union Avenue.

Dr. Proudfoot was so fortunate as to win the election at the Montreal General Hospital to the position of Oculist and Aurist, rendered vacant by Dr. Buller's removal to the Royal Victoria. Dr. Proudfoot still retains his position as Oculist and Aurist to the Montreal Dispensary, where he has served so faithfully for so many years.