

Fenwick, Bullen, Shepherd and Bell; Visitor, Dr. Murray, 2nd Bombay Cavalry.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Dr. REDDY, seconded by Dr. Ross, proposed Dr. Donald Baynes for membership in the Society.

Dr. ROSS read a report of a case of colotomy, which he had lately performed for the relief of a woman suffering from syphilitic disease of the rectum. The operation was highly successful both in its performance and results. The opening in the left loin is at present stopped with an operculum of gutta percha, which confines the contents of the bowel very perfectly.

Dr. FENWICK described two cases of colotomy, in which he had operated. The first operation was for syphilitic obstruction of the rectum and was successful. In this case, however, Dr. Fenwick thought that a smaller incision through the tissues would have obviated a tendency to protrusion of the bowel which was afterwards apt to take place. The second operation was for epitheliomatous disease of the rectum in a girl of 12 years, who, however, looked much older. The disease extended several inches up the rectum, causing great pain and preventing the patient from retaining the fæces, which constantly drained away in an offensive fluid and acrid condition. The operation was successful in palliating the condition for which it had been performed.

In performing the operation the opening in the transversalis fascia was made small (with the object of preventing any future protrusion of the bowel), and a quantity of fat lying at the lower end of the kidney and protruding through the incision caused some difficulty in immediately finding the colon, which could not rise through the small obstructed opening, even after being distended with air. The lower end of the kidney lying immediately behind the colon forms an excellent guide to it.

Dr. CLINE read some notes of the history and progress of the second case.

Dr. FENWICK then continued his remarks; briefly describing and commenting on the operations of Bryant, Amussat and Callisen.

Dr. GARDNER read a report of an operation of colotomy he had performed on an infant two weeks old, whose rectum was imperforate. The colon was opened in the left groin. The operation was successful and the relief to the patient perfect. A probe passed into the bowel, took a course towards the right side, showing no continuity of tissue with the anal cul-de-sac. There was afterwards a strong

tendency to the closure of the opening, by contraction, which was prevented by the introduction of bongies.

Dr. Ross was glad to have the opportunity of congratulating Dr. Gardner on his having added another to the small number of successful operations of the kind he had described.

A discussion of the subject of the papers, in particular and generally, then followed, after which

A vote of thanks to Drs. Fenwick, Ross and Gardner for their able and interesting papers was moved by Dr. H. HOWARD and seconded by Dr. REDDY.

The Secretary read a communication from the Commission of the International Medical Congress, requesting the Medico-Chirurgical Society to appoint delegates to represent it at Philadelphia in September next.

Action on this was postponed till the next meeting.

The meeting then adjourned,

(Signed,) JOHN BELL, A.M., M.D.,
Secretary-Treasurer.

BISMUTH IN SKIN DISEASE.

To alleviate the intense itching and irritation which accompanies chronic eczema and other forms of skin disease, apply an ointment, containing half a drachm of subnitrate of bismuth to an ounce of simple ointment, rubbed up with a little spirits of wine.—*Am. Med. Weekly.*

BIRTHS.

In Blythe, Ontario, on the 1st February, the wife of Dr. Sloan of a son.

At 1 St. James Place, Canning street West, on the 24th March, the wife of Wolfred Nelson, C.M., M.D., of a daughter.

At Ottawa, on the 11th March, the wife of Clarence B. Church, M.D., of a son.

MARRIED.

On Tuesday, 21st March, at the residence of the bride's parents, by the Rev. A. DeSola, LL.D., David A. Hart, Esq., C.M., M.D., of Bedford, second son of the late Alexander T. Hart, Esq., of Three Rivers, to Sarah Matilda, eldest daughter of Dr. A. H. David, of this city.

DIED.

At Brantford, Ont., on the 15th March, Caroline, widow of the late Dr. Alfred Digby, aged 67 years.

At Lambton Mills, on the 26th February, Elinor, wife of Thomas Beatty, M.D., aged 49 years.

In Montreal, on the 2nd instant, Mabel, infant daughter of Wolfred Nelson, C.M., M.D.