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MONTREAL

Homœopathic Record

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF HOMŒOPATHY AND OF THE MONTREAL
HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

Vol. VII. No. 4.

MONTREAL, APRIL, 1902.

25 cts. A YEAR.

Montreal Homœopathic Record

— PUBLISHED MONTHLY —

By the Montreal Homœopathic Hospital.

Communications relating to business and subscriptions to be sent to the Business Manager, care Sterling Publishing Co., 42 Lorne Avenue.

Manuscripts, news items, etc., should be addressed to A. D. PATTON, M.D., Editor Record, 58 Crescent Street.

THE GIFT OF PROPHECY.

On looking over the last edition (dated, by the way, 1893) of a "Book on the Physician Himself," by a Dr. Cathell of Baltimore, one cannot help being interested, amused, and instructed, (?) by the revised (?) section on homœopathy; evidently written by a man who had been financially hurt by competition with the system he reviles. One wonders what kind of a revision he would make of his work now, could he drop into Washington and gaze upon the \$75,000 memorial of the man he raves about. One of the choicest parts of the diatribe is this: "Even here in fair America, it has passed its zenith, its feast is almost over, and its MENE, MENE, TEKEL, is already on the wall, for it has almost ceased to be the topic of conversation in fashionable circles; the homœopathic book and case of numbered globules are also fast disappearing from the hands of the laity; its o called specifics are kept among the

patent medicines in every drug store; the system is no longer exciting amateurs, and, far above all, its wholesale desertion of its own principles is about to furnish another proof that no religious creed, no political doctrine, no medical ism or pathy can extend beyond a limited sphere or period, if it be opposed to the common-sense of mankind."

To rate the writer of the above as insincere, would perhaps be unfair and certainly discourteous, but one may safely make allowance for old age, bordering on second childhood, with its mentally obscured vision, and vistas of lost opportunities. These would-be pall-bearers at homœopathy's funeral have waited long and impatiently, till weary of waiting for a function that shows no signs of beginning, they have themselves assumed the chief role and so passed out of sight and mind; gone to join Oliver Wendell Holmes and prepare to celebrate the funeral function where they will not be hampered by lack of time. As to the furnishing another proof of homœopathy's rapidly approaching end, it might be well to look over some of the recent writings on the subject, notably the article by Dr. Geo. Peck in the Jubilee number of the North American Journal of Homœopathy. This is information up to the year 1901, eight or nine years after Dr. Cathell's funeral procession should have started.

Reviewing the subject of homœopathy for the past 50 years, 1851 to 1901, we find that the American Institute (which by the way is the oldest medical association in America) was in existence with 250 members, in 1901 it had 2,002 members. In 1851 there were but ten state societies, now there are thirty five, twenty nine of which muster 3,893 members. In 1851 there were eight local societies now there are 116, over one-half of which enroll 3,356 physicians.

Half a century ago there were but two homœopathic medical colleges; in 1901 there were twenty-two in the United States, whose graduates numbered not less than 13,517.

In 1851 one small hospital in Philadelphia represented homœopathy; now there are ninety-two general public hospitals, eighty-five of which contain 5,363 beds, and forty-five special public hospitals, forty-two of which hold 8,516 beds. In addition to this there are fifty-two general private hospitals, and thirty-six special private hospitals. Homœopathy holds, 16,037 beds in 195 different hospitals, those in 143 of them being worth \$18,331,953.00. This in itself would make a fair showing at a funeral. There are also 71 dispensaries in 1901, as against three in 1851.

In January 1851, six homœopathic medical journals were striving to maintain a precarious existence; to-day 30 magazines regularly file an appearance containing not less than 16,608 pages of reading matter.

Homœopathy has its own medical examining boards in twelve states and the District of Columbia, as well as representation on twenty mixed boards, in many of which no school is permitted to have a majority of the members. Even in Canada, the new Federal Registration Act contains provisions for homœopathic representation in the Dominion Medical Council. In 1851 the number of homœopathic practitioners was estimated at 600, in 1901 their numbers had increased to over 10,000. In 1851, the number of doctors of all sorts was 40,564 one in 68 of whom were homœopaths; now there are of all kinds of doctors 123,553, to whom the members of the New School stand as one in thirteen. Not so bad, when one remembers, that the first homœopathic prescription was made by a German immigrant, (Dr. Gram) in 1825.

In view of the fairly healthy condition of the supposed sick party, it would be well for these medical funeral directors to try another guess at the date of the proposed function, and in the meantime make ample preparation for the ceremonies which grace such occasions; lest in the immensity of the enterprise they be overwhelmed, and instead of burying are themselves buried.

GOVERNOR'S MEETING.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Governors was held in the Hospital Board Room on Thursday, March 27. Among those present were Mrs. G. D. Phillips, Mrs. Geo. Sumner, Mrs. W. F. Brown, Miss M. E. Baylis, Mr. S. Bell, Mr. E. G. O'Connor, Mr. S. M. Baylis, Mr. T. J. Dawson, Drs. A. Fisher, A. D. Patton and E. M. Morgan.

In the absence of President Hagar, Mr. E. G. O'Connor, vice-president, occupied the chair. The Secretary, Mr. T. J. Dawson, read the minutes of the last meeting, which were confirmed. A letter from the Montreal Homœopathic Association was read, referring to its having voted the Provincial Government grant to the funds of the hospital; also stating that the Association had printed and issued the hospital annual report for 1901. Some discussion was held in regard to the latter, it being pointed out that owing to the proofs not having been submitted some inaccuracies and omissions were presented which it would be well to guard against in future reports. A letter was read from Dr. H. M. Patton, resigning his position on the Committee of Management, owing to his considering the presence of medical men detrimental to the welfare of the hospital. After discussion it was moved by Mr. S. M. Baylis, seconded by Mrs. G. D. Phillips, that the resignation be accepted, which was carried. A letter was read from Mrs. Jas. Aird, resigning the life governorship tendered to her by Mr. Alex. Clerk; this

was also accepted. Two letters were then read, of a much more pleasing character, from Mrs. A. Hebert and Mr. L. Barbeau, who wrote accepting the life governorships tendered them in memory of their father, the late E. J. Barbeau, Esq., one of the hospital's warmest and most generous friends. Mr. L. Barbeau was elected to the vacancy on the Committee of Management, caused by Dr. H. M. Patton's resignation.

The proposed amendments to the hospital by-laws concerning Governors were then taken up, and after much discussion, and explanation, were agreed to and ordered to be incorporated in the present set of hospital by-laws. A copy of the new by-law, as amended, or added to, appears in another column of this issue. The report of the Committee of Management, for the past quarter, was read and adopted. It referred to the necessity of repainting the interior of the hospital and requested the sanction of the governors. It was reported on favourably, provided too great liability was not incurred. In the discussion it was thought by some that it was not wise to enter into further liability, with the present maintenance debt still unpaid. Suggestions were made of the advisability of raising a special subscription fund for this purpose, but this and any other ways and means were left to the Committee of Management to decide upon.

The Medical Superintendent's report showed a good record of work done in the past quarter, the number of patients cared for being very much greater than like quarters of 1901 and 1900. Attention was directed to the decrease in the number of public patients cared for, which was explained on the grounds of decreased revenue from subscriptions and donations, necessitating closer attention to the hospital's revenue earning power. Hope was expressed that this condition of affairs might soon be remedied.

The increase in number of private

cases had, however, some redeeming features, inasmuch as it served to make the hospital known and brought a greater number of outside practitioners to the institution, all of which tended to further the purposes and interests for which the hospital was founded. The report of the treasurer showed the financial condition to be about the same as at end of last quarter. After some desultory remarks about the falling off of the attendance at the out-door department and the omission of any mention of it in the annual report, there being no further business the meeting adjourned.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY POUND PARTY.

The Woman's Auxiliary purposes having the annual Pound Party on or about April 19th, at the Hospital, when it is hoped the generous friends who have assisted in former years will again respond to a gentle hint for their help.

Mrs. J. T. Hagar and Mrs. Geo. Sumner will have the tea-room, Mrs. J. A. Sheffield the cake table, Mrs. W. T. Rodden the candy, and Miss M. E. Baylis will look after the parcels.

Donations may be sent to the Hospital on the day announced for the Pound Party.

HOMŒOPATHY AT MCGILL

Evidence that the world does move, in an intellectual as well as physical sense, was furnished on the evening of March 21st, when a debate took place upon Homœopathy in the Medical Building at McGill, before the McGill Medical Society of Undergraduates. The subject was, Resolved, "That Homœopathy is based on Scientific Principles," and the speakers were W. R. Morse, B. A., '02, and L. M. Curren, '02, for the affirmative, and Roy H. McGrath, '02, and R. J. Gardiner, '02,

for the negative. The judges of the debate were Doctors Armstrong, Finlay, and G. G. Campbell. The debate itself was not a particularly able one, as both sides gave evidence of hasty preparation, and the affirmative were further handicapped by a prevalence in the student audience of a playful spirit of incredulity, the exercise of which was rather disconcerting to the speakers. However, for beginners in a new field of enquiry, Messrs. Morse and Curran both showed a commendable broadness of spirit and an earnestness of desire to get at the truth, even at the risk of the demolition of all medical tradition, which augurs well for their success, in the broadest sense of the term, in the noble profession which they are preparing for. Both these gentlemen said that they had approached the question with much incredulity as to its claims to a scientific basis, and with the general idea that Homœopathy was but another name for quackery. Both of them confessed that even a cursory examination of the facts had thoroughly disabused their minds of any such idea. They found Homœopathy well worthy of being enquired into, and said so honestly and earnestly.

The speakers for the negative depended principally on the plan of showing the absurdity of expecting curative effects from an infinitesimal dose of drugs many of which, even in large doses, were innocuous. They also quoted from some alleged Homœopathic physicians who had admitted to some practitioners of the regular school that Homœopaths frequently gave medicines allopathically, and that there was very little or practically no difference between the schools.

Doctor Armstrong gave the decision of the judges. He complimented both sides on what they had brought forward in the way of proof, hinted gently that they had missed points they might have urged, and wound up by awarding the weight of argument to the negative.

MATERIA MEDICA SNAP SHOTS.

(A. R. F. Grob, M.D., Milwaukee.)

Three thousand years ago *Helleborus niger* was considered a most prominent remedy in the Greek materia medica. The Greeks used it under the name of *Melampodium*, as it was *Melampus* of *Pylos* who first introduced it. They used especially the roots of the poisonous weed, which grew abundantly in *Antikyra*, near the *Gulf of Mælea* and at *Oeta*. With it *Melampus* cured the insane daughter of *King Proctus*. As to-day *Helleborus* is considered to be one of the most important of homœopathic remedies for mental derangements at time of puberty, it shows that homœopathic cures were made at least 3,000 years ago.

If in scarlatina the skin be rough and swollen around the small hairfollicles, which may easily be noticed in passing the hand over the surface, then *Dulcamara* should be preferred to *Belladonna*.

Sanguinaria has cured nasal polypi, where repeated operations and the use of *Calcarea Carb.* or *Thuja* proved unsuccessful.

It is claimed that *Sulphur*, 2 or 3 x, in drop doses, is almost specific for constipation of parturient women.

In certain inflammatory eye troubles affecting the optic nerve and retina, *Secale cor.* 3 x is often given with best results where *Belladonna* seemed indicated and failed.

Causticum is a remedy too often overlooked in disorders of the genito-urinary organs, accompanied by a characteristic burning pain.

If *Agaricus musc.*, the main remedy for photophobia and spasms of the lids, causes no improvement, then give *Conium maculatum*.

If in acute diseases a sudden state of collapse is noticed give *Carbo Veg.* 6-12 dil. Its often wonderful effect is due to its relation to the ganglionic nerves of the *plexus solaris*. (Dr. *Kallenbach*.)

Cocculus is closely related to *Nux Vom.* If *Nux* fails to remove nervous gastralgia in irritable women, then give *Cocculus*. It will also remove the peculiar weakness of the lower extremities, so often remaining after severe illness, being undoubtedly a result of spinal irritation.

In general *Sulphuric Acid* is seldom used for gastralgia with sour eructations. Yet, if together with vomiting there be burning and soreness of the mouth and

dullness of the teeth, it should always receive a trial.

Cactus grandiflorus 6 x, 5 drops in 10 tablespoonfuls of water, and one tablespoonful taken every two hours, is praised highly for relieving painful menstruation.

It is claimed that Carbolic Acid 3 x, taken in three drop doses about 3 times daily, has made some wonderful cures of infra orbital neuralgia.

It is wise to note that some patients cannot take *Nux vomica* in the evening, even in high potencies, without losing their sleep or being troubled with nervousness and vivid dreams.—*Medical Magazine*.

PHILLIPS TRAINING SCHOOL
NOTES.

Nurse Drysdale of the junior class, has gone on her holidays, having finished her term of night duty.

Nurse Bartholomew of the senior class has again been called to her home, through illness in the family.

The nurses' vacations have begun; as each nurse is entitled to two weeks it is necessary to begin early so that the work of the hospital may not be interfered with.

Final examination is the all-absorbing question with the senior class.

Miss Goring "99" left early this month for a post-graduate course in New York.

Miss Duval "99" will enter the Memorial Hospital New York, for a six months' post-graduate course.

Beginning with next session of lectures, the examination will be divided into junior and senior, with final examinations in minor subjects on close of second year's lectures, and graduation examinations with ranking in all subjects, at close of third year's lectures.

Nurse Bartholomew has the heartfelt sympathy of her classmates and friends in her second bereavement within six months, through the death of her sister.

whose bedside she reached, only in time to say farewell. Owing to the sad circumstances, she will not return to duty till next month.

Miss Crutchlow "99" is on the waiting list of the Memorial Hospital, New York, where she will take a post-graduate course.

Miss McLagan "99" is finally well on the road to recovery, after her long siege of typhoid fever; she will remain in Sherbrooke.

HOSPITAL BY-LAWS.

The by-law relating to Governors, as amended at the last quarterly meeting, now reads as follows.

ARTICLE IV—GOVERNORS.

1. Any person who shall contribute the sum of one hundred dollars or more to the funds of the Hospital at one time, shall, on election, be constituted a Life Governor.

2. Any person contributing the sum of fifty dollars to the funds of the Hospital at one time and ten dollars for six consecutive years thereafter, shall on election, become a Life Governor.

3. Any person contributing the sum of ten dollars a year to the funds of the Hospital for twelve consecutive years, shall thereby on election, become a Life Governor.

4. Any person or society contributing, at any one time, the sum of one thousand dollars or more to the funds of the hospital, shall, together with the privileges of being constituted a benefactor and endowing a bed, as provided in secs. 1, 2, 3, article v., be entitled to qualify himself, or in case of a Society, any one whom they may nominate as Life Governor; and in addition shall have the right of nominating one Life Governor for every five hundred (500) dollars of contribution, provided their intention shall be

“RADNOR”

Dr. J. R. Kippax, Professor of Medical Jurisprudence in the Chicago Homœopathic Medical College, writes: "Radnor Water is an agreeable and exceedingly pure table water, and surpasses the leading German Waters in therapeutic value."

signified at the time the benefaction is made, and the person so qualified and nominated be duly elected by the Board of Governors.

5. Any donor of sums under one thousand dollars, may, in addition to qualifying himself as a Life Governor, also nominate one other Life Governor for every additional two hundred dollars of contribution, provided his intention shall be signified at the time of donation, and the person so qualified and nominated be duly elected.

6. The Governors may elect as Life Governors such persons whose eminent services to the hospital commend them as worthy of being so distinguished.

7. Only those who are members of the MONTREAL HOMOEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION, and who have contributed not less than ten dollars to the funds of the Hospital during the year previous to their election, shall be eligible as Elective Governors.

DONATIONS IN MARCH

The Lady Superintendent acknowledges with thanks the following:

Miss M. Robertson—3 jars jelly.

Woman's Auxiliary—4 tray cloths, 100 yds. sheeting, 12 small preserve dishes, 1 large preserve dish, 2 teapots, 10 lbs. tea, 2 stock pots.

Lever Soap Co.—1 box Lever soap powder.

Leeming, Miles & Co.—1 case bovine.

Mrs. Geo. Sumner—1 doz. hand towels.

A friend—Magazines.

No name—2 small tin tea kettles, 2 small bowls.

Mrs. Jno. Cowan—Magazines

Mrs. Nolan—1 bbl. apples.

A friend—rubber sheeting

Mrs. Murnon—Magazines.

Canada Paint Co.—13 cans paint, etc.

Mrs. A. R. Griffith—10 lbs. marmalade, 1 gal maple syrup.

Mrs. J. T. Hagar—2 doz. cross buns.

No name—1 ham, 10 lbs. tea.

Howe, McIntyre & Co.—25 lbs. floor.

Mr. Fred. Holland—Easter lily.

“Faithful Circle” Kings Daughters—

Easter eggs.

Fraser, Viger & Co.—1 ham, 2 lbs. tea, 10 lbs. sugar.

HOSPITAL NOTES.

LAST MONTH was a fairly good one in hospital earnings, nearly one-third better than the corresponding month last year.

A VERY GENEROUS donation has been received by the Woman's Auxiliary from the Misses Dow. They have given an order for ten dollars worth of clothing etc., monthly, from the Industrial Rooms.

THE FOLLOWING is taken from the “Alumni News Letter,” concerning our former house physician: “Dr. A. J. Weirick, '99, must be pleased with his new location, as he has bought the only drug store in Kempton, Ill., building and all. He intends having his office over the store.”

YOU WILL notice among the donations the gift of a barrel of apples; never was gift more timely or appropriate.

THERE IS something radically wrong with our subscription list as printed this month, but we surely got all the names and amounts in.

THE PAINTING question, if not a burning one, is of a nature that requires prompt attention in order to keep up our reputation of having the neatest small hospital in Canada.

THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT reports having lots of clinical and observation work on hand in New York, but is getting weary and homesick.

NEXT MONTH our genial and capable house doctor leaves us, for his home, and future field of work, in the wilds of Texas, having completed his year of service.

THE EASTER flower donation was not as large this year as last; quality made up for lack of quantity.

THE NAME Pound Party does not fully express the meaning of this function. It is not necessary to have everything in pound parcels; whole boxes will be acceptable; barrels, bushels tons, or yards, all come under the same head. It also means that you can have a nice social afternoon, with tea, cake, music, etc., and inspect one of the prettiest little hospitals in the country.

ABOUT YOUR hospital subscription or donation, lest you forget, send it in now, or we will have to wait till you return from your summer's outing, as everyone is too busy to think of such things in the hurry of preparation for journeying.

DON'T YOU think you could afford to give the hospital, say twenty-five dollars on condition that it raises a like amount, in a reasonable time; if it cannot, you get your money back, so you may not have to part with it after all. Try it.

THE MANY friends of Miss Moodie will regret to hear of her severe illness with pneumonia. Miss Moodie has ever been a warm and practical friend to the hospital, and we are pleased to learn that, at the time of writing, she is progressing favourably towards recovery.

THE WORLD does certainly move; last month they had a discussion at McGill University Medical Society on the scientific aspect of homœopathy, before a crowded house. Ten, or even five years ago, anyone hinting at such a thing would have been committed to Verdun, if he escaped lynching.

HOSPITAL REPORT FOR MARCH.

Number of patients in hospital Mar. 1, 15
ADMITTED :

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|----|
| Private patients | - | - | - | 12 |
| Semi-private patients | - | - | - | 3 |
| Public | - | - | - | 6 |
| Semi-public | - | - | - | 4 |
| Maternity | - | - | - | 2 |
| | | | | 27 |

DISCHARGED

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|----|
| Private patients | - | - | - | 15 |
| Semi-private patients | - | - | - | 3 |
| Public | - | - | - | 8 |
| Semi-public | - | - | - | 1 |
| | | | | 27 |

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|----|
| Operations | - | - | - | 12 |
| Deaths | - | - | - | 1 |
| Number of days private nursing outside | - | - | - | 44 |
| Number of patients remaining in hospital April 1 | - | - | - | 15 |

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND CASH DONATIONS IN MARCH.

The hospital treasurer acknowledges with thanks the following :

| | | | | |
|------------------|---|---|---|---------|
| Mrs. A. Hebert | - | - | - | \$15 00 |
| Mr. L. Barbeau | - | - | - | 15 00 |
| Mrs. R. G. Reid | - | - | - | 10 00 |
| Mrs. And. Wilson | - | - | - | 10 00 |
| M. L. R. | - | - | - | 10 00 |
| Mrs. H. Thomas | - | - | - | 2 50 |
| | | | | \$62 50 |

FINANCIAL REPORT OF WOMAN'S AUXILIARY FOR MARCH.

RECEIPTS

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Mrs. S. H. C. Mier, (donation) | \$10 00 |
| Additional bazaar receipts | 4 05 |

FEEs

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Mrs. J. A. Sheffield | 2 00 |
| Mrs. W. T. Rodden | 2 00 |
| Mrs. R. L. Watson | 2 00 |
| Mrs. A. R. Griffith | 2 00 |
| | 8 00 |
| | \$22 05 |

EXPENDITURE

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| W. L. Maltby (rent No. 46.) | \$80 00 |
|-----------------------------|---------|

APHORISMS FOR CHILDREN.

1. Animal food once a day and in small quantities, if the teeth can masticate, is necessary to a rapidly growing child.
2. Avoid a too nourishing diet in a violent-tempered child.
3. Avoid seasoned dishes and salt meats, pastry, uncooked vegetables, unripe food, wine and rich cake.
4. Never tempt the appetite when disinclined.
5. Insist on thorough chewing; a child who eats too fast eats too much.
6. Vary the food from day to day, but avoid variety at one meal.
7. Take care that the child's food is well cooked.
8. Wine, beer and confections should never be given to a young child.
9. Give no food between meals; the stomach requires rest, like any other organ, than anything else.
10. Remember that over-feeding and

the use of improper food kill more children of the body.

11. Give no laudanum, no paregoric, no soothing syrup, no teas.

12. Remember that the summer complaint comes chiefly from over-feeding, and the use of improper food, but never from teething.

13. When children vomit and purge, give them nothing to eat for four or five hours.

14. Do not bring a child under three years of age to your table to eat.—Ex.

POUNDS of money will be taken care of by the treasurer of the Woman's Auxiliary.

DON'T FORGET to send your change of address to the RECORD if you are going to move this year; or if you intend going away for the summer.

— I do not believe in telling a child ghost stories to frighten him when he is naughty. When Clifford is naughty I explain the germ theory to him and have him look through a microscope at bacteria. It frightens him terribly, and at the same time inculcates scientific knowledge." (Detroit Journal)

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