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# The Maritime Medical News,

(HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.)

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VOL. IV.—No. 12. DECEMBER, 1892.

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lowing March; this will be followed by a Summer Session, commencing about the middle of April and ending the first week in July.

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Besides these, there is a Pathological Laboratory, well adapted for its special work, and associated with it are two "culture" rooms, in which the various forms of Bacteria are cultivated and experiments on Bacteriogy carried on.

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In the recent improvements that were made, the comfort of the students was also kept in view.

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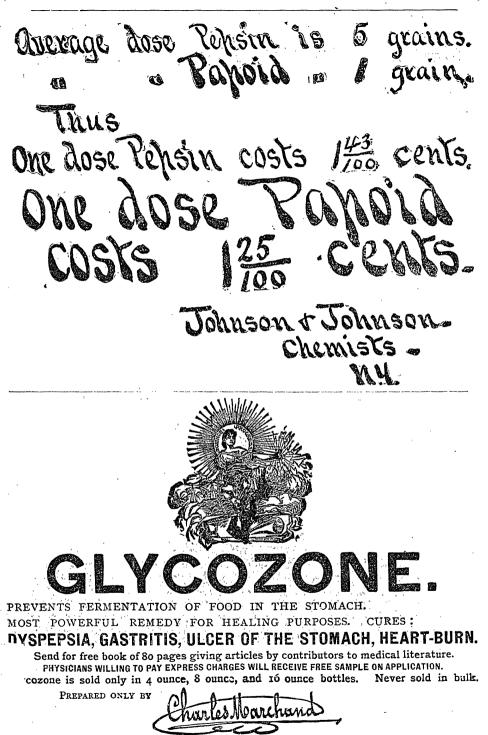
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For further information, or Annual Announcement, apply to

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## The Maritime Medical News,

A MONTHLY JOURNAL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

VOL. IV.

HALIFAX, N. S., DECEMBER, 1892.

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Griginal Communications.

#### A CASE OF EMPYEMA.

BY M. A. B. SMITH, M. D., DARTMOUTH.

I desire to present a case of old-standing empyona with thoracic fistula.

I take for my text, in order to some extent to question the same, the following sentence from a recent work on "Rules of Antiseptic Surgery," by Arpad G. Gerster. He says: "The injection of irritating fluids or the packing of the cavity with strips of gauze are of no avail, and the only means of effecting a cure is multiple exsection of the ribs according to the method of Estlander."

The case is that of a lad now 15 years old. He was born in Wales. His father is a clergyman. His father and mother are healthy. This child was very healthy till five years old.

At that age he contracted measles in a school. He had a light attack but went out of the house before fully recovered, and "took cold" as was sup-

posed, which developed in pleurisy on the left side; about a month after he went out first. At this time he was complaining of hot flashes and loss of In the course of two weeks appetite. from this he was again confined to the house and sometimes to bed. At intervals he now complained of sharp pains in his side. A physician was attending him but did not appear to be aware of what the trouble was. It is evident a subacute pleurisy had been quietly in existence six weeks.

Three weeks after his second 'illness had developed a "lump" appeared nearly four inches below and slightly to the left of the nipple on the left side. Previous to this he had been poulticed. A second physician was now called in who lanced the abscess. It was found to contain half a pint of pus which ran down upon the seat of the chair. It was then dressed with ordinary cotton rags and an ointment. Directions were given for strong nourishment and he was coaxed to walk which he was now too weak to do. In about two months from the lancing of this abscess he was able to walk out of doors.

Six months after this or eight months after the commencement of the attack he was sent to North Wales for a change of air. His side was constantly discharging freely except for 9 days when it ceased, and he became so weak that his physician said he would not live. He was brought home at the end of a month and from that time he improved somewhat. His side continued to discharge four or five tablespoonfuls of pus in a day up to the time of his coming to Nova Scotia, at the age of 8 years.

From that time till he came to see me in May last the discharge grew somewhat less till when I saw him it averaged one or two teaspoonfuls a day. It was noticeably offensive.

His weight was 68 pounds at the age of 15 years, that is in May last, when I first saw him. He was tall and though his face was full, with a pink and white complexion, his body was somewhat emaciated. There was marked lateral curvature of the spine. The vesicular respiratory murmur appeared to be absent over that side of the chest. The case had then been of 10 years standing.

On the 2nd of June I began to treat him. The sinus was large enough only to admit of a small silver probe being passed into it. I was two weeks in dilating this opening with laminaria tents, and I was able to introduce a rubber drainage tube the size of a stomach tube, a large size.

I then washed out the cavity daily by means of a fountain syringe; with 1 to 1500 bichloride solution. The patient stated he could feel the fluid passing around to the back of the lung. I did not find a solution of this strength too irritating. At the end of 8 weeks the discharge became less and I injected the cavity with iodoform in suspension in glycerine. Afterwards, while continuing the daily washing, I injected, about once a week, tincture of iodine diluted, at first one half and then only one guarter with glycerine. This caused a good deal of momentary pain and burning. A month ago I removed the drainage tube, and the sinus readily healed, and |

is now permanently closed. The patient's weight has increased from 68 to 75 pounds.

I know this is not at all a unique case. Still it is one of long standing, and I believe the patience exercised in the treatment is answerable for the result. Had recovery not taken place the patient would probably eventually have been attacked with albuminoid disease.

In these old-standing cases there is an abscess cavity lined with a greatly thickened pyogenic membrane, and on account of the retraction of this lung adhesion between the two surfaces does not take place. Has it done so in the case I have cited ? When should Estlander's operation be performed which Dr. Gerster recommends so unreservedly? It is a very serious one, involving the removal of several inches (it may be) of several ribs, with their periosteum and the thickened pleura under them, the object being to cause the chest wall to collapse and come in contact with the pleura covering the lung. Might not patience and more conservative surgery, generally accomplish a cure? Here is a satisfactory result without operation, although in a case of ten year's standing.

It is noticeable in this case that the commencement of the empyema was not observed by the attending physician. It appears to me it is a disease very apt to be overlooked. In this patient it came on as a sequence of measles. It should always be suspected, especially in children, if after any of the acute specific fevers recovery is unaccountably delayed; and the patient, instead of improving, begins to fall back.

#### COMBUSTION OF THE HUMAN BODY.

(Original in Popular Science News.)

BY GEORGE T. BINGAY.

"Spontaneous combustion of the human body probably never occurs, but that it sometimes becomes so combustible as to kindle from a flame and be consumed is believed by some, and discredited by the majority of scientific A case of the kind happened men. here some years ago, so well authenticated that I send an account of it to you, thinking it a pity that a record of so rare an occurrence should not be preserved.

The victim, a woman aged about seventy, was of very intemperate habits. Her husband, equally given to drink, brought home the morning of the fatal day a demijohn of gin, and as a teapot was found partly filled with liquor in the room, no doubt they included freely, as was their custom. About 11 a.m. she was spoken to by a neighbor; she had an appron full of shavings from her husband's cooperage, and said she was A loaf was going to finish her baking. found partly cooked. Shortly after, my informant, Mr. Thompson, a very intelligent man, noticed a black smoke coming through the dilapidated roof; it had a horrible smell, so that he remarked to a by-stander, 'Cooper Jones must be burning up all his old boots.' He then went home and had his dinner. his wife remarking on the stinking smoke and asking if they were burning the leather scraps at the shoemakers'. Mr. Thompson now went down and opened Jones' door, to find the room full of thick, foetid smoke. He saw a heap of something on the floor, which, on breaking out a window for the smoke to escape, he found to be Mrs. Jones. He called his wife, who came with another This was about one o'clock. woman. The unfortunate woman was lying on her face, having pitched forward as she sat in a low rocking-chair. The chair remained on her. On removing it they saw a piece of flesh where the cross-top strip touched, the only natural looking part of her body. They opened a quilt on the floor, and in turning the body over Mr. Thompson took hold of her boot to help, when the foot broke off in his hand, parting just above the ankle. The horrified man fainted away. The flesh was gone from the face, the skull bare, the contents of the abdomen 1 to be the fats—the hydrocarbons; the

exposed, and still burning, so that one said to the other, "the liquor is not all burned up yet." Under the face the floor board was burned some half-inch deep; the other part, where the body lay, was stained but not burned. There was a small pool of fresh blood near her head, as if she in falling had struck a small table that stood near, with three legs more or less burned. The body was not near the fire; she fell away from it, not as if she had been stooping She may have been smoking. ever it. Her clothing, woolen mostly, had smouldered into fragments. No part of the wood work of the room was burned. but covered with smut that had to be scraped off. Some days after, in cleaning up the room, amongst the remains of clothing, etc., they found one of her hands that had broken off, as had her foot, and been overlooked. Her boots were not charred. It could not have been more than two hours from the time she was seen alive to when she had become the charred horror on her own hearthstone. I think she must have fallen dead, or the chair would have been displaced. No cry was heard, though neighbors were within call. The husband was dead drunk, and could give no account of anything that transpired."

"Westport, Nova Scotia, Oct. 1, 1892."

This case seems to settle some disputed points and is very instructive and useful in a legal as well as medical aspect.

It can be relied upon as being strictly true in every respect. The man who last spoke to her a few minutes before smoke was seen issuing from the roof and who first saw her after death, with his wife, who put her in the quilt and then in the coffin, were my informants.

The woman was not very drunk, seemingly in her usual health.

The time was less than two hours; this can be fixed by several circumstances, not simply a guess from memory.

The tissue most in fault would seem

muscular seems excluded, as does the blood. The pool of fresh blood near her head was perfectly natural in appearance. In a woman of her age and habits the abdomen would contain probably a large quantity of omental fat. This was the only part found burning, with a blue flame, hydrogen? While if the brain became partly fluid and escaped from the mouth, nose, etc., it would account for the deep charring of the floor under her face. The bones of leg and fore-arm might be burnt to brittleness by the marrow, hardly in any other way, and retain shape and continuity, and the boots not being charred is explained by the absence of fat about the foot.

Death must have been sudden or this light chair would have been displaced. I can think of no part of the human body being so materially changed as it must be in such cases but the nervous.

As it is almost immaterial which metal, as for instance gold, silver or copper is used as a conductor for chemical electricity, so I can conceive a very important, perhaps allotropic, change of the nervous tissue to have taken place, and yet not incapacitated from performing its functions as a conductor of organic electricity or vital force. I believe in this case the woman using one of the shavings to light her pipe, the flame was communicated to the body through the delicate skin of the lips or nose or perhaps to her finger, if used as a tobacco stopper, pressing down the tobacco. The ignited combustion though so rapid, must have been very imperfect, to account for the great quantity of thick smoke, and the temperature low, or the wood, &c., near her would have ignited, this if all parts of the body had suffered change, could hardly be the case. Nor is the suddenness of the death easily accounted for, when we bear in mind that at the time she was enjoying her usual health, but by a shock directly to the Brain. What sustained the combustion is also very puzzling. If Oxygen, was the water in

the body spontaneously decomposed? It would seem so.

Hoping that some better informed person than myself will analyse and report upon this case,

I remain yours sincerely,

GEO. T. BINGAY, M. R. C. S L.

Yarmouth, N. S.

[We submit this case for what it is worth to the consideration of the profession.—Ed. M. M. News.]

#### Correspondence.

NEW YORK, Nov. 1st., 1892.

To the Editor of the Mar. Med. News :

DEAR SIR,—On the supposition that your readers might be interested therein, I am going to send you a few notes of a month's sojourn among the hospitals and cottages of this the acknowledged centre of American medicine and surgery. It is needless to say that progress is the order of the day, and even after an absence of only four or five years one cannot help being struck by the improvement visible. First, as regards the colleges. The enactment by the state of a law requiring a preliminary examination-a three years' course of study—and a final examination before a state appointed board of examiners has had a most salutary effect. Of the three institutions, "the Bellevue Hospital Medical college" has failed to maintain its former position. "The Medical Department of the University of New York" has been more fortunate and is doing good work, but the College of Physicians and Surgeons is undoubtedly now the leading school. Some years since large bequests of money enabled it to put up modern and commodious buildings, while its recent action in handing over to Columbia college all its property takes it out of the category of money-making institutions. The faculty is now paid by the university and has no responsibility in any way except the right of nominating all professors and teachers and regulat-There is a strict ing the curriculum. preliminary examination—a graded course extended over at least three years (each session lasting for nine months) and great facilities for laboratory and practical work—including the material afforded by the Vanderbilt Clinic and the Sloane Maternity hospital. The class in attendance during present session numbers over 700. To those of us whose memory dates back to a period of twenty-five years ago there is sadness in the fact that every one of the teachers of that day is departed.

In addition to the three regular medical schools there are two institutions of a supplementary character, viz., "the Post Graduate Medical college" and "the Polyclinic"-both intended for practical work for men who have already taken their diploma. These are most valuable places for the young graduate or the rusty practitioner—the work is altogether clinical and the teachers comprise the best of the younger men of the profession in the city. The Post Graduate is now erecting a commodious building which will give greatly increased facilities for carrying on its work.

Of the hospitals time will fail for any extended account for their name is legion. The now venerable Bellevue. St. Luke's and Charity still carry on their good work; the second being just about erecting modern buildings on a new site. The model hospital is of course the new "Presbyterian," raised from the ashes of its predecessor. Here everything that modern science knows seems to have been introduced, and it would really be hard to imagine in what respects it could be improved upon. The New York hospital, the Roosevelt, the Mount Sinai, the Cancer hospital, the Sloane Maternity, the Hospital for ruptured and crippled and the German hospital are all in the first rank.

A great deal of rivalry has prevailed in regard to the subject of operating rooms and theatres. First there was the fitting up of a special operating room in Bellevuc hospital in memory of the late Dr. Crane ; then, Dr. J W. Mac-Lean, as a memorial to a favorite son, established one in Roosevelt for abdominal operations. Later, the architect of the Presbyterian hospital has constructed a theatre which cost \$\$5,000, and was supposed to be the best of its kind-but this can no longer be claimed for in connection with the Roosevelt there has been for the last two years under construction what may justly be called an ideal surgical ampitheatre. It is called the "Syms" Operating theatre," after the gentleman whose dying bequest it was. It is to be opened with appropriate ceremonies in two days from present Everything that could be learned date. in Europe or America has been included in the attempt to construct a perfect building. The amount expended has been \$250,000-this simply for an operating theatre-with its attendant instrument, etherizing, washing, and recovery rooms. The materials used are marble, glass, iron, slate and concrete. No wood is visible except the seats of the chairs for students, of which there are about one hundred and fifty. The room is so constructed that a hose can be turned on daily, and the whole of it from from ceiling to floor thoroughly washed. The fittings have been chiefly imported from Germany, and are all of iron and glass, including the operating table, instrument tables, stand for solutions, etc., etc. The lighting is from a semicircular sky-light, with of course abundant electric auxiliaries for dark days. The space for operating is intentionally limited, so that all visitors shall be kept outside the rail. I could enlarge indefinitely on this subject for it is indeed a surgeon's realized dream, and no wonder Dr. McBurney is proud of it.

In regard to operative surgery one can not fail to be struck with the great frequency of "laparotomies." There is scarcely a day upon which the bulletin boards of the colleges do not contain notices of several laparotomy operations at different hospitals; often two or more at the same time and place. These are of course chiefly for diseases connected with the female pelvic organs, and the fact shows the comparative freedom with which surgical interference in that region is undertaken.

Another operation much in vogue is that for the radical cure of hernia, and the results claimed are very satisfactory. The open operation, commonly known as MacBurney's, seems to have rather fallen into disrepute, the favorite procedure being that proposed by Bassini, a European surgeon-its peculiarity consisting in the method in which the stitches are introduced for deep sutures. In these operations most operators use Kangaroo tendon. A substitute for this is about to be tried made of ox periton-One surgeon connected with the eum. hospital for ruptured and crippled, told me of twenty-six operations he had done during the present year, with so far only three relapses.

In abdominal operations most surgeons are adopting the "Trendelenborg" It certainly has marked adposition. vantages, and as far as I have been able to observe there are no immediate injurious results, though it does look a T shall little hazardous when first seen. not attempt to describe individual operations of various kinds which I have seen, as it would enlarge the limits of my letter altogether too much. One novelty I may mention was the use of a circular saw, operated by an electric motor, used by Dr. Weir in removing a portion of skull in an operation for supposed aneurism of middle meningeal artery. It did the work well but required to restrict its careful manipulation action.

Thiersch's method of skin grafting seems to give excellent results in ulcers and large granulating wounds. The Flap splitting method of repairing this lacerated perineum is used a good deal —though some claim better results from Martin's operation with buried cat-gut sutures. The open treatment of varicocele seems an improvement on old

methods and with aseptic pracautions no more hazardous. In appendicitis, Dr. Bull, of New York hospital, operates frequently and has good results. This surgeon I saw tie the subclavian carotid arteries for innominate and aneurism-he also does numerous operations for radical cure of hernia. As to surgical methods in operating and dressing wounds there is nothing especially Each surgeon has more or less. new. his own way, but all aim at asepsis with antisepsis more or less prominently added; of course the spray is a thing of the past; irrigation too as done by Lister, is given up, being now used only at intervals and chiefly for cleansing the wound; Iu abdominal cases operators differ much-some wash out some do not-some drain often, others never. Dr. King, of the German hospital, a brilliant young operator, never uses washing and has given up drainage tubes entirely, using a strip of gauze for draining when necessary. Instru ments are thoroughly boiled except knives, which are either sterilized by dry heat or cleaned with antiseptic so-Silk cat-gut, silkworm gut, . lutions. kangaroo tendon are used according to the fancy of the operator. I have been struck by the freedom with which silk of large size is used in tying pedicles in abdominal operations.

In regard to dressings, the variousforms of gauze with iodoform in powder or etherial solution seem most in vogue, the tendency being to less elaboration than of old.

The use of the drainage tube is much less general than formerly. Perfectarrest of hemorrhage and the adaptation of deep parts of the wound by buried sutures being relied on, unless bagging or much oozing is feared.

Of new instruments the number is large and the shops of the makers arevery attractive. At one of these I saw a quantity of the fittings ordered for the operating room of the new Vietoriahospital in Montreal, and wished I might duplicate them for the V. G. H.in Halifax.

# WYETH'S BEEF JUICE.

A Liquid Preparation of the CHOICEST BEEF, containing the Nutritious Albuminous Principles in an unaltered and soluble form.

A Two-ounce Bottle	READ THE FOLLOWING	Contains Albuminoids
of Pure Juice of Meat.	THE LANCET.	in a higher degree than any
	LONDON: SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 1892. Analytical Becords.	other Preparation of a similar nature.
Actual test will show	WYETH'S BEEF JUICE.	
3 pcr cent. by weight of	"The following analytical notes and results testify unmistakably to the excel- lence of this preparation. It is a dark	
ANHYDROUS	reddish-brown liquid of pleasant beef-like flavour, and free from objectionable pre- servatives. It contains not only the albuminous principles of beef in an active	Proportion of Nutrient
ALBUMINOIDS.	and soluble form, but in the condition in which they occur in the freshly expressed	to Stimulating
	juice of beef itself. Viewed with the spectroscope, a dilute solution is seen to give two absorption bands, characteristic-	Properties such that
Contains the	of fresh blood or hamoglobin. The liquid loses this property, however, as soon as it is boiled; while the coagulated albu-	it can be retained by the
Hæmoglobin of the	minous principles assume a blood-red tint. According to our experiments, no	stomach in EXTREME
Meat 'unaltered.	less than fourteen grains of solid albumi- nous principles in every fluid ounce are thus precipitated. The following figures	cases of Debility.
	gained in analysis will convey some idea of the eminent degree of concentration through which this preparation has been	· ·
Mixed only with Iced	carried. Notwithstanding this, the vital elements of beef juice it contains have	
or Lukewarm Water;	been preserved unchanged. Moisture, 44.87 per cent.; organic matter, 38.01 per cent.; mineral matter, 17.12 per	Largely Prescribed
Never with boiling	cent. The organic materials contain 4.57	by the
Water, as	parts of nitrogen, and the mineral matter consists largely of common salt and, of	Medical Faculty of
extreme heat renders	course, soluble phosphate. Results like these make it safe to assert that as an	the United States,
the valuable	example of preparations of this class Wyeth's beef juice is little short of per-	Great Britain,
Albuminous Elements	fection."	and
insoluble.	DAVIS & LAWRENCE CO. (L'td.,) MONTTREAL. GENERAL AGENTS FOR CANADA.	Canada.

#### WYETH'S

# LIQUID MALT EXTRACT

MAY BE PRESCRIBED WITH VERY MARKED ADVANTAGE TO PATIENTS

Who are run down,

As it is a very valuable tonic.

Who have lost appetite,

As it produces a decided relish for food.

Who have difficulty after eating,

As it is an excellent digestive agent.

Who suffer from nervous exhaustion, As it will produce a prompt reaction.

Who are troubled with chilliness, As it effectively promotes circulation.

Who have tendency to consumption, As it fortifies and strengthens the system.

Who are in later stages of consumption, As it re-supplies in a measure the waste of strength.

Who are unable to digest starchy food, As it will correct this very effectively.

Who are nursing mothers, As it INCREASES the quantity of milk.

Probably its greatest value is, as a beverage, during lactation, as it not only supplies strength, to meet the unusual demands upon the system at that time, but it improves the quality of the milk, by increasing the amount of sugar and phosphates, nourishing the infant and sustaining the mother at the same time.

It has that liveliness and freshness of taste, which continues it grateful to the feelings of the patient, so that it does not pall on the appetite, and is ever taken with a sense of satisfaction.

As it contains less than three per cent. of alcohol, it can be given to invalids, children, etc., without danger of the depressing effect so irequently experienced from the re-action after administration of spirituous remedies. Among all the army of surgeons anxious to treat fibroid tumours and other diseases of the female pelvis by operative procedure, I was curious to learn whether the less radical measurcs—particularly Apostoli's method had any advocates left. And I was pleased to find that there are still some men who consider electricity in many cases as giving quite as satisfactory if not as brilliant results as the knife.

As you will see I have given up most of my time to surgery matters—but I have also tried to see some of the medical practice of the hospitals, and in company with Dr. Sinclair have looked into the general detailsof nursing, ventilation, heating and other methods of hospital management. Together, too, we have attended some very interesting clinics and lectures on diseases of the nervous system by Starr, Sachs, Weiner, Pritchard, and other well known authorities.

Fearing that I have already exceeded the limits of your patience and asking indulgence for a hastily written article, I am,

Yours, very truly, J. F. BLACK.

#### Selections.

#### MEDICAL TREATMENT OF ACUTE TON SILLITIS AND PHARYNGITIS.

JAMES E. NEWCOMB.— Reference is had only to the catarrhal forms and to quinsy. The cases are divided into three groups, as follows:—1. Cases in which treatment was begun on the first or second day of the disease. 2. Cases where it was begun on the third day. 3. Cases where it was begun after the third day.

The standard by which the effect of remedies was judged was the number of hours in which the effect of the painful swallowing characteristic of the disease was relieved. Three remedies were used : salol, guaiae and salieylate of soda. Salol Cases.—Group 1. 36 cases, average relief in 12 hours. Group 2. 15 cases, average relief in 14 hours. Group 3. 30 cases, average relief in 18 hours.

Guaiac Cases.—Group 1. 20 cases, average relief in 18 hours. Group 2. 10 cases, average relief in 231 hours. Group 3. 14 cases, average relief in 11 hours.

Sodium Salicylate Cases.—Group 1. 15 cases, average relief in 24 hours. Group 2. 12 cases, average relief in 17 hours. Group 3. 17 cases, average relief in 15 hours.

81 or 48 per cent, healed by salol, averaged  $14\frac{1}{3}$  hours; 44 or 26 per cent. healed by guaiac, averaged  $17\frac{1}{3}$  hours; 44 or 26 per cent. healed by sod. salicylate, averaged  $18\frac{1}{2}$  hours. The prefer ence is therefore in favor of salol. The dose employed was five grains every two hours.

In regard to the rheumatic aspect of throat diseases, a study of these cases shows that 47 or 29 per cent had either rheumatic fever, joint pains or rheumatic parents. One hundred and fifteen or 71 per cent. were entirely free therefrom. The former was relieved by the remedies employed in an average of  $16\frac{1}{2}$  hours, while the average in the latter was  $17\frac{1}{2}$  hours, practically the same.

The writer believes that salol will relieve the conditions mentioned quicker than any other remedy if there is much peritonsillar enlargement. He believes in an incision toward the median line. whether there is evidence of pus or not. It frequently gives great relief Where pus is present free incision, followed by a hot bicarbonate of soda gargle, gives satisfactory results. In all cases a thorough evacuation of the bowels should precede: other remedies. This is particularly necessary with salol, which in the alkaline duodenum needs contact with the pancreatic juice to split up and set free its component parts. The usine in patients taking salol is generally darkened, but that need cause no alarm.

## M. P. P.

# MALTO PEPTONIZED PORTER,

FOR INVALIDS, CONSUMPTIVES, AND DYSPEPTICS.

THIS combination, containing the finest quality of *PORTER* imported from the Messrs. A. Guinness, Son & Co., Limited, of Dublin, together with *PEPSIN* (the digestive power of 10,000 grains of albumen to the bottle), *EXTRACT OF MALT*, and *DANDE-LION*, appeals to the understanding of the Profession as being well adapted to a numerous class of cases.

In 1400 bottles given to medical men, as samples, positive GOOD RESULTS can be given from over 200 answers received from those by whom Malto Peptonized Porter has been thoroughly tested and used. There has NOT BEEN ONE SINGLE FAILURE reported, but all pronounce that it is the most perfect concentrated liquid food, tonic, and antidyspeptic preparation ever put before them.

In no single instance has it been rejected by the most delicate stomach.

Where the stomach has been so irritable that no food could be retained, Malto Peptonized Porter has acted like a charm, and there has been no difficulty thereafter in the stomach retaining food.

In the many cases in which Malto Peptonized Porter may be indicated are the following:

#### (a) Convalescence from acute diseases—such as typhoid fever.

- (b) Atonic Dyspepsia.
- (c) In persons of Consumptive tendencies. Here it has been found to be a most perfect substitute for Cod Liver Oil the malt giving the fat-producing elements necessary to the supply of the wasted tissues, with the other ingredients furnishing the tonic and stimulating effects required.
- (d) In the treatment of cases of Alcoholism. In all cases in which it has been used it has answered admirably in allaying the irritation, vomiting, and consequent desire of stimulants of an unhealthy nature.
- (e) In wasting diseases of children.
- (f) For administration to nursing mothers.
- (g) Where there is sleeplessness from flatulence, over-taxed brain and nervous system-

SAMPLES CAN BE OBTAINED FREE BY THE PROFESSION



TRURO, NOVA SCOTIA.

Please mention "The Maritime Medical News."

No poisonous symptoms have been observed and only occasional tinnitus.— Pacific Medical Journal.

#### THE OPIUM CURSE.

Of the many baneful habits to which the Anglo-Saxon race has allowed itself to become addicted, few are more pernicious to health or more easily acquired and more enslaving than that of opium smoking. The immediate effects are soothing and tranquilizing, the hours and days are passed in a mental state full of pleasing hallucinations bordering on sweet oblivion as long as the drug is continued, but the moment its influence ceases, that moment the poor victim becomes the most miserable mortal on · earth. His appetite gives way to anorexia, nausea and dizziness,  $_{\rm the}$ muscular system degenerates and the smoker becomes pale, nervous and emand entirely unfit for his aciated, vocation. All the while his appetite for opium increases, larger and larger quantities are required to satisfy his cravings, until finally his very existence depends on the frequent and almost continuous use of this deleterious drug.

San Francisco, be it said to her shame, has perhaps more "opium dens" and a greater number of white opium smokers than any other civilized city in the world, and the government seemingly encourages this debasing traffic, for we find, as Dr. D Evelyn notes from the lecture of the Rev. Dr. Frederick Masters, that over 500,000 pounds of smoking opium entered this port during the last eight years, and nearly 50,000 pounds landed during the first six months of last year! This is truly appalling when we consider that nearly all of this enormous amount of opium is smoked in California. Most of it, fortunately, is used by the Chinèse on account of their slaving system of contract labor. Let us illustrate : when a fruit-g ower wants to employ 100 or 1,000 men during the season in his orchard, the only available help is Chinese. He sends to the six great

companies which literally control all the Chinese labor on the coast. The men are furnished for a dollar a day and sent out under the supervision of a Chinese overseer, perhaps the only one in the lot who speaks English All their clothing and food supplies are imported from China and furnished by the companies, and also a certain amount of opium for daily consumption. The poor wretches are obliged to pay for their opium as they do for their rice, and having to pay for it they naturally In this manner the baneful smoke it. opium-habit is directly encouraged for the sake of the filthy lucre it brings

Nor is opium-smoking confined to the Chinese alone. Far from it. Some time ago we were called to see a young lady who was supposed to be dying. We were conducted along a small narrow street leading off Dupont street near Jackson. On arriving at the destination we were shown into a room about twenty feet square, well guarded by outside and inside sentinels. On the matted floor and cushioned divans lay fourteen men and women, all busy with long clumsy looking pipes, small steel rods and tiny boxes containing a tarry looking material. They were diligently "cooking" small pellets of this material -opium-over small lamps, placing them in their pipes, lighting them and eagerly smoking the drug. A veritable "opium den." Of these fourteen people some were Chinese, but most of them were white girls and young white men. Here they lay, side by side, men and women, Chinese and white, in all conditions of nudity, some asleep, but most of them smoking the noxious drug.

At one end of the room lay the object of our visit, a beautiful white girl of about twenty. She was in a profound opium stupor, with pin-point pupils and respirations eight per minute. It was learned that this was the first time she had "hit the pipe," and she had evidently "hit" it pretty hard, for we worked with her most of the night before she recovered.

Many similiar dens flourish in China-

town and other parts of the city as they do in Chicago, New York, and wherever Chinese congregate. It is high time our government took decisive steps to abolish this infamous traffic, and give our city officials a chance to close up these iniquitous opium dens, and wipe out one of the darkest spots on our fair city's escutcheon. — Pacific Medical Journal.

#### INFANTILE PARALYSIS-TREATMENT.

At first, according to Dr. J. Simon, external methods are used, slight revulsion over the spinal cord above the origin of the roots of the nerves, with dry cups or application of croton oil, mixed with some menstruum; or mustard leaves rather than cautery points and the other more painful methods of vesication. Next give stimulating baths (in bed), using vapors, etc. Thirdly, sedation of the nervous system by chloral, aconite, or conium. In the second week combine electricity with tonics as follows: Galvanization by weak continuous currents (2 to 4 milliampères.) Apply the positive pole by slipping it on the shoulder, and put the negative pole in a basin of water slightly salted, into which the hand is put, use this for eight or ten minutes, and notice that the positive pole does If it gets not blister the shoulder. too red reduce the strength of the battery. Later use the faradic current as a change, but with weaker current. Slight massage and friction may be made also. Give the following :

 R Tincture nux vomica......1 gramme. Tincture colombo, Tincture cascarrillæ, M. S. : Give eight or ten drops as a dose.

In eight or ten days commence an arsenical treatment by a half to one milligramme of sodii arsenias.

During convalescence use sulphur baths or salt water baths, or sea baths, for three minutes at a time only.— Arch. of Pæd.

#### HYPERTROPHY OF THE TONSILS.

Syrup of the iodide, in combination. with codliver oil; the tonsils painted once daily with one of the following :---

B Tinct. ferri chlor., . f3j.

Glycerinæ, . . . f3ss.

M Sig. : Apply.

B Ammon. iodidi, . . gr. x-3ss.

Glycerinæ, . . . f3j.

M. Sig. : Apply every night withbrush.—WARING.

B Liq. ferri perchlorid, . f3ss-j.

Glycerinæ, . . . f3j.

M. Sig. : Paint over tonsils once ortwice daily.—MACKENZIE.

B. Liq. iodi comp., . . f3ij.

Glycerinæ, . q. s. ad f3j.

M. Sig. : Paint once daily.—STARR.

In marked hypertrophy the solid nitrate of-silver point may be passed into the follicles of each gland and then applied over the whole mucous surface every other day. Should this fail, excision must be resorted to.—POWELL, *Essen. Dis. Children.* 

EXAMINATION FOR TUBERCLE-BACILLI. -VAN KETEL (Archiv für Hygiene, Bd. xv, p. 109; Centralbl. f. Bakt. Parasitkenk., xii, 19, p. 689) proposes a new method to facilitate the search for tubercle-bacilli in fluids. Into a widemouthed flask, having a capacity of about three ounces, are introduced about three drams of the fluid to be examined, a dram and a half of liquefied carbolic acid, and, if the fluid be thick, about three drams of water. The mixture is The well shaken for a minute or two. vessel is then filled with water and again actively shaken. Its contents are at once poured into a conical glass and permitted to stand for from twelve to twenty-four hours, at the expiration of which time a portion of the sediment is removed with a pipette and placed upon a cover-slip and dried. The cover-slip is washed in ether or chloroform and then in alcohol, or at once in compound spirit of ether. The preparation may now be stained in the usual way with carbol-fuchsin or other stain.

SELF-INFLICTED WOUNDS IN HYSTER-ICAL PATIENTS.—Thiérsh tells of a peasant woman afflicted with burns; on arrival at the hospital she had been thoroughly searched, but nothing suspicious was found upon her. Every precaution was taken to prevent her touching the ulcerations, and a cure seemed assured, when new ulcerations appeared. A new taansplantation was made, the patient closely observed, but while the bandages seemed undisturbed, pressure spots appeared, and the fact developed that she practiced rubbing over the baadages.

In another case, the patient when accused of preventing the healing of the wounds indignantly denied the fact.

Apropos of the foregoing, we think the general opinion that patients add to their wounds purposely is ill founded. Tn the case of the peasant woman the abnormal sensations in the thorax, resulting from the burns, induced her to seek relief by rubbing. In these cases of hysteria there is a close analogy to  $_{\rm the}$ so-called stigmatization. Louise Lateau, who belonged to the order of Francis d'Assisi, had hemorrhages from her stigmata every Friday. Probably the bladder-like appearance she showed on her hands and feet were of the nature of pemphigus hystericus. The conjecture seems well-founded that in the case of the stigmatics there is question of the concurrence of hemorrhagic diathesis with 'hysteria.-Prayer Medicinische Wochenschrift.

Writing of the physician on the witness stand in the New York Medical Examiner, Austin Abbott, Esq., Dean of the New York University Law School, says: If a capable expert witness with strong convictions proves to be weak, or produces a weak effect upon the jury, it is usually because he does. not get farther than the expression of mere opinion. The strength of a medical witness is not in the confidence of his opinions, but in the intelligible reasons he is able to give for them. The cogency of expert testimony depends on moderate opinions clearly supported by

reasons intelligible to the jury. Of course upon many subjects the jury may not be capable of understanding, in a scientific sense of that term, the reasons for an opinion; but they are very quick to feel the difference between an opinion for which the speaker can state clearly reasons the character of which are intelligible in a popular sense, and one who has an equally confident opinion but is at a loss to make it clear that he has good reasons. Next after nonpartisanship, clearness and lucidity in describing such matters as the jurors can distinctly conceive appears to be important, with the ability to give strong reasons, intelligible if possible in detail, and if not, intelligible at least in nature, for the conclusions arrived at. And lastly should be mentioned the freedom to make frank statement of the existing scientific doubts or uncertainty regarding any of the non-essential points in the case.—Med. and Surg. Reporter.

A COMPLICATED CASE .--- One of our physicians recently received the following letter from a country physician (?) : "Dear dock I have a pashunt whos phisicol sines shoes that the windpipe was ulcerated of, and his lung have dropped intoo his stummick. He is unable to swoller and I fear his stummick tube is gon. I hav give hym evry thing without effeckt. His father is welthy Onerable and influenshial. He is an active membber off the M. E. Chirsch and god nos I dont want to loose hym. what shall I due. ans. buy returne male, yours in neede."-Ex.

#### COUGH MIXTURE.

R Syr. tolu., Syr. pruni viag., Tinct. hyoscyami, Spts. eth. co.,

Aquæ, . . . āā 3j.

M. Sig. : A teaspoonful every hour. JANEWAY.

Maritime Medical Dews.

#### DECEMBER, 1892.

#### EDITORS.

- Communications on matters of general and local professional interest will be gladly received from our friends everywhere.
- Manuscript for publication should be legibly written in ink on one side only of white paper.
- All manuscripts, and literary and business correspondence to be addressed to

#### DR. MORROW,

Argyle Street, Halifax.

WE congratulate Dr. Sinclair on his promotion to the Superintendency of the Nova Scotia Hospital for the Insane. All will agree as to his eminent fitness for the responsible position and that he has well earned it. Not only is Dr. Sinclair rated high in point of professional ability but his geniality has long been recognized and appreciated and aid in making his appointment all the more a popular one. Dr. Reid, the late Superintendent, has accepted the less onerous responsibilities of directing the further organization and development of the Victoria General Hospital.

A recent meeting of the Halifax County Medical Society showed that the constitution and organization of the Society are not yet properly completed. We believe that at its inception too much was attempted.

It would appear reasonable that no more should be expected of its members than is fairly capable of accomplishment, and that the constitution should be such as to attract and retain the loyalty of all who are disposed to adhere to a rational code of professional conduct. To attempt to include all members of the profession without exception is probably to defeat at the outset the objects of the Society.

It would be regrettable however if the objects of the Society were to be lost sight of and abandoned; so we hope that the medical men of the county will reorganize for the purpose at least of adopting measures for the mutual benefit of all.

#### Society Proceedings,

#### NOVA SCOTIA BRANCH BRITISH MEDI-CAL ASSOCIATION.

At the annual meeting of this Society, held on Sept. 30th, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year : —President, Edward Farrell, M. D.; Vice-President, Thomas Milsom, M.D.; Treasurer, Thomas Trenaman. M. D.; Secretary, Carleton Jones, M. D, M. R. C. S. Council :—Surg. Col. Archer, Surg. Capt. Fowler, Drs. Wickwire, Tobin, Morrow, Cowie and Crawford.

Oct. 12th, Dr Milsom, of Dartmouth, reported a case of cyst of the liver. During the progress of the case gall stones were passed per anum on several occasions. Ultimately one evening the cyst broke into the bowel and some ten pints of dark green mattery fluid were passed. This was followed four days later by the passage of a pint of fluid per rectum, and thereafter the patient, a married woman, recovered.

Dr. Farrell reported three cases of delayed union of tibia; 1st case, a man very thin and spare—tibia and fibula fractured; put up in plaster of Paris on third or fourth day; plaster removed in fifth week; no attempt at union; then put up in sand bags, resulting in union in six weeks. Dr. Farrell thought that the circulation was impeded by the constriction of the bandage though it was not tight.

2nd. case.—A young man, system broken down, apparatus put on loosely, removed in fifth week, no attempt at union. A light apparatus was then applied and patient allowed to go about on crutches. Union took place in three months.

3rd. case.—Fracture of middle of tibia, extension applied, put up in Plaster of Paris, removed on 4th. or 5th. week, no attempt at union. Tight splints were then applied, and massage employed; good union in five weeks.

Dr. Jones reported two cases of gonorrheal rheumatism. In first case about 4 weeks after discharge had stopped, rheumatism set in in right hand, then in left and being severe. In three weeks patient recovered, but suffered from an attack of acute periostitis.

The second case, a man aged 65. Ten days after infection had markel symptoms of gon-rheumatism in left hand. Severe constitutional disturbance with temp. 105° in day. Patient had had rheumatoid arthritis. In both cases anti-rheumatic remedies availed little, and Tr. Ferri perchlor with Ung. Hydrarg, were the remedies of most value.

Oct. 27th.—Dr. D. A. Campbell exhibited a typical case of progressive muscular atrophy. This case is to be added to the list of cases occurring in several generations of a family and which was the basis of an article published in the *Maritime Medical News* for May, 1889. Dr. Campbell also exhibited a case of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

Dr. Morrow introduced a general consideration of the subject of cholera by giving a short history of the carliest known epidemics, their courses throughout Europe, and the various epidemics in America, the present visitation of 1892 being the fifth.

In Canada, cholera first appeared in Quebec in 1832. The origin of all epidemics has been in the Delta at the mouth of the Ganges; whereas, formerly it took years to reach from India to America, now, as a result of the advances in means of travel and transportation, as many months will suffice.

Each visitation in America has been less severe than the preceding, and with present quarantine precautions, sanitary measures and prompt isolation, there is reason to hope that at least the northern part of this continent may never see a repetition of the ravages of previous epidemics.

Surgeon Colonel Archer referred to the lessened mortality from cholera among the troops in India, due probably to improvement in the water supply more than to anything else.

Dr. D. A. Campbell spoke of the importance of the recognition of the bacillus in the first cases of the disease when it was not yet epidemic. It was not completely established that Koch's bacillus is the specific cause. But it is always present in the dejections, so it is a means of diagnosis. A culture must be made as well as a mere microscopic examination.<sup>4</sup> Thirty-six hours are sufficient for the determination. -

Drs. Trenaman, Surgeon Capt. Barefoot, Surgeon Major Dorman, Dr. Slayter and Dr. Farrell took part in the discussion.

Nov. 11th.—A letter was read from Dr. J. F. Black; the letter may be found on another page.

Dr. Murdoch Chisholm reported a case of cerebral tumour. The case presented no pressure symptoms whatever (except pain.) There was no paralysis and no twitchings. A post mortem revealed a tumour involving right occipital lobes of cerebrum, then spreading in a gelatinous looking substance over the cerebellum at its junction with the crus, and then diffusing downwards till it reached the vicinity of the 4th ventricle.

Dr Chisholm also read notes of a case of cerebral abscess exhibiting no signs other than an apparent epileptic seizure. A post mortem revealed a large abscess situated in occipital lobe of the right hemisphere, posterior to the motor area.

Dr. G. M. Campbell exhibited a case of an acephalous foctus.

Nov. 24th.—Dr. M. A. B. Smith reported a case of thoracic fistula following undiagnosed empyema. The report is printed in this issue.

Dr. D. A. Campbell thought the question of operating should be largely influenced by the age of the patient, the operation being more applicable in the case of adults.

Dr. Jones thought that no hard and fast rule should be drawn, but that each ease should be considered individually.

Dr. Chisholm thought that aspiration would have been sufficient and successful in many cases which were too quickly subjected to operation.

Dr. D. A. Campbell expressed himself as convinced that in cases of old standing, with greatly thickened pleuræ, and when the fluid is limited to one sack, and repeated tappings had had no effect, then the proper course was to remove some pieces of rib.

Dr. Farrell thought that there was no disease more likely to be overlooked than subacute plurisy, preceding empyema. He differed from Dr. Chisholm in toto in regard to the aspiration being often sufficient; it was difficult to evacuate thoroughly so; and the pus was always a source of danger.

Dr. Farrell then gave a resume of some surgical cases occurring in the provincial hospital and including :

1. A case of osteo sarcoma of shoulder-amputated at shoulder joint,

which was done on Nov. 19th, after a preliminary ligature of the second part of the axillary artery.

2. Amputation at ankle joint for caries of tarsal bones.

3. Fissure of anus operated upon by excising fissure and stretching rectum—recovery rapid.

4. Two cases of hydrocele; (a) cavity aspirated and carbolic acid injected (Oct. 25th.) On Nov. 15, as bad as ever. Then a free incision was made from one end of sac to other, a piece of tunica vaginalis excised. (b) somewhat similar case.

5. Amputation of penis for epithelioma. The skin was stitched all round the urethra.

6. Amputation of thigh following suppurating wound at knee joint.

A prescription belongs to the patient ? In a recent case tried in Detroit the court rendered this decision. Testimony tending to show that druggists regard the prescription as their property was excluded.—*Doctor's Weekly*.

#### OBITUARY.

#### LAURENCE MACLAREN, L.R.C.S., ED.

By the death of Dr. Laurence Melaren, which took place in this city on the 22nd September, ult., Saint John loses once of its best known and most respected citizens, and the medical profession one of its most eminent and skilful practitioners. His reputation as a bold and capable as well as successful surgeon was not confined to the city of his adoption, but was provincial in its character and extent, and when in the full enjoyment of his physical powers he was always prepared for any surgical emergency.

Among his many successful operations may be mentioned 'ligature of the carotid,' for hœmorrhage from punctured wound below the ear, 'ligature of the femoral' on more than one occasion, and 'lithotomy' by the median incision. A report of one of the

## THE SELECTION OF TONICS.

Following upon the reappearance of Influenza, most physicians have remarked great prostration and slow convalescence from this and all other disorders, and much ingenuity has been displayed in devising suitable tonics to meet and overcome profound depression at present associated with all discussed conditions.

We take this opportunity, therefore, of directing the attention of the medical profession to certain proparations and medicaments which have long enjoyed a well-merited popularity, together with some remarks relative to the special indications of their successful employment. The present tendency of the laity and a considerable proportion of medical practitioners to depend upon alcoholic stimulants for their supposed tonic properties, and which has been recognized as productive of the most disastrous results, furnishes ample reasons for making an effort in the direction of securing better and more practical views concerning medication.

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Each fluid drachm contains two grains of Phosphate of Iron, one grain of Quinine, and one-sixtieth grain of Strychnine in simple Elixir, flavored with Oil of Orange. ADULT DOSE.—One teaspoonful three times a day.
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The preparation containing the above named ingredients constitutes an ideal tonic, and is especially adapted to those who have previously enjoyed robust health. It is rendered palatable and efficient by the use of only pure alkaloids of Quinine and Strychnine, excess of acid being avoided. Alternation with our Beef, Wine and Iron is recommended, for the reason that sensitive patients are rendered extremely nervous and "fidgety" by the long continued employment of strychnine.

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Each dessertspoonful contains ten minims of the officinal Tincture Chlocide Iron. Four grains of Quinine Sulphate will dissolve in an ounce of the Elixir, without the addition of any acid, the solution being beautifully clear. If a larger quantity be prescribed, the usual amount of acid per grain must be added. Dosr. -Adults, one dessertspoonful; Children, one-half to one teaspoonful.

The combination of Gentian with Iron in this form supplies a simple bitter with an active hæmatihic, free from the styptic taste of iron preparations in general. It can be taken in small doses by delicate females and children, without derangement of digestion or subsequent constipation, and will often be found invaluable in overcoming malarial cachexia, given in combination with Quinine and alternated with arsenical preparations.

It is especially indicated to correct relaxed conditions of the gastro-intestinal tract, whether or not associated with anæmia.

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Our Elixir of Phosphorus is prepared with great care, and will prove efficient in the treatment of the limited number of cases in which this remedy is specially indicated. It will be found of service in all low conditions, associated with profound depression of the nervous system, such as the later stages of pneumonia and influenza, and also in the hypostatic congestion occurring in typhoid fever and other protracted disorders. It is likewise well adapted to the treatment of certain neuralgias, paralyses, insomnia and impotence. The most satisfactory results follows its exhibition in small doses not too frequently repeated, but care must be exercised in selecting an active preparation.

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IT DIFFERS IN ITS EFFECTS FROM ALL ANALOGOUS PREPARATIONS; and it possesses the important properties of being pleasant to the taste, easily borne by the stomach, and harmless under prolonged use.

- IT HAS GAINED A WIDE REPUTATION, particularly in the treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Chronic Bronchitis, and other affections of the respiratory organs. It has also been employed with much success in various nervous and debilitating diseases.
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- The success of Fellows' Syrup of Hypophosphites has tempted certain persons to offer imitations of it for sale. Mr. Fellows, who has examined samples of these, finds that no two of them are identical, and that all of them differ from the original in composition, in freedom from acid reaction, in susceptibility to the effects of oxygen when exposed to light and heat, in the property of retaining the Strychnine in solution, and in the medicinal effects.
- As these cheap and inefficient substitutes are frequently dispensed instead of the genuine preparation, physiciaus are earnestly requested, when prescribing the Syrup, to write "Syr. Hypophos. FELLOWS."
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MONTREAL,

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latter operations which was performed so long ago as December 31st, 1857, was published in the London Lancet, and published *in extenso* in "Allarton's Median Lithotomy," a work printed in London in 1863. In this case he removed three calculi, the whole weighing one ounce and a half.

Dr. Maclaren was born in Charlottetown in 1817, and received his medical education in Edinburgh where he obtained the diploma of the Royal College of Surgeons and was the first P. E. Islander to receive his medical education at that place. On his return to this country he commenced practice in Richibucto, Kent Co., and here he soon achieved such a brilliant reputation that he was sent for, from far and near; and it was in that place that some of his best surgical work was done. After remaining there for twenty-five years, he removed to this city, where he at once stepped into the front rank of the profession, and while attending to his own private practice, was very frequently called in by others as a consultant.

Dr. Maclaren was a man of tall and commanding presence, vigorous constitution, and of strong personality. А hater of sham and pretension he was outspoken in his views of what he considered right or wrong, while the strictest honor and integrity guided him in his intercourse with his fellow practitioners. He was extremely punctual in fulfilling all his engagements, and did not like to have his time wasted by lack of punctuality in others; in fact in him, the preciseness, punctuality and some of the formality of an almost past generation was happily blended with the greater scientific knowledge and capabilities of the present, and made up a personality which commanded the respect of his contemporaries and the admiration of his juniors, while those on more intimate terms with him bear witness to the warmth and kindliness of his nature.

From 1868 to 1879 Dr. Maclaren was one of the visiting staff of the Gen. Public Hospital, and on his resignation was appointed Consulting Surgeon. He was also a member of the Council of Physicians and Surgeons, having been elected thereto when it was first organised.

Some two years ago while on a visit to Toronto he was taken very ill, recovered somewhat, but later developed a cystitis which assumed a chronic form, and gradually broke down a very vigorous constitution, so that when, about six days before his decease, an acute and painful attack of dysentery supervened, it found him too weak to withstand it, and he gradually sank till death relieved him of his suffering.

He leaves a widow, five daughters and four sons, one of the latter of whom is Dr. Murray Maclaren of this city.

Thus lived and died one whose courage, skill and integrity in his profession and in daily life were only equalled by the modesty which accompanied them.

Saint John, Nov. 26, 1892.

#### DR. GEORGE ROSS, OF MONTREAL.

The death of this well-known physician deprives the profession of the Dominion of one of its most distinguished members.

Dr. Ross was born in Quebec some forty-seven years ago, of a family of Scotch descent, which had been in Lower Canada from the cession. After a brilliant career in the Arts Department and in the Medicai School of McGill College, he was for several years house-physician to Montreal General Hospital, and in 1872 succeeded the late Dr. Drake as Professor of Clinical Medicine—a position which he held until the death of Dr. R. P. Howard a few years ago, when he was transferred to the chair of practice.

It was, perhaps, as a hospital physician that Dr. Ross attained his chief eminence. During the past half century the Montreal General Hospital has been fortunate in having on its staff a number of men who understood fully the secret of teaching clinical medicine, men so impressed with the belief that the stu-

dent must learn his art at the bedside that they were willing to spend hours in what to some would be drudgery, but what is in reality the very marrow of all teaching-transforming for the young mind the dry, hard facts of pathology into living knowledge-living because capable of dealing with the realities of disease. It has been the good fortune of the writer to follow some of the best clinical teachers of this generation-Jenner, Wilson Fox, Murchison, Traube, Bamberger, and Ernst Wagner. Greater praise cannot be given than to say that in systematic thoroughness, in exactness, in the art of bedside didactic, Dr. Ross had the method of Murchison. For there are two sorts of bedside teachers. the one content to expound, illustrate, and dilate upon his text—the patient under consideration-careless often whether or not the lesson is heeded; the other, regarding not alone the patient, but by question and answer, by personal supervision of the examination of the case, makes the student himself deduce the desired lesson. No more rigid, exacting, and painstaking teacher of medicine could be found than Dr. Ross. Always prompt and punctual, full of resource, and with a mind trained by long practice, and enriched by an unusually varied experience, he was, indeed, a model bedside instructor, and he has left his impress on the minds of scores of young men who came under his tuition.

Dr. Ross had also those peculiar qualities of mind (found as a rule in one or two doctors in every-large city) which make the counsellor —a man who instructively takes the sound view of a question, and whose judgment is clear and decisive, yet withal liberal, and free from all taint of the guile which too often gives a Ulysses-like character to the would-be leader among men.

Though not a prolific writer, Dr. Ross was a steady contributor to periodical literature, and the files of Canada (now the Montreal) *Medical Journal* for twenty-five years abound in admirable reports and carefully considered articles from 'is pen. A full share of the honors of the profession was freely and gladly given to him. He had been President of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal, of the Canada Medical Association, and Vice-President of the Association of American Physicians, of which society he was a most valued member. Since the death of Dr. Howard he held the position of Vice-Dean of the Medical Faculty and Secretary of the Board of Governors of the Montreal General Hospital.

More than four years ago the symptoms of arterial disease became manifest, and fully aware of his condition he tried so to regulate his life that the school of medicine, to which his presence was so important, should continue to have the benefit of his services. Last winter he was able to give a considerable proportion of the lectures on medicine, and to engage actively in consultation work. During the past summer more severe symptoms developed, and it was evident to himself and to his friends that no further extension could be expected ; and awaiting the end with the calm, philosophic spirit which had been the characteristic feature of his life, he passed away peacefully on the 8th instant, universally regretted by friends, colleagues, and students.

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# CHOLERA.

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In calling the attention of the profession to the institution, the Faculty beg to say that there are more major operations performed in the Hospital connected with the school, than in any other institution of the kind in this country. Not a day passes but that an important operation in surgery and gynecology and ophthalmology is witnessed by the members of the class. In addition to the clinics at the school published on the schedule, matriculates in surgery and gynecology, can witness two or three operations every day in those branches in our own Hospital. An out-door midwifery department has been established, which will afford ample oppor-tionities to the advecting concell in budyies of the obstration. tunity to those desiring special instruction in bedside obstetrics.

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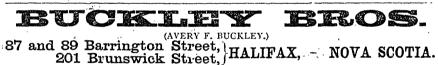
Bellevue Hospital Medical College, City of New York. Sessions of 1892-93.

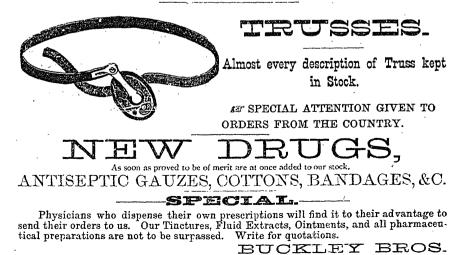
#### THE REGULAR SESSION begins on Wednesday, September 26th, 1892, and continues for twenty-six weeks During this section in delivery weeks. for twenty-six weeks. During this session, in addition to the regular didactic lectures two or three hours are daily allotted to clinical instruction. Attendance upon three regular courses of lectures is required for graduation. The examinations of other accredited Medical Colleges in the elementary branches are accepted by this College.

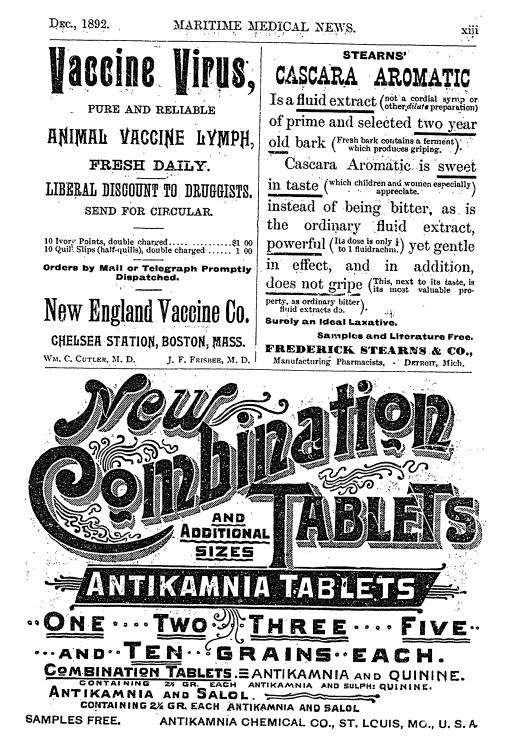
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DEC., 1892.

MEDICAL COLLEGE.

MALIFAX

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For Annual Calendar and all information, address

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Y, DR. LINDSA

Secretary of the Faculty.

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