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THE
BRITISH AMERICAN JOURNAL
OF
MEDICAL & PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

EDITED BY

ARCHIBALD HALL, M.D., L.R.C.S.E.,

Lecturer on Chemistry, University of McGill College; Member of the Medical Board of Examiners for the District of Montreal; one of the Physicians to the Montreal General Hospital; one of the Consulting Physicians to the University Lying-in-Hospital, &c.

VOL. IV.]

DECEMBER, 1848.

[No. 8.

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W. FRASER, M. D.

Lecturer on Medical Jurisprudence,
M^tGill College.

Montreal, 9th February, 1847.

Montreal, February 10th, 1847.

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ROBERT L. MACDONELL, M. D.,

Lecturer Institutes of Medicine,
M^tGill College.

Physician to the Montreal General Hospital.

Mr. Urquhart's Sarsaparilla is the only preparation of this valuable Medicine that I can, with entire confidence, recommend to my patients.

M. M^tCULLOCH, M. D.

Montreal, 10th February, 1847.

DEAR SIR,—I have frequently prescribed your Fluid Extract of Sarsaparilla, and I have no hesitation in recommending it as a very elegant and convenient form for administering that Medicine.

Yours very truly,

GEO. W. CAMPBELL.

To Alex. Urquhart, Esq.

Montreal, 10th February, 1847.

**COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS
OF LOWER CANADA.**

THE BY-LAWS of the COLLEGE having received the sanction of the Executive, its BOOKS are NOW OPEN for the REGISTRATION of MEMBERS.

It is required of such as desire to register, that they forward to the undersigned (post-paid) their name, legibly written in full, their age, birthplace, date of Provincial License, and the College Fee, viz., Ten Dollars in current money of this city.

All such as signed the Petition to the Legislature for the Act of Incorporation, are entitled to Register forthwith, provided that at the time of their signing they were in possession of a Provincial License to practice Medicine, &c., &c.; and in virtue of the By-Law which refers to Membership, the Books of the College shall be kept open during a period of Six Months from the time of the passing of the said By-Laws, viz., the Tenth day of October, 1848, for the Registration of every Member of the Profession who desires so to do, provided such Member has been in possession of a Provincial License to practice Medicine, &c., &c., Four Years at the time of the passing of the Act of Incorporation, viz., 27th July, 1847.

FRANCIS C. T. ARNOLDI, M. D.

Registrar & Treasurer,
Coll. Ph. & Surg., L. C.

58, CRAIG STREET,
Montreal, 1st Dec., 1848.

MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

THE next Monthly Meeting of this Society will be held at the Rooms of the Mechanics' Institute, on Saturday Evening, Dec. 2, at 8 o'clock P.M.

HECTOR PELTIER, M.D.,

Montreal, Dec. 1, 1848.

Secretary.

THE
BRITISH AMERICAN JOURNAL
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Vol. IV.]

MONTREAL, DECEMBER, 1848.

[No. 8.

ART. LVII.—OBSERVATIONS ON THE CLIMATE OF BARBADOES, AND ITS INFLUENCE ON DISEASE: TOGETHER WITH REMARKS ON ANGIOLEUCITIS OR BARBADOES LEG.

By JAMES BOVELL, M.D.,

Member of the Royal College of Physicians, London,—late Junior Physician to the Barbadoes General Hospital,—Junior Physician to the Toronto General Dispensary and Lying in Charity.

(Continued from page 172.)

CASE 1st.—Disease of Metatarsal Bones.—Ulcerated Toes of long standing—Operation.—Jacob Goodridge, *æt.* 32, a black native, by occupation a cook, habits very intemperate, admitted into hospital on the 8th July, 1844, under the care of Dr. Clarke. Being an idle and careless fellow, he allowed his feet to become infested with that disgusting insect, the *pulex penetrans*, or jiggal, a little insect much resembling both in shape and colour a small flea, and which penetrates the cutis for the purpose of depositing its eggs. The toes of his feet were full of these, and on one the toes had ulcerated, producing even disease of the bones, rendering it necessary to resort to amputation, which was performed on the 15th July. The wound healed readily, and he recovered without a bad symptom, being discharged on the 9th September cured.

REMARKS.—The bones of the removed portion were examined, and found to be exceedingly soft and spongy, bending readily without fracture, and on being placed in water, a fatty fluid quickly floated on the surface precisely like drops of oil. The cellular tissue was condensed, and resembled cartilage.

That this diseased condition of the foot was brought on by the irritation produced by the presence of innumerable nests of "jiggars," there can be very little doubt, as we have unfortunately seen many other cases of similar sort brought on by the filth and neglect of persons. One of the best applications for the destruction of the *pulex* when too numerous to be removed by extraction, is the common petroleum, which is to be smeared over the part infested, and it is believed that it acts beneficially by excluding atmospheric air. If the progress of this insect towards increase be watched, it will be seen that as soon as the little animal has entered the cutis, her presence causes a small blush of redness to be set up around her, accompanied by a most agreeable sensation of itching; in ten or twelve hours lymph is effused around her, when the itching subsides, and in the soft bed of lymph the eggs are deposited. At first the nest has the appearance of a pustule, which in five or six days, if left to itself, changes its colour and becomes of a dark green hue—the eggs are now ready for hatching. The parent *pulex* is not enclosed within the cyst, but sits on the outer side, and may with care be

detached without rupturing the walls. I do not believe that propagation is carried on by the parent a second time, but the young brood, if not removed, increase rapidly, and in a very short time the whole foot is infested. Formerly, much caution was used in extracting a jiggal after "the bag" was formed, as it was not uncommon for lymphatic inflammation to be set up, and the foundation laid for repeated attacks of the "Barbadoes leg," or "fever and ague." It must, however, be a very careless person who suffers one of them to remain in his foot, because the irritation produced by their entrance is sufficiently intense to attract their attention, when they may with perfect ease be removed on the point of a needle.

CASE 2nd.—Chronic Ulcer of some years standing—Bones of leg diseased—Amputation below the knee—Recovery.—Phil. Thomas, *æt.* 40, a black native, spare habit and of medium height, very temperate, formerly a field labourer, admitted into the hospital on the 8th July, under the care of Dr. Clarke. His general health has been very delicate for some time, having lost all appetite, and says that he has suffered a good deal of pain from a large indolent ulcer on the leg, which he has had for some years. Lately, however, it has become much worse, and has rendered him incapable of working, or of doing anything for himself. Finding that a resort must be had to the knife, amputation below the knee was performed by Dr. Clarke on the 18th July. The circular incision was made. The stump healed readily by the first intention, except in the tract of one of the ligatures which was tardy in coming away. He left Hospital in perfect good health on the 23rd September, looking very much better than when he came in.

CASE 3rd.—Hypertrophy of Toes, giving an appearance of cauliflower excrescence—Leg enlarged from Angioleucitis, confined chiefly to integuments—Amputation below the knee—Recovery.—Hardiars Best, *æt.* 40, a black native, tall, large-boned, powerful man, of remarkably temperate habits, and has always borne the character of being a sober and industrious labourer. Admitted into Hospital, Upper Bishop's Ward, on the 22nd July, 1844. He states that for many years he has been the subject of glandular disease affecting the right leg. Within the last six years the size of the limb has increased considerably after each attack of the inflammatory stage, and he now complains of the weight of the leg as being exceedingly distressing, and suffers constantly, but especially when walking, from a deep gnawing pain in the foot, and weariness in the whole limb; the former is about four times the size of its fellow. The skin covering the foot and ankle is considerably blackened, and has a most unsightly appearance, and which cannot be more accurately idealized than by

comparing the whole foot to a large cauliflower, and each toe to smaller ones. The calf of the leg was covered with thick epidemic scales, giving the leg much the appearance produced by Ichthisis. The foot and toes are rendered large and unsightly by hypertrophy of the natural structures of the skin, which are prominent and exactly resemble the large papillæ on the sides of the mouth of the cow. The sense of feeling in the diseased skin is lost, and the prick of a needle does not cause any reflex action in the limb. Sensation is natural above the ankle. On the 1st August, amputation by circular incision was performed by Dr. Cutting. The stump healed readily, and he was discharged perfectly well on the 16th September.

REMARKS.—As we shall have occasion to allude to this case hereafter, we will make no observations here beyond those which apply to the case, as an illustration of the propriety of removing these enlarged limbs, which, by their very weight, harass and tire the poor sufferer, reducing him to a mere skeleton.

CASE 4th.—*Partial Amputation of Foot, in consequence of diseased Metatarsus—Recovery.*—George Roberts, æt. 28, a black native, by occupation a cooper, admitted into the General Hospital under the care of Dr. Clarke, August 5, 1844. He states that some time ago, the toes of the left foot ulcerated, and gave him much pain; he also had an ulcer on the internal mæolus of the same leg. After a careful examination, it was thought advisable to remove only the metatarsal bones of the first and second toe, which were accordingly dissected out by Dr. Clarke. The ulcer on the ankle healed, and he was discharged well on the 30th September.

CASE 5th.—*Diseased Tibia and Fibula—Amputation below the Knee—Recovery.*—J. Williams, æt. 20, a black native, by occupation a boatman, admitted into Stott's Ward on the 26th August, 1844, under the care of Dr. Cutting. He states that his health had been generally good until some months ago, when an old ulcer, which was situated on the lower third of the leg, became very troublesome, giving exquisite gnawing pain, depriving him of all rest; his appetite was also very much impaired, and he had all the appearance of a person worn by suffering. On examination, the tibia and fibula were found to be diseased extensively, and as it was the universal opinion that amputation ought to be performed, on the 29th September Dr. Cutting operated by circular incision below the knee. The stump healed kindly, and he was discharged cured and in perfect health.

CASE 6th.—*Cancer of Penis—Glands of Groin enlarged, but indolent—Intense suffering—Amputation—Relief.*—Alex. Gulston, æt. 45, a native coloured man, a mill carpenter by trade, of very intemperate and dissolute habits, admitted into Stott's Ward under the care of Dr. Cutting, on the 4th July, 1844. He states that he had always enjoyed good health, and had worked very laboriously until within the last two years—has had gonorrhœa, but never had syphilis. His present disease commenced as a small hard pimple on the glans penis, attended with constant itching. It gradually increased in size until the whole of the glands became nodulated and much enlarged. Six months

before admission, the glands of the right groin swelled, and are at the present moment exceedingly hard and knotty. His sufferings are very great. The whole of the glans penis is about the size of an ordinary peach, its right half ulcerated. The urine in its passage causing intense agony. The body of penis feels natural. The incurable and almost intractable nature of the disease was explained to him, but he implores that an operation may be performed, if it is only to purchase a few weeks respite from suffering. Dr. Cutting, after much hesitation, at length yielded to his importunities, and having gained the assent of his colleagues, on the 11th July amputated the penis. The wound healed without trouble, and the poor fellow was grateful for the rest which he enjoyed.

REMARKS.—The object of the operation was attained in the suspension of his suffering; his haggard appearance was changed for looks of health and comfort. The impropriety of removing cancerous masses, particularly if far advanced and when neighbouring glands are implicated, is admitted; nor was this case entitled to be considered as an exception to the rule; but when a patient is perfectly conversant with the opinions of his several surgeons, and has had explained to him the nature of the malady under which he labours, some attention ought to be paid to his own desires, particularly in cases where the compliance is not positively detrimental. We knew that if this man was left as he was, he would die from exhaustion; if, therefore, a few months of comparative ease could be procured by a simple operation, surely there was no impropriety to give him that chance. In this case the fear was that the glands in the groin would take an ulcerative action, but as far as my observation goes, this does not put the patient in a worse position, for, in such a case, we know where the disease will shew itself. In the case of a patient of the name of Hooper, admitted into hospital under my care, there is very little doubt but that he suffered from cancerous degeneration of the right lung; he had been operated on two months before his admission, by Dr. A. Corbin, of the Parish of St. Lucy, who removed a cancerous tumor from the right axilla, the wound healing kindly. On his admission into hospital he complained of great debility, shortness of breath on the least exertion, night sweats, pain of a dull character over the right mammary region, cough and slight expectoration, sometimes more profuse than at others, occasionally in pellets and sometimes muco-purulent and acid. Percussion gave a dull sound from the third rib down. Posteriorly percussion gave on the corresponding points a morbidly clear sound, and in this situation the respiration was hoarse and loud, which was particularly marked in expiration. Anteriorly there was no respiratory murmur at all, except under the clavicle, where it was hoarse and dry, and at times attended by a prolonged cooing note, with expiration—a sort of loud wheeze. Over the whole of the left lung, percussion was natural, and the respiration puerile. Sometimes the action of the heart was tumultuous, but there was no evidence of organic disease. Finding that he did not improve, he left hospital. I heard, however, that he died a fortnight, after going home, from what was sup-

posed to be an acute attack of disease of the lungs, but which was most probably the result of softening of the common degeneration of the lung, previously existing. Cancer would seem to be a by no means uncommon disease among the blacks; we have had five cases in hospital, and I have known of several others in private practice.

CASE 7th.—*Extensive injury from a waggon passing over and fracturing the Pelvis—Death from Hemorrhage.*—George Roberts, a black native, æt. 30, of medium height and size, admitted into Stott's Ward under care of Dr. Cutting, on the 29th July, 1844, having received a considerable injury. When a boy he became deaf, but from what cause he cannot remember. For the last six years he has been the subject of chronic bronchitis. On the Tuesday previous to his admission, he was, while walking, knocked down by a waggon laden with two hogsheads of sugar, the weight of which was more than two tons. Both wheels of the waggon passed obliquely across the abdomen. On examination the ilium was found extensively comminuted immediately over the great trochanter, and extending obliquely backwards and downwards there was a lacerated wound about four inches in length, through which the ischium was felt to be broken. The finger readily passed into the abdomen behind the peritoneum, which was not, however, torn. Dr. Cutting enlarged this opening by dividing the bridles of integument which lay across the mouth of the wound, and without any difficulty removed the anterior superior spinous process of the ilium, together with smaller pieces of bone. The former was not fractured. The tensor vaginæ femoris bulged through the wound, and had commenced to slough. He was carefully placed in bed, and pads put around to support the parts, and with the view of keeping him in a steady position. For the three following days the report was favorable; he had comfortable sleep, passed his urine freely, and the bowels had been moved. The discharge from the wound was not unhealthy.

August 3.—Cough very troublesome and accompanied by profuse expectoration of thick tenacious mucopurulent matter. Anteriorly the respiration is tubular and accompanied by cooing and mucous rale with large bubbles. He has become the subject of hallucinations, partaking of the character of acute mania. He pulls off the dressings from the wound as fast as they are put on, and gets out of bed standing in the erect position *without the smallest help*, disarranging the bed clothes.

5.—Continues pretty much in the same state, although he is at times more composed; passes his water freely, and the bowels act well; takes plenty of nourishment; there is an abundant discharge of dirty *ichorous* matter from the wound, which is very offensive. On examining the chest, the smaller bronchial tubes are found to be filled with secretion, and giving signs of fine moist crepitations. On the evening of the 7th, he was seized with sudden hemorrhage, and expired before assistance could reach him.

Post Mortem.—The body externally was thin, but the muscular system, especially about the neck and chest, was well developed. Thorax arched and prominent. On raising the sternum, the lungs were seen of a pale

cream colour and collapsed, the pericardium and heart were quite exposed to view, not being at all overlapped by lung. There was a small quantity of fluid in the sac; the heart was enlarged and hypertrophical, more particularly the right ventricle. The pleuræ were adherent posteriorly. The air cells were dilated. The larger bronchial tubes were dilated irregularly, having an appearance similar to the fusiform dilatation of arteries. Some of the smaller tubes in right lung were blackened, some being entirely closed, while others were only capable of admitting the wire of a very small catheter. In the middle and lower portion of the left lung was a good quantity of thick tenacious mucus in the tubes. On slitting open a tube of the third magnitude, muscular striæ (?) in the long axis of the tube were seen. The whole structure was bloodless and pale. *Abdomen.* The peritoneum was found free from all traces of inflammation; an oblique line of ecchymosis extended across the anterior abdominal wall from the left lumbar region to the right iliac fossa. *The fundus of the bladder* was similarly marked, but its coats were neither torn nor softened. The cæcum on its anterior aspect was also ecchymosed. In the right iliac fossa, and in the right side of the pelvic cavity, in direct communication with the external wound, and behind the peritoneum, was a large effusion of dark coagulated blood. This being very carefully removed, and the contents of the abdomen dissected out, the immediate seat of injury was brought to view. The wound externally presented an unhealthy appearance. The tensor vaginæ femoris, iliacus externus, and psoas muscles, were in a state of sphacelus; none of the blood vessels of the thigh were diseased, but on tracing the iliac arteries and vein through the pelvis, the latter was found to have given way on the outer side, having a ragged perforation about the size and shape of a large grain of oat. The ilium was completely broken up, and several large pieces lay loosely together. The right sacro-iliac-synchondrosis was rent asunder. There was not the slightest attempt at reparation, nor was there the smallest trace of inflammatory action.

REMARKS.—Fracture of the pelvis is not an accident of frequent occurrence, and when we remember the importance of the parts enclosed in its cavity, we may, *à priori*, expect that the patient suffering from such an injury, would have but a poor chance of recovery. Nevertheless, Mr. Houston's case, testifying not only to the ability of that able surgeon, but to the zeal and humanity of the man, gives encouragement to others to use all means for the safety of the sufferer. Every surgeon, however, is fully aware of the danger of operating on individuals who labour under disease of any of these organs, and we are principally indebted to Mr. T. Wilkinson King for having drawn the attention of the profession particularly to this subject, and Mr. Chevers, who has written a very excellent article on the "mortality after surgical operations," has shown that the deaths in the London Hospitals are much increased by the diseased condition of some important organ; and since the discovery of auscultation, surgeons are very careful not to submit their patients to the knife, when there is any trace of pulmonary disease. When, therefore, we call to mind the magnitude of the injury under which our

patient suffered, and the severe local affection of the lungs of which he had been the subject, we cannot be surprised either at the absence of all attempt at reparation or at his death.

The Second Quarterly Return, containing the substance of information recorded in the Register from the 1st October to the 31st December, 1844. By D. Martindale, Esq., Secretary.

Table showing the number admitted during the Quarter:—

Admitted.	No.	Died.	Discharged.
October,	25	2	16
November,	28	0	25
December,	34	2	27
	88	4	68

Classification with regard to colour:—

Admitted.	White.	Coloured.	Black.	Total.
October,	8	3	14	25
November,	9	3	17	29
December,	8	8	17	33
	25	14	48	87

Classification with regard to sex:—

Admitted.	Males.	Died.	Females.	Died.	Total.
October,	19	2	6	0	25
November,	17	0	11	0	28
December,	26	2	8	0	34
	62	4	25	0	87

Showing from what Parish and Foreign Places:—

St. Michael,	42	St. Andrew,	0
St. Joseph,	9	St. Peter,	0
St. George,	1	St. John,	13
St. Charles,	8	St. Lucy,	2
St. Thomas,	1	St. James,	2
St. Philip,	1	Foreign,	8
Total,	87		

Surgical operations performed during the Quarter:—

Amputations below the knee,	8
Amputation above the knee,	1
Extirpation of Tumor from Cheek,	1
Congenital Phymosis,	1
Removal of Metatarsal bone,	1
	12

CASE 8th.—Chronic Ulcer on Leg—Cartilaginous Tibia diseased—Amputation below the Knee—Recovery.—William Flood, aged 22 years; a native coloured man, by occupation a fisherman, admitted into Hospital into Lower Bishop's Ward, under care of Dr. Cutting, on 29th July, 1844. States that he has always been very healthy, and never had any ailment until three years ago, when he received a wound on the front of the lower part of the leg from a projecting piece of old sheet copper that was on the bottom of a boat. The wound has never healed, and there is now a large indolent ulcer on the front of the right leg, occupying the space of the middle and lower third of the tibia; in the centre of the ulcer the tibia is exposed, and in the lower part the tendon of the tibialis anticus is sloughing. On scarifying the ulcer, the knife cut through a very thin bed of granulations resting on a thick cartilaginous material. The edges of the ulcer were hard, everted and thick; everything that could be thought of was done, with a view to save the limb, but

after mature deliberation, amputation was determined on, and performed on the 14th November; he was discharged well on the 14th December.

REMARKS.—On examining the amputated part, a state of disease was exhibited which at once pointed out the propriety of the operation. The integuments in the neighbourhood were not only thickened, but the cellular tissue of the leg had been converted into a semi-cartilaginous substance, becoming more tense as we proceeded from the surface inwards towards the bone, and a number of bony granulations grated under the scalpel in the mass; both the tibia and fibula were softened, and gave out an oily fluid. The ankle joint was also diseased, the cartilage covering the ends of the bones of the leg and foot being absorbed, and a quantity of rosy reddish-coloured fluid effused in the cavity of the joint.

CASE 9th.—Chronic Ulcer on Leg—Loss of part of Heel from injury—Amputation below the Knee—Recovery.—Thomas Taylor, aged 60 years, a black native, admitted into Stott's Ward on 22nd July under the care of Dr. Clarke. He states that he has had for the last ten years an ulcer on the leg, consequent on an injury which he received from a waggon, which, passing over it, the calcis, completely destroyed the greater portion of it. The toes are drawn permanently downwards, and the arch of the instep is very much increased. The heel is drawn upwards by the shortening of the tendo-achillis; from inaction and the use of the crutch, the muscles of the leg have wasted much. Amputation below the knee was performed by Dr. Clarke. The wound healed readily, and he was discharged cured on 16th September.

CASE 10th.—Diseased Bones of Foot—Several fistulous openings on instep and sides of Foot—Amputation—Recovery.—Syke Jennings, aged 24 years, a native of Bermuda, by occupation a seaman, admitted into Stott's Ward on 25th November, under care of Dr. Clarke, suffering a good deal from a diseased condition of the foot. He states that a year ago, when in North America, he was severely frost-bitten in the same foot, but did not lose any of the toes; shortly after leaving the States, many boils formed on the instep and side of the foot, which discharged pus, and without any difficulty healed, and as often formed again, until at length they became as permanent open sores, discharging a thin yellow fluid. The Metatarsus is very much flexed downwards, as in Club foot. On the 5th December, amputation below the knee was performed by Dr. Clarke, and he was discharged in good health on the 11th January, 1845.

REMARKS.—On examining the foot, the parts were found to be much diseased. The cellular tissue was so much condensed as to leave but little distinctive difference in appearance between it and the tendons which were newly marked as lines running through it; the bones act easily, being soft and spongy; the ankle joint contained a reddish rosy fluid, and the cartilages of the ends of the bones were being rapidly absorbed.

CASE 11.—Ulcer of long standing on a leg affected with Chronic Angioleucitis—General health suffering—Amputation below the knee.—William Payer, aged 45, by occupation a groom, admitted into Commissioners'

Ward on the 16th December, 1844. At a very early age he became the subject of glandular disease, which principally affected the right leg; his general health has been for some time declining, and he has now a very dejected unhealthy look, the countenance expressive of much distress, eyes sallow, lips pale and shrivelled. Body very thin, which perhaps is rendered more remarkable in consequence of the enormous size of the right leg, which is diseased from the knee to the toes. The integuments are considerably hypertrophied, and hang in puckered folds over the ankle and instep. The latter are much enlarged, and the toes are three times their natural size. The cutis is not tuberculated, nor are the papillæ of the skin raised, and there is not that peculiar appearance so much like ichthyosis. More than two years ago, an ulcer formed on the lower third of the leg, which has ever since continually discharged a thin serous fluid in considerable quantity and of a peculiar and offensive odour. As soon as his general health was sufficiently improved, amputation above the knee was performed, Dr. Cutting performing the flap operation. The patient recovered, and was discharged cured on the 9th December.

To be continued.

ART. LVIII.—CASES OF RECOVERY FROM POISONING WITH CHLORIDE OF ZINC, AND THE SUGGESTION OF AN ANTIDOTE FOR THIS POISON.

By T. STRATTON, M. D., Edinburgh.

Surgeon, Royal Navy, Particular Service; member of the Montreal Natural History Society.

When chloride of zinc is exhibited internally, its medicinal dose is from half-a-grain to two grains, two or three times a day. The following cases of swallowing in mistake, a quantity of a solution of chloride of zinc, lately occurred in Montreal.

CASE 1.—In a house in Craig Street, in which I had been residing, there was a quart bottle, suitably labelled, containing a weak solution of chloride of zinc. E. R., a servant girl, aged 17, supposing that the bottle contained whisky, put its mouth to her lips and (Nov. 4, 1847.) drank about a wine-glass full. She instantly knew she had made a mistake; she experienced pain and nausea, and had a quantity of milk given her; she vomited very freely. She felt indisposition and want of appetite for about three weeks after. She was not seen by any medical man, as shame prevented her from speaking of the occurrence till a month after, when I saw her. On the supposition that she drank two ounces of the solution, I have reason to think that she took twelve grains of chloride of zinc.

CASE 2.—In May 4, 1848, J. C., aged 54, a porter, a stout healthy man, at noon took up a quart bottle, properly labelled, containing a dense solution of chloride of zinc, and supposing that it contained whisky, he put it to his mouth and drank (as he afterwards told me, he supposed) about a wine-glass full. A large wine-glass contains two ounces and five drachms, and if we consider that he swallowed two ounces of the solution, I have reason to think that he took four hundred grains of the chloride of zinc; but, from the na-

ture of the liquid, it perhaps is unlikely that he took more than an ounce of the solution, or two hundred grains of chloride of zinc; from the size of the mouth of the bottle, it is not likely that he took less than this.

He instantly felt burning pain in the gullet, burning and griping pain in the stomach, great nausea, and a sense of coldness. In about two minutes he left the house, and vomited freely in the street, for about fifty yards, till he came to a friend's house, where he lay down and continued to vomit, or endeavoured to do so. I was requested to see him, and I arrived about twenty minutes after; there was severe twisting and burning pain in the stomach; nausea and vomiting; cold sweating; pulse 45, small, weak; his legs drawn up; anxiety and alarm. I instantly made a strong solution of home-made brown soap, and gave him a quantity of it. He vomited every two or three minutes, and in the intervals drank of the soap-suds, of which he had altogether three or four pints. He also had warm water. The matter vomited was quite free from odor, as I showed to Dr. Winder and Dr. Mount, who were present. He now felt much easier; there was not much stomach-pain, except on pressure; pulse 50; less coldness. I sent him home in a cab, in which he vomited at intervals all the way. I ordered twelve leeches to the epigastrium, and an ounce of olive-oil every hour.

Five P.M.—Has vomited several times after the olive-oil; pulse 60, natural fulness, soft, weak; tongue moist; no particular thirst. They could not procure leeches. A sinapism to the epigastrium. To take an ounce and a-half of castor-oil now, and half-an-ounce of olive-oil every second hour.

May 5.—Slept a little; stomach is easier, still some heat and pain on pressure; he applied a second sinapism, which gave great relief; has vomited several times, soon after taking the olive-oil; tongue dry; thirst; one fetid stool; pulse 72, soft. Repeat the castor-oil; continue the olive-oil every four hours; linseed-tea and water for drink; no food; a blister five inches square to the epigastrium. In the afternoon, he vomited four pieces, about three-quarters of an inch square, of a thin substance; they were not kept, but from the description they probably were eroded shreds of the mucous coat of the stomach.

May 6.—Blister rose well; no pain internally; tongue red on tip, brown on edges; pulse 80, small, soft, weak; thirst; two fetid stools. No vomiting; discontinue the olive-oil; cold water only for drink; to take an ounce of castor-oil in the morning.

May 7.—Got up; no pain on pressure over the abdomen; no vomiting; three fetid stools; some appetite; pulse 60; tongue moist, white; weakness.

May 10.—Appetite pretty good; no uneasiness in the stomach. 12th: appetite improving. May 15: appetite, digestion, and strength, are the same as usual. May 30: he continues in perfect health.

On the first day, the patient was seen also by Drs. Winder, Mahony, Hall, and Mount; and several times after by Dr. Winder.

REMARKS.—As the solution of the chloride of zinc

was not made by myself, but supplied to me, I am not quite certain of its strength; I have good reason, however, to think that its strength is what I have stated above. The first patient took some of a diluted solution, and it is worthy of notice that she suffered from anorexia, &c., for three weeks after; while the second patient, who took a much larger dose, recovered his usual appetite in much less time; probably, from his having administered to him the proper antidote, while the other did not apply at all for advice.

As chloride of zinc has great deodorizing power, I took the opportunity of observing, in the second case, that the matter vomited had no odor, which probably arose from the chloride of zinc. I was careful to observe if the stools were fetid, and their being so, was perhaps some proof that none of the chloride had passed lower than the stomach.

ANTIDOTES.—Some time ago, on washing my hands with soap, after having had them in chloride of zinc solution, I observed that decomposition took place; and I thought, in the event of any one swallowing in mistake, or otherwise, an overdose of the chloride, that either soap, or carbonate of potash, or carbonate of soda, would be the proper antidote.

To a clear solution of chloride of zinc, I added a clear solution of carbonate of soda; carbonate of zinc was precipitated, and chloride of sodium, or common salt, remained in solution.

To a clear solution of chloride of zinc, I added a clear solution of carbonate of potash; carbonate of zinc was precipitated, and muriate of potash remained in solution.

To a clear solution of chloride of zinc, I added a solution of soap; the oil, or fat, in the soap, became free, and floated in the mixture in round and oval pieces; carbonate of zinc was precipitated, and muriate of potash remained in solution.

With regard to the requisite *quantity* of the antidote:—as soon as an overdose of chloride of zinc enters the stomach, one of its first effects, fortunately, is an emetic one; but perhaps cases will occur where, from an overloaded state of the stomach, or some other cause, vomiting will not have occurred by the time the physician reaches the patient; in such cases, for a drachm of chloride of zinc, the proportional antidotal dose is either a drachm of the carbonate of soda, or a drachm and a-half of carbonate of potash, or as much soap as contains the above quantities of soda or potash. (In soap there is generally from six to ten per cent of either soda or potash.) In nearly all cases, it will probably be found, that vomiting will occur immediately after taking the poison, so that much less than the above quantities of antidote will suffice. It is exceedingly convenient to possess an antidote in soap, which is always to be had in houses without delay. Even when soda or potash is at hand, as well as soap, the last seems preferable, as its oily part is useful either as an emetic, or to soothe the irritated or abraded mucous membrane. Castor-oil may be prescribed to carry off any of the chloride which may have passed the stomach. Olive-oil, for a day or two, is soothing to the mucous lining of the œsophagus and

stomach, and sinapisms or a blister to the epigastrium appear to be all that is required.

Chloride of zinc, in medicinal doses, is useful in chorea, neuralgia, epilepsy, &c.; in surgical practice it is used as a caustic and escharotic, and applied externally in a weak solution, it possesses stimulant, alterative, and deodorizing powers over certain ulcers, where it has the great advantage over arsenical, mercurial, and lead preparations, of never giving rise to constitutional disorder from absorption. A peculiar solution of it (Sir William Burnett's Disinfecting Fluid) is largely used to preserve timber, canvass, and cordage, from decay, and to preserve anatomical preparations, and for its deodorizing and disinfecting properties, and for various other hygienic purposes; and this solution, used in the manner directed, is perfectly innocuous.

I have looked into seven or eight of the latest works on *Materia Medica* and *Toxicology*, and have not found mention made of any antidote for chloride of zinc; in one of these works, there is, in parallel columns, a list of poisons and their antidotes, and that for chloride of zinc is left blank; so that, as far as I know, I am the first who has pointed out, and who has used the proper antidote for this poison.

Montreal, June 1, 1848.

ART. LIX.—CASE OF ACUTE CEREBRO-SPINAL ARACHNITIS, THE PATIENT HAVING PRESENTED DURING HIS WHOLE LIFE, AN IRREGULAR INTERMITTING, AND SLOW PULSE: WITH OBSERVATIONS.

By ROBERT L. MACDONNELL, M. D.,

Licentiate of the King and Queen's College of Physicians, and of the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, Physician to the Montreal General Hospital, Lecturer on the Institutes of Medicine, University of McGill College.

Notwithstanding the great progress of pathology of late, it must be admitted, that the diagnosis and treatment of many nervous diseases, remain still enveloped in much obscurity, which has not been diminished by the efforts of some zealous investigators to establish distinctions between the inflammations of the different membranes of the brain and cord, and of the different parts of the brain itself.* I believe I am correct in stating that, as far as the spinal cord is concerned, we have made little advance since the views of Ollivier were first promulgated—yet if we examine carefully the detached essays that have since appeared, and read with care the accounts of the epidemics of cerebro-spinal meningitis, that have lately been published, we shall collect from all, an amount of information which will enable us to form a correct diagnosis, even in cases as perplexing as that which I am about to describe; and it is with the hope of directing attention to this obscure department of medical science, and of adding a remarkable case to our scanty knowledge on this subject, that I have laid its particulars before the profession.

*Professor Albers, of Bonn, has taken much pains to establish the diagnostic signs of inflammation of the Dura Mater, the Arachnoid, and Pia Mater, as separate affections, a task of extreme difficulty, from the simple fact, of inflammation never being confined to one of these structures.

Col. F—, a distinguished staff officer, at the head of his department in Canada, aged 54, of immense strength, and stature, being six feet, five and a half inches, in height, and powerfully made, consulted me for the first time, last July twelve months, on account of a tumour situated on the left scapular region, which had been growing for some years, and had then attained the size of a large goose-egg, and began to cause pain.— This I removed, and found that it contained a large cyst, covered externally by a quantity of thick brawny fat and fibrous structure, and internally filled with loose calculi and serous fluid, and to its lining membrane, a quantity of earthy matter intimately adhered. In examining the different organs previous to operating, I was struck with the peculiarity of the pulse; *it was extremely slow, not more than 48 in the minute, very irregular and intermitting.* Sometimes it would beat regularly, and without intermission, and would then intermit for four or five seconds, and then beat very irregularly, both as to time and force, for a few more seconds, and so on. The sounds of the heart were *perfectly normal*, except that they appeared weak for so muscular a man; there was no *frémissement* increase of dulness, or soufflet detected, nor were any abnormal sounds developed by exercise. There was no disease of the lungs or liver.

It appeared that this state of the pulse was detected when he was nine years old, and gave rise to such alarm, that the medical attendant of his family had him sent to London for the advice of Dr. Baillie, Sir Anthony Carlyle, and Sir Henry Hallford. These eminent practitioners had him under observation for a whole winter, employed various remedies, prohibited exercise or mental excitement, and enforced attention to diet. At the termination of six months they found no change, and declared their inability to account for the phenomena. He did not recollect having suffered from palpitations at this time, but he stated that between the ages of fifteen and twenty-one, he suffered very much from them; that they were always induced by irregularity of diet, mental excitement, or bodily fatigue; but that, having since paid more attention to his diet, and the state of his bowels, he had but few returns of them. There were no signs of venous obstruction in any part of the body, and he had never been subject to fainting or pseudo-apoplectic seizures. His physicians had always remarked, that when he was attacked with a febrile disease the pulse became *quicker, stronger, more regular, less intermitting.*

He again consulted me last July, when he was suffering from the passage of renal calculi—to which he had been subject for years—and on making inquiry as to his power of bearing opium, he informed me, that whenever it had been given to him, it produced great determination to the head, which he much dreaded, having suffered severely from this effect of the drug, many years ago in India.

In this attack the usual remedies, except blood-letting and opium, were employed; and the discharge of two large calculi was followed by immediate relief, although the urine continued to deposit large quantities of lithic acid for some weeks after. It should be mentioned that he had been for years subject to rheumatism.

I shall now detail the symptoms which immediately preceded death.

On Tuesday morning, the 24th October, he sent for me, and stated, that on the Sunday previous, although able to go to church in the morning, he was attacked towards evening with slight shivering, sickness of stomach, "goose-skin," and cramps in both legs. He went to bed, became very hot, but did not perspire. On Monday; the same sensations continued, he had no appetite, could not apply himself to business, nor could he read with pleasure. This day he took, of his own accord, some aperient medicine, which acted mildly on the bowels, but did not produce much relief. On Monday night he slept very little. The next morning, *i. e.* the day on which I saw him, he complained of slight headache, loss of appetite, hot skin, thirst, and indisposition to apply himself to business, but enjoyed light reading, and conversed with his usual cheerfulness; the tongue was thickly coated, urine loaded with lithate of ammonia, and as usual, the pulse was slow, 48, extremely irregular and intermitting, but he was able to sit up all day. He was ordered pills, composed of calomel and extract of colocynth, to be followed by a mixture of senna and sulphate of magnesia, low diet.

25th, Felt a little better, the pills had acted freely on the bowels, but the great heat of skin continued. No other change. Ordered a diaphoretic mixture, composed of acetate of ammonia, nitre, and tartarized antimony.

26th, Felt much better, the skin had been freely perspiring, and the bowels acting. He slept well last night, had some appetite in the morning, and was so much improved, that I advised him to take no medicine on that day, but to depend on diet for completing the cure. He spent the early part of the day in reading, and, about noon, felt so much stronger, that he sent to his office for his clerks, and transacted, during the remainder of the day, the business of his department, answered letters, and dictated to an amanuensis, &c.

27th, At 10 o'clock a.m., I found him in bed, complaining of having passed a most uncomfortable night, tossing about, and *suffering much pain across the loins.* His skin was extremely hot and harsh; he had no perspiration during the night. His tongue, which was clean the day before, was now quite dry, white at the edges, and dark brown in the centre, and his spirits, which had hitherto been buoyant, were now much depressed.— The pulse was ranging about 50, but it was not easy to count it, from its great irregularity. In reply to my query, he said he felt as if another calculus was about to pass, but as he had not the usual pain down the course of the ureters, he thought it had not yet left the pelvis of the kidney. He was ordered warm fomentations, and to take every three hours a powder composed of calomel, 2 grs., James' powder, 2 grs., nitre, 5 grs., and warm drinks.

Throughout the whole illness, the urine was secreted in the usual quantity and voided without the least difficulty. To this point, I wish particularly to direct the reader's attention for reasons that I shall mention further on.

At 4 o'clock, p. m.; I again visited him, he had taken only one of the powders, could not be prevailed on to

take a second one, a circumstance which alarmed his friends exceedingly. It appeared that since my visit in the morning, he had become very silent, lay upon his side, with his head partially covered with the bed-clothes so as to exclude the light, was fretful and peevish when spoken to, and though his lips were hot and dry, he had not called for any drink. He was remarked to moan whenever he stirred in bed, as if suffering pain. I was struck immediately with the alteration; he would not take medicine, or even a drink from me, answered questions in unconnected monosyllables, and in a surly tone; would not put out his tongue, and when I attempted to feel his pulse, I observed that the least touch induced severe pain, as evinced by the moan that followed, and a strong retraction of the limb. At first, it was supposed that this was merely a sign of impatience at being disturbed, similar to what we observe in cases of meningitis following injuries of the head; but I was soon undeceived, for the same wincing retraction and the same expressions of pain followed the least touch in any part of the body, and were increased in proportion to the augmentation of the pressure, nor was it essential that the hand should come in contact with the skin, for pressure, through the medium of the bed clothes, produced the same effects. The only words he now spoke were uttered to express the pain he suffered from examination. It was likewise observed, that it did not require a great amount of pressure to excite these phenomena, for if a drop of water fell upon his neck or chest, from the spoon which conveyed it to his lips, or if a portion of the powder fell upon these parts, the same consequences ensued. That the convulsive retractions were accompanied by excruciating pain was shown, not only by the deep groans and earnest request to discontinue the examination, but by the expressions of agonizing torture which the features exhibited while contact was maintained, and the perfect calm which followed, when the hand was removed. If the hand was kept on one spot, the surface appeared to become accustomed to its presence and the system became gradually tranquillised, which accounted for his not suffering pain from the bed clothes, or from pressure on the bed. If allowed to remain quiet for a few minutes, and then spoken to, he used to start up suddenly utter a few words incoherently, and then relapse into his former state.

Seeing the imminent danger my patient was in, I requested his friends to allow me to associate in attendance with me, my friend, Dr. Crawford, and one of the military surgeons of the garrison. Dr. Crawford saw him about six o'clock, and took the same view of his disease that I did.

The condition of the pulse (50 weak, irregular, intermittent, and the knowledge that these characters were permanent) prevented our employing venesection; and the rapid collapse of the patient rendered leeching a measure of doubtful propriety. We agreed then to depend on extensive counter-irritation to the nape of the neck, and down the spine; as also to the calves of the legs, warmth to the feet, and the rapid introduction of mercury.

At 8 o'clock, P.M., we were joined in consultation by Dr. Longmore, of the 19th Regt., who agreed with us in

the plan of treatment to be pursued. The counter-irritant*—applied in the usual way—produced an immense blister in less than ten minutes, extending from the occiput to between the shoulders. The same was applied to both legs; but here it did not vesiccate. The calomel, in five grain doses, was blown from a quill into the mouth every half hour—for the least contact produced a closure of the mouth, attended by spasmodic efforts at deglutition, similar to what we observe in hydrophobia. Mercurial ointment was rubbed into the groins and axillæ, and the blistered surface was dressed with the same. By watching for the relaxation of the muscles of the jaw, allowing of the opening of the mouth, we succeeded in introducing the calomel and a small quantity of brandy and water, at appointed times.

The exalted sensibility was not confined merely to the nerves of touch, for when ammonia was kept near the nose, or when a gleam of light was suddenly thrown upon the eyes, or when he was spoken to in a loud voice, the same spasmodic twitching of the whole frame took place, and the same expressions of anguish were uttered. There was no paralysis of the upper or lower extremities, nor were there any convulsive movements of these limbs; on the contrary, he appeared to have complete control over them, for on one occasion he turned on his side, took a chamber utensil, passed water into it, and then replaced it on a chair near the head of his bed. He occasionally made attempts to get out of bed, but to the amazement of us all, his efforts were most easily restrained.

October 28—5 o'clock.—There was no change perceptible during the night. At 9 o'clock, P.M.—The same state of the nervous system existed. The eyes appeared more animated—pupils sensible to light. The pulse was apparently stronger than the night before, between 50 and 60, but very irregular. It was thought that leeching to the temples might be tried, carefully watching its effects. Accordingly twelve were applied, but the feebleness of the pulse which ensued, prevented a repetition of the depletion. The head was covered with blisters, and the whole of the chest and feet enveloped in sinapisms, a strong turpentine enema administered, and four drops of Croton oil put on the tongue, as the bowels had not been moved for twenty-four hours, and were always difficult to open: the brandy and water was continued at intervals, and mercurial ointment was rubbed into the groins and axillæ, as before.

12 o'clock.—Sinking fast—pupils dilated—breathing more rapid, but no stertor, or puffing out of cheeks.

He lingered on till 5 o'clock the following morning. Frequently when we thought he was on the point of death, he would put his fingers into the mouth and fauces, and extricate the accumulating mucus, and then breathe with comparative ease for some hours. Shortly before death, he made some convulsive efforts to sit up in bed, and appeared impatient of the restraint employed by the

* The "Counter-irritant" is a preparation sold by one of the Druggists of this city. It is composed of strong water of ammonia and spirits of rosemary. A piece of lint or flannel saturated with it, and placed on the skin, will produce vesication in ten or fifteen minutes, if prevented becoming volatilized by covering it over with tin-foil.

attendants. Towards the close of life, the extreme sensibility of the surface of the body disappeared; but when the lips were moistened, the same spasmodic closure of the mouth ensued.

Post mortem examination, 30 hours after death.—Scalp very fat, but not injected.—Some congestion of venous system of the brain and of the sinuses.—The Dura Mater was healthy, exhibiting its usual pearly appearance. The arachnoid was opaque, this condition being more marked in some situations than in others; between it and the surface of the brain, there was an extensive effusion of gelatinous lymph. On the anterior lobes of both hemispheres, the lymph was more consistent and more opaque, and at the base of the brain, particularly towards the pons and the medulla oblongata, the arachnoid was very opaque, and here there was also a large quantity of gelatinous and opaque lymph. The structure of the brain, exhibited a good number of vascular points, but *there was no effusion of blood.* The ventricles were occupied by a quantity of serum, and in some points, the opposed surfaces of arachnoid were glued together by recent adhesions, a condition that was well marked at the junction of the anterior lobes of the hemispheres in front of the Corpus Callosum. In other respects, the structure of the brain and of the cerebellum was quite free from disease. The upper portion of the spinal arachnoid was very opaque, but the opacity throughout the remainder of its extent was not so well marked, but its cavity was filled with a great quantity of serum, which flowed out abundantly when the body was raised, so as to make the occiput the more depending portion, and it was likewise observed to well up from any accidental puncture of the theca, made whilst taking out the spinal marrow. Both in the brain and in the spinal cord the *pia mater was much injected*, and in the latter, that portion of it which corresponded to the lumbar region, exhibited this increased vascularity to a much greater degree. The structure of the cord and its nerves, like that of the brain and cerebral nerves was quite free from inflammation.

Thorax.—Lungs remarkably healthy, only one trifling point of adhesion to the pleura, at the anterior and upper part of right lung. Heart, not increased in size, no alteration whatever of its valvular apparatus, or lining membrane. There was no fatty degeneration, pericardial adhesion, or ossification of the arterial trunks.

Abdomen.—Liver, stomach, intestines, and spleen, healthy. The kidneys exhibited no disease in their cortical or tubular portions, but the pelves of both, particularly that of the left kidney, were dilated, and their lining membrane exhibited a dotted appearance, the result of punctiform ecchymosis. This condition of the membrane extended downwards in both ureters for a couple of inches. The remainder of the ureters and the structure of the bladder, were quite healthy. In the tubuli uriniferi of both kidneys we discovered a large quantity of minute calculi of lithic acid, varying in size from a mere point, to that of a grain of mustard-seed.

Within the last few years, "*cerebro spinal arachnitis*" has attracted the attention of pathologists in an especial manner, in consequence of its having presented itself in

an epidemic form in France during the years 1839, 41, 42, and 43; and more recently in some situations in Ireland in the year 1846.

In France, the disease was confined to the conscripts who had recently joined their regiments at Versailles, Lyons, Metz, Strasbourg, Nancy, and Poitiers, and seldom seized those beyond the age of twenty-five. In Ireland, the victims of the disease were the pauper children of the workhouses of the Unions of Rathdown, South Dublin, and Belfast, and it was remarked, that its ravages were confined, almost exclusively, to the males, a few females only, having been admitted into the general hospitals, and one or two cases having occurred in private, where the sex was not mentioned.

My friend Dr. Mayne has given an excellent account of this epidemic, and it is to his description, and to that of the French epidemics by Tourdes, Chauffard, Champion, and Calmeil, that we must look for more ample information on the subject; but, in justice to a distinguished writer, Mons. Grisolle, I must say, that the most complete account of the disease, with which I am acquainted, is to be found in his "*Traité Elementaire et Pratique de Pathologie Interne.*"

In the rapidity of its course, the suddenness of the attack, the resistance to treatment, the peculiarity of symptoms, and in the pathological appearances, the above case resembles the general character of the disease; but in the age of the patient, it differs from any on record, so far as I have been able to discover; nor is any case mentioned, where the cutaneous sensibility of all parts supplied by *spinal* and *cerebral* nerves was developed in so exalted a manner. Dr. Mayne has alluded to the "soreness all over," complained of by a patient admitted into the Hardwicke Hospital, under Dr. McDowell, to whom he attributes the discovery of this symptom. But, since this subject has been attentively investigated, the extreme sensitiveness of the surface supplied by nerves emanating from the portion of the cord engaged, has been noted as almost pathognomonic of the disease. Thus Ollivier mentions it as a marked symptom, in one of his cases, that even the bed-clothes could not be borne, and Monsieur Grisolle says, "*Souvent aussi ces parties sont le siège de crampes, tandis que la peau présente une exaltation de sa sensibilité tactile, que la*

* It is true, that some English writers have alluded to the disease, but they have but copied Ollivier's description, and have mixed up both the symptomatology and pathology of spinal arachnitis and myelitis, in such a manner, as to render the distinctive characters of each, impossible to be recognised at the bedside. Recently, Dr. Reeves, of the Carlisle Infirmary, has published in the *Lancet*, some cases, supposed to be inflammation of the spinal cord, of which he saw no less than nine, in five days, but as they yielded to extremely simple treatment, in no case proved fatal, and did not exhibit any of the pathognomonic signs of inflammation of the cord or its membranes, it cannot be acceded that they were genuine specimens of the disease, particularly as Dr. R. has given no pathological facts to confirm his views.

† "The symptoms by which this affection commences are in general of a very formidable character, and its accession is usually sudden and quite unexpected; in the majority of cases the patient has been in his ordinary health and spirits up to the very moment of the seizure, and has experienced no premonitory symptoms to warn him of his danger."—MAYNE, *Dublin Quarterly Journal*, vol. iii., new series.

"La meningite spinale peut avoir une invasion brusque, foudroyante."—GRISOLLE, *Path. Int.*, vol. i.

moindre pression exercée sur elle, ou le plus léger mouvement imprimé, arrache des gris aux malades. Cette exaltation se remarque surtout aux membres," and in a case published in Graves's Clinical Medicine, where the matter from a carious temporal bone, had penetrated the dura mater, and gravitated downwards along the spinal cord to the cauda equina, I mentioned in my notes of the case, supplied to Dr. Graves, being at that time his clinical clerk, that, "*a few days before death, he was attacked with spasms resembling those of tetanus and the surface of the body became exquisitely tender to the touch,*" though the membranes of the cord were quite healthy, from which it may be inferred that this exalted sensibility of surface, is rather a measure of the irritation of, or pressure upon, the roots of the nerves, than of the inflammation, for we find that in some of the cases of apoplexy of the spinal cord, described by Cruveilhier, that excessive pain and spasms, frequently preceded paralysis of the limbs supplied by the nerves involved in the disease—and in true myelitis, the limbs are usually attacked with tetanic spasms followed by paralysis, but we have not the excessive pain on motion of the limb, or on pressure, which characterises arachnitis of the cord, and spinal apoplexy,—although the nerves, even before they emerge from the cord, must be deeply involved in inflammation. This subject requires, however, further investigation.

The reader will recollect, that during the course of the disease, *the urine was passed several times*, and that neither from the surface of the body, nor the substance of the brain, was the least odour of urea exhaled. I am anxious to direct his attention to this fact; for the sudden supervention of cerebral symptoms in an individual, subject to gravel, might have been attributed to the absorption of urea, were it not, that the secretion and evacuation of this substance, were efficiently performed.

From a careful consideration of the circumstances connected with the irregularity and slowness of the heart's action, we must conclude that these phenomena were congenital. It is true, he had attained the age of nine years before they were accidentally discovered, yet the result of post mortem examination having failed to connect them with any organic change or congenital malformation, their having persisted for upwards of forty-five years, during which time they exhibited no variation, though constantly under the observation of different medical men, and of the patient himself; their having resisted treatment, and interfered but little, if at all, with the comforts of the patient; the performance of respiration, or the cerebral functions;—all these circumstances point them out as *physiological*, rather than morbid phenomena.

It is no argument against this view, that the patient suffered for some years from palpitations, for the same causes would probably have induced them in a perfectly healthy heart, and of course were more likely to excite them in one, already predisposed to irregularity of action. We were not, however, the less surprised to find no malformation whatever to account for such irregularity.

I am well aware, that efforts have been made of late to connect irregular and *slow* action of the heart with certain organic changes, as atrophy, softening, fatty degeneration, and dilatation of the heart, or with changes

in the valves or in the aorta itself; and cases have been put on record apparently supporting these views. To my friend and former preceptor, Dr. Stokes, the profession is indebted for an interesting paper on this subject, in which two cases are detailed, the prominent symptoms of which were, slow pulse, faintings, and frequent attacks of a pseudo-apoplectic character—in both, the first sound of the heart was accompanied by a soft *bruit de soufflet*. Only in one of these instances had Dr. Stokes an opportunity of inspecting the heart, and on dissection, "the mitral valve was found healthy; the aortic valve was thickened and narrowed, but not permanently patent; water poured into the aorta did not pass into the ventricle; the heart was soft and flabby, and, though not an example of complete fatty degeneration, was covered by a very thick layer of fat; the aorta presented several atheromatous patches." Should future observations prove that a slow, intermitting and irregular pulse, unconnected with fainting or pseudo-apoplectic attacks, and not accompanied by morbid cardiac sounds, is not indicative of organic change in the heart, or congenital malformation, we shall have made a decided advance in pathology and diagnosis.

But having before my eyes the injurious effects of general and even local bleeding, or any other form of depletion in cases similar to those described by Dr. Stokes, of which I have witnessed some examples in the practice of that gentleman, during the period I acted as his clinical assistant, and in my own, where the mildest anti-phlogistic measures were followed by alarming consequences,—and approving of the advice given by Dr. S. to one of his patients, whom he told, "to be careful not to over-exert himself; and never to allow himself to be bled, when threatened with one of his fits," (pseudo-apoplectic,) I confess, I should still decline general bleeding in a case similar to that I have now placed on record, although that very case proves that these phenomena are at times unconnected with structural changes, and may exist for years, without inducing them. When my patient mentioned that his pulse became more frequent and less intermitting and irregular, whilst the system was under febrile excitement, I noted the fact as curious, and since then, I perceive that two cases have been published by a French physician, Mons. Bedard, in which precisely the same circumstances were noticed.

ART. IX.—FURTHER REMARKS ON THE STATE OF EDUCATION IN CANADA.

1. *Report of the Superintendent of Education in Lower Canada, for the Scholastic Year 1846-7. Printed by order of the Legislative Assembly Montreal: 1848. Pp. 178. By Dr. J. B. Meilleur, Chief Superintendent of Education, Lower Canada.*
2. *The Monthly Journal of Education for Upper Canada, eight numbers; commenced in January, 1848. Published at Toronto, and edited by the Rev. Dr. E. Ryerson, D. D., Chief Superintendent of Schools, Upper Canada.*

Having in former numbers of this Journal ventured to throw together, for general consideration, some desultory observations on the existing state of Education in Canada,* and having, during the last session of Parlia-

* See the numbers of this Journal for the months of January and March last.

ment, deemed the conclusions we had arrived at of sufficient public interest and value to merit being re-submitted, in a more connected form, to the individual attention of every member of the Government and Legislature, we are once more induced to revert to the same highly important topic, by the prevalent rumour of its being intended to introduce either a new or revised "*School Act*" during the approaching session, in the hope that our humble patriotic labours may not prove altogether in vain; and, as done on the two former occasions, we now propose taking as our guide the published official Reports on the subject. It will, however, be seen, by a reference to the titles at the head of this article, that unfortunately the *Report of the Superintendent of Lower Canada* alone has as yet made its appearance;—a circumstance greatly regretted by us, as doubtless that for the Upper Province would have thrown much additional light upon our devious path, and have thereby not only rendered our review of the existing state of the question comparatively more easy, as well as more satisfactory, but even far more conclusive.* In the absence of the latter much desired document, however, we are happy to be able to advert to, and profit by, a recently published periodical, of very considerable collateral value and interest, namely, "*The Journal of Education for Upper Canada*," from which every friend of education may glean much useful and instructive matter.

In throwing together our former remarks, we were led to divide the subject into two great distinct branches,—the one referring more immediately to Upper Canada, and the other to the Lower Province,—at the same time that we left ourselves at liberty to make use of any arguments that we considered applicable to both, as a whole. On the present occasion we proposed adopting the same course; but, from necessity, reversing the order of arrangement, and therefore commencing with a passing glance at the state of education under the present School Law, as existing in the Lower Province, as gleaned from the official Report of Dr. Meilleur. Here, however, we were unexpectedly destined to meet with difficulties in the very threshold of our undertaking; for, on consulting that document, we unfortunately found it of so elaborately discursive a texture as to puzzle us how or where to begin.

That the reader may be enabled to judge for himself

* It is to be regretted that the Executive does not feel itself authorized to publish these and other similar annual official reports, as soon as received, for immediate circulation among the Members of Parliament, &c., without waiting for the formal assent of the assembled Legislature, as they would, thereby, have a better chance of leisure consideration during the recess, instead of being subjected to the hasty perusal and crude digestion ever likely to result amid the many distracting claims upon their attention during the actual Session of Parliament. It would also, perhaps, be highly advisable that on so momentous a popular subject as the Education question coming before Parliament, the Superintendents of both divisions of the Province should be directed to be in attendance; so as not only to be able to afford opportune correct information, on any points, to individual members desiring it, but also to appear at the bar of either House, to give evidence or information, if required. We, however, adhere to the opinion formerly expressed by us—that the best way of arriving at a safe and lasting conclusion, would be by the appointment of a special commission. See former remarks.

how far this remark is well founded, we cannot do better than refer him at once to the worthy Doctor's own introduction of his labours to the attention of the "Governor General and the other branches of the Legislature," as embracing—

1st. A general Report upon Elementary Education in Lower Canada, setting forth the causes which have embarrassed and retarded and, in some localities, even prevented the proper working of the present School Law, and the amendments which it has, perhaps, become necessary to make to that law, in order to obtain from it more perfect and satisfactory results.

2nd. A Statistical Table of the Schools which have, under the said act; been held under the control of the School Commissioners and Trustees; with the number of children who have attended them, and the amount of the legislative grant which has been awarded to each municipality (as constituted for school purposes) during the school period between the 1st of July, 1846, when the present act came into force, and the 1st of July, 1847, shewing also the municipalities to which no part of the legislative grant has been awarded, for the reasons mentioned in the Report.

3rd. A Table shewing the amount awarded to each county, out of the unappropriated balance of the legislative grant, for the scholastic years, 1842, 1843, 1844 and 1845, under the provisions made in that behalf by previous acts, and in the 49th section of the present school act, as an aid towards building or repairing school-houses; with the number of school-houses built or repaired under the control of school-commissioners, and the amount of the valuation of these school-houses, made, in every case, by three arbitrators appointed for the purpose.

4th. The circulars which I have issued under the operation of the present law; because it may be deemed expedient that their tenor should be known.

Having so far given Dr. Meilleur's own sketch of his theme, honest impartiality as reviewers compels us to enter at once our humble protest against the manner in which he treats the question, as tending rather to excite than allay existing discordant opinions on so vitally important a popular subject, and to express our deep regret that one who has evidently the good of his country much at heart, should adopt a line of proceeding so little likely to be productive of beneficial results: for it appears to us, that, instead of the leading two-thirds of the 178 pages of which his Report is composed, being devoted to a wandering review of the various theoretic and antagonistic matters discussed therein, that document might have been mainly confined to the details embraced by the far shorter 2d section, with probably part of the 3d section, namely, the statistical tables and other documents illustrative of the *actual working of the existing School Law*, as exhibiting the number of schools in operation during the official year, the amount of money apportioned to each county and township, and any sums awarded to particular localities for extra purposes from the unappropriated balances of former years; and that, whatever else occurred to the worthy Superintendent as deserving the attention of the Executive, might have formed the subject of an altogether distinct and separate communication. Indeed, it is but justice to add, that though we may not be altogether prepared to assent to all the conclusions at which Dr. M. has arrived, it is with the time and method, more than the matter, that we are disposed to find fault.

Taking this view of the subject, we were naturally led to turn our attention, in the first instance, to the 2d section of the Report; and what has been the result?

The discouraging conviction that the information supplied in the few imperfect statistical tables of which it is composed will be found far from sufficiently explanatory,—let alone satisfactory or encouraging,—there being no column showing either the amount of assessments or rates actually levied in the different localities,* or the aggregate number of children of school age, to be compared with the number of schools, and the proportion of children attending them; and there yet appearing, with an increasing population, to have been actually a considerable falling off in the number of children attending school in the year 1847, compared with the preceding year. Nor is this all; for while reflecting on this discouraging state of things, as the very reverse of what ought to have been expected, we are insensibly led to the conclusion, from information lately elicited, that the proportion of the yearly parliamentary grant of £50,000, hitherto allotted to Lower Canada,—namely, £29,000—on the supposition of its much greater population must, of late at least, be based on erroneous data, not a little to the prejudice of the Upper Province—as may be seen by a glance at the following unavoidably imperfect table, and note. In addition to which it would appear, on a closer examination of the particulars given, that of a grant intended solely and exclusively in aid of the better payment of our ill-requited school teachers, a sum amounting to no less than £6,444 had (we think somewhat inconsistently, if not unjustly,) been from time to time diverted to a totally different purpose, namely, the building and repair of school houses; particularly, as in the Sister Province, these things are provided for by special assessment, levied on the inhabitants of the particular localities requiring them:—

Abstract view of the State of the Common Schools in the two great Divisions of the Province of Canada, compared with their estimated respective population, during the years 1846 and 7.

Division.	Year.	Estimated Population	No. of Children of School Age.	No. of Children attending School.	No. of Schools.
Upper Canada,	1846	} 640,000*	204,580	110,318	2,905
Do.	1847		—	124,829	2,727
Increase in 1847,	—	—	—	14,511	—
Lower Canada,	1846	} 750,000†	Unascrt.	69,887	1,830
Do.,	1847		—	—	63,281
Decrease, 1847,	—	—	—	6,606	—

* Without such a column it is impossible to judge how far the people contribute their due proportion to the general fund.

† In the absence of official data for fixing the actual population of the two Provinces at the periods stated, the above is given as

Such being the whole of the scanty and imperfect information to be gleaned from the Lower Canada school statistics of the official year 1846-7, we are now reluctantly compelled to turn back to the medley of debateable matter described in the first and main section of the Report, setting forth the various causes that have embarrassed and retarded, and, in some localities, even prevented the proper working of the present school law; and in introducing this part of the subject, we shall first allow the doctor to speak for himself.

After alluding to the various obstacles and difficulties thrown in the way of the operation of no less than three successive Elementary Education Acts, since 1841, as described in former general as well as special Reports, Dr. M. proceeds to state that he considered the principle of the *existing* amended law, (passed in 1846,) deserving of being preserved intact, as best calculated to insure the welfare of popular Education; and that he therefore considers it his duty to set these principles in the clearest light.

Concurring, as we do, in much of the feelings and opinions expressed by the worthy Superintendent, as applicable to at least the present state of Lower Canada, we cannot do better than quote his own language on the subject; contenting ourselves with appending an occasional note, where his conclusions happen to be at variance with our own,—in addition to renewing our former earnest protest against the longer continuance of separate Education Laws for the two great sections of the Province than may be possible, as being altogether alike uncalled for, impolitic, and unnecessary.

“The fundamental principles of the present school act, like those of the acts which have been passed for Lower Canada since 1841, those of the present law in force in Upper Canada, and those of the other education laws which preceded it, are divisible into two main classes, viz: those of which the immediate object is the creation of the necessary means of support, and those of which the object is the local or general government and management of the schools. But, to generalize less and to descend a little more into the practical detail of the principles of the present law, they may be divided into four classes, namely: 1st. Those relating to the means of support. 2d. Those under which the inhabitants contributing to such support are invested by the law with the power of electing school commissioners. 3d. Those under which the board of examiners are constituted. 4th. Those under which His Excellency the Governor General has the power of appointing, under the Great Seal of the Province, a Superintendent of education.

“1st. The principles of the present law, of which the object is to provide the pecuniary means requisite for the working of the law in the several localities, consist in the establishment of a compulsory contribution, by means of an assessment upon real property, according to the value thereof as determined by valuers themselves subject to assessment, appointed by the municipal councils or by the school commissioners, such contribution furnishing a sum at least equal to the portion of the legislative grant coming to each scholastic municipality, according to its population, and being applicable to the support of the schools under control, and being over and above a monthly contribution of so much per head, for eight months in the year, for the resident children of an age to attend school, varying from three pence to

a tolerably close medium approximation to it, founded on current or published rumours of the result of the late census. Taking this for granted, the £50,000 would fall to the two Provinces in the proportion of about 7-13ths to Lower and 6-13ths to Upper Canada, which would give about £27,000 to the former, and £23,000 to the latter Province.

two shillings a month, according to the means of the parents and the degree of progress made by the children. In Upper Canada, the sum to be thus raised by assessment must be at least double that offered by the Government.*

"These principles, which form the basis of the whole law, are those which have been most wilfully misrepresented and held up to the people of the country parts as unjust, tyrannical, and vexatious. It is against these that fickle and inconsiderate men, men of prejudice and without education, egotistical, and interested in keeping the people in a humiliating state of ignorance and incapacity, have the most bitterly inveighed.

"Yet these very principles form the basis of all good laws relative to elementary education in those countries where it is necessary that the people contribute their share to the work, as in Great Britain, France, Germany, the United States, Upper Canada, &c. They have been every where attended with a success which has admirably contributed to the prosperity and happiness of the people. And this result, so honorable and so desirable, is due to the regularity, the certainty, and the facility with which these principles operate, exciting an interest in those who are bound to contribute towards the funds, and thereby tending to ensure the well working of the law.

"The inhabitants of one only of the New England States in the American Union, provided for the education of their children by voluntary contributions. But in spite of their zeal, and of the sacrifices they made for this object, they felt that this system, in addition to all its other inconveniences, had also that of an insufficiency of funds; and the local Legislature has lately enacted an elementary education law for the State, based as far as regards the pecuniary means of support, on the principle of compulsory contribution; and there, as elsewhere, this system is already working most successfully, under the able superintendence of the Hon. H. Barnard.

"2d. The principles by virtue whereof the inhabitants liable to contribution are by law empowered to elect a corporation of school commissioners, are democratic provisions of a most important nature of the highest value in ensuring the maintenance of popular rights and a direct and responsible local administration. The inhabitants, and more especially the parents, are thus by law invested with the right of creating the authority charged with the entire management of the schools under its control, and with the whole local working of the law. The people have thus, in fact, the foremost share in the management of the schools, and are enabled to exercise a most wholesome control over the persons who, by virtue of their election, are immediately entrusted with that management. By virtue of these provisions the school commissioners are in effect exclusively entrusted with the whole local operation of the school law, and are responsible for their doings to their constituents, who are the very persons most interested in the well working of any education law.

"There is not in the school law one provision more intimately connected with the constitutional rights of a free people and with their elective franchise, or one which ought to be more dear to the fathers of families, or which they ought more jealously to use wisely, honestly and conscientiously, than that by which they are legally called upon to choose fit persons to be school commissioners; and I am able to say, that this provision is generally appreciated, and its exercise claimed with a degree of interest and feeling which do honour to the people.

"This provision, however, so liberal and so highly to be valued, is unfortunately accompanied by two grand defects, namely: that of not restricting the electors to the election of *educated men* only as school commissioners; and that of requiring in them a qualification in property instead of knowledge.†

"It would have been impossible to insert a provision more unjust and more contrary to the very spirit of the act, than this property qualification required by its 51st section, which has, in fact,

* This is a mistake. The amount required to be raised by assessment in Upper Canada is only "at least equal to the amount of public monies apportioned to each district:" the same as in the Lower Province.

† So long as the present defective system exists in Lower Canada, Education, to a certain extent, should be required as a qualification in all commissioners; but that of property should not be required of members of the clerical, medical, or legal professions.

often deprived the country of the co-operation of the men best disposed to carry out the law, and most able to contribute to its well working. This qualification, by depriving the people of a portion of their elective franchise, has frequently been the cause of the election of men very ill fitted to be school commissioners, and sometimes even morally incapable of performing, with any advantage to the children, the important duties of this most high and honourable post. This property qualification has, in fact, excluded from among the school commissioners, many of the clergy of every profession, and a number of men of worth and education, whom the law has made ineligible, to make room for men, otherwise, it is true, highly respectable, but whose want of education and experience in public business, and in some cases their prejudices and spirit of opposition, made them absolute impediments to the successful operation of the law.

"Loud complaints have been made against the bad selections which have been made of school commissioners; and the inhabitants have been openly taxed as having been wilfully culpable in making these bad selections. Yet, in very many cases, the property qualification required left them no alternative, no liberty to choose educated and zealous men as school commissioners; they were forced to elect men without education and without any decided wish to encourage education, or to elect none. I am even acquainted with a number of localities, new settlements especially, where it is impossible to find a sufficient number of men qualified, according to the requirements of the law, to be school commissioners. Sometimes there is not even one."‡

"3rdly. The present act contains principles by virtue whereof boards of examiners are established, and are in effective operation for the examination of teachers,† and for their admission as such. These boards are composed of titulary and honorary members, and the clergy, the people, the Government, and the teachers themselves, find their representatives there, since two members of the clergy and two teachers form part of each board, as titulary members. The titulary members of the board of examiners are the active members thereof, and the honorary members are *de facto* the school visitors, constituted by the 33d section, who have, by law, the right of taking part in the examination of teachers, without being specially bound so to do.

"These boards of examiners are formed by the intervention of the superintendent of education, who is for this purpose the adviser and the organ of the Governor. The superintendent furnishes the boards with the seals and forms of certificates they require, and he is the official channel whereby publicity is given to the admission of teachers, without subjecting the boards of examiners to one farthing of cost; the expenses incurred for this purpose being charged to the contingencies of his office.

"Nevertheless, these boards are, in their action, independent of the local and governmental authorities; and by the nature of their composition, and by that of the powers entrusted to them and of the duties imposed upon them by the act, they afford a guarantee for a degree of integrity, uniformity and impartiality, in their proceedings, and of ability and moral character in the teachers admitted, to which the systems of popular education in practice elsewhere offer nothing comparable.

"These boards confer upon the candidates admitted, a character, a permanence, and a title to the respect and confidence of parents and of the school commissioners, which is not possessed by the teachers in Upper Canada, in the Lower Provinces, or even in the United States, in France, or in Prussia. The certificates of admission, which, after a satisfactory examination, are granted to candidates as teachers, are granted for life, and entitle them to act as such, under the control of the school commissioners, throughout the whole of Lower Canada, without, however, forcing any individual upon the school commissioners, who, in their choice of teachers, are only confined to such as have certificates of qualification. Teachers are in this respect placed upon the

* This exhibits a rather humiliating picture of the distribution of property, as well as of the absence of education in Lower Canada; and, therefore, the sooner a more auspicious state of things is brought about the better.

† These many independent local boards appear to us to be at best a make shift, and can only be considered useful in the absence of a central or Provincial Board of Education, and that *since non* powerful agent for simplifying and directing a uniform popular school system—*normal school training*. Of which, more in another place.

same footing as the members of the other liberal professions, and will consequently enjoy the same confidence and the same respect in society, where they cannot fail to be appreciated according to their merits.*

† Indeed, the candidate for the office of teacher cannot be admitted to examination without in the first place producing to the board of examiners, a certificate of his age, place of birth, and moral character, signed (as regards the last item) by the minister of his religious persuasion, or at least by three school commissioners of the place where he has resided during the last six months. This formality being imperative, the candidate cannot, without complying with it, be admitted to examination, however well qualified he may be with regard to the requisite acquirements. The clergy and school commissioners have therefore the initiative in the admission of teachers, and hold in their hands the power of promoting the admission of all whose acquirements or character may be such as are not inconsistent with the well-understood interests of education, morality, and religion.

‡ There are, besides, very honorable exceptions in the 50th section, in favour of persons invested with a sacred character, who may be disposed to devote themselves to the instruction of youth. They are not for this purpose bound to submit to the examination required of other persons. Members of the clergy may therefore, without impediment or previous formality, take charge of schools under the control of commissioners, without undergoing any previous examination before either of the boards.† I know many young ministers who thus act as school teachers; and though the nature of the ministry of a Catholic priest will scarcely allow him to do so, there are cases where he might be able to take charge of a school with an assistant. Under a very different system in France, curates have offered themselves as candidates for obtaining certificates as teachers of elementary schools; in Brittany, for instance, and more especially in the diocese of Rennes. There is nothing therefore in the letter of the law of Lower Canada to prevent a priest from assuming the charge of an elementary school, if other circumstances allow him to do so.

¶ Moreover, the acquirements required by law, of teachers passing their examination, are graduated according to the class to which they belong, and are so elevated in the scale of useful knowledge, that the popular education must necessarily, in this respect, rest upon a solid and durable basis. We have only to oblige teachers sooner to avail themselves of the provisions of the law in this behalf, by ensuring them fitting means of subsistence, and easy means of perfecting themselves in the art of teaching, by the establishment of Normal Schools or otherwise, and I am convinced that they will in a few years make teaching what it ought to be, that is, a distinct profession, influential and respected, and an estate as honorable as it is useful. Provided each with a certificate of ability and moral character, available for life, the educated, wise and zealous teacher, understanding the nature and importance of his mission, and the high place he ought to hold in society, will know how to give to his profession a character, dignity and efficacy, which will make teaching less the office of a pedagogue, than a kind of magistracy, a species of priesthood surrounded by respect and veneration.

§ A certificate of moral character is impliedly included in that of fitness obtained from either of the said boards, because a certificate of moral character must have been previously produced to the board: and, from the enumeration of the several branches of education, it is evident that primary instruction is divided into two classes, namely, elementary and superior, the latter of which is to be given in the model school.

* In Upper Canada not only is the Principal of the Normal School empowered, under the auspices of the Board of Examiners, to grant diplomas to all school teachers trained by him, divided into three classes, according to talent and qualification, but such District Superintendent can grant, either a special certificate for one year, or a general one until revoked; add to which, any two local school visitors may, on inquiry, after due examination, grant a special certificate for one year.—A system which we are disposed to regard as superior to that of Lower Canada.

† This is certainly objectionable—as a person may be a very good priest, and yet a very miserable teacher. And, therefore, every candidate, whether priest or layman, ought to be subjected to a regular Normal School training and examination. Of this, more elsewhere.

‡ I ought not to forget here to mention, that the boards of examiners are of two separate and distinct kinds; that is to say, one of them is Catholic, for the admission of Catholic teachers, and the other Protestant, for the admission of Protestant teachers.

§ The boards of examiners have power to prescribe what books are to be used in the schools which are under the control of the law; and the school commissioners being confined to one or other of the classes of teachers mentioned in the 50th section, and having no power to allow any books not approved by the boards of examiners to be used in the schools under their control, it follows that the course of instruction to be pursued in each elementary or model school, and the kind of books to be used therein, are designated by the law; excepting always such books as relate to morality or religion, the selection of which is the exclusive province of the priest or minister of the locality, as regards the children of his own religious persuasion. This right, with that of being a school visitor, which the law confers upon him *de facto*, gives him in the school as in the church, that control which he ought to exercise over the moral and religious instruction of the children of his persuasion.

¶ 4thly, The present school law contains principles by virtue whereof the Governor in Council has the power of appointing, for the general direction of the common schools under the control of the law, a superintendent of education, having certain administrative powers conferred upon him by the law, such as (among others) that of naming school commissioners, in case of default to elect them, &c., with the obligation to render yearly an account of his administration to the Executive Government and the Provincial Parliament.

§ In the exercise of his powers and the performance of his important duties, the superintendent of education has, by law, no right to interfere in the local management of schools, except by way of advice, and generally at the special instance of the parties interested, unless they have themselves neglected or refused to perform, within the time prescribed by the Act, the duties which, in their turn, the law has imposed upon them for educational purposes; for it is necessary that the law should be carried into effect. With this exception, the superintendent is, by his position, only the adviser of the school commissioners and of the Government, and the ostensible interpreter of the law, whether it be for the general or for the local direction of the common school.

¶ The Superintendent of Education is, further, a medium of communication between the Government and the School Commissioners, and, in case of necessity, a mediator for the latter with the Government, but, nevertheless, without being a political character, or subject to the action of the many influences of those considerations which agitate and occupy so many other public functionaries.

§ I am, indeed, of opinion, that the Superintendent of Education ought not to be a political character, so that he may be able to devote himself entirely to the department entrusted to him. I have, therefore, made it a point always to conduct myself in such a manner as not to allow my attention to be drawn from my duties by any considerations foreign to the important object to the attainment whereof the law has charged me to contribute; and I have constantly endeavoured to do this with a view to the general good of all, without distinction of origin, party or religious belief. So that, according to my view of the subject, if the existing law is defective in its provisions relative to the Superintendent of Education, the effect consists only in the omission of enactments which should confer on him greater powers, empowering him to interfere more directly and absolutely in the local working of the law, whenever the School Commissioners should neglect or refuse to perform the duties assigned to them.

¶ The Superintendent is, moreover, a guide, by his opinion and advice, in the proceedings of the School Commissioners; and in case of certain difficulties a judge, or more properly a friendly mediator, rather than a master arbitrarily governing everything by his orders. This is at least the view I have hitherto taken of the position of the Superintendent of Education for Lower Canada.

* This is a blemish rather than a benefit; and the same defect exists to a certain extent in the Upper Canada school bill. The power of prescribing what books shall be used in the schools should rest with a central board of education alone, as the best means of insuring the adoption of a uniform elementary system throughout the whole Province; as will be further noted elsewhere.

and that according to which I have likewise endeavoured to perform my duties as such, in the well understood interest of popular education; and I believe that I have been fortunate enough to obtain in this respect the entire approbation of my fellow-subjects of every origin. I owe it, therefore, to the feeling of lively gratitude by which I am animated, to state in this place, that on all occasions the numerous friends of education have given me the most flattering proofs of their confidence in me, and of their satisfaction with my conduct as a public functionary. Their kindness towards me has only been equalled in generosity by their co-operation in sacrifices of every kind, for the purpose of giving to the course which it was indispensable that I should have, and the efforts it was imperative that I should make, the efficiency necessary to surmount, jointly with them, the innumerable difficulties which the enemies of the two last education acts have raised up to oppose us. Well, therefore, may our amiable youth, who for so many consecutive years have been the immediate object of so much combined solicitude and sacrifice, join their voices with mine to testify, with one accord, their never-ending gratitude to their parents, to the clergy of every religious persuasion, and to the local authorities.

It is not unimportant to remark in this place, that the salary of the Superintendent, and all the contingent expenses of his office, are paid out of the public chest, and not out of the legislative grant for education, as certain enemies of the act have stated and published. Not one penny is taken out of the fund last named, the destination whereof is special and sacred. It is employed solely in aiding the people to give their children the instruction of which they stand in need.

The 27th section of the act contains all the conditions upon which the share of the legislative grant coming to each municipality, according to its population, is awarded to the School Commissioners. The latter, in order to obtain their share of the grant, are bound to transmit to the education office, every six months, a return of the schools under their control; and if, after examination, this report is found by the Superintendent to be in accordance with the requirements of the act, their share of the grant is sent, in the shape of a check, to their secretary-treasurer, by the post and in a post-paid letter. The amount of these checks is drawn from school funds which the Superintendent places in the chartered banks, as he receives them under warrants of His Excellency the Governor General, on his special application in favour of the localities whom he reports to have conformed to the requirements of the act. So that the School Commissioners have nothing to pay in order to obtain these checks, which are negotiable throughout Lower Canada. Neither have they anything to pay for the conveyance of their school returns, or upon their correspondence with the Superintendent upon the subject of education. All these charges are borne upon the contingent expenses of the education office.

"The legislative grant in aid of schools under control in Lower Canada, is a share of £50,000, according to its population as compared with that of Upper Canada, which receives yearly the other portion for the same object. The portion coming to Lower Canada upon this principle, has varied from £29,000 to £30,000 per annum, since 1812, according to the first sections of the act of 1811, continued in force by the 57th section of the present school act.

"The balance of the portion coming to Lower Canada is appropriated as an aid towards building school-houses, and is distributed upon the conditions mentioned in my circular No. 9, page 9. The inhabitants and the School Commissioners generally have made efforts and sacrifices worthy of all praise, in order to obtain this aid; and one hundred and five school-houses have already been built or repaired.

"Such are the principles and provisions of the present school act."

From the above discursive view of the principles and operation of the existing Education Law, Dr. M. proceeds to indulge in a string of what he terms general, but which we would be more disposed to regard as *particular* observations, through which it is out of our power to follow him; but we cannot resist laying before our readers one or two "cases in point," illustrative of the shameful manner in which the best and wisest of

purposes can be misrepresented and falsified by the machinations of unprincipled or reckless demagogues.

"Out of 32 scholastic municipalities recognized by law, the inhabitants of 32 petitioned the late Parliament, at its last Session, on the subject of the present school act. Of these petitions, 22 prayed for the repeal of the law, without (except in one case) asking the substitution of anything in its place, and 10 prayed that the act might undergo certain amendments, which were, for the most part, of a nature to strengthen its principles. These petitions, of which 18 were presented to the House by Mr. J. Laurin, came chiefly from the Districts of Quebec and Three Rivers; 11 bear the names of 274 persons in all, of which 34 only are signed, or supposed to be signed, by the petitioners, for there are names which are written by the same hand. Among the remaining petitions, there are some which have not one real signature! These are facts officially recorded. And it is upon the act of this number of municipalities, upon the strength of this number of apparent petitioners that so much theorizing has, more especially during some months past, been indulged in, that so many different and discordant plans of education have been broached, and that, reasoning from particular cases to general propositions, some parties have come to the conclusion, so humiliating to the country, that the law is opposed everywhere and works well nowhere.

"In one particular case, the parishes of St. Gervais and Point Levy, in the District of Quebec, have been cited as examples, and it has been alleged that the whole funds at the disposal of the School Commissioners of the former, for the support of 18 schools under their control, was £325 4s, and that those of Point Levy had only £365 1s 10d for 13 schools; these sums arising from their respective shares of the legislative grant, and from the assessments raised for the same purpose.

"Yet, according to the last school return for each of the said parishes, upon which the amount coming to them out of the legislative grant was calculated, it appears that the former parish had only 12 schools, and the latter 10, in operation: whence it follows that the school commissioners of St. Gervais had, out of the sum above mentioned, a much larger amount than £18 per annum for each of the teachers in the schools under their control, and that the same proposition obtains with regard to the school commissioners and teachers of Point Levy.

"Now, according to the last census, the number of children in the parish of St. Gervais, of an age to attend the schools (that is, between five years and sixteen years), is 985. The school commissioners, by using the power conferred on them by the act, may require at least one-half of the monthly rates fixed by the 21st section, that is, one shilling per month during eight months, for each child, which would yield them an additional sum of £394 for the support of the teachers of the schools under their control. The number of children between the same ages, residing in Point Levy, is 1120, which, at one shilling per month for eight months, would give an additional sum of £448 for the support of the teachers.

"The school commissioners of these two parishes, then, (and the same is true in proportion in all others,) have, or may have, at their disposal, for the support of the schools under their control, a sum more than double that which is represented as being the whole amount which they can use for this purpose. But this is not all: by virtue of the 25th section, the school commissioners may also obtain for the same purpose a portion of the annual revenue of the *Fabrique*, a provision of which advantage has been wisely taken in several parishes. The legislative grant is therefore more than equalled by the local funds which may be raised for school purposes."

Well may the worthy Superintendent indignantly exclaim, "This is the way in which, despite of facts and figures, the decrier of the Law—deceivers and deceived,

* From the data above furnished, coupled with what is stated in p. 27, of the Report, it would appear that far from the teachers of these two parishes being so ill-paid, as represented by the petitioners, the funds at the disposal of the commissioners were such as might have allowed those of St. Gervais being paid at the rate of within a fraction of £40; and those of Point Levy upwards of £60!

make all kinds of statements to its disadvantage, in order to render it unpopular and useless."

Passing over various intermediate matters, we find at p. 29, some observations on a vitally important branch of the subject to which we pointedly alluded in our former "remarks," and to which we are again induced to draw particular attention, as still far from being duly appreciated among either the neighbouring United States, or in our own Province. We allude to the utterly neglected claims of Teachers to far higher social consideration, and a far more liberal remuneration for their valuable services, than is yet awarded them.

On this subject Dr. M. remarks as follows:—

"The last report of the Superintendent of Education for Upper Canada informs us that the average annual stipend of teachers in that section of the Province is £29 per annum, while the annual stipend of teachers in Lower Canada is £36. In the State of New York, in that of Vermont, and in the greater part of those known as the New England States, the annual stipend of teachers is also £36. In this respect, at any rate, we are not behind Upper Canada and a number of the United States. In France the teachers have each a salary of 200 francs for an elementary and 400 for a superior primary school.

"But it is objected, that as the act does not insure a fixed salary to the teachers, it follows that the school commissioners cannot procure such as are properly qualified; and it is proposed that the salary of teachers should be fixed by law as in some other countries.

"The salary of teachers is in fact fixed in France, in Prussia, and in Switzerland; but it is not so upon this continent; and, under the peculiar circumstances of Lower Canada, to fix the salary of teachers would be to legislate to the prejudice of education itself. From the want of normal schools and of many other means of educating teachers in the art of teaching,—and more especially from the small amount of time which those in actual employment have at their disposal for the purpose of supplying any defects in their education, the teachers here are far from being equal in respect of talents, requisite acquirements, or experience in their profession.

"But, in order that the salary of teachers could be fairly fixed by law, they ought to be at least nearly equal in acquirements and ability, and able to give us in fact guarantees for equally successful results from their teaching. Now, under existing circumstances, these things are morally impossible in Canada; for it is anything but certain that the qualifications of teachers will be equal, or that the same good results will attend their services. It follows, therefore, that if the salary of teachers were fixed by law at an invariable rate, the school commissioners would in many cases be obliged to give some teachers more than they deserved, and would not have the power of giving more to those whose merits were greater. The school commissioners would thus be compelled by law to pay an ill-educated teacher of inferior ability as good a salary as to one well educated and able, or to deprive the cause of education of the services of one or the other; because, in the first case, the ill-educated teacher would insist upon the salary fixed by law, as his rightful remuneration for such service as he could render,—while on the other hand the well-qualified teacher would not be willing to give his services at the same rate, more especially as in different parts of the country the necessities of life vary much and constantly; so that the proper salary for a teacher is a relative matter, depending both upon his qualifications and upon the necessities which local circumstances subject him to," &c.

Without stopping to notice the unsatisfactory application of some of the above conclusions, we pass on to p. 32,—where, while "nevertheless" urgently advocating the establishment of Normal and Model Schools, Dr. M. further observes:—

"I am also of opinion that allowing an increase of salary to the teachers of model schools, we ought at the same time to make it their business to train some of their pupils as teachers, in consideration of a certain premium to be allowed for each of them who should have gone through a satisfactory examination before one

of the boards of examiners; for I wish that all teachers, whether trained at the normal school, the model school or elsewhere, should equally undergo their examination before one or other of the said boards" of Examiners.

Not quite comprehending the drift of some of the above reasoning, we are, for the present, content to observe, that Model School arrangements must emanate from a Normal source, and that it appears to us that it would be futile to attempt to equalize or fix the salaries of Teachers farther than an equitable participation in the benefits of the general fund will allow, with the exception of assigning a reasonable minimum salary for any Teacher, (as advocated in our former remarks,) altogether independent of the number of children attending school; the latter in a great measure depending on the degree of denseness or sparseness in the population of a school section, and therefore entirely beyond the Teacher's control; and that we are persuaded that by holding out proper and just emolumentary encouragement, after the indispensable introduction of regular Normal School Training, a sufficiently uniform and effective standard of qualification would be introduced among the great body of the Teachers, to insure to the country the most beneficial results. But in that case, as already hinted, the powers of the local Boards of Examiners must in a great degree give place to the more general superintendence of a Provincial Board of Education.

But what, let us ask, can avail either the wisest movements of a Legislature, or the most zealous efforts of individuals, if the great body of THE PEOPLE, for whose express benefit these exertions are made, either coldly stand aloof, or indifferently, or perversely—we would almost say wickedly and diabolically,—reject or oppose the almost gratuitous proffer of so inestimable a blessing as general Education! And yet, such, alas! would appear to be too much the case. Taken, however, in even the most favourable point of view, what is the amount of the generous pecuniary patronage, or rather of the miserable annual pittance doled out to the honoured instructors of our hopeful offspring, either in British America or the United States, with the noble exception of Massachusetts, (and in a less prominent degree Pennsylvania and Connecticut,) neither more nor less than a paltry average of little more than £40 currency to male teachers, and less than half of that amount to those of the female sex! Wages, which, unless board and lodging also were furnished, our commonest farm labourers would reject with disdain! In the application of this observation we, of course, refer to America alone: for, as is well known, in Europe these matters must be viewed and meted by an utterly different scale.*

* We of course refer to the scale of wages given in Europe to farm labourers, and village and town mechanics, as compared with other classes of the population: but a far more apposite view of what might reasonably be expected to be received by teachers in a Colony, may be formed by the Legislature and people of this Province, from the late liberal and enlightened movement of the Home Government in behalf of education in the small adjacent French Colony of the Island of Mauritius,—to which, we perceive, the Government have just dispatched several members of the scholastic profession,—principally men and their wives, to establish primary schools. Before starting they received £120 to provide the necessary outfit, and on landing in the Colony, £25 to defray expenses. Their salaries then to commence at £80, and gradually to increase to £200 per annum!

That our readers may be fully sensible that this is not a mere flourish of words, we beg leave to refer them to the following abstract table, of the actual rate of teacher's wages in British America and the United States, framed at a venture from various published documents and those memoranda, as fully bearing out our assertion; and we deem it right to add that, though there may be isolated instances, even in Lower Canada, of teachers being in the receipt of more than £100 a year, we have based the greater part of our calculations on monthly proportions; and, therefore, as the schools are seldom in operation more than eight months of the year, it is probable that the average assigned is more frequently above the true amount than otherwise. It is also proper to state, that we allude solely to the rural districts: for the average income of teachers in large towns and cities must, of course, be much higher; and, in fact, range in the States, from £50 to £600 per annum.

Abstract view of the average Wages of Common School Teachers in the British American Provinces, compared with different American States.

NAME OF PROVINCES OR STATES.	MALE TEACHERS.	FEMALE TEACHERS.	REMARKS.
Upper Canada,	£30 0 0	} Unascertained but about ½	No board in addition.
Lower Canada,	36 0 0		
Nova Scotia,	38 0 0	} Do. do.	Board, washing and lodging also found.
New Brunswick,	40 0 0		
State of Maine,	46 0 0	£14 0 0	} Exclusive of board.
" New Hampshire,	40 0 0	16 0 0	
" Vermont,	36 0 0	14 0 0	
" Massachusetts,	73 0 0	24 0 0	
" Connecticut,	48 0 0	19 0 0	
" Pennsylvania,	51 0 0	30 0 0	
" New York,	43 0 0	19 0 0	
" Ohio,	36 0 0	18 0 0	
" Michigan,	38 0 0	16 0 0	

In addition to the foregoing humiliating view of the remuneration generally awarded in America, to teachers of both sexes, we cannot refrain from drawing the attention of our readers to the very low and *ungallant* estimation in which the valuable services of the gentler sex, as instructors of youth, are, with a few exceptions, held by our American neighbours, as well as ourselves, averaging at less than one half of that of the male sex; whereas in the National Schools in Ireland, the proportion is more justly nearer four-fifths. We may further add, that there, *i. e.*, in Ireland, the teachers are divided into three classes, in the two first of which the male teachers receive from Government, in addition to their local school dues, from £30 to £16; and the females from £24 to £14, per annum. But it has been at the same time repeatedly declared by the Board of Commissioners, that *they neither profess, nor are they authorised by the State to make grants of salaries to teachers, except in aid of local contributions from the Patrons of the schools, and from the parents of the children: and that the salaries supplied by them are to be regarded as only supplementary to these local payments.*

L.

(To be Continued.)

ART. LXI.—*A Practical Treatise on the Diseases of Children.* By J. FORSYTH MEIGS, M.D., Lecturer on the Diseases of Children in the Philadelphia Medical Association. Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. Philadelphia: LINDSAY & BLAKISTON, 1848. Svo. pp. 375.

This volume forms the third of the series, now publishing under the name of "The Medical Practitioner's and Students' Library," and is by no means a mere compilation, as the author has furnished the results of his own experience in the diseases treated of, thus adding considerably to the practical value of the publication.

The plan of classification adopted, is that of the systems affected, a plan not commonly followed, but which presents various obvious advantages. The diseases are primarily arranged into classes, according as they affect; 1, the respiratory organs; 2, the digestive organs; and 3, the nervous system; then follows a fourth class, eruptive fevers; and a fifth, worms in the alimentary canal. Under these heads the principal infantile diseases are disposed of, and touched with a master hand, the delineations being, in general, correctly drawn, and faithfully managed. In one point the work presents a feature of great excellence, viz., in the application of the numerical method to the results of particular treatment in given cases. In recording the comparative value of different lines of practice, no mode of generalization is more to be depended on than this one—it is the touchstone of theory, the proof of its value.

Recognising, as we do, the general correctness of the author; in the pathology and treatment of the diseases commented upon, a rigid review of the work appears to be unnecessary. An example of the manner in which the different diseases are alluded to, will furnish an idea of the style of the author, and we select for this purpose the subject of scarlatina, in which the treatment of the cynanchial symptoms by cold is prominently set forth. After a definition of the disease, its "*frequency*" is alluded to, with its statistics, as far as the city of Philadelphia is concerned. The statistics of the Hopital des Enfants at Paris, and Dr. Emmerson's paper (*Am. Jour. Med. Science, vol. 1.*) are mentioned to evidence the comparative rarity of this disease with rubeola or variola. In this country, from our own observation for many years past, we think it more prevalent than the other two diseases, but means are wanting to determine the proportion. The main influences conspiring to its production are contagious and epidemic influences. The author's own observation fixes the average period of incubation at

seven days. The statistics of age and sex follow, succeeded by a concise and accurate description of the symptoms which characterize it in its various forms, and its sequela. This is followed by the diagnosis, prognosis, and lastly the treatment. We pass unnoticed the author's remarks upon the various treatments of the disease by special classes of remedies, as well as the treatment adopted for the local affections of the throat, until arrested by the following letter from Dr Corson, which is of interest amply sufficient to warrant us in quoting it entire:

Believing that evidence of the good effects of any plan of treatment in grave cases of scarlet fever, must be acceptable to all who feel an interest in the progress of medicine, I insert at this place an account of the employment and effects of cold lotions, by Dr. Hiram Corson, of Conshohocken, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. The cases narrated occurred in his own practice, and were kindly communicated by a letter, at my request. Dr. Corson writes to me in July, 1847:

"Dear Doctor, Scarlet fever is a disease that has prevailed very much in our region during the last seventeen years, and has caused me much thought and anxiety. It will give me great pleasure to make you acquainted with the results of a plan of treatment, which I owe mainly to Doctor Samuel Jackson, formerly of Northumberland, now of your city, who first put me in the way of treating the disease successfully. In 1833, I treated the disease, which, however, was not malignant, very successfully, with iced drinks, moderate purges, and slight irritation externally upon the throat, and thought the practice peculiar to myself, but afterwards saw in the May and August numbers of the Am. Journ. of Med. Sciences, the communications of Dr. Jackson. Encouraged by these, I prepared to try the cold externally, when a most unfortunate trial, by a neighbouring physician, so alarmed the people about the application of cold, that I could not prevail upon them to suffer the trial. From 1838, until the last two years, we have annually had the scarlet fever for some months, and my treatment, with the exception of iced drinks sometimes, and cold to the head occasionally, was like that in general use, until August, 1844. At that time I was called to a child eight months old, who had been sick two days. There was great swelling of the glands of both sides of the neck, hot skin, frequent pulse, but no eruption; slight discharge from the nose; the glands not easily seen upon the inside, but the drinks came back through the nose sometimes, and it could not take more than one draw at the breast, without dropping the nipple, because of the obstruction in the nostrils impeding respiration when the mouth was closed. I stated candidly to the mother that I had never saved a child in that condition, and of that age, by the old treatment, and recommended ice externally and internally, cold water to the head, and no medicine. I could urge nothing upon the score of experience, but she agreed. Lumps of ice were folded in linen cloths and held night and day upon the two sides of the throat; while a small thin piece enclosed in white gauze was held in the mouth. In less than three hours improvement was manifest in the ability to swallow. The swelling of the glands, the heat, and the frequency of the pulse all regularly diminished, and in two days the child could nurse well and was out of danger.

The next severe case occurred in about two weeks. It was one of the most intense scarlet eruption, with tumefaction and ulceration of the tonsils, vomiting, coryza, great frequency of the pulse, excessive restlessness, and swelling of the external glands. The heat was intense; there was heaviness amounting almost to stupor. My treatment was a kind of half and half; emetics, purgatives, cold externally and internally. Being but half satisfied with myself, my course was vacillated and inefficient, and I at length called in a friend, who turned the scale in favour of irritating gargles, and our patient died. I was mortified and provoked, and determined to act out my convictions at the next opportunity. A few days after I was called to two boys of five and seven years of age, who had been blistered upon the throat, legs and arms, and had hot drinks, calomel purges, etc., etc.; and

who were discharging copiously from the nose, and were almost deaf. Their countenances were sunken, the throats gangrenous, pulse above 150; their appearance was that of persons in typhus fever. I expressed my fears of the blisters, predicting that they would all be gangrenous in twenty-four hours, and that they would be likely to destroy the patients. I had cloths dipped in iced water wrapped round the neck, ice was put into the mouth, and cold water poured upon the heads, which were much affected. The throats were filled with ropy mucus, which was expelled through the mouth and nose during the coughing which attended efforts to vomit. The palate was literally destroyed by gangrene. A few hours produced an amendment. The blisters modified extensively, and though both children recovered from the disease, one died two weeks afterwards from the sloughing of the throat and neck from the blisters.

"I now treated all the cases that occurred with cold externally and internally; moving the bowels with equal parts of cream of tartar and jalap. The cases were seen early, and easily subdued, and it seemed to me as though the remedy was very efficient, or that my patients had a mild disease. That the latter was not the case, however, I thought probable from the fact that in my region, many cases differently treated died; while in Norristown, only four miles distant, children from one to twelve years or more, were swept off after an illness of only two or three days, the deaths being evidently produced by disease of the brain.

"On the 16th July, 1845, I was called to see a little girl four years and nine months old. She had been sick a day or two.—The case began with vomiting. The eruption has been out since morning (now, 6 P. M.); redness the most intense all over that I ever saw; pulse as rapid as it could be to be counted. The mother had been alarmed during the last few hours, in consequence of delirium and jerking, which she feared was the prelude to convulsions. There was tumefaction of the sub-maxillary ganglions; tongue furred, with projecting red points; breath hot and offensive. When she found some one holding her wrist, she started from her dozing state, and being somewhat afraid of the 'doctor,' went off immediately into one of the most terrific convulsions that I ever saw. It lasted, in spite of ice to the head, or rather iced water constantly poured upon it, almost half an hour. I stayed with her, had her undressed, and placed two pieces of mine (her mother being one) by her side. A large tub of water with cakes of ice, at least a peck, floating in it, was brought into the room, and during the whole night, these two persons bathed her from head to foot with water from this tub, applying it by means of large sponges. It was to me a most painful case (independent of the convulsions), but in order to be certain that I had a case fit for a trial of the ice, I had my brother (a physician practising at Norristown, where the disease was very fatal) brought at ten P. M., to see the case, and to say whether it was the same as those that had for a few weeks been carrying off some of the finest children in Norristown, and carrying terror into every family. He assured me that it was one of the most violent character, and that she would in all probability not live till morning. She was at this time free from convulsions, but in a muttering delirium. As I had perfect control in the case, I assured him that she should live if I could quench the fire that was burning out her vitals, by the use of ice. Not a moment did the attendants whom I had placed by her intermit their labours. Before midnight reason had returned, and her mother said she was more herself than she had been during the whole day. I had gone away, but returned at sunrise, and found her cooled off perfectly. There was scarcely the least appearance of eruption, the skin was cool, the head cool, the intellect clear, and the pulse moderate in frequency and force. She had been unable to drink for many hours, and her tongue, which had been very much cut during the convulsions, was so swelled and sore, that I could obtain no view of the throat. I now directed the mother to intermit the sponging, doing it only once in every two hours, until I returned.—My return was delayed until 4 P. M., when I found that the heat of skin, frequency of pulse, eruption, and delirium had all returned. She was moving her hands as if feeling for something, slowly protruding and withdrawing the tongue, and muttering.—She did not notice her mother's questions, and was apparently unconscious to all that was going on. We threw on the water, ice-cold, in the utmost profusion, and lapped cloths dipped in the water around the neck, changing them every minute or two. We poured it upon the head constantly, holding a large basin under

to catch it. In one hour, reason returned. We continued it until the eruption almost disappeared, until the child shrank from it, and until she was ready to shiver with cold. I now gave her cream of tartar and jalap, directed the water to be used just as was needed to keep down the heat, and had no further trouble with her. I forgot to say that as soon as she could swallow, cold drinks and ice were kept in the mouth. She took no more medicine. The wounds in the tongue healed up kindly.

"There were two younger children in the family, both of whom were attacked a few days after, while apparently in good health, with vomiting and the same symptoms as in the first case. The throats were red and swelled, etc. Cold cloths were wrapped around the neck; they were purged with jalap and cream of tartar; as the heat of skin and eruption appeared, ice water was profusely applied to the whole body, so as to keep down the heat, and allow but a very moderate eruption to show itself. They were well in a few days without a bad symptom. It was now mid-winter. The cases followed each other rapidly. I treated them all in the same way, and all with like happy results. The disease had a wide range, extending from Schuylkill across the highlands between Norristown and Doylestown, and was in that range very destructive in many families. There was much alarm, and I was called two miles back of Norristown to a girl about eleven years old. The eruption had been out about twenty-four hours. The throat was swelled and covered with white patches (generally called ulcers); tongue dry, hot, and red; skin hot as skin could be; and, what to me characterizes the most malignant cases, the eruption instead of being of a bright scarlet, was of a purple red, like the congestion sometimes seen in the faces of old drunkards. There was great oppression, not difficulty of breathing, but a state like that which exists when a person is deathly sick but cannot vomit; with extreme restlessness and jactitation. The disease had been so fatal, that the mother thought the case almost beyond remedy, but when I told her that the cold had proved successful, she was eager to try it. It was 8 o'clock, A. M. The girl was stripped, and the ice water applied all over. Ice was lapped around the neck, and positive directions given to continue the applications without intermission until I returned. It was about four miles from me, and I did not return for seven hours. The moment my eyes rested upon her, I knew that we had done *too much*. She was white as the sheet upon which she lay. The neighbors had been in, and desired the mother to desist, that 'she would kill her,' but she had been true to her trust. The child was bloodless, covered with 'goose-skin,' and shivering with cold. Her pulse was small and much less frequent, but hot weak or fluttering, and she was sensible. (I forgot to say that in the morning she was quite flighty.) I told the mother we had used more cold than was necessary, but that if we left it off now, she would probably do well. I omitted it for two hours, and gave nothing. At the expiration of that time, the heat, and with it the eruption, showed themselves, so as to cause me to direct the sponging to be used just so as to keep them in check. The ice was kept constantly to the neck, and water frequently poured over the neck. I had no more trouble with her, although she desquamated from head to foot.

"Six other children in the family took the disease. Five of them had the ice and ice water used upon them, and all did well. I gave none of them any medicine except a little cream of tartar and jalap, to move the bowels moderately. I gave this combination because it is pleasant to children, and easily swallowed. The sixth case was a very mild one, so that the mother merely gave it a little castor oil, and it did well, and seemed perfectly recovered in a few days. Indeed the attack was so mild, that it would not have been detected as scarlet fever, if it had occurred at any other time. It was attacked with drowsy and an affection of the lungs, about two weeks after, lingered for several weeks, and finally died of pneumonic disease.

"I suppose I have attended more than a hundred cases of scarlet fever of every grade, since I began the cold treatment. In no instance where I had it fairly applied did it fail. Indeed I have lost but two patients since.

"In every variety of sore throat and quinsy, in summer and in winter, my treatment is ice around the neck; or, when the nurse is faithful, iced cloths, renewed as soon as they approach the heat of the neck.

"In no single instance have I seen dropsy follow scarlet fever that had been treated by cold affusion. I have never seen it occur except after the mildest cases of the disease, those that had probably only needed a mild laxative."

I will now make a short statement of my own experience in the external use of cold. I have never employed the cold affusion over the whole body, and never saw it employed but once. In that instance a single bucket-full of water at 70° was poured over the child, but as it was not repeated, no good effects, beyond a very transient reduction of the heat, and quiet for a short time, were produced. In another instance I made repeated affusions upon the head with water at 70°, pouring at one time seven buckets full upon that part. This was a case attended with coma, strabismus, and spasmodic retraction of the head. In addition to the affusions, cloths dipped into iced water were kept applied the greater part of the time. These means, especially the affusions, were evidently advantageous and the child recovered.

Since receiving the above letter, I have resorted to lotions with cool water, (70°), in two cases of the grave anginous form, and in both with benefit. In one of them particularly, its effects were immediately and evidently advantageous. The case occurred in a hearty vigorous girl, twelve years of age. On the third day of the attack, the symptoms were as follows: The pulse was between 140 and 170, small and quick; skin intensely hot; eruption very copious, and of a deep dark red colour, tending to violet; capillary circulation slow and languid; tongue black, and covered with a hard dry crust; teeth and lips dry and covered with dark incrustations. There was very great agitation and restlessness, with constant moaning and complaining, and total insomnia. Under these circumstances, I directed the nurse to sponge the head and extremities of the patient with water of the temperature of the room (68° to 70°). As the water became heated by contact with the skin, small pieces of ice were put into the basin so as to keep the temperature at the degree mentioned. At the end of four hours, the washing having been continued all the time, I found the patient decidedly more comfortable. The pulse had fallen to 140, and increased in volume; the heat of skin was much reduced; the colour of the eruption had improved, having become much more scarlet in tint; the capillary circulation was more active; the agitation and restlessness had very much moderated, and the child had slept somewhat at short intervals. This treatment, in conjunction with the internal administration of the solution of chlorinated soda, and small doses of spirits of turpentine, was continued for several days, the sponging being used whenever the heat and restlessness were great, and the pulse very rapid. The child convalesced about the end of the third week, but was unfortunately seized with symptoms of hydrocephalus on the twenty-fifth day, and died in twenty-three hours, after the most frightful convulsions I ever saw.

We consider, in conclusion, this work of Dr. Meigs one of the most valuable on its specific subject with which we are acquainted. It is true that in its range it does not include the whole of the infantile diseases, but it treats of the most important of them, and this in a concise, lucid, and philosophical manner. It is an excellent text book for the student, and a valuable guide to the practitioner.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GENERAL AND MEDICAL INTELLIGENCE.

Out of 2,423 persons condemned to transportation for having been concerned in the insurrection in Paris in June, there were one physician, three medical students, and two chemists.—Dr. Reid, of Andover, Ohio, says, "a mare brought forth, at one birth, a mule and a colt. She received the jackass first, and two or three weeks after, the horse.—A lady, a Miss B—, graduated lately in medicine, in Geneva College.—Since reading Claridge, we have seen a sick drake avail himself of the "water cure" at the dispensary in St. James' Park. First, in wading in, he took a "fuss bad," then he took a "sitz bad," then turning up his tail,

he took a "korp bad." Lastly, he rose almost upright on his latter end, and flapped his wings so triumphantly; that we expected he was going to shout "Preissnitz for ever." But no such thing. He only said *quack! quack! quack!*—*Hood's Ill's. of Hydro-pathy.*—At the annual meeting of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, at Bath, England, held on 16th and 17th August, Dr. Wood, of Philadelphia, was introduced as a delegate from the American Medical Association. Dr. Wood was immediately appointed an Honorary Corresponding Member. We are pleased to see this, and we should be equally well pleased to see one of our own medical brethren sent to the next meeting of the American Medical Association. The lamp of medical science is lit over this continent, and, as but one grand object is subserved by these associations, their limits should be confined to "no pent up Utica." We have received the last number of our old friend the *Annali*; it's face was ever welcome. It contains the index for vol. 2. Did that of vol. 1 ever see the light?—A new medical journal has been started in Columbus, Ohio, under the name of the *Ohio Medical and Surgical Journal*, edited by Dr. Butterfield, of Starling Medical College. We have not seen it.—Dr. Robertson, of Geo., reports in the *Southern Medical and Surgical Journal*, for October, a successful case of the employment of chloroform in puerperal convulsions.—Dr. Berthelot, of Oley, Penn., delivered, in April last, a patient of twins, a male and a female. The former weighed 11½ pounds, and the latter 9½ pounds. The case is reported in the *Medical Examiner* for August.—During the month of January, 1848, 147 horses were killed at Berlin, furnishing thus 60,943 pounds of meat for public consumption. In one year, 244,625 pounds, the weight of 522 horses were consumed in this city.—In the National Assembly of Prussia there are 10 physicians, in that of Piedmont, there are 7.—The *Buffalo Medical Journal* contains the following report of a case. The city of New York requires all physicians to report for registration, the cause of death:—"This woman was died, because she did die, and she was die of sickness, and she could not live, (Signed,) "Dr. Vanderhiden." This is rich, exceedingly so; but we think we can match it by the following most laconic post-mortem certificate to the Coroner of this District, at an inquest:—"I hereby certify, that at the request of the Coroner and Jury sworn, I examined the body of the late John Woods, and then decided the result of the examination." (Signed,) "R. B.—y, Surgeon, Sherrington, 14th August, 1844." The two following certificates were handed into Christ Church vestry, in this city, by Joseph Hilton, a poor man seeking relief. We suppress the name of the practitioner for obvious reasons. We give them *verbatim literatim, et punctatim*:—"To whom this may concern I the undersigned do hereby certify the bearer Joseph Hilton is unable at the present time to labour in consequence of a wound in the arm received in a fall." (Signed) "Dr. ———, Griffintown Nov. 15 1846;" and again:—"To whom this may concern, I the undersigned do hereby certify that I have made a strict examination of Mr. Joseph Hilton's Arm and believe him able at the present time be able to do any light work but not able to do heavy work with the arm and should think in the course of two weeks more he will be able to work as usual." (Signed,) Dr. ———, Griffintown Nov. 17 1846." The above are a few from among our curiosities.—The number of the insane has greatly increased in Europe since the commencement of the great political disturbances.—*Progress of the Cholera.*—The *London Medical Gazette*, October 20, contains the following reports of the progress of the cholera:—"In the Metropolis, 11 cases were reported on the Tuesday previous.—Scattered cases were occurring in the Eastern Ports among seamen from the Baltic. On the following Sunday two sailors were attacked in the Thames, the one just from Sunderland, the other from North Shields.—October 16.—A case occurred in Birmingham.—On the 13th, four cases occurred at Uxbridge.—Woolwich, October 15.—23 cases have occurred in the hulks at Woolwich; of these six died, and three recovered—the others under treatment. All these cases occurred on board the *Justitia* convict ship, and what is remarkable, they all commenced in the lower deck, and on the one side, this side being opposite a sewer which emptied itself opposite the vessel. No cases have occurred in the town. On the 16th, four new cases occurred in the same vessel.—Gravesend, October 15. The captain of a vessel died here, on the passage to Sunderland from London.—Edinburgh.—From 4th to 16th Oct., 90 new cases, of which 65 died. It appears steadily to progress in the city.—Several fatal cases have occurred in Leith.—Hull.—A fatal case

occurred here in a vessel from Odessa.—Amsterdam.—Letters to the 13th announce several cases in this city—some fatal.—At Konigsberg the disease is raging fearfully, and up to the 10th 720 persons were attacked, of whom 286 died.—Hamburg.—Up to the 9th, the total number attacked was 2229, and 1043 deaths. Lubeck.—The reports from this city are unfavourable.—Woolwich, October 30.—Disease broke out in the *Unité* hospital ship. At this station, to this date, there have been 44 attacks and 14 deaths.—In Edinburgh up to October 23, 190 cases were reported, of which 110 have proved fatal.

THE British American Journal.

MONTREAL, DECEMBER 1, 1848.

THE HOUSE SURGEONCY OF THE MARINE AND EMIGRANT HOSPITAL, QUEBEC.

Our remarks upon the appointment of Dr. Lemieux, to the house surgeoncy of the Marine and Emigrant Hospital, Quebec, have elicited the wrathful indignation of the *Pilot* newspaper of this city, and that of the *Journal de Quebec*. Withering and unanswerable as the observations of these journals were intended to be, we find ourselves neither annihilated nor intimidated. The only medical Journal of the Province, we felt ourselves compelled by a strong sense of that duty which we owe to the profession, to call attention to, and remonstrate against, the unworthy sacrifice of its official stations at the shrine of politics. We have reperused our remarks, and can discern nothing in them which we can either modify or retract. We had no political object to subservise by them, and it is to us a matter of little consequence of what type an administration may be, we will, with equal promptitude animadvert upon their acts, when they have reference to that profession of which we are a member, and of which our Journal is the advocate, and cannot be justified by reason and common sense. The *Pilot* views every thing through the distorting medium of its own mental obliquity. Judging through this medium it can attribute the conduct of others to nothing more elevated than some selfish and grovelling motive; it can see nothing honourable in an opposition to its views or the views of the administration, of which it is the professed organ, and while itself is guilty of the grossest perversion of circumstances, it suspects a like conduct and a similar course of procedure in every other journal which may differ from it. Copied with misrepresentations of our opinions, both the *Pilot* and *Journal de Quebec*, in their animadversions, have descended into personalities; thus violating, and in no ordinary degree, the usual rule of editorial courtesy. Estimated by the usual spirit and tone of their remarks, it would have been a stretch of imagination of no ordinary kind, to have expected to

have been treated otherwise. While, however, it is a matter of no consequence whatever to us, we will not imitate their example, by attributing the remarks of the *Pilot* to Mr. William Hincks, the ostensible editor of that paper, or peradventure to the Hon. Francis Hincks, its reputed editor; or those of the *Journal de Quebec*, to Mr. J. Cauchon, the Hon. member for Montmorenci, its "redacteur en chef." If these journals have deemed us worthy of being considered an entity, by their personal allusions to us, we very much prefer an opposite course, dictated as much by courtesy, as the worthlessness of their remarks, and will regard them as *nonentities*.

There are some parties unfortunately gifted with more valour than discretion, and there are others again, gifted fortunately with more discretion than valour. To the first class belongs the *Pilot*, and to the second, in certain respects, the *Journal de Quebec*. We want no other proof of this fact, than the denial by the *Pilot* of our assertion that Dr. Lemieux's appointment was predetermined, and made consequent upon his passing the medical board, and the marked-silence of the latter on this very point, the gravamen of our charge against the administration. When this is coupled with the relationship which exists between the Hon. member for Montmorenci and Dr. Lemieux, and the admission by the *Pilot* that that relationship was not "without its advantage" in Dr. L.'s favour; the denial of the *Pilot* will be received by every reflecting mind, *cum grano salis*.

The position into which the *Pilot* and the *Journal de Quebec* have forced us, compels us to enter into details, for the purpose of substantiating our remarks; and, should they prove unpalatable, these journals will have only themselves to thank for it. We objected to Dr. Lemieux's appointment on the three grounds, of his "inexperience," "his imperfect acquaintance with the English language," and the circumstances attending his nomination.

1. "*His inexperience.*"—The responsibility of a house surgeon is only a little inferior to that of the visiting surgeon, and in this instance it is considerably augmented, not only in consequence of the distance of the hospital from the city, and the difficulty in obtaining proper assistance in times of emergency, but also in consequence of the generally grave character of the surgical cases admitted, most of which require prompt attention. All the operations of minor surgery are especially his province, invariably so in the absence of the visiting surgeon, and are very frequently delegated to him by that officer. These operations require in most cases great skill and tact, and this is the result of experience, and of experience only, which Dr. Lemieux most notoriously

has not.* The *Pilot* asserts that we do not question his competency. Certainly not. But we do his experience. The *Pilot* is under the care, and we have the best authority for the statement, of a "competent editor," yet, from want of experience, or some other cause, the principal leading articles which appear in that journal are written for him. This is an *argumentum ad hominem*, and will therefore be perfectly intelligible to that intelligent personage, and, in its practical bearing, tells with as much force upon the editor of that paper in his sphere, as it does upon Dr. Lemieux in his, with this difference, that the former commands and obtains assistance when he needs it, while the latter must rely upon his own resources.

2. "*His imperfect acquaintance with the English language.*" On this point we have as much personal cognizance as the *Pilot* has, *i. e.*, none at all. We have obtained information of a reliable character, however, which we now give for the edification of the *Pilot*. A gentleman in this city, who knows Dr. L. intimately, observes, and we use his own expression, and with his concurrence, "he knows barely English enough to make himself intelligible," and a letter from Quebec from another gentleman who also knows him, states, "*he does not speak English.*" Willingly conceding the point, that a person may speak English, and be yet unable to write it, yet his attempts at the latter may be taken as a criterion of the extent of his acquaintance with the language. We therefore quote the following without a comment, as it tells its own tale.

QUEBEC MARINE HOSPITAL.

David Machlan, *seaman from the Brig Robt. McWilliam, was admitted into the Marine Hospital on the 17th October, and discharged on the 23rd October. Disease—Subluxtio.*

At its own request.

(Signed)

C. EUSEBE LEMIEUX,
House Surgeon.

The above is one of the ordinary Hospital Forms, filled up as above, and the words, "*At its own request,*" are the learned House Surgeon's own addition. The handwriting is neat, good, plain, and legible, *jr.*, the House Surgeon, having dotted *its i's*, and crossed *its t's*.—*Freeman's Journal, Quebec.*

The *Pilot* states that Dr. Lemieux can speak English better than we can speak French. If Dr. Lemieux's acquaintance with the language "is barely sufficient to make himself intelligible," we are at a loss to perceive any value in this argument or attempt at justification.

* The *Journal de Quebec* regards the duties of a house surgeon as mainly consisting in the compounding of prescriptions. Hear its words: "*Toute la besogne, a peu près, consiste a préparer les prescriptions inscrites par l'ordre des medecins visiteurs sur le registre médical de l'hôpital.*" We hope that the knowledge of legislation, which the honourable member for Montmorenci possesses, is a little more extensive than that which he has exhibited in medical matters. We recommend to his especial consideration the maxim "*ne sutor ultra crepidam,*" of the value of which he has afforded a practical proof, and which it may prove his interest to remember.

An application of the ordinary rules of logic to it, would, we suspect, exemplify a *reductio ad absurdum*. As on this subject the *Pilot*, the organ of the Government, has in the coarsest manner broached a private and personal matter, viz., our application to the Government for the lately vacant office of Coroner for this District; and as we see nothing in that application, which we were induced to make at the solicitation of several medical gentlemen of this city, of which to be ashamed; and certainly less in the rejection of our claim to cause the slightest disappointment, perhaps the organ of the Government will favor us with the reason of such rejection, more especially since our qualification for that office was testified to by, what may be fairly assumed as representative of the Profession of Canada, its members resident in the cities of Toronto, Kingston, Quebec, and this city—gentlemen of all shades of politics, and national origin.

3rd. *The circumstances attending the nomination.*—On this subject we will now unseal a few of our particulars, reserving others for after use, if required.

The contemplated appointment of Dr. Lemieux was well known, and *this on the best authority*, to every person connected with the Marine Hospital, and the profession generally of Quebec, two or three weeks before the meeting of the Medical Board. We were requested to notice it in the October number of this journal, but did not do so, for two reasons—an unwillingness to attract attention to the party interested, and our belief, *at the time*, that the administration was incapable of such a transaction. It was so well known, both in Quebec and in this city, as to have debarred one gentleman in the former city, of Canadian origin, but speaking the English language fluently, and of many years professional standing, from offering himself as a candidate—a gentleman, moreover, who is a friend to the administration. And in this city, after Dr. Lemieux had passed his examination, it was the means of the withdrawal of the name of a candidate, also a practitioner of several years standing—a gentleman most favorably known to the profession, and the public generally, of this province. The services of this gentleman's parent towards, and in favor of, the administration, have extended over as many years as those of the honorable member for Montmorenci have for weeks, but yet they had not the "advantage" in favor of his son, that those of the latter had for his relation. We say not one word relative to candidates of British origin, but whose claims on the points of competence, and, with several, an enlarged experience, have been

slighted, but we complain, and that most justly, when we see nepotism of this gross description practised, and relationship with a political partizan made the actual touchstone of qualification, to the exclusion of superior merit, and the detriment of the hospital and the public. Finally, the nomination was made *in opposition to the expressed wishes of the commissioners of the hospital*, who, aware of what was to take place, respectfully, firmly, but ineffectually, remonstrated against it. Has the *Pilot* effrontery enough to deny these statements? If our "assertions were false" (as that journal elegantly and chastely expressed it) then are all these circumstances—demonstrating, in the most unmistakable manner, its truthfulness—fictions, mere delusions, prevailing epidemically, nevertheless, and affecting the population generally, both in Quebec and this city. The truth is, in this instance, however, "stranger than fiction," and it will require all the ingenuity of the *Pilot*, fertile and unscrupulous in expedients as it may be, to efface the blot which the perpetrators of this "job" have made in the escutcheon of the administration.

Both the *Pilot* and the *Journal de Quebec* have asserted that we objected to Dr. Lemieux because he was a French Canadian. We defy these journals to point out the passage in our remarks which can be twisted into any such construction.

We state again, as we have already stated, that our object in announcing upon the appointment, has nothing whatever of a political character in it. We utterly disclaim any such intention in this article, or that in our last number, on the subject. We have felt ourselves compelled to censure the administration, not on account of their politics, but because, as patrons of the appointment, they have swerved from their strict path of duty, and have sacrificed important interests for the sake of political partizanship.

THE CHOLERA.

With every reasonable prospect of a third visitation of this fearful disease during the ensuing year, the question of its communicability becomes one of considerable importance. If the disease be contagious, it is important to know under what circumstances this property may be mitigated, or possibly destroyed, or if solely dependant for its propagation on atmospheric conditions, how far we possess the means of neutralizing them. These questions are of exceeding moment, both here and elsewhere. The experience of the past must be our guide for the future. Erratic, although the disease has manifested itself in its course, and capricious, if we

may use the term, in the selection of its places of visitation, yet careful observation has disclosed many circumstances which favour its development, and knowing these, we may have it in our power to diminish its malignity and to restrict the number of its attacks.

The disease is by no means one of recent origin. The description of a disease of an analogous character, if not identically the same, has been described in a Hindoo work of great antiquity; and between the years 1629 and 1781, repeated epidemics of a disease approaching in its character to Algide or Asiatic cholera, have been described as having visited India and Hindostan. In the latter year the disease fatally visited Ganjam, a city of Hindostan, situated on the Bay of Bengal, and destroyed in this and other cities, in a short period of time, 30,000 negroes, and 8000 of the white population. Whatever may have been the origin of the disease in those days, its ravages were of a local character, and although it must have prevailed epidemically, yet we have no account of its having travelled beyond the countries specified. This may very possibly have been due to the more restricted international intercourse which then existed. One thing is certain, that with the solitary exception of an epidemic of this disease which prevailed throughout Europe towards the close of the seventeenth century, it has restricted its ravages to the countries specified, prevailing in them at different times and different places, with marks occasionally of a sporadic, at other times of an epidemic character, and continued to do so till the memorable year 1817, when it manifested itself in Jessore, a city of British India situated on the Delta of the Ganges, whence it spread, like a destroying angel, to the south, north, east and the west, proving equally fatal and malignant everywhere, and unchecked in its career, either by the severity of winter, or the expanse of the Atlantic ocean, only ceased its ravages on the confines of civilization in this Hemisphere. During this period of fifteen years, its march appeared to be a steady and an onward one. In 1819, it penetrated to its most southerly point, invading the Mauritius, in 20° south latitude. In 1829, it reached Archangel, on the White Sea, in 64° north latitude: the most easterly direction of which we have account was the Philippine Islands, situated in east longitude 125°, which it invaded in 1841; and its most westerly, St. Louis, Miss., in 1832, situated in about 90° of west longitude; thus running over, during the years specified, no less than 84° of latitude, and 215° of longitude. Such was the disease which originated at Jessore in 1817. In 1845-6, it again broke out at Curachee, a town situated near the mouth of the Indus. During the

last and the present year, it has visited the principal kingdoms of Europe, with a rapidity seven fold more quick, and the history of its westward progress, is an object of intense anxiety.

A careful examination of all the evidence with reference to the origin and progress of the cholera, discloses this important fact, that a humid atmosphere, wet and sultry weather, and marshy situations, are peculiarly adapted to its development. Exceptions will undoubtedly be found to the complete truthfulness of this observation, but in its main features the observation will hold good, and may be safely acknowledged as a rule. In 1817, the summer was a peculiarly rainy one at Jessore, and the city itself is surrounded by marshes. In 1846, Dr. Thom, of the 86th Regt., stationed at Curachee, observes that "the thermometer stood at from 98 deg. to 104 deg. Fahrenheit and the quantity of moisture was greater than I ever saw in any part of the world, at any season, the dew point being at 83 deg., and the thermometer in the shade being at 90 deg., the lowest range; even this gives 12.19 grains of vapour in each cubic foot of air," and he further shows that the quantity of rain which fell was unusually great. When the epidemic raged in Burmah, Dr. Parke observes,—“during its progress, it attacked chiefly or exclusively the towns and villages situated in low and marshy places, on the banks of rivers and shores of the sea.” In India and Hindostan, it was observed to prevail most frequently with southerly or easterly winds, which favoured moisture, and as a general rule, we may observe, that this excessive moisture was either a prelude to, or an accessory of, its appearance, as witnessed by Dr. Prout, during its existence in England, in 1831-2; and, wherever it has prevailed, this fact is notorious, that the most marshy situations, the worst drained localities, have been especially selected as the sites of its greatest virulence. Whether all this induces a cause of malarial origin, of electrical atmospheric disturbances, or whether this state of the atmosphere predisposes to the generation of animalculæ or fungoid causes of the disease, is a matter of little moment, as regards the lesson obviously taught. Although exceptions are to be found of its prevalence in dry and arid situations, yet they are too few to invalidate the above position as the rule.

Of what nature soever be the exciting cause of this disease, and there has been no want of speculation on this point, its mode of propagation is a question of at least as great, if not greater, importance. Does the disease propagate itself by contagion, or is it a simple epidemic of a non-contagious character? The medi-

cal world has been much divided on these two questions. When we reflect that contagious diseases frequently exhibit themselves in a form apparently epidemic, and that epidemics assume many of the features of contagious diseases, it becomes a matter of exceeding difficulty to draw the line of demarcation between them. We do not mean to assert that epidemics are necessarily contagious, or that contagious diseases are necessarily epidemic, but we mean to say that with reference to cholera, generalizations have been formed and conclusions arrived at without a full and attentive consideration of all the facts of the case. A reversion of opinion has taken place in favour of its contagious character, even among the most strenuous non-contagionists. It is not our intention to enter upon, or discuss the data upon which these conclusions have been arrived at; that would form matter for a whole number of our journal. But we may contrast, not without some degree of interest, the altered opinions of one of the most authoritative boards on the subject in Great Britain. At the last visitation of cholera in England, the Metropolitan Sanitary Commission emphatically declared the disease to be non-contagious: this year the General Board of Health, of London, treats this question in the most cautious non-committal way, observing that "the extent" uniform tenor, and undoubted authority of the evidence obtained from observers of all classes in different countries, &c., *appears to discredit* the once prevalent opinion, that cholera is *in itself* contagious, an opinion which, if fallacious, must be mischievous. And again, "*It is so far true that certain conditions may favour its spread from person to person,*" &c., &c., &c. The Central Board of Health, again, of Dublin, is equally cautious. While, in one portion of its address, it talks of the "*non-contagious character of cholera,*" in another it says, equally distinctly, "*that it is rarely, if ever, contagious*"—a species of phraseology which, to our mind, is sufficiently conclusive as to its being so sometimes. While evidence of the strongest description is admissible to prove its epidemic character, evidence equally conclusive can be produced to demonstrate that it is contagious—contagious, however, under like circumstances with typhus fever or dysentery, but not to the same extent; and the means capable of depriving the latter of much of their malignity in this respect, are equally, if not more, effectual with the former. We have a decided objection to conceal the truth in this matter, fully persuaded that ignorance of causes does infinitely more harm than their divulgence. It lulls into a security which is false, and prevents a recourse to precautionary measures, which would

otherwise, in all probability, have obviated an attack. This city has much less to fear from a third visitation than what it had on the first or second. For cleanliness, it is now, probably, without a parallel on this continent. Still, there is a good deal yet to be done in the way of drainage. one of its most effectual preventives; for it has been well observed, "that in a locally impure atmosphere, individuals are attacked in a greater proportion than other members of the community."

The corporations of Quebec and Toronto have already taken action in this matter—what is *our* corporation about? There may be time enough, but it is well to reflect that the disease may reach us by other channels than the St. Lawrence. The rainy summer which we have had, affords a hint not to be despised, when the usual coincidents and precursors of the disease are remembered.

The sanitary measures to be adopted will form a topic of consideration in our next issue.

Medical Referees and Insurance Offices.—Sometime ago, we alluded to the circumstance of the injustice done Medical men by the Insurance offices in not feeing them for their opinions. These opinions are asked in the most polite manner imaginable by the offices—they are of immense value to them—and yet not a farthing of remuneration is tendered in return. The Profession in this city is awaking to a sense of their rights; and it by no means follows, that a bad practice pursued for years, is to be longer continued. The following letter, which we quote from our contemporary the London *Medical Gazette*, will tend to demonstrate that some parties, at least, are viewing the question in its proper light—that of justice—and are acting accordingly; we wish that those, of this meridian, would "go and do likewise."

Westminster and General Life Assurance Association,
27, King Street, Covent Garden,
24th October, 1848.

SIR,—I am instructed to inform you, that the directors of this Association, having taken into consideration the trouble and responsibility incurred by the medical profession, in furnishing to life assurance companies, their opinion as to the eligibility of the lives of their patients for assurance, have decided upon allowing a fee of £1 1s, to every medical referee who shall give a certificate in reply to an application from the office of this Association.

I remain, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Wm. Browne,
Actuary.

Pharmaceutical Society of Canada East.—We are happy to announce that the apothecaries of this section of the Province, have perfected a Bill of Incorporation which has met with general approval. It will be submitted to the Legislature at its next Session, and we have no doubt of its success. The apothecaries owe it

to themselves to maintain, as much as possible, the respectability of their profession, which will compete most favourably with that of any other country; but they owe it to our profession, as much as to themselves, that that respectability be sustained, an object certain to be secured by enforcing upon the aspirants to it, a finished professional education, a proposition which constitutes an important feature in this Bill. We are informed that the Bill provides against the sale of adulterated drugs. We state the fact, without being aware of its terms.

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Upper Canada.—A meeting of the Profession was held in Toronto at the end of October, for the purpose of taking into consideration the Bill, to which we alluded in our last, and which had been distributed among the members of the Profession in Upper Canada, for their consideration. We are happy to say that, having been made acquainted with all the imperfections of the Lower Canada Act, and the amendments which will be proposed in the latter, the meeting unanimously adopted the amendments, and have altered their proposed Bill accordingly. For want of more minute information, we are unable to enter upon particulars.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the *British American Journal*.

Sir,—I shall be obliged if you will allow me, in the next number of the *Journal*, to communicate to the profession a few remarks in reference to an objection made by the Board of Governors at the last meeting of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, to the "eligibility" of a candidate for a governorship for the district of St. Francis.

After Dr. Marsden's resignation, the profession here were led to believe that the injustice manifested in keeping them out of a representation of the Board, would be discontinued; and that if a majority of our members would recommend one of their number, that person would be elected to the vacant honourable office. But at the "gathering of the clans," on the 10th of May, at Quebec, there was no election, for some sapient reason, no doubt; perhaps it was because its meeting was at Quebec, and an election there would not suit the wishes of a certain party. Subsequently to this, a memorial was drawn up in favour of Dr. Gilbert, of Hatley, praying that the Board, in their wisdom, would elect him to the vacancy, he being a gentleman "blessed" with our fullest confidence, and highest esteem. This memorial was signed by every practitioner in the district, who was not with Dr. Gilbert, a candidate. It was a well worded, respectful document, considering its emanation from the country; one, too, of which, in our ignorance, we believed the Board could hardly deny the prayer; for we made them reason thus:—"Here is a member of the College highly recommended by his confreres, having the confidence of the majority; and Governors of our College, like members of the Legislature, should be popular in

their constituencies; we will be but doing justice to the signers if we grant the prayer of their petition; and we will" —. But they did not. They declared he was not "eligible." Alas, for our simplicity. The Bill, we are now taught, has a hidden meaning, known only to the initiated. "Members of the College are at once eligible as Governors," says the law; we understood it literally, but, in doing so, only showed that we lacked the legal acumen of the lawyer Governors, who seem to be as "well up" on law as on medicine. Dr. Gilbert was not "eligible," they said, because "not a Provincial Licentiate of four years' standing." I would be glad, Sir, if you would inform me, what clause of either act, or by-laws, renders it necessary that a member of the College must be a "Provincial Licentiate of four years' standing" before being eligible for a Governorship?

There is a clause in the by-law to this effect:—"No one can be admitted as a member who has not been a Provincial Licentiate of four years' standing." But where, or how does this affect Dr. Gilbert's case? It can only refer to those seeking membership subsequent to the sanction of the by-laws by the Governor General; but granting that it was in force, from the moment of their adoption by the meeting, it cannot affect a person already a member of the Corporation. As to that clause of the by-laws regarding recognised members, Dr. Gilbert did not forfeit his claim to recognition, by not enregistering and taking out his certificate of membership; for not one of the Governors had even done so, so that he could not have come "under the curse" of not being "recognised" as a member. Members did not register because the times were hard; they feared to pay the money, lest the investment might not prove safe; and, in reality, it seemed as little desirable to do so, as it would have been to invest money in the Irish funds, previous to the insurrection in that unhappy country, threatened like it as their college was, or, perhaps, still is, by the "Repeal Association." But the clause goes on to say, "and as it is desired to include every member of the profession who possessed a Provincial License of at least four years' date at the time of the passing of the Act, &c., the books of the College shall be kept open for such enregistration for six months after the sanction of these by-laws, &c." This cannot be the ground on which the Board founded their objection. It can't desire to include those already included. Dr. Gilbert did require to register under this part of the clause; being already a member, and the reference to four years of License, I again assert, can only refer to those seeking membership subsequent to the passing of the by-law, making such qualification necessary. There is no such clause as this in the by-laws—"Only those members of the Incorporation who are Provincial Licentiates of four years' standing, are eligible as Governors;" and, I deny that any one part, or collection of parts, of either act or by-laws, can, by possibility, bear any such interpretation, and assert, that such qualification cannot boast of having even a crumpling corner stone whereon to build a wall of partition between old and young members; between those of four months, four years, or forty. There is, however, a clause which well meets the merits of this case; beautifully simple—without reservation—without qualifica-

tion; plain, easy of interpretation, and, it would seem, excluding all legal ground for quibble:—"Members of the College are at once eligible as Governors." Of a truth the Board have given a decision in the case, contrary to the law, both as to its letter and its spirit, and without the slightest authority, have attempted to institute a new qualification for Governorship, which cannot, by any perversion of law, or by-law, obtain even the semblance of a support. But is Dr. Gilbert a member of the college? The *British American Journal*, for October, 1847, informs us that at the first meeting of the Corporation of the College, held in Montreal on the 15th September, a letter, containing a legal opinion from the then Hon. Attorney General, was read, intimating that parties whose names were erroneously printed in the Act, were not disfranchised in consequence; and that it was competent for the meeting to incorporate with themselves all those who had signified their adherence to the measure during its passage through the Houses of the Legislature. "Whereupon it was moved by Dr. Arnoldi, Jun., seconded by Dr. Campbell; and resolved—that the following gentlemen be immediately incorporated:—Dr. Valois, (St. Ann's) & C., Dr. Marsden, (Nicolet,) Dr. Gilbert, (Hatley,) & C., & C." This is the proof of Dr. Gilbert's membership. Now, Sir, if Dr. Gilbert is not a member, neither are Drs. Valois, Marsden, & C., members; and neither, I believe, would be Dr. Hall; yet, some of these have been, and some are now, Governors.

It must be gratifying to the profession, Sir, to read in the last number of the Journal, the appeal you make to their good feelings, in urging them to "take the pledge"—forget the past—overlook defects in the bill, until a united appeal is made to the Legislature for amendments; eschew discord and let unanimity prevail; but the appeal is like that of a man, who, having in a fit of mushroom courage assaulted his neighbour, and dreading a complimentary retaliation, cries out, "Forgive! There should be no bad feeling between us! Let's be friends!" I am afraid, Sir, there are more defects requiring amendment than those in the bill; and if by-laws are "made to order," or construed conveniently to the circumstances of individual cases, to meet the interests of the "powers that be," and secure a "plumper," the sooner we have a trial of a new state of things, the better it will be for the interests of the profession, and its character for honesty of action.

When Dr. Gilbert was at the meeting, the objection, since made, was started; but that gentleman's own words will best explain what took place there. I make extracts from a letter addressed by him to the medical men who forwarded the memorial. " . . . The memorial you were pleased to forward in my favour, has been disregarded by the College Governors. The excuse they offer for this act of injustice, is, that of my not having been four years a Licentiate of the College." During the conversation I held with him, (Dr. David) I soon perceived that feelings of private friendship . . . would present, in the minds of the Montreal men, serious obstacles to the fulfilment of your wishes. Dr. David at once made the objection, which has since been advanced by the Board of Governors. I must say, I am exceed-

ingly surprised at their raising this obstacle, as in a very short time, I convinced their Secretary of its groundless nature. I told him I was pleased he had referred to this point, as it had given me an opportunity of replying to it, on which he expressly said, he was satisfied his objection was perfectly invalid, and that consequently there could be no doubt of my being elected. Dr. Hall, who had just come in, was, I believe, present, when he made this statement." Speaking of the courtesy shown him by the profession, he adds, "This, however, even in my own mind, can not obliterate the injustice they have committed in refusing to accede to the wishes of the majority in the district." "The election did not take place on the first day, as owing to the by-laws being unsanctioned by the Governor General, no vacancy actually existed; and as His Excellency was out of town, and it was uncertain when he would return, the meeting was adjourned. Now, as no one of the Governors, to whom the subject was mooted, expressed any doubt as to my election, I did not think it worth while to remain in town, perhaps for several days, as apparently my doing so was quite unnecessary, all the parties appeared to acquiesce in the justice of my claim, which, indeed, must have been manifest to any one with the slightest discrimination. I have stated the only objection made to my return, and, in my opinion, this is a very lame one. "I did not register when in town, as no one else had, or could do so, till the by-laws were sanctioned."

Will you allow me, Sir, to let you into a little piece of secret history? It appears that Dr. Gilbert was asked by the "Montrealers" how he would vote, in a way, indicating, that if pliable, his election would be probable. He would not pledge himself to any party; and this may be the reason for that mystic and invisible law, "which," as a Governor says, "expressly restricts the Governorship to four years of License."

But why not give this as a reason for Dr. G.'s disqualification, instead of one that denies his membership altogether? Why assign a reason at all? The district, then, would not have the same cause to complain of the refusal of the Board to grant the prayer of their petition; and would have believed, that in this, as in other matters, party had to be catered to, to the neglect and prejudice of the interests of the profession.

I have an apology to offer, Sir, for the length of my letter. I do not complain of the Board's refusing to comply with the request of the district, but do complain of the ostensible reason for their refusal, which is as disingenuous as it is shallow; for I cannot suppose them incapable of understanding the law of the case; and though they may say I am not "eligible," to call in question their decisions, I do claim the right to know the law upon which they are founded.

The opinion is stated that such qualification is expressed in the law, and the profession may be allowed to inquire where that law is?

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. WORTHINGTON.

Sherbrooke, Nov. 10, 1848.

(Our sincere desire being to make this journal the medium of communication between the members of the Profession of the Province, and to conduct it with the most perfect impartiality, we at once give place to Dr. Worthington's communication. Dr. W. has seen fit to indulge in a series of invectives against the Board of Governors, which are as unintelligible to us, as we feel persuaded they will be to others. Acquainted with no occult influences ourselves, and feeling equally persuaded that none exist, and despising them, as much as the person who would wantonly insinuate them, we call upon Dr. W. for an explanation, which is due as much to himself, as to the "Montreallers," members of the Board, upon whom he appears desirous of affixing the stigma.

--Ed. B. A. J.)

Notice to Subscribers.—Our subscribers at a distance are particularly requested to remit to this office the amount of their subscriptions—both past and present. We particularly request this procedure, as collection by an agent entails a certain loss of 20 per cent., which cannot be afforded out of the low rate at which the

Journal is charged, which was fixed at its present subscription price—not for the sake of profit, but simply to cover necessary expenses.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The last three mails have arrived without the reception of our exchange with the Dublin "Medical Press." We feel its loss particularly at the present moment, when medical news from Great Britain possesses so much interest. Our other exchanges have arrived—a considerable number in the parcel from Messrs. Wood.

Letters have been received during the month from Dr. Reynolds (Brockville) enclosing drawings. Capt. Lefroy, Dr. Widmer, and Dr. Workman (Toronto). Dr. Worthington (Sherbrooke). Dr. Stratford (Woodstock.) Dr. Maynard (St. Andrews) with enclosure. An article on the subject referred to will appear in our next number. The press of original matter has excluded it from this.

Observations on Glossitis, by Dr. Griffin, surgeon, H. P., 85th Regt., (Quebec); and Cases of Charbon, by Dr. Gilmour, (Three Rivers), have also come to hand. Several papers still lay over.

This number appears wholly original in its contents. The article on "education" being a review of the Superintendent's report, and which will be concluded in our next, being on a subject of general moment—we felt ourselves scarcely at liberty to decline, although not coming directly within our range of objects.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

The transactions of the American Medical Association, instituted 1847. Vol. 1. Philadelphia, 1848.

MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER AT MONTREAL FOR OCTOBER, 1848.

DATE.	THERMOMETER.				BAROMETER.				WINDS.			WEATHER.		
	7 A.M.	3 P.M.	10 P.M.	Mean.	7 A.M.	3 P.M.	10 P.M.	Mean	7 A.M.	Noon.	6 P.M.	7 A.M.	3 P.M.	10 P.M.
1,	+49	+56	+45	+52.5	29.86	29.95	30.11	29.97	W	W N W	W N W	Fair	Fair	Cloudy
2,	" 37	" 49	" 41	" 43.5	30.22	30.21	30.18	30.20	N N E	N E	N E	Windy	o'erc'st	Rain
3,	" 45	" 52	" 48	" 48.5	30.12	30.10	30.09	30.10	N E by E	E N E	E N E	Rain	Rain	Rain
4,	" 49	" 56	" 52	" 52.5	29.95	29.85	29.80	29.87	E N E	E N E	E N E	Cloudy	Rain	Rain
5,	" 53	" 59	" 45	" 56.	29.82	29.87	29.95	29.88	N W by W	N W by W	N W	Fair	Cloudy	Fair
6,	" 43	" 54	" 44	" 48.5	30.07	30.05	30.04	30.05	N E by N	N N W	N by W	Fair	Fair	Fair
7,	" 45	" 66	" 55	" 55.5	29.98	29.89	29.73	29.87	W	W	S S W	Fair	Cloudy	Rain
8,	" 40	" 48	" 36	" 41.	29.85	29.93	30.01	29.93	N W	N W	W N W	Cloudy	Fair	Fair
9,	" 38	" 57	" 52	" 47.5	30.01	29.68	29.51	29.74	W N W	S W	S W	Fair	Fair	o'erc'st
10,	" 47	" 51	" 35	" 49	29.44	29.65	29.81	29.63	W by N	N W	N W	Fair	Fair	Fair
11,	" 34	" 48	" 43	" 41.	29.95	29.82	29.75	29.84	W	W	W	Fair	Fair	Cloudy
12,	" 42	" 50	" 34	" 46.	29.72	29.73	29.94	29.81	W	N W by W	N W by W	Fair	Fair	Fair
13,	" 31	" 42	" 30	" 36.5	30.09	29.99	29.88	29.99	N N W	N W	N W by N	Fair	Fair	Fair
14,	" 32	" 51	" 46	" 41.5	29.78	29.51	29.47	29.59	N by W	S S W	S W	Fair	o'erc'st	Rain
15,	" 45	" 58	" 45	" 51.5	29.67	29.61	29.59	29.63	W	W	W	Fair	Fair	Fair
16,	" 41	" 50	" 47	" 45.5	29.53	29.39	29.33	29.42	W N W	S W	W S W	o'erc'st	o'erc'st	Rain
17,	" 53	" 49	" 38	" 51.	29.27	29.42	29.64	29.44	S W by S	S W	S W	Rain	Rain	Cloudy
18,	" 34	" 40	" 37	" 37.	29.78	29.79	29.72	29.76	N N E	N N E	N N E	Cloudy	o'erc'st	Rain
19,	" 38	" 46	" 40	" 42.	29.45	29.23	29.21	29.31	N N E	N N E	W by N	Rain	Rain	Rain
20,	" 39	" 40	" 35	" 39.5	29.32	29.39	29.47	29.39	W N W	W N W	N W	Rain	Snow	Rain
21,	" 34	" 46	" 39	" 40.	29.57	29.57	29.60	29.58	W S W	S W by S	S W	Fair	Fair	Fair
22,	" 38	" 48	" 40	" 43.	29.65	29.66	29.61	29.64	W by S	S W	W	Fair	Fair	Cloudy
23,	" 34	" 42	" 35	" 38.	29.60	29.57	29.62	29.60	W by S	W N W	W N W	Fair	Fair	Fair
24,	" 31	" 41	" 37	" 36.	29.63	29.49	29.41	29.51	W by N	W by N	N N E	Fair	Rain	Rain
25,	" 33	" 45	" 40	" 41.5	29.41	29.71	29.72	29.61	W S W	W S W	S W	Fair	o'erc'st	Cloudy
26,	" 39	" 49	" 42	" 44.	29.69	29.60	29.59	29.63	W S W	W S W	W S W	Fair	Fair	Rain
27,	" 37	" 47	" 40	" 42.	29.62	29.55	29.53	29.57	W	W	W	Fair	Cloudy	Fair
28,	" 35	" 48	" 42	" 41.5	29.52	29.47	29.45	29.48	W	W	W	Fair	Fair	o'erc'st
29,	" 33	" 49	" 46	" 43.5	29.46	29.41	29.47	29.45	E N E	E N E	E	o'erc'st	o'erc'st	Cloudy
30,	" 47	" 57	" 48	" 52.	29.56	29.54	29.48	29.53	E	E	E	Cloudy	Fair	o'erc'st
31,	" 46	" 52	" 49	" 49.	29.36	29.39	29.47	29.41	N E	W S W	W	Cloudy	Rain	Fair

Therm. } Max. Temp., +66° on the 7th
 } Min. " 30° " 13th
 Mean of the Month, +45.0

Barometer, } Maximum, 30.22 In. on the 2nd
 } Minimum, 29.33 " 19th.
 Mean of Month, 29.69 Inches.

MEDICAL JOURNALS,

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It will be seen at once that, at a price so low, it can only be supported by a very extensive circulation; but the advantages offered are such, that this is confidently anticipated; and they request all to whom this is sent who approve the plan, to aid them by bringing it to the notice of their professional brethren.

Authors and Publishers wishing their works reported, will please forward copies.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

A work like "WOOD'S QUARTERLY RETROSPECT," presenting a view of American and Foreign Practical Medicine and Surgery, so extended as to omit nothing of material interest, yet so condensed as to meet the demand of those whose want of time or means prevents their access to the various sources from which it is compiled, was much needed, and we cordially commend it to the patronage of every member of the Medical profession.

Alexander H. Stevens, M.D. Pres. and Emeritus Prof. of Clin. Sur. in Coll. of Phys. and Surg.

J. M. Smith, M.D. Prof. of Theo. and Prac. of Med. and Clin. Med. in. Med.

John B. Beck, M.D., Prof. of Mat. Med. and Med. Juris.

John Torrey, M.D. Prof. of Bot. and Chem.

Robert Watts, Jr., M.D. Prof. of Anat.

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FACULTY OF MEDICINE.

THE ENSUING WINTER COURSE, OF LECTURES, in the Faculty of Medicine, will commence on Monday, November 6th, and will be continued, uninterruptedly, with the exception of the Christmas vacation, till the last week in April, forming a Session of Six Months.

Theory and Practice of Medicine,	by A. F. Holmes, M.D.
Principles and Practice of Surgery,	" G. W. Campbell, M.D.
Chemistry,	" A. Hall, M.D.
Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children,	" M. McCulloch, M.D.
Anatomy (General and Descriptive),	" O. T. Bruneau, M. D.
Materia Medica and Pharmacy,	" S. C. Sewell, M.D.
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In each of the Courses above specified, five lectures per week are given, except in the Courses of Clinical Medicine, and of Medical Jurisprudence, in the former of which two, and in the latter three only, during the week, are given. The Lecturers in the different departments, will illustrate their respective subjects, by the aid of preparations, plates, apparatus, specimens, etc. etc.

The Medical Library, which is furnished not only with books of reference, but the usual elementary works, will be open to matriculated students, without charge, under the necessary regulations. Access to the Museum will be allowed at certain hours. The Demonstrator of Anatomy will be daily in the Dissecting Rooms to oversee and Direct the students.

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SUMMER SESSION.

The Summer Courses will commence on the second Monday of May, 1849.

Medical Jurisprudence,	by Dr. Frazer.
Botany,	" Dr. Papineau.
	A. F. HOLMES, MD. & P.
	Secretary Med. Fac.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

THE LECTURES at this SCHOOL will commence on MONDAY, 6th NOVEMBER, and will be continued till the last day of APRIL, 1849. During the Session, Lectures on the following Departments of a Medical Education will be delivered, viz.:

Anatomy,.....	Dr. Bibaud.	Practice of Medicine,.....	Dr. Badgley.
Chemistry,.....	Dr. Sutherland.	Midwifery,.....	Dr. Arnoldi.
Materia Medica,.....	Dr. Coderre.	Institutes of Medicine,.....	Dr. Peltier.
Surgery,.....	Dr. Monro.	Medical Jurisprudence,.....	Dr. Boyer.

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