

and for many other expressions of friendly regard, I feel exceedingly obliged to him. And who of the profession, who have availed themselves of his admirable skill in such works, have failed to receive like expressions of his cheerful readiness to comply with their requests?

Oct. 30th, 1863.

DEAR SIR,—I find the following record of Mr. ——'s case:—A very large bluish spot over the upper part of the chest marked the seat of a large effusion of blood into the cellular tissue and muscle below. Much blood was also infiltrated among the muscles of the neck. There was also a large effusion of blood into the anterior mediastinum. The right lung adhered strongly to the diaphragm. The left was also slightly adherent at the base. The liver adhered to the diaphragm, but with the exception of limited superficial thickening of one portion of the capsule, there was no disease. The gall-bladder was firmly united to the large intestine at the junction of the ascending and transverse portions. Two large openings, with smooth edges, established free communication between the cavities. Calculi, or rather masses of biliary matter, filled the smaller extremity of the gall-bladder. The other organs presented no remarkable peculiarities.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

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By M. W. CASE, M.D., TREMONT, ILLINOIS.

TUESDAY morning, Oct. 27th, found me in Chicago, the western metropolis, a deeply-interested spectator of the opening ceremonies of the "Great Northwestern Sanitary Fair." No words of mine can add to the tribute of honor that has been paid to those noble-hearted ladies who originated and carried on this gigantic enterprise.

But there are *Sanitary* institutions that for many years have been steadily at work, doing more to benefit and alleviate the sufferings of mankind than all other institutions combined; and yet the good people know but little about them, and seemingly care less. Our Medical Colleges are doing more for suffering humanity than all the Sanitary Commissions in the world could do without them. Reflections like these led me to visit the Medical Colleges of this city.

My first visit was to RUSH COLLEGE, a plain, substantial brick edifice, at the corner of Dearborn and Indiana streets. The Lecture rooms will seat about 250 students. When I arrived at the Hall, Ephraim Ingalls, Professor of Materia Medica and Medical Jurisprudence, was lecturing to a class numbering over 200. My impression is that I have never seen a class where so large a proportion were near the meridian of life, and I certainly have never seen one that gave better attention to the professors. They do not take notes, especially in College Clinics, as much as they will wish

they had when they experience the perplexing cares of a physician's daily routine of professional life. Professor Ingalls is a pleasant, interesting lecturer, affable in conversation, and is well liked by his class.

The next lecturer I had the pleasure of listening to, was R. L. Rea, Professor of Anatomy. Prof. Rea is a skilful anatomist. As a lecturer he is thorough, and if the members of his class do not come out good anatomists, it will not be through any fault of his. He speaks very rapidly, perhaps at times a little too much so, but he does not fail to keep the attention of the class much better than professors of anatomy are generally able to do. I am informed by those who know, that, as a kind-hearted and attentive surgeon and physician, he has not a superior in Chicago.

J. Adams Allen, Professor of the Principles and Practice of Medicine and Clinical Medicine, I had the pleasure of listening to at the College Clinic. Prof. A. is the favorite with the class. Few men have an equal faculty to instruct and amuse at the same time. Several times during the hour he brought down the house, and an *en-core* from the class would not have surprised me. Prof. Allen is a progressive man, and thinks good air, proper food and exercise, and unlimited faith in Prof. Brainard, are the only essentials to a perfect cure for all curable diseases.

A lecture on Chemistry, by Prof. E. S. Carr, who ranks among the first in the country as a chemist, closed this interesting day at Rush. I very much regret that want of time prevented me from listening to Professors Brainard, Freer, Holmes and Lynn. The former of these gentlemen, the presiding genius of this Institution, I expected to have met at Hospital Clinics, but was disappointed.

Rush College numbers some 600 graduates, and its present flourishing condition is gratifying to all interested in medical progress.

ON FERMENTATION AS A CAUSE OF VARIOUS DISEASES.

By M. POLLI.

M. POLLI, of Milan, has recently published two very interesting memoirs on fermentation as a cause of various diseases, from which we extract some of the more important facts.

Chemists who have, of late years, investigated with the greatest success the phenomena of fermentation, have observed that this mode of reaction amongst organic principles has a much greater importance than was suspected. It is, in fact, to fermentation that the spontaneous decomposition of animal and vegetable tissues is due, such as gangrene, dry-rot, cremacausis, &c., and the whole series of successive transformations that organic substances undergo until they are converted into water, carbonic acid, ammonia and mineral matters. It is by fermentation that fatty bodies give gly-

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