

been provided, and will continue to be sent out, it will be the endeavour of the Society to furnish supplementary comforts and luxuries of a nature somewhat beyond the scope which the Army Medical Department can be expected to supply. Games for the recreation of convalescents in hospital will be specially acceptable. Contributions of newspapers also will be highly welcome, provided the newspapers are in sequence, and of recent date, and illustrated papers and magazines in sequence are especially appreciated. Parcels made up according to these instructions may be sent direct to Major Young, at Shepherd's Hotel, Cairo, or may be delivered at the offices of the Society, 5, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C., to be forwarded regularly to him for distribution. It remains to notice that the Society is now engaged in aiding the soldiers of our own country, and that the strict regulations which have hitherto been observed of restricting aid to those who have become non-combatants, are no longer incumbent upon the Society, although it is to be borne in mind that it is the sick and wounded who have the first claim. The circular is signed by Sir R. Loyd Lindsay, Chairman of the Council of the Society.

### MEDICAL SICKNESS, ANNUITY, AND LIFE-ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

A MEETING of the Executive Committee of this Society was held on Wednesday, the 11th inst., at the residence of Dr. W. M. Ord, Brook Street, W. There were present: Dr. W. M. Ord, Dr. W. Clibborn, Dr. T. M. Dolan, Dr. De Havilland Hall, Mr. E. Bartlett, Mr. M. Greenwood, jun., Mr. J. Brindley James, Mr. F. Wallace, Mr. S. W. Sibley, and Mr. E. Noble Smith. It was reported that ten new proposals had been received in the four weeks since last meeting, making the total to date 651. The balance in favour of the Society was stated to be £4,689 2s. 10d.; and as the quarterly premiums were now being paid, this might be expected to be increased to about £5,400 in a few days. During the four weeks, £62 8s. had been disbursed for sickness-pay, and it was stated that already claims had been paid for sicknesses of a widely varying nature—from severe accidents to the ordinary forms of temporary disablement. The rate of sickness up to the present, however, compared very favourably with the data on which the tables were founded. The question of further investment of funds was considered, and it was decided to invest from £2,000 to £3,000 at a good rate of interest on the security of borough rates. All information as to this Society may be obtained of the Secretary, Mr. C. J. Radley, 26, Wynne Road, Brixton, S.W.

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

### NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1885 ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

*Regulations for the Election of Members passed at the Meeting of the Committee of Council, October 12th, 1881.*

1. There shall be a standing notice in the JOURNAL every week, of the meetings of the Committee of Council throughout the year; and stating that gentlemen wishing to be elected members of the Association must send in their names twenty-one days before the meeting of the Committee of Council at which they wish to be elected.
2. That a list of applicants be in the hands of the Committee of Council fourteen days before such meeting of the Committee of Council, and that the Branch-Secretaries be supplied with several copies of the list.
3. That no member be elected by a Branch, unless his name has been inserted in the circular summoning the meeting at which he seeks election.

Meetings of the Council will be held on April 8th, July 8th, and October 14th, 1885. Gentlemen desirous of becoming members of the Association must send in their forms of application for election to the General Secretary, not later than twenty-one days before each meeting, namely, March 18th, June 17th, and September 24th, 1885, in accordance with the regulation for the election of members, passed at the meeting of the Committee of Council of October 12th, 1881.

FRANCIS FOWKE, General Secretary.

### COUNCIL.

#### NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the Council will be held in the Council Room, Exeter Hall, Strand, London, on Wednesday, the 8th day of April next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANCIS FOWKE, General Secretary.

161A, Strand, March 14th, 1885.

### COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION OF DISEASE.

CARDS for recording individual cases of the following diseases have been prepared by the Committee; they may be had on application to the Honorary Secretaries of the Local Committees in each Branch, or on application to the Secretary of the Collective Investigation Committee.

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| I. Acute Pneumonia.        | VIII. Paroxysmal hæmoglobin-<br>uria.           |
| II. Chorea.                | X. Habits of Aged Persons.                      |
| III. Acute Rheumatism.     | XI. Albuminuria in the Appa-<br>rently Healthy. |
| IV. Diphtheria, clinical.  |   |
| IVa. Diphtheria, sanitary. |   |
| VI. Acute Gout.            | XII. Sleep-walking.                             |
| VII. Puerperal Pyrexia.    | XIII. Cancer of the Breast.                     |

An inquiry is now issued concerning the general condition, habits, and circumstances, past and present, and the family history of persons who have attained or passed the age of 80 years.

The replies to this inquiry will be most valuable when given by a medical man; but the questions have been so arranged that, with the exception of some on the last page, they may be answered by another person. *Partial information will be gladly received.*

There is also now issued an inquiry as to the occurrence of albuminuria in apparently healthy persons.

The Acute Gout card, which had been found too elaborate, has been made a great deal simpler, and is now re-issued.

Copies of these forms and memoranda are in the hands of all the local secretaries, and will be forwarded to anyone who is willing to fill up one or more of the forms, on application by post-card or otherwise to the Secretary of the Collective Investigation Committee, 161A, Strand, London, W.C., to whom all applications and correspondence should be addressed.

July, 1884.

### BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

**SOUTH INDIAN BRANCH.**—Meetings are held in the Central Museum, Madras, on the first Saturday in the month, at 9 P.M. Gentlemen desirous of reading papers or exhibiting specimens are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary. —C. SIBTHORPE, Honorary Secretary, Madras.

**SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH.**—The next ordinary meeting will be held at Pontypridd, on Wednesday, April 15th. Members wishing to bring forward papers, communications, etc., are requested to send titles to one of the undersigned before March 29th.—A. SHEEN, M.D., Cardiff; D. ARTHUR DAVIES, M.B., Swansea, Honorary Secretaries.—February 25th, 1885.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST AND WEST SUSSEX DISTRICTS.**—A conjoint meeting of the above Districts will be held at the Grand Hotel, Brighton, on Tuesday, March 24th, at 4 P.M. Dinner at 6 P.M.; charge 6s., exclusive of wine. Charles J. Oldham, Esq., will preside. The following papers have been promised: 1. The Chairman, "A Case of Hydrophobia." 2. Noble Smith, Esq., "A Case of Incontinence of Urine from Malformation Cured by Operation." 3. Dr. Withers Moore, "A Case of Locomotor Ataxy with Anomalous Symptoms;" 4. "A Case of Meningitis." 4. Dr. Sutherland, "The Premonitory Symptoms of Insanity." 5. Dr. Ranking, "Cases of Fæcal Tumours." Messrs. Krohne and Sesemann will show some new instruments.—G. B. COLLET, T. JENNER VERRALL, Honorary Secretaries, 95, Western Road, Brighton.—March 3rd, 1885.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT.**—The next meeting of this district will be held at the West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone, on Friday, March 27th, at 3.30 P.M., Charles Hoar, Esq., M.D., in the chair. The dinner will take place at the "Star" Hotel, Maidstone, at 6 P.M. precisely; charge, 6s., exclusive of wine. Gentlemen who intend to dine are particularly requested to signify their intention to Dr. Hoar, 3, Rocky Hill Terrace, Maidstone, not later than March 26th. All members of the South-Eastern Branch are entitled to attend this meeting and to introduce friends.—Papers to be read: 1. Charles Frith, Esq., M.D.: "Two cases of Thoracic Aneurysm, with specimens." 2. J. E. Meredith, Esq., M.D.: "A case of complete Atresia of Vagina, with severe constitutional symptoms." 3. C. Boyce, Esq., M.B.: "A case of Intestinal Obstruction: Stercoraceous vomiting for five days; recovery." 4. M. A. Adams, Esq., F.R.C.S.: "Clinical Notes on Amaurosis." 5. A. H. Hallows, Esq.: "Surgical Cases of Interest." Dr. Groun will exhibit some specimens of Pathogenic Micro-organisms. At 3 P.M. Messrs. Mayer and Meltzer will exhibit some new Surgical Instruments.—H. LEWIS JONES, Honorary Secretary, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Chatham.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.**—The next meeting of this District will be held at Faversham on Thursday, March 26th, at 3 P.M.; Mr. Garraway in the chair. The following communications have been promised. 1. Dr. Bowles: "Cases illustrating the difficulties of the Diagnosis of Aneurysms." 2. Mr. Wachter: "A case of Puerperal Fever treated with Warburg's Tincture." 3. Dr. White: "A Hospital for the Insane in the United States." 4. Dr. Eastes: "Empyema." The dinner will take place at the Ship Hotel at 5 P.M. Members wishing to nominate candidates for the office of representative of the Branch in the Council of the Association should send their nomination to me on or before March 31st.—T. WHITEHEAD REID, Honorary Secretary, March 5th, 1885.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST SURREY DISTRICT.**—The next meeting will be held at the Bush Hotel, Farnham, on Thursday, March 26th, at 3.45 P.M.; S. G. Sloman, junior, Esq., of Farnham, in the chair. Dinner at 6 P.M., precisely charge 7s., exclusive of wine. The following papers, etc., have been promised

Mr. Lorimer: "A case of Aneurysm of Hepatic Artery." Mr. H. Sloman: "A case of Prostatic Abscess." Mr. S. G. Sloman: "A paper on the Influence of Warmth in Health and Disease." Dr. Pearce: "A paper on the Treatment of Diseases of the Heart."—A. ARTHUR NAPPER, Honorary Secretary, Broad Oak, Cranleigh, Surrey.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH.**—Members of this Branch are requested to take notice, "That candidates for the office of representative of the Branch at the Council of the Association, should be nominated by any two members of the Branch, before April 15th, and their names sent to the Honorary Secretary." The present representatives are, for Kent, Dr. Parsons (Dover); for Surrey, Dr. Holman (Reigate); for Sussex, Dr. Withers Moore (Brighton).—CHARLES PARSONS, M.D., Honorary Secretary.

**WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.**—The spring meeting of this Branch will be held at the Railway Hotel, Taunton, on Thursday, March 26th, at 5 o'clock. The following question has been settled by the Council as the one on which members should be invited to express their opinion at the said meeting after dinner: "What is your opinion on Vaccination, with reference to the three following points: 1. Is there any diminution in its prophylactic value? 2. Is calf or humanised lymph preferable? 3. Have you noticed any diseases occasioned by it?"—W. M. KELLY, M.D., Honorary Secretary.—Taunton, February 26th, 1885.

**BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH.**—The spring meeting will be held on Friday, March 20th, at Maxwell's Commercial Hotel, Galashiels. The chair will be taken by the President, Dr. Muir, at 4 P.M., when a discussion on Pneumonia will be introduced by Dr. Lockie, of Carlisle. Dinner at 7 P.M. Notices of papers for reading, morbid specimens or patients for exhibition, should be sent to the Secretary, H. A. LEDIARD, Carlisle.

#### BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE fourth ordinary meeting of the session was held at the Grand Pump Room Hotel, Bath, on Thursday evening, March 12th, R. S. FOWLER, F.R.C.S.Ed., President, in the chair. There were also present thirty-eight members and one visitor.

**New Members.**—The following new members were elected. Mr. T. Jones, Bath; Mr. G. S. Pollard, Midsomer Norton; Mr. T. Martin, Temple Cloud; Mr. L. E. W. Stephens, Bristol; Dr. C. D. G. Hailes, Redland; Dr. W. Dowson, Bristol; Mr. A. J. Bisdee, Banwell.

**Communications.**—The following communications were made.

1. Dr. Fox brought forward Notes on Two Cases of Enteric Fever.  
2. Dr. Goodridge read a paper on the Employment of Digitalis in Acute Febrile Diseases.—Drs. Shingleton Smith, Markham Skerritt, and Spender, and Mr. Lowe took part in the discussion which followed.

3. Mr. Freeman reported A Case of Successful Removal of Uterus and Ovaries, and showed the Specimen.—Messrs. Lowe and Craddock commented on the case.

#### JAMAICA BRANCH.

**Officers and Council.**—The following have been elected: *President*: J. C. Philipps, M.D.; *President-elect*: J. Cargill, M.D.; *Secretary and Treasurer*: F. H. Saunders, Esq.; *Council*: C. Gayleard, Esq.; G. C. Henderson, M.D.; J. Ogilvie, Esq.; J. Pringle, M.B.; D. P. Ross, M.D.; A. R. Saunders, M.B.; W. H. M. Strachan, Esq. There are now thirty-three members in the Jamaica Branch, which was the first colonial Branch of the Association.

#### SOUTH-EASTERN DISTRICT: EAST SURREY DISTRICT.

A MEETING of the above was held at the Queen's Hotel, Upper Norwood, on Thursday, March 12th; Surgeon-Major G. K. POOLE, M.D., of Norwood, presiding.

**Next Meeting.**—It was unanimously resolved that the next meeting be held the second Thursday in May at Croydon.

**The late Dr. Lanchester.**—Upon the motion of Dr. J. H. GALTON, the President of the Branch, seconded by Dr. T. RUTHERFORD ADAMS, and supported by the Chairman, it was unanimously resolved: "That the sympathy and condolence of the members be conveyed to the family of the late Dr. Henry T. Lanchester, of Croydon, the founder and first secretary of the district, and whose lamented death had occurred since the last meeting."

**Papers.**—The following papers, etc., were read and discussed.

1. Edmund Owen, Esq.: Incontinence of Urine in Childhood.  
2. Dr. F. H. Champneys: The Prevention and Treatment of Abortion.

3. Dr. R. M. Miller: The Infection of Diphtheria.

**Dinner.**—Twenty members and visitors remained to dinner.

## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

### LETTERS FROM THE EAST.

*Holidays at Sea.—The Faculty of Idleness.—The Message to go South.—Abiding by the Ship.—The Sea-Sanatorium.—London to Port Said.—Experiences in the Mediterranean.*

MR. ERNEST HART writes as follows from Malta, under date March 5th, in a letter which we are permitted to publish:

A letter from ship-board can but be a vain thing, reflecting the idleness to which it is the first function of "a holiday at sea" to minister. Of such a state, there are many who can think only with pity, some only with disdain. To be shut up on ship-board is captivity; but perhaps one which holiday-hopes and a catholic appetite render the most delightful of prisons, the least suggestive of walls and bars. Boswell said to Dr. Johnson, "We grow weary when idle;" and the laborious lexicographer replied to the effect that "that is because, others being busy, we want company; but, were they also idle, there would be no weariness; we should all entertain one another." That is a vivid picture of life on board-ship on a cruise on summer seas. The faculty of idleness is, in my conviction, one which busy men do well to cherish and cultivate. "To possess the soul in peace" is a means of physical and intellectual health, and an aid to the development of wholesome individuality. To be happily idle is a duty much disregarded, a capacity probably insufficiently esteemed, and a factor which physicians may wisely introduce systematically into their own lives, and prescribe for their patients. Undeviating devotion to what a man calls his business is commonly rated as a part of wisdom and virtue; but, if this be true, it is also only half true; and I am inclined to agree with Robert Louis Stevenson, who, in one of his charming essays, asks whether this undeviating devotion is not inevitably apt to be sustained only by undeviating neglect of many other things; and, again, whether it is at all certain that a man's "business" is the most important thing he has to do.

At any rate, in every man's life, there arrive seasons when it is well that he should step aside from the hustling crowd and struggling combat, to breathe a quiet air, dwell in other regions of thought, and understand, by inner experience, that in life there is a duty "to be," not at all less than a duty "to do." When physical infirmities accentuate this call, it need not be altogether regarded as a misfortune; and the imperative message to go South, or to dive into the far East, which wintry winds and chilly fogs bring to some of us, might well, perhaps, be more widely received and extensively obeyed.

The least propitious months in most parts of England are January, February, and March; they are the best suited for holidays at sea. We may leave behind us driving rain, low temperatures, the sharp nor-easter, lowering clouds, and muddy streets—enemies of body and mind. There lies before the sea-going traveller, in search of health and rest, the choice of many a route. Madeira, much neglected by holiday-makers, and too long handed over to the consumptive, lies almost at our door. Eighty to a hundred hours, soon passed in the spacious steamers of the Union Company, bring us, without toil or trouble, to an island whose beauties are little explored by travellers, and almost unknown to holiday-makers. The floating house is fitted as an hotel; but, when it glides into the warm airs of the South, it is an hotel such as no land-resort can rival. The temperature ranges through but few degrees from night to morning; the thermometric variations of a land-station are unknown at sea. The surrounding air, purer than on the mountain-top, and always with us, invigorates and ozonifies, and frees us from "Listerian precautions." Whatever purity of air, diffusion of sunlight, equability of temperature, nocturnal and diurnal, can do for health, that we have at command, without effort and without preparation, on our sea-holiday. For those to whom the love of the sea has not yet become a passion; such a short trip as the delightful run to Madeira, will suffice to introduce them to the scenery of a volcanic island which knows no superior in this quarter of the globe, and few rivals in its varied beauty. At the sea-level flourish the bamboo, the sugar-cane, and a semitropical vegetation; a little higher lie fields bounded by hedges of geranium and fuchsia, in tree-like growth; and, yet higher, forests of the oak, elm, and the stately "tel." This short holiday at sea I recall, because a fortnight's trip, which sufficed to take us to Madeira and back, with a week's excursion round the island, dwells in my recollection as an unfading and delightful vision, associated with impressions of much physical benefit. A fortnight at any English resort would hardly have answered the same purpose; certainly it could not have supplied so

the milk, however much they may affect the accuracy of the optical test in its application to the milk of individual cows, tend to disappear when the milk of various cows is mixed together, as my critic admits to be the case when he says, "milk, as sold by farmers and dealers, is, with very few exceptions, the mixed yield of a number of cows." In such a case, the conditions which affect the accuracy of the optical test, tend to neutralise one another, and we get a fluid of average composition, to which the optical test is fairly applicable.

In regard to the lactobutyrometer, of whose accuracy, when properly used, your contributor does not speak too highly, I may say that ample evidence has convinced me that, in the hands of persons who do not know how to use it, it will give results quite as inaccurate as can be obtained from a lactoscope. Only a few days ago, a gentleman of unquestionable intelligence, who has been using this appliance for months past, told me that the determination which he obtained from it was nearly 1.5 per cent. less than that which he saw with his own eyes obtained from the same sample of milk by a competent chemist. The fact is, that Marchand's test, if employed with the precautions which he enjoins, gives indications which are as exact as can be obtained from any method of butter-extraction; but, as generally performed, by persons whose training in the use of instruments of precision does not fit them to appreciate its niceties, the results obtained from it are considerably under the mark.

With reference to the relative merits of my own lactoscope in comparison with others, and especially with that of Feser, I shall be glad to know on what grounds your contributor has arrived at the conclusion that the latter is "far superior." He gives no facts, and it certainly is not easy to see how the difference in the mode of applying the optical test which I have adopted can lead to such great inferiority of result. I can only say, as the result of a very considerable number of comparisons between my lactoscope and Feser's, that I believe that it will be found quite as trustworthy by those who will take the trouble to make the trials. If there be any inferiority on the side of my instrument, it is certainly not in the principle of its construction, but in the details of the table of readings by which its indications are to be interpreted. If it will stand comparison on this ground, it may fairly claim superiority on the others, namely, that it is much less fragile, and that it is only one-fifth of the cost.—Yours faithfully,  
Gloucester.

FRANCIS T. BOND, M.D.

## UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

### UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM.

**FACULTY OF MEDICINE.**—The following Regulations for the Examinations for the Degree of Bachelor in Medicine of the University of Durham have been adopted, and will come into force on May 1st, 1885. There will be three examinations, instead of two as heretofore. The subject of *Materia Medica* and Pharmacy will be transferred from the Final Examination to the Second Examination, and the subjects of Chemistry and Botany from the Second Examination to the First Examination. The subjects of each examination will be as follows: First Examination: (1) Elementary Anatomy, (2) Elementary Physiology, (3) Chemistry and Chemical Physics, (4) Botany and Medical Botany. Second Examination: (1) Anatomy, (2) Physiology, (3) *Materia Medica* and Pharmacy. Third Examination: (1) Medicine, (2) Surgery, (3) Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children, (4) Pathology, (5) Medical Jurisprudence, (6) Therapeutics, (7) Public Health. Candidates will be admitted to each of these examinations after duly certified attendance at a recognised medical school on courses of instruction in the various subjects of the examination, as set forth in the schedules of certificates issued by the University. Each examination must be passed in its entirety before the next can be proceeded with. As heretofore, each candidate before presenting himself for the Third or Final Examination must have spent one winter and one summer session in attendance at the University of Durham College of Medicine, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and must have passed one of the recognised Arts Examinations. A candidate who has passed the First Examination of the Conjoint Board in England of the Royal College of Physicians of London and the Royal College of Surgeons of England, will be exempt from the First Examination of the University of Durham, except in the subject of Chemistry, on which he will be re-examined. A candidate who has passed the First and Second Examinations of the University will be exempt from the First and Second Examinations of the Conjoint Board, and will be entitled to present himself for the Final Examination of the Board on the completion of the necessary curriculum. Full particulars of the examinations, to-

gether with synopses of the subjects, schedules of certificates, and any information required, may be obtained on application to the Registrar of the University of Durham College of Medicine, Luke Armstrong, M.D., 26, Clayton Street West, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

## MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

### ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE.

**DEPUTY SURGEON-GENERAL D. B. SMITH, M.D.**, formerly of the Bengal Medical Establishment, has been appointed Professor of Clinical and Military Medicine at the Army Medical School at Netley. Dr. Smith entered the Indian service as an Assistant-Surgeon on November 28th, 1855; became Surgeon-Major November 28th, 1867; and retired with the rank of Deputy Surgeon-General on March 1st, 1882. He is not credited in the Army Lists with any war-service.

The local rank of Deputy Surgeon-General granted to Brigade-Surgeon S. B. ROE, C.B., M.B., is for duty in the South-Eastern District, and not with the Suakin Expeditionary Force, as stated in the *London Gazette* of March 3rd.

Acting Surgeon G. H. CRESSEY, of the 1st Norfolk Artillery Volunteers, has resigned his appointment, on which he entered December 6th, 1882.

Acting Surgeon W. GIBB, 1st Forfar (Dundee) Volunteers, has resigned his appointment, which dates from May 24th last.

Among the sick who have arrived at Cairo from the front, we find the names of Surgeon-Major W. H. GARDE, suffering from dysentery, and Surgeon J. P. MYLES, from simple continued fever. The telegram, which is dated March 11th, adds that they are doing well.

The *Ganges* hospital-ship is reported to have reached Suakin.

Surgeon-Major J. WALKER, M.B., Surgeon G. F. A. SMYTHE, and Surgeon W. H. LENDRUM, M.D., have passed the lower standard in Hindustani.

Surgeon O. G. D. BRADSHAW died at Korti, on the 15th instant, of enteric fever. Mr. Bradshaw entered the service on the 2nd of February last year, and was in his 26th year, having been born on the 27th of January, 1859.

Brigade-Surgeon F. W. WADE is appointed to the medical charge of the Station-Hospital at Meean Meer.

Surgeon-Major D. C. GROSE is appointed to the medical charge of the Station-Hospital at Dalhousie, *vice* Brigade-Surgeon Wade.

Surgeon R. H. FIRTH, F.R.C.S. Eng., has passed the lower standard in Hindustani.

Surgeon P. MULVANY has been appointed Staff-Surgeon at Meean Meer, *vice* Surgeon-Major D. C. Grose, who has been transferred to Dalhousie.

Surgeon E. H. MYLES, M.B., has reported himself for duty in the Lahore Division.

### INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

**SURGEON-MAJOR T. S. VEALE, M.D.**, Bengal Establishment, has retired from the service. He entered as an Assistant-Surgeon on January 27th, 1858; and became Surgeon, January 27th, 1870. Dr. Veale served during the Indian Mutiny in 1858, with the Bhootan expedition in 1865-66, and in the Afghan war in 1879-80, and has the medal granted for each of these campaigns.

Surgeon-Major W. A. GILLIGAN, Bengal Establishment, medical officer in charge of the Northern Bengal State Railway at Saidpore, and officiating Civil Surgeon of Durbhunga, has been appointed to act as Civil Surgeon of Chittagong, during the absence of Surgeon R. D. Murray.

Surgeon-Major D. D. CUNNINGHAM, Professor of Physiology at the Medical College at Calcutta, and official Civil Surgeon of Beerbhoom, to be Secretary to the Committee for the Management of the Zoological Gardens at Alipore, *vice* Mr. C. E. Buckland, who has resigned.

Consequent on the appointment of Surgeon-Major A. N. HOJEL to act as Physician at the European General Hospital, Bombay, the following appointments are made until further orders: Surgeon-Major G. WATERS, Bombay Establishment, to act as Professor of Physiology in the Grant Medical College; Surgeon R. MANSER, Bombay Establishment, to act as Professor of Pathology and Curator of the Museum in the Grant Medical College; and Surgeon R. J. BAKER, M.B., Bombay Establishment, to act as Professor of *Materia Medica* in the same College.

The undermentioned gentlemen have been granted furlough for the periods specified: Surgeon H. HAMILTON, M.D., Bengal Establish-

the sale of poisons wholesale was sufficiently cared for by the existing restrictions, but he would remind the noble lord that great complaints had been made of the manufacture of papers for walls, which had been proved to be very dangerous to human life, and he trusted that something would be done in regard to this matter.

The Earl of MILLTOWN entered his earnest protest against the manner in which this measure had been brought before their lordships. Their lordships would remember that it was read a first time on the 9th of this month, but it was not until yesterday that it was put into the hands of members. If they could not have copies of Bills of this sort delivered earlier, in order to give an opportunity to their lordships to consider them, it would be far better that such measures should be allowed to be initiated elsewhere.

The Duke of MARLBOROUGH pointed out that the noble lord who had introduced the Bill had said that there was already sufficient control over the wholesale dealings in poisons; but it might not be within the knowledge of the noble lord that the wholesale dealers sometimes had private retail customers, and it might be as well to consider whether some provision should not be made for such trading. He ventured to suggest this point to the consideration of the noble lord.

Lord CARLINGFORD said he was not quite sure whether the Bill affected the case which had been suggested by the noble duke, and the matter was well worth consideration. In reply to the noble viscount, he would point out that the schedules might be enlarged; and, even if the Bill should become law, the Privy Council would have the power of enlarging them at any time. The schedules had been scientifically prepared, however; and, when he had asked why such and such substances had been left out, he was informed that, under the scientific terms in the Bill, such substances were included. In reply to what had fallen from the Earl of Milltown, he desired to point out that he had made no statement in originally introducing the Bill, and he had thought it was desirable to do so this afternoon. He had no desire to hurry the measure forward unduly, however, and he should be happy to meet the convenience of the noble lord, or any of their lordships who were interested in the Bill, as to when the next stage should be taken. Would this day week suit the noble lord?

The Earl of MILLTOWN said his remarks were quite general.

The Bill was then read a second time.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday, March 12th.

*The Metropolitan Asylums Board.*—In answer to Mr. J. STUART, Mr. G. RUSSELL said the accounts of the managers of the Metropolitan Asylums District show that, comparing the year ended Lady-day, 1884, with the year ended on the same day in 1880, the expenditure, including expenditure out of loans, had increased by £187,000. Without going into the details of the expenditure, it may be observed that, since 1880, an asylum for 900 imbecile patients at Darenth has been erected, three hospital-ships for small-pox patients have been provided, the North-Western Hospital has been opened, and wharves and ambulance-stations have been established. There has also been a large expenditure on alterations and additions at the small-pox and fever hospitals since the date of the report of the Royal Commission, with the view of diminishing any risk of spread of disease from the hospitals, and also a considerable increase in the payments in respect of principal and interest of loans.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

*APOTHECARIES' HALL.*—The following gentlemen passed their Examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, March 12th, 1885.

Aldous, George Frederick, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.  
Collinson, Thomas Arthur, King's College.  
Ellison, Ernest Henry, King's College.  
Hickey, Evan Lewis, King's College.  
Raw, William Edmund St. Michael, London Hospital.

## MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced.

- BRIGHTON AND HOVE LYING-IN INSTITUTION.**—House-Surgeon. Salary £120 per annum. Applications by April 17th.  
**CHELSEA HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN.**—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £60 per annum. Applications by March 31st.  
**CHESTER GENERAL INFIRMARY.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications by March 28th.  
**CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST,** Victoria Park, E.—Resident Clinical Assistant. Applications by March 30th.  
**CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST,** Victoria Park, E.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by March 26th.  
**GROOM UNION.**—Medical Officer, Adare Dispensary. Salary, £145 per annum and fees. Applications to Mr. O'Flaherty, Honorary Secretary. Election on March 23rd.  
**DONEGAL UNION.**—Medical Officer, Laghey Dispensary. Salary, £115 per annum, and fees. Applications to W. Hammond, Honorary Secretary, Bridgetown. Election on March 23rd.  
**EAST RETFORD DISPENSARY.**—Medical Officer. Applications to the Rev. W. Houlfray, West Retford Rectory, Retford.  
**GENERAL HOSPITAL, Birmingham.**—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £130 per annum. Applications by March 28th.  
**HALIFAX INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY.**—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications by March 26th.  
**HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN,** 49, Great Ormond Street, W.C.—Assistant Physician. Applications by April 1st.  
**LIVERPOOL INFIRMARY FOR CHILDREN,** Myrtle Street.—Assistant House-Surgeon for 6 months. Applications to H. R. Robertson.  
**LIVERPOOL ROYAL INFIRMARY.**—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications to the Chairman of the Committee, by March 30th.  
**PARISH OF KENSINGTON.**—Resident Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £120 per annum. Applications by March 28th.  
**PARISHES OF WESTRAY AND PAPA WESTRAY,** Orkney.—Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Officer of Health. Salary, £82 per annum. Applications to J. Scott, Inspector of Poor, Westray by Kirkwall, by March 25th.  
**ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.**—Professor of Chemistry. Applications by March 23rd.  
**ST. LUKE'S (MIDDLESEX) VESTRY.**—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications endorsed "Medical Officer" by March 24th.  
**ST. MARYLEBONE GENERAL DISPENSARY,** 77, Welbeck Street, Cavendish Square.—Honorary Physician. Applications by March 23rd.  
**ST. PETER'S HOSPITAL FOR STONE AND URINARY DISEASES, etc.,** Henrietta Street, Covent Garden.—House-Surgeon for six months. Honorarium, 25 guineas. Applications by March 21st.  
**SUSSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL.**—Assistant-Physician and Assistant-Surgeon. Applications by March 25th.  
**WANDSWORTH AND CLAPHAM UNION.**—District Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by March 24th.  
**WEST LONDON HOSPITAL,** Hammersmith.—Assistant Surgeon. Applications by March 30th.

## MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

- BROWNE, Edward George, L.R.C.S.I., appointed House-Surgeon to the City of Dublin Hospital.  
FOXWELL, Arthur, B.A., M.B.Cantab., M.R.C.P.Lond., appointed Assistant-Physician to the Birmingham General Hospital.  
IAGO, George John, appointed Secretary and Librarian to the Westminster Hospital Medical School.  
STEPHENSON, Sydney H. A., M.B., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Rochdale Infirmary, *viz* W. Piercy Fox, L.R.C.P.Ed., resigned.  
TAYLOR, Edward M., L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., appointed Medical Officer of the Workhouse, Whitby; Medical Officer for the East Side District, Whitby; Public Vaccinator for Whitby and District.

## MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

- MONDAY.**—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. C. E. Beevor: A Case of Chronic Spasms of the Upper Limbs. Dr. Burney Yeo: On Some Points in the Etiology of Phthisis.  
**TUESDAY.**—Royal College of Physicians of London. Sir Andrew Clark, Bart.: Lumlilan Lecture on Some Points in the Natural History of Dry Pleurisy.—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society. Discussion on Cholera, introduced by a paper from the President, Dr. George Johnson, F.R.S. Microscopical specimens will be on view at 8 P.M.  
**WEDNESDAY.**—Hunterian Society. Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson: Notes on Symptoms. Dr. Stephen Mackenzie will exhibit the Bacillus of Leprosy.—British Gynaecological Society, 8.30 P.M. Specimens by Dr. R. Barnes, Dr. Edis, Mr. Reeves, and others. Dr. Bell (Glasgow): On Dysmenorrhœa. Dr. Lamprey: Plural Monstrosities.  
**THURSDAY.**—Royal College of Physicians of London. Sir Andrew Clark, Bart.: Lumlilan Lecture on Some Points in the Natural History of Dry Pleurisy.—**FRIDAY.**—Clinical Society. Mr. Mayo Robson (Leeds): A Series of Cases of Spina Bifida treated by Plastic Operation. (Two patients will be exhibited.) Mr. Barwell: Three Cases of Pistol-shot Wounds. Dr. Hadden: A Case of Choreiform Movements supervening in Infancy, and probably of Congenital Origin. Mr. J. R. Lunn: Calculus and Tumour of the Bladder; Lithotomy; Death on the Ninth Day.

## OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....	St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.
TUESDAY .....	St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—Westminster 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—West London, 8 P.M.—St. Mark's, 9 A.M.—St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department), 4 P.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 2.30 P.M.
WEDNESDAY ..	St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Mary's, 1.30 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Great Northern Central, 2 P.M.—Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, 2.30 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Peter's, 2 P.M.—National Orthopaedic, 10 A.M.—King's College, 8 to 4 P.M.
THURSDAY ...	St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—North-west London, 2.30 P.M.—Chelsea Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.
FRIDAY .....	King's College, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Royal South London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department), 2 P.M.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.
SATURDAY ...	St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Free, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 2.30 P.M.

## HOURS OF ATTENDANCE AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

CHARING CROSS.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30 Skin, M. Th., 1; Dental, M. W. F., 9.30.
GUY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, exc. Tu., 1.30; Obstetric, M. W. F., 1.30; Eye M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; Ear, Tu. F., 12.30; Skin, Tu., 12.30; Dental, Tu. Th. F., 12.
KING'S COLLEGE.—Medical, daily, 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., M. W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th., 1; Ophthalmic Department, W., 1; Ear, Th., 2; Skin, Th.; Throat, Th. 3; Dental, Tu. F., 10.
LONDON.—Medical, daily, exc. S., 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30 and 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 1.30; o.p. W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 9; Ear, S., 9.30; Skin, Th., 9; Dental, Tu., 9.
MIDDLESEX.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 8.30; Ear and Throat, Tu., 9; Skin, F., 4; Dental, daily, 9.
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., W. S., 9; Eye, Tu. W. Th. S., 2; Ear, M., 2.30; Skin, F., 1.30; Larynx, W., 11.30; Orthopaedic, F., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 9.
ST. GEORGE'S.—Medical and Surgical, M. Tu. F. S., 1; Obstetric, Tu. S., 1; o.p., Th., 2; Eye, W. S., 2; Ear, Tu., 2; Skin, W., 2; Throat, Th., 2; Orthopaedic, W., 2; Dental, Tu. S., 9; Th., 1.
ST. MARY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.45; Obstetric, Tu. F., 9.30; o.p., M. Th., 9.30; Eye, Tu. F., 9.30; Ear, W. S., 9.30; Throat, M. Th., 9.30; Skin, Tu. F., 9.30; Electrician, Tu. F., 9.30; Dental, W. S., 9.30.
ST. THOMAS'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, except Sat., 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 2; o.p., W., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 2; o.p., daily, except Sat., 1.30; Ear, M., 12.30; Skin, W., 12.30; Throat, Tu. F., 1.30; Children, S., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 10.
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1 to 2; Obstetric, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Tu. Th. F., 2; Ear, S., 1.30; Skin, W., 1.45; S., 9.15; Throat, Th., 2.30; Dental, W., 10.30.
WESTMINSTER.—Medical and Surgical, daily 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. F., 2; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 9; Skin, Th., 1; Dental, W. S., 9.15.

## LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor, 161A, Strand, W.C., London; those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the JOURNAL, etc., should be addressed to the Manager, at the Office, 161A, Strand, W.C., London.

In order to avoid delay, it is particularly requested that all letters on the editorial business of the JOURNAL be addressed to the Editor at the office of the JOURNAL, and not to his private house.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, are requested to communicate beforehand with the Manager, 161A, Strand, W.C.

CORRESPONDENTS who wish notice to be taken of their communications, should authenticate them with their names—of course not necessarily for publication. CORRESPONDENTS not answered, are requested to look to the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.—We shall be much obliged to Medical Officers of Health if they will, on forwarding their Annual and other Reports favour us with Duplicate Copies.

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

## THE TITLE OF DOCTOR.

SIR,—I was surprised at reading the letter of "D.M.," in the JOURNAL of February 21st, that the Barons of the Court of Exchequer decided in 1860 that, "if a man is registered, he may call himself what he pleases." This opinion, given without any qualifying context, is new to me, as it probably is to many other of your readers. Surely the law does not permit a L.S.A., on the strength of being registered as such, to style himself "physician" or "surgeon."

As for the prefix "Dr.," which is not even solely a medical title, it is so indefinite, is so generally applied by the public to medical men of all grades, and has been assumed almost universally by the licentiates of the Edinburgh College of Physicians, with the acquiescence, too, of many of their medical brethren, that the judges may well have sanctioned its indiscriminate adoption, and the Medical Acts do not seem to forbid its use to any registered practitioner.

There is a consensus of professional opinion that the general education and technical knowledge required in order to obtain the L.R.C.P. and M.R.C.S. qualifications in London are equal, if not superior, to those required for obtaining M.D. degrees; and putting aside the more select of the universities, whose standards are indisputably high, and whose names attached to the degree always give the value, I think no sufficient distinction for a difference of title is to be drawn between the attainments required by the colleges and universities generally.

From these views follows a practical suggestion, which I would make to meet the difficulty which, at present, so seriously threatens the prospects of medical education in London. Why should not the profession adopt the usage which the public practises, and which the licentiates of the Edinburgh College of Physicians have assumed as a law for themselves, and let every qualified practitioner who values the title of "Dr." prefix it to his name without questioning his right? In the new Medical Act, when it is obtained, legal sanction might be given to the use of the title by all who shall have obtained the certificate of the licensing boards. Dr., registered medical practitioner, would then hardly need an additional title from one of the universities or colleges, unless such title should convey the assurance of really superior attainments.

I write under the impression that such alterations of the regulations of the University of London as will admit any large proportion of London students to its degrees are not likely to be obtained, and that public opinion will be adverse to the establishment of a new English university.

I may add, that I do not attach so much value as many do to the title of "Dr.," and do not, like most M.B.'s, avail myself of the right conceded by courtesy, and am tired of striving to enlighten my non-professional friends on the varying value of the title in the present chaotic state of the question.—Yours faithfully, M.B. Lond.

## THE ILLNESS OF GENERAL GRANT.

MR. J. WHITEHOUSE, of Sunderland, writes, in reference to a paragraph in the JOURNAL of March 14th.

"As to whether smoking may be the immediate cause of cancer, surgeons are not agreed; but there is a condition of the tongue which is, in many cases, the precursor of epithelioma, namely, 'leucoplakia'; and this disease is more generally considered to be caused by smoking. Mr. Barker, writing on this inflammation, in Holmes' *System of Surgery*, points out that amongst 75 recorded cases, 71 smoked, and only 4 were non-smokers. Buzenet used the term 'plaques des fumiers' for this disease, because he was convinced that smoking so often gave rise to it. Mr. Hulke has more than once shown that 'leucoplakia' may be the starting point of epithelioma, and out of the above mentioned 75 cases, 44 developed epithelioma, and in one only was there a family history of cancer."

## CARBOLIC ACID IN INDIGESTION.

SIR,—As your correspondent, "Mr. J. F. Dixon," asks to be informed of the results which may occur from the use of carbolic acid, as suggested by him in your JOURNAL of March 7th, he may be equally interested in a review of my experience. I have administered it in similar cases (excluding tea-drinker's dyspepsia) since I first began practice, nearly seven years ago, with results quite as satisfactory as those reported by him; in addition, I have found it sometimes useful to allay vomiting caused by reflex irritation of the stomach from disease of pelvic organs in women.

The first case in which I employed it, was in reflex vomiting from uterine disease; I gave it in a bismuth mixture, with complete relief to this troublesome symptom. Its antiseptic, as well as its sedative, properties, form an useful guide to its administration. I have not used it so frequently of late, as I have found small doses of arsenic, before meals, equally satisfactory, and less disagreeable in many of the cases in which the locally sedative action of carbolic acid on the gastric mucous membrane seemed specially indicated. Its unpleasant taste, and the free dilution necessary, are objections to its employment in some instances.—I am, sir, yours truly,

WILLIAM J. MACKIE, M.D. BRUX.

## EUROPEAN HEALTH-RESORTS.

"F. S. D." asks for the name of a good book, or books, on the various health-resorts of Europe. Has not someone brought out a map, or tabular statement, respecting their comparative climatic conditions, rates of mortality, etc?

"\* If 'F.S.D.' means health resorts of Europe, exclusive of spas, there are accounts of many of them in Marcet's *Principal Southern and Swiss Health Resorts* (1888), also in the first half of Madden's *Health Resorts of Europe and Africa* (1876). Dr. H. Weber's general review of *Climates*, including European health resorts, is about to appear in a translation from the German. We are not acquainted with any tabular statement such as is alluded to.

## SUICIDE.

SIR,—I should feel much obliged if you would allow me to appeal, through your columns, to my professional brethren, to give me information with respect to the relative proportion between "attempted" and "completed suicides." If each of your readers, who can spare the time, would send me word of the ratio occurring in his own observation, my statistics (to be published in a forthcoming work on "suicide") would be thereby rendered much more valuable.—Yours truly, WYNN WESTCOTT, M.B., Deputy Coroner for Central Middlesex, 4, Torriano Avenue, Camden Road, London, N.W.

SIR,—Can you, or any of your readers, inform me whether there died, in London, in the year 1820, a medical man of the name of R. Lamb, or B. Lamb? I am not aware of any directory where I can get this information.—Yours, etc.,

QUEBY.



## THE CLIMATE, ETC., OF NELSON, NEW ZEALAND.

SIR,—The object of this short note is to give medical men and others in England an unbiased idea of the suitability or otherwise of this climate for certain classes of disease. Speaking generally, the climate of Nelson may be described as warm, temperate; and it differs markedly from any other locality in New Zealand in the small amount of wind. New Zealand in general is decidedly windy, especially Cook's Straits; but Nelson, although in close proximity to the most windy part, has less wind than most places on the globe. This is one important reason that renders it a good place for pulmonary disorders.

The following are the chief directions of the wind and the associated weather: north-east, warm and rain (usually); north, sea-breeze in fine weather; north-west, gales and high tides; west to south, the so-called "Waimea" or "spirit" wind, very characteristic of Nelson, usually blows hard during the day, dying down to a perfect calm at night; always a very dry wind; south-east, squally and cold in winter.

On reference to a map, Nelson may be seen to lie at the head of Bluid Bay; and it is completely shut off from the colder southern regions by ranges of mountains. This absence of wind is somewhat relaxing, especially in summer; healthy strong people feel enervated by it, but it is this very point which (in my opinion) renders Nelson (the only place in New Zealand) a suitable climate for the phthisical.

As regards rainfall, about forty-five inches fall *per annum*, and it is distributed throughout the year; July, August, November, and December are the wettest months; January, February, and March, the driest. Thunder-storms are remarkably unfrequent; they mostly occur in winter, accompanied with south-east weather. Fogs are exceedingly rare down on the flat, though the hill-tops are very commonly obscured by mist and cloud. During the four years and a half I have resided in Nelson, I do not remember one single fog down on the flat; this is another point of difference from many other places in New Zealand.

The subsoil varies much. This is not to be wondered at in a country so hilly, and which has in former times been much disturbed with earthquakes. In some places, it is clay, in others, gravel; of course, the latter are to be preferred, for sanitary reasons.

With regard to earthquakes, slight shocks are not uncommon; according to the old settlers, they are not nearly so severe as they used to be.

There are extensive mud-flats near the town, between tide-marks; they are covered by the sea every twelve hours, and I have never been able to trace in them a distinct source of disease. In time, no doubt, they will be all reclaimed and brought under cultivation.

The average winter (May to September) temperature, taken from 8 to 9 A.M., is 40°; the average summer (December to March), 60°. In the shade, even in the hottest weather, it seldom rises above 80°, and the minimum winter temperature at night is not often below 30°, though occasionally such minima as 25° or 23° do occur. The sun's heat in summer is very great, and, were it not for the sea-breeze, which always blows in proportion to the heat of the sun, the temperature in the shade would be very much higher than it is. The sun's heat, even at midday, is never sufficient to deter people from walking or working out of doors. The sun's heat in winter is a delightful temperature—in fact, a fine winter's day in Nelson is the perfection of weather. Children play about on the shores in the same way that they do at an English watering-place in summer; and a strong point in favour of the climate is, that there are a great many such days.

The diurnal variations of temperature are pretty extensive, and this holds, not only as regards the difference between day and night (often as much as thirty degrees), but between one day and another. I have occasionally observed a difference of twenty degrees between the temperature on one day and that at a corresponding time on the next. These sudden variations are trying to many constitutions; they are, however, observed all over New Zealand.

Nearly all plants that grow in Great Britain flourish in Nelson. Owing to the small area of flat land near the town, agriculture is far behind other New Zealand districts; but fruit and hops are largely produced, and are important industries. Unfortunately, the mildness of the climate not only favours the growth of plants, but also of insect-blights, of which there are a great number, and they are very destructive.

With regard to the diseases of Nelson, one thing to notice is the absence of malarial fevers. I have never seen a case of ague, and cannot hear of one having ever occurred here. There is, however, a good deal of periodic neuralgia, which yields to quinine, and so this may be its representative. Dysentery is not uncommon; it is, however, seldom fatal. Pulmonary diseases, here as elsewhere, are frequently met with. I have seen several cases of phthisis originating in the district in people born here. The climate is not a specific for consumption, but it is undoubtedly beneficial, especially for cases that have originated in a bleak cold climate, such as the United Kingdom. The proportion of pulmonary diseases is decidedly less than in the old country. Heart-disease is rather common, owing to the relaxing effect of the climate on the muscular tissue of the heart. Puerperal cases do well; deaths in childbirth are very rare. Surgical cases generally do well, probably owing to the pureness of the atmosphere and the accompanying absence of germs. Goitre is rather common amongst the young people born here, especially the girls, and, I believe, due to the proximity of the hills. Nelson may be regarded as a valley surrounded on three sides by hills. The water-supply is excellent.

In conclusion, the chief characteristics of the climate of Nelson are the large amount of fine bright sunny weather and the very small amount of wind.—I am, etc., JAS. HUDSON, M.B.Lond.

## SPRAY IN OVARIOTOMY.

SIR,—The following is an extract from a recent work by Dr. Emmet (*Principles and Practice of Gynaecology*, p. 715). "In this country I do not know of any prominent operator who employs the carbolic acid spray."

This statement implies that the writer is not persuaded of the value of spray in ovariectomy. My own experience has led me to an opposite opinion; indeed, I should not like to do a laparotomy for any purpose without antiseptic spray. I have been led to this conclusion by the results of 183 cases of removal of cystic ovaries, of which I have lost only 21; but more especially by the result of the last hundred of these cases, only 10 of which were fatal, while 38 were consecutively successful. I feel that to omit the antiseptic spray would be to deprive the patient of one of the ready and efficient elements of success. As I can hardly hope for much better results than these I have cited, and being quite content to let well alone, I shall hesitate before disturbing my present plan of operation by giving up a detail to which I attach much importance.—Very respectfully, your obedient servant, JOHN HOMANS.

161, Beacon Street, Boston, U.S.A.

## CARBOLIC ACID.

M. G. DUCROT (Lyons).—We do not know of any journal specially devoted to carbolic acid, nor of any special book on the subject. As regards its surgical uses, there are the various books on Antiseptic Surgery, namely, Sir William Mac Cormac's and Mr. Watson Cheyne's, and several smaller ones (Beatson's, etc.).

## COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, etc., have been received from:

The Secretary of the Clinical Society, London; The Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, London; The Registrar of the Royal College of Physicians, London; Mr. A. Foxwell, Birmingham; Our Berlin Correspondent; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; The Secretary of the Durham University; Mr. E. M. Taylor, Whitby; Dr. P. Boulton, London; Mr. R. Freeman, London; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Dr. D. Newman, Glasgow; Our Birmingham Correspondent; Mr. C. J. Symonds, London; Dr. J. Roche, Kingstown; Mr. W. Thomas, Rhyl; Mr. W. Jones Morris, Portmadoc; Mr. T. Stott, London; Mr. H. L. Jones, Chatham; Mr. J. Thompson, Nottingham; Mr. Simeon Snell, Sheffield; Mr. H. L. Symonds, London; Dr. Styrap, Shrewsbury; The Secretary to the Brighton and Hove Lying-in Institution; Mr. D. Biddle, Kingston-on-Thames; Mr. R. J. H. Scott, Bath; Dr. Gogarty, Canterbury; Dr. J. Rogers, London; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Mr. J. Ackland, Exeter; Mr. S. H. A. Stephenson, Rochdale; Mr. J. Whitehouse, Sunderland; Dr. Bradley, Dudley; Dr. D. H. Cullimore, London; Mr. Macnamara, London; Dr. Redfern, Belfast; Dr. Brailey, London; Dr. Alexander Hill, Grantchester; Our Paris Correspondent; Dr. R. Gooding, Blackheath; Mr. Malcolm Morris, London; Dr. R. N. Wolfenden, London; Dr. Parsons, Bristol; Dr. H. Campbell Pope, London; Mr. A. Teevan, Sydney; Mr. J. M. Thompson, London; Mr. M. Barker, Sandown; Mr. Nunn, London; Mr. E. M. Boodle, Cirencester; Dr. Miller, Upper Norwood; Dr. A. Wilson, Leytonstone; Our Aberdeen Correspondent; Mr. E. G. Browne, Dublin; Mr. J. Pringle, Holme; Mr. C. O. Elkerton, London; Dr. A. B. Brabazon, Bath; Dr. Coleman, London; Mr. John Clare, Hanley; Dr. Power, Portsmouth; Dr. Parsons, Dover; Dr. W. H. Taylor, Anerley; Our Liverpool Correspondent; Dr. C. R. Drysdale, London; Mr. John Deans, Bournemouth; Dr. Gordon, Glasgow; Mr. G. Fleming, London; Dr. J. H. Aldridge, Southampton; Mr. Samuel Stretton, Kidderminster; Mr. G. Hodgson, Bootle; Mr. John Gould, Hatherleigh; Messrs. Cassell and Co., London; Mr. W. N. Parker, Cardiff; The Secretary of the Dental Hospital of London; Mr. G. J. W. Garnham, Chippenham; Mr. G. Eastes, London; Mr. A. A. Napper, Cranleigh; Mr. F. R. Walters, London; Mr. R. Benham, London; Mr. C. Puzey, Liverpool; Mr. G. J. Iago, Balham; Mr. B. Brooks, Hull; Dr. Champneys, London; Messrs. Maw, Son, and Thompson, London; Mr. W. J. Tivy, Clifton; Mr. E. F. Flynn, Sunderland; Dr. C. E. Prior, Bedford; Mr. W. Hall, London; Mr. W. Fenwick, Glasgow; Mr. G. S. Carden, Teignmouth; Dr. C. W. Suckling, Birmingham; Our Dublin Correspondent; Our Manchester Correspondent; Our Belfast Correspondent; Mr. R. E. Cooper, Durham; A Member; Mr. G. S. Crisford, London; Mr. S. Murphy, London; Mr. J. L. Clifford Smith, London; Dr. E. Dingley, Wolverhampton; Director-General T. Crawford, London; Mr. G. F. Dowdeswell, London; Mr. A. Cotgreave, Wandsworth; Mr. E. Ponsonby, Dublin; Mr. T. S. Lowe, Bath; Mr. H. O'Neill, Belfast, etc.

## BOOKS, etc., RECEIVED.

Manual of the Antiseptic Treatment of Wounds. By W. Watson Cheyne, M.B., F.R.C.S. With illustrations. London: Smith, Elder and Co. 1885.

Injuries of the Spine and Spinal Cord. By H. W. Page, M.A. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1885.

The Microtome's Vade-Mecum. By A. B. Lee. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1885.

Ten Years' Experience (now Fourteen Years) in Works of Intermittent Downward Filtration. By J. Bailey-Denton. London: E. and F. N. Spon. 1885.

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