

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1888.

Meetings of the Council will be held on April 18th, July 18th, and October 17th, 1888. Candidates for election by the Council of the Association must send in their forms of application to the General Secretary not later than twenty-one days before each meeting, namely, March 28th, June 27th, September 26th, and December 28th, 1888.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

ANY qualified medical practitioner, not disqualified by any by-law of the Association, who shall be recommended as eligible by any three members, may be elected a member by the Council or by any recognised Branch Council.

Candidates seeking election by a Branch Council should apply to the Secretary of the Branch. No member can be elected by a Branch Council unless his name has been inserted in the circular summoning the meeting at which he seeks election.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary.*

COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION OF DISEASE.

THE Report upon the CONNECTION OF DISEASE WITH HABITS OF INTEMPERANCE, which was presented to the Section of Medicine in the Annual Meeting of 1887, and a further portion of the Report upon OLD AGE have been completed, and will shortly be published in the JOURNAL.

Reports upon the two remaining inquiries, namely, that into DIPHTHERIA, and that into the GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN DISEASES, are in preparation, and will be published as soon as ready.

The following inquiry only of the first series remains open, namely, that on THE ETIOLOGY OF PHTHISIS.

A fresh inquiry into the ORIGIN AND MODE OF PROPAGATION OF EPIDEMICS OF DIPHTHERIA has just been issued.

Memoranda upon these subjects, and forms for recording observations, may be had on application to the Secretary of the Collective Investigation Committee, 429, Strand, W.C.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.—The next meeting will be held at the Town Hall, Walthamstow, on Thursday, February 16th, at 8.45 P.M. (sharp). The chair will be taken by A. Durham, Esq., President of the Branch. A paper on Pernicious Anæmia, and the Diseases Liable to be Confounded with It, will be read by Dr. Bristowe, F.R.S. Visitors will be welcomed.—J. W. HUNT, 101, Queen's Road, Dalston, Honorary Secretary.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH.—The next ordinary meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 21st, 1888, at 7.30 P.M., at the Infirmary, Gloucester, under the presidency of Dr. Currie. Agenda: 1. A petition will be laid on the table for signature by members in support of the Architects and Engineers Bill, a Bill to be presented in Parliament next session by Colonel Duncan, R.A., C.B., M.P. 2. A discussion will be opened by Dr. Currie on the Present Position of Homœopathy in Relation to Regular Medicine. 3. Cases of interest in the Infirmary.—G. ARTHUR CARDEW, Honorary Secretary.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH.—A meeting of this Branch will be held at the County Hotel, Carlisle, on Friday, February 24th, at 6 P.M. Dr. BYSTON Bramwell, of Edinburgh, will read a paper and introduce a discussion on the Process of Compensation and Its Bearing on Prognosis and Treatment. The Secretary will be glad to receive notices of papers for reading, and patients or morbid specimens for exhibition. Supper in the hotel at 9 P.M.—H. A. LEDIARD, Honorary Secretary, 41, Lowther Street, Carlisle.

ABERDEEN, BANFF, AND KINCARDINE BRANCH.—A meeting of this Branch will be held at 198, Union Street, Aberdeen, on Wednesday, February 15th, at 8 P.M., the President, Dr. Smith, of Kinnairdy, in the chair. Business: 1. Minutes, nomination of new members, etc. 2. Ballot for the admission of Dr. J. Marshall Lamb, Borneo. 3. Motion of Dr. Wight to memorialise the Town Council of Aberdeen that the appointment of medical officer of health at present vacant be filled up by a qualified medical practitioner, who shall be excluded from private practice, and whose whole time shall be devoted to the duties of the office, in terms of the memorandum of the duties of the medical officer of health of the city of Aberdeen, of date March 15th, 1886. 4. Case of Pyloric Obstruction, with great Hypertrophy of the Stomach, by Dr. Blaikie Smith. 5. Exhibition of Specimens: (1) Ram's-horn Toe-nail, by Dr. Garden; (2) Specimen of Compound Dislocation of Ankle-joint, by Dr. Garden. 6. Communication by Dr. Barclay, Banff.—ROBERT JOHN GARDEN and J. MACKENZIE BOOTH, Honorary Secretaries.

Dr. S. L. CRANE, Surgeon-General of Trinidad, has been nominated Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: WESTERN DISTRICT. THE second meeting of the session was held (by kind permission of the medical staff) in the library of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, on Friday, January 27th. The chair was taken by Dr. Charlton Bastian, F.R.S., the Vice-president of the district, and about forty members and visitors were present.

Disease of Knee-Joint.—Mr. EDMUND OWEN, F.R.C.S., surgeon to St. Mary's and the Children's Hospitals, gave a very interesting and practical description of certain chronic diseases of the knee-joint in young children. Mr. Owen exhibited several patients, and showed the adaptation of certain apparatus, such as Thomas's and plaster-of-Paris splints, etc. Mr. Owen also showed a case of synovitis, which he treated by aspiration and the immediate application of a plaster-of-Paris splint.—A discussion ensued, in which Dr. BASTIAN, Mr. NOBLE SMITH, and Dr. CAMPBELL POPE took part.

Disease of Spinal Cord.—Dr. LEES, physician to St. Mary's Hospital and assistant physician to the Children's Hospital, then described certain points connected with different kinds of chronic disease of spinal cord, subsequently illustrating his remarks by the exhibition of patients suffering from locomotor ataxia in various stages, infantile paralysis, spastic paraplegia, hemiplegia, etc.

Votes of Thanks.—The proceedings ended by cordial votes of thanks being passed to Mr. Owen, Dr. Lees, and the Chairman.

NORTH OF IRELAND BRANCH.

A GENERAL meeting of the Branch was held in the Royal Hospital, Belfast, on Thursday, January 26th, 1888. Dr. PALMER (Armagh), President of the Branch, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members.

Communications.—The minutes of the previous meeting having been read, the following communications were brought forward: The PRESIDENT (Dr. Palmer) showed a young woman on whom he had performed excision of the knee-joint.—Dr. NELSON read notes of an Ear case, in which perforation of the mastoid and trephining of the skull had been performed for septicæmia, and showed the specimen.—Dr. DEMPSEY showed an Ovarian Cyst and a Sub-mucous Fibroid removed from the Uterus, and read notes of the cases.—Dr. BYERS showed a new Antiseptic Confinement Sheet, and a Multilocular Cystic Tumour of the Ovary, which he had successfully removed by abdominal section.—Professor DILL introduced a discussion on Puerperal Fever, and Dr. BYERS read a short paper on the Local Treatment of the Uterus (illustrated by instruments, etc.) in Puerperal Septicæmia. A discussion followed, in which several members took part, and Dr. DILL replied.—Dr. O'NEILL showed two patients on whom he had performed amputation of the thigh by Sédillot's method, and also a patient treated for severe Wry-neck.—Professor SINCLAIR exhibited a Segment of the Small Intestine removed by Enterectomy for Artificial Anus, of eighteen months' standing; also a Cancerous Tumour of the Rectum removed for excision.

New Members.—At a meeting of council held previous to the general meeting, the following were elected members of the North of Ireland Branch: Dr. Sproule (Saintfield, co. Down), Dr. Hunter (Armagh), and Dr. McAlister (Carrickfergus).

OXFORD AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

AN ordinary meeting was held at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, on January 27th; Mr. CHEATLE, President, in the chair; twenty-four members were present, and one visitor.

New Members.—Thos. O'Kelly, M.D.Q.U.I., Chipping Norton; Bertram Hunt, M.B.Oxon., Oxford; F. S. Arnold, M.B.Oxon., Oxford, were elected members of the Association and Branch. Seven gentlemen were proposed for election at the next meeting.

Alteration of By-law.—Dr. DARBISHIRE gave notice of proposing an alteration in By-law 1 at the next meeting.

Communications.—Dr. BYWATER WARD read a paper on a case of Papilloma of the Bladder, and showed a specimen.—Mr. BLOX-SOME read notes of a case of Anthrax, and showed microscopical preparations of the Bacillus Anthracis.—Mr. MORGAN read notes of a case of Primary Chancre on the Lip, and showed specimens of Disease of the Knee-joint.—Mr. WINKFIELD read notes of a case of Lithotripsy, with specimens of Calculi, and showed a case of Sarcoma of the Shoulder, and of Syphilitic Eruption on the Hands.—Dr. COLLIER showed a specimen of Ligature of the Carotid Artery for Thoracic Aneurysm, and (for Mr. PILKINGTON) a specimen of Charcot's Disease of the Joints.

Vote of Thanks.—A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the President.

THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH.

AN ordinary meeting was held on Tuesday, January 17th, 1888, at 7.30 P.M., at the General Hospital, Cheltenham, under the presidency of Dr. Currie. Letters of apology were read for non-attendance from Messrs. Bower, Fowler, and Wilton.

President's Address.—Dr. CURRIE delivered his presidential address, taking as his subject "Scepticism in regard to Medical Treatment."

It was proposed by Dr. WILSON, and seconded by Dr. BATTEN, that a cordial vote of thanks be given to Dr. Currie for his able address, with a request that he should publish it in the JOURNAL. Carried by acclamation.

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Council, held in the Council Room of the Association, 429, Strand, London, on Wednesday, January 18th, 1888; present:—

Dr. T. BRIDGWATER, President of the Council, in the chair,	Dr. James Hardie, Manchester
Dr. C. Holman, Reigate, Treasurer	Mr. G. F. Hodgson, Brighton
Dr. J. S. Bristowe, F.R.S., London	Professor G. M. Humphry, F.R.S., Cambridge
Mr. I. T. Butlin, London	Mr. W. D. Husband, Clifton
Dr. A. Carpenter, Croydon	Mr. T. R. Jessop, Leeds
Surgeon-General W. R. Cornish, London	Mr. Evan Jones, Aberdare
Dr. J. Ward Cousins, Portsmouth	Mr. H. R. Ker, Halesowen
Dr. G. W. Crowe, Worcester	Dr. W. G. V. Lush, Weymouth
Dr. P. M. Deas, Exeter	Dr. J. McIntyre, Odiham
Dr. J. L. H. Down, London	Mr. F. Mason, Bath
Dr. G. F. Duffey, Dublin	Dr. C. Parsons, Dover
Mr. George Eastes, London	Dr. R. Saundby, Birmingham
Dr. W. A. Elliston, Ipswich	Mr. S. W. Sibley, London
Sir B. Walter Foster, M.D., M.P., Birmingham	Dr. E. M. Skerrett, Clifton
Dr. J. H. Galton, Upper Norwood	Mr. T. Sympson, Lincoln
Dr. C. E. Glascott, Manchester	Dr. T. W. Trend, Southampton
Dr. Bruce Goff, Bothwell	Dr. E. Waters, Chester
Dr. W. C. Grigg, London	Mr. A. Winkfield, Oxford

The minutes of the last meeting having been printed and circulated, and no objection raised, they were signed as correct.

Read letters of apology for non-attendance from Dr. Bryan, Dr. Sheen, Mr. Vincent Jackson, Dr. Withers Moore, Dr. James Taylor, Dr. Needham, Mr. Pranker, Mr. Wheelhouse, Dr. J. Barnes, Dr. Bartolomé, Mr. J. Wright Baker, Mr. Arthur Jackson, Dr. Jones Morris, and Dr. W. Russell.

Read letter from Dr. Gowans, Perth, of which the following is a copy:—

6, St. Leonard's Bank, Perth, January 16th, 1888.
DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in forwarding the enclosed petition (signed by 25 members of the Perthshire Medical Association), desiring to be recognised as a Branch of the British Medical Association. Although only 25 signatures are exhibited, still a number more could have been obtained had time permitted and had it been necessary.

I should feel much obliged by your kindly letting me know the result after Council meeting.—I am, yours faithfully,
F. FOWKE, Esq., London.

W. B. GOWANS, M.D., Secretary.

To the Council of the British Medical Association.

GENTLEMEN,—We, the undersigned, members of the Perthshire Medical Association, and also members of the British Medical Association, hereby make application to be recognised as a Branch of the latter Association, undertaking that, said application being granted, we shall conform in all respects to the by-laws now existing, or which hereafter may be made, regarding the formation and regulation of such Branches:—

R. M. Bruce Trotter, President.
A. R. Urquhart
John McNaughtan, M.D.
J. Holmes Morrison, M.D., F.R.C.S.E.
D. Sinclair Kennedy, M.B., C.M.
James P. Bramwell, M.D., L.R.C.S.
George Findlay, M.B., C.M.
Leigh Hunt, M.B., C.M.
David Fleming.
Jas. Ferguson, M.B., C.M.
Thos. H. Meikle, M.D.
A. Thom, F.R.C.S.Ed.
Alex. Thom, jun., M.D., C.M.Ed.

John Haggart, M.B., C.M.
Wm. S. Irvine, M.D., F.R.C.S.E.
George W. Dickson, M.B., C.M.Ed.
Joseph H. Keay, M.A., M.B., C.M.Ed.
John Lowe, M.B., C.M.Ed.
J. Begbie Laing, M.B., C.M., L.R.C.P. and S.E.
Thomas Brown, L.F.P.S.
Andrew McMillan, M.D.
Colin MacIver Campbell, M.D.
Robt. Robertson, L.F.P.S.
Peter McCullum, L.F.P.S.G.
Wm. Bruce Gowans, M.D. Edin.

Resolved: That the Council of the British Medical Association has much pleasure in recognising the Perthshire Branch of the British Medical Association, subject to the confirmation by the next meeting of Council, when the members be requested to send a copy of the proposed by-laws of the Branch for consideration and approval.

Read letter from the Registrar-General in reply to the one of

the Council of October 26th last, of which the following is a copy:—

General Register Office, Somerset House, November 19th, 1887.

SIR,—I am directed by the Registrar-General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant (date of receipt as letter was undated), and to say that he regrets that, after giving the matter full consideration, he is unable to accede to the request that he shall cause the deaths from malignant diseases, which are now tabulated in his Annual Report under a single heading, to be tabulated for a series of years under separate headings, according to the part of the body affected.

Probably the gentlemen who with you signed that letter are not aware of the great and regrettable lack of precision with which very many members of the medical profession state causes of death in their certificates; the result of which is that these certificates can only be tabulated with utility under wide and general headings, and are quite unsuited to serve as materials for precise pathological inquiries. In a very large proportion of the deaths ascribed to malignant diseases, neither the part of the body affected nor the precise character of the malignant structure is stated on the certificate; so that an attempt to break up the heading "Malignant Diseases" into numerous smaller sub-divisions would be practically of little use. But even were it not so, the Registrar-General would be unable to accede to the request now made to him. The headings under which the causes of death are at present tabulated are no fewer than 173; and the labour of arranging the deaths under these is such as to tax to the utmost the clerical force which the Registrar-General has at his disposal for statistical purposes. If any alteration were made in this list of headings, it would be to diminish their number; and a proposal to increase them, and this so considerably, as is involved in the request now made, is one that the Registrar-General regrets that he cannot possibly entertain. He would venture to suggest, however, that returns gathered from the numerous hospitals of this country, in which full and precise records of causes of deaths are kept; or collected, as your letter at its close seems itself to suggest, from the medical practitioners who belong to the Association in all parts of the country, would furnish you with a much more suitable basis for your proposed investigation than a compilation from the very imperfectly filled-in certificates in the possession of this office.

As regards that considerable portion of your letter in which it is argued that the increase in the deaths ascribed to cancer corresponds to a real growth of the diseases so designated, and is not due to improved diagnosis and statement, the Registrar-General cannot of course think of putting any opinion of his own on such a subject in opposition to that of medical men of wide experience and long practice. He would, however, point out that the numerical arguments adduced in your letter are based upon the erroneous assumption that the headings in the Annual Report for 1887 correspond completely to the similar headings in the present Annual Reports; whereas this is not the case, a great change having been made in the classification in 1881, as is fully explained in the Report for that year. And, secondly, he would point out that your letter appears to imply that the Registrar-General has expressed an opinion in his reports that the whole of the increase under the heading "Cancer" has been due to improved diagnosis and more careful statement. This, however, is a mistake. All that the Registrar-General has done is as follows. Finding that the deaths from cancer were year by year increasing in number, and more rapidly than the population; he has in several reports called the attention of medical men to the fact; but, in so doing, has also pointed out that much of this increase—how much he cannot say—is almost certainly due to improved diagnosis and more precise statement of cause; and if it be admitted—and the Registrar-General scarcely supposes that the British Medical Association will not admit—that medical diagnosis has, as a fact, been improving, and that medical certificates are now given with greater care than formerly, it appears to follow almost as a necessary consequence, that at any rate some part of the increased mortality under the heading "Cancer" must be so caused. It may possibly be that the Registrar-General is inclined to attribute too large a share of the increase to this cause; but this is a question simply of degree; and that some part of the increase has been thus caused is in his judgment indisputable.—I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,
W. OGLE, M.D., Supt. Stat. Dept.

The President, British Medical Association.

Also suggested letter in reply, of which the following is a copy:

To the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in England.

SIR,—We have to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of November 19th, signed by Dr. William Ogle.

In reference to the several parts of it, we may state that we were perfectly aware that the lack of precision in the existing certificates would render them useless in framing statistics for the years that are passed. It is for the future that we hope for more detailed statistics, and we trust that sufficiently precise certificates will be forthcoming when the purpose for which they are needed has been made known.

Your letter speaks of "precise pathological inquiries." We hasten to assure you that we have no intention of asking for such an inquiry. We do not even ask for a division of the cases of malignant disease into their different varieties, but only for a division according to the part of the body affected.

In reply to your suggestion that we should gather returns from the hospitals of the country, we may say that such returns would be incomplete, and might even be misleading. They would deal only with poor people. They would vary according to the relation of each individual hospital to the surrounding population, and to its attraction in cases requiring operation, etc. Moreover, comparatively few of the patients who are treated for cancer in the hospitals die there. Although, then, hospital statistics are of value in showing the comparative frequency of cancer in the different organs of the body, and the various forms which it assumes in different localities, the statistics from this source are valueless as indicating the proportion of the population attacked by the disease.

With regard to the last paragraph, we fully informed ourselves of the changes which had been made in the Annual Reports, and used those tables which most nearly correspond and which contain similar headings of disease in the Reports of different years. In relation to this point, we venture to quote two paragraphs in your Report for 1881. The first paragraph runs as follows:—"One of the most important uses of a classification of deaths by their alleged causes, when it has been carried out year after year for a considerable period, is that it enables those who are engaged in preventive medicine, or who are studying the natural history of diseases, to compare the mortality from each cause in successive years," etc., etc. (page xix). The second paragraph is:—"If these considerations (i.e., caprice of medical nomenclature, improvement in diag-

nosis, etc.) as to the limits within which comparisons can be fruitfully made between the mortality figures of successive years be borne in mind, the changes of classification now introduced will be found to offer no material hindrance to such comparisons" (page xx).

While we quite admit that a part of the increase observable in the mortality from cancer is probably due to more precise statement of cause of death and improved diagnosis, we cannot think that these things account for more than a small proportion of the increase. We, therefore, beg once more to direct your attention to the vast increase in the mortality due to this disease, and to express our hope that you will see your way to provide us with more detailed statistics on the subject, and of a kind which cannot be obtained from any other source. —We remain, Sir, your obedient servants,

Resolved: That the letter be received and approved, and forwarded to the Registrar-General, signed as the last one, and that a deputation consisting of the signatories be appointed to meet Dr. Ogle, if necessary, to discuss the subject with him.

Read letter from the Honorary Secretary of the Reading Branch, requesting that the proposals of a special general meeting of the Reading Branch to change the name of the Branch to the Reading and Upper Thames Branch, and that an annual meeting and dinner be held in the first week in July in each year, and that the Council shall have power to arrange for further meetings if considered desirable, be approved and confirmed by the Council.

Resolved: That the proposals contained in Dr. Heygate Phillips's letter relative to the alteration in the name of the Reading Branch and the annual meeting of the Branch be approved and confirmed.

Read letter from Surgeon J. J. Lamprey, suggesting that in those districts in the Colonies which are too sparsely populated and the medical men live too far apart to form a Branch, a Member of the Association should be appointed as Honorary Secretary for the District.

Resolved: That the letter be referred to the Journal and Finance Committee for consideration.

Read letter from Mr. Nelson Hardy asking for the occasional use of the Council Room for the Metropolitan Police Surgeons Association.

The consideration of the letter was postponed till the reading of the minutes of the Premises and Library Committee.

Resolved: That the 254 Candidates whose names appear on the circular convening the meeting be, and they are hereby, elected members of the British Medical Association.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Journal and Finance Committee of to-day's date be received and approved, and the recommendations contained therein carried into effect, with the exception of the recommendation relating to the increase of salaries of the officers.

The Minutes of the Journal and Finance Committee contain the accounts of the quarter ending December 31st, 1887, amounting to £8,927 13s. 8d., auditors' quarterly certificate. Recommendations for the investment of £2,000, and the increase of officers' salaries.

Resolved: That the recommendation on the increase of salaries of officers be referred back to the Journal and Finance Committee, and reported upon to the Council at the next meeting.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Habitual Drunkards Committee of the 17th inst. be received and approved, and the recommendations contained therein carried into effect.

The minutes of the Habitual Drunkards Committee contain a recommendation that the Home Secretary be requested to receive a deputation of the Committee upon the subject of further restrictive legislation for Habitual Drunkards.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Therapeutics Committee of the 17th inst. be received and approved, and the recommendations contained therein carried into effect.

The Committee met to consider resolutions passed by the Therapeutic Section at the annual meeting at Dublin in August last, and to take such steps to carry into effect the suggestions for Therapeutic Reform made in the sectional President's address.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Premises and Library Committee of the 21st day of November last and of the 17th inst. be received and approved, and the recommendations contained therein carried into effect.

The minutes of the Premises and Library Committee contain several offers of books, the Report of Dr. Alfred Carpenter relative to the improvement in the ventilation, and recommendations with certain conditions upon which scientific associations may have their meetings in the Council Room.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Relative Rank Committee of the 25th of October last and of the 17th inst., together with the Report of the Committee (see page 265), be received and approved, and the recommendations contained therein carried into effect.

Resolved: That the Committee be requested to continue their services, and to take any further steps that may be necessary.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Fees to Witnesses Subcom-

mittee of the 17th inst. be received and approved, and the recommendations contained therein carried into effect.

The minutes of the Fees to Witnesses Subcommittee recommend that the question be placed before the Branches of the Association for evidence as to the practice of the courts in the various parts of the United Kingdom.

The further arrangements for the annual meeting at Glasgow were then considered.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

SAN REMO.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

AFTER a week's confinement to his room owing to a catarrhal attack and some change in the laryngeal condition reported elsewhere in your columns, the Crown Prince is again to be seen taking daily drives, apparently none the worse. There has been no suggestion here of any fresh consultation taking place. Sir Morell Mackenzie continues to enjoy the most absolute confidence of his august patient and that of the Crown Princess and the family generally. Sir M. Mackenzie arrived here on Sunday afternoon, being met at Ventimiglia by Dr. Freeman.

On Wednesday and Thursday the annual bazaar in aid of the poor of all nationalities was held here, under the patronage of the Crown Princess, who contributed two terracotta plaques painted by herself, Prince Henry also sending a sketch. The royal party lunched at the buffet, which was kept and served entirely by the English. The room and tables were most tastefully decorated, and the young ladies attired as waitresses and the gentlemen as cooks made an effective scene. In the evening a dance was held, at which Prince Henry thoroughly enjoyed himself, dancing until 3 A.M., when he left by the early morning train for Milan, to meet his future bride, the Princess Irene, who, with her father, the Grand Duke of Hesse, have arrived to stay for some time.

On Wednesday, the thirtieth anniversary of the Crown Prince and Princess's wedding-day, addresses and bouquets were presented, and a display of fireworks with illuminations of the hotels took place in the evening.

On Wednesday next a subscription ball in aid of the Ophthalmic Institute is to be held, and it is expected it will be a great success, Prince Henry and the Princesses having promised to be present.

There have been many visitors to San Remo and to the Villa Zirio the last week or two, amongst others, the Princess Louise and Lord Lorne, the Marquis of Hartington, and Sir Henry and Lady Layard.

Mr. Edward Lear, the eminent water-colour artist, and the author of the famous books of *Nonsense*, long resident here, died on Sunday last.

MANCHESTER.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Vacant Chairs in Owens College.—Ship Canal and the Pollution of the Irwell.—Small-pox.—University Clubs.

So far no official intimation has been made of the vacant Chairs of Obstetrics and Surgery in Owens College. We believe that the authorities of the College are seriously considering how they can most efficiently fill these important posts with most benefit to the medical students of Owens College. The Owens College is now so large and important a centre of medical instruction (the average number of students attending classes during the winter session on purely medical subjects being about three hundred), that its authorities are bound to secure for these posts the very best available men, men who will throw themselves into their work with vigour and enthusiasm. The following local gentlemen are, we believe, likely to be candidates for the Chair of Obstetrics, namely, Dr. William Japp Sinclair, Dr. Walter, and Dr. Lloyd Roberts. As to the candidates for the Chair of Surgery, rumour is busy with the names of several local surgeons, but, so far, nothing is definitely decided on this matter.

The Ship Canal is likely to have far-reaching effects, apart from its commercial advantages, on the Manchester district. At a conference of local authorities the question as to what means can be taken to prevent the pollution of the Mersey and Irwell was discussed last week. The canal will depend upon the waters furnished by these rivers; and if the water be allowed to remain pol-

two preceding weeks), the rate for the same period being only 22.1 in London, and 22.4 in Edinburgh. The deaths included 33 from the principal zymotic diseases (equal to an annual rate of 4.9 per 1,000), of which 10 resulted from scarlet fever, 8 from whooping-cough, 6 from diphtheria, 4 from "fever," 3 from diarrhoea, and 2 from measles.

USEFULNESS OF BY-LAWS AS TO NEW BUILDINGS, Etc.

OUR correspondent, "L.R.C.P. London," has undoubtedly given his sanitary authority sound advice in recommending them to adopt a proper code of by-laws for their district. The provisions of the Public Health Act are very comprehensive, but in some respects are permissive and not compulsory. Thus, under Section 157, "every urban authority may make by-laws" with respect to the construction of new streets and buildings, "to the drainage of buildings, to water-closets, earth-closets, privies, ashpits, and cesspools in connection with buildings, and to the closing of buildings, or parts of buildings, unfit for human habitation, and to prohibition of their use for such habitation;" and under Section 44 they may make by-laws as to the cleansing of footways and pavements, the removal of house refuse, the cleansing of earth-closets, privies, ashpits, and cesspools, and for the prevention of nuisances arising from snow, filth, etc. Unless, therefore, the sanitary authority exercise these permissive powers, and supplement the provisions of the Act by adopting by-laws applicable to the particular circumstances of their district, their sanitary powers remain so far defective. As a matter of fact, the adoption, and enforcement under penalty, of adequate but reasonable by-laws, based on the models issued by the Local Government Board, is one of the most effective ways of securing wholesome conditions, especially in growing localities.

As regard water supply, the Public Health Act, 1875, gives sanitary authorities power to provide proper supplies; but where a public supply is not provided and surface wells are depended upon, by-laws prescribing the minimum distance to be allowed between new cesspools, ashpits, etc., and sources of water supply are imperatively necessary. It should also be remembered that although the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, concerns primarily rural sanitary authorities, Section 11 provides that "the Local Government Board may, if they think fit, by order invest any urban sanitary authority with all or any of the powers and duties which are by this Act given to a rural sanitary authority, and such investment may be made either unconditionally, or subject to any conditions to be specified by the Board as to the time, portion of the district, or manner during, at, or in which the powers and duties are to be exercised;" but we believe this course has not often been taken.

As regards the powers of sanitary officials to enter private premises, such powers are given by Section 102 of the Public Health Act, but are severely circumscribed.

APPOINTMENT OF INSPECTORS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.

MEDICUS.—The medical inspectors of the Local Government Board are appointed by the President of the Board. The salary begins at £500, and, of course, each has before him the prospect of becoming medical officer to the Board. There is the usual pension on retirement from office.

SMALL-POX AT SHEFFIELD.

DR. L. J. HOBSON (Harrgate) writes: In the interesting note upon Sheffield and its epidemic in the JOURNAL of January 21st appear some rather misleading deductions as to proportionate mortality in vaccinated and unvaccinated cases at all ages. It is first stated that of the 2,198 cases of small-pox in the vaccinated and of the 382 in the unvaccinated, the deaths are 157 in the former and 97 in the latter. This should make the mortality in the vaccinated at about 1 in 14 instead of "1 in 22," and in the unvaccinated at about 1 in 4 instead of "2 in every 5." Moreover, the chances of survival of the vaccinated over the unvaccinated in case of small-pox would then be deduced at three and a half times instead of "ten times" greater.

The figures 157 and 97 would seem to have been transposed in making the erroneous calculations, but, with the above corrections, the facts should remain sufficiently striking to the "antivaccinationists."

* Dr. Hobson is correct in his criticisms. Our correspondent gives first figures taken from the report of the medical officer of health—namely, 2,198 vaccinated with 157 deaths; 382 unvaccinated with 97 deaths. Later he quotes from the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, which transposes the figures thus: 2,198 vaccinated with 97 deaths; 382 unvaccinated with 157 deaths.

SANITARY REGISTRATION OF BUILDINGS BILL.

A PUBLIC conference will take place at the Society of Arts on Saturday, February 4th, at 4 o'clock, when an introductory address will be given by Sir Joseph Fayrer, K.C.S.I., F.R.S. Short papers will be read by Mr. Mark H. Judge, A.R.I.B.A., and Sir Vincent H. Kennett Barrington, who will propose and second the following resolution:—

A. That it is desirable that the law should forbid any building being used for public or semi-public purposes, unless and until the arrangements for the water supply, drainage, and ventilation of such building have been certified as satisfactory by some properly qualified person, and that the provision of a public sanitary register for the voluntary registration of private houses would be instrumental in promoting sanitary improvement.

B. That in the opinion of this Conference, the Sanitary Registration of Buildings Bill, 1888 will, if passed into law, have a great influence for good on the health of the community, and, without pledging itself to all the details of the measure, this Conference authorises the Chairman to sign petitions, asking Parliament to pass the Bill into law, with such modifications as consideration in Committee may show to be desirable.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR ABERDEEN.

DR. J. WIGHT writes: This office is vacant just now by the removal to Sheffield of Dr. Thomson. During the past six or seven years the medical officer of health has had to devote his whole time to the duties of his office, and has been disallowed private practice. The present chairman of the Public Health Committee—a medical man—has, it is said, proposed a scheme by which a small salary would be given to a regularly qualified practitioner, but allowed to take private practice, or to get a young man to attend the "City Hospital" for infectious diseases alone, and as a sort of consultant, one of the medical men of the city to consult with the sanitary inspector when he had any difficulty. Compulsory notification obtains here.

As Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of our Branch here, I brought this matter before my Committee. Did I do right? Is it competent for me to do so? As some objected I agreed to bring it before the Branch at its first meeting, but this does not take place until the middle of February. In the meantime the battle may be fought and won. A representation from us as a Committee might have influenced the matter either way, and as it is, the Branch meeting will take place only two or three days before the Town Council meet to decide the matter. Kindly say if I did right, and express your opinion on the whole situation.

* Certainly every effort should be made to prevent the Town Council of Aberdeen from adopting a course so prejudicial to the health interests of the town.

INDIA AND THE COLONIES.

HEALTH OF TROOPS IN CHINA AND STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—The Army Medical Department Report for 1885 states that the troops serving in China and the Straits Settlements consisted of European and Asiatic troops. The average strength of the white troops during the year under notice was 2,188. The hospital admissions from this force were 2,454 in number, the deaths 25, and there were 94 men constantly ineffective from sickness. The ratios per 1,000 of strength were, consequently, hospital admissions, 112.6; mortality, 11.43; and for constantly sick, 42.95. The ratio of admissions into hospital was much higher in the Straits Settlements than at Hong Kong, but that of mortality was considerably less. The average strength of the troops quartered at Hong Kong was 1,114, the number of admissions into hospital 987, and the total number of deaths 18; while in the Straits Settlements, out of an average strength of 1,074, the number of admissions into hospital was 1,467, but the total number of deaths only 7. This difference in the proportions of mortality in the two divisions of the command is explained by the occurrence of an outbreak of cholera at Hong Kong, while no cases occurred among the troops in the Straits Settlements. The epidemic of cholera at Hong Kong took place in June; it was fortunately of a limited character; altogether only 19 cases were admitted, but of these 12, or 63 per cent., proved fatal. It is stated that cholera was known to be prevalent in Tonquin, Annam, and the Philippine Islands for some time prior to its appearance among the troops at Hong Kong. As soon as the disease manifested itself, the troops among whom it occurred were placed under canvas at Kowloon, on the opposite side of the harbour, and were subsequently moved to Stanley, on the other side of the island. It was here the last case of the outbreak occurred; this case recovered. It is remarked in the report that "with most of the conditions necessary for the development of the disease present, it nevertheless did not get a firm hold on either the civil or military population, and it is presumed that there was some condition wanting either in the atmosphere, soil, or climate that gave the locality an immunity from a severe epidemic." In the Chinese quarter of the town there was overcrowding and every insanitary condition necessary to favour the spread of the disease, yet the number of cases reported were comparatively few. Fevers of various types appear to have been prevalent at Hong Kong, and especially at Tanglin in the Straits Settlements. Enteric fever caused 4 admissions and 1 death. Three cases of typhus fever, 1 with a fatal result, are reported to have occurred at Tanglin. Other continued fevers returned 419 admissions, and of these 322 were shown in the returns from Tanglin alone; they were attributed chiefly to climatic causes, heat and exposure. Under paroxysmal fevers there were 349 admissions with 1 death; of these 301 were ague and 48 remittent fever, many of the latter being described as very severe, and followed by cachexia, anæmia, and debility. Of the ague, 156 cases, and of the remittent fever, 34 cases, occurred at Hong Kong. It was supposed that the malarial emanations from the rather disintegrated granite of which the soil in Hong Kong is composed, some of which had been freshly upturned, had a share in the production of these fevers. It is remarked in the report that, in cases of debility consequent on fever, change to the sanitarium was found beneficial; but when malarial cachexia was established, a complete change of climate was necessary to restore

health. The average strength of the officers was 91, and among them were 2 deaths; one of the deaths resulted from hepatic abscess, the other from hydrophobia; in the latter case the officer had been bitten by a rabid dog some months previously at Tanglin, but so slightly, the injury being only a scratch, that he did not think it necessary to have it cauterised. Among an average strength of 75 women, there were 67 attacks of illness and 1 death, and among 124 children the number of cases of illness treated was 53 and there were 10 deaths. The Asiatic troops in the command, consisting of the headquarters and two companies of Gun Lascars, were 188 in average strength; among them were 208 admissions into hospital and 8 deaths. The principal cause of sickness among them was malarial fever. Various sanitary defects in the command are referred to in the report, but appear to be in progress of amelioration.

OBITUARY.

PROFESSOR ASA GRAY, M.D.

By the death of Professor Asa Gray, which occurred on Monday last at Cambridge, Massachusetts, from paralysis, America has been deprived of its greatest botanist, and the world of science mourns the loss of one of its most eminent teachers. Born at Paris, in the State of New York, in 1810, he graduated M.D. at Fairfield Medical College at the age of 21. His intense love for botany, however, soon decided his future career. In 1834 he was offered the position of botanist on the United States Exploring Expedition under Captain Wilkes. Though he declined this appointment, he afterwards worked out the botany of the expedition on its return, and the results were published in 1854. In 1842 he was elected Fisher Professor of Natural History at Harvard College, a position he held until 1873. He twice visited Europe—first in 1838-9, and again in 1850-51. He spent many months at a time in England, where he made many friends. He was one of the earliest to give a somewhat qualified support to Darwinism, and stoutly defended it against great opposition in his own country. He was one of Darwin's most constant and esteemed correspondents. He was in 1874 chosen a Regent of the Smithsonian Institute, and in 1878 was elected by the Académie des Sciences of Paris a Corresponding Member in the Section of Botany. Dr. Gray was a prolific writer, and in the Royal Society's List the titles of his contributions to science occupy something like seven columns. Among his best known works are his *Elements of Botany*, published in 1836, subsequently enlarged into the *Botanical Textbook; Structural and Systematic Botany; Manual of Botany*; and other textbooks. In 1838 he began, with Dr. Torrey, *The Flora of North America*; and in 1884 he published the *Synoptical Flora of North America*.

DR. JOHN THOMAS IRVINE BOSWELL.

The eminent botanist, Dr. J. T. I. Boswell, died on January 31st, at Balmullo, Fifeshire. Dr. Boswell was for many years Curator to the Botanical Society in London, and was a lecturer at the Charing Cross and Middlesex Schools of Medicine. His largest work was the rewriting of Sowerby's *Botany*, consisting of twenty volumes, a task upon which he was engaged for twenty years. Dr. Boswell's family has been located at Balmullo in one successive line since the reign of David II, and his mother was the daughter of Lord Balmullo, one of the Lords of Session. He leaves a widow and several children.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

DR. HUMPHRY, Professor of Surgery, has been nominated an Examiner for the Winchester Reading Prizes in 1889. Lord Rayleigh has been nominated a member of the Board of Electors to the Jacksonian Professorship of Natural Philosophy.

On Thursday, January 26th, F. C. Servaes, M.A., King's College, was admitted to the degrees of M.B. and B.C.

PROPOSED SMALL-POX HOSPITAL FOR DERRY.—The corporation have agreed to pay half the cost of a hospital for small-pox cases.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—The following candidates for the College Licence, having conformed to the by-laws and regulations, and passed the required examinations, were granted the Licence to Practise in Physic:

Name.	Medical School.	Name.	Medical School.
Anderson, G. R.	St. Thomas's	Lakeman, T.	St. Bartholomew's
*Andrews, L. W.	St. Bartholomew's	*Langley, R. J.	St. Thomas's
Ashley, S. D.	London	*Laying, H.	Westminster
Benson, A. H.	Bristol	Lissaman, T.	St. Bartholomew's
*Bowman, R. O.	Manchester	*Lucas, A.	St. Bartholomew's
*Bray, G. A. T.	King's College	Maberley, J.	Middlesex
*Broomehead, F. H.	London	Maisey, C. T. B.	Guy's
Brooks, R. P.	King's College	*Marriott, H. B.	Guy's
*Brown, W. G. S.	St. Bartholomew's	*Miller, A. D.	Birmingham
Browne, R. H. J.	Guy's	*Mothersole, R. D.	Guy's
Buenode Mesquita, S.	Guy's	*Mould, G. T.	St. George's
*Calder, F.	Bristol	Naumann, J. C. F.	Charing Cross
*Carter, W. J. B.	St. George's	Ogilvie, F. M.	St. George's
Castle, B.	St. Bartholomew's	Ord, W. T.	St. Mary's and Bristol
*Cautley, E.	St. Bartholomew's	Ovens, T.	Toronto
Caven, W. P.	Toronto	Pedler, W. F.	St. Bartholomew's
*Clark, C. M.	St. George's	Phillips, A. E. A.	St. Bartholomew's
Clarke, G. S.	St. George's	Phillips, J. N.	Guy's
Cleveland, H. F.	University College	*Randall, B. B.	University College
Cockrell, J. W.	St. Bartholomew's	Raywood, J. R. I.	Guy's
*Collier, H. S.	St. Mary's	*Rees, J.	Middlesex
*Cotton, W. M.	University College	*Rees, J. L.	London
Cox, C. A. S. B.	St. Thomas's	Reeves, J. K.	Guy's
Cree, J. D.	Middlesex	Roberts, A. C.	Guy's
*Da Costa, F. X.	Bombay	*Robinson, T.	St. Bartholomew's
*Daniell, E. P.	University College	Rossall, J. C.	St. Mary's
*Darroll, W. B.	London	*Salisbury, C. R.	Leeds
*Davey, W. H. H. C.	Charing Cross	*Sapp, J. G. V.	Charing Cross
*Devis, H. P.	Bristol	Scadding, H. C.	Toronto
Draper, J. W.	University College	*Scott, A.	Guy's
Drew, H. V.	University College	Scott, H. J. H.	Melbourne and King's College.
Drew, H. W.	Guy's	Seagrove, H. A.	University College
Duckett, C. A.	University College	Shaw, W. R.	Toronto
*Durrant, T. A.	St. Thomas's	*Shipton, H.	King's College
Reeces, C. H.	St. Thomas's	*Smeeton, C. W.	Leeds
*Edwards, C. S.	St. Bartholomew's	Somerser, E.	King's College
*Elphick, H. W.	University College	Spencer, H. A.	St. Thomas's and Bristol
Ferraby, G. A.	Birmingham	*Spink, C. P.	Leeds
*Forster, J. E.	Westminster	*Starling, E. H.	Guy's
*Francis, T. W.	St. Bartholomew's	*Streetfield, P. W.	Guy's
Freeman, C. D.	Charing Cross	*Symonds, H.	St. Bartholomew's
Gedge, A. J.	London	Thomas, T. N.	London
Gough, H. E.	Manchester	*Thompson, R.	Guy's
Graham, W. A. S. J.	St. Mary's	Tyacke, N.	Middlesex
*Grenfell, W. T.	London	Tyrrell, A. F.	Middlesex
*Guisein, F. W.	St. Mary's	Wadhwa, F. J.	St. George's
*Hardy, W. E.	St. Bartholomew's	Walker, J. H.	University College
*Heaton, G.	St. Bartholomew's	*Wayte, J.	St. George's
Heffernan, H. H.	St. Thomas's	*Weekes, C. J.	University College
*Holland, C. T.	University College	Weatherly, A. J.	Oxford, Middle- sex and Bristol.
Holt, A. K.	St. Bartholomew's	White, F. J.	Montreal
*House, F. M.	St. Thomas's	*Wise, H. W.	Edinburgh
Jeeves, F.	Charing Cross	Woodyatt, J. F.	Manchester
*Jermaine-Lulham		Wyatt, W. L.	Middlesex
F. S.	St. Bartholomew's		
Jones, R.	St. Bartholomew's		
Kershaw, E. E.	Middlesex		
Kirkhouse, G.	St. Bartholomew's		

* Approved by the Examining Board.

ROYAL COLLEGES OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, EDINBURGH, AND FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, GLASGOW.—The Quarterly Examinations in Edinburgh for the Triple Qualification took place in January, with the following results:

First Examination. Of the 58 candidates, the following 37 passed:

P. F. O'Hagan, Longford; G. S. Pope, Madras; G. T. Tuke, Edinburgh; A. H. Barstow, Spofforth; J. F. Roden, Edinburgh; G. A. Ings, Canada; E. V. Eames, Donegal; T. J. Tonkin, London; T. S. Allan, Glasgow; J. Stevenson, Dundee; W. H. Walker, Ripon; F. J. Flavin, Doncaster; J. F. Curry, Limerick; T. H. Hosford, County Cork; R. R. Workman, County Derry; H. Stedman, London; H. Shaw, Enniscorthy; H. A. Holmes, Manchester; P. R. Crofton, Ireland; C. J. A. Coates, County Cork; W. Yeates, County Down; R. S. Jaques, Scarborough; A. R. Douglas, Newcastle-on-Tyne; D. C. Canduff, Berhampore; R. Milling, County Down; G. G. Sinclair, Hamilton; W. W. Margenout, Ceylon; G. Maingot, Trinidad; R. Love, County Antrim; A. Burns, Chatham; Miss Beatrice Mary Harrison, Brighton; C. E. Dodd, Cheshire; F. C. Rogers, Cheshire; N. J. Newbold, Cambridge; J. H. Hart, Yorkshire; A. H. Dubourg, London; and C. E. G. Bateman, Norwich.

Second Examination. Of 63 candidates, the following 34 passed:

J. Round, Dudley; J. P. McLaren, Glasgow; R. Aldous, Norfolk; C. J. Milligan, Belfast; T. S. Hogg, County Derry; S. W. Wolfe, County Cork; C. L. Strangman, Waterford; C. E. Dodd, Minshul Vernon; N. H. Newbold, Cambridge; F. C. Rogers, Cheshire; W. C. Lancaster, Dublin; E. Treharne, Glamorganshire; R. W. Morrow, County Down; J. B. Griffiths, Stroud; J. H. Carson, County Down; W. W.

Margenout, Ceylon; E. R. Carroll, County Cork; J. L. Smith, County Limerick; T. S. MacMahon, Longford; T. B. Brooke, Cambridgeshire; J. Mackenzie, Sutherland; H. E. Wright, Oldham; J. Stobo, Bothwell; J. C. Thompson, Yorkshire; J. Quigley, Londonderry; J. O'Sullivan, Dublin; A. Ramage, Kilmarnock; A. M. Ford, Glasgow; T. F. Southam, Cheshire; R. J. Stirling, Peebles; J. Maher, Waterford; W. S. Crawford, County Down; J. B. Meredith, Queen's County; and A. H. Dubourg, London.

Final Examination. Of 86 candidates, the following 40 passed, and were admitted L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E., and L.F.P. and S.G.:

A. A. Jervis-Pereira, India; J. Hoy, Ashby-de-la-Zouch; Miss Mary Crawley, Northampton; S. Evans, Madras; W. A. Gibson, Dublin; R. L. Caunter, Cornwall; A. J. Ryan, County Limerick; M. J. O'Connell, Cork; K. J. Courtenay, Sheerness; E. Brooks, Blackburn; W. J. France, Shrewsbury; J. H. Lloyd, Aberystwith; J. M. Crawford, India; J. C. Scotchburn, Yorkshire; C. Mattel, Malta; J. C. Palmer, Melbourne; T. S. Hogg, County Kerry; J. Stoddart, Dumfriesshire; J. C. MacDiarmid, Argyleshire; E. M. Spencer, Tavistock; J. Cotter, Cork; J. McDowell, Newry; M. McLaughlin, County Donegal; J. C. Heynsbergh, Ceylon; M. E. Leicester, London; R. K. Mitter, India; A. W. Douglas, Aldershot; M. T. Casey, County Limerick; A. S. Taylor, Walker-on-Tyne; B. J. E. Wright, London; J. C. French, County Durham; G. E. Rawlinson, Oxford; J. T. Kennedy, Kerry; C. Doherty, County Donegal; J. P. Ferguson, Ireland; W. K. Lockhead, New South Wales; J. W. Kelly, Queenstown; C. Beesley, Southsea; T. Ireland, Germany; and G. F. Billiard, Ireland.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, EDINBURGH.—During the January sittings of the Examiners, the following gentleman passed the Final Examination, and was admitted L.R.C.S.E.:

W. G. Sym, Edinburgh.

For the Licence in Dental Surgery, the following gentleman passed the First Professional Examination:

A. Turner, Aylesbury.

The following gentlemen passed the Final Examination and were admitted L.D.S. Edin.:

B. A. White, Stoke Holy Cross, Norwich; and J. Turner, Edinburgh.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON.—The following gentlemen having passed the Qualifying Examination in Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery have received certificates entitling them to practise in the same, and have been admitted as Licentiates of the Society.

Bampfylde, James, Malabar House, Bexley, Kent.

Blacklock, John, East Bank, Haslingden.

Bryden Francis Wm. Augustus, Beech House, Uffculme, Devon.

Garvey, Henry Patrick, 11, Thorne Terrace, Barnes, Surrey.

Handcock, George, Leathley Lodge, Hunslet, Leeds.

Killick, Charles Rowe, 33, London Road, Dover.

Modlin, Isaac Gibson, 5, Featherstone Street, Roker, Sunderland.

The following gentlemen passed the Surgical portion of the examination.

C. R. Adams, of St. Thomas's Hospital; W. S. Brown, of Guy's Hospital; W. Marris, of the Middlesex Hospital; T. W. Mead, of St. George's Hospital; C. F. Stovin, of the London Hospital; W. Watkins, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; J. Westwood, of Queen's College, Birmingham; T. C. Winn, of the London Hospital.

The following gentlemen passed the Medical portion of the examination.

W. Metcalfe, of St. George's Hospital; H. C. Sugden, of Edinburgh University.

The following gentleman passed the Primary Examination.

E. S. Snell, of University College.

The following passed the first part of the Primary Examination.

P. P. Baly, of Queen's College, Birmingham; C. A. Thredgale.

The following passed the second part of the Primary Examination.

A. C. Baca, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; E. C. Curtis, of Aberdeen University; W. M. Keal, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; W. C. Lattey, of St. George's Hospital; F. H. Lazenby, of University College; H. B. T. Symons, of the Charing Cross Hospital.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following Vacancies are announced:

BIRMINGHAM BOROUGH ASYLUM.—Clinical Assistant. Application to E. B. Whitcombe, Esq.

BOURNEMOUTH FRIENDLY SOCIETIES MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £200 per annum, with residence and fees. Applications to Mr. F. A. K. Hounseth, Trinity Chambers, Bournemouth.

BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY.—Dental Surgeon. Applications by February 15th to the Secretary.

CANCER HOSPITAL, Brompton.—Pathologist. Honorarium of £80 for twelve-months. Applications by February 21st to the Secretary.

FOREST HILL PROVIDENT DISPENSARY.—Medical Officer. Applications by February 15th to F. J. Marriott, Esq., 2, Perry Villas, Perry Vale, Forest Hill, S.E.

MENSTON ASYLUM, near Leeds.—Medical Superintendent. Salary, £400 per annum, with board and residence. Applications by February 15th to W. L. Williams, Esq., West Riding solicitor, Wakefield.

NATIONAL ORTHOPÆDIC HOSPITAL.—Surgical Registrar and Anæsthetist. Honorarium, £20. Applications by February 21st to the Secretary, Great Portland Street, W.

NORTH-WEST LONDON HOSPITAL, Kentish Town Road.—Assistant-Physician. Applications by February 10th to the Secretary.

OLDCASTLE UNION.—Medical Officer. Oldcastle Dispensary District. Salary, £135 per annum and the usual fees. Applications to William Harman, J.P., Honorary Secretary, Crossdrum. Election on February 13th.

ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST, City Road.—Assistant Physician. Application by February 11th to the Secretary.

ROYAL NATIONAL HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION, Ventnor.—Assistant Resident Medical Officer. Applications to the Secretary, 34, Craven Street, W.C.

ROYAL SURREY COUNTY HOSPITAL, Guildford.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, etc. Applications by February 15th to the Assistant Secretary.

RUBERY HILL ASYLUM, Bromsgrove, Worcester.—Clinical Assistant. Board and residence. Applications to Dr. Lyle.

ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE SKIN.—Leicester Square.—Two Assistant Medical Officers. Applications by February 8th to the Secretary.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, Quay Street, Manchester.—Honorary Surgeon. Applications by February 10th to the Chairman of the Board.

YORK DISPENSARY.—Three Resident Medical Officers. Salary, £130 per annum, with furnished apartments, etc. Application to T. W. North, Esq., Micklegate, York.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

ABBOTT, Charles Edward, L.K.Q.C.P.I., M.R.C.S.Eng., reappointed Medical Officer of Health for the Braintree Rural Sanitary District, Essex, for one year.

BRIGHT, Eustace, M.B., M.R.C.S., appointed Resident Clinical Assistant to the Hospital for Consumption, Brompton, *vice* B. de B. Carey, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., resigned.

BLOMFIELD, Arthur G., M.D., appointed Physician to the Devon and Exeter Hospital.

DALY, J. P., M.D., House Surgeon, North Infirmary, Cork, appointed Medical Officer to one of the Dispensary Districts, Cork Union, *vice* Dr. Riordan, resigned.

DAVIES, A. T., B.A., M.B., M.R.C.P., appointed Physician to the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, *vice* J. J. Pringle, M.B., resigned.

EDWARDS, P., M.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Manchester Royal Infirmary (Monsall Fever Hospital), *vice* H. L. Williams, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., resigned.

FOX, R. G., M.B. and C.M. Edin., appointed Junior Assistant Medical Officer to the Sussex County Lunatic Asylum, *vice* M. O. Manson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., resigned.

SAUNDERS, C. E., M.D., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., appointed Medical Superintendent to the Sussex County Lunatic Asylum, *vice* S. W. D. Williams, M.D., resigned.

STRUGNELL, W. T., M.B., M.R.C.S., appointed Senior House Surgeon to the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, *vice* P. G. Lewis, L.S.A., resigned.

TREVELYAN, B. R. T., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., appointed Assistant Physician to the Bristol General Hospital, *vice* J. B. Webb, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., resigned.

WALKER, P. Hunter, M.B., C.M., appointed Medical Officer to the Lechlade District, Faringdon Union, *vice* J. B. Miller, M.B., C.M., resigned.

WALLACE, A. M.A., M.D.Oxon., M.R.C.P.Lond., appointed Physician to the Essex and Colchester Hospital.

WETHERED, Frank, M.B., M.R.C.S., appointed Resident Clinical Assistant to the Hospital for Consumption, Brompton, *vice* W. A. Evelyn, M.B., M.R.C.S., resigned.

THE METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD.—The return presented to the Board on January 28th, with respect to fever and small-pox, showed that at the beginning of the half-year (the end of June) there were 528 cases of fever in the hospital. During the quarter ending September, 2,005 cases were admitted, of these 1,921 were scarlet fever, 147 enteric, and 8 typhus. During the quarter ending Christmas there were admitted 3,215 cases, of these 2,943 were scarlet fever cases, 4 typhus, and 244 enteric cases. At the end of the Christmas quarter there were 2,205 cases under treatment, of which 2,045 were scarlet fever cases and 146 enteric cases. The returns up to Thursday midnight (January 26th) showed that in the fortnight there had been 297 cases admitted, as against 362 the previous fortnight. There had been discharged 505 in the last fortnight, as against 519 in the previous period, and there remained on Thursday under treatment 1,833, as against 2,083 a fortnight since. With regard to small-pox, 7 cases had arisen within the fortnight, as against 4 in the previous fortnight. In the same period 6 had been discharged and 10 remained under treatment—an increase of one since the last return.

A MEDICAL CLUB.—A club, called the Circolo Medico Milanese, has been established at Milan, and many of the medical men in the town have joined it. Its objects are stated to be to provide a place of social intercourse, together with the ordinary conveniences of a club for its members, and to promote a feeling of professional brotherhood among them.

BEQUESTS AND DONATIONS.—Colonel Machen has bequeathed £1,000 to the Warneford, Leamington, and South Warwickshire Hospital.—The British Home for Incurables has received £380 8s., being the balance of share of "residue" under the will of Dr. G. G. Gardiner, one of the physicians.—Mr. Christopher James Corbally has bequeathed £100 each to the Dispensaries, the Royal Infirmary, the Infirmary for Children, the Northern Hospital, and the Southern Hospital, all of Liverpool.—Miss Clara Frances Gladstone, of Bowden Park, Chippingham, has bequeathed the "residue" of her estate to her sister Alice, but with the request that she would give £200 to the West of England Sanatorium at Weston-super-Mare, and £100 to the West London Children's Hospital and Dispensary for Women at Shadwell.—The Worcester Infirmary has received £200, less duty, and the Dispensary £100, less duty, under the will of Mrs. Eliza Woodward; and the former has received 100 guineas, and the latter 50 guineas, from Mr. J. Waldegrave Stone.—The Northampton General Infirmary has received £100 under the will of Mrs. R. Pell.—Miss Elizabeth Norman has bequeathed £100 to the Adelaide Hospital, Dublin.—Lord Burton has given 100 guineas for the second time to the British Home for Incurables.—Mr. Henry Brown has given £100 to the Victoria Hospital, Southend.—The Doncaster Infirmary Ball realised £67 5s.—"G. W. C." has given £30 for the third time to the Convalescent Home Fund of the Chelsea Hospital for Women.

THE Third Report of the Medical Mission at T'ai-Yuen-Fu, Shansi, North China, for 1887, shows an amount of practical work which is creditable to the workers both as medical men and missionaries. Altogether, about six thousand patients (including 298 in-patients) came under treatment, and the diseases varied from typhus fever to dyspepsia, and from phimosis to ulceration of the cornea. They are enabled to record a successful case of operation for strangulated hernia, and twenty-three cases of successful restoration of sight after cataract. It is easy to understand that surgical work in these distant regions is hampered by the lack of efficient assistance, and the want is one not easily remedied. Dr. E. H. Edwards may be congratulated on his zeal and ability in compiling a report amid the absorbing duties of his responsible position.

ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.—At the monthly meeting of this Society, held on January 18th, the following officers and council were elected for the year 1888:—*President:* William Marcet, M.D., F.R.S., F.C.S. *Vice-Presidents:* Francis Campbell Bayard, LL.M.; William Ellis, F.R.A.S.; Charles Harding; Richard Inwards, F.R.A.S. *Treasurer:* Henry Perigal, F.R.A.S., F.R.M.S. *Trustees:* Hon. Francis Albert Rollo Russell, M.A.; Stephen William Silver, F.R.G.S. *Secretaries:* George James Symons, F.R.S.; John William Tripe, M.D., M.R.C.P. Ed. *Foreign Secretary:* Robert Henry Scott, M.A., F.R.S., F.G.S. *Council:* Hon. Ralph Abercromby; Robert Andrew Allison, M.P.; Edmund Douglas Archibald, M.A.; William Morris Beaufort, F.R.A.S., F.R.G.S.; Henry Francis Blanford, F.R.S., F.G.S.; Arthur Brewin; George Chatterton, M.A., M.Inst.C.E.; William Henry Dines, B.A.; Henry Storks Eaton, M.A.; Baldwin Latham, M.Inst.C.E., F.G.S.; Edward Mawley, F.R.H.S.; Charles Theodore Williams, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.

MANCHESTER MEDICO-ETHICAL ASSOCIATION.—At the annual meeting of this Association the report of the Committee showed continuous prosperity, with a steady increase of funds. The following gentlemen were elected office-bearers and members of Committee for the year:—*President:* H. Simpson, M.D. *Vice-Presidents:* J. Foster, Esq.; T. N. Dean, Esq.; J. Broadbent, Esq.; and A. Emrys-Jones, M.D. *Treasurer:* D. Lloyd Roberts, M.D., F.R.S. Edin. *Secretaries:* A. Wähltuch, M.D.; and F. H. Collins, M.D. *Committee:* R. Crean, M.D.; A. Denholm, Esq.; F. M. Pierce, M.D.; C. Holmes, M.D.; H. P. Ilderton, Esq.; E. Jackson, Esq.; W. Lauder, M.D.; W. Y. Martin, M.D.; S. H. Owen, M.D.; T. C. Railton, M.D.; R. C. Smith, M.D.; and W. Walter, M.D.

PROSTITUTION IN BRUSSELS.—The Royal Academy of Medicine of Brussels have unanimously passed a resolution to the effect that "the regulation of prostitution is necessary to check the propagation of venereal diseases." Other resolutions were passed, with few dissentient voices, in favour of prohibiting prostitutes from frequenting "streets, promenades, and public places," and providing for the periodical medical examination of recognised prostitutes.

MANCHESTER WATER SUPPLY.—The Manchester water supply is said to be lower in quantity than it has been for many years

past. The consumption is upwards of 2,000,000 gallons a day in excess of what it was in 1879, when the stock fell very low, but this year the water in stock is even less than in that year.

SUCCESSFUL VACCINATION.—Mr. C. Haycroft, of Bow, North Devon, has obtained a Government grant for successful vaccination in his district.

THE Ormskirk Guardians have increased the salary of Dr. Moore, medical officer for the Southport District, from £60 to £100 per annum.

DR. WILLIAM H. FITZPATRICK, the late medical officer for the rural district of the West Derby Union, has obtained a superannuation allowance of £80 per annum.

DR. C. E. SAUNDERS, medical officer of Health for the Middlesex and Herts combined sanitary districts, has been appointed medical superintendent of the Sussex County Asylum. Dr. Saunders has discharged his duties as medical officer of health with ability and assiduity, and has had some experience in lunacy as medical visitor of the private asylums in the eastern division of Sussex.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—Dr. Churton, of Leeds: Empyema. Mr. Pearce Gould: Four Cases of Thoraco-Plastic Operation for Empyema. Dr. F. de Havilland Hall and Mr. J. Astley Bloxam will relate Similar Cases.

ODONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY. 8 P.M.—Casual communications by Mr. Storer Bennett: Dilaceration in the Incisor of a Porcupine; and Dr. St. George Elliott: A System of Crowns. Papers by Mr. J. Bland Sutton: Odontomes; and Dr. Harlan, of Chicago: The Management of Pulpless Teeth from the Standpoint of Daily Practice.

TUESDAY.

PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—Mr. B. H. Fenwick: Etiology of Vesical Growths. Mr. R. W. Parker: Specimens of Bone Disease. Mr. Eve: Specimens of Dry Caries. Mr. Spencer: Deformity of Sternal Ends of Clavicles in Rickets. Mr. Treves: Melanosis of the Skin. Mr. B. Owen: Anomalous Appendages in a Case of Spina Bifida. Mr. Shattock: Imperforate Urethra. Mr. D'Arcy Power: Parosteal Lipoma. Card Specimens—Mr. Eve: Bilharzia Hamatobia. Mr. Treves: Tumour of Spermatocord. Mr. D'Arcy Power: Angelioma of Cerebral Membranes. Mr. J. H. Morgan: Femur from Case of Pyæmia in an Infant. Mr. Mansell Moullin: Transverse Fracture of Patella United by Bone. Mr. W. K. Sibley: Double Intussusception in a Baboon.

WEDNESDAY.

BRITISH GYNÆCOLOGICAL SOCIETY. 8.30 P.M.—Dr. James Aveling: The Diagnosis and Electrical Treatment of Early Extra-Uterine Gestation. Adjourned discussion on Mr. Lawson Tait's Cases of Ruptured Tubal Pregnancy, successfully dealt with by Ligature of the Broad Ligament. Specimens will be exhibited by Mr. Lawson Tait, Dr. G. Granville Bantock, and others.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. 8 P.M.—Justin F. Donovan, M.D., Surgeon R.N.: Yellow Fever and the Microbian Doctrine.

ROYAL MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY. 8 P.M.—Annual Meeting. President's Address. Rev. Dr. Dallinger, F.R.S.

HUNTERIAN SOCIETY. 7.30 P.M.—Annual General Meeting. 8 P.M. The Annual Oration: R. Clement Lucas, B.S.

FRIDAY.

CLINICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. 8.30 P.M.—Mr. Mayo Robson: Cases of Ruptured Intestine without External Wound, Diagnosis and Treatment. Mr. Bennett: Case of Intestinal Obstruction, in which the Colon Gave Way outside the Peritoneum. Mr. Walsham: Case of Intestinal Obstruction; Nelon's Operation; Death; Volvulus of Cæcum; Malposition of Ascending Colon. Living Specimen.—Mr. Bernard Roth: Case of Arrested Growth of Ulna.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 3s. 6d., which should be forwarded in stamps with the announcement.

BIRTHS.

ADAMS.—On January 27th, at 184, Aldersgate Street, E.C., the wife of John Adams, L.R.C.P. Lond., of a daughter (Mary Dora).

DAVIDSON.—At 2, Bon Accord Square, Aberdeen, on January 28th, the wife of James McKenzie Davidson, M.B., C.M., of a daughter.

DEATHS.

MURPHY.—On January 23rd, at Aspatia, Cumberland, William Ponsonby Murphy, L.R.C.S. Ireland, aged 68 years.

PALMER.—On January 28th, at Putney, Caroline Margaret Palmer, recently of Barnwood, Eastbourne, Sussex, widow of Henry Smith Palmer, M.R.C.S., of St. Leonards, Mortlake, Surrey, aged 65.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1.30 P.M.: Guy's (Ophthalmic Department); and Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: Metropolitan Free; St. Mark's; Central London Ophthalmic; Royal Orthopaedic; and Hospital for Women.—2.30 P.M.: Chelsea Hospital for Women.

TUESDAY.....9 A.M.: St. Mary's (Ophthalmic Department).—10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1.30 P.M.: Guy's; St. Bartholomew's (Ophthalmic Department); St. Mary's; Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: Westminster; St. Mark's; Central London Ophthalmic.—2.30 P.M.; West London; Cancer Hospital, Brompton.—4 P.M.: St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department); 10 A.M.: National Orthopaedic.—10.30 A.M.; Royal London Ophthalmic.—1 P.M.: Middlesex.—1.30 P.M. St. Bartholomew's, St. Thomas's; Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.; London; University College; Westminster; Great Northern Central; Central London Ophthalmic.—2.30 P.M.: Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children; St. Peter's.—3 to 4 P.M.; King's College.

THURSDAY.....10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1 P.M.: St. George's.—1.30 P.M.: St. Bartholomew's (Ophthalmic Department); Guy's (Ophthalmic Department); Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: Charing Cross; London; Central London Ophthalmic; Hospital for Diseases of the Throat; Hospital for Women.—2.30 P.M.: North-West London; Chelsea Hospital for Women.

FRIDAY.....9 A.M.: St. Mary's (Ophthalmic Department).—10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1.15 P.M.: St. George's (Ophthalmic Department).—1.30 P.M.: Guy's; Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: King's College; St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department); Central London Ophthalmic; Royal South London Ophthalmic; East London Hospital for Children.—2.30 P.M.: West London.

SATURDAY.....9 A.M.: Royal Free.—10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1 P.M.: King's College.—1.30 P.M.: St. Bartholomew's; St. Thomas's; Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: Charing Cross; London; Middlesex; Royal Free; Central London Ophthalmic.—2.30 P.M.: Cancer Hospital, Brompton.

HOURS OF ATTENDANCE AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

CHARING CROSS.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, M. Th., 1.30; Dental, M. W. F., 9.

GUY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, M. Tu. 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, Tu., 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. Th. S., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 2; Skin, F., 1.30; Larynx, F., 2.30; Orthopaedic, M., 2.30; Dental, Tu. F., 9.

ST. GEORGE'S.—Medical and Surgical, M. T. F. S., 1; Obstetric, Tu. S., 1; o.p. Tu., 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., 1.45; o.p. M. Th., 1.30; Eye, Tu. F. S., 9; Ear, M. Th., 3; Throat, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, M. Th., 9.30; Electrician, Tu. F., 2; Dental, W. S., 9.30; Consultations, M., 2.30; Operations, Tu., 1.30; Ophthalmic Operations, F., 9.

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; Obstetrics, 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., 3; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Ear, M., 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, 429, Strand, W.C., London; those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the JOURNAL, etc., should be addressed to the Manager, at the Office, 428, 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, 428, 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.

MANUSCRIPTS FORWARDED TO THE OFFICE OF THIS JOURNAL CANNOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES BE RETURNED.

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.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

OUR correspondents are reminded that prolixity is a great bar to publication, and, with the constant pressure upon every department of the JOURNAL, brevity of style and conciseness of statement greatly facilitate early insertion. We are compelled to return and hold over a great number of communications chiefly by reason of their unnecessary length.

QUERIES.

G. R. G. asks as to the suitability of the climate of Melanesia and Norfolk Island for a patient in the first stage of phthisis.

TREATMENT OF TINNITUS.

MR. FRANCIS W. CLARK, L.R.C.P.L., M.R.C.S. (East Croydon), asks for suggestions for the treatment of the following case. A man, aged 46, of neurotic temperament, has been suffering from ringing noises in the ears of varying intensity, and alternating from one to the other side for the past three months. About a month prior to the onset of this trouble he suffered from detachment of the retina, necessitating complete rest for two months, and it was during this period that the noises suddenly developed. The heart and blood vessels are normal, and so also is the urine; and the patient has never suffered from gout. After excluding local causes, such as concretions in the meatus, and blocking of the Eustachian tube, the following remedies were successively tried, but all without success: Colchicum, hydrobromic acid, bromide of potassium, and faradism. The patient is at present taking small doses of salicylate of soda.

TREATMENT OF PROFUSE SWEATING.

MR. J. E. CLENDINEN (Croydon) asks for advice in the treatment of the following case. A lady, aged 46, not having yet reached the menopause, suffers from profuse perspiration on awaking in the morning, generally lasting from 4 to 8 o'clock. The sweating is preceded by a hot burning condition of the skin, and is so profuse that her bed cannot be made until it and the bedclothing have been dried. It does not occur every morning, but about two or three mornings in the week. She has been nervous, but is now in excellent health, looks well, eats well, and sleeps well till the sweating begins. The following remedies have been tried: Belladonna, bromide of potassium, strychnine, oxide of zinc, valerianate of zinc, and hot sponging. Most relief has been derived from the zinc valerianate.

CONVALESCENT HOME WANTED.

DR. E. L. ARCHER (Kensington) wishes to hear of a convalescent home at Bournemouth where a young man, who is probably in the early stage of consumption, would be admitted on payment of a moderate fee for a few weeks.

DISINFECTING CHAMBER.

M. O. H. wishes to learn the name and address of the maker or agent of the Schimmel Steam Disinfecting Closet of Berlin.

MESSAGE.

NOVICE, having gathered, from *Massage as a Mode of Treatment*, by Dr. William Murrell, that the art can only be acquired after at least two years' practice, and only by practical instruction, asks if this is really the case, as he had hoped to be able to use it after studying the subject from books?

ANSWERS.

H. E. MATTHEWS.—Obviously the proper course is to pursue the necessary treatment, and not to violate professional confidence, which, under the circumstances, is sacred.

HAIRWASH.

DR. MYRTLE (Harrowgate) writes: The best application for falling hair or promoting growth of hair is a quinine hairwash made by Schutte and Co. Widmore Quinine Works, Bromley, Kent.

TREATMENT OF STAMMERING.

M.R.C.S. writes: In reply to Mr. E. regarding a publication likely to be of service in the training of a little boy who stammers, I can recommend the *Grammar of Elocution*, by John Millard, Professor of Declamation in the Royal College of Music (fourth edition), which contains, embodied as an appendix, directions and exercises to assist in the removal of stammering. Having been for years, when a child, a stammerer myself, I am able to judge to some extent of their worth, besides having had practical proof of their efficiency. The book referred to is published by Longmans, Green and Co.

TEACHING THE DUMB TO SPEAK.

MR. A. J. JOHNSTON (Nethway, Kingsley Road, Prever's Gates, Liverpool) writes: I am much interested in a girl of about 18 years of age who, through some malformation of the mouth or tongue, has never been able to speak, with the exception of a few words. I believe she has all her faculties and, though small for her age, is undeformed. I am trying to persuade her friends to send her to school, so that she may at least be able to talk with her fingers. My object in writing is to ask if you know of a suitable school where she would be kindly treated.

* * * It would be a mistake to teach the girl to talk on her fingers, and thus divert her from lip-reading and natural speech. Dr. E. Symes Thompson, to whom we have referred the question, recommends that the friends should pay a visit to the Training College for Teachers of the Deaf, Castlebar Hill, Ealing, W.; the Principal of which, Mr. Kinsey, would be able to give much useful information.

L'HOMME-FEMME: Our correspondent is probably right in his surmise. A recent American writer has stated the percentage of "cultivated" married (American) women who do not possess any sexual feeling to be as high as fifty-six. It should be clearly recognised that the absence of such feelings in a woman does not imply sterility.

I have no doubt (1) this man contracted syphilis as the result of the tattooing; (2) that it was through the saliva of the operator. But, that the saliva *per se*, and not as the vehicle for some other discharge, has the power of conveying the virus from a syphilitic patient, the evidence is not quite conclusive.

HOW SHOOTING ACCIDENTS ARE TO BE AVOIDED.

DR. JOHN RUXTON, late Leicestershire Regiment, recommends, as means to prevent shooting accidents:

1. Impose a tax on all firearms except sanctioned by Government, and on all who use or borrow them, besides their owner, levying a heavy fine in case of non-compliance.
2. Make the very act of pointing a firearm at, or in the direction of, any person, a criminal offence.
3. In cover-shooting, the head of a party ought to call both shooters and beaters together, and obtain their sanction to the rule "that anyone using a gun who is seen interfering with trigger or hammer while the gun is pointing in the direction of any person, either when walking in line or crossing a fence, should be at once disarmed, and become a beater for the rest of the day." The discipline of keeping in line must be very strict; the gunners who walk with beaters should halt 120 yards from end of beat; beaters advance, leaving all winged game going forward to guns placed in front, and all going backward to those behind, neither firing till bird has risen well; ground game to be shot only when it has passed either set of shooters. After beat is completed, the forward guns and beaters may again drive back to other guns, observing similar rules of shooting. Excitement will thus be minimised, and a good average of game bagged.
4. In grouse driving the butts must be sufficiently low in front to allow free scope for shooting game coming towards one, and sides so high that shooter cannot fire into butt at either right or left, even if wishful to do so. To accomplish this, the floor of the butt must be excavated, and trenches dug at the lowest parts to allow escape of water. The back of the butt must be open to give full swing at game which is passing low, or has passed. The keepers and beaters to whistle loudly when within 150 yards of butts, after which no forward shots may be fired. The shooter on no account to leave his butt till beaters have passed him.

THE PARASITIC ORIGIN OF MALIGNANT GROWTHS.

DR. HARRY CAMPBELL, M.D., B.S.(Lond.) writes: The following is an abstract of a paper which was prepared some time ago independently of any published writings on the parasitic theory. As much has been recently written on this subject, it is unnecessary to give more than an abstract of my paper. I shall dwell chiefly on such points as have hitherto received little or no attention.

Malignant tissue is of inferior value to that of the surrounding parts; the change is retrogressive; it is not, as in development, a change from the homogeneous to the heterogeneous, but the reverse. Herbert Spencer, indeed, especially singles out the malignant growths as exceptions to his great principle of evolution, assuming that the change is from the homogeneous to the heterogeneous. A careful study of their structure and mode of growth would seem to show that this is not so. The tissue of sarcoma is of a very elementary order, but the carcinomata have no such simple structure, but there can be little doubt that, in their case also, the change is a backward one. In the squamous epitheliomata the epithelial cells dip down as in the development of all open glands, but the down-growing cylinders never become hollowed out. The glandular tissue is therefore of a very crude immature form. In the cylindrical-celled variety a more perfect variety of tissue is approached, for the cylinders contain a distinct lumen; nevertheless, the process is disorderly and the gland tissue, taken as a whole, is decidedly imperfect. In the acinous form of cancer the glandular type is maintained, but it is of an erratic kind. Wherefore we may say that the carcinomata consist of an immature and disorderly form of gland tissue. But the malignant change is not of the nature of a simple degeneration, for along with the deterioration in structure there is an actual increase in tissue activity.

In considering the etiology of malignant growths, it is very necessary to decide how far the malignant tissue is due to a simple transformation of the affected tissue, and how far it results from a multiplication of the few cells initially constituting the tumour. Although primary carcinoma is largely a transformation, yet it is certain that many of the cells are derived by a multiplication of the cells already constituting the tumour. Elements are everywhere present to share in the formation of the growth; for when it spreads to tissues in which there are no epithelia, the growth is evidently solely by a multiplication of the cells already belonging to the tumour.

My view of the matter is this: Under the bacterial irritation the tissues are unable to keep at their normal level, and revert to a tissue of a lower order, thus exhibiting some one or other of their many potentialities. The type of morbid tissue thus produced depends (1) upon the nature of the tissue primarily affected, (2) upon the nature of the parasite. We have seen that the secondary growths are not always due to the transformation of the affected tissues, wherefore the theory of reversion cannot apply to such cases. Such secondary growths depend, I believe, upon the transference of tissue cells *plus* the bacteria from the seat of the primary affection. Under the specific parasitic stimulus these transported cells take on the same morbid action as at the primary seat of infection by virtue of their potentialities. It is impossible, however, to deny that cells of the tissue secondarily affected take some share in the process. There are probably several varieties of "malignant" bacteria; the carcinoma parasite must be quite different from that causing sarcoma.

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

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