

## ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

A QUARTERLY meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons was held on January 10th, when the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The PRESIDENT brought before the Council a scheme by the Editors of the *Lancet* for the establishment, at their expense, of the "*Lancet* Medical Fund." It was proposed that the President of the College should be associated therewith, and a resolution was passed that, subject to the approval of the legal advisers of the College, the President should become an almoner of the Fund.

The following resolution was moved by the Senior VICE-PRESIDENT:—

"The attention of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England has been called to a volume published by Sir Morell Mackenzie, which bears the title *The Fatal Illness of Frederick the Noble*, and the Council consider it to be their duty to express their deep regret that any Member of this College should have allowed himself to publish, in such a manner, the charges that are therein made against distinguished surgeons who were his colleagues in the case. The Council have not sufficient means of forming a conclusive judgment on the facts which are in dispute, but in their opinion no provocation such as Sir Morell Mackenzie alleges can justify this publication, or the language employed in it."

A discussion having been taken on the above motion, it was declared that 21 had voted for it, 2 against it, and one member had abstained.

Sir SPENCER WELLS moved:—

"That the resolution of the Council of May 8th, 1884—'That an annual meeting of the Fellows and Members be called, to which a report from the Council shall be presented'—be rescinded, and that the annual meeting of Fellows and Members be discontinued."

This was seconded by Mr. LUND. An amendment, proposed by Mr. CADGE and seconded by Mr. DURHAM:—

"That the consideration of this motion be postponed till after the next annual meeting of Fellows and Members," was lost. The original motion was then put, and lost by 5 to 14.

Sir WM. MAC CORMAC moved:—

"That a certificate be required from candidates for the diploma of Member of the College of having themselves performed operations upon the dead subject to the satisfaction of the teachers of Practical Surgery, and giving number of operations performed by each candidate."

This was carried by 15 to 2.

The PRESIDENT moved that the lectures at the College should in the future be delivered at 5 P.M. instead of at 4; this motion was carried.

Mr. MACNAMARA moved:—

"That the President be requested to communicate with the Secretary of State for War in favour of dating the commissions of medical officers who have already entered or are about to enter the Army Medical Department from the time of their joining at Netley."

This was carried *nem. con.*

It was decided that, as the second Thursday of next month (February 14th) will be the date of the delivery by Mr. Henry Power of the Hunterian Oration, the ordinary Council in that month shall be held on Tuesday, February 12th, at 4 P.M.

Sir JAMES PAGET moved:—

"That a *conversazione* be held at the College at some convenient date during the ensuing summer, and that a small committee be appointed to make the necessary arrangements for such *conversazione*."

This was carried, and Sir James Paget, Sir Spencer Wells, and Mr. John Marshall, with the President and Vice-Presidents, were appointed.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Association of Members, Mr. W. Ashton Ellis, writing on behalf of the Association, requesting the Council of the College to summon a general meeting of the Corporation, in order to consider the necessary course of Parliamentary action, with a view to obtaining certain alterations in the constitution of the College.

It was resolved that Mr. Ellis be informed that the Council do not consider it expedient to convene a meeting for the purpose mentioned.

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

## COUNCIL.

## NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the Council will be held at the Offices of the Association, No. 429, Strand (corner of Agar Street), London, on Wednesday, the 16th day of January next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

The following Committees will also meet:—

*Tuesday, January 15th, 1889.*—Premises Committee, 3.30 P.M.—Branch Organisation Committee, 4.30 P.M.—Trust Funds Committee, 5.0 P.M. *Wednesday, January 16th, 1889.*—Journal and Finance Committee, 11.0 A.M.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary.*

January 9th, 1889.

## NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1889.

## ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

MEETINGS of the Council will be held on January 16th, April 17th, July 10th, and October 16th, 1889. 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 20th, and September 26th, 1889.

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.*

## BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.—The next meeting will be held in the Town Hall, Walthamstow, on Thursday, January 17th, at 8.45 P.M. A paper on Diphtheria, with special reference to Treatment, will be read by A. Ernest Sansom, M.D.—J. W. HUNT, Honorary Secretary, 101, Queen's Road, Dalston.

NORTH OF IRELAND BRANCH.—A general meeting of this Branch will be held in the Royal Hospital, Belfast, on Friday, January 25th, at 4 o'clock. Gentlemen who wish to bring any subject before the meeting will kindly communicate with the Secretary, JOHN W. BYERS, M.D., Lower Crescent, Belfast.

OXFORD AND DISTRICT BRANCH.—The next meeting of the Branch will be held on Friday, January 25th, at the Radcliffe Infirmary, at 3 o'clock. Gentlemen intending to read papers or show cases are requested to communicate with the Secretary, W. Lewis Morgan, 42, Broad Street, Oxford, on or before January 11th.—S. D. DARBISHIRE and W. LEWIS MORGAN, Honorary Secretaries.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held at the General Hospital, Cheltenham, on Tuesday, January 15th, at 7.30 P.M., under the presidency of C. J. Bennett, Esq. Agenda:—1. President's Address. 2. Thrombosis of the Longitudinal Sinus: Dr. Batten (Gloucester).—G. ARTHUR CARDEW, Honorary Secretary.

## BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE winter meeting of this Branch was held at Carlisle on December 20th; Dr. ROBERTSON, Penrith, President, in the chair. Twenty-four members and four visitors attended.

*New Members.*—J. F. Haswell, Cumberland Infirmary; W. M. Gabriel, Silloth; F. Ormerod, Workington, were elected members of the Branch.

Professor CHIENE, of Edinburgh, read a paper on Suppuration, its Causes and Treatment, and illustrated his remarks. An abstract of the paper and the discussion which followed will be found at page 79.

*Vote of Thanks.*—A vote of thanks to Professor Chiene was carried unanimously.

*Next Meeting.*—The next meeting of the Branch will be held at Galashiels.

# METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: SOUTH LONDON DISTRICT.

A MEETING was held at the Wandsworth and Clapham Infirmary on Wednesday, December 19th, at 8 P.M., Dr. FREDERICK TAYLOR, Vice-President of the District, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

**Cases.**—Dr. J. B. NEAL, medical superintendent of the infirmary, gave a demonstration of the following cases, which were discussed by the members present. 1. A Case in which Bone had been Removed from a Compound Depressed Fracture of the Left Frontal Bone from the Kick of a Horse. The case was interesting from the fact of temporary maniacal excitement following the injury and lasting for a short time after the operation, the absence of any paralysis, and the presence of permanent atrophy of the left optic nerve with blindness. 2. Case of Pseudo-hypertrophic Paralysis of Eleven Years' Duration in a Boy of 14. 3. Enlarged Superficial Abdominal Veins following an Attack of Typhoid Fever Six Years previously. 4. Locomotor Ataxy of Seventeen Years' Duration. 5. Obscure Case of Spinal Disease with Symptoms of Lateral Sclerosis. 6. Myxoedema. 7. Enlarged Thyroid Associated with Epilepsy.

**Vote of Thanks.**—The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Dr. Neal for his demonstration.

# NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH.

THE seventy-sixth general meeting of the Branch was held in the Royal Society's Room, Elizabeth Street, Sydney, on Friday, November 2nd, at 8.15 P.M. Present: Dr. CHAMBERS, President, in the chair; Drs. Ellis, Crago, Hankins, Fiaschi, Knaggs, Wm. Chisholm, Fisher, Sydney Jones, Scot Skirving, Brady, Martin, Roth, Reading.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

**Death of Dr. Bohrsmann.**—The PRESIDENT announced that since the last meeting Dr. Bohrsmann, a member of this Branch, had died. Resolved, "That a letter of condolence be forwarded to the family of the deceased gentleman."

**Aortic Disease.**—Dr. ELLIS read a paper, in conjunction with Dr. SCOT SKIRVING, on a case of aortic disease, with rheumatic pericarditis and double pleuropneumonia; paracentesis pericardii; recovery. Dr. Scot Skirving said that on one point he believed he differed from Dr. Ellis. He did not now think the attack which made the operation necessary was due to pulmonary embolism. Against pulmonary oedema he also gave his opinion, its too sudden onset and passing away being too rapid to correspond to even the so-called "fulminating oedema" of German observers. He believed it to have been a rather unusual manifestation of heart failure.—Dr. CHISHOLM said that, as to the case being one of heart-failure, he rather agreed with Dr. Scot Skirving, but leant also somewhat towards the idea of its being possibly a case of pulmonary oedema.—Dr. CRAGO said he remembered a very similar case. When he was called in the patient had very much the same appearance as that described in this case, and he was puzzled to know what to do. He injected a little morphine hypodermically, and in half an hour the patient had considerably improved. This man had freedom from attack for about twelve months, when he had a return, and injections of morphine were again used with marked effect. He thought that in the case related by Dr. Ellis cardiac failure must have been the main factor.—Dr. FIASCHI said it was usual to tap in the fourth interspace, but in this case the puncture was made much higher, showing that in some cases the operator could choose his own place of election. The second point was that the heart had been touched by the cannula without any ill effects, in fact with good results, as in stimulating the heart by mechanical means it no doubt assisted the patient to tide over a critical period. Another point in this was the use of oxygen, the practical utility of which was demonstrated. He thought the case one of heart failure.—Dr. SYDNEY JONES said he could not but think that the attack was one of the nature of angina. The subtraction of so small an amount of fluid could not have had so good a result in a case of pulmonary oedema, or in pulmonary embolism.—Dr. ELLIS replied.

**Priapism.**—Dr. CRAGO read a paper on priapism, with notes of a case.—Dr. FIASCHI, Dr. SCOT SKIRVING, Dr. JONES, Dr. KNAGGS, and Dr. CHAMBERS made some remarks, and Dr. CRAGO replied.

**Thiersch's Operation.**—Mr. G. T. HANKINS exhibited a case of "Thiersch's operation."

# ADELAIDE AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA BRANCH.

THE annual meeting was held on June 28th, 1888, Dr. DAVIES THOMAS, the retiring President, being in the chair.

**Annual Report.**—The annual report stated that, in consequence of a motion carried at the last annual meeting, the Council had ceased to have the proceedings of the meetings printed in a separate form for distribution to the members. In lieu of this the members now received copies of the *Australasian Medical Gazette*, the editor of which had kindly agreed to print reports of the meetings and the papers read, for about the same expense as that formerly incurred by the separate publication of the proceedings. To render the reports as complete as possible, the assistance of Dr. Poulton, as co-editor with the Hon. Secretary, was secured, and the results had been such as to cause every satisfaction. Respecting public health, a deputation was formed to interview the Commissioner of Public Works, to ask what arrangements the Government intended making to ensure the effectual carrying out of the deep drainage of the city, and water conservation generally, on the dispensing with the services of the hydraulic engineer. The deputation was dismissed with the usual official reply, and failed to elicit any information on the subject of a satisfactory nature. The action of the Branch last year with respect to the pollution of the watershed of the Hope Valley Reservoir had also failed to move the authorities to take any steps towards rectifying such a highly dangerous and possible source of water contamination. Since the last annual meeting eleven new members had been elected, and seven members had resigned on account of leaving the colony or of ill-health. This made the total number of members 76, being an increase of four. The receipts for the year amounted to £163 0s. 6d.; the expenditure to £129 12s. 9d.; and there was the sum of £115 11s. 10d. to the credit of the Branch in the savings bank. The report was adopted unanimously.

**Presidential Address.**—Dr. DAVIES THOMAS alluded to the prosperous condition of the Branch and the increase in its membership. He also touched on various points relating to the progress made in medical science during the past year.

**Vote of Thanks to President.**—Dr. STIRLING (the President-elect) then took the chair, and having expressed the pleasure he had felt in listening to Dr. Thomas's address, he called for a vote of thanks, which was accorded with acclamation.

**Officers of Council.**—Election of Council for 1888-89:—President-elect—E. C. Stirling, M.D.; Vice-President—W. L. Cleland, M.B.; Hon. Treasurer—T. W. Corbin, M.R.C.S.; Hon. Secretary—B. Poulton, M.D.; Members of Council—A. A. Hamilton, M.B.; T. W. Hayward, M.R.C.S., J. Davies Thomas, M.D.

# HALIFAX (NOVA SCOTIA) BRANCH.

THE annual meeting for election of officers for the ensuing year was held in Halifax on September 3rd, 1888; Fleet-Surgeon SWEETNAM, R.N., in the absence of the President, in the chair.

**Annual Report.**—The annual report having been read by the SECRETARY and received, the Treasurer's report was then discussed. As suggested in the report, it was decided to divide the offices of Honorary Treasurer and Secretary, and a motion to that effect was made and passed.

**Payment of Subscriptions.**—A resolution was next moved by Dr. WICKWIRE, and seconded by Dr. SLAYTER, "That in future the subscriptions of civilian members to the Association should be paid through the Treasurer to the Branch, and that the naval and military members forward their own themselves." Passed unanimously.

**Officers and Council.**—The election of officers for the year was next proceeded with. Deputy Surgeon-General McDowell, C.B., A.M.D., was unanimously re-elected President; Dr. W. Tobin was re-elected Secretary; Dr. Trenaman, City Medical Officer, was elected Honorary Treasurer. The following members of Council were then elected by ballot: Dr. G. F. Black, Dr. Campbell, Dr. Farrell, Dr. Slayter, Surgeon Fowler, A.M.S. Dr. Slayter having declined, Staff-Surgeon Sweetnam, R.N., H.M.S. *Tourmaline*, was appointed in his stead.

**Excursion.**—A Committee was then appointed to arrange for an excursion of members and friends to the Quarantine Station on Tantas Island on the following Thursday, where the annual dinner would take place.

AN oilman of Wandsworth has been fined 20s., with £4 costs, for selling as Condy's fluid a bottle found to contain carbolic acid.

When we compare the averages for the first three years with those for the last three, the relative results are beyond dispute.

		1881-83.	1884-86.
Under no system.	General death-rate ...	21.571	20.629
	Zymotic death-rate ...	3.280	3.034
	Percentage of latter to former	15.204	14.709
Under the single or household system.	General death-rate ...	20.874	20.363
	Zymotic death-rate ...	2.745	2.627
	Percentage of latter to former	13.148	12.897
Under the dual system.	General death-rate ...	23.014	22.927
	Zymotic death-rate ...	3.042	3.181
	Percentage of latter to former	13.218	13.874

It is said that to take the zymotic diseases in the gross, as is here done, instead of distinguishing between the notifiable and the non-notifiable amongst them, is an unfair method of procedure. But how can this be maintained? If compulsory notification is to be declared beneficial to the community at large, it surely must be shown to tell favourably upon the whole class of diseases with which it deals. Sanitary science has advanced considerably of late years, and the general death-rate has considerably declined; but, as shown above, it has not declined so rapidly when the dual system of notification is in force, and in many of those towns has actually increased. Anyone who examines, as I do, from week to week, the death-rates of the large towns, will see that almost invariably those under the dual system of notification, instead of being in the position of honour, are the lowest and worst of all.

#### POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS AND THE COUNTY COUNCILS.

O. W. writes: I am a union medical officer in this county, and may be elected a member of the County Council. Does my appointment, including that of public vaccinator, disqualify me?

\*\*\* Questions of this kind can at present only be answered by reference to the words of the Act. Poor-law medical officers and public vaccinators are, and will continue to be, paid by the guardians of the union, and the County Councils will merely contribute to their remuneration, as the Treasury has done previously. Under these circumstances it seems to us that these officers will not have an "interest in any contract or employment with, by, or on behalf of the Council," and will, consequently, not be disqualified for election. It is, however, impossible for anyone to say beforehand what decision a court of justice may give on a new question, supposing it to be raised. Dr. Brett, of Watford, having asked the Local Government Board the same question, has received an answer that he would not be disqualified as a candidate.

#### HEALTH OF ENGLISH TOWNS.

In the twenty-eight large English towns, including London, which have an estimated population of 9,555,406 persons, 6,148 births and 4,161 deaths were registered during the week ending Saturday, January 5th. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 22.2 and 20.8 per 1,000 in the two preceding weeks, rose again to 22.7 during the week under notice. The rates in the several towns ranged from 12.9 in Brighton, 13.7 in Birkenhead, 19.0 in Wolverhampton, and 19.1 in Hull to 28.0 in Manchester, 29.6 in Liverpool, 32.9 in Cardiff, and 39.2 in Blackburn. In the twenty-seven provincial towns the mean death-rate was 23.8 per 1,000, and exceeded by 2.4 the rate recorded in London, which was only 21.4 per 1,000. The 4,161 deaths registered during the week under notice in the twenty-eight towns included 314 which were referred to measles, 108 to whooping-cough, 64 to scarlet fever, 50 to diphtheria, 41 to "fever" (principally enteric), 41 to diarrhoea, and not one to small-pox; in all, 618 deaths resulted from these principal zymotic diseases, against 621 and 527 in the two preceding weeks. These 618 deaths were equal to an annual rate of 3.4 per 1,000; in London the zymotic death-rate was 2.9, while it averaged 3.7 per 1,000 in the twenty-seven provincial towns, and ranged from 0.0 in Wolverhampton, 0.6 in Halifax, and 0.8 in Sunderland to 6.7 in Salford, 7.9 in Cardiff, and 11.6 in Blackburn. Measles caused the highest proportional fatality in Leeds, Bristol, Bolton, Huddersfield, Leicester, Salford, Liverpool, Cardiff, and Blackburn; scarlet fever in Manchester, Sheffield, and Blackburn; whooping-cough in Blackburn, Cardiff, Preston, Birmingham, and Norwich; and "fever" in Hull, Birkenhead, and Salford. Of the 50 deaths from diphtheria recorded during the week under notice in the twenty-eight towns, 33 occurred in London, 4 in Manchester, 4 in Salford, and 2 in Nottingham. No fatal case of small-pox was recorded during the week, either in London or in any of the twenty-seven provincial towns. No small-pox patients were under treatment in any of the Metropolitan Asylums Hospitals during the week ending Saturday, January 5th; there were, however, 2 patients in the Highgate Small-pox Hospital. The Metropolitan Asylums Hospitals contained 686 scarlet fever patients at the end of the week under notice, against numbers declining from 907 to 738 at the end of the six preceding weeks; there were 50 admissions during the week, against 71, 43, and 37 in the three previous weeks. The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs in London during the week under notice was equal to 5.8 per 1,000, and was below the average.

#### HEALTH OF SCOTCH TOWNS.

In the eight principal Scotch towns 789 births and 512 deaths were registered during the week ending Saturday, December 29th. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 19.3 and 20.1 per 1,000 in the two preceding weeks, further rose to 20.3 during the week under notice, but was 0.5 per 1,000 below the mean rate during the same period in the twenty-eight large English towns. Amongst these Scotch towns the lowest rates were recorded in Aberdeen and Leith, and the highest in Paisley and Glasgow. The 512 deaths in these Scotch towns during the week included 60 which were referred to the principal zymotic diseases, equal to an annual rate of 2.4 per 1,000, which was 0.8 below the mean zymotic death-rate during the same period in the twenty-eight English towns. The highest zymotic death-rates were recorded in Glasgow and Paisley. The 249 deaths registered in Glasgow included 8 which resulted from measles, 8 from diphtheria, 7 from whooping-cough, 5 from scarlet fever, 3 from "fever," and 1 from diarrhoea. Three fatal cases of measles occurred in Paisley, and 3 deaths from diphtheria were recorded in Leith. The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs in these Scotch towns during the week was equal to 3.8 per 1,000, against 4.2 in London.

During the week ending Saturday, January 5th, 780 births and 604 deaths were registered in the eight principal Scotch towns. The annual rate of mortality, which had increased from 19.3 to 20.3 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, further rose to 23.6 during the week under notice, and exceeded by 0.9 per 1,000 the mean rate during the same period in the twenty-eight large English towns. Amongst these Scotch towns the lowest rates were recorded in Edinburgh and Aberdeen, and the highest in Glasgow and Paisley. The 604 deaths in these towns during the week included 50 which were referred to the principal zymotic diseases, equal to an annual rate of 2.0 per 1,000, which was 1.4 below the mean zymotic death-rate during the same period in the large English towns. The highest zymotic death-rates were recorded in Paisley and Greenock. The 288 deaths registered in Glasgow during the week included 15 which were referred to whooping-cough, 7 to measles, 4 to diphtheria, 3 to "fever," 3 to diarrhoea, and 1 to scarlet fever. A fatal case of small-pox occurred in Dundee, and 3 of measles in Paisley. The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs in these Scotch towns during the week under notice was equal to 5.5 per 1,000, against 5.8 in London.

#### HEALTH OF IRISH TOWNS.

DURING the week ending Saturday, December 29th, the deaths registered in the sixteen principal town districts of Ireland were equal to an annual rate of 21.1 per 1,000. The lowest rates were recorded in Wexford and Lisburn, and the highest in Limerick and Belfast. The death-rate from the principal zymotic diseases in these towns averaged 2.2 per 1,000. The 144 deaths registered in Dublin during the week under notice were equal to an annual rate of 21.3 per 1,000, against 26.6 and 30.9 in the two preceding weeks. The 144 deaths included 13 which resulted from the principal zymotic diseases (equal to an annual rate of 1.9 per 1,000), of which 5 were referred to "fever," 4 to whooping-cough, 2 to scarlet fever, 2 to diarrhoea, and not one either to small-pox, measles, or diphtheria.

In the sixteen principal town districts of Ireland, the deaths registered during the week ending Saturday, January 5th, were equal to an annual rate of 26.6 per 1,000. The lowest rates were recorded in Newry and Drogheda, and the highest in Waterford and Armagh. The death-rate from the principal zymotic diseases averaged 2.3 per 1,000 in these towns during the week under notice, against 3.4 in the twenty-eight large English towns during the same period. The 212 deaths registered in Dublin were equal to an annual rate of 31.3 per 1,000, against 30.9 and 21.3 in the two preceding weeks. These 212 deaths included 18 which were referred to the principal zymotic diseases (equal to an annual rate of 1.8 per 1,000), of which 5 were referred to "fever," 5 to whooping-cough, 1 to measles, and 1 to scarlet fever.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

**EXAMINING BOARD IN ENGLAND BY THE ROYAL COLLEGES OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.**—The following gentlemen passed the Second Examination in Anatomy and Physiology at a meeting of the Board of Examiners on January 7th, namely:—

C. A. Altmann, student of Melbourne University; J. B. Bate and G. R. Wood, of Bristol Medical School; J. E. C. Allott, of Sheffield School of Medicine; W. E. Sprague, of Toronto; A. L. Kerr, of Sydney and Edinburgh University; G. O. Moore, of Melbourne and Edinburgh University.

#### Passed in Anatomy only.

W. J. Bacque, E. H. Clarke, J. M. Mortimer-Thomas, E. H. C. Pauli, W. Taylor, and B. C. Kendall, students of Bristol Medical School; W. Hall and W. H. Buckley, of Owens College, Manchester; H. M. Joynson, W. S. Finch, and C. R. Palmer, of University College, Liverpool; A. H. Bradshaw, of Leeds School of Medicine; B. B. Thorne Thorne and F. E. Withers, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; H. E. Tomlinson, of Leeds and Mr. Cooke's School of Anatomy and Physiology.

#### Passed in Physiology only.

B. J. Singh, of Lahore Medical College; L. C. Brohier, of Ceylon Medical School; E. G. E. O'Leary and A. S. St. John, of Bristol Medical School; J. S. Sewill, J. A. Evans, G. R. Jones, and G. F. Kinpe, of University College, Liverpool; W. Pearson, of Owens College, Manchester, and Mr. Cooke's School of Anatomy and Physiology; H. A. Howes and H. Greaves, of Owens College, Manchester; H. B. Rowbotham and C. F. Woodbridge, of Queen's College, Birmingham; H. Cross, of Sheffield Medical School; S. G. Felce, of Cambridge and St. Mary's Hospital; A. L. Allworth, of Guy's Hospital; V. A. L. E. Corbould, of Charing Cross Hospital; R. S. McD. Pullen, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; and H. M. Abel, of St. Thomas's Hospital.

#### Passed in Anatomy and Physiology on January 8th.

W. C. Loos, student of University College; W. C. Ellis, of St. Thomas's Hospital; L. A. Winter, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; H. W. Gibson, of Middlesex Hospital; J. Mulvany, of London Hospital; and E. J. Lang, of Guy's Hospital.

#### Passed in Anatomy only.

E. B. Hartnell, of Bristol Medical School; C. E. M. Kelly, of Owens College, Manchester; T. H. Adams, of London Hospital; B. W. N. Gowing, R. E. Wickes, and C. G. L. Dähne, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; A. Reeves and H. S. Archdale, of Guy's Hospital; H. L. Carr-Smith, of Charing Cross Hospital; G. J. Rutherford, of Middlesex Hospital; E. W. Lewis, St. George's Hospital and Mr. Cooke's School of Anatomy and Physiology, and A. W. Read, of St. George's Hospital.

#### Passed in Physiology only.

C. B. Brooks, of Owens College, Manchester; R. Edwards, of Bristol Medical School; G. M. Mellor, of Leeds School of Medicine; D. F. Williams, of University College, Liverpool; A. F. Gervie and W. T. Pauling, of St. Thomas's Hospital; C. J. Richards, of University College; J. R. Preston, and P. Q. Ambrose, of London Hospital; F. J. O. Stephenson and G. J. B. Black, of St. Mary's Hospital; E. C. MacLeod, of Westminster Hospital; H. E. Worthington, of Guy's Hospital; G. D. Thomson, of St. George's Hospital; C. C. Eardley-Wilmott, of St. Bartholomew's and Mr. Cooke's School of Anatomy and Physiology.

**Passed in Anatomy only on July 9th.**

W. G. West, C. H. Willis, F. E. Swinton, F. Scorer, and S. Gresswell, Students of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; H. E. Simpson, of St. Bartholomew's and Mr. Cooke's School of Anatomy and Physiology; E. H. Willock, of St. Thomas's Hospital; E. H. Howell and F. W. Walters, of London Hospital; J. R. Spensley and F. G. Scott, of London Hospital and Mr. Cooke's School of Anatomy and Physiology; L. N. Gibbs, of St. George's Hospital; H. Francis, C. A. Lees, and S. W. Sweetnam, of St. Mary's Hospital; A. G. Buchanan, W. H. Dixon, H. L. E. Wilks, and T. S. Jackson, of Guy's Hospital; R. E. P. Squibbs, W. Robinson, H. W. Kendall, and S. C. Smith, of Middlesex Hospital; J. H. Dempster, A. H. Minton, and G. F. Read, of King's College; R. T. Bakewell, R. H. Griffiths, and W. T. Chambers, of University College.

**Passed in Physiology only.**

G. H. Bowlby, Medical College, Toronto; J. H. Sims, of St. Thomas's Hospital; F. L. Underwood, of University College; J. Yeomans, of Bristol and University College; J. N. Martin, A. D. Humphry, and E. W. Everett, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; E. M. Knott, H. R. Carter, H. R. Power, T. Heywood, and A. Thorne, of St. Mary's Hospital; A. A. Grosvenor, of Guy's Hospital and Mr. Cooke's School of Anatomy and Physiology; A. T. Jago and E. W. Wheatcroft, of Guy's Hospital; W. E. Pasmore, of Westminster Hospital; J. McNeal and F. Ellis, of London Hospital; F. B. Shaw, of Middlesex Hospital; C. Webb and A. F. Heaton, of St. George's Hospital.

**MEDICAL VACANCIES.**

The following Vacancies are announced:

- CHELSEA HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN**, Fulham Road.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £80, with board and residence. Applications by January 22nd to the Acting Secretary.
- CONSUMPTION HOSPITAL**, Brompton.—House-Physicians. Applications by January 19th to the Secretary.
- COUNTY ASYLUM**, Rainhill, near Liverpool.—Junior Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £105 per annum, with board and residence. Applications by January 24th to the Medical Superintendent.
- DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON**, Leicester Square.—Dental Surgeon. Applications by February 11th to J. F. Pink, Esq., Secretary.
- EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN**, Shadwell.—Resident Clinical Assistant. Board and residence. Applications by January 24th to the Secretary.
- EVELINA HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN**, Southwark Bridge Road, S.E.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £70 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications by January 28th to the Committee of Management.
- GENERAL HOSPITAL**, Birmingham.—Assistant House-Surgeon. Board, lodging, and washing. Applications by February 2nd to the House-Governor.
- GREAT NORTHERN CENTRAL HOSPITAL**, Holloway Road, N.—Physician to Out-Patients. Applications by January 28th to the Secretary.
- GUY'S HOSPITAL**, S.E.—Six Assistant Dental Surgeons, Lecturers on Dental Anatomy and Physiology, and Dental Mechanics, Anæsthetist, and Tutor for Dental Students. Applications by March 25th to the Clerk to the Governors.
- HANTS COUNTY ASYLUM**.—Junior Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodgings, etc. Applications by January 22nd to the Committee of Visitors, Knowle, Fareham.
- HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN**, Great Ormond Street, W.C.—Medical Registrar and Pathologist. Honorarium of 50 guineas for twelve months. Applications by January 22nd to the Secretary.
- JAFFRAY SUBURBAN BRANCH OF THE GENERAL HOSPITAL**, Birmingham.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications by February 2nd to the House-Governor.
- LIVERPOOL EYE AND EAR DISPENSARY**.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board and residence. Applications by January 21st to R. Haigh, Esq., Grosvenor Buildings, Liverpool.
- MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY**.—Honorary Assistant Physician to the Dispensary and Lunatic Hospital or Asylum. Applications by January 19th to the Chairman of the Board, Royal Infirmary, Manchester.
- METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD: DARENTH SCHOOLS FOR IMBECILE CHILDREN**.—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum, with board and lodgings, etc. Applications by January 14th, to W. F. Jebb, Esq., Norfolk House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.
- OUGHTERARD UNION**.—Medical Officer for Cloonbur No. 2 Dispensary. Salary, £102 per annum and fees. Application to Mr. James Higgins, Honorary Secretary. Election on January 22nd.
- PARISH OF BALLACHULISH**, Argyshire.—Medical Officer. Appointments about £250. Applications to Dr. Campbell, Ballachulish, N.B.
- RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY**, Oxford.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications by January 12th to the Secretary.
- ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST**, City Road.—House-Physician. Salary, £50 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications by January 18th to the Secretary.
- VICTORIA HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN**, Queen's Road, Chelsea, S.W.—Physician to In-patients. Applications by January 26th to the Secretary.

**MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.**

- BONTOR**, S. A., M.B. B.S. Durh., L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed House-Physician to the West London Hospital, Hammersmith Road, vice P. J. F. Lush, M.B. B.S. Oxon., M.R.C.S. Eng., resigned.
- CALDECOTT**, Charles, M.B., B.S. Lond., appointed Junior Assistant Medical Officer to the Holloway Sanatorium for the Insane.

**CARPENTER**, George, M.B. Lond., late Resident Medical Officer, appointed Physician to Out-Patients at the Evelina Hospital for Sick Children, Southwark, vice N. I. Tirard, M.D. Lond., appointed Physician to In-patients.

**CURRIE**, Robert, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Ed., appointed Medical Officer of the Ballymena Dispensary District, Co. Antrim, vice Arthur Ross, M.D., L.R.C.S. Ed., resigned.

**DA COSTA**, F. X., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.M. & S., Bombay, appointed House-Surgeon to Charing Cross Hospital.

**FREER**, G. D., M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., appointed Assistant House-Surgeon to the General Hospital, Birmingham, vice A. C. Mackenzie, L.R.C.P. & S. Edin., resigned.

**HALLEY**, William, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Resident Obstetrical Officer to Charing Cross Hospital.

**HEATH**, George Yeoman, M.D., M.B., D.C.L., F.R.C.S., appointed Professor of Surgery in the University of Durham.

**HUNT**, A. H. W., L.R.C.P., appointed Junior House-Surgeon to the Westminster Hospital.

**IRVIN**, F. D., M.B. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., L.S.A., appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator to the 9 and 10 District, Chorlton Union, vice F. Rhodes, M.D., deceased.

**KEMPE**, Arthur, M.D. Brux., M.R.C.P. Ed., reappointed Medical Officer of Health to the Budleigh Salterton Local Board District.

**OLIVER**, Thomas, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P., appointed Professor of Physiology in the University of Durham.

**PEARSON**, J., M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., appointed Assistant-Surgeon to the Liverpool Dispensaries, vice Dr. C. H. Wild, resigned.

**POWELL**, W., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., appointed Senior House-Surgeon to the Westminster Hospital.

**RANDALL**, E. B., M.B. Lond., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed House-Surgeon to the West London Hospital, Hammersmith Road, vice S. A. Bontor, M.B., B.S. Durh., resigned.

**ST. JOHNSTON**, Charles, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., appointed Resident Assistant Medical Officer to the Birmingham Workhouse Infirmary.

**WALKER**, Alex. H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed House-Physician to Charing Cross Hospital.

"SOOTHING POWDERS."—An infant, aged 16 months, is found to be ailing, and his mother of course (the expression is her own) gave him a "soothing powder," and of course (this time the expression is ours, not hers) this induced drowsiness, which persisted until the child's death. A *post-mortem* examination revealed nothing, and the inquest terminated in the usual verdict of death from misadventure, the jury being particularly unanimous that no one was to blame. It would be interesting to know how many times in the last ten years inquests have been held under similar circumstances; the information could be supplied from the Registrar-General's office if some member of Parliament would take the matter in hand. Juries always find that no blame attaches to anyone, which is of course sheer nonsense. Most soothing powders contain morphine, and are therefore dangerous for infants; every person who gives one to an infant runs a risk, therefore, of poisoning that infant, and the more widely this undoubted fact can be made known the better. If one adult gives a poison to another adult, the plea that he did not know it was a poison would not necessarily save him from a charge of manslaughter, and there is no reason why the fact of the victim being a child should alter the case. Much might be said as to the responsibility of those who sell dangerous compounds without any or without sufficient warning to purchasers, and more still in respect of those who prepare them, but it will suffice for the present to call renewed public attention to the subject.

**SURVIVORS OF A PAST AGE.**—An interesting letter from Sir Duncan Campbell to the *Daily Telegraph* draws attention to our aged men, and the history of the times to which their active life belongs. Many cases of longevity are quoted by him, and an interesting record showing that further development of hygienic science and careful living may be expected to do much to prolong the average of human life, and save valuable experience and wisdom for the benefit of humanity. The correspondent whose letter we quote from is personally acquainted with an old man named Hudson, aged 96, who has lived all his life at Merton, in Surrey, as a gardener, and is one of the latest survivors of those who knew Lord Nelson, and attended his final departure in 1805, just a month before his death at Trafalgar. Commander E. B. Emery, who three times circumnavigated the globe, is now in his 95th year. Commander James Liddell, J.P., is now nearly 91. Among members of our own profession, the eminent naturalist and arctic explorer Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets Robert McCormick, R.N., F.R.C.S., was born in 1800. Other well-known examples of longevity might be mentioned, but it will suffice to mention as additional examples of survival beyond the average period of mental activity the names of Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Edwin Chadwick, C.B., one of the pioneers of sanitary reform in this country.

**CARDIFF AMBULANCE CLASSES.**—The candidates for certificates at a recent examination held in connection with the St. John Ambulance Association at Cardiff included thirty men employed in various positions at the Bute Docks, sixteen being policemen. The class had been prepared by Dr. Wallace. Dr. Thomas (Bridgend), the examiner, complimented the men upon the proficiency shown.

**SMALL-POX IN DUNDEE.**—Still another case of small-pox occurred in Dundee at the beginning of this week, a girl, aged 11 years, the daughter of one of the previous patients, being attacked. The sanitary officers are taking all possible steps for limiting the further extension of the disease.

**THE Hospital Sunday Fund** we learn can no longer be accommodated at the Mansion House. This is due to want of room, and not to any lack of sympathy on the part of the Lord Mayor with the objects of the Fund.

**EVELINA HOSPITAL.**—In consequence of Dr. Goodhart's resignation of his appointment at the Evelina Hospital for Sick Children, Dr. Tirard succeeds him in care of in-patients, and Mr. A. Carpenter, M.B.Lond., has been elected physician to out-patients.

**A FEARFUL epidemic of diphtheria** is reported from the town of Nago, in Hungary. Children have been dying during the last week at the rate of twenty a-day. All the schools have been closed, and there is a panic among the inhabitants.

**PRESENTATION.**—Mr. M. Cursham Corner, of Mile End, has been presented with a valuable bag of obstetric instruments by members of the Committee of the Lying-in Home, Shadwell, in recognition of services rendered to the patients of that home.

**MEDICAL MAGISTRATE.**—Dr. Slade Innes Baker, M.R.C.S.Eng., has been placed on the Commission of the Peace for the Borough of Abingdon.

## DIARY FOR NEXT WEEK.

### MONDAY.

**MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.**—Mr. Herbert Allingham: Some Important Facts in Inguinal Colotomy. Dr. Isambard Owen will exhibit the maps forming the Report of the Collective Investigation Committee of the British Medical Association on the Geographical Distribution of Rickets, Acute Rheumatism, Chorea, Cancer, and Urinary Calculus.

**ODONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN, 8 P.M.**—Annual general meeting. Agenda: Election of officers and Council for ensuing year. Reception of reports from Treasurer, Librarian, and Curator. Casual communications will be made by Mr. Wm. Hern, Mr. C. A. Hayman, Mr. E. Lloyd Williams, and Mr. Boyd Wallis.

### TUESDAY.

**PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.**—Agenda: Annual meeting for election of officers and Council for 1889. Adjourned debate on the Morbid Anatomy and Pathology of Chronic Alcoholism. Specimens: Mr. W. R. Williams: Neoplastic Processes in Trees. Dr. Angel Money: Chronic Syphilitic Meningitis, Arteritis, and Cerebral Atrophy in a Boy, aged 4. Mr. Adams: So-called Congenital Dislocation of the Hip. Card Specimens: Mr. Lennox Browne: Congenital Growth of Larynx. Mr. Dunn: Synostosis of Cervical Vertebrae. Mr. Sydney Jones: (1) Chylous Fluid from Hydrocele; (2) Nasal Calculus.

### WEDNESDAY.

**ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY (30, Great George Street, Westminster, 7.15 P.M.)**—Annual general meeting. Dr. W. Marcet, F.R.S.: On Fogs, which will be illustrated by a number of lantern slides. Ordinary meeting, 7 P.M.

### THURSDAY.

**HARVELAN SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8 P.M.**—Annual *soirée*. President's address.

### FRIDAY.

**SOCIETY OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH, 7.30 P.M.**—Dr. Henry Tomkins: Notification of Infectious Disease.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

*The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 8s. 6d., which should be forwarded in stamps with the announcement.*

### BIRTH.

**VACY-ASH.**—On the 4th January, at 38, Stanford Avenue, Brighton, the wife of Surgeon-Major R. Vacy-Ash, M.S., of a son.

### DEATHS.

**ASHER.**—On January 7th, at 18, Endsleigh Street, Tavistock Square, W.C., Asher Asher, M.D.Glasg., L.R.C.S.Edin., in his 52nd year.

**BARRETT.**—On Christmas morning, at Slough, Bucks, Sarah, twenty-one years widow of the late C. T. Barrett, of Eton, Bucks, Solicitor, in her 86th year.

**TROUSDALE.**—On January 8th, 1889, at 2, Dunorlan Terrace, Harrogate, aged 75, Wm. Maw Trousdale, F.R.C.S.Eng., formerly of West Butterwick, Lincolnshire.

## LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE CURRENT WEEK'S JOURNAL SHOULD REACH THE OFFICE NOT LATER THAN THE FIRST POST ON WEDNESDAY.

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, 429, 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, 429, 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.

### QUERIES.

#### TREATMENT OF PARÆSTHESIA.

**INQUIRER** asks for suggestions for treating the following case: A lady, aged 51, suffers from intense burning pain in fingers and toes, with slight swelling, occasional tingling and numbness. Heart is quite healthy, but rather weak; all other organs appear to act normally. He has tried all remedies he could think of, without any alleviation of symptoms, the pain especially being distressing, and preventing patient from sleeping. Appetite is very good.

**THE TREATMENT OF SUPPURATIVE INFLAMMATION OF A FRONTAL SINUS.** **COUNTRY SURGEON** asks whether prospects of a cure without operative interference could be held out to a patient suffering from suppurative inflammation of a frontal sinus of two years' standing, following an attack of nasal catarrh, and causing a swelling above the orbit, with a purulent discharge from the nostril. The disease is now stationary, and the patient, who is between 35 and 40 years old, is in other respects in good health, and has no syphilitic history. Could any treatment short of operation, beyond attention to his general health, be recommended?

### ANSWERS.

#### DOCE DE TIJOLO.

**MR. W. LOUDON STRAIN, M.B., C.M.** (Surgeon to St. John del Rey Mining Company, Morro Velho, Brazil), writes: In a recent number of the JOURNAL, Dr. Miller, of Larga, asks for information as to the *doce de "tajola"*. In reply, I beg to state that the proper name is *doce de tijolo*, *tijolo* being the Portuguese for a brick, and the *doce* is so-called from being made in blocks of somewhat the shape and size of a brick.

As regards the *doce* itself, it is a confection made from the fruit of the *goiaba*. The *goiaba* (*Psidium guajava*) is a small tree belonging to the *Myrtaceæ*, which is found growing wild on the Brazilian campos. The fruit (*goiaba*) is a large berry, yellowish in colour, smooth-skinned, and containing numerous seeds. It is called *Goiaba branca*, or *vermelha*, according as the pulp is white or red. When fully ripe it is sweet and mucilaginous and is a favourite fruit with the natives, but is more appreciated by Europeans after being made into *doce*. When barely ripe it is somewhat acid and astringent. It is much used by the Brazilians as a household remedy in chronic diarrhoea. Apart from its medicinal use, the *doce* is much appreciated by native and foreigner alike, and is commonly placed on the table after dinner, to be eaten with cheese.

The *guava jelly* is made from the same fruit, but I am not aware that it carries the astringent properties of the fruit as the more crudely prepared *doce de tijolo* does. Certain districts are renowned for the excellence of their *doce*, but whether the difference is in the fruit itself or in the mode of manufacture of the *doce* I am unable to say. When the bricks are made, they are usually preserved wrapped up in the blades of Indian corn.

#### ANTISEPTIC QUALITIES OF SEA-WATER.

**EBLANA** writes: The solvent power of sea-water on sewage organic matter is much less than that of fresh water. Sea-water, added to fresh water holding organic matter in solution, produces precipitation of the organic impurities. Sea-water acts strongly on metals and on cements. Sea-water contains sulphates in considerable amount, which are reduced by fermentation of sewage, and sulphuretted hydrogen will be generated from the resulting sulphides by an acid.

Fresh water is, therefore, more desirable for flushing sewers than sea-water. Sea-water delays, but does not altogether stop, decomposition.

**MR. A. G. P. GIPPS**, Surgeon R.N. (H.M.S. *Dreadnought*, Malta), writes: In answer to the question of "B.Sc. London," in your issue of December 22nd, I do not think that sea-water could in any way be said to be antiseptic, as I have recently made several plate-cultivations from sea-water collected in sterile vessels, and obtained many colonies of various micro-organisms, both bacilli and micrococci, both displaying great activity, both liquefying and non-liquefying, and varying much in the character of their growth when transplanted into tubes of gelatine.

#### SEASON AT NEUENAH.

**DR. A. MAYER** (22, Rue des Arquebusers, Antwerp) writes: In No 1,459 of the JOURNAL, "Scot" asks for information as to the season at Neuenahr, and whether Dr. Schmidt still practises there.



cases of hæmorrhoids, applied in the form of a suppository as a saturated pellet of cotton-wool or soft sponge. Used in this way I presume there should follow a discharge of mucus or serum from the rectum, thereby reducing the hæmorrhoidal congestion. This, of course, would only temporarily relieve the over-distended vessels, hence, in order to restore them permanently to their normal calibre, some astringent suppository, ointment, or injection, as tannic acid, ung. galle, or gallæ c. opio, might be applied, say, next day. Hence, in cases of hæmorrhoids, I would suggest a course of suppositories of pellets of cotton-wool saturated with glycerine, alternating with the application of ung. gallæ. I do so, having no cases on hand, and in hopes that some of those who have may give it a trial, and report the result.

#### DISLOCATION OF THE EYEBALL IN A DOG.

MR. J. RICHARDSON CROSS (Bristol) writes: In association with Van Dooremaal's case of dislocation of the eyeball, published in the JOURNAL of January 5th, I will venture to relate the following:

A friend was in his garden with three King Charles spaniels—dogs which have peculiarly prominent eyes. One of them suddenly stopped, with his head fixed in evident pain. He was at once sent to me. I found one globe congested, very tender, and completely dislocated forwards; the edges of the lids were folded back out of sight behind the globe. Reduction was effected with a little difficulty, and gave the patient immediate relief.

#### THE DEGENERATION OF TOWN POPULATIONS.

DR. W. B. WALL (Pembroke) writes: You finish your remarks on the above subject in the JOURNAL of January 5th with an expression of the opinion that "every effort is needed to retain the agricultural population on the soil." Possibly this wording is still correct, but unless the efforts come quickly it will, in many parts, be restoring an agricultural population to the soil. Again, I submit the degeneration is not confined to the towns, and that it has been largely brought about by causes which have helped to depress agriculture. The silly rage for something which looks well and is cheap, or has an outlandish name, to the sacrifice of sound, nutritious, and health-giving food, is at the bottom of the mischief.

The physiologist should know what most shrewd agriculturists find out practically, that food which conduces to health cannot be defined by bare chemical formulæ of so much carbon, etc. Other functions besides the supplying of the constituent elements are performed by proper food, such as due stimulation of glands and organs of a complicated and far-reaching character. Medical men ought to appreciate the importance of the agricultural section of the community, and, therefore, let them, before it is too late, use every effort in its aid, bearing in mind that measures which depreciate the capital value of the land and its products are not likely to increase the value or amount of labour employed on it.

#### PRACTICE IN AUSTRALIA.

FEMUR.—The London agents of the *Australasian Medical Gazette* are Messrs. Baillière, Tindall, and Cox, 20, King William Street, Strand, and Messrs. Gordon and Gotch, St. Bride Street, Ludgate Circus, E.C. As to the chances of obtaining practice or appointments, it must be remembered that there is as yet no adequate legal restriction upon the practice of unqualified persons, and that the number of qualified practitioners in proportion to the population is already large. In England this proportion is estimated at 1 to 1,562 inhabitants, in New South Wales 1 to 1,250, if the men practising without qualifications are included. The Hon. Dr. J. M. Creed, who is the editor of the *Australasian Medical Gazette*, in his valedictory address last year as retiring President of the New South Wales Branch of the British Medical Association, said that the number of medical men constantly arriving in the colony was so large that "remunerative practice can be the reward of but very few of them;" and this in spite of the absence of our elaborate system of poor-law medical relief.

#### MALIGNANT SCARLET FEVER.

DR. JAMES W. ALLAN (Glasgow), writes: In the JOURNAL, December 15th, p. 1352, I am reported as saying that I "had never seen a case of malignant scarlet fever, probably because they died before they could be brought to hospital." Such a statement, purporting to come from one who has occupied the position of physician and superintendent to a large fever hospital for thirteen years, is so extraordinary as to call for correction.

Among the thousands of patients suffering from scarlet fever who have come under my observation at Belvidere, I have seen, alas, only too many "malignant" cases, that is, cases of dusky, measly rashes, bad throats, swollen necks, discharging noses, high temperatures, loose greenish motions, and frequently delirium. With this type of malignant scarlet fever I am only too familiar.

But Dr. Anderson had been speaking of a case in which, so far as I remember, neither rash, throat symptoms, nor pyrexia were present—only vomiting, dilated pupils, coldness of the surface; in a word, collapse. When called upon to speak I said (or intended to say) that malignant cases of this type were not often seen in hospital, for obvious reasons. Probably the mistake has been due to want of clearness of expression on my part.

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

Dr. Theodore Williams, London; Dr. H. Corby, Cork; Dr. C. M. Campbell, London; Mr. E. Thompson, Omagh; Mr. A. W. T. Steer, Moneague, Jamaica; Mr. R. R. Greene, Liverpool; Mr. A. H. Benson, Dublin; Dr. W. B. Wall, Pembroke; J. H. Keay, M.B., Celce; Mr. T. R. Crow, Bristol; A. L. Kerr, M.B., London; Mr. N. S. Durrant, Grenada, West Indies; Dr. R. R. Rentoul, Liverpool; Mr. H. W. Allingham, London; Mr. William Marriott, London; Professor Annandale, Edinburgh; Mr. H. Sewill, London; Mr. P. S. Warren, Headcorn; W. H. Allen, M.B., Stanmore; Mr. W. J. Smyth, Shipley; Dr. D. Benavente, Santiago; Messrs. Cassell and Co., London; Dr. Symes Thompson, London; Mr. T. J. Bokenham, London; Dr. T. D. Acland, London; Dr. A. Bronner, Bradford; Mr. H. J. Philpot, London; Mr. M. C. Corner, London; Mr. C. A. Hayman, Bristol; Mr. J. Collie, Deansgate; Mr. R. W. Brogden, Ipswich; Mr. F. Fulss, Clayton; Mr. H. Fox, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. Adams Frost, London; Mr. L. Collins, Lon-

don; Dr. J. C. Leach, Sturminster Newton; J. Banks, M.B., Dunoon; Messrs. Sell, London; Mr. J. A. Campbell, Glasgow; J. Harrison, M.B., North Shields; The Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, London; Mr. J. Poland, London; Dr. Fraser, Salford; Dr. Macpherson, London; Mr. F. N. Pedley, London; Dr. A. L. Achard, London; Mr. G. S. Johnson, London; Mr. G. Jameson, Calcutta; Mr. C. E. Bell, Exeter; Our Liverpool Correspondent; Mrs. Owen Daly, Milverton; Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome and Co., London; Dr. W. Strange, Worcester; Mr. W. Towers Smith, London; Dr. T. Laffan, Cashel; Hard Hit; Mr. R. Currie, Ballymena; Mr. C. S. Dickson, London; Dr. J. W. Downie, Glasgow; Mr. J. Odling, London; Dr. P. Rendall, British Gambia; Mr. G. Neves, Chatham; Mr. R. Aldfield, Burnley; Messrs. Wyckoff, Seamans, and Benedict, London; Mr. O. E. B. Marsh, Newport; J. Marsden, M.B., Oldham; Mr. A. R. Willson, Oxford; Professor Gairdner, Glasgow; R. D. Shiels, M.B., Dunbar; Dr. D. P. Gausson, Dunmurry; Dr. G. Dods, Edinburgh; Mr. C. St. Johnston, Birmingham; Miss H. Poole, Southport; Dr. Lawrence, Montrose; Mrs. O. Chant, London; Dr. J. Oliver, London; Mr. E. A. B. Ward, Sutton Coldfield; Dr. Willoughby, London; Mr. J. Osborne, Bournemouth; Dr. D. Biddle, Kingston-on-Thames; Dr. Tatham, Salford; Smith's Mutual Advertising Agency, London; Dr. C. R. Drysdale, London; Mr. A. E. Lyster, Colleshill; Mrs. Marshall, London; P. E. Campbell, M.B., Caterham; Mr. H. T. Batchelor, Queenstown, Cape Colony; Mr. J. J. Ryre, Beckenham; Mr. S. G. Asher, London; Mr. W. Powell, London; H. N. Joynt, M.B., Carrickmores; Mr. T. G. Lithgow, Farnborough; Dr. Kinkead, Galway; The Secretary of the Hospital Saturday Fund, London; Sir John Tomes, Caterham Valley; Mr. F. W. Pilkington, Oxford; Mr. W. Halley, London; G. H. Vos, M.B., London; Mr. H. A. Dodd, Brighton; Dr. A. Pearse, Botesdale; Mr. J. Martin, Huddersfield; Apex; J. Ritchie, M.B., Edinburgh; Mr. J. B. Martin, Ventnor; Mr. T. Walley, Edinburgh; Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges and Co., London; Mr. H. L. Hoops, Eccles; Dr. H. Waldo, Clifton; Dr. Clarke, Leicester; Mr. T. D. Greenlees, Stone; Dr. Burney Yeo, London; Dr. T. G. Garry, Liverpool; Dr. Maguire, London; *The Charity Record*, London; Our Swiss Correspondent; Mr. M. H. Feeny, Arcachon; Mr. Snaith, Buxton; Dr. T. Harris, Manchester; Mr. H. Longford, Thirsk; Dr. G. F. Trevelyan, Leeds; Mr. W. M. Hurtley, Leeds; Dr. A. de Watteville, London; Mr. W. Arnold, Belfast; Mr. A. M. Paterson, Dundee; Sir Wm. MacCormac, London; Dr. F. H. Parsons, West Worthing; Dr. A. Shadwell, Leamington; Dr. N. Tiard, London; Mr. E. Fletcher, Leeds; Mr. H. L. Holland, Barnsley; Mr. S. Murphy, London; Mr. J. Knight, London; Mr. A. Milman, London; J. Hinshelwood, M.B., Middlesbrough; Mr. Rogers Field, London; Mr. M. Blok, London; Dr. L. Parkes, London; Dr. Curguenen, London; J. Gibson, M.B., West Vale; etc.

#### BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Encyclopædic Dictionary, embracing all the words in the English language. London: Cassell and Co., Limited.  
The Educational Annual, 1889. Compiled by Edward Johnson. London: George Philp and Son.  
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