

has several times discontinued the gland for a time, but, finding himself getting worse, has resumed it, always with immediate benefit. For the last two months he has taken one lobe a week.

Apart from the association of improvement in this case with the administration of thymus, there are other reasons why the same treatment is justifiable in a similar case. Dr. Charles Macalister, in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of April 8th, 1893, has shown that thymus, like thyroid, can have a therapeutic action after having been swallowed. It is quite possible that there may be some opposition in action between the two glands.

In thyroidism and in Graves's disease, in which most likely there is hypersecretion on the part of the thyroid gland, there is usually loss of flesh, whilst what is known of thymus points rather to its function being to prevent emaciation, as is evidenced by its enlargement in hibernating animals, in whom the thymus persists throughout life. Landé's experiments show, too, that there may be opposition in two vascular glands. He observed that although the simultaneous extirpation of thyroid gland and spleen did not produce myxædema, this disease was set up when only the thyroid was removed.¹ The probability that thymus may be found useful in exophthalmic goitre is further supported by the fact that during infancy, when the thymus is active, this disease is almost unknown, the liability to it being greatly increased after the atrophy of the thymus.

According to Fagge, out of the six or seven necropsies on cases of exophthalmic goitre made at Guy's Hospital since 1868, in two the thymus was found to be enlarged. In these two the hypertrophy might be the result of a physiological attempt to provide an antidote in a disease which does frequently undergo spontaneous cure, possibly as a result of the action of the thymus.

In the JOURNAL of July 21st, 1894, Dr. McNamara refers to the fact established by the experiments of M. Kaufmann, that the internal secretion of the pancreas has an inhibitory influence on the formation of sugar in the liver. The secretion of the thymus may be found to exert an analogous influence on the secretion of the thyroid.

MEMORANDA:

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL, THERAPEUTICAL, PATHOLOGICAL, ETC.

A COMPLICATED MIDWIFERY PRESENTATION.
I WAS called to a case of midwifery recently, and found on vaginal examination a hand, a foot, the funis, and the vertex presenting. The hand (which I made out to be the right, and which seemed larger than normal) was situated to the right of the symphysis pubis. Behind and at the upper part of the right side of the hollow of the sacrum was the foot, though on a higher level than the hand. Entwined around these was the funis, which had no pulsations; and a little further up than the foot, in the left occipito-anterior position, was the vertex, partially engaged in the brim of the pelvis. The possibility of twin pregnancy suggested itself, but of this, however, I could not find any confirmation. This was the woman's fourth confinement, all her previous ones having taken place without any hitch. Her age was 26. I could not get any exact history of how long the membranes had been ruptured; the pelvis was roomy. The pains were so strong and frequent that I could not get an opportunity of passing my hand past the presenting vertex. Failing this, and as labour was not progressing, I tried by pushing up the leg and the arm with the funis to engage the head in the brim, but without success. Traction on the foot and version were tried with similar want of success owing to the whole presentation being tightly jammed into the opening of the pelvis. These attempts occupied an hour. I then went for my principal, Dr. Anderton, and in a very short time returned with him, when we found that labour had made rapid progress, notwithstanding that the presentation was still as described above. The hand was outside the vulva, and the

head was well engaged in the pelvis. The forceps were applied, and delivery was completed in a couple of minutes. The child, which was dead, lay in the following position. The right arm was extended at full length above the head, and the right leg was flexed up along the body, reaching over the right shoulder; entangled around these was the funis. The child was full time and fully developed, and the mother stated she felt it move a couple of hours previous to sending for me. The largeness of the hand was due to oedema, the result, no doubt, of pressure, which also, acting on the cord, produced asphyxia.

R. HILL SHAW, M.B., B.Ch. Univ. Dubl.
New Mills, Derbyshire.

THE STEAM TENT.

FROM the reports of cases of diphtheria under the antitoxin treatment, I observe that some practitioners still use steam in a tent in the treatment of the laryngeal form.

I used to follow the same practice, until an intelligent mother assured me that her child, suffering from laryngeal diphtheria, was invariably worse when in the steam tent.

I could not disregard her conclusion, and examined the effect of steam in the air both theoretically and practically. I read an account of my conclusions at a meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch some fifteen years ago. A report appeared in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL at the time, but I may here mention what I found to be the bad effects of steam in the air.

1. *On the Lungs.*—We lose more heat by breathing in dry air than in moist air; therefore, steam in the air will increase the temperature of the body.

2. *On the Skin.*—A moist air prevents the insensible perspiration, and we find it standing in drops on the skin, which tends to prevent loss of heat by the skin.

3. *On the Temperature of the Room.*—Where the steam is got from a kettle on the fire, the kettle prevents the heat radiating, and so if set on the fire when the air in the room is heated, the steam will soon saturate it, the excess being deposited in the room; as the heat is prevented radiating, or if the fire gets low, the temperature of the room will fall, and the moisture which the air held falls and covers the whole room, which tends to reduce the temperature still further. Thus an equable temperature cannot be maintained in the room, and as the steam in the air prevents loss of heat, both by the skin and lungs, it must be specially injurious in all bronchial affections.

In laryngeal diphtheria, where we wish to get more oxygen into the little patient's lungs, what reason can be assigned for putting in steam instead?

Hawick, N.B.

JOHN HADDON, M.D.

SPONTANEOUS FRACTURE OF RIBS.

I NOTICE in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of January 12th a case recorded of spontaneous fracture of the eighth and ninth ribs on the left side in an anaemic woman just previous to the onset of labour, which reminds me of two instances of similar accidents that came under my observation many years ago.

The first happened in the City of Dublin Hospital about the year 1849 to a young woman during a severe paroxysm of coughing. There were one or more ribs broken, but I cannot now remember their exact position. The case was under the care of the late Professor Charles Benson, to whom I was clinical clerk.

The second was in my own practice in the West Indies, and happened to a black woman of Herculean frame, who in a long pain during parturition fractured the eighth and ninth ribs on the left side. I was present when the accident occurred, and the loud report I heard when the bones gave way prove, I think, that although the ribs were large, solid, and fixed, they were not strong enough to resist the powerful action that was being exerted by this unusually muscular woman.

JOHN FREELAND,
Government Medical Officer, Antigua, West Indies.
Woburn Place, W.C.

M'GILL UNIVERSITY.—The number of students in the Medical Faculty of the M'Gill University, Montreal, this session is 400, being an increase of 50 as compared with the session of 1893-94.

any form, or the use of any drug in which alcohol is a constituent—I am, etc., LEONARD WILDE, M.D., M.R.C.P., Hampstead Road, Feb. 12th. Registrar and Pathologist.

THE NEW HOSPITALS OF THE METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD.

SIR.—£700,000 or £800,000 is no small sum for one Board to expend on new establishments, but this is something like the figure that the Asylums Board is contemplating disbursing on new fever hospitals. It might be as well before entering upon such a large outlay to look around and see what existing buildings might be utilised for the Asylums Board purposes. All who read the articles on the up-bringing of pauper children which were published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL in the spring of last year, and which had so great an influence in bringing about the appointment of the Departmental Committee now sitting to inquire into the Poor-law schools, must be aware that all expert opinion concurs in denouncing the practice of housing large numbers of children in one building.

It is understood that the Local Government Board has stopped or deferred all action which immediately affects these schools until such time as the Committee issues its report, but it might be as well for the department to go a step further, and to defer the erection of some of the buildings contemplated by the Asylums Board until it can be seen whether there are any of the pauper school palaces that are available, and could be adapted as fever hospitals. Most of these establishments are well equipped as far as steam laundries, kitchen appliances, and dormitory furniture are concerned; and as they are, almost without exception, placed in good air, on suitable soil, and within reasonable distance from London, they have the three essentials for a refuge for the infected.

There are cases when the governing bodies of kindred institutions are not identical, as, for instance, that of certified schools, which can be under either the Home Office, the School Board, or the Local Government Board. In such cases the transference of property might be difficult, but in this instance the Local Government Board is master of the establishments under the Asylums Board as well as the institutions of the Poor Law, and it would seem to be merely a question of organisation to hand over the large buildings which are necessary to carry on the work of one of its committees, and to relieve the other from erections which are declared to be *de trop*, and which must be paralysing to a progressive and an educationally enlightened board of guardians.—I am, etc., OPPORTUNIST.

January 31st.

MEDICO-LEGAL AND MEDICO-ETHICAL.

SIGN BOARDS.

IN reply to a correspondent in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of November 10th, 1894, page 1084, we stated in a paragraph under this heading that the description forwarded to us "of the proceedings of Mr. Alex. Macdonald had, in our opinion, better be referred to the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, Edinburgh, of which the practitioner is stated to be a Licentiate." Mr. Macdonald is aggrieved at this suggestion. He asserts—and we are quite willing to accept the assertion—that he has, in the method in which he announces his name to the public, only followed a very general custom of the Scotch city in which he resides. We recognise that custom in such matters varies in different countries and even in different towns, and that the individual practitioner who follows general custom does not deserve individual censure. It was for this reason that we suggested that the descriptive sketch which we received should be submitted to the authorities of the Scottish Medical Colleges. These Colleges are the proper bodies to decide upon a question of this nature, and we think they would be well advised to investigate such matters, and, after ascertaining the custom in other countries, to take such action as may seem best to draw the attention of their licentiates as a body to the asserted peculiarities in some respects of Scottish methods. We regret that Mr. Macdonald's name should have been referred to as meriting individual censure.

ASSISTANTS NOTICE.

UNWRITTEN writes: Would you kindly inform me, through your issue of this week's BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, if there is an unwritten law, or is it a breach of professional etiquette, for an assistant who has given six months' notice to inform his friends of the same two months before he leaves?

. There is no written or unwritten rule within our knowledge which relates to the question submitted by our correspondent; nor does the

subject thereof constitute a breach of medical etiquette. Such a prohibition, moreover, is, in our opinion, neither medico-ethically-essential nor expedient.

CHEMISTS AND SURGICAL WORK.

M.B., F.R.C.S.ED. inquires whether any steps can be taken to prevent chemists from doing surgical work, and alludes to a case where a chemist put stitches into a scalp wound.

. We fear there is practically no legal means of preventing surgical practice on the part of a chemist, provided he makes no pretence to be a surgeon. Of course, if injury is caused to the patient by improper treatment, legal proceedings might be taken by such patient in the form of an action for damages. In the event of death resulting from the negligent treatment of a patient, proceedings of a more serious character would probably lie, as it has been held that every person who deals with the life or health of anyone is bound to use competent skill.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

ANTHROPOLOGY.—Professor Macalister announces a new course of lectures with practical work in anthropology, to be given by Mr. A. C. Haddon on Thursday during the Lent and Easter terms.

DR. DOHRN'S STATION.—Mr. M. Laurie has been appointed to occupy the University's table in the Naples Zoological Station for three months from March 1st.

HONORARY DEGREE.—The degree of Sc.D. *honoris causa* is to be conferred on Sir William McGregor, M.D.Aberd., K.C.M.G., Administrator British New Guinea, in recognition of his able services to ethnography.

ELECTORS.—Dr. Albutt has been appointed an Elector to the Chair of Anatomy, Dr. A. Macalister to the Chairs of Medicine (Downing) and Surgery, Dr. Gaskell to the Chair of Pathology, Dr. D. Macalister to the Chair of Zoology.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

PRELIMINARY SCIENTIFIC (M.B.) EXAMINATION, Pass List.—*Entire Examination.* First Division: L. F. Keays, St. Paul's School and private tuition; C. E. M. Kelly, Owens College; P. T. Manson, University Tutorial College; F. A. C. Oswald, B.A., private study; T. Petch, B.A., private tuition; T. Shipland, B.A., University Tutorial College and private study; Ethel Miller Vernon, University Tutorial College. Second Division: A. C. Coffin, B.A., private study; D. L. Davies, private study and University Tutorial and University Colleges; H. A. Easton, private study and University Tutorial College; H. A. Ehrlich, Owens College and private study; T. Hoban, private study and St. Thomas's Hospital; G. C. Jarvis, B.A., private study; W. H. P. Jones, B.A., private study and University College, Liverpool; S. Kevern, B.A., Plymouth Technical School; E. Raven, St. Thomas's Hospital; D. P. Rockwood, University College and Gower Street Laboratory; J. S. Smith, University College; B. H. Spilsbury, Owens and University Tutorial Colleges; W. A. Trumper, St. Mary's Hospital; Louisa Woodcock, University Tutorial College.

Chemistry and Experimental Physics.—J. W. Aldred, Owens College; J. J. Armitage, School of Science, Cheltenham; *N. C. Beaumont, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; *V. C. Bensley, St. Mary's Hospital; *Chrn. Constance Bernard, private tuition; W. B. Billinghurst, Merchant Taylors' School; T. T. Blythe, University Tutorial College; F. A. Boissière, King's College; *C. R. Brown, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; *W. L. Burn, private study; *H. S. Capper, private study and University Tutorial College; *W. C. Dawson, King Edward High School, Birmingham, and Mason College; *H. G. Drake-Brockman, University Tutorial College; A. G. Ede, Durham College of Science and St. Bartholomew's Hospital; *C. E. Etheridge, University Institute; *W. H. Flint, Mason College; *H. B. Foster, private study; *H. Goodman, St. Bartholomew's Hospital and private tuition; *E. L. Gowlland, University Tutorial College; *S. E. Green, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; *J. W. Harrison, St. Paul's School and University Tutorial College; *E. B. Hickinbotham, King Edward High School Birmingham, and private study; *O. Hildesheim, St. Paul's School; *C. G. S. Hilton, private tuition; S. Hunt, Merchant Taylors' School; *J. E. Judson, Owens College and private study; T. Leah, St. Mary's Hospital; C. de Z. Marshall, Eastbourne College; D. L. Morgan, Guy's Hospital; *F. M. Morris, London Hospital; *B. W. Moss, Guy's Hospital; T. C. Orford, Owens College; *W. P. Pancrige, University and University Tutorial Colleges; W. Payne, Carlyon College; *W. E. Peck, University Tutorial College and private study; *Isabel Robson, University College, Aberystwith, and private study; N. F. Stallard, University Tutorial College; *A. C. Stark, private study; *A. N. Stevens, University Tutorial College; W. B. B. Taylor, Merchant Taylors' School and London Hospital; *A. J. W. Wells, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; G. H. L. Whale, private tuition; *S. R. Williams, Merchant Venturers' Technical College, Bristol; *C. W. Wyrman, University College and private tuition; *Edith Anna Wynne-Edwards, University Tutorial College and private study.

Biology.—O. L. Addison, University College; I. McW. Bourke, St. George's Hospital and private tuition; *W. H. Brailley, Queens' College, Cambridge; J. F. E. Bridger, St. Mary's Hospital and private study; *T. Chetwood, Epsom College; H. B. Eisenberg, University College, Bristol; *A. H. Foster, Epsom College and St. Mary's Hospital; L. Holland, Mason College and private tuition; *L. Jones, St. Paul's School; *J. D. Judson, Owens College; J. Klein, University Tutorial College; O. W. A. Lowe, private tuition and University College, Liverpool; Z. Mennell, University Tutorial College and private tuition; *E. A. Miller, Guy's Hospital

T. D. Miller, University and University Tutorial Colleges and private tuition; *Christine Mary Murrell, University College; *W. P. Noall, Owens College and private study; *H. R. Nutt, St. Mary's Hospital; *S. J. Ormond, Guy's Hospital; *R. H. Paramore, University Tutorial College; J. W. G. Pearse, the Leys School and private tuition; *L. Pick, University Tutorial College; A. R. G. Pocock, University College and private tuition; *A. C. Ransford, Dulwich College and Guy's Hospital; *H. Robinson, St. Paul's School; *J. J. S. Scrase, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Edith Serjeant, Somerville Hall, Oxford; *P. T. H. Stedman, private study and tuition; S. Stevens, Carlyon College; *E. W. D. Swift, Firth College; *R. C. Turnbull, Yorkshire College and London Hospital; *H. J. Van Praagh, St. Mary's Hospital; S. E. J. Wallbridge, St. Mary's Hospital; *W. B. Watson, St. Mary's Hospital; H. Wolstenholme, University College and private tuition.

*These candidates have now completed the examination.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

The following gentlemen having passed the necessary examinations and having conformed to the by-laws and regulations, have been admitted Members of the College, namely:

Andrews, H. A., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Ashton, J., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Astbury, T., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Badcock, E. R., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Bagshawe, A. W. G., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Barber, M. C., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Barford, P. C., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Barker, G. C., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Barrett, J. W. C., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Best, F. H. d. G., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Bloomfield, H. W. G., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Bousfield, A., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Brakenridge, F. J., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Brewerton, E. W., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Bromet, E., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Brooks, W. P., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Bryant, C. H., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Burrell, C., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Candler, G., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Chapman, W., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Charsley, G. W., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Christmas, R. W. S., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Clay, D. L., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Clay, F. E., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Cole, G., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Collier, H. W., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Collings, D. W., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Connell, W. T., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Constable, J. C., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Cotter, G. E. W., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Crossley, R., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Cummings, A. P., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Cunliffe, T. V., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Currey, E. N., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Daniel, E. G. C., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Davidson, G., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Davis, H. J., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Dawes, C. D., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Dillon, R. W., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Dockray, J. S., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Duke, R. E., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Eder, M. D., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Ensor, C. A., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Escombe, W., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Evans, E. G., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Every-Clayton, L. E. V., L.R.C.P.L.
Finch, H. J., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Flint, T. B., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Forrester, W., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Fry, A. C., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Gibbes, L. N., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Giles, L. T., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Greenway, C. M., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Greenwood, A. C., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Hampton, T., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Hancock, G. C., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Handley, W. S., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Harding, L. N., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Hayes, R. H., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Hedges, C. E., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Henderson, R., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Hinds, H. L., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Hodge, A., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Home, A. L., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Hooper, A. W., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Horner, W. E. L., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Horseman, F., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Horton, J. H., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Horwitz, D., L.R.C.P.Lond.

EXAMINING BOARD IN ENGLAND BY THE ROYAL COLLEGES OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.

The following gentlemen having passed the necessary examinations, have been admitted, by the two Royal Colleges, Diplomates in Public Health:

Ferrand, E. (Surgeon-Major Madras Army), M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P. Eng.
Gill, J. W., L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng.

Meadows, R. T., M.D.&C.M. Edin.
Moore, S. G., M.B.&Ch.B. Vict.
Newton, H. W., L.R.C.P.Lond.
M.R.C.S. Eng.
Paine, A., M.B.&B.S.Lond.

Helby, E. H., L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng.
Jones, G., M.B.&B.Ch.Oxon., L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng.
Jones, R. F. H., L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng.

Paine, C., M.B.Lond.
Russell, W., M.B.&C.M. Aberd.
Simmons, H., M.B. & B.S. Durh., L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng.
Wilkes, G. A., L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND.

ON Friday, February 1st, the President admitted to the Licences in Medicine and Midwifery the following candidates who have been successful at the Final Examination held in January, 1895, under the Conjoint Scheme with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland:

A. St. L. Burke, T. Cairns, M. A. Corcoran, M. Delany, J. Fleming, W. A. Gordon, R. D. Jephson, T. J. Jordan, H. G. Martin, W. F. A. McCann, W. Stratton, J. H. Walsh.

Mr. G. S. Davidge, who had passed the Final Professional Examination in October, 1894, but who was not then of age, was also admitted.

Mr. J. H. J. L. Davys, not yet being of age, was not admitted, although he had passed the Final Professional Examination in January.

MEDICO-PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Poor Laws.—Mr. SHAW LEFEVRE having informed Mr. Howell that the Government would not be able to bring in a Bill to consolidate the Poor Laws during the present session, Mr. Howell gave notice that he would call attention to the subject at an early date.

Alleged Increase of Insanity.—In reply to a question by Dr. KENNY, Mr. ASQUITH said that much information on this subject had been received through the Foreign Office, but had not yet been digested. He questioned the necessity or expediency of appointing an international commission.—Mr. MORLEY said the Board of Control in Ireland was making every exertion to overtake the crowding in many Irish district lunatic asylums.

Indian Opium Commission.—In reply to Mr. J. ELLIS, Mr. H. H. FOWLER said that the Opium Commission had for some weeks been working unremittingly at the preparation of their report. He had every reason to believe that it would be issued before Easter.

The Tuberculosis Commission.—In answer to Mr. FIELD, Mr. CHAPLIN, and Mr. KNOWLES, Mr. SHAW LEFEVRE said that he regretted the delay in the presentation of a report by the Royal Commission. It was to some extent attributable to the illness and death of the late Lord Basing, who was the Chairman of the Commission. A new Commission, with Sir George Buchanan as Chairman, was appointed in November, 1894. He was informed that the Commission, at a meeting held last month, agreed upon certain matters to be stated as the opinions of the Commission, and that they would meet at the end of the present month or the beginning of March, when a draft report would be before them for consideration. The medical officer of health had no authority to confiscate meat which had been seized as diseased or unwholesome, or as unfit for food. It was only a magistrate who could condemn the meat, and order it to be destroyed or so disposed of as to prevent its being used for food. The Local Government Board had no power to give instructions to the medical officer of health in the matter. His duties were prescribed by the statute. In reply to further questions, Mr. Shaw Lefevre said that he was advised that he had no power to issue instructions to magistrates in order to obtain uniformity in regard to decisions as to condemnation of meat.

The Hemp Drugs Commission.—In reply to Mr. CAINE, Mr. H. H. FOWLER said that the Indian Government were now considering the report of the Hemp Drugs Commission; when it came home with their observations on it he would inform the hon. member.

The Treatment of Inebriates.—Mr. KNOWLES asked the Home Secretary when he would introduce the Bill to which he referred on August 3rd, 1894, embodying the main recommendations of the Departmental Committee on the treatment of inebriates.—Mr. ASQUITH said that the Bill had been prepared, and would probably be introduced in another place.

Alleged Compulsory Revaccination of Firemen.—In reply to Mr. HOPWOOD, who asked a question with regard to the alleged compulsory revaccination of firemen who had been called to a fire at the end of last month at the Liverpool Small-pox Hospital, Sir WALTER FOSTER said that the men had been strongly advised to submit to revaccination, but that no compulsion was used and that none of the men objected to the operation. Further, upwards of 50 policemen who had been in contact with the firemen had, of their own free will, asked to be vaccinated.

The University of London.—Mr. ACLAND, in answer to Sir A. ROLLIT, said the Government proposed shortly to introduce a Bill in reference to the University of London in the House of Lords.

NAVAL AND MILITARY MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE NEW PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER, INDIA.

WE have reason to believe that the rumours now current to the effect that Surgeon-Colonel Gore, serving in Bombay, will be selected as Surgeon-Major-General Bradshaw's successor as P. M. O. at Simla are well founded.

THE NAVY.

STAFF-SURGEON H. S. R. SPARROW has been appointed to the Plymouth Division, Royal Marines, February 8th.

ARMY MEDICAL STAFF.

BRIGADE-SURGEON THOMAS JERRAN ORTON died in London on the 9th ultimo. He entered the service as Assistant-Surgeon, January 17th, 1855; became Surgeon, November 9th, 1867; Surgeon-Major, March 1st, 1873; and Honorary Brigade-Surgeon on retirement, December 4th, 1885. He

discussion an executive committee was appointed consisting of Mr. Carteighe (chairman), Messrs. Radford, Wootton, Frank Smith, John Moss (treasurer), and H. Helbing (Honorary secretary). The form which the memorial should take will be settled later, but subscriptions may be sent to the Burroughs Memorial Fund, 63, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. A sum of over £350 was subscribed at the end of the meeting.

MEDICAL NEWS.

LADY ILCHESTER opened the new wing of the Weymouth Sanatorium on February 7th. The institution was founded in 1848 by Dr. Smith, and since then it has relieved nearly 50,000 patients.

THE students of King's College are arranging for a concert to be given in the College on Tuesday, February 19th, under the patronage of H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Westminster, the Bishop of London, the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., and Dr. Wace, on behalf of the funds of King's College Hospital.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.—An important meeting was held at the Mansion House on February 13th, in support of an appeal for £100,000 to defray the expense of opening wards in the hospital which are at present closed for want of funds. The Duke of Connaught, the President of the hospital, moved the resolution expressing regret at the condition of things indicated above. He pointed out that since 1871 the population round the hospital had been trebled, and now numbered upwards of a million. The hospital had been crippled partly by expenditure in connection with funds borrowed for the completion of the building, partly by the heavy rates, amounting to £2,500 a year, which had to be paid, and partly by the agricultural depression which had greatly diminished their income from land. The resolution was seconded by the Bishop of Southwark, and supported by Sir William MacCormac and the Rev. Newman Hall, who, speaking as a Governor for thirty years, described the hospital as a palace of philanthropy. The Chairman, Alderman Sir Stuart Knill, moved a resolution to the effect that bearing in mind that the hospital was placed by the Charter of Edward VI under the fostering care of the Mayor, Commonalty, and citizens of London, the City guilds and the citizens of London should be specially invited to respond to the appeal. The resolution was adopted, and the Chairman, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, announced that the Queen had promised to contribute £100 to the special fund.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:

CAPE COLONY.—Medical Officer of Health for Cape Colony. Salary, £1,000 per annum. Applications to the Agent General, 112, Victoria Street, S.W., or the Colonial Under-Secretary, Cape Town, by March 15th.

DERBYSHIRE ROYAL INFIRMARY, Derby.—Honorary Physician. Honorary Surgeon. Honorary Consulting Dental Surgeon. Applications to Walter G. Cartt, Secretary, by February 18th.

GENERAL INFIRMARY, Leeds.—Resident Casualty Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to Mr. Littlewood, Secretary of the Faculty, General Infirmary, Leeds, by February 20th.

GUEST HOSPITAL, Dudley.—Resident Assistant House-Surgeon. Appointment for six months. Board, lodging, and washing provided in the Hospital; no salary. Applications to the Secretary by February 27th.

KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL, Canterbury.—Surgeon. Applications to the Secretary by February 19th.

METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD.—Assistant Medical Officer for the Western Hospital for Fever Patients, Seagrave Road, Fulham, S.W.; unmarried, doubly qualified, and not more than 35 years of age. Salary, £160 during the first year, £180 during the second year, and £200 during the third and subsequent years of service, with board, lodging, attendance, and washing. Applications, on forms to be obtained at the Offices of the Board, Norfolk House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C., to be sent in by February 21st.

PADDINGTON GREEN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, W.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £50, with board and residence. Appointment from April 1st to November 7th. Also Surgeon to the Out-patients. Applications to the Secretary by March 1st.

PARISH OF LOCHS, Island of Lewis. Medical Officer. Knowledge of Gaelic indispensable. Salary, from Parochial Board, £135 per annum, free house, and garden. Applications to Inspector of Poor by February 18th.

ROYAL ALBERT EDWARD INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY, Wigan.—Junior House Surgeon; doubly qualified. Salary, £80 per annum, with apartments and rations. Applications to Will Taberner, General Superintendent and Secretary, by February 27th.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL, S.W.—Surgeon and Assistant Surgeon; must be F.R.C.S.Eng. Applications to the Secretary by March 1st.

ST. PETER'S HOSPITAL, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C.—House-Surgeon. Appointment for six months. Salary at the rate of 50 guineas a year, with board, lodging, and washing, and an allowance for wine, etc. Applications to the Secretary by March 1st.

WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL, Broad Sanctuary, S.W.—Fourth Assistant Physician, must be Fellow or Member of the Royal College of Physicians of London, not practising pharmacy and midwifery. Applications to the Secretary before February 26th.

WORCESTER COUNTY AND CITY LUNATIC ASYLUM.—Third Assistant Medical Officer; unmarried. Salary commences at £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to Dr. Cooke, The Asylum, Powick, near Worcester, by March 1st.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

ARBUCKLE, Hugh White, M.D.Aberd., reappointed Medical Officer to the Thorne District Council.

BARBER, George T.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., appointed Medical Officer to the Parish of Birmingham Workhouses.

BARNES, Dr., appointed Medical Officer of Health to the Chard Town Council.

BOSTOCK, Leonard, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Medical Officer for the Fourth District of the Liskeard Union.

BOUSTEAD, R. J., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Eng., reappointed Medical Officer of Health to the Haltwhistle Rural District Council.

CAMERON, Dr. Hugh, appointed Medical Officer to the Parochial Board of Kosskeen, vice Dr. Sutherland, deceased.

COUMBE, John Batten, F.R.C.S.Eng., M.D.Brix., L.R.C.P.Eng., appointed Medical Officer for the No. 9 District of the Bedminster Union.

CROSSFIELD, Arthur K., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Eng., reappointed Medical Officer for the Dittisham District of the Totnes Union.

ELIAS, James, M.R.C.S.Eng., D.P.H.Camb., appointed Medical Officer of Health to the Neath Town Council, vice J. W. Thomas, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., resigned.

FERRABY, George Arthur, L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Medical Officer for the Fourth and Fifth Districts of the Parish of Birmingham.

GREENSILL, E. S., L.R.C.P.Eng., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Medical Officer for the Martley District of the Martley Union.

JONES, Llewellyn G. D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., appointed Medical Officer for the First and Second Districts of the Parish of Birmingham.

JOHNSTON, John, M.D., M.Ch.Eng., L.S.A.Lond., Honorary Surgeon to Bolton Infirmary, appointed Public Vaccinator for the Great Bolton District, vice Walter Morris, L.R.C.P.Eng., L.F.P.S.Glasg., resigned.

LAKEMAN, Thomas, L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng., reappointed Medical Officer for the Ugborough District of the Totnes Union.

PEGLER, L. Hemington, M.D., M.R.C.S., appointed Assistant Registrar to the Central London Throat and Ear Hospital.

RAYWOOD, John R. I., L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.S.A.Lond., appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Montgomeryshire Infirmary, Newtown, N. Wales, vice G. H. Bidew, resigned.

SMITH, Kenneth R., M.D.Lond., reappointed Medical Officer for the Halwell District of the Totnes Union.

STANLEY, Arthur, M.B.Lond., appointed Assistant Physician to the Manchester and Salford Hospital for Skin Diseases.

TENNANT, John, M.A., M.B., C.M.Eng., appointed House-Surgeon to the Victoria Hospital, Folkestone.

UBSDELL, Henry, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.S.A., reappointed Medical Officer for the Staverton and Rattery Districts of the Totnes Union.

WILD, Robert B., M.D.Lond., M.Sc.Vict., appointed Honorary Physician to the Manchester and Salford Hospital for Skin Diseases, vice Walter Whitehead, F.R.C.S., F.R.S.Eng., appointed Honorary Consulting Surgeon.

WRIGHT, Joseph Farrall, L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Medical Officer to the Western Division of Great Bolton, vice Walter Morris, L.R.C.P.Eng., L.F.P.S.Glasg., resigned.

YONGE, Eugene S., M.B., C.M.Eng., appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Chorlton-on-Medlock Dispensary, Manchester, vice G. K. Gowland, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Eng., resigned.

YOUNG, Adam, L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Certifying Factory Surgeon for Hampstead.

DIARY FOR NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, 5 P.M.—Mr. W. G. Spencer (Arris and Gale Lecturer): On the Central Nervous Mechanism of the Respiration. Lecture I.

LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, Moorfields, 1 P.M.—Mr. W. Lang: Conjunctival Affections. London Throat Hospital, Great Portland Street, 8 P.M.—Dr. Edward Woakes: Nasal Neuroses.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.—Dr. Frederick T. Roberts: The Combinations of Morbid Conditions of the Chest. (Third Lettsomian Lecture.)

TUESDAY.

LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, Bethlem Royal Hospital, 2 P.M.—Dr. Hyslop: Delusional Insanity; Paranoia.

THE CLINICAL MUSEUM, 211, Great Portland Street.—Open at 2 P.M., Lecture at 4.

PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.—Mr. D'Arcy Power for Mr. R. Jones: Endosteal Sarcoma of Patella. Dr. F. Hawkins: Congenital Obliteration of the Bile Duct. Mr. S. G. Shattock: Fœtus with Reptilian Characters in the Sexual Ducts. Dr. Voelcker: Carcinoma of Ureter. Mr. L. A. Bidwell: Carcinoma of Stomach treated by Gastroduodenostomy. Card specimens will be shown by Dr. W. W. Ord, Dr. G. Newton Pitt, and Dr. C. J. Arkle.

CENTRAL LONDON THROAT, NOSE, AND EAR HOSPITAL, 4.30 P.M.—Dr. Dundas Grant: The Treatment of Diseases causing Discharge from the Ear.

WEDNESDAY.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, 5 P.M.—Mr. W. G. Spencer (Arris and Gale Lecturer): On the Central Nervous Mechanism of the Respiration. Lecture II.

LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, Blackfriars, 1 P.M.—Dr. Payne: Acne. Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, Moorfields, 8 P.M.—Mr. A. Quarry Silcock: Progressive Myopia, with illustrative cases.

NATIONAL HOSPITAL FOR THE PARALYSED AND EPILEPTIC, Queen Square, 3 P.M.—Lecture by Dr. Beevor.

ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY, 25, Great George Street, Westminster, 7.30 P.M.

ROYAL MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY, 20, Hanover Square, 8 P.M.

WEST LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, West London Hospital, W., 5 P.M.—Mr. Eccles: The Mechanical Treatment of Hernia.

THURSDAY.

LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Queen Square, 2 P.M.—Dr. Buzzard: Insular Sclerosis. Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, 3.30 P.M.—The Medical Registrar: Pathological Demonstration. Central London Sick Asylum, Cleveland Street, W., 5.30 P.M.—Dr. Cheadle: Cases in the Wards.

HARVEIAN SOCIETY, 8.30 P.M.—Dr. James Taylor: Syphilitic Diseases of the Brain.

FRIDAY.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, 5 P.M.—Mr. W. G. Spencer (Arris and Gale Lecturer): On the Central Nervous Mechanism of the Respiration. Lecture III.

LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, Bacteriological Laboratory, King's College, 3 to 5 P.M.—Professor Crookshank: Lecture: Anthrax and Malignant Edema: Practical Work: Staining Sections.

CLINICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.—Dr. E. W. Goodall: An unusual case of Diphtheria of the Air Passages. Dr. Lee Dickinson: A case of Malformation of the Heart with Haemophilia. Mr. Barling: A case of Gangrenous Umbilical Hernia: Resection and Immediate Union by Murphy's Button: Recovery. Dr. Hector Mackenzie: A case of Hysterical Contracture of the Legs of two years' duration successfully treated. Mr. Arbuthnot Lane: A case of Extensive Degenerating Nævus of the Bladder.

SATURDAY.

LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, Bethlem Royal Hospital, 11 A.M.—Dr. Craig: Stupor, Cataplexy, Kataktonia, Dementia.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 3s. 6d., which sum should be forwarded in post office order or stamps with the notice not later than Wednesday morning, in order to ensure insertion in the current issue.

BIRTHS.

GAINER.—On February 7th, at Thrapston, Northamptonshire, the wife of J. W. Gainer, M.B. Edin., of a daughter.

STEVENS.—On February 1st, at Villa la Tour, Mentone, the wife of William H. Stevens, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Lond., of The Hollies, Zetland Road, Bristol, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

APTHOMAS—ROWLAND.—On February 6th, at Chorlton Road Congregational Church, Manchester, by the Rev. Wm. James, M.A., Griff Athomas, M.B., C.M. Edin., of Oldham, to Jennie, eldest daughter of the late Hugh Rowland, J.P., of Buena Vista, Alexandra Park, Manchester.

BROADBENT—FIELD.—On February 12th, at St. George's, Hanover Square, by the Rev. W. Page Roberts, assisted by the Rev. David Anderson, Rector, John Francis Harpin Broadbent, M.A., M.D., eldest son of Sir William H. Broadbent, Bart., to Margaret Elizabeth, eldest daughter of George P. Field, Esq., of 34, Wimpole Street, and Normanswood, Farnham.

DEATHS.

CHAMPNEYS.—On February 11th, at Hamilton House, Penge, Henry Montagu Champneys, F.R.C.S. Eng., L.S.A., in his 77th year.

M'GEAGH.—On February 6th, at 20, Spellow Lane, Liverpool, Marion Ethel, beloved and only surviving child of William M'Geagh, M.D., aged 12 years and 11 months.

TRAVERS-STUBBS.—Suddenly, at Galatea Place, Blaauwberg Strand, near Cape Town, on December 31st, 1894, Grace, beloved wife of Dr. P. Travers-Stubbs, District Surgeon of Parkly West.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE CURRENT WEEK'S JOURNAL SHOULD REACH THE OFFICE NOT LATER THAN MIDDAY POST ON WEDNESDAY. TELEGRAMS CAN BE RECEIVED ON THURSDAY MORNING.

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.

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*.

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.

IF Queries, answers, and communications relating to subjects to which special departments of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are devoted will be found under their respective headings.

QUERIES.

DENTAL DEFENCE.

DENTIST asks whether there is among dentists a society for mutual protection, etc., analogous to the Medical Defence Union, or would any of the existing medical societies take registered dentists in.

. The Medical Defence Union admits as members those registered dentists who possess in addition a surgical registrable qualification. The London and Counties Medical Protection Society admit dentists who are on the *Register* as L.D.S. We know of no existing dental society on exactly the same lines as the Medical Defence Union.

TREATMENT OF SPORADIC CRETINISM.

L. F. N. asks what is considered a safe dose of thyroid extract for a child aged 15 months suffering from sporadic cretinism? Is any other preparation of the raw gland preferable. How often should the dose be given, and how long should the treatment be kept up?

. We have referred this question to Dr. Hector W. G. Mackenzie, who writes: I consider the dry preparations the most suitable for administration by the mouth. The tabloids are very convenient, and are usually made so that one tabloid corresponds to 5 grains of thyroid gland. If a powder is used for convenience, 1 grain of the powder should equal 1 grain of thyroid gland. For safety I should begin with a very small dose, one-fifth of a tabloid or 1 grain of powder of above strength. Let this be given every other day for a week. If no effect has then been produced, let the same dose be given every day. At the end of another fortnight, it might be necessary again slightly to increase the dose. The occurrence of vomiting or diarrhoea and acceleration of the pulse are signs that too much of the remedy is being used, and in such a case its administration should be suspended for a little and subsequently a smaller dose given. The necessary dose has been found to vary very much in different cases. As long as no bad symptoms are produced, the dose may be cautiously increased if necessary. It has been found that once a cure has been established sometimes a very small dose (2½ grains a-week) is sufficient to maintain a satisfactory state of health. The expense is accordingly very trifling in most cases. It must be clearly borne in mind that the remedy must be persistently continued to keep the patient in health.

ANSWERS.

A MEMBER B.M.A.—There is only one person of the name on the *Medical Register*, 1894 (the last issue). The address given in the *Register* does not coincide with that on the handbill, and initials are not given on the handbill.

OPINION.—We must refer our correspondent to the resolutions on "covering," issued by the General Medical Council, and printed in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL on December 22nd, page 1460 ("Unqualified Assistants.")

M.B.—We should recommend our correspondent to consult the elaborate article on typhus fever in Murchison's *Treatise on the Continued Fevers of Great Britain*, third edition, edited by Dr. Cayley. London: Longmans, Green, and Co., 25s.