

d'Obstétrique Internationale, May 21st, 1897. ⁴⁶ Hilbert: *Deut. med. Woch.*, No. 38, 1893. ⁴⁷ Herman: *Transactions of the Obstetrical Society of London*, vol. xliii, 1901, p. 234. ⁴⁸ Ballantyne: *Loc. cit.*, p. 104. ⁴⁹ Saleim: *Thèse de Montpellier*, 1900, and *Amer. Journ. of Obstet.*, 1901, p. 249. ⁵⁰ Ludwig: *Cent. bibl. für Gynäk.*, No. 11, 1895. ⁵¹ Kleinwachter: *Zeit. für Geburt. und Gynäk.*, vol. xxxviii, 1898. Brocard: *Semaine Médicale*, Nov. 30th, 1898. ⁵² BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, 1907, vol. ii, EPITOME, p. 288. ⁵³ Vinay: *Lyon Médical*, Nov. 17th, 1898; q. v. for other references. ⁵⁴ Hicks and French: *Mitral Stenosis and Pregnancy, Transactions of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society*, vol. xxxix, 1906, pp. 659-620. Also *Guy's Hospital Reports*, vol. ix, 1906. ⁵⁵ French and Hicks: *Chorea Gravidarum*, *The Practitioner*, August, 1906.

MEMORANDA:

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL:

CALCIUM CHLORIDE IN MELÆNA NEONATORUM.

CASES of melæna neonatorum are sufficiently rare to justify the following report. On March 29th I was called at 10 a.m. by a midwife to see an infant she had delivered on March 27th. I found the clothes stained with blood, and saturated with a dark, treacly fluid, and from the anus bright blood was issuing. The child appeared pale and collapsed, previously having been, I was told, the ruddy hue usual to infancy. There was no vomiting or jaundice. I paid two further visits during the day, and found the discharge still continuing, but of a brighter colour. On my second visit I took with me a solution of calcium chloride, a teaspoonful of which was given every half hour (the child during the following thirty-six hours taking 20 grains). On the following morning the discharge was less in amount, and the child appeared better. On the third day the discharge stopped, and the child made a rapid recovery. The child took the breast well throughout. The midwife informed me that the labour was normal in all respects. There was no sign of sepsis in mother or child, and the latter appeared healthy in other respects. The cord was quite healthy, coming off on the fifth day. I certainly think that the calcium chloride had a beneficial effect in this case, as when first seen the prognosis seemed anything but good.—I am, etc.,

Worcester.

S. C. LEGGE, M.R.C.S., etc.

A CASE OF GASTROSTOMY.

DR. BERTRAND DAWSON, in the *JOURNAL* of May 9th, makes the statement that "Gastrostomy prolongs life, but prolongs misery also." I quite agree that to perform the operation when the patient can swallow liquids is not good practice. The following case shows that the operation can prolong life and allows the patient to die a less painful death than if Nature had been left to herself. W. C., aged 61, came to me on August 24th, 1907, complaining of difficulty in swallowing. On several occasions bright red blood was thrown up. There was no evidence of aneurysm and I concluded that the case was one of cancer of the gullet near the lower end. The patient rapidly lost flesh, and, to satisfy his relatives, I sent him to a consulting physician in Manchester. He agreed with the diagnosis and advised gastrostomy, although he pointed out that the relief given was so temporary that many physicians did not strongly advise their patients to submit to the operation. Within a few days the patient could with the greatest difficulty only swallow about a pint of milk a day, and, I believe, for three days before the operation, which was done on November 22nd, 1907, he could not swallow water. Gastrostomy was performed in the Blackburn and East Lancashire Infirmary by the method of E. J. Senn. The object of the operation is to invert a cone of stomach wall into the cavity of the organ, a No. 10 soft catheter passing through the apex of the cone. The principle is the same as that of a safety ink bottle. The patient can be fed at once, and there is no regurgitation if the operation is properly done. There was considerable shock after the patient left the table, but he rallied and went home on December 1st, as he seemed likely to die, and asked to be allowed to go home. Instead of dying, he improved so much in appearance and strength that he was able to go out of doors, and even attended meetings of the board of a philanthropic society of which he was a member. There was no regur-

gitation, and he was able to take and digest four or five pints of milk and two or three eggs daily, and he could not be said to be in anything like so miserable a state as he was before operation. He died rather suddenly on May 7th, 1908, having been confined entirely to bed for about a week. One case is of no value if for every one which does well a dozen do badly, but I think the operation has a sphere of usefulness in picked cases, and that this operation of Senn's gives the best results. Mr. Moynihan, in his recent book *Abdominal Operations*, gives his reasons for this opinion: it is simple, speedily performed, effects a valvular opening and does not sacrifice any part of the stomach wall.

ROBERT Y. AITKEN, M.D., F.R.C.S.,
Surgeon, Blackburn Infirmary.

REPORTS

ON

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL PRACTICE IN THE HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

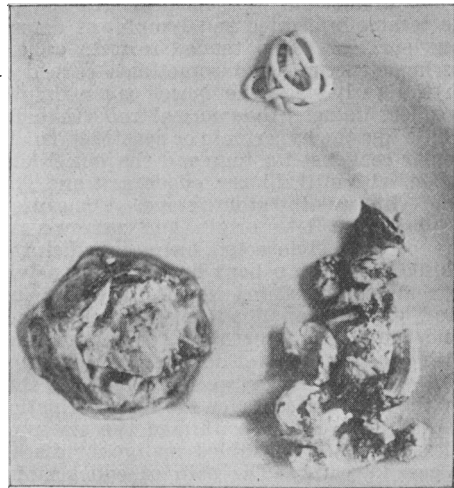
LIVERPOOL ROYAL INFIRMARY.

A CASE OF GALACTOCELE.

(By RUSHTON PARKER, M.B., F.R.C.S. Eng., Professor of Surgery in the University of Liverpool.)

MRS. L. M. K., aged 24, was admitted February 27th, 1905, on account of a small tumour of the left breast in the upper central region; it was painless, movable, elastic, and dated from just before the birth of her first child six months previously.

She was a patient of Dr. H. W. Nott, who attended the operation performed on March 2nd of the same year. The tumour was previously supposed to be a cystic adenofibroma, and a preliminary puncture was made with a trocar and cannula. There issued, however, instead of



Photograph, about half the natural size, by Fred. Halliday, museum assistant.

any thin liquid, an intensely white, inspissated, milky substance which was caught on a plate in a coil, as shown in the photograph. On cutting down upon the growth, it was found to be a single cyst filled with similar material, and was accordingly dissected out. A portion of the white milky substance, and the cyst itself containing the remainder, were separately put on the plate, and are shown in the illustration. The wound healed somewhat slowly, and the patient went home in four weeks.

REMARKS.—The case derives its chief interest, in addition to its rarity, from the illustration. In spite of the rarity, much has been written about true galactocoele, which is due to the obstruction of a duct during lactation. Milk is found in other morbid conditions of the mammary gland, mostly tumours, but the term "galactocoele" is not applicable to them.

LYNN THOMAS AND SKYRME FUND.

EIGHTH LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

MR. WILLIAM SHEEN, M.S., F.R.C.S., 2, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff, Honorary Secretary of this Fund, desires to acknowledge the following subscriptions:

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MEDICAL NEWS.

THE first Spanish Congress on Tuberculosis will be held at Zaragoza this year from October 2nd to 6th.

THE amount subscribed for the Aberdeen and North of Scotland Technical College is now £115,520 11s.

THE Congress of the German Ophthalmological Society will be held this year at Heidelberg on August 5th and two following days.

THE annual general meeting of the United Service Medical Society will be held at the Royal Army Medical College, Millbank, on June 18th, at 3 p.m.

DR. H. R. SILVESTER, of London, whose name is associated with a well-known method of resuscitation of the apparently drowned, left estate valued at £25,412.

SIGNOR COCCO ORTU, Italian Minister of Agriculture, has drafted a bill for the amendment of the laws as to friendly societies in Italy and for the promotion of assurance against sickness.

THE annual dinner in London of the officers of the Indian Medical Service will be held on Thursday, June 18th, at the Gaiety Restaurant, Strand; the guest of the evening will be Viscount Morley of Blackburn, O.M., Secretary of State for India.

WE regret to learn from a Reuter's telegram that Drs. Raikes and Wray, Government medical officers, Singapore, have died of plague contracted while performing a post-mortem examination on a patient who had died while in quarantine.

TO avoid misconception, the Committee of the Kensington Dispensary and Children's Hospital, 49, Church Street, Kensington, wish it to be known that that institution has no connexion with the Kensington General Hospital, Richmond Road, Earl's Court.

THE King has been pleased to approve of the retention of the title of "Honourable" by Sir William Bisset Berry,

M.D., on his retirement from the office of Speaker of the House of Assembly of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, which he has held for a period of more than three years.

THE King has been pleased to give to A. Granville, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., licence and authority to accept and wear the insignia of the Fourth Class of the Imperial Ottoman Order, which have been conferred upon him by the Khedive of Egypt in recognition of valuable services rendered by him.

THE will of the late Mr. Thomas Webb, of South Kensington and Tunbridge Wells, directs the payment of £500 to the General Hospital, Tunbridge Wells, and of a similar amount to Cardiff Infirmary. Sums of £5,000 each are bequeathed to University College, London, and the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire for the promotion of physical research.

THE opening lecture of the summer Post-Graduate Course of the Mount Vernon Hospital will be given by Sir William Allchin, M.D., F.R.C.P., in the lecture room at the out-patient department of the hospital, 7, Fitzroy Square, W., on Thursday, May 21st, at 5 p.m. The subject of the lecture, to which qualified medical practitioners are invited, will be some inter-relations of thoracic and abdominal disease.

WE learn from the American journal *Science* that the Royal College of Surgeons of England has presented to the Harvard Medical School, through Dr. Walter G. Chase, about seventy engravings and mezzotints of celebrated medical men. These, together with loan collections of Dr. Chase and Dr. E. B. Young, numbering about 600, have been arranged for exhibition in the Warren Anatomical Museum of Harvard Medical School.

THE exhibition at Earl's Court this year offers serious attractions to those interested in puericulture, infant protection, and elementary and secondary education of all forms. The central feature of the exhibition is a display of the productions and manufactures of the Kingdom of Hungary and included in this is a section devoted to the subjects named and this will well repay a visit. An admirably compiled pamphlet can be obtained gratis giving a succinct account of the whole subject, or rather aggregation of subjects. It is worth perusal quite apart from the display, to which it forms a handbook.

THE Royal Dental Hospital in Leicester Square, the first to be established in England and the parent in this country of dentistry as a scientific art, has now completed fifty years of work, and wishes to celebrate its jubilee by extinguishing the heavy debt still outstanding on its buildings. This amounts to over £47,000, and the sum which has to be paid by way of interest and sinking fund seriously cripples the working possibilities of the institution. This is a great pity, as the administration of the undertaking is excellent, the treatment it affords to the poor of the most admirable kind, and the educative influence alike of the hospital and its school of national utility. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the public will contribute freely towards the object in view.

THE Department of Health of the city of Chicago is analysing the well water of all the farms supplying milk to the city. More than twenty wells have already been condemned and notice served on the farmers that new wells must be dug, or their milk will be excluded from the city. A system has also been instituted requiring every dairy farmer to send to the department on the 1st and the 15th day of each month a written report stating the presence or absence of contagious disease in the families of dairymen or other attendants employed on his premises. If the notices are not received in due time, the supply of milk from the dairies will be regarded as suspicious, and excluded from Chicago until investigation has been made.

WE regret to learn that an alarming fire broke out in the Wellcome Research Laboratories, Gordon Memorial College, Khartoum, on May 11th, and that, before it was got under control, considerable damage was done.

INTERNATIONAL FIRST AID CONGRESS.—Mr. S. Osborn, F.R.C.S., Maisonette, Datchett, near Windsor, honorary secretary for Great Britain of the congress on first aid to be held at Frankfurt-on-Maine from June 8th to 13th, has compiled a list of routes and fares to Frankfurt, and also a list of hotels with their charges.

AMBULANCE DOGS.—Count Benekendorf, the Russian Ambassador, through General Germloff, Military Attaché, by special order of the Empress Marie Feodrovna, President of the Imperial Russian Red Cross Society, has presented Major Richardson with the war medal of the Society, together with a letter conveying the heartfelt thanks of the Society for the services of his ambulance dogs in Manchuria during the Russo-Japanese war.

"THE ANTIVIVISECTION AGITATION."

SIR,—In your article, "The Antivivisection Agitation," published on May 9th, 1908, you say: "Let us hear Sir Victor Horsley, who, giving evidence before the Royal Commission on Vivisection, after expressing the opinion that antivivisectionists, holding the views they do, have no right to derive benefit from experiments on animals, says: 'I would add that the editor of the *Zoophilist*, one of Mr. Coleridge's employees, Dr. Berdoe, stated in the *Times* that he would rather be treated with the knowledge of Hippocrates than the knowledge of the present day. I can only say, as a commentary on that, that from my own personal experience he does not rely on the knowledge of Hippocrates, but he sends his family to receive the opinion of men like myself'" (Minutes of Evidence, October and December, 1907, pp. 118, 119). I consider this false charge against me calculated to injure me in my practice and position, and request you to be good enough to publish in as prominent a part of your JOURNAL as that in which the accusation is made, that I have never sent any member of my family to consult Sir Victor Horsley, nor has any member of my family or any one else, with my advice or desire, ever sought Sir Victor's professional aid.—I am, etc.,

EDWARD BERDOE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Ed.
London, N.E., May 9th.

We have referred this letter to Sir Victor Horsley, who writes:

25, Cavendish Square.

Sir,

With reference to Mr. Berdoe's letter I have only to state that a member of his family brought a child to see me explaining in so doing that both Mr. Berdoe and herself wished me to examine and advise upon the case. It appears that we are to understand that this incident has passed from the memory of Mr. Berdoe.

Yours, etc.,
MAY 11th, 1908. VICTOR HORSLEY.

INVERSION OF THE UTERUS.

SIR,—With reference to the comments and strictures on Dr. McInerney's statement *re* the Rotunda Hospital teachings, will you kindly permit me to state that when I was attending that institution, about twenty-eight years ago, the practice followed by all the pupils under orders from their teachers was to express the placenta after twenty minutes had elapsed if the uterus had not accomplished the work unaided. Many and good reasons were given for this course, though I learned to modify the procedure in most cases as a result of my experience in practice.

Many of the details of management in such cases have been changed more or less since 1880, which fact only proves that Dr. Tweedy can be perfectly accurate in his statements as to the teachings of to-day without Dr. McInerney's being less accurate with regard to the lessons which he received at the same famous school at an earlier date.—I am, etc.,

Waterford, May 9th. D. KENNEDY, L.R.C.P. and S.I., etc.

ABUSE OF HOSPITALS: A MINOR REMEDY.

SIR,—I think the question of the abuse of hospitals—so far as operative work goes—might be met to some extent if general practitioners would be at the trouble—having inquired into the financial position of patients—to arrange with young surgeons for operations at cheap fees. I am so situated that I am often constrained to tell people that their position ought not to entitle them to hospital (free) treatment. In such cases I generally find that they are willing to pay what they can afford, and I have had no difficulty in being met half-way by young and capable men in the profession. I always insist on the matter being a ready-money transaction, and the payers are usually rather pleased with and proud of their share in the contract.—I am, etc.,

London, E.C., May 7th. GEORGE H. R. DABBS, M.D.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES.**UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.**

The following candidates have been approved in all three sections of the examination indicated:

THIRD M.B., PART II.—G. D. Alexander, B.A., Cal.; H. T. Ashby, B.A., Mmm.; J. H. Board, B.A., Pemb.; J. R. Briscoe, B.A., H. Selw.; L. B. Cane, B.A., King's; G. G. Collet, B.A., Trin.; T. R. Elliott, M.A., Trin.; E. G. Fearnside, B.A., Trin. H.; H. G. Frean, inc., Joh.; B. C. Gosh, M.A., Joh.; P. Hall-Smith, M.A., Pemb.; U. H. Ilott, M.A., Cal.; R. L. Ley, B.A., Pemb.; H. N. Little, B.A., Cal.; W. B. Marshall, B.A., Joh.; A. J. May, B.A., Sid. Suss.; J. B. Menzell, M.A., Pemb.; H. E. H. Oakley, B.A., Joh.; M. Phillips, B.A., Cal.; K. Pretty, B.A., King's; M. C. Priest, B.A., Cal.; K. D. Pringle, B.A., Cal.; M. R. Sawhny, B.A., Down.; L. W. Sharp, B.A., Cal.; R. W. S. Walker, B.A., Trin.; E. G. Wheat, M.A., Christ's; C. E. Whitehead, B.A., Cal.; J. F. Windsor, B.A., H. Selw.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.**

PROFESSOR STARLING commences the Mercers Company course of eight lectures on recent advances in physiology on May 15th at University College, at 5 p.m. The first four lectures will deal with the physiology of absorption from the alimentary canal, and the last four with the physiology of the respiratory movements. The lectures are open without fee to all students of the London medical schools, as well as to registered practitioners, on presentation of their cards.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.**General Council.**

THE statutory half-yearly meeting of the General Council of the University of Edinburgh was held in the Examination Hall on May 6th. Principal Sir William Turner, the Vice-Chancellor, presiding.

In the report of the Business Committee reference was made to the death of Sir Patrick Heron Watson and Professor Annandale.

Discussion took place on the subject of chairs of modern languages, and on the place of the universities in the Education (Scotland) Bill.

ROYAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND.

At a meeting of convocation on May 12th the following were elected representatives on the senate: Dr. J. Walton Browne, Belfast; Dr. Leslie, Belfast; J. Anderson, President, Queen's College, Galway; Rev. Dr. Lelch, Belfast; Edward Cuming, K.C., Dublin.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH.

THE proceedings at the quarterly meeting on May 5th, 1908, included the passing of a minute recording the sympathy of the College with the relatives of the late Dr. C. E. Underhill, and expressive of the great loss which his death has entailed to the College. Two new Fellows, Drs. G. D. McRae and H. S. Ballantyne, were introduced and took their seats as Fellows, and Drs. G. H. B. Gibson, M.B., Ch.B. Edin., and T. G. Nasmyth, M.D., D.Sc., D.P.H. Edin., were admitted to Membership of the College. The Registrar reported that since the last quarterly meeting the Licence of the College had been granted to thirty-four persons after examinations. The report of the Curator of the laboratory regarding research work was submitted, and showed that during the past year thirty-three workers had been engaged in research, and 3,022 specimens had been reported on, this being an increase of 291 on the number for the previous year. The expenditure had amounted to £1,080 5s. 10d. Dr. Norman Walker was re-elected as Representative of the College on the Conjoint Committee of Management of the Triple Qualification, and it was intimated that Dr. Frederick W. Mott had been appointed Morison Lecturer for the ensuing session.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND.

THE result of the elections held on May 5th is that the Board of Examiners for the ensuing year now stands as follows:

COURT A.—Anatomy: A. Fraser and B. C. A. Windle. Surgery: C. A. K. Bell, E. Conway-Dwyer, and J. Hornby. Physiology and Histology: J. Coffey and E. L'Estrange Ledwich. Pathology and Bacteriology: A. H. White. Midwifery and Gynaecology: F. W. Kidd. Biology: J. J. Burgess. Ophthalmology: A. H. Benson and H. S. Cunningham. Sanitary Law and Vital Statistics: E. F. Stephenson. Engineering and Architecture: J. R. Ferguson, F.R.C.S., D.P.H. General Education: J. Woodroffe, M.A., and J. W. Trisham, M.D.
COURT B.—Anatomy: P. J. Fagan and A. Fraser, F.R.C.S. Surgery: C. A. K. Bell, F.R.C.S., A. Blaney, F. Conway-Dwyer, L. G. Gunn. Physiology and Histology: D. J. Coffey and E. L'Estrange Ledwich, F.R.C.S. Pathology and Bacteriology: R. J. Rowlett and A. H. White. Midwifery and Gynaecology: F. W. Kidd. Chemistry and Physics: E. Lapper and R. J. Montgomery. Dental Surgery and Pathology: G. M. P. Murray and W. G. Story. Mechanical Dentistry: D. L. Rogers and E. Sheridan.

CONJOINT BOARD IN IRELAND.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

THIRD PROFESSIONAL.—W. Coffey, F. J. Colgan, C. H. Christal, W. Crymble, J. Donoghue, T. Duncan, J. Healy, D. J. Harty, F. J. O'Donoghue, P. O'Farrell, E. Ryan, T. Sheedy, P. T. Warren, R. S. White.