

portion of the organ to be a subject to degenerative changes. It is important to remember that this condition of muscular atrophy recurs seasonally in a physiological manner and degree in wild rabbits.

III.—Removal of the Ovaries followed by Ligation of the Uterine Cornua at a Subsequent Date.

(a) We found that the fluid secreted in these circumstances was as copious as in the last experiment, and closely resembled that secretion in its low calcium content and physiological inactivity. (This was also, however, as in the case of that obtained in the last experiment, kept some time in sealed capsules before being used.)

(b) A typical section of one of the uteri examined is seen in Fig. 22. In this case the animal had been pregnant, and had aborted after removal of the ovaries. Twenty days later the cornua were tied. A month later the animal was killed. In every particular the section of this uterus is comparable with that seen in Fig. 21, and in marked contrast with Fig. 10.

Removal of the ovaries, therefore, whether performed previous to ligation of the cornua or synchronous with that operation, does not affect the quantity of the secretion, while it does appear to alter the chemical nature of

examined the ordinary wild rabbits were breeding. On examination every uterus was found to be in an inactive condition, and the ovaries were all small, and contained no ripe follicles.

It is, of course, possible, that captivity was the cause of this—of the fact that none were on heat; but we incline to the view that it was—in part at least—because the presence of the buck is an exciting factor in the case of wild does in regard to the onset of genital activity early in the year. We were quite unprepared for this result of our examinations, for we hoped to get inactive uteri in the first lot and menstruating uteri in the second, in order to estimate the total calcium in the ash of each lot of uteri. We give this observation for what it may be worth. The great difference between wild animals and domestic animals in their breeding habits is at once a source of wonder and information, and enables us more than anything else to realize how intimate is the association between the genital functions and the general metabolism of the body. The experiments we have described not only indicate that there is this close connexion between the general metabolism and the genital organs, but also that there is a definite interdependence (so long known and recognized, but never defined) of each part of the

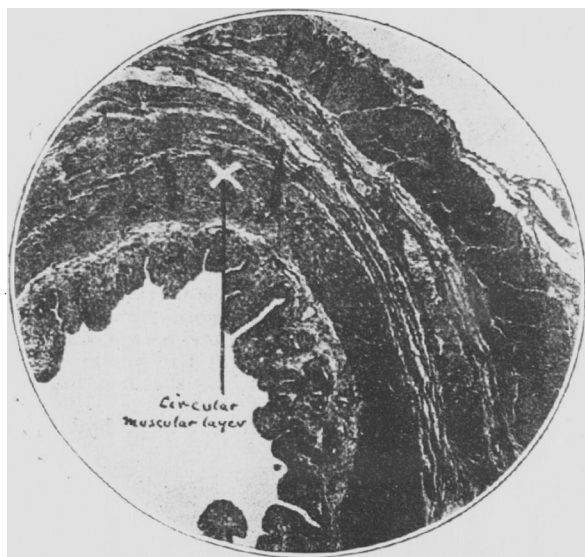


Fig. 21.—Hydrometra with synchronous removal of ovaries. $\times 200$.

it, as already indicated by the lowered calcium content and reduced physiological activity.

The histological appearances of the uteri are striking and suggestive, and readily bear the interpretation already put upon them in regard to the hypertrophy rather than atrophy of the muscular layer under these conditions.

We found also in the course of our experiments on hydrometra that unilateral ligation of a cornu does not at all interfere with pregnancy in the other cornu. One of our rabbits in which we made a unilateral hydrometra and stitched it to the abdominal parietes for satisfactory observation subsequently had two litters, both of which appeared at full time, and were reared. We thought, however, that the cyst got smaller during the pregnancies. This bears out Bond's observations as to the absence of secretion from a cornual fistula during pregnancy in the other horn. Indeed, many of our experiments here recorded confirm much of what he has stated in a recent publication. It is only right, however, to mention that our experiments were begun before his paper appeared.⁵

There is one more experiment (for the successful performance of which we are indebted to Mr. James Smith) to which we would like to allude:

One of us arranged with a keeper in Scotland to catch forty wild doe rabbits in February. Twenty of these were immediately killed and the genital organs examined. In every case the uterus was in the inactive or non-contracting state, and was flat and ribbon-like. The ovaries were small, and contained no ripe Graafian follicles. The remaining twenty rabbits were kept in captivity away from bucks for about two months, during which time two died. As far as possible the animals kept in captivity were allowed to lead a natural life, except for the presence of bucks. At the time these were killed and

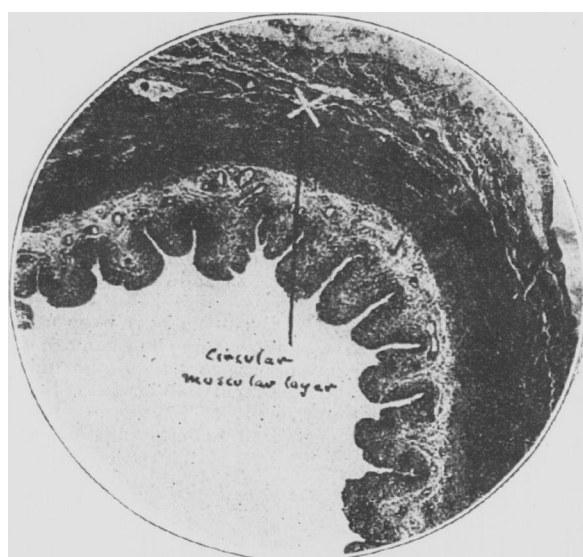


Fig. 22.—Hydrometra after previous removal of ovaries.

genital apparatus—that is to say, of the uterus and ovaries.

And, finally, these experiments help us to understand the specific changes that occur in each part as the result of interference with the other, or in altered circumstances. They have, in short, enabled us to attempt to define what that specific relationship is, and in coming to our conclusions we wish to acknowledge the assistance we have received from the work of those other observers in the same field of investigation to whom we have already referred.

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⁵ Heape, W.: Ovulation and Degeneration of Ova in the Rabbit. *Proc. Roy. Soc., Series B*, vol. lxxvi, No. B 509, 1905. ⁶ Bond, C. T.: Some Points in Uterine and Ovarian Physiology and Pathology in Rabbits, *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, July 21st, 1906.

Memoranda:

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

A CASE OF MYCOSIS FUNGOIDES IN THE PRE-MYCOTIC STAGE.

R. F., aged 65, was admitted to Dr. Calwell's wards in the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, on January 2nd, 1909. Fifteen months before admission he noticed the extensor surfaces of both forearms covered with reddish scales. During the succeeding four months this scaliness spread over the whole of his body, and was accompanied by extreme pruritus. Four months previous to admission large patches of brownish pigment appeared on his trunk and extremities.

On examination his body was found to be covered with branny, desquamating scales, and he complained bitterly of the associated pruritus. The skin had a general reddish tinge, with large areas of brown pigment irregularly deposited on trunk and limbs. The skin was also greatly thickened, especially over the extensor surfaces of the knees and elbows, where the integument hung in thick, leathery folds. The lymphatic glands in both axillae and groins were enlarged, and there was an almost complete absence of hair from the body. He complained greatly of cold, nervousness, and general weakness. The differential leucocytic count showed 8 per cent. eosinophiles, but otherwise the blood was normal.

He was detained in hospital for five weeks, and calcium lactate internally with calamine liniment locally were tried, but no improvement was observed.

The following were given as the outstanding features of the premycotic stage of mycosis fungoides in the *Journal of Dermatology*, vol. iii, No. 3:

1. Spontaneous occurrence of attacks of inflammation of the skin; practically involving the whole body, each successive attack leading to thickening of the corium and subcutaneous tissues, so that permanent, thick, tortuous folds result.
2. Loss of the skin appendages.
3. Enlargement of all the lymphatic glands.
4. Frequent febrile temperature and progressive loss of strength, terminating in death from exhaustion.

W. P. MACARTHUR, M.B.,

Lieut., R.A.M. Corps; Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast.

BEE STINGS AND RHEUMATISM.

The progress of the cases recorded in my note published in the *JOURNAL* of December 5th, 1908, p. 1678, has been since that date as follows:

CASE I.—A man, aged 76, tells me he has suffered not for ten, but fifteen years. He is continuing the treatment at the rate of twelve stings a week, and the pain which "left his hips and went into the thighs" changed its position to the knees on December 16th; on December 30th it returned slightly to the left hip, and on January 12th moved to the calves of both legs. He had only had fifty bees on the last date, having been shy at the pain in the commencement.

No. II still has some intercostal pain, but very much shorter in duration. She gave up the bees, but recommenced them after ten days.

No. III is coming to Birmingham again to have more bee stings, as he has been much freer from pain, which is much less, especially at night.

No. IV continues quite free from pain and is in excellent health.

The following cases are new:

No. V.—F. C., a mechanic, aged 34, suffered from sciatica for eighteen months. For four months he was under the care of a private medical man who ordered him to Droitwich, where he had the usual baths for fourteen days. He went there also for the next eight or nine week-ends, having on each occasion four baths. He returned little improved, and attended a hospital for fourteen days as an out-patient. After that for four months he was treated at the same institution by massage, and the galvanic battery, but without relief. On November 27th he commenced with twelve bee stings, which were repeated every week for six weeks. In five weeks there was marked improvement, and when I saw him last, on January 16th, he said he had been getting steadily better, so that he frequently did not know he had got sciatica. He had had, up to the last date, 100 bee stings.

No. VI.—K. H., a married woman, aged 36, had during the past three years suffered from rheumatism and arthritis in the jaws, hips, knees, feet, elbows, wrists, shoulders, and hands. The bees were applied first on December 1st, and she had twelve every week till January 4th, or sixty in all. "Results: Rheumatism nearly gone from the shoulders. Right wrists a little free. Right arm not quite set, but apparently released a little. Not so much pain generally. For the past two years there was incessant acute pain whether active or idle."

No. VII.—E. N., a single woman, aged 35, had suffered for three years and a half with rheumatoid arthritis in wrists and fingers, which are much deformed, and also in the ankles. She had been treated as an out-patient at a hospital and was an in-patient for ten weeks, when, she says, she "received some relief from the rest from work." She commenced the bee stinging on November 21st, 1908, and on January 16th had had sixty-six stings. The grasp was much stronger, the wrists, fingers, and ankles more movable, stronger, and quite free from pain. Her nights, which had been frequently very bad, are much better.

No. VIII.—H. D., a mechanical engineer, aged 54, was lamed by a kick above the left knee when 10 years old, and had some bone removed. For the past thirteen years he has been gradually getting worse in the other leg from increasing sciatica. On January 8th and each of the following dates I applied eight

bees to the region of the sciatic nerve—for I am satisfied that the stinging is not only antitoxic, but also counter-irritant—and on the following day he told me that before stinging he had to hang on to various articles of furniture to assist his crossing the dining-room, but when he returned home, after being stung, he could do so without assistance. On January 11th his leg felt stronger and he could walk better. On January 13th he said he had less pain on leaving bed, and much better nights since January 8th, but followed by considerable pain in the day. He was better on January 15th and his nights were still good. Walking did not seem so firm. There was a large, circular, inflamed patch over the trochanter. The last application of bees was followed by severe inflammation along the thigh. On January 19th the leg was not so strong, and there was increased pain. On January 22nd he reported that he had had more pain in the day, but the nights were very much better. On January 25th the pain was still severe, particularly in the femur. On January 29th pain followed in the right hip joint. On February 2nd there was great stiffness in thigh and knee-joint, and he was compelled to walk more slowly. On February 5th there was no improvement; but he was no worse. This gentleman seems to be losing heart, but, after thirteen years, cure cannot be expected under a month, and after only 100 bees have been used. He is continuing the treatment.

As to my own case, up to January 22nd my progress was most satisfactory. I continued to apply two lots of bees a week, and in all 271 to that date. I had slight twinges of muscular rheumatism of not more than a few minutes' duration, for which reason I persevered with the treatment. But on that day I contracted a chill, and suffered at night some pain in the glutei and right sciatic nerve. I at once put on eleven bees, and slept well, the pain next morning being much easier, and permitting me to work. On January 23rd, after a long harassing day, I got to bed tired at 10 p.m., and applied fifteen bees, and on January 24th only had slight pain in the glutei, none in the sciatic. I made a necropsy for the coroner at 6.30 p.m., in a fireless mortuary, with a glass roof, the temperature being below freezing. On January 25th I attended the inquest in a court with mercury at 70°, the external temperature being 25°. I applied twelve bees on January 24th, and eight on the following day. On January 26th I had great pain in the glutei on walking, and put on twelve bees at night. Next morning I was much easier, with only slight pain towards night, and had eight bees. On January 28th I still had pain in the glutei, and on January 29th this was increased on walking. I applied fourteen bees, and was better on January 30th, but still had some difficulty in walking. On Sunday, January 31st, I rested in bed all day, and applied eight bees at night. From February 1st to 7th the pain varied. On February 3rd and 4th there was much pain after walking, and I applied in six days forty-five bees. On February 20th I was entirely free from acute pain, but still continue the stinging. I am taking no other medicine, and, but for occasional transient pain, feel very fit, and have, as one of my old ladies says, a very "avaricious appetite."

I regret to hear from several medical men that the bee-keepers, both here and in Scotland, will not take bees from their hives during hibernation, although the Editors of the *British Bee Journal*, '8, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, stated, in reply to a letter from me in their issue of January 21st, "It is well known that there would be little or no trouble in obtaining a few live bees at any season of the year from any expert who could have access to a hive." I have ascertained that if the bees are put in a properly ventilated box, covered with cotton-wool, and enclosed in a second box, also ventilated, they will stand a long journey by post. They should at once be placed in a very warm position. I made a hole in the rim of a halfpenny tin plate, allowing the upright of an iron retort-stand to pass through it; the plate rests on the iron ring, or is fastened with wire to make it more secure. A spirit lamp with $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. flame is placed beneath, and the ring lowered to 4 in. or 5 in. from the flame. A cheap thermometer is wired to the top of the upright, the bulb resting on the plate. By this means a temperature of 76° can easily be maintained, and the bees, if supplied with candy, as they ought to be by the vendor, require only a few drops of water on their food each day, and will keep well for several days. The spirit lamp should be filled in the evening, or the bees may be found dead from cold in the morning. My bees are quite lively at the end of four days.

I have been asked frequently as to the pain of stinging. After the first three stings on myself, I find that the intensity of the pain is much less lasting than at first—in fact, is over in half an hour at the most. Some of the bees seem to cause greater pain than others, but I think this may be explained by a larger cutaneous nerve being wounded by the sting. I hope that shortly your readers will have, from his own pen, the experience of another Birmingham practitioner, who tells me he has found great relief to old-standing sciatica from this treatment.

Birmingham.

E. T. BURTON.

Time, which, as Sir Thomas Browne says, antiquates antiquities, and hath an art to make dust of all things. The book is a monument of which not only the author but the college of which he is a prominent member may well be proud.

MALARIA IN ITALY.

THERE appeared recently in the *Times* an interesting letter by Professor Osler in which he justly described what has been effected in Italy towards the mitigation of the scourge of malaria as a lesson in practical hygiene. The Italian Society for the Study of Malaria was founded ten years ago, and the results of its work in that period are summed up in the following paragraphs from its decennial report just issued, which are quoted by Professor Osler:

The society has improved the prophylaxis of malaria, and has introduced into practice the new mechanical measures based on the defence of the habitation and the individual from the bites of mosquitos. This being a relatively expensive procedure, the society has occupied itself chiefly with the improvement of the antiparasitic prophylaxis—the administration of quinine.

For this purpose it has promoted and defended legislation for the gratuitous distribution of quinine to the poor and to all workers in malarial localities.

In order to render possible the prophylaxis and to prolong the treatment, it has prepared the quinine in its most agreeable forms, namely, that of comfits and chocolates, the latter containing tannate of quinine, which has little taste, and is better tolerated by children.

The results have been that since 1902, when the law on State quinine was promulgated, while the consumption of quinine has been yearly increasing, the mortality from malaria has diminished from about 16,000 to about 4,000 yearly; and in the army, Custom House offices, and in some communes where the new laws have been better applied, the morbidity from malaria has greatly diminished.

By these measures, says Professor Osler, and "by means of the agricultural and agrarian transformation of the land and colonization, rather than by the destruction of mosquitos (a thing impossible to be done by us on a large scale)," Italy may be freed from the scourge. He goes on to give a sketch of the history of discovery in respect to malaria, in which he speaks of the "old suggestion" of Lancisi that the disease is transmitted by the mosquito. Lancisi did, indeed, in his book, *De novis Paludum effluviis*, published in 1717, ask whether "among the living effluvia of marshes there are not some more minute than others which may find their way into the blood vessels and there multiply injuriously"; and he recommended that the blood drawn from persons suffering from ague should be examined with the microscope and the insects found therein (*si qua sint*) closely scrutinized. But the suggestion is much older than the eighteenth century. Varro, writing in the first century before Christ in his book on agriculture, in speaking of the choice of a building site, says that the neighbourhood of marshes is to be avoided, because there grow therein "certain minute animals, invisible to the eye, which gain access to the body through the mouth and nose." Columella, who lived in the first century after Christ, giving counsel on the same subject, says that marshes breed "animals armed with noxious stings, which fly at us in thickest swarms." Professor Osler goes on to speak of the Panama Canal zone, which he says is an astounding witness to the success of modern sanitary measures against malaria. The monthly reports of Colonel Gorgas give a death-rate (among nearly 50,000 work-people) lower than that of any large city; it has been as low as 12 per 1,000. The final establishment of the truth that malaria is transmitted by mosquitos is a notable triumph of the experimental method.

AT a meeting held at the Cultusministerium in Berlin on February 18th, under the presidency of Cabinet Councillor Dr. von Behr-Pinnow, which was attended by representatives of the district centre and the international bureau for the protection of infancy, it was decided to form a national committee for the care of nurslings. The committee is intended to be a central council for the consideration of the measures adopted independently by individual corporations. A German association for the care of nurslings has been founded and will hold its first general meeting in June of the present year.

Medical News.

A COMMITTEE for the investigation of hospital abuse is now in session in the Central Offices of the Assistance Publique, in Paris.

MR. HENRY PHIPPS, of New York, has given more than £200,000 for the purposes of the psychiatric clinic at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore.

MR. EDGAR TAUNTON, M.B., F.R.C.S., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health of Bethnal Green, has been called to the bar at the Inner Temple.

AN anonymous benefactor has recently given, through Dr. John H. Musser, £40,000 to the University of Pennsylvania for the establishment of a department of medical research.

THE Harveian Lecture of the Harveian Society of London will be delivered by Mr. A. J. Pepper next Thursday. It will deal with thirty years' hospital experience and practice.

AT a meeting of the Medical Society of London next Monday evening there will be a discussion on the relation of medical men and coroners. It is to be introduced by Sir Victor Horsley.

THE Royal Mail Steam Packet Company has published an illustrated booklet given particulars of the Easter pleasure cruises that can be made by its steamers to Spain, Portugal, Gibraltar, Morocco, Canary Islands, and Madeira.

THE epidemic of measles still continues in Birmingham, and twenty-three schools have been closed on account of it. In the week ending March 6th 42 deaths occurred from measles, as compared with 43 in the preceding week. No doubt the cold, snowy weather had a good deal to do with the large number of deaths.

A DINNER of a somewhat remarkable character was given to Dr. John B. Deaver of Philadelphia on February 14th. The peculiarity of the dinner is that it was given by more than 150 doctors who had been successfully operated on for appendicitis. A loving cup was presented to Dr. Deaver on the occasion.

IT is announced that by the beginning of the next school year in September the London Education Committee hopes to have established children's care committees for all elementary schools in London, in order to arrange for their apprenticeship or for finding them good permanent employment where there is a prospect of advance.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made for lectures on tropical subjects to be delivered to nurses at the London School of Tropical Medicine, Royal Albert Dock, E. Any qualified nurse may attend the course, whether she intends proceeding abroad or not. The first course will commence October 15th, 1909, and will be taken by Mr. Cantlie, Dr. Daniels, Dr. Andrew Duncan, Dr. R. T. Leiper, Dr. J. M. H. MacLeod, and Dr. F. M. Sandwith.

THE seventh meeting of the Departmental Committee appointed by the Lord President of the Council to consider the working of the Midwives Act was held at the Privy Council Office on March 17th. The following witnesses attended and gave evidence: Dr. E. W. Hope, Medical Officer of Health, Liverpool; Mr. G. H. Fosbroke, Medical Officer of Health, Worcestershire; Mr. J. R. Kaye, Medical Officer of Health, West Riding, Yorkshire.

THE sixth National Periodical (French) Congress of Gynaecology and Obstetrics and Paediatrics will be held at Toulouse from September 22nd to 27th, 1910, under the presidency of Professor Kirmisson, who will also preside over the Section of Paediatrics. Professor Hartmann will be president of the Section of Gynaecology, and Professor Rouvier, of Algiers, of that of Obstetrics. The General Secretary of the Congress is Dr. Audebert, Professor of Clinical Obstetrics at Toulouse.

THE German Congress of Internal Medicine will hold its twenty-sixth annual meeting this year at Wiesbaden from April 19th to the 22nd. Among the communications promised are the following: Dr. Magnus-Levy, the metabolism of mineral material in clinical pathology; Dr. Head, sensibility and the testing of sensibility; the same subject will be dealt with by Professor Schoenborn, of Heidelberg; Dr. E. Müller, of Breslau, antiferment of the

tryptic pancreatic and leucocytic ferment; and Dr. Plömes, of Dresden, on the relation between disturbances and diseases of the circulatory apparatus, with special reference to nervous disorders of the heart.

ON January 1st, 1909, the number of medical practitioners in Norway was found to be 1,231, of which number no less than 38 are women. This is probably the largest percentage (3 per cent.) of medical women in any country. As the whole of Norway has only about 2½ million inhabitants, and the two largest towns, Christiania and Bergen respectively, about 230,000 and 70,000 only, it is difficult to see how so many medical women can find a living.

THE school of massage attached to the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic, Bloomsbury, has proved so successful that it has now been decided to extend the teaching to male pupils. Hitherto only the male nurses of the institution have been taught, but, commencing with Easter Term, outside men students will be allowed to join the classes. The lectures on theory will continue to be in the hands of Mrs. Hawkins, and Mr. J. Richert has been appointed to give practical demonstrations to the men's class. The qualification for membership of the National Hospital Male Nurses' Association will still be confined to those who have obtained the hospital certificate, and the public can therefore, through the association, obtain nurses who are also masseurs.

THE annual meeting of the General Council of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London took place at Marlborough House on March 10th, the Prince of Wales being in the chair. The proceedings were of a formal character, consisting mainly in the presentation and adoption of the report and accounts for the year 1908. The leading events recorded in the report have all been already noticed in these columns. The total receipts for the year were £345,792 15s., and the total distributed £140,000. It is clear that the financial management of this Fund must be of the most admirable kind, for the total cost of administration up to date has been less than 1½ per cent. on the sums received, while when the capital invested in non-trust stock was valued last July it was found to be worth £100,000 more than the sum originally paid.

IN our issue of February 27th, attention was drawn to the section of the Minority Report of the Royal Poor Law Commission which dealt with the infant mortality in Poor Law institutions. It was shown that the mortality among infants born in workhouses was extremely high. In the next issue some statistics of the Charité State Hospital in Berlin were quoted, and it was stated that 2,543 children had been born in that hospital in the year 1906-7. We have since ascertained that the number of infants who died in the Charité Hospital during the year under consideration was 152, and that there were 184 stillbirths. The ages of the infants dying in the Charité cannot be stated, so that the figures are not directly comparable with those for the English workhouses, but they certainly appear to indicate that the Berlin mortality is much lower. We are glad to observe that Mr. Burns stated that the statistics quoted in the Minority Report of the Royal Commission are being carefully examined by the Local Government Board.

THE 136th anniversary dinner of the Medical Society of London was held at the Hôtel Métropole on March 10th, with Mr. C. B. Lockwood, the President, in the chair. Covers were laid for over 150 guests, and the arrangements for the comfort of all concerned were admirably carried out by Mr. Bethell, the Librarian of the Society, under the direction of the Honorary Secretaries, Mr. T. H. Kellock and Dr. Leonard Guthrie. The Chairman, in proposing the toast of "The Medical Society of London," said that, though the society possessed admirable premises in Chandos Street, there was not quite sufficient room for its requirements; but the time was not far off when that defect could be remedied. In addition to its library, the society possessed valuable pictures and property. The financial position was so sound that, if it were necessary at once to liquidate, it could pay all its creditors at least eight times over. The toast of "The Guests and Kindred Societies" was proposed by Mr. J. Langton and replied to by Sir William S. Church and by Sir Alfred Keogh, Director-General A.M.S. Dr. J. K. Fowler submitted the toast of the Chairman, who, in concluding his reply, gave the toast of the Honorary Secretaries. After these gentlemen had replied, the company separated.

Two fasciculi of the *Bulletin de la Société Médicale de l'Île Maurice* which have reached our hands contain an

account of the proceedings of the principal medical society in this French-speaking British dependency during the latter half of the twenty-sixth year of its existence, ending December, 1908. Among the twenty or more papers contained are several of interest, and more particularly two dealing with the method of treating abscesses, originally described by Dr. Phillips, of Bradford, in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* on May 16th, 1908. The author of the longer of the two papers, Dr. F. Rouget, considers this treatment constitutes a great advance in surgery, and suggests that it be known as "tight packing." The second paper is equally favourable to it. Dr. Felix records some cases of persistent hiccup in old people successfully treated by subcutaneous injections of quinine, and suggests that in them malarial infection may betray itself merely by a very slight rise in temperature and gastric troubles accompanied by persistent hiccup. Also contained in the two volumes are some four or five papers dealing with the pathology and treatment of malarial fever accompanied by haemoglobinuria, the so-called blackwater fever.

THE second International Congress on Industrial Accidents will be held at Rome from May 23rd to 27th. The official programme of discussions includes the following subjects: (1) The organization of a medical and surgical service for the treatment and observation of the consequences of industrial accidents. (2) The organization of a medico-legal service to deal with industrial accidents and to establish rules for the guidance of doctors who have to examine such cases. (3) Determination and prognosis of the neurotic element in industrial accidents. Under this head is placed the estimation of working capacity before and after the accident. This includes: (a) Methods of examination for that purpose; (b) the importance of the condition before the accident (pre-disposition, previous illnesses, etc.); (c) anthropological and sociological data (race, age, sex, criminality, etc.); (d) the influence of circumstances connected with the accident (legal process, medical examinations, etc.), the influence of forms of compensation on the development of post-traumatic nervous affections. (6) Statistical data from the medical point of view as to the consequences of the application of the compensation law. (7) Functional adaptation of injured joints. Communications relative to the congress should be addressed to the General Secretary, via Borgognona 38, Rome. Papers, which may be written in Italian, French, German, or English, should be in the hands of the general secretary on or before April 1st. Reports introductory to discussions should not exceed sixteen and papers should not exceed eight printed pages in length. In each case they should be accompanied by a summary of not more than thirty lines in length.

ON several occasions during the last few years allusion has been made in these columns to the lack of proper provision in the mortuaries of the metropolis for the preservation of bodies awaiting identification and *post-mortem* examination, and we showed as recently as last January that there was a strong case for the immediate filling of this gap in medico-legal machinery. It is with satisfaction, therefore, that we note that the Corporation of the City of London, whose coroner, Dr. Waldo, has been particularly active in urging this reform, has provided a Rechter apparatus, an appliance which works with formaldehyde gas, and affords, in the opinion of many pathologists, a better means of preserving bodies than a freezing machine. When drawing the attention of the jury to this new provision at an inquest on March 12th, Dr. Waldo mentioned that the net outcome of sundry recommendations on the subject which he had forwarded to the London County Council from juries in the other district of which he is coroner, namely, Southwark, was a letter stating that the Council did not at present see its way to provide any means of preserving bodies. It is a somewhat curious result, for the desire for an appliance to preserve bodies in a condition in which they may be identified or examined is no mere medical or legal fad. The value of refrigerators in connexion with public mortuaries has been recognized by the legislature, for a section intended to secure the provision of such aids to criminal investigation was introduced into the Public Health Act (London) of 1891. The cost of appliances which fulfil the purpose in question is not great, and as compared with their practical value is a mere trifle. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the London County Council will reconsider the question. In these days any important municipal authority which neglects to make at one or more of its mortuaries such a simple provision as a refrigerator or equivalent apparatus is guilty of an anachronism.

medical aid or lodging, he fails to take steps to procure the same to be provided under the Acts relating to the relief of the poor.

(2) A person may be convicted of an offence under this section, either on indictment or by a court of summary jurisdiction, notwithstanding that actual suffering or injury to health, or the likelihood of such suffering or injury to health, as obviated by the action of another person.

(3) A person may be convicted of an offence under this section, either on indictment or by a court of summary jurisdiction, notwithstanding the death of the child or young person in respect of whom the offence is committed.

(The italics are mine.)

It will be seen that defaulting parents and custodians will receive at an early date most drastic treatment at the hands of the State if they continue to neglect children and young persons committed to their charge. The intention of the Act seems to be, in the first instance, to throw the onus of providing for medical treatment on the parents and custodians and not on the State.

It is also instructive, as bearing on hospital reform and the questionable need to build any but cottage hospitals in the future, to note that by this Act parents and custodians unable to meet, by insurance or otherwise, the just fees of medical practitioners are expected to claim the use of the infirmaries at present under the control of boards of guardians. This procedure will in time compel these buildings, taken over by borough or county councils, to be properly staffed and organized, and once again to take their rightful position in the economy of the State. It is quite time that voluntarily subsidized hospitals ceased, on the one hand, to bear State burdens, and, on the other, to deprive registered medical practitioners of their legitimate livelihood by underselling.—I am, etc.,

London, S.W., March 13th.

E. ROWLAND FOTHERGILL.

A MEDICAL DEGREE FOR LONDON STUDENTS.

SIR,—In fruitless arguments over the quality of various degrees and diplomas I have repeatedly seen statements and implications such as Dr. Mercier makes under the above heading in your last issue. He says:

The substitution of three professional examinations for the two in the present curriculum before the Conjoint examinee can obtain his diploma is a handicap to the London medical student in comparison with the alumni of other universities. The grievance of the London medical student is that for the same expenditure of time, labour, and money for which a provincial student can obtain a university degree, the London student can obtain the Conjoint diplomas only, which, although well known in the profession to represent professional attainments equivalent to a university degree, are not so regarded outside the profession.

I beg to say that the implication he makes here does not apply to the Scottish universities, and if he says it does, he speaks in ignorance, or quite in face of the facts. For the past twenty-five years at least (I speak from personal knowledge, and of Glasgow University specifically) the Scottish universities have demanded *four* professional examinations from their graduates in place of *three* (not two, as Dr. Mercier says) required by the English Conjoint Board.

As regards time and labour they are nearly the same in the preliminary scientific subjects and in those of the second examination, save that at the University separate courses of zoology and botany take the place of one in biology, and that there have to be nine months spent at physiology and histology instead of six. In the more strictly professional subjects the University requires six months' systematic materia medica and therapeutics and six months' midwifery instead of three months in each of these subjects. Pathology gets six months' systematic study and three months' practical pathology and bacteriology, as against a combined three months' course required by the Conjoint Board. Diseases of women have three months' study (twenty-five lectures or clinical meetings) instead of a course of twelve meetings. At the University *three years'* hospital work are obligatory, but only two are required by the Conjoint Board. It may be said that few Conjoint men are satisfied with the minimum course of study, and the same is true of the University graduate. *There* the men do twice or three times the amount of *study* obligatory, double the systematic medicine and *surgery*, and generally they spend four years at the *University* instead of the three absolutely necessary.

Coming to the quality of the examinations, opinions

very well may, and, indeed, always will, differ; but, taking the fact that from 35 per cent. to 55 per cent. of the candidates are regularly rejected, the standard at the University can be no mean one. This will be granted by the most biassed, as, in view of Scottish educational history, he will hardly attribute an essential want of brain to the North. If the course of study required and the examinations of the London University are no obstacle in the way of the Conjoint men, as Dr. Mercier says, then they are in a better position for acquiring a degree than are the Scottish students, inasmuch as their course of study may be pursued at any one or more of a large number of educational institutions, whereas the Scottish University man is compelled to study at least two years at the University.

I have only glanced at the requirements of the English provincial universities, and my impression is that their standard is much the same as the Scottish; but I shall leave the graduates of those universities to vindicate the status each of his own Alma Mater.

Let me assure Dr. Mercier that the general public "fashes" itself very little about our degrees and titles, the chief concern being to secure as much as possible from us for as little reward, in our senseless competition for clubs and underselling of each other in private work, as we, graduates and diplomates alike, are foolish enough to accept. It would serve us better to spend our energies in remedying these tangible matters than in the pursuit of vain degrees and phylacteries. Of the small public who take an interest in the different titles and qualifications, the well-informed appreciate each at its proper value. The ill-informed estimate a man's position by the number of letters he can append to his name, and, as the diplomate has more of the alphabet to play with than has the graduate, he is at no disadvantage in this respect.

Personally I have no objection to any body of men earning, begging, borrowing, stealing, or inventing for themselves whatsoever degrees or titles they may fancy; but, whilst they do so, I certainly deprecate all unwarrantable aspersion of other respectable corporations and their graduates.—I am, etc.,

Hull, March 16th.

JOHN DIVINE, M.D.Glasg.

SOUTHWOLD LIBEL CASE.

In order to remove certain misunderstandings that seem to have arisen, we are requested to draw attention to the exact words of the paragraph in which the opening of a fund on behalf of the defendants in this case was made known in the JOURNAL of February 6th, p. 353:

"Upon the suggestion of local members of the profession who desire to give practical expression to their sympathy with Drs. Mullock and Tripp, of Southwold, a fund has been opened to assist them in defraying the heavy expenses which they have incurred as the result of the recent action which they were called upon to defend."*

* The italics were not in the original.

By a printer's error, the date of Dr. Smith's letter published last week was printed February instead of March 6th.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

MEETING OF THE SENATE.

A MEETING of the Senate was held on February 24th.

Appointment of a Royal Commission.

Attention was drawn to the announcement which had appeared in the press that a Royal Commission had been appointed to inquire into the subject of university education in London. It was reported "that the reference to the Commission had not been submitted or communicated to the University, and that the Government had, prior to the publication of the announcement, been informed that it should not be assumed, without opportunity for consultation, that the Senate would be an assenting party to any reference to a Commission in excess of, or inconsistent with, the resolution on the subject passed by them on December 2nd last."

D.Sc. Examination in Physiology.

The degree of Doctor of Science in Physiology has been conferred upon Dr. Frederick Hughes Scott, the subject of his

thesis being the relative parts played by nervous and chemical factors in the regulation of respiration. It was reported that, in addition, Dr. Scott had submitted other contributions to the advancement of science.

Laboratory of National Eugenics.

Mr. David Heron, M.A., and Miss E. M. Elderton were reappointed Research Fellow and Research Scholar in the Francis Galton Laboratory for National Eugenics for a further period of one year.

Grant from the Goldsmiths' Company.

A communication was received from the clerk of the Goldsmiths' Company intimating the renewal for a further period of three years of the Company's annual grant of £5,000 towards the maintenance of the Goldsmiths' College, New Cross. The cordial thanks of the Senate were accorded to the Company for their continued generosity.

Dates of Examinations for Medical Degrees.

It was resolved that in 1910 the second examination for medical degrees, Part II, should be held on the second Monday in March, and that the second examination for medical degrees, Part I, be held on the Thursday following the second Monday in March.

The B.Sc. (Pass and Honours) Examination in Physiology for External Students.

The Senate has resolved that in and after 1910 certain emendations should be introduced in the regulations for the B.Sc. (pass and honours) examination in physiology for external students (Blue Book, September, 1908, pp. 298-310).

Portraits of Former Vice-Chancellors.

The portraits of the following former Vice-Chancellors have been presented to the University, and have been framed and hung in the Vice-Chancellor's room: Sir John W. Lubbock, Sir John Shaw-Lefevre, Sir Edward Ryan, Sir George Jessel, Sir Julian Goldsmid, Sir John Lubbock (now Lord Avebury), Sir James Paget, Sir Henry Roscoe, Dr. A. Robertson (now Bishop of Exeter), and Dr. P. H. Pye-Smith.

Election of Representative.

Dr. Frederick Taylor has been appointed representative of the University on the General Medical Council in the place of Dr. P. H. Pye-Smith, resigned.

University Studentship in Physiology.

A university studentship in physiology of the value of £50 for one year will be awarded to a student qualified to undertake research in physiology. Candidates must be matriculated students or graduates of the University. Applications to be sent to the Principal by May 31st, 1909, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE SENATE.

An extraordinary meeting of the Senate was held on March 3rd, summoned by the Vice-Chancellor upon a requisition signed by six members, to consider the announcement which had appeared in the press regarding the appointment of a Royal Commission on the University, and to decide what action, if any, should be taken on behalf of the University. Eventually the Senate resolved to meet as a committee to consider the matter further on March 31st.

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN.

UNIVERSITY COURT.

A MEETING of the Aberdeen University Court was held in Marischal College on March 9th, Professor Matthew Hay presiding, the Principal being still indisposed.

It was announced that Dr. William Dey, late rector of the old Aberdeen Grammar School and at present a member of the Court, had intimated to the secretary the intention of himself and his brothers to found a scholarship, of the annual value of £100, in memory of their father, to be called the "James Dey Scholarship in Education." Intimation was received that the committee in charge of the movement to erect a memorial to the late Professor George Pirie proposed that, subject to the sanction of the University authorities, the memorial should take the form of a stained-glass window in the antechapel of King's College Chapel. The Court, as well as the Senatus, approved of the proposal, subject to the designs and plans being afterwards approved.

Gift to the Natural History Department.

Mr. R. Hay Fenton (London) has offered to the University, on certain reasonable conditions, his very fine collection of British birds' eggs. Four years ago Mr. Fenton lent the bulk of his collection to the Natural History Museum, Marischal College, and it has been of great interest and value to students and others. The collection numbers upwards of 7,000 specimens, and includes, as its greatest rarity, an egg of the extinct great auk. Mr. Fenton, in his letter intimating the gift, said: "In making this offer to the University of my native city, let me express the hope that it may be the means of stimulating Aberdonians at home and abroad, and especially graduates, to take an interest in and contribute specimens to the Natural History Museum, where, as a boy, I spent many a profitable and pleasant Saturday afternoon in the company of my father." The Court received the intimation with much satisfaction, and resolved to express its very cordial thanks to Mr. Hay Fenton for his most generous gift.

Resignation of Professor Ogston.

The following letter was received from Professor Ogston by the Secretary of the Court:

"As I feel that it would be in the interest of the University that its department of surgery should now be in the hands of a younger man than I am, I beg that you will submit to the University Court my regret that they will, under the provisions applicable to those professors who have attained the age of sixty-five years, be pleased to sanction my resignation of the chair of surgery, to take effect from the end of the present University year, by which time I shall have completed my sixty-fifth year and shall have held the chair of surgery for twenty-seven years. My object in thus early proffering my request is to ensure that my successor may have ample time to arrange his plans of teaching and be able to commence his duties at the beginning of the winter session 1909-1910."

This letter confirms the statement which Professor Ogston made to his class at the opening of the session in October. It is understood that among the candidates for the vacant post are Mr. J. Scott Riddell, M.V.O., M.A., M.B., Senior Surgeon, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary; Mr. John Marnoch, M.A., M.B., Surgeon, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary; Mr. H. M. W. Gray, M.B., F.R.C.S., Surgeon, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary (all three are lecturers in clinical surgery to the University), and Mr. Alex. Don, M.A., M.B., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the Dundee Royal Infirmary.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

FINAL (Part II).—*D. M. Moffatt, *A. J. Stals, J. D. Kernan, H. R. Kenny, F. R. Sayers, C. G. S. Baronsfeather, D. J. Stokes, C. B. Jones.

* Passed on high marks.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

MEETING OF COUNCIL.

At a meeting of Council on March 11th, Mr. Henry Morris, President, in the chair, Mr. F. Richardson Cross was appointed. Bradshaw Lecturer for the year, and the Sir Gilbert Blane medals were awarded to Staff Surgeon Charles Rowley Nicholson, H.M.S. *Egmont*, 1906-7, and Staff Surgeon Arthur William Bligh Livesay, M.B., H.M.S. *Bonaventure*, 1907.

His Excellency Dr. Nicolas Weliainoff, Privy Councillor of State and Professor of Surgery at the Imperial Military Academy of Medicine, St. Petersburg, who was elected an Honorary Fellow of the College in 1901, was introduced and signed the Roll.

The Admission of Women to the College.

The following proposed by-law was accepted, but again referred to the Committee by which it was drawn up, for further consideration:

1. Pursuant to the powers conferred by the Medical Act, 1876, and subject to the provisions therein and hereinafter contained, women may be admitted as Members and Fellows of the College and may obtain Diplomas in Dental Surgery on the same terms and conditions as men; and so far as it is necessary to give effect to this By-law words in the By-laws and Regulations of the College which import the masculine gender shall also import the feminine gender, and all proper alterations shall be made in the form of the Letters Testimonial, Diplomas, Certificates and Licences granted by the College.
2. Women shall not be eligible as Members of the Council or vote at or take any part in any election of a Member or Members of the Council, or attend any Meeting of Fellows or of Fellows and Members (except Meetings convened for the delivery of Lectures or Orations), or otherwise take any part in the government, management, or proceedings of the College.
3. Women shall not be eligible as Members of the Court of Examiners or for any Examinership to which the Council appoint.

Election of Representative.

Mr. Henry Morris was re-elected for a period of five years as the Representative of the College on the General Medical Council.

The May Examination.

Mr. William Wright was appointed Substitute Examiner for the May examination, in place of Professor Young, whose resignation was accepted with regret.

The Charter of the British Medical Association.

A committee was appointed to consider the petition of the British Medical Association for the grant of a Charter of Incorporation.

The Services.

ARMY ESTIMATES.—MEDICAL SERVICES.

Classification of Cases.

COLONEL E. B. HARTLEY (retired), of Ilminster, Somerset (late P.M.O. Cape Colonial Forces), writes: One cannot help feeling glad to see in your issue of March 6th that the admissions to hospital of the regular army have been considerably reduced by "an administrative improvement by which men with slight ailments are not removed to hospital, but are treated in barracks as out-patients" (I am quoting Mr. Haldane's sentence). I have always been surprised that this system was not followed years ago, for undoubtedly in times gone by thousands of soldiers have been admitted into military hospitals who would only have been treated by civil hospitals as out-patients.

years Dr. Keeling took an active part in the work of the Sheffield Medical Society, and contributed many papers from time to time, although he does not appear ever to have published any of them. He was a man of marked ability, well versed in medical literature, and possessing a ripe and varied experience. In disposition he was reserved, delighting in secret kindnesses and self-sacrificing labour, but receiving any acknowledgement of his good deeds with characteristic brusqueness.

W. H. DAY, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.,

NORWICH.

THE death occurred, after a long illness, on March 15th, at the ripe age of 85, of Mr. W. H. Day, of Norwich.

William Hanks Day, who was descended from an old Norwich family, several of whose members had been very prominent in the life of the city, was born in 1824. He was a son of Mr. William Day, for over forty years clerk to the magistrates. He received his medical education at St. Thomas's Hospital, and obtained the diploma of M.R.C.S. in 1845, and that of L.S.A. in the following year.

After acting for a short time as surgeon to the Reading Dispensary, he entered into partnership in 1849 with Mr. W. P. Nicholls, then a well-known practitioner in Norwich. Eighteen years later, the partnership having come to an end, Mr. Day began to practise on his own account. For many years he was medical officer to the Lakenham district, and was also surgeon to the Jenny Lind Infirmary for Children, the Maternity Charity, and the city gaol. For forty-two years he was surgeon to the Girls' Hospital School. His practice brought him much into contact with the poor, and he discharged his duties with such solicitude and conscientiousness that he received the very unusual tribute of a testimonial got up by the parochial poor entirely on their own initiative. Mr. Day had at one time the largest obstetrical practice in the Norwich district, and had, it is said, attended as many as 8,000 confinements.

In his earlier years he was fond of amateur theatricals, and turned his capabilities in that respect to account to assist the volunteers, a service in which he took a great interest.

Mr. Day was Chairman of the Committee which raised the memorial fund to the late Mr. William Cadge, and his last public appearance was at the ceremonial of the unveiling of the memorial window erected from the proceeds of that fund in December, 1904.

Mr. Day married in 1849, and leaves five daughters, one of whom is the Matron of the Norwich Grammar School.

We are permitted to publish the following appreciation of Mr. Day, contributed by Dr. Michael Beverley to the *Eastern Daily Press*: The Dean of our local faculty, after a long and to him weary waiting, is gone to that rest which he has so earnestly anticipated. It is true that he found a solatium in his books and his facile pen, and to the last continued to take a keen interest in all the current topics of the day. His contributions to your columns were not infrequent, and often under a thinly-veiled anonymity his friends detected the well considered and pointed criticisms so characteristic of the man. But, in spite of this and the treasures of a well-stored mind and memory, I know of no one who felt so keenly his enforced inaction as William Hanks Day. To those of us—and but few now remain, who have pleasing reminiscences of Mr. Day in his prime—we remember him as one of the hardest-worked medical men in the city of Norwich, greatly respected by his colleagues, beloved by a large *clientèle* of patients of all classes, a *persona grata* wherever he went, especially in Lakenham, where his name was a household word. At all times, day and night, in all weathers, he might be seen driving about with an old-world-looking coachman, whose face was as familiar to the man in the street as his master's. William Day was a fine example of the cultivated general practitioner of the old school. He was never known to commit a breach of professional etiquette or to be guilty of a mean action. *Noblesse oblige* found in him a true exponent, and this was felt and appreciated by his fellows. The last work in which, after his retirement, he engaged, to him a real labour of love, was the chairmanship of the committee by whose exertions a memorial

window was placed in the Cathedral to the memory of his old friend, Mr. Cadge. All of us who served under him can bear testimony to the enthusiasm which he threw into this very considerable undertaking, the accuracy of his artistic taste and judgement to which was due the splendid work of art which appropriately illustrates the life and work of a great surgeon. Nor can those who were present at the unveiling in the Cathedral ever forget the pathetic scene, and the deep feeling evinced by our octogenarian leader, when he read the dedication (composed by himself) in the presence of the President of the College of Surgeons, and his colleagues on the Council, of medical men from far and near, and a crowded congregation of his fellow citizens. The memory of William Day will ever remain green amongst all who were privileged to claim his friendship.

We regret to have to announce the death of Dr. ROBERT HENRY COALL, which took place at Cannes on February 20th last, from heart failure following pneumonia. Dr. Coall, who was the son of Mr. Talbot Coall, of Kingstown, Dublin, was born on February 20th, 1859. Educated at the Carmichael School, he took the diplomas of L.M. Rotunda Hospital (special certificate) in 1881, L.R.C.S.I. in the following year, and in 1884 L.R.C.P. and L.M. Edin. He was Resident Medical Officer to the City of Dublin Hospital, and afterwards commenced practice near Leicester. A few years later, his success having justified the removal, he settled in Bedford Square, London, and as practice increased removed to 65, Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, where the illness commenced from the effects of which he ultimately died. It is now some thirteen years since an attack of haemoptysis warned him that the success which had attended his professional career had been bought at too great a sacrifice of strength, and he was obliged to relinquish to an increasing extent the large practice which he had gained in London, and spend more of each year in a warmer climate. Dr. Coall was an example of the cultured practitioner; his patients became his friends, nothing that he could do for their welfare was too much trouble, and although regular attendance of recent years was not possible for most, his yearly arrival in the summer was eagerly anticipated by them and his advice highly valued. Few who met him in recent years had any suspicion of the fact that he was an invalid; only his great strength of character and unselfish disposition, however, enabled him to go about as he did. His death has come as a surprise, therefore, to many, and to these it will be a consolation to know that although he died abroad, he had devoted friends with him during his last illness, and received every attention at the hands of Dr. Carr, of Cannes. We may add that he was also seen in consultation by Sir Dyce Duckworth, Dr. Osler, and Professor Lingard.

Dr. FREDERICK IRVING KNIGHT, of Boston, who died on February 20th, was one of the pioneers of laryngology in America. Born in 1841 he graduated at Yale in Arts and at Harvard in Medicine in 1866. Afterwards he studied in Vienna, London, and Berlin. In 1872 he was appointed instructor in the diagnosis of diseases of the chest and in laryngology at Harvard. This was the first clinic of its kind in New England. In 1886 he was made Clinical Professor of Laryngology, a position which he held until 1892. Dr. Knight was one of the founders of the American Laryngological Association and one of its early presidents. He was also President of the American Climatological Association, of the Boston Society for Medical Improvement, and of various other scientific bodies. He took a prominent part in the movement against tuberculosis.

DEATHS IN THE PROFESSION ABROAD.—Among the members of the medical profession in foreign countries who have recently died are Dr. Heinrich Brat of Berlin, well known by his writings on industrial hygiene; Dr. N. Prawossud, Lecturer on Ophthalmology, University of Moscow, aged 48; Dr. André Professor of Gynaecology in the University of Bordeaux and President of the Society of Anatomy and Physiology and of that of Medicine and Surgery of that city; and Dr. Hugo Gnändinger, for many years Director Crown Prince Rudolph Children's Hospital, Vienna.