

The weather is becoming more oppressive from the damp atmosphere, though temperature is not increased, and sea-breezes still continue from the north and north-west. The breeze dies away often in the evening, making the nights hot, stuffy, and disagreeable; sleep difficult and unrefreshing. A great many cases of sunstroke are reported among the troops marching from Ismailia. Amongst the troops here and at Ramleh, the general health remains satisfactory; but they have had lately a few cases with some deaths from dysentery on shore and in the fleet. No dysentery has occurred among the civil population, and generally it does not prevail till later in the season, and is not, as a rule, very fatal.

The temporary Sanitary Commission instituted by the Khedive after the bombardment has now resigned its functions to the ordinary local sanitary inspectorate, which has been reorganised by the return of its principal members, under the presidency of Dr. Salem Pasha. The continuance of the good and practical measures adopted by the Commission is doubtful.

An appeal, of which I sent you a copy, was made by Dr. Mackie, through the local English and Arabic newspapers, to the Egyptians in Alexandria, urging them to imitate European nations, and give donations in money and kind, to enable the medical authorities to prepare for the proper treatment and comfort of Egyptian sick and wounded. Not a single response has been given, nor do they seem to think it is their business; but it has had the effect of rousing and stimulating the medical department to make the most of their limited means. Dr. Salem Pasha is now working energetically with the medical staff of the hospital to make the place in some manner inhabitable; but it yet leaves and will leave very much to be desired. The uncleanness and bad sanitation would make it a den of disease, were it not that all doors and windows can be kept continually open; so that, though surrounded by walls, the patients are almost in the open air. But this can only be in summer; in winter the weather is often boisterous, stormy, and bitterly cold, and most of the doors and windows will have to be shut. A few instruments have been found for it, and others have been ordered, which will arrive soon with a quantity of other material, but one misses sadly all little "dodges" and contrivances, the outcome of thoughtfulness, ingenuity, and resource, and the knowledge of what will give what I may call surgical comfort, and physiological and anatomical rest. Small conveniences and appliances for nursing do not exist, but much may yet be done, before great demand is made upon them; the number of wounded here being yet small.

The subject of prostitution, and its effect on our troops in town, is occupying the attention of the surgeons in charge. It is a very difficult question to deal with satisfactorily, on account of divided authority, the prostitutes belonging to every nationality, living under the protection of the representatives of their respective Governments, who are very jealous of any interference with their subjects. This political status has been one of the curses of Egypt, but, thanks to the Egyptians themselves, the remedy seems farther off now than ever. It will be long now before Europeans will willingly submit to local jurisdiction, and trust to it their lives and interests. But to return to the subject of prostitution. The only present remedy, and that a very partial one, seems to be that proposed by Brigade-Surgeon Manley, V.C., to mark the houses or quarters of prostitutes and "put them out of bounds"—that is to say, punish the soldiers who are found entering them. The prostitutes in Alexandria and the whole of Egypt suffer very much from venereal diseases of all sorts; they are of a low order, and take no care to have themselves cured; and proper lock hospitals do not exist. The disease, I am told, has already been communicated to a good many of our soldiers; but I have no doubt Brigade-Surgeon Manley, with his great experience and energy, will be able to devise some means, in common action with the local authorities, to diminish the evil.

I visited, a few days ago, the various encampments at Ramleh, and found the troops in excellent spirits, and eager "for a fight". News has just been received here that a case of cholera has happened at Aden, and two cases at Kamaran, a small island in the Red Sea, on the Suez side of Aden. The cases are reported to have been from a ship from Bombay. The season is at hand when the pilgrims from the East will be making their way towards Mecca, and it will be a serious question as to how our troops in Egypt are to be properly protected, should cholera show itself amongst the pilgrims. The Egyptian Maritime and Quarantine Sanitary Council is at present in a state of demoralisation and disorganisation. Most of the principal members are absent, and many of the *employés* who had fled from their posts have not returned, so that the ship is much undermanned, and manned with a most inferior crew. The delegates and president of the board are at continual warfare, many of them indulging in personalities, and using expressions to give vent to their feelings which are not to be

repeated here. The council, when there is a full attendance of members, would often take a prize as a first-class bear-garden.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL: NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1882: ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

A MEETING of the Committee of Council will be held on Wednesday, October 18th. Gentlemen desirous of becoming members of the Association must send in their forms of application for election to the General Secretary not later than 21 days before the meeting—viz., September 27th, in accordance with the regulation for the election of members passed at the meeting of the Committee of Council of October 12th, 1881.

August 31st, 1882.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION OF DISEASE.

THE following subjects are now under investigation by the Committee: Acute Rheumatism; Pneumonia; Chorea.

Cards to be filled up with particulars of cases, together with memorandum papers explaining the nature and objects of the investigations, have been prepared and distributed through the Secretaries of the Branches or of local committees.

Members who have not received them will be supplied with them on application to the Secretary of their local committee, or to myself.

Cards and memorandum papers for the investigation of Diphtheria are nearly ready, and will shortly be in the hands of the local Secretaries, who will supply them, on application, to any members having cases of this disease under their care, and willing to assist in its investigation.

F. A. MAHOMED, *Secretary to the Committee*.

12, St. Thomas Street, London, S.E.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.—The autumnal meeting will be held at Kettering on Thursday, September 28th. Gentlemen desirous of reading papers, or of showing cases or specimens, are requested to communicate at their earliest convenience with the Honorary Secretary.—G. F. KIRBY SMITH, *Honorary Secretary*, Northampton.—August 29th, 1882.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH.—The autumnal meeting will be held at Durham, on Wednesday, September 20th. Gentlemen intending to read papers or to show specimens or cases are requested to communicate with the Secretary.—DAVID DRUMMOND, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*, Newcastle-on-Tyne.—August 22nd, 1882.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST AND WEST KENT DISTRICTS.—A conjoint meeting of the above Districts will be held at the Town Hall, Folkestone, under the presidency of R. L. Bowles, M.D., F.R.C.P., on Thursday, September 28th, at 3 P.M. The President kindly invites members to luncheon. Dinner will take place at the West Cliff Hotel, at 5 P.M. Agenda—Collective Investigation Committee: Nomination of District Subcommittees. Dr. Bowles will open a discussion on the Ventilation and Management of Sewers. Mr. Thurston: Case of Atresia Vaginae. Dr. Tyson: Malignant Disease *versus* Syphilis.—A. H. B. HALLOWES, Maidstone, T. WHITEHEAD REID, Canterbury, *Honorary Secretaries*.—September 6th, 1882.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT.—The next meeting of the above District will take place on Wednesday, September 27th, at the Railway Hotel, East Grinstead, at 3.30 P.M.; Mr. Wallis of Hartfield in the chair. Dinner at 5.30; charge 6s., exclusive of wine. The following communications have been promised. 1. The Chairman: Carcinoma of the Kidney in a Child two years old; with preparation and microscopic specimen. 2. Dr. Mackey: Case of Hysteria with very Rapid Breathing. 3. Mr. Collins: Amenorrhoea. 4. Dr. Ranking: The Relations of Lithæmia to Cardiac Prognosis and Treatment. Gentlemen desirous of contributing papers are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary.—T. JENNER VERRALL, *Honorary Secretary*, 95, Western Road, Brighton.—September 5th, 1882.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH.—President, W. M. Crowfoot, Esq., M.B.—The autumn meeting will be held at the Assembly Rooms, East Dereham, on Thursday, September 28th, at 1.45 P.M. The following papers have been promised. 1. H. C. Hastings, Esq. (East Dereham): Notes of a Case of Rheumatic Fever, with Observations on the past and present Treatment of the Disease. 2. James Vincent, M.D. (East Dereham): An Account of Three Cases of Total Suppression of Urine. 3. H. Malins, M.D. (Watton): Notes of a Case of Aphasia with Right Hemiparesis, in a girl aged 12. 4. F. Bateman, M.D. (Norwich): Hystero-Epilepsy. 5. S. H. Burton, Esq. (Norwich): A Case of Scarlatina followed by Septicæmia. 6. Alan Reeve Manby, Esq. (East Dereham): The Curability of Fevers. 7. F. Haward, Esq. (Halesworth): Notes of a Case of Ovariectomy. 8. W. A. Elliston, M.D. (Ipswich): Notes of a case of Excision of the lower four inches of the circumference of Rectum. The medical men of East Dereham and neighbourhood have most hospitably invited the members of the East Anglian Branch to a *déjeuner* at the King's Arms Hotel, at 4.30 P.M.; it is requested that all who intend to accept their invitation will send in their names to Dr. Beverley, 63, St. Giles' Street, Norwich, not later than Tuesday, the 26th instant. Mr. H. B. Vincent, the Medical Officer of Health for Dereham, has kindly offered to show members over the Sewage Farm, the New System of Town Drainage, and the Waterworks. Mr. Vincent will attend at the Local Board Office

at 11 A.M., for this purpose. By the kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. B. J. Armstrong), a Recital will be given by the Organist, Mr. Martin, on the New Organ, at the Parish Church of East Dereham, at 12. Members of the medical profession, whether members of the Association or not, are invited to attend the general meeting at 1.45 P.M.—W. A. ELLISTON, M.D., Ipswich; MICHAEL BEVERLEY, M.D., Norwich, Honorary Secretaries.—September 1882.

MEDICAL NEWS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their Examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, August 31st, 1882.

Batt, Richard Bush Drury, 215, Camden Road, N.W.
Kirk, Thomas Deck, Crearory, Antrim, Ireland.
Serres, John James, Colchester House, Anerley.
Whitcombe, Philip Percival, Gravesend.

The following gentleman also on the same day passed the Primary Professional Examination.

Llewellyn, James Davies, London Hospital.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced :—

AYR NEW HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.—House-Surgeon to the Hospital and Surgeon to the Dispensary. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications to R. M'Callum, Town Chamberlain, Ayr, by September 22nd.

BALLATER AND SURROUNDING DISTRICT.—Medical Practitioner. Salary, £35 per annum. Applications, by October 1st, to J. Kinch, Inspector of Poor.

COOKSTOWN UNION.—Medical Officer for Pomeroy Dispensary District. Salary, £100 per annum, with £50 per annum as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination fees. Election on September 12th.

COUNTY ASYLUM, Whittingham, Preston.—Junior Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by September 14th.

CHICHESTER INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon and Secretary. Applications to the Secretary by September 9th.

DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON MEDICAL SCHOOL, Leicester Square, W.C.—Demonstrator of Contour and Cohesive Fillings. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications by September 29th.

DOWNPATRICK UNION.—Medical Officer for Portaferry Dispensary District. Salary, £100 per annum, with £15 yearly as Medical Officer of Health, registration, and vaccination fees. Election on September 20th.

DURSLEY UNION.—Medical Officer. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications by September 27th.

GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, Caledonian Road, N.—Dispenser. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by September 30th.

HAMPSTEAD PROVIDENT DISPENSARY.—Medical Officer. Applications, by September 23rd, to the Secretary, 23, High Street, Hampstead.

KENT COUNTY OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, Maidstone.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by September 15th.

LEEDS UNION.—Medical Officer for the Township of Headingley-cum Burley. Salary, £55 per annum. Applications by September 11th.

MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY.—Resident Surgical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications by September 22nd.

MITCHELSTOWN UNION, Kildorrery Dispensary District.—Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, and £15 as Medical Officer of Health. Applications by September 13th.

NORTHLEACH UNION.—Medical Officer for the No. 2 District. Salary, £57 10s. per annum. Applications by September 12th.

NORTHLEACH UNION.—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by September 12th.

PLYMOUTH PUBLIC DISPENSARY.—Two Physicians' Assistants. Salary, £60 per annum. Applications by September 12th.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, CORK.—Chair of Natural History. Candidates to forward testimonials, on or before September 20th, to the Under Secretary, Dublin Castle.

RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY, Oxford.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by September 30th.

ROCHDALE INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £30 per annum. Applications to J. Rushworth, Honorary Secretary.

ROYAL INFIRMARY OF EDINBURGH.—Pathologist. Applications to Mr. Peter Bell by September 30th.

ROYAL UNITED HOSPITAL, Bath.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £60 per annum. Applications by September 14th.

SALFORD UNION.—Assistant Medical Officer and Dispenser. Salary, £140 per annum. Applications by September 18th.

ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER SQUARE, PROVIDENT DISPENSARY, 59, Mount Street.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary and allowance for last year, £214 4s. 3d. Applications to Mr. G. H. Leach, Secretary, by September 30th.

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN.—Six Examiners in Medicine. Salary, £30 per annum. Applications to Robert Walker, Secretary.

WESTERN DISPENSARY, Rochester Row, Westminster.—Consulting Accoucheur. Applications by September 10th to Mr. Henry S. Bigg, Secretary.

WINCHCOMB UNION.—Medical Officer for the Vale District. Salary, £65 per annum. Applications by September 22nd.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £70 per annum. Applications by September 20th.

WORCESTER COUNTY AND CITY LUNATIC ASYLUM.—Second Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by September 22nd.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

SCOUGAL, Ed. Fowler, M.A., M.B., L.R.C.S.Ed., appointed Medical Officer of Health for Holme Valley Sanitary District, Holmfirth, near Huddersfield.

VISE, C., M.B., appointed House-Surgeon to the Tunbridge Wells Infirmary, vice J. B. Footner, F.R.C.S., resigned.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

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

BIRTH.

EDWARDES.—On the 5th, at Stanley House, Bath Road, Hounslow, the wife of W. Whitfield Edwardes, M.D., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

HOWE—LE FEAX.—August 30th, at the Parish Church, Llanidloes, by the Rev. Canon Williams, Vicar, Jonas Howe, L.R.C.S.E., Castle House, Llanidloes, son of the late James Roche Howe, Esq., J.P., Glounevirane, County Cork, to Emma Elizabeth (Emmie), youngest daughter of William Le Feaux, Esq., Penrallt House.

LOWTHER—DODD.—On the 31st August, at the Priory Church, Cartmel, by the Rev. W. P. Rigge, assisted by the Rev. F. H. Paley, Vicar, Richard Lowther, M.D. Edin., Mem. Brit. Med. Assoc., to Isabella, elder daughter of the late Charles Dodd, Esq., of Hexham, Northumberland.

ROWE—WHEELHOUSE.—September 7th, at the Parish Church, Leeds, by the Revd. John Gott, D.D., the Vicar, George Herbert Rowe, M.R.C.S., to Caroline Agnes, eldest daughter of C. G. Wheelhouse, F.R.C.S., President of the Council.

CONCERT AT SWANSEA.—The morning concert which Madame Adelina Patti has generously consented to give at the Albert Hall, Swansea, on September 14th, in aid of the Swansea Hospital, promises to be very successful. The tickets for the area seats are nearly all purchased at one guinea each, while those in the balcony have been all taken at one guinea and half a guinea. The committee anticipate clearing £1,000 for the institution.

BEQUESTS AND DONATIONS.—Mr. Robert Clayton Mercer, of Accrington, has bequeathed £1000 to the Victoria University, Manchester, for the foundation of a scholarship in chemistry, £500 to the Manchester Royal Infirmary, £500 to the Manchester Eye Hospital, and £500 to the Blackburn and East Lancashire Infirmary. Mr. Antonio A. Ralli, of Westbourne Terrace, Hyde Park, has bequeathed £250 to the Hospital, and £250 to the Special Hospital for the Leprous, of the Island of Scio. The Corporation of the City of London have given £105 to the British Home for Incurables. The General Infirmary, Leeds, has received £180 under the will of Miss Helen Yates, of Exeter. The Chelsea Hospital for Women has received £100 under the will of Mr. Edward Byron Noden. The New Hospital for Women has received £100 under the will of Mr. Daniel Box, of Streatham, and £50 from "S. O. S." The Marchioness of Westminster has given £30, additional, to the Royal Hospital for Women and Children.

THE TECHNOLOGICAL, INDUSTRIAL AND SANITARY MUSEUM OF NEW SOUTH WALES.—The Colonial Government are making rapid progress with the organisation of this museum, which has now been permanently established in the Garden Palace at Sydney, the building in which the International Exhibition of 1879 was held. Arrangements are now being made for the shipment of contributions to the Museum from manufacturers in this country, which for the most part consist of sanitary appliances and articles connected with building. These contributions are being forwarded to Sydney free of cost by the Government on the recommendation of the British Committee, at the head of which is Sir Saul Samuel, the Agent-General for the Colony. This Committee have issued a circular, in which they say "the Sydney Museum occupies a similar position, and fulfils the same purposes in New South Wales as the South Kensington Museum and the Parkes Museum of Hygiene do in London. Large numbers of houses are being erected in the City of Sydney and other cities and towns of the Colony. Moreover, the authorities are paying great attention to sanitary matters, and the principal object of the Government in establishing and maintaining the museum is to provide a means whereby the Colonists may become acquainted with improved apparatus and appliances for building and domestic purposes." This museum will certainly stimulate business between the Colony and the United Kingdom. Manufacturers and others wishing to avail themselves of this opportunity of sending specimens, models, plans, books, illustrated catalogues, etc., should apply without delay to Mr. Mark H. Judge (8, Park Place Villas, Paddington), the acting member of the British Committee, for the necessary forms.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY..... Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.

TUESDAY..... Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—West London, 3 P.M.—St. Mark's, 9 A.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 3 P.M.

WEDNESDAY.. St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Mary's, 1.30 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—North-west London, 2.30 P.M.

THURSDAY.... St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 P.M.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—North-west London, 2.30 P.M.

FRIDAY..... King's College, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Royal South London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department), 2 P.M.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.

SATURDAY.... St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Free, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.

HOURS OF ATTENDANCE AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

CHARING CROSS.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin M. Th., 2; Dental, M. W. F., 9.30.

GUY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, exc. Tu., 1.30; Obstetric, M. W. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 1.30; Tu. F., 12.30; Ear, Tu. F., 12.30; Skin, Tu., 12.30; Dental, Tu. Th. F., 12.

KING'S COLLEGE.—Medical, daily, 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., M. W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th., 1; Ophthalmic Department, W., 1; Ear, Th., 2; Skin, Th., 3; Throat, Th., 3; Dental, Tu. F., 10.

LONDON.—Medical, daily exc. S., 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30 and 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 9; Ear, S., 9.30; Skin, W., 9; Dental, Tu., 9.

MIDDLESEX.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 8.30; Ear and Throat, Tu., 9; Skin, F., 4; Dental, daily, 9.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., W. S., 9; Eye, Tu. W. Th. S., 2; Ear, M., 2.30; Skin, F., 1.30; Larynx, W., 11.30; Orthopaedic, F., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 9.

ST. GEORGE'S.—Medical and Surgical, M. Tu. F. S., 1; Obstetric, Tu. S., 1; o.p. Th., 2; Eye, W. S., 2; Ear, Tu., 2; Skin, Th., 1; Throat, M., 2; Orthopaedic, W., 2; Dental, Tu. S., 9; Th., 1.

ST. MARY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.45; Obstetric, Tu. F., 9.30; o.p., Tu. F., 2; Eye, Tu. F., 9.15; Ear, M. Th., 2; Skin, Tu. Th., 1.30; Throat, M. Th., 1.45; Dental, W. S., 9.30.

ST. THOMAS'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, except Sat., 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 2; o.p., W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th., 2; o.p., daily, except Sat., 1.30; Ear, Tu., 12.30; Skin, Th., 12.30; Throat, Tu., 12.30; Children, S., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 10.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1 to 2; Obstetric, M. Tu. T., F., 1.30; Eye, M. Tu. Th. F., 2; Ear, S., 1.30; Skin, W., 1.45; S., 9.15. Throat, Th., 2.30; Dental, W., 10.3.

WESTMINSTER.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. F., 3; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 9; Skin, Th., 1; Dental, W. S., 9.15.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor, 161A, Strand, W.C., London; those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the JOURNAL, etc., should be addressed to the Manager, at the Office, 161A, Strand, W.C., London.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, are requested to communicate beforehand with the Manager, 161A, 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.

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.

CORRESPONDENTS not answered, are requested to look to the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

SEVERAL letters and other communications are unavoidably deferred till next week.

THE TITLE OF DOCTOR.

SIR,—I am glad to observe that one or more of your recent correspondents have approached the *fons et origo* of the practice so much debated. It arises, without doubt, from the absurd custom, universally prevalent, of calling a medical man a "doctor", and his profession "doctoring"; and hence the wish of many medical and surgical licentiates to be styled "Doctor", in preference to the honourable and significant titles conferred by their college after examination. The question is not whether the licentiate of a College of Surgeons or Physicians is a more learned man than one who has graduated in Medicine at an University, but whether it is right and honourable for the former to assume a title not conferred upon him. If a man deem it so important to be called "Doctor", no law can hinder him from doing as his neighbour did, viz., passing the prescribed examination (whether easy or difficult) for the degree of Doctor of Medicine. A Master of Arts in holy orders might as reasonably call himself a Doctor of Divinity; a regimental captain a colonel; or a doctor a professor. All these, and many other assumptions might be defended by the same class of arguments as are used. We have dancing professors, "Salvation" generals and captains, bone-doctors, etc., but these are all outside the professions whose style and titles they simulate.

It should be borne in mind that the cognomen of Doctor, as applied by the public to a non-graduate medical practitioner, is not that of "Doctor of Medicine", but the vulgar misnomer applied to quacks as well as to regular practitioners. Were the profession to persistently set its face against the gross misuse of terms, this application of the word would soon cease to be significant of educated registered practitioners, and the long and often acrimonious controversy be ended by the triumph of common sense. The time-honoured designations of Physician, Surgeon, and General Practitioner are sufficiently descriptive and euphonious, without the adoption of an illiterate term, which arose when the Doctor of Physic of the Universities of Europe was looked up to as the most skillful and learned healer, and the leech, the barber-surgeon, and the apothecary were but the executive of his prescriptions.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

ANGLO-SCOTUS.

SIR,—I was much pleased to read the letter in our JOURNAL of Saturday last by Dr. Leslie Maturin. Though the idea which he has suggested has not hitherto entered into the discussion with regard to the title of Doctor as a term being in general usage as applied to all medical men, I have long entertained such an idea, and found it here to be all but universal in practice. It goes further here, and every druggist or any other person who quacks is dubbed with the title of Doctor. I would certainly not go so far, however, as to place Doctor on the door-plate unless honestly entitled to M.D. I wish to inform Dr. Maturin and others, and which he has not perhaps observed, that amongst another class, and that one of highly educated and intelligent gentlemen, namely, military officers, all the medical staff, including army, militia, yeomanry, and volunteers, are invariably called Doctors, as, for instance, "Where is the Doctor?" "Go and tell the Doctor he is wanted", etc. It is both courteous and convenient.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant.

ROBT. MANNERS MANN, Surgeon-Major.

Bridgewater House, Manchester, August 28th, 1882.

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

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