

avoid the injurious effects of direct sunlight and consequent heated air. He lays stress on the erection of windows, closed with shutters, on the wall opposite that whence the light proceeds, and which are intended to be opened, and thus serve for ventilation and sunlight, during absence of the pupils. In the (b) "bilateral" method of admitting light into the class-rooms, great caution must be exercised; and it must be only adopted as a last resource, when sufficient open daylight is out of the question, or when it is absolutely impossible to obtain the necessary proportions between the height of the windows and the size of the rooms; and even then the system is bad, in that the two lights are always interfering with one another. (c) The principle of receiving light from the top, in the way of skylights, etc., is not so bad. In any case, however, it is always better to try to adopt the unilateral system.

Except to those who happen to have paid attention to the subject, the number of injuries, complaints, and diseases of the eyes, arising from defects in this direction, would almost appear incredible. Even now, in many schools, it is only too often possible to see the black board placed on the wall between two windows, and the children, with the glaring light falling straight upon them, straining their poor eyes to make out what is written. The question of colour also has an important bearing. It would be advisable, certainly, if one might judge from the results of numerous experiments, to substitute a yellowish tinted for the white chalk. Thus, with regard to the writing charts of Messrs. Bemrose and Son (1428), designed as a substitute for blackboards in class-teaching, we might suggest that they could be improved upon by being painted in yellow, instead of in white, on a black ground. Or, again, with regard to the printing of all school-books, the value of the use of yellow paper can hardly be overestimated. It has been shown by Professor Cohn of Breslau that hitherto short-sightedness increases in direct ratio with the number of years spent within the school-walls.

Parquets.—M. Guérin exhibits models of hygienic *parquets* and movable floors for schools, where the worn parts of the inlaid floor can be removed, and substituted by those which have not suffered by the continual wear. They can be easily removed, cleaned by a good washing, and replaced without any difficulty. They can also be fixed on pavement without the use of joists.

School-Offices.—As in the case of school-dormitories, there is a very poor show in the number of exhibits, considering the vast importance attaching to such appliances, the efficiency of which involves closely, not only the health, but also, in a certain way, the very morality of the pupils. Wherever practicable, they should be removed to a considerable distance from the school-buildings, yet, at the same time, connected by a covered way. As regards the privies themselves, there can be no doubt that, when the use of an abundant supply of water, coupled with good sewer, can be obtained in the neighbourhood, the system of water-closets is certainly the best, in that the speedy removal of the excreta is insured, and the liability of any foul smells accumulating reduced to a minimum. The general objection to the use of water-closets among children is of a two-fold nature: first, the plug in being used is very liable to get out of order or damaged; secondly, the use of its mechanism may be carelessly or wilfully forgotten.

To remedy the former, a press-knob handle may be employed; while to obviate the latter, a flushing apparatus is very advantageous. The press-knob Oxford valve-closet of the Domestic Engineering and Sanitary Appliance Company (566) has further the provision of a special vent and flap, which is stated absolutely to stop the up-rush of foul air when the basin-valve is open. The efficiency of two kinds of flushing apparatus can be seen in the working trough-closets—the one of Messrs. Bowes, Scott, and Read (506); the other of Messrs. Wilcock and Co. (528).

Should, however, the use of water-closets be absolutely impossible, and it is only as a last resource that the idea of discarding them should be entertained, dry-earth closets are far superior to any of the other arrangements. But, in any case, whichever system recommends itself, the privies must all be partitioned off, so that each closet may in no case be capable of admitting more than one child at a time; it is further advisable that the walls be of tile, or of some hard glazed substance, whereby the evil habit of scribbling on the walls may be prevented, and which, at the same time, will easily allow them to be frequently washed down with water.

Distribution of School-Hours, Overwork, etc.—In the majority of cases, the distribution of school-hours, and the time taken up in preparation-work, leaves much to be desired; and it is, indeed, difficult to arrive at any satisfactory solution of the question, depending, as it does, upon the season of the year, the competition, and the individual constitution. Of course, the evil of overpressure is carried on to the greatest extent in day-schools, where the amount of time taken up in

home-work is a matter of very great indifference to the teacher, who is satisfied so long as he finds the lessons prepared; and it is in such cases extremely difficult to find a remedy.

It is impossible for the child to go through the same amount of mental exertion in summer as in winter; and it is a grave question whether, in the former portion of the year, afternoon-work ought not to be altogether stopped. The system of holding summer examinations is also to be deprecated. Competition may also be spoken of in very unfavourable terms, especially in the very young.

Of the custom of "keeping boys in" at a task during play-hours, it is needless to say more than that is a most senseless and harmful one, in that the poor culprit is deprived of his necessary amount of physical exercise, the loss of which dulls him for anything else he may have to do subsequently.

With regard to meals, the majority of school-hygienists concur in the advisability of sending the children, where practicable, home to dinner in the middle of the day; should the distance be too great their meals might be cooked at school, where, in certain communes in France, they are gratuitously provided for the poorer children. The walking backwards and forwards may prove a source of inconvenience and illness, in wet or inclement weather, by the danger of sitting about in damp boots, etc., during class-hours; but should be anticipated by having slippers provided while the boots are being dried.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1885:

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

MEETINGS of the Council will be held on January 14th, April 8th, July 8th, and October 14th, 1885. Gentlemen desirous of becoming members of the Association must send in their forms of application for election to the General Secretary not later than twenty-one days before each meeting, namely, December 25th, 1884, and March 18th, June 17th, and September 24th, 1885, in accordance with the regulation for the election of members passed at the meeting of the Committee of Council of October 12th, 1881.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary.*

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

SOUTH INDIAN BRANCH.—Meetings are held in the Central Museum, Madras, on the first Saturday in the month, at 9 P.M. Gentlemen desirous of reading papers or exhibiting specimens are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary.—C. SIEBTHORPE, Honorary Secretary, Madras.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.—The next meeting of the above district will be held at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital on Thursday, November 27th, at 3 P.M.; Mr. Wacher in the chair. Mr. Shirley F. Murphy will open a discussion on Diphtheria Card, No. iv and No. iwa of the Collective Investigation Committee. It is hoped that all members who have filled up cards during the last few weeks, will bring them, and take part in the discussion. The President very kindly invites members and their friends to luncheon at his house on King's Bridge. Dinner will be held at the Royal Fountain Hotel at 5 P.M.—T. WHITEHEAD REID, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT.—The next meeting of the above district will be held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, on Tuesday, November 25th, at 3.30 P.M., Dr. J. D. Burns, R.N., in the chair. Papers to be read: Dr. Fancourt Barnes, a case of Porro's Operation; Dr. J. Adam, a few remarks on existing Lunacy Law and Practice. The dinner will take place at the Sun Hotel, Chatham, at 6.30 P.M. Charge 6s. 6d., exclusive of wine. Gentlemen who intend to dine are particularly requested to signify the fact not later than November 22nd. All members of the Branch are entitled to attend this meeting, and to introduce friends.—H. LEWIS JONES, Honorary Secretary, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Chatham, November 11th, 1884.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT.—The next meeting of the above district will be held at the Calverley Hotel, Tunbridge Wells, on Wednesday, December 3rd, at 3.30 P.M. Dinner at 5.30 P.M.; charge 6s., exclusive of wine. Dr. Johnson will preside. The following communications are promised. 1. Dr. Elliott: a, Notes of a case of Dislocation of the Elbow complicated with Fracture (patient shown); b, Notes of a case of Spinal Caries, with Double Prosthetic Abscess, successfully treated by Poroplastic Jacket; also a patient to be shown wearing a Plaster-of-Paris Jacket and Sayre's Jury-Mast. 2. Mr. Abbott: Epiphora. 3. Mr. T. Jenner Verrall: A case of Splenic Leukæmia in a Child treated by Phosphorus. Notice of intended contributions should be sent to the Honorary Secretary, T. JENNER VERRALL, 95, Western Road, Brighton.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH.—The first general meeting of the present session will be held at the Railway Hotel, Stoke-upon-Trent, on Thursday, November 27th, at 4 P.M. The principal feature of the meeting will be a discussion upon the Radical Cure of Hernia, which will be commenced by Mr. Spanton, who will read a paper

The following have promised to be speakers: Mr. Mitchell Banks (Liverpool), Mr. Folker, Mr. Lawson Tait, Mr. Vincent Jackson. The General Secretary will be pleased to receive the names of other gentlemen desirous of taking part in the debate.—VINCENT JACKSON, General Secretary, Wolverhampton.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND HEREFORDSHIRE BRANCH.—President, T. Turner, Esq. The next meeting of the Branch will be held at the Worcester Infirmary, on Tuesday, December 2nd, at 3 P.M. Dinner will be at the Star Hotel, at 5 P.M. Tickets, 5s. each, exclusive of wine.—GEO. W. CROWE, Honorary Secretary, Shaw Street, Worcester.

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND BRANCH: QUARTERLY MEETING.

The first of the quarterly country meetings of this Branch was held in Kilmarnock, on Saturday, November 1st, in the hall of the George Hotel. The President, Dr. J. B. RUSSELL, was in the chair. There was a good attendance of members, and also of non-attached members of the Association, and some medical friends, who had been invited.

President's Address.—The PRESIDENT gave his inaugural address, the delivery of which had been postponed from the annual general meeting in June last. He chose as his subject "Infection and Disinfection," restricting himself to a consideration mainly of the latter—namely, the simplest and most efficient disinfection-processes. After pointing out how accurate was the knowledge now obtained, by laboratory experiments, of the precise method of procedure in order to disinfect, were nothing else to be thought of but the destruction of contagion, he went on to show that this was frequently incompatible with the preservation of the infected articles, which were valuable to their owners. Disinfection, as a scientific process, unless rigidly carried out in perfect accordance with all the conditions, would fail. This, popularly, and practically, was impossible. Apart from the cost, the sick-room could not be made a scientific laboratory. It was therefore necessary to find out some practical and homely means of disinfection, to aim at a lower standard which might possibly be attained rather than a high one, which, in practice, would never or seldom be acted up to. Speaking of the efficiency of simple washing as a disinfecting process, Dr. Russell said: I am able to establish my opinion from the experience of many years, during which this has been the sole method of disinfection applied by the sanitary department of Glasgow to all washable articles. We have, during the last ten years, washed in the same washing-house over a million of articles, of every sort, infected by every variety of contagion known in this country. Everything has been done exactly as any good housewife would do it, only in a place provided for the purpose, and with ample supply of water and steam, and recently with mechanical aid. Blankets and woollen articles have not been boiled; all others have. The most crucial fact is this, that there has never been a single case, or suspicion of a case, of interchanged disease—for example, of small-pox appearing in a house from which clothes had been removed on account of scarlet fever, or typhus. In short, I am convinced that, in every case, the result was obtained for which the operation of washing was undertaken. The only defect is this, that the washerwomen must handle the articles before disinfection or drowning of the contagion in water, and therefore are occasionally infected. To overcome this difficulty, we lately had erected an apparatus to disinfect by high-pressure steam before distributing the bundles; but this at once brought about complaints of injury to the clothing, which would soon have wrecked our popularity with the housewives, and obstructed our operations. We found that the steam fixed all sorts of stains from animal matter. A sheet stained with blood comes out of a dull red colour, which nothing will remove. Indeed, this application of steam is a part of the trade process of dyeing. Every woman knows that cloth stained with blood must be steeped and rinsed in cold water before ordinary washing. The practical result is, that dirty clothes must be disinfected by washing before being disinfected by steam, or dry heat, for that also fixes stains. We are, therefore, again disinfecting all washable articles by simple washing.—Dr. W. L. MUIR (Glasgow) remarked that, in times past, the sanitary inspectors in Glasgow had, acted in a manner he could but resent; but, for the last few years, they had been acting in a more satisfactory way. Very serious complaints were made by respectable people that clothing sent to Belvidere to be disinfected, went to pieces in a few weeks after it came back. As regards the general method of disinfection carried on by the inspectors, they at all times used chloride of lime and vitriol, and the result was that excess of chlorine destroyed many articles in poor people's houses. Many of the inspectors also performed their duties in a very slipshod way. For example, in times past it was quite a common thing for inspectors to turn out a convalescent child with scarlet fever to a common stair-head, and compel him to sit there

for two or three hours while they disinfected the house. Matters, however, had changed for the better; and he had also heard lately that the method of carrying on the disinfection at Belvidere had very much improved.—Dr. RUSSELL said Dr. Muir could not have given a better illustration of what it had been the chief object of the paper to point out—that it was one thing to have a scientific idea of what was necessary to disinfection, and quite another thing to hit upon some method which could reasonably claim to be effective, and not give rise to complaints about the destruction of valuable property. He was glad to hear that grounds of complaint had been at least diminished.—Dr. MUNRO (Kilmarnock) moved a vote of thanks to Dr. Russell for his valuable practical observations. There was no other man in the West of Scotland who had such opportunities of acquiring a practical knowledge of the subject, and there were very few so competent to make a careful analysis of his own observations.—The motion was cordially agreed to.

Dinner.—The members afterwards dined together in the George Hotel.

[It is intended that, about the same date next year, another of the quarterly country meetings of this Branch shall be held in Kilmarnock.]

YORKSHIRE BRANCH: AUTUMN MEETING.

THE autumn meeting of this Branch was held at the Royal Hotel, Scarborough, under the presidency of Mr. KNAGGS, on Wednesday, November 12th.

Papers.—The following papers were read:

1. The President (Mr. Knaggs) read a Case of Nephrotomy.
2. Mr. Mayo Robson: Cure of Traumatic Stricture of Urethra by Excision of the Stricture, and Union of the separated Mucous Membrane by Continuous Catgut Sutura.
3. Mr. T. B. Jessop: A Case of Cholecystotomy.
4. Dr. James Braithwaite: Two successful Cases of Gastrotomy for Extra-uterine Gestation.
5. Dr. Tibbits: Some of the Disadvantages of the Compulsory Notification of Infectious Diseases.
6. Mr. Charles Atkin: Notes on Cases of Imperforate Colon and Rectum.

Dinner.—Twenty-eight members attended the meeting, and most of them dined afterwards at the Royal Hotel.

NORTH OF IRELAND BRANCH: GENERAL MEETING.

A GENERAL meeting of this Branch was held in the Belfast Royal Hospital on Wednesday, October 22nd. The President (Dr. CUMMING) occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance of members present.

The Annual Meeting of the Association.—Dr. JOHN MOORE (Belfast) submitted a report from the general local secretaries of the annual meeting, giving a detailed account of the arrangements for the meeting, and the manner in which they were carried out.

Papers, etc.—The following communications were made:

1. Dr. Spedding (Belfast) read a paper on the Treatment of Intra-uterine Affections.
2. Dr. Palmer (Armagh) showed a patient with a Fistulous Opening from the Lung through the Thoracic Wall.
3. Dr. Thompson (Omagh) read a paper on a new and easy method of treating Simple and Compound Fractures, and exhibited a splint which he used and recommended in suitable cases.
4. Dr. Thompson also read the notes of a case of Intestinal Obstruction, with distressing Tympany, for which he tapped the intestines several times with an aspirator needle, giving marked relief.
5. Dr. Esler (Belfast) showed a patient with a very large Vesicovaginal Fistula.
6. Dr. Barron (Belfast) showed a patient with Lupoid Ulceration of the Larynx, Gums, and Tongue.

An interesting discussion followed the reading of each paper.

Medical Sickness, Annuity, and Life-Assurance Society.—The HONORARY SECRETARY (Dr. DEMPSEY) brought under the notice of the Branch the Medical Sickness, Annuity, and Life-Assurance Society, and briefly explained its provisions.

Specimens.—Dr. Dempsey showed some specimens of Lebon and Co.'s Clinical Figures for Note-taking.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH: AUTUMN MEETING.

THE autumn meeting of this Branch was held at the Institute, Stowmarket, on Thursday, October 30th, under the presidency of Mr. R. F. SYMMONS of Colchester. There were present about twenty-two members.

New Member.—Surgeon-Major Charles Meadows, A.M.D., was elected.

Medical Sickness, Annuity and Life-Assurance Society.—Mr. Radley attended as a deputation from the Medical Sickness, Annuity and Life-Assurance Society, and clearly explained the objects and intentions of the Society. Several members of the Branch are already enrolled as members, and it was resolved to form a local Branch for the district.

Annual Meeting in 1885.—It was resolved that the annual meeting for 1885 should be held at Cambridge in conjunction with the Cambridge and Huntingdon, and South Midland Branches.

Sub-Branch for Essex.—It was resolved that a sub-Branch for Essex be established, and that Mr. William Thomas Jackman of Coggeshall be elected secretary.

Papers.—The following papers were read :

1. On Cholera, by the President, Mr. R. F. Symmons, Colchester.
2. Notes of a Case of Thyroidectomy, with Exhibition of the Case and Specimen, by Mr. T. H. Morse, Norwich.

Dinner.—The members afterwards dined at the Fox Hotel.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

BERLIN.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Vaccination.

THE *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* published recently a long article on the vaccination question, which is now being discussed, as I lately announced, at the Imperial Board of Health, by a special commission, under the presidency of Privy Councillor Köhler.

A summary of the article, the object of which is to show that Germany has benefited enormously from the vaccination-law, is likely to be interesting, as it gives the figures of the mortality from small-pox in Germany before and after the passing of the Act. The Act was passed nine years ago; and the *Norddeutsche* says that, in by far the majority of towns belonging to the German empire, no more cases of small-pox have taken place since then; and that the mortality amongst children from small-pox in Germany, which used to be formerly about 50 per cent. of all children under two years of age, has almost entirely disappeared. The contrast of the immunity enjoyed by the army, as compared with the ravages created amongst the general population, in 1870, 1871, and 1872, brought about the passing of the law, after a most severe parliamentary struggle in 1874.

According to the statistics in the Royal Statistics Bureau of Prussia, 822 persons died of small-pox throughout the whole of the German Empire in the year 1877; of these, 365 were children under one year, and 131 between the age of 1 and 2. In 1880, 289 persons died; of these, 109 were children under one year, while 29 were between the ages of 1 and 2. In 1881, 796 persons died, of whom 224 were children under one year, and 74 between the ages of 1 and 2. The majority of these children had not been vaccinated. From the ages of 2 to 5 and older, the number of cases is very small. The mortality from small-pox is, on an average, 1 per cent. of the total mortality. The army statistics show that, if revaccination is resorted to between the ages of 20 and 30, the mortality between these ages can be diminished. When cases of small-pox do occur, they are at long intervals, and the patients are generally strangers, and they are immediately isolated. This change in the mortality from small-pox took place suddenly in 1874, and is especially remarkable in those towns that suffered most in 1871 and 1872. Scarcely any fatal cases have occurred in Berlin; while Leipzig, Chemnitz, Magdeburg, and Breslau, which suffered much in 1870, have entirely escaped since then. And, since 1874, no epidemic of any great dimension has occurred anywhere in the whole of Germany.

LIVERPOOL.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

The Medical Profession and the Municipal Elections.—The Sanitary Work of the Year.—Hospital Sunday.—Unsanitary Condition of Walton.—The New Lying-in Hospital.—Recent Medical Appointments.

THE efforts of the Medical Profession in the recent municipal elections have been crowned with success. Mr. Hamilton was returned by a majority of 1,030. There is no doubt that the meeting, which was

referred to in my last letter, aided materially in bringing about this most satisfactory result. For the importance to a city as large as Liverpool, of having a practical sanitarian, who is also a medical man, in its Council, cannot be over-estimated.

The results of the work of the past municipal year have been, from a sanitary point of view, most encouraging. It was stated at a recent meeting of the Health Committee, that the average death-rate for the year was 24.9, against an average for the last ten years of 27.6. Good work has also been accomplished in the matter of the removal of insanitary property. During the year, more than 700 houses, condemned as unfit for human habitation, have been purchased by the Corporation. The new Artisans' Dwellings in Nash-grove, are progressing rapidly. For his design for these buildings, Mr. Dunscombe, the city engineer, has been awarded a gold medal at the Health Exhibition. The Corporation have also received a certificate of honour for their sanitary exhibit.

The Hospital Sunday Fund this year, is nearly £400 less than last year. At the recent meeting of the Committee, two very practical suggestions were made. In the first place, it was pointed out that the custom of weekly collections being made by the employés in large houses of business ought to be encouraged. And, secondly, it was recommended that patients, on leaving hospital, relieved or cured, should be asked to contribute "thank-offerings" according to their means.

Dr. Anderson, a medical man practising in the district, lately wrote to the Walton Local Board in reference to the unsanitary condition of the neighbourhood. The Board treated the communication in a remarkably discourteous way, denying indignantly the truth of his assertions. However, it appears that the facts are against the Board; and many of the residents in Walton have written to the daily papers corroborating Dr. Anderson's statements.

The New Lying-in Hospital in Brownlow Hill is almost completed, and is to be opened this week by the Countess of Sefton.

Dr. G. W. Steeves has been appointed Medical Officer of Health for the Toxteth Park district, in succession to Dr. McClelland. Mr. Shears, House Surgeon at the Eye and Ear Infirmary, has been appointed Honorary Assistant Surgeon to that institution. The staff of the hospital now consists of three surgeons and three assistant surgeons.

CORRESPONDENCE.

COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION.

SIR,—In my letter of November 1st, pointing out the manner in which the post of Secretary to the Collective Investigation Committee had been filled up, and commenting on the work of that Committee, I used these words: "I have no hesitation in saying, after careful perusal of the reports already published, that that on phthisis was of very little scientific value; while that on pneumonia is, to say the least of it, absolutely worthless."

Dr. Sturges, in the JOURNAL of Nov. 15th, refers to my criticism, and uses these words.

1. "A correspondent summarily disposes of a vast amount of labour by many hands, the second volume of the *Collective Investigation Record*, with the sentence: 'It is, to say the least, absolutely worthless.' He also says:

2. "The second volume of the *Record* is mainly occupied, it will be remembered, with returns on pneumonia, and it is these which are, 'to say the least, absolutely worthless, or, to say the most, absolutely injurious'; and, further, he says:

3. "But if it be indeed true, as is now alleged, that they (the Subcommittee) have so misrepresented and disfigured the facts entrusted to them, as to render a vast expenditure of time and trouble, on the part of their professional brethren throughout the country, futile and misleading, let us have evidence to that effect."

Whatever that Subcommittee has done with the facts, surely Dr. Sturges has misunderstood my words. I said the report on pneumonia was worthless; but he makes me say three very different things—namely:

1. That the second volume of the *Record* is worthless.
2. That the returns on pneumonia are worthless.
3. That the Subcommittee has misrepresented and disfigured the facts entrusted to them.

However, Dr. Sturges blames me for a want of sympathy for the work in hand, from the fact that I made such a sweeping statement. On the contrary, it is my very sympathy with the work, and a desire

analysis, and also in the hope that other medical officers of health reading my letter may make some suggestions as to this matter, which I think an important one.—I enclose my card, and remain, your's truly,
T. T. T.

** Probably a good deal more to the purpose as to the wholesomeness of a particular sample of water could be learnt from an examination of the physical surroundings of the source of supply, than from analysis of the sample as ordinarily conducted. The health-officer's salary should be fixed at such a rate as to include remuneration for such reasonable examinations of water as may be required. The charging of an extra fee for each analysis made, especially if the analyses are so numerous as our correspondent's letter appears to imply, would involve the authority in a very considerable expense, for which it would obtain no adequate return. But we shall be glad to hear what other health-officers have to say on the subject.

MEDICAL NEWS.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—The following is a list of the candidates who have passed the recent M.B. Examination.

First Division.

Anderson, G. E. C., Guy's Hospital.
Bennett, F. W., Owens College and Manchester Royal Infirmary.
Bowes, W. H., Guy's Hospital.
Cockey, E. P., St. Mary's Hospital.
Crookshank, E. M., King's College.
Day, J. R., University College.
Dent, H. L. R., King's College.
Glover, J. P., St. Thomas's Hospital.
Goolding, W. A. (B.Sc.), University College.
Green, C. D., St. Thomas's Hospital.
Gross, C., Guy's Hospital.
Irwin, F. D., University College.
Jones, F. W. C., St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Jones, J. H., Owens College and Manchester Royal Infirmary.
Lewers, A. H. N., University College.
Munby, L. P., Westminster Hospital.
Penrose, F. G., University College.
Powell, J. J., University College.
Prideaux, F. H., London School of Medicine for Women and Royal Free Hospital.
Purslow, C. E., Birmingham School of Medicine.
Reynolds, E. S., Owens College and Manchester Royal Infirmary.
Rouse, R. E., St. Thomas's Hospital.
Rashworth, F., St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Spencer, H. R., University College.
Thorburn, W. (B.Sc.), Owens College and Manchester Royal Infirmary.
Turner, A. J., University College.
Vince, J. F., Queen's College and Hospital, Birmingham.
Womack, F. (B.Sc.), St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Woolbert, H. R., University College.

Second Division.

Adie, J. R., University College.
Anderson, D. E. (B.A., B.Sc.), University College.
Beever, H. R., King's College.
Bernard, L. C., London School of Medicine for Women and Royal Free Hospital.
Bigger, S. F., University College.
Brown, J. G., Liverpool Royal Infirmary.
Cooper, G. F., St. Thomas's Hospital.
Dobson, J., Leeds School of Medicine.
Evans, W. A., Owens College and Manchester Royal Infirmary.
Floyer, W. W., Guy's Hospital.
Lynam, R. G., King's College.
Marriner, W. H. L., St. Thomas's Hospital.
Parkinson, C. J., Owens College and Manchester Royal Infirmary.
Thomas, J. R., St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Thomson, T., Universities of Aberdeen and Edinburgh.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their Examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, November 13th, 1884.

Darlington, Alfred Naylor, Queen's College, Birmingham.
Davis, David, King's College.
Dickinson, Joseph Jewitt, Cambridge and London Hospital.
Edginton, Alfred Dudley, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Foster, Albert Ernest, Leeds School of Medicine.
Humphry, Ernest, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced.

ADDENBROOKES HOSPITAL, Cambridge.—Resident House-Physician. Salary, £25 per annum. Applications by December 9th.

ATLEY UNION.—Medical Officer, Fontstown Dispensary. Salary £125 per annum and fees. Applications to R. Begot, Honorary Secretary, Fontstown Glebe, Kildare.

BASFORD UNION RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £400 per annum. Applications by November 26th.

BECKETT HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY, Barnsley.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £130. Applications to Charles Newman, Honorary Secretary, before December 1st.

BRENTFORD UNION.—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator. Salary, £60 per annum. Applications to the Board of Guardians, and sent to the office of the Clerk at Isleworth, marked, "Applications for Medical Officer," by November 25th.

BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY.—Assistant Resident Officer and Pathologist. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications by November 24th.

DARLINGTON HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100. Applications to H. F. Pease, Esq., on or before December 3rd.

DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON, AND LONDON SCHOOL OF DENTAL SURGERY, Leicester Square.—Demonstrator of Non-Cohesive Fillings. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications by December 8th.

GATESHEAD DISPENSARY.—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £210 per annum. Applications to Mr. Joseph Jordan, 2, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

GREATER NORTHERN CENTRAL HOSPITAL, Caledonian Road, N.—House-Surgeon. Salary, 60 guineas per annum. Applications to the Secretary on or before November 29th.

HOLLOWAY AND NORTH ISLINGTON DISPENSARY.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £120 per annum. Applications to Honorary Secretary before November 29th.

HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE THROAT, Golden Square.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications by November 24th.

LIVERPOOL EYE AND EAR INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications by November 24th.

LONDON HOSPITAL, Whitechapel, E.—Honorary Assistant Surgeon. Applications by November 24th.

NORFOLK AND NORWICH HOSPITAL.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by November 28th.

NORFOLK COUNTY ASYLUM.—Junior Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications to Dr. Hills, Thorpe, Norwich.

NORTH-EASTERN HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Hackney Road, E.—House-Surgeon. Applications by November 25th.

QUEEN'S HOSPITAL, Birmingham.—Two Honorary Obstetric Officers. Applications to Secretary by December 6th.

ROYAL CORNWALL INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £120 per annum. Applications by November 27th.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn Road.—Senior Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £104. Applications to Secretary on or before December 3rd.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.—Dental Surgeon and two Assistant Dental Surgeons. Applications by December 5th.

SUSSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL, Brighton.—Dispenser. Salary £100 per annum. Applications by December 3rd.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, London.—Curator of Anatomy. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications by November 24th.

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE, South Australia.—Elder Professor of Anatomy. Salary, £600 per annum. Applications to Sir Arthur Blyth, K.G.M.G., Agent-General for South Australia, 8, Victoria Chambers, Westminster, S.W., by December 15th.

WEST LONDON HOSPITAL, Hammersmith, W.—Assistant Ophthalmic Surgeon. Applications by November 27th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

BLAKE, Henry, M.B. Lond., etc., appointed Honorary Medical Officer to the Great Yarmouth Hospital.

BLUETT, George Mallack, M.R.C.S., appointed Assistant House-Surgeon to the London Temperance Hospital, Hampstead Road, N.W.

EAST, C. H., L.S.A., appointed Assistant House-Physician to King's College Hospital.

GIBB, William, M.B., appointed House-Surgeon to Barnhill Hospital, Glasgow, vice Thomas Dunn, M.B., resigned.

GRIMSDALE, T. B., B.A., M.B., M.R.C.S., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Children's Infirmary, Liverpool.

HASELL, E. S., L.S.A., appointed Physician Accoucheur's Assistant to King's College Hospital.

HEWITT, Frederic W., M.B. Cantab., M.R.C.S., appointed Administrator of Anaesthesia to Charing Cross Hospital.

HILL, M., M.D., appointed Honorary Physician to the Bootle Borough Hospital, vice G. C. Walker, M.D., resigned.

HODGSON, L. L., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., appointed Physician's Assistant to King's College Hospital.

HUGES, Edgar A., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., appointed Assistant House-Accoucheur to King's College Hospital.

HUTCHINSON, S. J., M.R.C.S., L.D.S., appointed Lecturer on Dental Surgery and Pathology in the London School of Dental Surgery, vice Alfred Coleman, F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S., resigned.

JACOBE-HOOD, C., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., appointed House-Surgeon to King's College Hospital.

JONES, R. Nelson, L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed House-Surgeon to the Swansea Hospital, vice W. Carr Humphreys, M.R.C.S. Eng., etc., resigned.

MCGEACH, James Paul, M.D., M.Ch., Q.U.I., appointed Resident Medical Superintendent to the West Derby Union Infirmary, Everton, Liverpool.

NEWSHOLME, Arthur, M.D. Lond., appointed Medical Officer of Health for Chatham.

PARRY, Francis, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., appointed House-Surgeon to King's College Hospital.

ROBINSON, Hugh Shepler, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Edin., appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Monkwearmouth Dispensary and Accident Home.

ROSE, J., M.R.C.S., appointed Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Bootle Borough Hospital.
 SLATER, Druce J., M.B. Lond., M.R.C.S., appointed Resident Clinical Assistant to the Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, Brompton.
 TUKE, J. Batty, jun., M.B., C.M., appointed Deputy Medical Superintendent of the Soughton Hall Institution for Cure and Care of the Insane.
 TURNER, N. H., M.R.C.S., appointed House-Surgeon to King's College Hospital.
 WALKER, G. C., M.D., appointed Honorary Consulting Physician to the Bootle Borough Hospital.
 WHOLEY, T., L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed House-Physician to the London Hospital, *vice* A. F. Peskett, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.S.A.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

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

BIRTH.

DAVIES.—On November 1st, at Bergholt House, Jarrow-on-Tyne; the wife of Hugh Walter Davies, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. Eng., of a daughter.

DEATH.

MATURIN.—November 19th, of scarlet fever, Leslie Maturin, M.K.Q.C.P.I., aged 35, Resident Physician at Cork Street Fever Hospital, Dublin, eldest son of John Maturin, Esq., of Newtownstewart, Co. Tyrone.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, CORK.—THE following inaugural address was delivered by Dr. C. Y. Pearson, on assuming the chair of *Materia Medica* in this institution. Referring to medical studies, he said that no doubt the mists that obscured the way, and the pitfalls which marred the progress, of the junior student of medicine were very numerous indeed; but, from personal observation, he did not think they were diminished at the commencement of the second, third, or even of the last of the four short years usually devoted to medical studies by the student; and he was certain that when, after graduation, the young practitioner had started on his voyage through life, the shoals and quicksands of which he would have to steer clear were even still more numerous and more fraught with danger than the difficulties which beset him during his student's career. In one respect, the subject of *materia medica* differed from nearly all the others they had previously studied, insomuch as an extensive and accurate acquaintance with it was absolutely indispensable for the treatment of any disease; it was, therefore, usually looked upon as a purely professional subject, as distinguished from one which was taught principally with the object of cultivating the intellect; and on this account it was regarded with favour by the student, and justly so; but with its attractiveness it carried a danger to which the junior student was remarkably susceptible, namely, to attain as early as possible sufficient acquaintance with a drug, or a few drugs, to enable him to order it or them for some particular disease. Most usually, he copies some prescription for the purpose, and then seeks some overconfiding patient for whom he orders it. The person prescribed for is occasionally benefited, perhaps even cured, and consequently seeks in turn for one on whom he wishes to bestow his benevolence, with whom he hopes to share his benefits. It does not matter what stage the disease may be in, provided the name is similar, or any of the symptoms alike, it is sufficient for the purpose. The medicines which they would study would comprise all those of the *British Pharmacopœia*, together with such others as the science of modern therapeutics and the tests of clinical experience have shown to be worthy of consideration. In studying those of the *Pharmacopœia*, he regretted to say that they would have to spend a considerable amount of time gaining a knowledge of many drugs which were almost worthless and rarely prescribed by the scientific practitioner, but an acquaintance with which, nevertheless, was necessary by the nature of the university and collegiate examinations which they would have to pass. In studying the substances used as medicines, the student who had previously made a fair acquaintance with chemistry would find much with which he was already familiar; and in studying the substances from the vegetable or animal kingdoms, they must gain a knowledge of their sources, natural history, botanical or geological characters, active principles, and preparations. Here the student of biology would be at home amidst scenes to him indeed familiar. Of the details of *materia medica*, by far the most necessary for the student of medicine to clearly comprehend, was the physiological action or effect produced by a drug in various doses on a healthy individual. Was it not obvious, that to have a proper understanding of this, an acquaintance with the laws of physiology was absolutely indispensable, and not only this, but to appreciate the modes of investigation employed to gain this knowledge, an intimate and extensive familiarity with experimental physical science would be requisite? In fact, the

study of *Pharmacology* and *therapeutics* required for its proper elucidation some acquaintance with all the scientific subjects embraced in the earlier portion of their curriculum.

MARINE BIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—The following letter has been received by the Secretary of the Marine Biological Association, announcing a donation in aid of the fund (now approaching £5,000) which is being raised for the purpose of building and fitting a marine laboratory and experimental aquarium at Plymouth. "Royal Society, Burlington House, London, W., Nov. 1, 1884. Sir.—Your letter relating to the Marine Biological Association was laid before the Council at their meeting on Thursday last, and I am directed to inform you that the Council have voted the sum of £250 from the Donation Fund in aid of the Marine Biological Association, as a token of their sympathy with an effort which they have every reason to believe will contribute largely to the progress of biological science in this country.—I beg to remain yours obediently, M. FOSTER, Sec. R. S.—Professor E. Ray Lankester, Honorary Secretary, Marine Biological Association.

INFANT MORTALITY.—The question of infant mortality is closely connected with infant feeding; and these extraordinary differences are mainly, if not wholly, explicable in this way. In the Faroe Islands, and in Norway, infants are invariably breast-fed; while in Iceland, and among the working classes in Bavaria, they are as constantly brought up on sopped bread and farinaceous foods. It is a fact full of instruction, that when, during the sufferings and starvation caused by the siege of Paris, the general mortality of the population was doubled, that of the infants was reduced by 40 per cent., simply from the mothers being compelled to suckle their babies; and the same increase of the adult and diminution of the infant mortality was observed during the Lancashire cotton-famine, when the mothers were no longer at work in the mills.

PRESENTATION.—Dr. M. W. Taylor has been presented with a handsome solid silver service of plate, consisting of jardinière, four dessert stands, and oval plateau. The jardinière is supported by four sea-horses in unburnished silver; and the four dessert stands by three sea-horses each. On the edge of the plateau is the following inscription: "To Michael Waistell Taylor, M.D., L.R.C.S., F.S.A., Scotland. This service of silver plate was presented by the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood of Penrith, in grateful recognition of his many valuable public services and personal kindness during a residence of thirty-nine years amongst them. November 1884."

MEDICAL MAYORS.—The list of mayors for the ensuing year contains the names of the following members of the medical profession: Bacup, Dr. W. J. Clegg; Blackpool, Mr. W. H. Cocker; Evesham, Mr. Horace Haynes; Glastonbury, Mr. J. A. Bright (second time); Grimsby, Mr. T. B. Keetley (re-elected); Hartlepool, Mr. J. Rawlings; Hounslow, Mr. J. C. Macaulay; Liskeard, Mr. William Nettle; Ludlow, Mr. J. E. Brooks; Ryde, Mr. Benjamin Barrow; Southport, Mr. G. A. Pilkington; Tewkesbury, Mr. J. H. Boughton; West Bromwich, Dr. T. Underhill; Wilton, Mr. C. R. Stratton.

DISTRESS IN THE NORTH AND THE DEATH-RATE.—It is somewhat remarkable that the increase of the distress from want of employment in the north has been accompanied by a reduction in the annual death-rate. In Newcastle, for the week ending November 1st, the average rate only reached 19 in the 1,000. During the same week, Sunderland only showed an average of 20 in the 1,000; whilst the average death-rate of Hebburn for the month of October was only 14.3 per 1,000 a year.

THE EXPLORING NEEDLE.—The tubular needle furnished with all hypodermic syringes is (says the *Polyclinic*) a far better instrument for exploration than the grooved needle called an exploring needle, and has the additional advantage that it can be used with the syringe attached, which, when so employed, becomes a small aspirating pump. The exploring needle should be discarded from all pocket-cases, and substituted by the hypodermic syringe, which is needed also for subcutaneous medication.

THE METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS FOR SCOTLAND.—The meteorological returns for Scotland, just issued for October, show that the weather was, on the whole, cool, fine, and dry, and that it was only towards its close that the month justified its reputation for stormy weather, there being one or two gales of great violence.

THE ENGADINE.—In consequence of the increasing number of persons visiting the Engadine as a winter health-resort, the committee of the Colonial and Continental Church Society have made arrangements with the proprietor of the Hotel Bernina for the conduct of English Church services at Samaden during the ensuing season.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....	St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—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.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.
TUESDAY.....	St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—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.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, 2.30 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Peter's, 2 P.M.—National Orthopaedic, 10 A.M.
THURSDAY	St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.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.—Chelsea Hospital for Women, 2 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.; Dental, M. W. F., 9.30.
GUY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, exc. T., 1.30; Obstetric, M. W. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; 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.; Ophthalmic Department, W.; 1; Ear, Th., 2; Skin, Th.; 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, Th., 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., M. Th., 9.30; Eye, Tu. F., 9.30; Ear, W. S., 9.30; Throat, M. Th., 9.30; Skin, Tu. F., 9.30; Electrician, Tu. F., 9.30; 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. Th. 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., 10.30.
WESTMINSTER.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. F., 8; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 9; Skin, Th., 1; Dental, W. S., 9.15.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. A discussion on Anæsthetics. 1. Paper by Mr. Woodhouse Braine. 2. Discussion, opened by Mr. G. H. Bailey.
TUESDAY.—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Henry Morris: A Successful Case of Lumbar Nephrectomy for Renal Calculus. An interesting discussion is expected to follow, in which, besides others, Sir Andrew Clark, Sir Henry Thompson, Mr. Savory, Mr. Bryant, and Mr. Hulke will probably take part.
WEDNESDAY.—Hunterian Society, 8 P.M. Dr. Goodhart: On Water on the Brain. Dr. Herman: On the Number of Persons who suffer from Headaches. Mr. Charters J. Symonds: On the Spontaneous Disappearance of Nervi.
THURSDAY.—Parks Museum, 8 P.M. Lecture, by Dr. Alfred Carpenter, on Progress and Co-operation in Sanitary Work.
FRIDAY.—Clinical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Adjourned discussion on Mr. Morrant Baker's paper on Cases of Charcot's Joint-disease. Living cases will be exhibited at 8 P.M., as well as some illustrative specimens sent by Professor Charcot. If time permit, a Case of Tumour of the Prental Lobe, with few Symptoms, by Dr. Hale White, will also be read.—Quckett Microscopic Club, 8 P.M. Mr. F. Botes: On the Supposed Sexual Threads in Zygnemaceae.

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.

In order to avoid delay, it is particularly requested that all letters on the editorial business of the JOURNAL should be addressed to the Editor at the office of the JOURNAL, and not to his private house.

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

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

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*.

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

THE EXAMINATION AT THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

SIR.—Your correspondent, "M.R.C.S. etc.," aptly observes that the high percentage of candidates rejected at the recent examinations at the College of Surgeons should demand investigation. I was one of the unfortunates out of the large number referred at the "Final," and I agree with your correspondent that it is not the result of deficiency on the part of teachers at the schools, but that the test is not a fair one. With reference to the former, it is surprising how energetically the classes are carried on by those gentlemen who send up candidates, even through the heat of the late summer and during the most unfavourable time of the year; the untiring zeal of those, whose duty it is to conduct this thankless task, deserves of better result than has lately been shown. The *vivæ voce* examination at the College is, I believe, the part which plucks the greater number; and there is a tendency for an examiner to dwell upon one particular subject, or portion of a subject, more especially, if he finds the candidate a trifle shaky on that part, or does not quite comprehend the tenor of his questions: and to persist with astonishing perseverance to obtain some particular answer, which he thinks should be forthcoming. I cannot agree that it is mostly the nervous men who come to grief, for I find that more consideration is shown to this class of gentlemen than to those who evince an outwardly calm and self-possessed demeanour. In my own case, I did well at my first three tables, better in fact than I had expected; but during the last ten minutes, only three questions were put to me, in two of which I failed to comprehend my examiner's drift, and consequently the time which was taken up in trying vainly to extract more definite explanation was counted against me, and I suppose that I was marked as deficient in the knowledge of those particular subjects, one of which I had prided myself upon knowing well. I venture to think that, of all subjects which students are expected to excel in, surgery and surgical anatomy, and more especially surgery at the College of Surgeons of England, present the widest range and most varying styles of question. At other colleges some limit seems to be allowed, less licence appears to be given to the testing of men on particulars which are utterly useless and unpractical, and to the devotion of the short period given to foolish attempts at explanation of the meanings of terms and expressions given on the part of examiner or candidate. The uncertainty is very apparent, when one man is examined on the anatomy of the foot and leg, and another is harassed with the minute nervous filaments to and from the tenuitive ganglion, or those in connection with the middle ear; or when one more fortunate is run over the diagnosis and treatment of phagedena, while another is asked "What is urochrome?" I shall present myself again in three months from the date of my failure, and though I hope for a better result, I should not express great surprise at receiving like verdicts, or, perhaps even following the example of two fellow-sufferers lately, who, having presented themselves after a period of three months, were referred again, but the second time for six months.—Yours faithfully,

LICENTIATE IN MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

POPULAR LECTURES ON PHYSIOLOGY.

A COUNTRY MEMBER asks if there have been published any popular lectures on elementary physiology, including the special senses; and if so, who the publisher is. He has an idea that some were delivered in Edinburgh, and published there.

CIGARETTES.

SIR.—Under this heading a correspondent asks, "why this particular form of smoking is condemned as being more injurious than any other?" I think that I am right in saying that it is not the tobacco, but the paper used in rolling the tobacco.

I have at present under treatment two cases, both cigarette-smokers, who complained of severe pain down the middle line of the sternum, with anxiety, especially at night when in bed, and which was particularly relieved by a high pillow. In both cases, I could not make out any heart-affection, and treated them both with fifteen-grain doses of the trisnitrate of bismuth, and advised them to stop smoking cigarettes. In two days they were relieved of all symptoms. I have never seen any injurious effects from cigarette-smoking when the skin of the under part of the rupa palm-leaves was used instead of paper.—I am, etc.,

A. W. SINCLAIR, Residency Surgeon.

SCLANZOR.

ERRATUM.—In the JOURNAL of November 8th, page 981, column 1, line 32 from bottom, for "closed maxima," read "cloaca maxima."

AN INTENDING ASSURER.—The work to which our correspondent alludes is probably White's *Insurance Register*.

R. J. W. O. Thanks for letter. There are many and very substantial reasons for the existing practice.

THE CHOLERA-BACILLUS.

SIR.—It would appear to me, from what you write in the JOURNAL of November 1st, on the investigations of Drs. Klein and Gibbes into the cause of cholera, that they are cultivating quite another form of bacteria from that which Koch has demonstrated in Berlin.

You state, "that they have observed that the comma-bacilli found in cases of cholera form spores like other bacilli," while Koch says, on account of their peculiar form of development, he is inclined to consider that the comma-bacillus is not at all a true bacillus, but holds a place between the bacilli and the spirilli; and, again, that we have here to do with a micro-organism which is no true bacillus, but most probably stands nearer to the screw-formed bacteria—the spirilli.

Dr. Koch says, that he has tried in a great number of ways to get the comma-bacilli, which he has found, to produce spores, but in vain; and he states, "I scarcely believe it is possible to do more in that line." He states also that this peculiarity points to its being related to the spirilli, as we know, as yet, of no spore-forming spirilli. It is of no value to tell us that curved bacilli have been found in certain cases; for Koch also has known all along that such bacilli are to be found in cases not suffering from cholera, and he has long ago photographed them. We must also be told their size. Koch says the cholera-bacillus is about half, or at most two-thirds, as long as the tubercle-bacillus, but rounder and thicker, and that the curvature is not generally greater than that of an ordinary punctuation-commma. Then we must be told their life-history, and their behaviour when cultivated artificially, in order to come to any conclusion as to whether they are the same organisms as those which Dr. Koch has discovered and written about.

As to the statement that Dr. Klein had swallowed a pure cultivation of bacilli, I can only hope it is not true, as it lowers him as a scientific observer, and I think justly so, in the opinion of the Germans, as, for many reasons, it can have no weight one way or the other. Such a criticism as that of Professor Lankester's, which appeared lately in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, can only have the effect in Germany of getting English scientific men laughed at; for Dr. Koch himself had long before stated, as I show above, that the organism in question was nearer related to the spirilli than to the bacilli.

Hoping that we shall soon receive full accounts of their investigations from Drs. Klein and Gibbes.—I am, sir, yours respectfully,
22, Findlingstrasse, Munich.

CHARLES WORKMAN, M.D.

PSYCHOLOGY OF COD-LIVER OIL.

The cod-liver oil business is flourishing at Marseilles, and competition runs high. A reputed advertisement of one of the manufacturers reads as follows. "The cod, being one of the small fishes of the sea, is constantly tracked and pursued by its enemies, the whales and sharks, etc.; therefore it lives in a constant state of fear, and it is a well established fact that fear engenders in all living creatures jaundice and diseases of the liver. Consequently, all codfish taken in the open sea have diseased livers. But all my fish are caught in a safe harbour, where marine monsters cannot enter. They live there in peace and comfort. Their livers are perfectly healthy, and that is the reason why my cod-liver oil is the best."

"WANTED A CUPPER."

SIR.—In reply to "Cerebral Congestion," I believe there is still in existence a Monson Hills, who was formerly copper at Guy's Hospital; his address could no doubt be obtained from his brother, Henry J. Hills, 46, Newcomen Street, Borough, S.E.—Yours, etc.,

F. G. G.

PRURITUS OF PREGNANCY.

SIR.—Can any member of the Association tell me of a reliable remedy for pruritus of pregnancy? I think I have tried every one that I have either read or heard of, without any permanent benefit, and my patient is now almost in despair.—I am, yours truly,

A MEMBER.

CINCHONA IN DIPSOMANIA.

MR. JAMES CROCKER (Bingley) writes that the preparation to be used is the fluid extract of *cinchona rubra*. He has given it, and with some good results. It may be advantageously combined with tincture of *capsicum*; half a drachm of each, well diluted, being given three or four times a day.

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

Mr. Arthur Jackson, Sheffield; Mr. C. B. Lockwood, London; Our Dublin Correspondent; Mr. E. White Wallis, London; Mr. A. Shapter Robinson, Edinburgh; Dr. G. W. Gay, Boston; Mr. Brooks, Ludlow; Dr. C. Workman, Munich; Messrs. Bowman and Sons, Barnsley; Mr. F. Godfrey, Scarborough; Mr. John Moore, Liverpool; Mr. Shirley F. Murphy, London; Mr. H. H. Bridgman, London; Mr. Wm. A. Carte, Dublin; Mr. Henry Wilson, London; Mr. R. J. Godlee, London; Mr. John Gorham, Tonbridge; Mr. H. E. Taylor, Bradford; The Secretary of the Social Science Association; Mr. J. W. Woodruff, London; Dr. Glasier, London; Dr. Langmore, London; Dr. Graham, Perth; Mr. F. W. E. Kinnaid, Horsham; Mr. R. A. S. Prosser, Birmingham; Mr. McWardle, Bishop Auckland; Dr. Bowman, Manchester; Mr. R. J. Wilde, Bootle; Mr. T. J. Verral, Brighton; Mr. H. Blake, Great Yarmouth; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Mr. J. C. Karop, London; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Mr. G. M. Bluett, London; Mr. W. Johnson Smith, Greenwich; Mr. J. Batty Tuke, jun., Montrouge; The Secretary of the Chelsea Hospital for Women, London; Dr. J. A. Harrison, Haslingden; Mr. John Trotter, London; Dr. J. P. McGeagh, Everton, Liverpool; Dr. R. Booth, London; Mr. R. H. E. Tritton, London; Mr. C. A. Ballance, London; Dr. Elliston, Ipswich; Dr. John Haddom, Hawick; Dr. Leech, Manchester; The Secretary of the Hospitals Association, London; Dr. Vincent D. Harris, London; Dr. G. Hunter Mackenzie, Edinburgh; Dr. Partridge, Stroud; Our Liverpool Correspondent; Dr. Prosser James, London; Dr. Caldwell, Cale- raine; Mr. P. S. Abram, Dublin; Mr. J. W. Morris, Swansea; Mr. H. Saint Maur, London; Mr. Henry Taylor, Guildford; Dr. Danford Thomas, London; Dr. C. J. Renshaw, Ashton-upon-Mersey; Dr. Donald MacAlister, Cambridge; Mr. Wm. Young, London; Dr. Simpson, Edinburgh; the Rev. J. MacNaught,

London; Dr. Newsholme, London; Mr. Robert Black, Brighton; Quid Agam Non Habeo; Mr. A. Bernard, Liverpool; J. C. H.; Mr. Vincent Jackson, Wolverhampton; Mr. Samuel Knaggs, Huddersfield; Our Aberdeen Correspondent; Medicus; Mr. A. G. F. Bernard, Liverpool; Dr. C. Orton, Newcastle-under-Lyne; Dr. Styrap, Shrewsbury; Dr. Champneys, London; Mr. W. Percy Fox, Wrexham; Surgeon-Major Evatt, Woolwich; Dr. Protheroe Smith, London; Dr. A. H. Bampton, Plymouth; Mr. R. C. Appleton, Beverley; Dr. G. P. Rugg, London; Dr. C. C. Scott, Twickenham; Dr. B. Foster, Birmingham; Dr. Urquhart, Aberdeen; Dr. H. J. Alford, Taunton; Mr. N. Alcock, Ballybrack; Dr. J. Lindsey Steven, Glasgow; Mr. E. C. Green, Derby; Mr. Mark H. Judge, London; Dr. John Adam, Dingwall; Dr. J. Copping, Gortmore; Mr. A. Priestley Smith, London; Messrs. Arnold and Sons, London; Mr. M. Wilson, Manchester; Mr. E. Inderwick, Craven Arms, Salop; Mr. J. B. Barnes, London; Mr. J. Cole Pencott, Romford; Sir T. Spencer Wells, London; Mr. R. Gray, Armagh; Dr. T. Clifford Allbutt, Leeds; Dr. Huggard, London; The Secretary of the National Harbour Refuge Society; The Secretary of the Sanitary Assurance Association; Our Belfast Correspondent; Our Birmingham Correspondent; Miss Wilkinson, London; Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbridge, and Co., London; Mr. C. S. Blair, Killingworth; The Secretary of the Parkes Museum; Dr. Thomas Barlow, London; Mr. H. C. Jee, Nuneaton; Mr. W. Conner, Manningtree; Mr. J. J. O'Brien, London; Mr. F. Septimus Barnett, London; Mr. H. L. Jones, Chatham; Our Manchester Correspondent; Dr. E. Wells, Reading; Mr. C. Farmer, Hexham; the Rev. R. L. Bamfield, West Anstey, Devon; Our Berlin Correspondent; Mr. J. A. E. Stuart, Batley, Leeds; Dr. Wolfe, Glasgow; Mr. W. Marriott, London; Dr. A. Morton, Glasgow; Dr. Murrell, London; Dr. T. H. L. Allen, Midleton, Cork, etc.

* * Notwithstanding the large amount of space devoted to correspondence, we are still in arrears with letters marked for insertion, which we hope next week to redeem.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Index Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office United States Army. Vol. V. *Flaccus-Hearth*. Washington: Government Printing Office. 1884.

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Fifth Annual Report of the State Board of Health of Illinois. Springfield, Illinois: H. W. Rokker. 1888.

The Vivisector's Directory. Edited by Benjamin Bryan. With a Preface by F. P. Cobbe. London: Victoria Street Society for the Protection of Animals from Vivisection. 1884.

Elements of Practical Medicine. By A. H. Carter, M.D. Third Edition. London: H. K. Lewis. 1884.

The Sunday Scrap-Book. London, Paris, and New York: Cassell and Co. 1884.

Origin of Cultivated Plants. By A. de Candolle. London: Kegan Paul and Co. 1884.

Adventures in Servia Among the Bashi-Bazouks. By Dr. A. Wright. London: W. Swan Sonnenschein and Co. 1884.

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Elements of Surgical Diagnosis. By A. P. Gould, M.B., M.S. London: Cassell and Co. (Limited). 1884.

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