

MEMORANDA:

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

POISONING BY THE TINCTURE OF NUX VOMICA: DEATH IN TWO HOURS.

THE following is, I believe, the first recorded case of poisoning by the tincture of nux vomica of the new *Pharmacopœia*. I was called in July, 1898, at 2 P.M., to see a woman who was reported to have fallen and injured her head. She was lying semi-conscious on the floor, with a large but not dangerous scalp wound.

On examination it was at once seen that the injury to her head was not the cause of her symptoms. It transpired that she had swallowed 6 drachms of the tincture of nux vomica in mistake for another drug. She quickly developed symptoms of strychnine poisoning: severe muscular twitchings developing into general tetanic spasms, and on three occasions definite general convulsions with loss of consciousness. During the intervals she was quite lucid and conscious, complaining of great thirst, dryness of the mouth and throat, a suffocating sensation and fear of impending death. Her pupils were widely dilated, her lower extremities powerless, her skin dry, respirations quick and deep at first, changing later into the Cheyne-Stokes rhythm; and the pulse was hard and incompressible. The slightest touch readily started a general spasm, and she was very intolerant of light and sound. Exactly two hours after swallowing the fatal dose, she died during the third attack of general convulsions, and was not resuscitated after half an hour's artificial respiration.

It was found quite impossible to pass the tube of the stomach pump, as any attempt to do so at once brought on tetanic spasms; and on administering chloroform she developed such dangerous symptoms of syncope that this had to be abandoned. Accordingly one-eighth of a grain of apomorphine was injected subcutaneously, but this had no effect whatever in producing vomiting, the dose being repeated in half an hour with a similar negative result. Two doses of chloral hydrate 3j each were given by the mouth at intervals of half an hour, and during the three attacks of general convulsions a drachm of ether was injected subcutaneously, and hot flannels were applied to the præcordial region.

At the *post-mortem* examination the body was found fairly well nourished; rigor mortis was well marked, especially in the lower extremities. The scalp wound was found not to have caused any injury to the bone. The face, arms, and neck were greatly discoloured. The lungs were deeply congested; there were some old adhesions, but no other signs of organic disease. The heart was contracted and empty; the valves were quite healthy. The blood was fluid, and of a very dark bluish red colour. The stomach was greatly distended, and full of undigested food; the mucous membrane was congested, especially at the cardiac end. The intestines were apparently quite healthy, as were the liver, spleen, and kidneys. The brain showed superficial congestion of the membranes. No analysis of the contents of the stomach was made.

The chief points of interest about this case seem to be: (1) That the fatal dose was three-quarters of a grain of strychnine; (2) the comparatively rapid action of the dose; (3) that the pupils were widely dilated, and there was loss of consciousness on three occasions; (4) the failure of apomorphine to produce vomiting; and (5) the dangerous symptoms induced by the exhibition of chloroform.

LANCELOT H. D. HALE, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond.
Southsea.

OPERATION FOR SIMPLE STRICTURE OF RECTUM.
I HAD recently under my care a patient with simple annular stricture of the rectum which caused so much trouble as to call imperatively for operative relief. It was situated about 2½ inches from the anus. Under chloroform I made an incision posteriorly through the stricture, and all the soft parts between it and the anus down to the bone. I then pulled the strictured part of the bowel down and intended to remove the stricture piece by piece, suturing the cut ends of the bowel as I went.

One of my colleagues, Dr. E. M. Knott, suggested that I should pass the sutures first, as in a circumcision. I accordingly passed a number of sutures deeply below the stricture, then excised the stricture and tied the sutures. The result was perfect union with restoration of the natural lumen of the gut. I have not seen this method described anywhere, so I write to call attention to it as the easiest and simplest method of dealing with simple strictures.

Public Hospital, Georgetown, Demerara.

WALTER S. BARNES.

CASE OF IRIDEREMIA.

ABSENCE of the iris is sufficiently rare to justify the mention of the following case.

The patient is a child, aged 2 years, with rickets, well marked, both in head and long bones, badly nourished, and generally feeble. There is complete absence of the iris in both eyes, not the slightest trace being visible either to the naked eye or with illumination. The eyes have a dull black look, and the child cannot face a light in the room, but at once turns away or closes the lids. There is well-marked nystagmus in both eyes, the media are quite clear, and fundus normal.

Refraction, so far as can be tested by the ophthalmoscope, is normal, visual acuity is good, and accommodation certainly present to a considerable extent, as the child can pick up small objects, such as cotton or pins from the floor without hesitation or misdirection.

H. GOODWYN, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.M.Ed.
Bovey Tracy, S. Devon.

REPORTS

ON

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

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.

RETROPERITONEAL TUMOUR CONNECTED WITH THE SACRAL PLEXUS.

(Under the care of HARRISON CRIPPS, F.R.C.S.)

[Notes by Mr. HERBERT WILLIAMSON.]

V. H., an unmarried woman, aged 21, a housemaid, was sent up to the hospital by Dr. Wallace, of Colchester.

History.—She states that menstruation commenced at the age of 11, and was quite regular until she reached the age of 14. At this time she commenced to suffer from constant pain in the left iliac fossa and left lumbar region; the menstrual flow became irregular and scanty; frequently there was amenorrhœa for a period of three months—then a menstrual flow lasting only one hour, and accompanied by much pain. The constant pain was described as dull and dragging, with occasional acute exacerbations, when the pain would shoot down the front of the left leg.

Condition on Admission.—On examination by the abdomen a vague resistance was felt in the pelvic brim. By the vagina the cervix was found to be displaced forwards and to the right side; to the left and behind it was a rounded, fixed mass, reaching nearly to the middle of the pelvis. Rectal examination showed the mass was to the left side of the bowel. The bowel moved freely over it. Bimanually the uterus was felt anteflexed immediately behind and to the right of the symphysis pubis. Its cavity measured 2½ inches; it could be moved away from the mass. The swelling was regarded as probably an ovarian tumour, and operation was recommended. This was performed on June 1st.

Operation.—The patient was placed in the Trendelenburg position, and the abdomen opened by a 5-inch incision. At first the tumour was thought to be situated in the broad ligament, but these, together with the ovaries, were examined and found to be healthy. It was then found that the tumour was behind the peritoneum and lying in front of the sacrum. The peritoneum was incised, and an attempt made to shell out the tumour with the fingers. Separation from the peritoneum was easy, but behind the attachment to the anterior aspect of

In this case Dr. Burns made an unfortunate error in diagnosis which has been committed by many eminent surgeons. He proceeded with so much caution, however, that, having incised the skin, he at once recognised that he was dealing with an aneurysm, so that his incision, in fact, did not interfere with the subsequent treatment and cure of the diseased condition. Dr. Burns was able to clear himself completely from the allegation of intoxication and subsequent neglect of his patient. He was indeed fortunate in being able to do this so completely, for such charges are easily brought, and it is not always easy to rebut them by such conclusive evidence as he could bring.

FEES TO MEDICAL WITNESSES.

ALPHA asks what fees he is entitled to charge for attendance as medical witness at the Probate Court, London. He was eleven days from home (Ireland) on a subpoena.

* * In the absence of any express agreement as to remuneration, our correspondent would appear to be entitled to a fee varying from two guineas to three guineas a day. This fee would, strictly speaking, be inclusive of all his expenses, with the exception of railway fare. The question is not affected by the amount of the estate.

SALE OF PRACTICE.

M.R.C.S.—Our correspondent could be restrained by legal proceedings from practising before the expiration of the period mentioned in his undertaking. This is a matter on which our correspondent should have consulted his own solicitor.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.
The Society of Members of the Royal College of Surgeons of England have prepared the following memorial to the President and Council:

GENTLEMEN,—We the undersigned Fellows and Members of the College, desire to make the following representation to you.

We have heard with satisfaction of your intention to apply for a supplementary charter in order to fittingly celebrate the centenary of the granting of the original charter in 1800. We cordially endorse the proposal that you should obtain powers to confer the Fellowship of the College on persons of distinction who are not members. We further very sincerely wish that the celebration of this centenary may be marked by the harmony and good feeling between all parts of the corporation which ought to distinguish such an occasion.

We therefore very respectfully suggest to you that an extremely favourable opportunity now presents itself for the satisfaction of that desire which has at various periods during the century, and especially during the last fifteen years, been expressed by a large number of the Members of the College—namely, that they should be represented on the Council.

We do not intend to repeat the various arguments in favour of this proposal, as these must be well known to you, but, in the words of a former petition, "we submit that it would be both equitable and politic that the Members should have a voice in the conduct of a corporation of which they are, and always have been, numerically and financially the mainstay."

We would point out that this statement has been endorsed by at least one former President, by many Fellows, by some 5,000 Members, and by the entire medical press; that it has never been seriously challenged, but that the objections to it have rested mainly on the ground of the apparent interference with the prerogative of the Fellows. We are convinced that the difficulties in the way are by no means insuperable, and we earnestly trust that the Council will make the settlement of this long-standing controversy a prominent part of the centenary celebrations.

We respectfully bring this matter under your notice at the present time, in full confidence that you will deal with it in an equitable and dispassionate manner, and in accordance with the general sense of the profession at large.

Those who desire to sign the memorial should apply to Mr. W. G. Dickinson, Hon. Secretary of the Society, 11, Adam Street, Strand, W.C.

We may remind our readers that the meeting of Fellows and Members will be held at the College on Wednesday next, July 5th, at 3 P.M., to discuss the terms of the proposed centenary charter.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

At the congregation on June 26th the following were admitted to the M.B. degree: T. A. Mayo, B.A., of Clare, and A. G. Wilson, B.A., of Gonville and Caius.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.

The following candidates have passed the Fourth or Final Professional Examination, those who have attained distinction having the fact indicated thus: (S., Surgery and Clinical Surgery; P., Practice of Medicine and Clinical Medicine; M., Midwifery):

M.B., C.M. (Old Regulations).—G. H. B. Harvie, A. P. Robertson, A. Waugh.

M.B., Ch.B. (New Regulations).—J. N. Baxter, W. Broad, A. Brownlie, J. R. Chalmers (P. M.), D. M. Cowan, J. Craig (P.), G. M. Crawford, W. Crerar, J. Cullen, C. C. Cumming, J. L. Davie, J. A. Dickie, H. C. Ferguson (S. M.), J. F. Findlay, G. Gardner (M.), J. Gardner (S. P. M.), H. Goodman, M.A., J. G. Green, A. Kerr, A. Love, R. Miller,

H. Miller (M.), N. McL. Miller (M.), E. Mitchell, M.A. (P. M.), J. H. McDonald (P. M.), J. McGilchrist, N. F. McLeod, W. J. Maclure, J. McMillan, J. Patton, T. S. Picken, J. Reid, W. A. Riddell (M.), A. Robin (M.), D. J. Smith, W. S. Stalker, A. G. Stewart (P.), F. R. Stewart, M.A., C. P. Thomson, W. B. Thomson (P.), H. N. Turner, A. L. Watson, M.A. (S. P. M.), A. S. Wells, M.A. (S. P.), R. O. Whyte, M.A., W. Wright, J. D. Young.

Women.—A. Boyes, S. Davidson, J. D. Granger (P. M.), I. L. McNeill, C. L. Smith, E. M. S. Walker (P.), S. Whiteford.

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN.

FORMATION OF AN ANATOMICAL AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—At a meeting of students and graduates held last week in the anatomical department of this University, it was resolved to form an anatomical and anthropological society for the purpose of stimulating research in human and comparative anatomy and anthropology. Professor Reid, F.R.C.S., was appointed president, and he kindly granted to the society the use of the various museums and laboratories in connection with the department. The members are very anxious that graduates both at home and abroad should support the society by sending specimens or communications that might be read at the meetings, as they are certain that graduates abroad have often considerable facilities for doing anthropological work. In connection with this it may be remarked that there has lately been added to the department an anthropological laboratory and museum. Any communications will be gratefully received and acknowledged by the Secretary, Mr. C. T. Andrew, Marischal College.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Fellows was held on Monday, June 26th, the President, Dr. W. S. Church, in the chair.

Preliminary Scientific Instruction.—A report dated May 8th from the Committee of Management was received and adopted. The committee recommended that the following institutions, all of which have been visited on behalf of the committee and reported on favourably, be added to the list of institutions recognised by the Examining Board in England: (a) For instruction in chemistry, physics, and practical chemistry: Municipal Technical School, Oldham; St. Olave's Grammar School, Tooley Street, S.E. (b) For instruction in chemistry, physics, practical chemistry, and biology: Harrow School.

Preliminary Education.—The committee having considered the letter from the chairman of the Education Committee of the General Medical Council on the subject of the standard of the preliminary examination of medical students, which was referred to them by the Royal Colleges for consideration and report, state that it is in their opinion desirable that the standard of examination should be raised and should be the same throughout the United Kingdom, and that a period of not less than four years should elapse between the announcement of such a change and its enforcement.

Professor Stokvis.—The President announced that an address of congratulation had been forwarded on behalf of the college to Professor Stokvis upon the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of his election to the Chair of Medicine in the University of Amsterdam.

Lectures.—It was announced that the following Lecturers had been appointed:—Goulstonian Lecturer, 1900: Dr. P. Horton-Smith, F.R.C.P.; Lumsden Lecturer, 1900: Dr. W. B. Cheadle; Croonian Lecturer, 1901: Professor W. D. Halliburton, M.D. F.R.S.

Gifts.—The thanks of the College were accorded to Dr. Frank for a gift of £100 to the College Endowment Fund; and to the executors of the late Dr. Thomas Blackall, for the bequest by him to the College of the portrait of his father, Dr. John Blackall, F.R.C.P., of Exeter, by R. R. Reinagle, R.A. Dr. John Blackall was the first English physician to notice the association of albuminuria with dropsy.

Correspondence.—A letter was received from the Secretary of the College of Surgeons, reporting certain proceedings of the Council of the College of Surgeons on May 11th, and enclosing a copy of the judgment of the Court dismissing the recent appeal of the College against assessment for corporation duty. Letters were also received from the Royal Institute of Public Health, inviting the College to join in urging the Government to appoint a Medical Officer to the Education Department; and from the Corporate and Medical Reform Association, Limited, inviting the College to support a memorial to the General Medical Council, praying the Council not to sanction the granting of illegal certificates of proficiency in departments of medicine, surgery, and midwifery. It was ordered that these letters should lie upon the table.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

The following gentlemen, having passed the necessary Examinations, have been admitted Licentiates in Dental Surgery:

E. F. Ackery, Charing Cross and Dental Hospital of London; H. D. Apperly, Middlesex and Dental Hospital of London; J. R. S. Ash, Guy's Hospital Dental Department and School; L. W. Bennett, Middlesex and National Dental Hospital; A. H. Bowkley, University College, Royal Infirmary, and Dental Hospital, Liverpool; R. V. Britten, E. Cardwell, H. W. Cutts, Charing Cross and Dental Hospital of London; P. E. Chandler, Guy's Hospital Dental Department and School; S. S. Doran, University College, Royal Infirmary, and Dental Hospital, Liverpool; F. English, Mason College, Queen's, General, and Dental Hospital, Birmingham; H. A. T. Fairbank, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., Charing Cross and Dental Hospital of London; E. B. M. Frost and A. J. Gwatkin, Guy's Hospital Dental Department and School; J. W. Gibbons, Owens College, Royal Infirmary, and Victoria Dental Hospital, Manchester; E. J. F. Gillemand, Charing Cross and Dental Hospital of London; R. W. Griffin and C. H. Howkins, Mason College, Queen's, General, and Dental Hospital, Birmingham; A. D. Hopkins, E. R. Howlett, and A. Hughes, Guy's Hospital Dental Department and School; H. S. Huggins and J. D. D. Humby, Middlesex and National Dental Hospital; A. de B. Jepson, Charing Cross and Dental Hospital of London; S. J. Kaye, Middlesex and Dental Hospital of London; J. Mahoney, Owens College, Royal Infirmary, and Victoria Dental

Hospital, Manchester; De la H. Moores, University College, Royal Infirmary, and Dental Hospital, Liverpool; M. P. Nathan, S. H. Oliver, P. H. H. Palmer, J. G. McAlpin, and H. W. Morris, Guy's Hospital Dental Department and School; F. Parlett, University College, Royal Infirmary, and General Hospital Dental Department, Bristol; W. de C. Pridéaux and H. Quinton, Charing Cross and Dental Hospital of London; T. E. Regan, Owens College, Royal Infirmary, and Victoria Dental Hospital, Manchester; A. E. Rowlett and T. F. Ryan, Guy's Hospital Dental Department and School; R. J. Russell, University College, Royal Infirmary, and Dental Hospital, Liverpool; F. L. Shelton and E. Shrubsole, Charing Cross and Dental Hospital of London; S. C. Smith, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., L.S.A. Lond., Middlesex and Dental Hospital of London; L. Taylor, Owens College, Royal Infirmary, and Victoria Dental Hospital, Manchester; E. P. Uttley, F. Warlow, E. B. L. White, J. A. Whittington, and C. F. Witcomb, Guy's Hospital Dental Department and School; T. H. Vaughan and H. G. Williams, Charing Cross and Dental Hospital of London.

Twenty-eight gentlemen were referred for six months and 1 for twelve months.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND.

The following gentlemen, having passed the necessary examination, have been admitted Fellows of the College: Mr. A. A. Doyle, L.R.C.P.I. and L.R.C.S.I., and Mr. J. P. Frengley, M.D. and B.Ch., Royal University.

BARKER ANATOMICAL PRIZES FOR 1900.—A prize of £25 is offered for competition, and is open to any student whose name is on the anatomical class list of any school in the United Kingdom. The preparations entered must be placed in charge of the Curator before March 31st, 1900. The prize is offered for a dissection of the pharynx from behind, with as many as possible of the nerves, etc., to be found in that region. The preparation must be sent to the Curator of the Museums, Royal College of Surgeons. The dissections are to be mounted in vessels fitted with glass covers, but the covers must not be sealed down. Earthenware basins and plaster-of-paris settings are not compulsory if the specimens can be better displayed and preserved by other means. Those dissections for which prizes are awarded become the property of the College. Those competitors who enter dissections for which prizes are not awarded, but which show sufficient merit, may be refunded such amount of the cost of production as the examiners deem fit. The cost and risks of transport must be borne by the student. Further particulars can be obtained from Dr. J. Alfred Scott, Curator of the Museums, at the College.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON.

PASS LIST, June, 1899.—The following candidates passed in:

Surgery.—F. W. Chesnaye (Section II), St. George's Hospital; S. E. Dunkin, Charing Cross Hospital; H. H. J. Edwards (Sections I and II), St. Thomas's Hospital; W. M. Hocken, Liverpool; D. V. Lowndes (Section II), Westminster Hospital; V. S. Partridge (Section II), Charing Cross Hospital; D. O. Williams (Leeds); W. P. Williamson, McGill and Westminster Hospital.
Medicine.—S. J. H. Eastwick-Field, Royal Free Hospital; H. H. J. Edwards (Section II), St. Thomas's Hospital; T. H. Fox (Leeds); J. B. Hall (Section I), Leeds; G. B. Hobbs (Section II), St. Bartholomew's Hospital; A. Killick (Sections I and II), Cambridge and London Hospital; W. M. McLoughlin, University College Hospital; A. Orme (Section II), London Hospital; G. E. Seville, Manchester; W. C. Stanham, London Hospital.
Fornsic Medicine.—S. J. H. Eastwick-Field, Royal Free Hospital; T. H. Fox, Leeds; F. Golding-Bird, Guy's Hospital; J. B. Hall, Leeds; A. Killick, Cambridge and London Hospital; W. M. McLoughlin, University College Hospital; G. E. Seville, Manchester; W. C. Stanham, London Hospital.
Midwifery.—J. R. Bentley, Middlesex Hospital; H. S. A. Davies, Michigan; J. C. S. Dunn, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; S. J. H. Eastwick-Field, Royal Free Hospital; T. H. Fox, Leeds; L. Lehmann, Strassburg and Leipzig; F. Marriott, Edinburgh; G. G. Mambery, Toronto; A. Orme, London Hospital; G. E. Seville, Manchester.

The diploma of the Society was granted to Messrs. F. W. Chesnaye, S. E. Dunkin, H. H. J. Edwards, F. Golding-Bird, W. M. Hocken, G. C. Hobbs, A. Killick, D. V. Lowndes, W. M. McLoughlin, W. P. Williamson, and D. O. Williams.

LORD ROTHSCHILD, President of the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City, has contributed £100 towards the £1,500 required to enable the charity to obtain a conditional donation of £500.

A FIELD SEARCHLIGHT.—A portable acetylene field searchlight, invented by Lieutenant von Kries, of the German army, is described in the *Militär Wochenblatt*. It is intended to be used at night in searching for the wounded on the battlefield. The acetylene developer, which a man can easily carry on his back, is constructed to contain rather more than two pounds of calcium carbide. This is sufficient to produce a supply of gas capable of maintaining a light of from fifty to sixty candles for eight hours. A special arrangement of two concave parabolic mirrors increases the power of the light by reflection and concentration to about one hundred candles. The light, with the reflector, is placed on the top of an upright rod, which forms a pivot upon which the light can be turned in any required direction. The effective radius is about one hundred yards. A metal tube connects the light with the developer, which is automatic, and, it is said, not dangerous.

OBITUARY.

THE late Mr. L. P. METHAM, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.S.A., formerly occupied a prominent position in Devonport. He was the son of Mr. Cornelius Tripe, a medical practitioner in Devonport, and assumed the name of Metham on his marriage. He was born in September, 1811, and studied medicine under his father, and afterwards in London and Paris. As soon as qualified in 1835 he settled in practice in his native town. He was Chairman of the local Liberal party through four Parliamentary elections, and was repeatedly re-elected to the position. He gave lectures at the Mechanics' Institute, and in other ways devoted himself to the cause of education; and was honoured with the Chairmanship of the first School Board formed in Devonport in 1870, when the Education Act came into operation. He was, too, a member of the Managing Committee of the Royal Albert Hospital, and was present at the laying of the foundation stone of that institution. He also held a position of great prominence in Freemasonry, having been Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Devon from 1867 to 1879, and in 1867 he received a valuable presentation from the brethren of the Order in the "Three Towns." Not content with these fields for his philanthropic energies, he was for sixty years—in fact, until the day of his death—Secretary of the Royal British Female Orphan Asylum, Stoke, founded by his mother in 1839, and during that period raised over £50,000 for the institution, of which the Queen is patroness. During those three-score years he was the guiding spirit and chief supporter of the institution, and never once missed attending the annual meeting and reading the report of the year's work. Besides other zealous labours on behalf of the asylum, he scarcely ever passed a day without visiting it, and seems to have been quite revered by the inmates. His last expressed wish was that ten additional orphans should be admitted to the asylum this year to celebrate his sixtieth year as Honorary Secretary. This dying wish was laid before a meeting of the Committee and unanimously agreed to, and a letter from the chairman conveying this result was read to Mr. Metham just before he lost consciousness and died on June 2nd. At an early age he married a daughter of Admiral Curry, by whom he had four daughters, all of whom are living. His wife died about ten years ago. The funeral of Mr. Metham took place in Plymouth cemetery amidst universal signs of sympathy. The girls who are at present inmates of the Orphan Asylum attended, numbering over 200, and deputations from the other bodies with which he was connected, together with members of the medical profession in the Three Towns, were present at the ceremony.

PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE SANITARY INSPECTORS' EXAMINATION BOARD.

THE regulations as to examinations and instruction of the Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board have been issued.

The examination will consist of two parts: (1) Preliminary in English and arithmetic; and (2) technical in (a) elementary physics and chemistry, (b) elementary statistical methods, (c) municipal hygiene or hygiene of communities, (d) Statutes and the Orders, memoranda, and model by-laws of the Local Government Board, and the by-laws in force in the Administrative County of London.

The candidate, who must have attained the age of 21 years, will be required to produce evidence of having held for not less than three years previous to January 1st, 1900, the office of a sanitary inspector or inspector of nuisances in a sanitary district in the United Kingdom having a population of not fewer than 5,000 at the last census; or a certificate that he has attended a course of instruction approved by the Board. The fee for the preliminary examination will be one guinea, and for the technical examination 3 guineas, but an unsuccessful candidate will be admitted to a subsequent examination on payment of half the fee. The examinations will be held twice in each year, and the first will commence on the first Tuesday in December, 1899. Further particulars can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, 1, Adelaide Buildings, London Bridge, E.C.

THE NURSING QUESTION IN WORKHOUSES.

THE *Bristol Evening News* of June 16th reports the resignation of an assistant nurse at the Stapleton Workhouse because of overwork and long hours, and a subsequent inquiry into the matter by a committee. The committee found that only one assistant nurse and one probationer were on duty at night for 138 female beds, and the same number for 120 male

beds. It is surprising that the nursing question should be so little understood by guardians; they are so apt to estimate the needs of the sick by those of the healthy, multiplied by a small figure, and then to think they are acting liberally. It has always been the keynote of workhouse reformers to urge the generous treatment of the sick as tending to economy in the long run, and now that trained nurses are being introduced, it is extravagance writ large to overwork the nursing staff. Let a superintendent nurse be placed in command in all these infirmaries, let her make a report as to the number of nurses required for the efficient nursing of the patients for whom she is responsible, and we shall hear less of nurses breaking down or resigning to save the remnant of health left, or of hospital committees reporting that the hours are too long or the staff inadequate.

THE TREATMENT OF CHILDREN REMANDED TO THE WORKHOUSE.

THE faith and trust of guardians in workhouse inmates are past belief. We find in the *Western Daily Press* a report on the case of two remanded boys who were ill-treated by an inmate to whose custody they were entrusted. The ill-treatment was proved, and the man sentenced to twenty-one days with hard labour. It is to be feared that for one case of brutality brought to light there must be very many of which nothing is heard. The custom of remanding juvenile offenders to the workhouse is a bad one, but if there is no better place of custody, it should at least be the duty of someone to provide a responsible officer for such important work. It may be that the guardians object to acting as gaolers to these unsentenced offenders, but as long as they sanction the employment of an inmate for this purpose they accept responsibility. By whomsoever the officer is appointed he should be responsible to some authority, and have rules of conduct which should protect these defenceless and unhappy children from bad treatment.

SUPERANNUATION FOR DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER.

WE are glad to see that Dr. Richard Thomason, who has been district medical officer in the Hereford Union for 41 years, and has just resigned his appointment, has become entitled under the Superannuation Act, 1896, to a pension of about £70 a year.

HEALTH OF ENGLISH TOWNS.

In thirty-three of the largest English towns, including London, 6,438 births and 3,558 deaths were registered during the week ending Saturday last, June 24th. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 16.4 and 16.5 per 1,000 in the two preceding weeks, declined again to 16.3 last week. The rates in the several towns ranged from 8.2 in Croydon, 13.1 in Blackburn, 13.2 in Derby, and 13.6 in Birkenhead, to 19.7 in Plymouth, 21.0 in Manchester, 21.9 in Liverpool, and 22.9 in Wolverhampton. In the thirty-two provincial towns the mean death-rate was 16.8 per 1,000, and exceeded by 1.3 the rate recorded in London, which was 15.5 per 1,000. The zymotic death-rate in the thirty-three towns averaged 1.9 per 1,000; in London the rate was equal to 1.7 per 1,000, while it averaged 2.0 in the thirty-two provincial towns, among which the highest zymotic death-rates were 2.7 in Birkenhead and in Halifax, 3.1 in Liverpool and in Blackburn, and 3.5 in Manchester. Measles caused a death-rate of 1.2 in Croydon, 1.3 in Liverpool, and 2.1 in Manchester; whooping-cough of 1.4 in Burnley, 1.5 in Blackburn and in Gateshead, and 2.2 in Cardiff; and "fever" of 1.0 in Huddersfield. The mortality from scarlet fever showed no marked excess in any of the large towns. The 80 deaths from diphtheria included 28 in London, 13 in Sheffield, 7 in Leeds, 4 in West Ham, 4 in Liverpool, 3 in Swansea, and 3 in Birmingham. One fatal case of small-pox was registered in Hull, but not one in London or in any other of the thirty-three large towns; and only 1 small-pox patient was under treatment last week in the Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals. The number of scarlet fever patients in these hospitals and in the London Fever Hospital, which had increased from 2,161 to 2,280 at the end of the five preceding weeks, had further risen to 2,367 on Saturday last, June 24th; 335 new cases were admitted during the week, against 260, 278, and 262 in the three preceding weeks.

HEALTH OF SCOTCH TOWNS.

DURING the week ending Saturday last, July 24th, 1,018 births and 500 deaths were registered in eight of the principal Scotch towns. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had declined from 19.9 to 17.9 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, further fell to 16.7 last week, but slightly exceeded the mean-rate during the same period in the thirty-three large English towns. Among these Scotch towns the death-rates ranged from 12.2 in Paisley and 15.2 in Perth to 17.9 in Edinburgh and 19.6 in Greenock. The zymotic death-rate in these towns averaged 2.0 per 1,000, the highest rates being recorded in Greenock and Leith. The 234 deaths registered in Glasgow included 13 from measles, 5 from scarlet fever, 2 from diphtheria, 3 from whooping-cough, and 9 from diarrhoea. Three fatal cases of diphtheria and 4 of whooping-cough were recorded in Edinburgh; 4 deaths were referred to scarlet fever in Greenock, 6 to whooping-cough in Leith, and 2 to diphtheria in Dundee.

MEDICAL NEWS.

THE late Mrs. Marie Magdalene Pauline Satow, of Folkestone, has bequeathed £500 to the Folkestone Victoria Hospital.

THE Bureau of Health of Philadelphia has issued a notification that a supply of diphtheria antitoxin for use among the poor will be placed at the various police stations, and that practitioners may procure as much as may be requisite by giving a receipt for it.

DEFECTIVE SCHOOL CHILDREN.—Dr. G. E. Shuttleworth and Mrs. May Dickenson Berry, M.D., B.S.Lond., have been re-appointed by the School Board for London for a second year to examine defective children and children alleged to be defective, and to perform cognate work in the centres of instruction for the blind and deaf.

THE opening of the Wellcome Club and Institute, Dartford, on June 24th was the occasion of an interesting ceremony attended by the employees of Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome, and Co., numbering more than 800. The club premises consist of an old manor house standing in extensive grounds pleasantly watered by the river Darent, and affording a charming retreat for the members of the institute.

THE MIDWIVES BILL.—We are requested to state that the first resolution proposed at the joint meeting at the West Ham Hospital on June 15th of the East Suburban Medical Protection Society and the Wood Green and District Medical Society was carried with only two dissentients, and that the second was carried unanimously. We are informed, also, that the number present was 81, and not 55 as stated in our report.

FRENCH CONGRESS OF SURGERY.—The thirteenth Congress of the French Surgical Association will open in the buildings of the Paris Faculty of Medicine on Monday, October 16th, under the presidency of Professor A. Poncet, of Lyons. Two questions are proposed for discussion: (1) Total Abdominal Hysterectomy (to be introduced by M. Ricard); (2) Tumours of Bone (to be introduced by MM. Pollosson and Bérard). The General Secretary of the Congress is Dr. Piqué, 8, Rue de l'Isly, Paris.

GONVILLE AND CAIUS MISSION AND SETTLEMENT, BATTERSEA.—On Sunday, June 25th, many old Caians and others interested in the work of the Mission met at Caius House to keep the anniversary of the foundation of the Mission buildings. A service was held in the Mission Church close by, when the Bishop of Southwark preached the sermon. A great many of the medical graduates of the College have interested themselves in the work of the mission, and supported it in various ways, and, thanks to the arduous labours of the Warden, a great deal of very excellent work has been done in the district in the ten years that have elapsed since the Mission was founded.

THE ROYAL SEA-BATHING HOSPITAL, MARGATE.—The wards which have recently been reopened at the Royal Sea-bathing Hospital, Margate, were formally named by the President of the Royal College of Physicians in the presence of Mr. Michael Biddulph, M.P., Treasurer, members of the Court of Directors, the Mayor of Margate, and other distinguished visitors last week. The first ward was called after Dr. Lettson, who founded the hospital in 1791. General approval was expressed of the disposition of the wards, the accommodation for nurses and servants, and the sanitary arrangements of the reconstructed hospital.

THE annual *conversazione* of the Society of Arts was held on June 20th at the Natural History Museum, South Kensington. The guests, who numbered about two thousand, were received by Sir J. Wolfe Barry, the chairman of the council. The Central Hall, the British Saloon, and the Bird Gallery, were thrown open to the visitors, who congregated especially in the last named department of the museum. This is most admirably arranged, and contains a series of mounted specimens of birds, their eggs and young shown under the actual conditions in which they live. In many cases the actual stones and vegetation have been brought to the museum, and the perishable parts of the plants have been reproduced in a permanent form.

DRÖITWICH BRINE BATHS.—After the ceremony of opening the new station at Droitwich, the brine baths were visited by the company, which included some 80 medical men from different parts of the kingdom. It is a pity that Droitwich has not received greater attention at the hands of medical men. Many members of the profession have testified to the considerable benefit, in many cases permanent, which they have themselves received from a course of the brine baths. The sunny situation, warm climate, and baths which are obtainable there have proved efficacious in cases of

rheumatoid arthritis when combined with high feeding, open-air and judicious medicinal treatment. Many patients who are sent annually to foreign spas would receive equal benefit by being sent to Droitwich.

CHARLES MURCHISON SCHOLARSHIP IN CLINICAL MEDICINE.—The next examination for this scholarship will be held in the University of Edinburgh on Friday and Saturday, July 7th and 8th. The applications of intending candidates must be sent to the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University New Buildings, Edinburgh, not later than July 1st. The scholarship is open to any student of medicine who, during a period of not less than five nor more than seven years, has been a registered medical student in attendance at classes or hospitals, in Edinburgh or London, recognised by the Medical Faculty of the University of Edinburgh, or by the Royal College of Physicians of London, and whether holding a medical qualification or not. The scholarship is of the value of twenty guineas, and is tenable for one year.

At the annual general meeting of the North London Division of the London and Counties Medical Protection Society, Limited, held recently, by permission of the governors, at the Tottenham Training Hospital, the President, Dr. E. Hooper May, was in the chair, and there was a large attendance of members. After the ordinary business had been transacted, Dr. Hugh Woods (Honorary Secretary to the Society) gave an address on the Position and Work of the Society, which was followed by a discussion. The Council intend for the future to make their meetings more attractive, and several members have promised to read instructive papers, so that it is hoped members will attend more regularly.

THE BOSCOMBE HOSPITAL.—The first stone of the new buildings of the Boscombe Hospital was laid by Mr. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., on June 28th. The existing building was erected twenty-three years ago, and provided accommodation for 12 beds and an out-patient department. The building has, however, been found unsuitable for its purpose, and it was considered impossible to alter or enlarge it satisfactorily. In consequence it has been determined to erect an entirely new building. At first it is only contemplated to build two wards to contain 20 beds. The wards are built on the pavilion principle, and it will be easy to add additional blocks as required. The institution is a general hospital, the only cases not admitted being phthisical patients, for whom provision is made in special hospitals in the neighbourhood.

THE ZOOLOGICAL DISTRIBUTION OF TUBERCULOSIS.—At the last meeting of the Zoological Society of London Dr. Woods Hutchinson read a paper on this subject, founded mainly on observations made in the society's gardens. Of 215 necropsies made in the prosector's room during the past six months 49, or 25.3 per cent. of the mammals and birds presented the lesions of tuberculosis. This mortality fell most heavily upon the ruminants and gallinæ, and least so upon the carnivores and raptors. Race or family appeared to exert little influence upon susceptibility, mode of housing only a small amount, and food and food habits much more. A close correspondence appeared to exist between immunity and the relative size of the heart in both birds and mammals. This meeting closed the session of the society for 1898-99. The next session will commence in November.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON MEDICAL ETHICS.—An International Congress of Professional Medicine and Medical Ethics will, as has already been announced in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, be held in Paris, July 23rd to 28th, 1900. The work of the Congress will be distributed among four sections as follows: 1. The Relations of the Medical Practitioner with Public Bodies (State or other). 2. The Relations of the Practitioner with Individuals (patients, prescribing chemists, and unqualified practitioners). 3. Relations of Practitioners with Professional Brethren (Medical Ethics). 4. Professional Provident Societies, Medical Defence Unions. Reports must be in the hands of the Organising Committee before January 1st, 1900, and abstracts or summaries of the conclusions of communications before July 1st, 1900. Information on all subjects connected with the Congress may be obtained on application to the Agence Centrale de la Presse Scientifique, 93, Boulevard Saint-Germain, Paris.

PRESENTATION.—A solid silver Georgian tea and coffee service and bowl, all engraved with the family crest, together with a beautifully illuminated address, were recently presented to Dr. John Dysart, J.P., Portglenone, county Antrim, on the occasion of his resigning all his public appointments after a long and honourable practice of fifty-one years, as a token of the great respect and sincere regard in which he is held, both as a medical practitioner and county magistrate. The presentation was made at a luncheon in the Victoria Hotel, Portglenone, where all the learned professions, as well as all creeds and classes in the surrounding neighbourhood, were fully represented. Mr. John Staples Alexander, D.L., occupied the chair, and made the presentation to Dr. Dysart, and also handed a purse of sovereigns to Mrs. Dysart. Mr. Alexander paid a high compliment to Dr. Dysart's irreproachable character in his honourable profession and in his domestic circle, to the impartiality, justice, and kindness with which as a magistrate he administered the law, and to the interest always evinced by him for old friends and all with whom he was brought in contact, both professionally and otherwise.

GENERAL WOOD AS HOUSE-SURGEON.—The *Philadelphia Medical Journal* tells the following story of General Leonard Wood, the hero of Santiago. In a former state of existence Dr. Wood was at one time house-surgeon of the Boston City Hospital. In one of the wards there was a little girl who had been severely burnt. With a zeal that a little outran discretion, Wood, without asking leave of parents or guardians, or taking counsel with colleagues or superior officers, took enough skin from the legs of a dozen children in the ward to cover the raw surfaces of the burnt child. The result was successful as far as the little patient was concerned, but the mothers of the children who had been "skinned alive" raised such an outcry that Wood, though a most able and popular house-surgeon, received a somewhat pressing invitation from the authorities of the hospital to transfer his exuberant energies elsewhere. The hospital appears, however, to be anxious to claim him, for he has recently been elected an honorary member of the Boston City Hospital Club. The future historian will probably see in this youthful escapade a manifestation of the General's fertility of resource and promptness in action, and a premonition of his capacity of putting conquered territory to profitable use.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

- ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY.**—Additional Examiner for Graduation in (1) Zoology, (2) Medicine, including Oculist Medicine, and (3) Midwifery. Appointments for each four years. Grants of £30 per annum to Examiners in Zoology and Midwifery and £40 to the Examiner in Medicine. Applications to the Secretary by July 4th.
- BEDFORD COUNTY HOSPITAL.**—Assistant House-Surgeon. Appointment for six months. Salary at the rate of £50 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to the Secretary by July 5th.
- BELFAST DISTRICT ASYLUM.**—Assistant Medical Officer for few months. Salary, £3 3s. per week, with residence and attendance. Applications to the Medical Superintendent.
- BIRKENHEAD AND WIRRAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £50, with board, residence, and laundry. Applications to the Honorary Secretary, 25, Chapel Street, Liverpool, by July 10th.
- BIRKENHEAD UNION.**—Assistant Medical Officer for the Infirmary, Workhouse, and Schools. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, washing, and apartments. Applications, endorsed "Assistant Medical Officer," to the Clerk to the Guardians, 45, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead, by July 3rd.
- BIRMINGHAM CITY ASYLUM.**—Clinical Assistant. Appointment for three months, but renewable. No salary; board, lodging, and washing provided. Applications to the Medical Superintendent.
- BOURNEMOUTH: ROYAL VICTORIA HOSPITAL.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board. Applications to the "Chairman of the Committee," by July 15th.
- BRADFORD POOR-LAW UNION.**—Two Resident Assistant Medical Officers for the hospital and workhouse: unmarried. Appointments for one year. Salary of senior, £125, and junior £100 per annum, with prescribed rations, apartments, and washing. Applications to the Clerk to the Guardians, Poor-Law Offices, 22, Manor Row, Bradford, before July 3rd.
- BRIGHTON THROAT AND EAR HOSPITAL, Church Street.**—Non-resident House-Surgeon. Appointment for six months, but renewable. Salary at the rate of £75 per annum. Applications to the Secretary, 10, Black Lion Street, Brighton, by July 5th.
- Bristol: UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.**—Professorship of Physiology. Applications to the Secretary by July 5th.
- CANTERBURY HOSPITAL (FREE), Brompton, S.W.**—Two Honorary Assistant Surgeons. Must be F.R.C.S. Eng. Applications to the Secretary by July 5th.
- CARDIFF INFIRMARY.**—(1) Honorary Pathologist. (2) Assistant House-Physician. Appointment for six months, but renewable. Salary at the rate of £50 per annum, with board, washing, and apartments. Applications to the Secretary by July 10th.
- CENTRAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.**—(1) House-Surgeon. Board and residence provided. (2) Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary at the rate of £50 per annum. Applications to the Secretary by July 10th and 11th respectively.
- COLOMBESTER: ESSEX AND COLOMBESTER HOSPITAL.**—House-Surgeon; unmarried. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, washing, and residence. Applications to the Secretary by July 14th.

DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON AND LONDON SCHOOL OF DENTAL SURGERY. Leicester Square.—Demonstrator. Honorarium, £50 per annum. Applications to the Dean by July 15th.

EVELING HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN. Southwark, S.E.—Junior Resident Medical Officer and Registrar. Salary, £50, with board and washing. Applications to the Committee of Management by July 12th.

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY OF.—Assistant Examiner. Appointment till December 31st, 1901. Salary, £30 per annum. Applications to the Secretary of the Court, 91, West Regent Street, Glasgow, by July 5th.

GLOUCESTER COUNTY ASYLUM.—Third Assistant Medical Officer: unmarried, not over 27 years of age. Salary, £105 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to the Medical Superintendent by July 7th.

GLOUCESTER GENERAL INFIRMARY AT GLOUCESTER AND THE GLOUCESTER-SHIRE EYE INSTITUTION.—Physician. Applications to the Secretary by July 5th.

GREAT NORTHERN CENTRAL HOSPITAL. Holloway Road, N.—(1) Physician to Out-patients; (2) Dental Surgeon. Applications to the Secretary by July 10th.

GREENOCK INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £20 per annum, with board and residence. Applications to the Secretary, 2, Hamilton Street, Greenock, by July 3rd.

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST. Brompton.—(1) Resident House-Physicians. (2) Assistant Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £50 per annum, with board and residence. Applications to the Secretary by July 4th.

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN. Great Ormond Street, W.C.—(1) House-Physician. (2) House-Surgeon; unmarried. (3) House-Surgeon to Out-patients. Appointments for six months. Salary for the two former, £20, with board and residence, and for the latter 25 guineas. Applications to the Secretary for the first two by July 4th and for the last by July 15th.

INVERNESS NORTHERN INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon and Dispenser. Salary, £70 per annum, with board, etc. Applications to the Honorary Secretary, 15, High Street, Inverness, by July 15th.

LEEDS PUBLIC DISPENSARY.—Junior Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £85 per annum, with board and residence. Applications to the Secretary of Faculty by July 10th.

MANCHESTER: ANCOATS HOSPITAL.—(1) Resident Senior House-Surgeon. Salary, £80, with board and washing; (2) Resident Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £50, with board and washing. Applications to the Secretary.

MANCHESTER COUNTY ASYLUM. Prestwich.—Junior Assistant Medical Officer; unmarried. Salary, £125 per annum, increasing to £250, with apartments, board, attendance, and washing. Applications to the Superintendent.

MANCHESTER OWEN COLLEGE.—Senior Demonstrator in Physiology. Stipend, £150 per annum, rising to £200. Applications to the Registrar by July 3rd.

MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY.—Resident Surgical Officer; not less than 25 years of age and unmarried. Appointment for twelve months. Salary, £150 per annum, with board and residence. Applications to the General Superintendent and Secretary by July 6th.

NORTHAMPTON BEREYWOOD ASYLUM.—Assistant Medical Officer; unmarried and under 30 years of age. Appointment for five years but eligible for re-election. Salary, £150, increasing to £200, with board, lodging, washing, and attendance. Applications to the Medical Superintendent by July 8th.

NORTH-WEST LONDON HOSPITAL. Kentish Town Road.—Assistant Resident Medical Officer, eligible for election to the senior post when vacant. Salary at the rate of £50 per annum. Personal application to the Medical Committee on Thursday, July 6th, at 5 o'clock.

OLDHAM INFIRMARY.—(1) Senior House-Surgeon. Salary, £85 per annum. (2) A Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £70 per annum. Board, residence, and washing in each case. Appointments for one year. Applications to the Honorary Secretary by July 10th.

PERTH ROYAL INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £60, with board. Applications to P. Martin, 38, Tay Street, Perth, by July 10th.

PORTSMOUTH BOROUGH ASYLUM.—Junior Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to the Medical Superintendent.

PORTSMOUTH ROYAL PORTSMOUTH HOSPITAL.—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary at the rate of £50 per annum, with board, lodging, etc. Eligible for election as Senior House-Surgeon when vacancy occurs. Applications to the Secretary before July 6th.

ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST. City Road, E.C.—House-Physician. Appointment for six months. Salary at the rate of £40 per annum, with furnished apartments, board, and washing. Application to the Secretary by July 4th.

RYDE ROYAL ISLE OF WIGHT INFIRMARY AND COUNTY HOSPITAL.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum, with a fee of £10 10s. for lecturing to the nurses. Applications to the House-Surgeon by July 15th.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—Assistant Demonstrator of Chemistry. Applications to Dr. James Calvert, Warden, by July 8th.

ST. PANCRAS AND NORTHERN DISPENSARY. 126, Kuston Road, N.W.—Honorary Physicians and Honorary Surgeons to the Honorary Secretary, 23, Gordon Street, Gordon Square, W.C., by July 3rd.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—Lecturer on Physiology. Applications to the Dean by July 11th.

SALISBURY: Fisherton Asylum. Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, to commence £120 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to Dr. Finch, The Asylum, Salisbury.

SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL SOCIETY.—Physician to Out-patients and Physician to In-patients at the Branch Hospital, Royal Victoria and Albert Docks. Appointments for twelve months, but eligible for re-election. Applications to the Secretary, Seamen's Hospital Society, Greenwich, S.E., by July 10th.

SOUTHAMPTON: ROYAL SOUTH HANTS INFIRMARY.—Surgeon in Charge of Ear and Throat Department. Applications to the Secretary before July 10th.

STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY. Stafford.—(1) House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. (2) Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum; board, lodging, and washing provided in each case. Applications for the former to the Secretary by July 5th, and for the latter to the House-Surgeon at once.

SURREY COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM. Brookwood, near Woking.—Assistant Medical Officer for period of four months. Salary 3 guineas a week, with apartments and all found. Applications to the Medical Superintendent.

TELURO: ROYAL CORNWALL INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon; unmarried. Salary, £120, with furnished apartments, fire, light, and attendance. Applications to the Secretary before July 5th.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, London.—Jodrell Professorship of Physiology. Applications to the Secretary by July 17th.

WOLVERHAMPTON AND STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL.—Assistant House-Surgeon. Appointment for six months. Honorarium at the rate of £50 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to the Chairman of the Medical Committee by July 7th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

BERNILL. Alfred, L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Medical Officer for the Woodford District of the West Ham Union.

BROUGHTON. H. T., M.R.C.S., reappointed Honorary Surgeon to the Dewsbury Infirmary.

CAYLEY. F. P., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Assistant Medical Officer at the King's Road Workhouse of the Parish of St. Pancras.

DEAKE. E. C., L.S.A., appointed Medical Officer for the Tadhoe District of the Durham Union.

FAULL. W., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin., appointed House-Surgeon to the Dewsbury Infirmary, vice James Prior, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Lond., resigned.

FOSTER. W. J., F.R.C.S., Q.K.C.P., appointed Assistant Surgeon to the Royal Berks Hospital, Reading.

GRIFFITH. A. H., M.D. Aberd., F.R.C.S. Edin., appointed Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Manchester Royal Infirmary.

HARTY. J. J., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin., appointed Medical Officer for the Second District of the Shepton Mallet Union.

HOGAN. B., L.S.A., appointed Medical Officer for the Bromley Workhouse of the Stepney Union.

LAWRENCE. A. G., M.D. St. And., M.R.C.S., appointed Medical Officer for the Shirenewton District of the Chepstow Union, vice E. P. King, L.R.C.S. Edin., L.R.C.S.I., resigned.

LEAF. Cecil H., M.A., M.B. Cantab., F.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Surgeon to the Out-patients at the Gordon Hospital for Diseases of the Rectum.

MACVICKER. G. G., B.A., M.B., appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Fourth District Wells Union, vice Dr. F. J. Malden, resigned.

PITT-TAYLOR. F. S., M.B., Ch.B. Vict., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to Mill Road Infirmary, Liverpool.

REID. Arthur G., B.Sc. Lond., M.B., C.M. Edin., appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Rotherham Hospital.

REYNOLDS. E. S., M.D., F.R.C.P. Lond., appointed Honorary Assistant Physician to the Manchester Royal Infirmary.

TURNER. Geo. A., M.B., D.P.H., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to Grahamstown Asylum, South Africa, vice Dr. G. O. Cassidy, appointed Medical Officer to the Emjanyana Lepers Asylum, Transkei, South Africa.

WALLIS. C. E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S., appointed Assistant Dental Surgeon at King's College Hospital.

WATTS. W. F., M.R.C.S., reappointed Honorary Surgeon to the Dewsbury Infirmary.

DIARY FOR NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.

West London Post-Graduate. 5 P.M.—Dr. Turner: Demonstration of Course, West London Hospital, W., Nervous Diseases.

TUESDAY.

National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Queen Square. W.C. 3.30 P.M.—Dr. James Taylor: Annual Meeting. Presidential Address by Mr. C. W. Mansell-Moulin.

WEDNESDAY.

Obstetrical Society of London. 8 P.M.—Specimens will be shown by Drs. Lewers and Lediard, and Mr. Gifford (introduced by Mr. Targett), and there will be a demonstration by Professor Arthur Thomson on the Sexual Differences of the Fetal Pelvis. Papers: Dr. Lewers: A case of Persistent Mentoposterior Position of the Fetus in which the child was Delivered Alive by the Axis Traction Forceps. Dr. Savory: Notes on a case of Puerperal Eclampsia. **London Polyclinic.** 25, Chancery Street, 6 to 8 P.M.—Dr. Herbert Tilley: Demonstration of Selected Cases (Diseases of Nose and Throat).

THURSDAY.

Charing Cross Hospital. Post-Graduate Course, 4 P.M.—Mr. Waterhouse: Demonstration of Surgical Cases. **Hospital for Sick Children.** Great Ormond Street, W.C., 4 P.M.—Dr. A. E. Garrod: Demonstration of Selected Cases. **West London Post-Graduate Course.** West London Hospital, W., 5 P.M.—Mr. H. Lloyd Williams: Lesions of the Teeth and their Treatment.

FRIDAY.

Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom.—Cases and Card Specimens at 8 P.M. Papers at 8.30 P.M. Major H. Herbert, I.M.S.: Changes in the Conjunctiva produced by Chronic Inflammation: with Lantern Slide Demonstration. Messrs. Rockliffe and Hainworth: Penetrating Wound of Orbit with Traumatic Meningitis: Recovery. Annual General Meeting.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

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

BIRTHS.

EDMONDSON.—June 20th, at 27, Prince Alfred Road, Waverley, Liverpool, the wife of C. K. Edmondson, M.B., of a son.

YOUNG.—On May 22nd, at Sydney, New South Wales, the wife of H. C. Taylor Young, M.D., J.P., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CANTLIE-FARQUHAR.—At the Union Church, Hong Kong, on June 23rd, by the Rev. S. H. Wainwright, M.D., of Kobe, Japan, Frank Bay Cantlie, M.A., C.M., Swaton, China, youngest son of the late William Cantlie, "Kethmore," Dufftown, to Isabella Ann (Annie), third surviving daughter of Robert Farquhar, Esq., 455, Great Western Road, Aberdeen. (By cable.) American papers please copy.

CROOK-BENBERRY.—On June 24th, at St. Mary and St. Peter's, St. Heller, Jersey, by the Rev. John Hourigan, Arthur Crook, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., Norwich, to Annie, fourth daughter of the late Richard Henebery, of Waterford. No cards.

HORROCKS-FRASER.—On March 6th, at St. George's Cathedral, Perth, Western Australia, by the Rev. the Lord Bishop of Perth, assisted by the Very Rev. the Dean, Herbert Horrocks, M.D. Lond., to Ethel Mary Fraser, youngest daughter of the late Edward Seymour Fraser, of Uchile Lodge, Woodford Wells, Essex.

LANGDON-DOWN-BIGWOOD.—On June 22nd, at Holy Trinity Church, Twickenham, by the Rev. P. C. Drabbe, Vicar of the Parish, assisted by the Rev. A. E. Bevan, and the Rev. S. T. Bridges, Percival Langdon, second son of the late John L. Haydon Langdon-Down, M.D., F.R.C.P., and Mrs. Langdon-Down, of Normansfield, Hampton Wick, and St. Bick's, late Rector of Kirk Stutton, York.

LARGE-HICKS.—On June 22nd, at St. Paul's Church, Hull, by the Rev. Robert Large, M.A., assisted by the Rev. G. F. Tamplin, M.A., Vicar, Robert Emmott Large, of Flintham Lodge, Oaksey, Wills, to K. Philippa Hicks, late Lady Superintendent of the Nurses Co-operation, 8, New Cavendish Street, London, and youngest daughter of the Rev. Robert Hicks, late Rector of Kirk Stutton, York.

SARGENT-SARGENT.—On June 21st, at St. Mary's, Bryanston Square, W., by the Rev. G. Bray, M.A., Rector of Shadwell, assisted by the Rev. H. Russell Wakefield, Rector of the Parish, Hugh Canon Sargent, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., of 223, High Street, Shadwell, to Emily (Phyllis), widow of the late H. W. Sargent, Esq., of Seymour Place, W.

SARJEANT-KENWICK.—On June 28th, at St. Mary's, Islington, by the Rev. T. K. Richmond, Canon of Carlisle Cathedral, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Barlow, Vicar, John Frederick Sarjeant, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., eldest son of John W. Sarjeant, of Wellingborough, to Jane Eleanor, elder daughter of the late James Watson Kenwick, of Carlisle. At home, 58, Parkhurst Road, N., August 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

DEATHS.

KING.—On June 8th, at Blendon, Ayr, David King, M.D., formerly of Eitham, Kent, aged 68.

MACNAMARA.—On June 16th, at Bath, George Houseman Macnamara, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.S.A., late of Uxbridge, Middlesex, aged 74.

HOURS OF ATTENDANCE AND OPERATION DAYS AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

CANCER, Brompton (Free). Attendances.—Daily, 2. Operations.—Tu. W. F., 2.

CENTRAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC. Attendances.—Daily, 1. Operations.—Daily, 5. Operations.—I.p., Tu., 2.30; o.p., F., 2.

CHANCERY CROSS. Attendances.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, M. Th., 1.45; Dental, M., 9; Throat and Ear, F., 9.30. Operations.—Th. F., S., 2.

CHITSEA HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN. Attendances.—Daily, 1.30. Operations.—M. Th. F., 2.

CITY OPHTHEDIC. Attendances.—M. Tu. Th. F., 2. Operations.—M., 4.

EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN. Attendances.—M. W. Th. F., 2.

GREAT NORTHERN CENTRAL. Attendances.—Medical and Surgical, M. Tu. W. Th. F., 2.30; Obstetric, W., 2.30; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Throat and Ear, Tu. F., 2.30; Skin, W., 2.30; Dental, W., 2. Operations.—M. W. Th. F., 2.

GUY'S. Attendances.—Medical, daily, 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, M. Tu. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; Ear, Tu., 1; Skin, Tu., 1; Dental, daily, 9; Throat, F., 2. Operations.—Tu. F., 1.30; (Ophthalmic), M., 1.30; Th., 2.

HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Soho. Attendances.—Daily, 10. Operations.—M. Th., 2.

KING'S COLLEGE. Attendances.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 2; Obstetric, daily, 2; o.p., daily, 1.30; Eye, M. W. Th., 1.30; Ear, Th., 2.30; Throat, M., 1.30; F., 2; Dental, M. Th., 10; Skin, W., 1.30. Operations.—W. Th. F., 2.

LONDON. Attendances.—Medical, daily, i.p., 2; o.p., 1.30; Surgical, daily, 1.30 and 2; Obstetric, M. Tu. Th. F., 2; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, Tu. S., 9; Ear, W., 9; Skin, Th., 9; Dental, Tu., 9. Operations.—Daily, 2.

LONDON TEMERANCE. Attendances.—Medical, M. Tu. W. Th. F., 1.30; Surgical, M. Th., 1.30. Operations.—M. Th., 4.30.

LONDON TREAT, Great Portland Street. Attendances.—Daily, 2; Tu. F., 6. Operations.—Daily, 2.

METROPOLITAN. Attendances.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 2; S., 9; Obstetric, W., 2; Eye, W., 2; Throat and Ear, Th., 2; Dental, Tu. Th. S., 9. Operations.—Tu. W., 2.30; Th., 4.

MIDDLESEX. Attendances.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th., 1.30; o.p., M., 9; W., 1.30; Eye, Tu. F., 9; Ear and Throat, Tu. F., 9; Skin, Tu., 4; Th., 9.30; Dental, M. F., 9.30; W., 9. Operations.—Daily, 1.30.

NATIONAL OPHTHEDIC. Attendances.—M. Tu. Th. F., 2. Operations.—W., 10.

NEW HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN. Attendances.—Daily, 2; Ophthalmic, W. S., 9.30. Operations.—Tu. F., 9.

NORTH-WEST LONDON. Attendances.—Medical, daily, exc. S., 2; S., 10; Surgical, daily, exc. W., 2; W., 10; Obstetric, W., 2; Eye, W., 9; Skin, F., 2; Dental, F., 9. Operations.—Th., 2.30.

ROYAL EAR, Frith Street. Attendances.—M. W. F., 3; Tu. F., 9.30 and 7.30. Operations.—Tu., 8.

ROYAL EYE, Southwark. Attendances.—Daily, 2. Operations.—Daily.

ROYAL FREE. Attendances.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 2; Diseases of Women, Tu. S., 9; Eye, M. F., 9; Skin, Th., 9; Throat, Nose, and Ear, W., 9. Operations.—W. S., 2; (Ophthalmic), M. F., 10.30; (Diseases of Women), S., 9.

ROYAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC. Attendances.—Daily, 9. Operations.—Daily, 10.

ROYAL OPHTHEDIC. Attendances.—Daily, 2. Operations.—M., 2.

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC. Attendances.—Daily, 1. Operations.—Daily, 2.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S. Attendances.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, M. W. F., 2 o.p., W. S., 9; Eye, M. Tu. W. Th. S., 2; o.p., M. Tu., 9; W. S., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 2; Skin, Tu., 9; Larynx, Tu. F., 2.30; Orthopedic, M., 2.30; Dental, Tu. F., 9; Electrical, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30. Operations.—Daily, 1.30; (Ophthalmic), Tu. F., 2; Abdominal Section for Ovariectomy, F., 2.

ST. GEORGE'S. Attendances.—Medical and Surgical, daily, i.p., 1; o.p., 12; Obstetric, i.p., Tu. F., 1.45 o.p., M. Tu., 2.30; Eye, W. S., 1.30; Ear, Tu., 2; Skin, W., 2.45; Throat, F., 2; Orthopedic, F., 12; Dental, M. Tu. F., S., 12. Operations.—Daily, 1; Ophthalmic, W., 1; Dental, Th., 9.

ST. MARK'S. Attendances.—Fistula and Diseases of the Rectum, males, S., 2; females, W., 9.30. Operations.—Tu., 2.30; Th., 2.

ST. MARY'S. Attendances.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.45; o.p., 12.45; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.45; o.p., M. Th., 1; Eye, Tu. F., 9; Ear, M. Th., 9; Throat, Tu. F., 3; Skin, M. Th., 9; Dental, W. S., 9; Electro-Therapeutics, M. Th., 2.30; Children's Medical, Tu. F., 9. Operations.—M., 2.30; Tu. W. F., 2; Th., 2.30; S., 10; (Ophthalmic), F., 10.

ST. PETER'S. Attendances.—M., 2 and 5; Tu., 2; W., 5; Th., 2; F. (Women and Children), 2; S., 4. Operations.—W. F., 2.

ST. THOMAS'S. Attendances.—Medical and Surgical, M. Tu. Th. F., 2; o.p., daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. F., 2; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, Tu. F., 2; o.p., daily, exc. S., 1.30; Ear, M., 1.30; Skin, F., 1.30; Throat, Th., 1.30; Children, S., 1.30; Electro-Therapeutics, o.p., Th., 2; Mental Diseases, o.p., Th., 10; Dental, Tu. F., 10. Operations.—M. W. Th. S., 2; Tu. F., 9.30; (Ophthalmic), Th., 2; (Gynaecological), Th., 2.

SAMARITAN FREE FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN. Attendances.—Daily, 1.30. Operations.—Gynaecological, M., 2; W., 2.30.

THROAT, Golden Square. Attendances.—Daily, 1.30; Tu. F., 6.30. Operations.—Daily, exc. M., 10.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE. Attendances.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetrics, M. F., 1.30; Eye, M. W., 1.30; Ear, M. Th., 9; Skin, Tu. F., 2; Throat, M. Th., 9; Dental, Tu. F., 9.30. Operations.—W. Th., 2.

WEST LONDON. Attendances.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 2; Dental, Tu. F., 9.30; Eye, Tu. Th., 2; Ear, Tu., 2; S., 10; Orthopedic, W., 2; Diseases of Women, W. S., 2; Electric, M. Th., 2; Skin, M. F., 2; Throat and Nose, Tu., 2; S., 10. Operations.—Daily, about 2.30; F., 10.

WESTMINSTER. Attendances.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, M. Tu. F., 1.30; Eye, Tu. F., 9.30; Ear, Tu., 1.30; Skin, W., 1.30; Dental, W. S., 9.15. Operations.—M. Tu. W., 2.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

COMMUNICATIONS respecting Editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor, 1, Agar Street, Strand, W.C. London; those concerning business matters, advertisements, non-delivery of the JOURNAL, etc., should be addressed to the Manager, at the Office, 429, Strand, W.C. London.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES and LETTERS forwarded for publication are understood to be offered to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL alone, unless the contrary be stated.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are requested to communicate with the Manager, 429, Strand, W.C., on receipt of proof.

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 at the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

MANUSCRIPTS FORWARDED TO THE OFFICE OF THIS JOURNAL CANNOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES BE RETURNED.

IN order to avoid delay, it is particularly requested that ALL letters on the editorial business of the JOURNAL be addressed to the Editor at the Office of the JOURNAL, and not at his private house.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS.—The telegraphic address of the EDITOR of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL is *Atiology, London*. The telegraphic address of the MANAGER of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL is *Articulate, London*.

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

QUERIES.

X. Y. Z. asks for advice in the treatment of the following case: A man, aged 66, is subject to discharge of mucus and blood from the rectum; it sometimes comes away during sleep, at other times during the day; he then receives a warning, and passes perhaps a dessertspoonful of mucus and blood with wind; this may happen two or three times a day. A rectal examination has revealed nothing. He is a farmer, and, except for rheumatism, quite healthy at present.

THE MEDICAL ADVISER IN LIFE ASSURANCE.

PROGRESS asks: What books are the best authorities for the medical adviser of a life assurance office to consult?

** Our correspondent might consult either of the following works: *Medical Handbook of Life Assurance*, by J. E. Pollock, M.D., and J. Chisholm. Fourth edition. (London: Cassell and Co. 1895. 7s. 6d.) *The Medical Adviser in Life Assurance*, by Sir Edward Sieveking, M.D. Second edition. (London: J. and A. Churchill. 1882. 6s.) *The Medical Examination for Life Assurance*, by F. de Havilland Hall, M.D. (Bristol: Wright and Co. 1898. 4s.)

HOME FOR MENTALLY-DEFICIENT MAN.

T. desires to hear of an establishment where a man, aged 20, who is mentally deficient, could be taken in at a small cost.

** If suitable for a farm home for mentally-feeble youths (not imbecile), application should be made to the Secretary of the National Association for Promoting the Welfare of the Feeble-minded, 53, Victoria Street, S.W. If imbecile, Earlswood or the Eastern Counties Asylum would receive him on payment; Secretary of Earlswood Asylum, 36, King William Street, E.C.; Secretary of the Eastern Counties Asylum, Colchester.

OUTDOOR ASSISTANT'S HOLIDAYS.

H. M. wishes to know whether the principal or the outdoor assistant ought to find the *locum tenens* during the holiday of the latter.

** If the assistant has been some time in the service of his principal, and intends to remain in his employment, it is customary for the principal to pay for the *locum tenens* during his assistant's holiday. An assistant, however, without special agreement cannot claim this as a right, and no principal could be expected to find a *locum tenens* for an assistant who had only been a short time with him and was not likely to remain. A service of six months would not entitle an assistant to a holiday at his principal's expense.

THE MODERN NURSE.

RIP A writes: (1) What is the difference between a cottage and a district nurse? (2) Is a nurse in order in attending—continuing to attend—cases which he is attending daily, without his knowledge? (3) Does the certificate of the Obstetrical Society give any legal right to practise, or is it merely a certificate of proficiency, and therefore a recommendation only? A visiting nurse has arrived here who says she is a lady, and that it is the doctor's place to call on her; that if called in any case of emergency, including ordinary medical cases, she will not give the case up to him on his arrival or take instructions in the case from him. She claims a right to see ordinary cases of sickness both at her house and at theirs, and to prescribe for them. She claims the right to give certificates of death. She has a certificate from the Obstetrical Society, and on this she bases her claims. The district is thinly populated.

** 1. In answer to the first question it may be said that a cottage nurse is supposed to have only a short training (? six months) in hospital—either cottage or workhouse will do—which is practical rather than theoretical; and to be of the working-woman class, or at least to be willing to live in the cottage and do its work. Many cottage nurses are trained in monthly nursing. A district nurse should have at least a year's training in a recognised hospital, more often eighteen months or two years. She is trained in theory as well as practice. After her hospital training she should be trained in district work for six months at a central home. She may or may not be a midwife. She does not live in the cottages, but visits from house to house, and is generally assisted in menial work by a charwoman.

2. A parish, district, or cottage nurse is not allowed to act independently of the medical man; she has no right to prescribe fort or treat a patient independently. A committee, when framing their rules, should have a clearly-expressed rule to the effect that the nurse should be requisitioned by the medical man, or with his sanction. Only in an emergency should she be allowed to act on her own responsibility until medical aid arrives. This safeguards the nurse from being called on to visit, by indiscreet district visitors, or benevolent but mis-instructed people.

3. The certificate of the Obstetrical Society confers no legal rights whatever; it is merely a statement by a voluntary organisation of medical practitioners that the holder in their opinion possesses sufficient knowledge to attend cases of normal parturition. If the facts are properly represented to the committee by which the nurse is appointed, they will probably know how to bring her to a sense of her position, for it can hardly be supposed that they would deliberately encourage her in driving a coach-and-six through the Medical Acts, to say nothing of