

extremely emaciated, and after death no cocci can be found in the blood or tissues, for example, a rabbit weighing 3,795 grams was inoculated subcutaneously; it died about a month afterwards, its weight had fallen to 1,780 grams, and no cocci were to be found in the blood or the spleen. If the animal has been partially immunized before inoculation, the formation of an abscess which bursts and discharges a creamy pus is often the only result.

SPECIAL LESIONS PRODUCED BY INOCULATION.

Weichselbaum and Guarnieri produced endocarditis by inoculation according to the method of Rosenbach. Zaufal produced otitis media by direct inoculation into the middle ear. Gasparini⁹ was able to produce conjunctivitis and general inflammation of the eyeball by inoculation.

A number of observers (Fraenkel, Weichselbaum, and Monti) have produced pneumonia by direct inoculation into the lung. Gamaleia¹⁰ states that direct inoculation into the lungs of sheep, rats, and dogs is followed by pneumonia, but he does not give an exact description of the microscopical appearances. Four sheep injected into the trachea, at first with tartarated antimony and then with the pneumococcus, developed pneumonia. The following experiments have been made by Eyre and myself.

A rabbit was first anaesthetised, and then a small quantity of a blood-agar cultivation of the pneumococcus emulsified with broth was introduced into the lungs through a glass cannula previously passed through the larynx into the trachea. Twenty-five rabbits were inoculated in this manner, and 8 different strains of the pneumococcus were employed in the experiments. Of these 25 rabbits, 13 were killed at various periods after inoculation, and the respiratory organs found to be perfectly normal. In 7, however, definite areas of pneumonic consolidation were observed, in one case the left lung being completely solid, whilst in another small solid areas of a greyish colour were scattered throughout the tissues, both lungs presenting a typical picture of broncho-pneumonia.

REFERENCES.

¹ *Journ. of Path. and Bact.*, v, 1898, p. 13. ² Experiments with the Pneumococcus, *Journ. of Path. and Bact.*, iii, 1895, p. 214. ³ Resistant Forms of the Pneumococcus, *Journ. of Path. and Bact.*, iv, 1897, p. 394. ⁴ Further Researches upon the Pneumococcus, *Journ. of Path. and Bact.*, v, 1898, p. 29. ⁵ *Trans. Path. Soc.*, lii, 1901, p. 166. ⁶ *Berl. klin. Woch.*, 1891, Bd. xxviii, Nos. 34 and 35. ⁷ Further Researches upon the Pneumococcus, *Journ. of Path. and Bact.*, v, 1898, p. 16. ⁸ *Fortschrift der Med.*, 1895, p. 351. ⁹ Xlth Internat. Cong. of Med. in Rome. ¹⁰ *Ann. de l'Inst. Pasteur*, vol. ii, 1888, p. 440.

MEMORANDA:

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

EPIDIDYMITIS AS A COMPLICATION OF ENTERIC FEVER.

PRIVATE P. L., Imperial Yeomanry, was admitted to hospital at Boshof on April 4th, 1902, suffering from enteric fever contracted on "trek." The attack was moderately severe in character, but ran an uneventful career, the temperature falling to normal at the end of three weeks. On May 12th he was allowed to get up for the first time. On May 13th he complained of pain in the right groin and right testicle. On examination the right testicle was found to be very tender and considerably swollen; the epididymis was chiefly affected. A slight, thin purulent discharge was noticed coming from the urethra. The patient stated he had never had gonorrhoea, and there was no history of recent exposure to infection. His temperature was elevated on May 13th and 14th. By May 18th the discharge had disappeared, and the pain and tenderness were no longer complained of; there was still considerable swelling and induration of the epididymis. Osler, in his *Practice of Medicine*, mentions orchitis, usually associated with catarrhal urethritis, as an occasional complication of enteric fever, but it appears to be rare, as he says only 16 cases have been collected from the literature by Sadvain.

J. G. McNAUGHT, M.D.,
Captain, R.A.M.C.

Boshof.

AN OUTBREAK OF TYPHOID FEVER, WATERBORNE.

THE first case of this epidemic was observed¹ on July 7th, 1902, and between that date and August 25th 225 cases were reported, extending over an area of about twenty-five square miles, all of which were subject to the influence of water proved by chemical and bacteriological analysis and circumstantial evidence to contain sewage matter and possibly enteric bacteria. The weekly occurrence of the cases was: First week, 56 cases; second, 71; third, 37; fourth, 15; fifth, 20; sixth, 5; and seventh, 4. The apparent fall in the fourth and rise in the fifth week was due to the failure in reporting some of the cases in the fourth week, but undoubtedly fresh cases occurred in the fifth, sixth, and seventh weeks clearly traceable to the polluted water, which was cut off on July 10th. Only two cases have yet been reported infected by those due to the water, and these occurred in a family who, although provided with two nurses, were very careless. Of the cases, 193 were removed to Banbridge Fever Hospital, a distance of from ten to fourteen statute miles, 17 to Lurgan Fever Hospital, about eight miles, and 15 were treated at home, their removal having been contraindicated for various causes.

In Banbridge Fever Hospital 12 deaths occurred, 1 in Lurgan, and among those treated at home 3. Of the latter, one died from asthenia, one from perforation, and one from haemorrhage. I have no information of the immediate cause of death of those cases treated in hospital.

The precautions taken to prevent the spread of the epidemic other than cutting off the polluted water were:

Removal of all patients fit for deportation to hospital.

Disinfection of faeces, soiled clothes, and premises in which cases occurred. Destruction of possibly infected refuse by fire.

Structural improvements in water supplies and sewage system.

The disinfectants used were carbolic acid and perchloride of mercury.

JAS. TAYLOR,
Medical Officer of Health, Tandragee Dispensary.

EPIDEMIC JAUNDICE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

I HAVE seen many cases of this disease during the campaign in South Africa, occurring especially in the autumn of the year and in districts at an altitude 3,000 feet above sea level. It is especially prevalent at these times in the Western Transvaal, and the fact of the occurrence of this disease among colonials does not point to its being limited to the troops. The symptoms are invariably consistent, and occur as follows: Patients will come at first complaining of loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, and feelings of *malaise*, while it is always possible to elicit a previous history of constipation or diarrhoea; in many cases there is a temperature from 100° to 103°, while in malarial patients an attack of *ague* ushers in in this disease. On the next day patients will complain of great pain in the epigastrium and right hypochondriac region, while upon examination the liver will be found to be enlarged at least two fingerbreadths below the costal margin, and over the gall-bladder region can be percussed out a pear-shaped tumour, corresponding in size to an enlarged gall bladder; at the same time, the patient will usually inform you that his urine is dark and his stools white. A day or so later the conjunctiva becomes markedly yellow, and the discoloration extends all over the body. The most beneficial treatment is rest in bed, milk diet, and calomel gr.iiij every evening, and I feel certain that I have aborted attacks by administering doses of calomel gr.v as soon as I expect how the indisposition is to end. The course of the disease is from ten days to three weeks, but great weakness is noticeable in the stage of convalescence. From the history I am of opinion that these are cases of obstructive jaundice caused by a catarrh spreading from the duodenum up the bile duct to the gall bladder and liver.

R. V. DOLBEY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
Civil Surgeon, Klerksdorp, Transvaal.

UNDER the will of the late Mr. John Corbett, of Droitwich, the sum of £10,000 passes to the Corbett Hospital at Stourbridge and £1,000 to the Worcester Infirmary.

¹ BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, August 2nd, 1902, p. 371.

VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

MR. GEORGE B. ROBINSON, M.D., is appointed Surgeon-Lieutenant in the 1st Volunteer Battalion the King's (Liverpool Regiment), November 8th. The appointment of Mr. ANDREW MACLENNAN, M.B., to be Surgeon-Lieutenant in the 2nd (Earl of Chester's) Volunteer Battalion the Cheshire Regiment, which was announced in the *London Gazette* of July 25th, 1902, bears date July 19th, 1902, and not as therein stated.

Surgeon-Lieutenant A. HILTON, 3rd Volunteer Battalion the Manchester Regiment, is promoted to be Surgeon-Captain, November 8th.

Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. HAY, M.D., 7th (Clackmannan and Kinross) Volunteer Battalion Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders), resigns his commission, October 18th.

Mr. WILLIAM A. MALCOLM, M.B., is appointed Surgeon-Lieutenant in the 21st Middlesex (the Finsbury) Rifles, October 21st.

VOLUNTEER INFANTRY BRIGADE.

SURGEON-MAJOR A. A. WATSON, 2nd Volunteer Battalion the East Lancashire Regiment, to be Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel while holding the appointment of Senior Medical Officer to the North East Lancashire Brigade, November 5th.

MILITIA MEDICAL STAFF.

SURGEON-LIEUTENANT-COLONEL HERBERT GOLDINGHAM BUDD, 5th Battalion Worcestershire Regiment (Militia) and ex-President of the Worcestershire and Herefordshire Medical Association, died suddenly on the 4th inst., aged 60. He was apparently in his usual health, but, stooping to tie his bootlace, fell at the foot of the stairs and died before he could be moved, presumably from heart disease.

A MOUNTED BEARER COMPANY.

MAJOR G. CARLETON JONES, Canadian Army Medical Service, late 10th Canadian Field Hospital, South Africa, writes from Government House Halifax, Nova Scotia, with reference to the article by Lieutenant-Colonel Hathaway, R.A.M.C., on a mounted bearer company, published in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of October 11th, as follows: "I would like to draw his attention to the light prairie wagons that we took out with the Canadian Field Hospital, and which proved very useful for all fast work during the months of March, April, and May, 1902, with General Walter Kitchener's force in the Western Transvaal. These wagons were built in Canada by the Ottawa Car Company, were very strong and light, weighing about 5 cwt., and capable of carrying four recumbent patients, and I have carried twelve sitting up. They could go through places where the Indian tonga could not go, and were much easier in crossing over rough ground. During the three months that I trekked four of these wagons I never had one breakdown, even under very heavy loads. Four horses or six mules were used in them. I quite agree with the writer that men of any mobile medical unit should be mounted, but this is not always easily managed, as medical transport is often the first to be cut down."

CIVIL SURGEONS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

A CORRESPONDENT asks whether civil surgeons, locally employed in the South African Field Force, are entitled to the medal issued by the Cape Government, and, if so, to whom to apply?

. We presume that if they were acting in a military capacity with a military force during the war, they would be entitled to the medal. If resident in this country they should apply to the Agent-General of the Cape Government in London, 112, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.

DEFINITION OF RANK.

A CORRESPONDENT points out that the term "substantive" is only applied in the King's Regulations to the rank of the Director-General and of surgeon-generals; the rank of officers of the R.A.M.C. is defined in para. 1316 as "regimental" or "executive." Why?

. The Director-General and surgeon-generals of the Army Medical Service are on the staff of the army, and are not executive or regimental officers of a corps; they therefore possess substantive rank in the army at large. The officers of the R.A.M.C., up to and including the rank of colonel, possess, like other officers of corps, what is called executive or regimental rank, but it is none the less substantive rank; in fact, the terms are practically convertible.

MEDICO-LEGAL AND MEDICO-ETHICAL.

QUACK CIRCULARS.

WE are accustomed in this country to the vile pamphlets which some advertisers of secret remedies send out, but their efforts seem to be easily surpassed by those of the vendors of the patent medicines in India. A correspondent, who recently sent us a specimen of such a pamphlet, describes it as repulsive, and about that there can be no doubt; he also thinks that some condemnatory remarks in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* would have some effect. In this we cannot at all agree; persons who circulate such pamphlets for the sake of gain must be fully aware that they are acting contrary to the opinion of the medical profession, and that many of the statements they circulate are false.

MEDICAL ETIQUETTE.

ENQUIRER.—We do not think our correspondent can do anything more than send in his account for the visits he has paid. There is no reason why C. should not take the case if the patient wishes to revert to him, nor do we think that C. owes thanks to our correspondent, who was not acting as his substitute.

EXTRA ATTENDANCE ON CLUB PATIENTS.

SALOP asks advice under the following circumstances: He has recently attended a well-to-do tradesman, who is a member of a Friendly Society to which he is surgeon, and in the course of this attendance he has at the request of the patient made many more visits than the urgency of the case demanded. He wishes to know what fees he may reasonably charge under the circumstances.

. Our correspondent is in a difficult position. At law he would probably be able to recover nothing for this extra attendance, so that it is important that he should not charge more than the patient is willing to pay. Of what this may be he is probably the best judge. The only suggestion we can make is that his fees for the extra attendance should be about half what he would charge to a patient in the same position not a member of one of his clubs.

PARTNERSHIP PROFITS.

ANNEXATION asks for an opinion under the following circumstances:—A. and B. are partners, B. having purchased a third share of A's practice two years ago. Part of the income of the practice is derived from public appointments which A. holds, and recently, owing to redistribution of districts, this portion of the income has been reduced, and A. has been paid in compensation £100. Is this amount to be considered as part of the income of the practice?

. We are advised that this sum ought to be divided between A. and B. in proportion to their shares in the practice in the same way as income. It presumably represents the capitalized value of the portion of income taken away from the practice.

LYING-IN HOME.

AXIS TRACTION asks what would be a reasonable fee to charge for attending confinements in a home situated close to his house. The patients would be all primiparae, and the home would supply drugs, etc., but he would have to provide his own instruments.

. A good deal must depend on whether the home is a charitable institution or for paying patients. In the former case it would be reasonable to charge a guinea for each confinement, with extra payment where the labour was abnormal and instrumental delivery necessary. In the latter case the scale of fees should be in proportion to the means of the patient.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

Appointment.—Mr. A. F. Stabb, M.B., of Downing College, has been reappointed to the office of University Lecturer in Midwifery for a further period of five years.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE.

Election of Officers.

At a meeting of the Faculty of Medicine held at the University of London, South Kensington, on Friday, November 7th, the following officers were appointed for the ensuing year:—Dean of the Faculty, Mr. Henry T. Butlin; Vice-Dean, Sir Isambard Owen; Honorary Secretary, Dr. Lauriston Shaw.

The University and the Royal Colleges.

A report was received from a committee appointed to consider the association for examination purposes of the University with the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons. In accordance with the recommendation of this committee the Faculty passed the following resolution:

"The Faculty of Medicine is of opinion that the Senate should now approach the Royal Colleges with the object of considering the terms upon which the University might conduct jointly with the Colleges, in accordance with Section CXXIII of the Statutes, examinations in certain subjects of the final or pass examination for the M.B., B.S., and M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P."

Proposed Institute of Medical Sciences.

The Dean reported the progress of the negotiations between the Senate and the Faculty in connexion with the foundation of an Institute of Medical Sciences to promote the concentration of the preliminary and intermediate medical studies.

Boards of Studies.

In regard to the composition of the Boards of Studies comprised within the Faculty it was resolved to recommend that upon each Board there be appointed a representative or representatives of the University examiners in each subject dealt with by the Board.

THE INCORPORATION OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

The following appeal has been addressed to us:

"November 7th.

"Sir,—The policy of the incorporation of University College in the University of London has met with general approval as an important step in the direction of establishing in London a real teaching University, which shall have its own professors, laboratories, buildings, and equipment.

"For the purposes of incorporation a sum of £92,000 has already been subscribed. A further sum of £108,000 still remains to be raised in order to place the Medical School of University College on a proper footing, and to transfer University College School to a more suitable quarter of London, and thus to satisfy the demand that exists in the suburbs of London for secondary education of the first grade. This sum of £108,000

includes the estimated cost of a new site for the School of Advanced Medical Studies, which it is found desirable to provide in order to avoid encroaching on the ground it is proposed to place at the disposal of the University for the further extension of University buildings.

"The University and the College are both equally interested in speedily obtaining the money that is still required, and in view of the important issues involved it cannot be considered that the total sum asked for is a large one.

"We appeal with confidence to those who are aware of the needs of London in respect of University education to assist in carrying out the proposed incorporation.

"Subscriptions should be sent addressed to Sir Richard Farrant, University College, London, Gower Street, W.C., who will be glad to supply any information desired.—We are, your obedient servants,

"(Signed) "REAY, President of the College.
"BRASSEY, Chairman of the Appeal Committee.
"RICHARD FARRANT, Treasurer of the College."

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY. GRADUATION CEREMONY.

THE usual autumn graduation ceremony in connexion with Glasgow University took place on the afternoon of November 6th in the Bute Hall. Principal Story presided, and there was a very large attendance of students and friends of the graduates. Amongst the degrees conferred were the following:

Doctors of Medicine (M.D.).—*G. Lamb, M.B., C.M. Thesis: On the Action of the Venoms of the Cobra (Naja Tripudians) and of the Daboia (Daboia Russell) on the Red Blood Corpuscles and on the Blood Plasma. *W. G. Liston, M.B., Ch.B. Thesis: Aetiology of Malaria. †C. C. Cuthbert, M.A., M.B., Ch.B. Thesis: A Clinical Study of Renal Cases. †J. M'Haffie, M.B., Ch.B. Thesis: On the Complications occurring in 600 Consecutive Cases of Scarlatina. †Jean Effie Prowse, M.B., Ch.B. Thesis: The Relation of Vesicular Mole to Chorion Carcinoma. G. Gardner, M.B., Ch.B. Thesis: The Prophylaxis of Mastitis, with special reference to the Puerperium. A. Garrow, M.B., Ch.B. Thesis: A Clinical Study of Primary Intrathoracic New Growth, with special reference to the variety Lymphosarcoma. A. Jubb, M.B., Ch.B. Thesis: Observations on Some Cases of Pleural Effusion and Empyema. J. B. Krobek, M.B. Thesis: Some Remarks on the Professional Experience of a General Medical Practitioner in Pretoria, Transvaal. J. F. Lees, M.B., C.M. Thesis: Enteric Fever, with some suggestions for its avoidance in Warfare. J. L. London, M.B., C.M. Thesis: Cases characterized by the Expectoration of Bronchial Casts, with a short essay on Plastic or Fibrinous Bronchitis. J. W. Scott, M.B., Ch.B. Thesis: Diachylon Poisoning. J. M. Thornley, M.B., C.M. Thesis: Pathological Changes in Diseases of the Liver, especially in Relation to the Changes in the Bile Ducts and the Production of Cirrhosis. J. D. Young, M.B., Ch.B. Thesis: The Value of Uterine Curettings and Wedges from Cervix as Diagnostic Aids, especially considered with reference to Diagnosis of Carcinoma.

Bachelors of Medicine (M.B.) and Bachelors of Surgery (Ch.B.).—†G. Clark, J. C. Christie, M.A., H. W. Crawford, M. I. Dick, A. A. MacFarlane, D. D. F. Macintyre, J. M. Mackellar, H. S. Martyn, M.A., R. Menzies, W. Robertson, M. B. G. Sinnette.

Bachelors of Science (B.Sc.).—D. J. M'Leisch, M.A., and B. H. Robertson, M.A.

* With Honours. † With Commendation.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH.

A QUARTERLY meeting of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh was held on November 4th, 1902, Sir T. R. Fraser, President, in the chair.

Congratulations to Their Majesties the King and Queen.

The President stated that he had tendered to the King the congratulations of the College on his recovery from his recent serious illness, and on the Coronation of His Majesty and Queen Alexandra, and that he had received a reply, through the Secretary for Scotland, thanking the College for its loyal and dutiful address.

Introduction of New Fellows.

Mr. William Blackley Drummond, M.B., C.M. Edin., and Mr. John Eason, M.B., C.M. Edin. were introduced, and took their seats as Fellows of the College.

Admission to the Membership.

On a ballot the following candidates were admitted to the Membership of the College after examination: Andrew Balfour, M.D. Edin., Edwin Matthew, M.B., C.M. Edin., John Dixon Comrie, M.B., Ch.B. Edin., David Barty King, M.B., Ch.B. Edin., James Miller, M.B., Ch.B. Edin., Thomas Grainger Stewart, M.B., Ch.B. Edin.

Admission to the Licence.

The Registrar reported that since last quarterly meeting thirty four persons had obtained the licence of the College by examination.

Recognition of Lecturers.

Intimation was made that, after examination held by Conjoint Boards appointed by the Councils of the two Royal Colleges, Mr. James Kerr, B.Sc., had been recognized as Lecturer on Chemistry, and Miss Jessie Macgregor, M.D., as a Lecturer in Gynaecology.

Donation to the College Laboratory.

The President read a letter from Dr. Caverhill intimating a donation by Mr. J. Francis Mason, Woodstock, Oxfordshire, of £200 to the College Laboratory for the purpose of research on the ductless glands. The President further stated that the Council had, after consultation with the Laboratory Committee, approved of a scheme for the carrying out of the proposed research. The College, on the suggestion of the President, approved of the scheme, and resolved that the thanks of the College be conveyed to Mr. Mason for his generous donation, and that Mr. Mason be informed that the College was taking steps to carry into effect the objects he had indicated.

Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, Scottish Branch.

The Vice-President of the College (Dr. James Andrew) was appointed representative of the College on the Council of the Scottish Branch of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THE annual report of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, containing a record of the work done by the College in its various departments for the year ending August 1st, 1902, has been issued and will be laid before the Fellows and Members at the annual meeting to be held at the College in Lincoln's Inn Fields on Thursday next, November 26th, at 3 p.m. The report commences by stating that in reference to the first of the four motions carried at the annual meeting on November 21st, 1901, the Council have adopted the following resolution:

"That the Council, having fully considered the resolution moved by Dr. Thomas Morton, seconded by Mr. Joseph Smith, and carried by 30 votes to 2, are of opinion that it would be most undesirable to reopen the question of the representation of Members on the Council."

In regard to the second motion, regretting that the Council had adopted the policy of contravening the regulations of the General Medical Council in the matter of the recognition of scientific institutions, thereby acting disloyally to the General Medical Council, the following resolution is published in the report:

"That the mover and seconder of Resolution No. II be informed that the resolution has been laid before the Council."

The third motion carried at the meeting regretted that the Council declined to promote actively even those amendments to the Medical Acts which it approved, and trusted that the Council would at least support the Bill of the British Medical Association when it came before Parliament. Dr. Danford Thomas, who moved the resolution, handed copies of the Bill in question to the President. The report announces that the Council have passed the following resolution concerning this motion:

"That the mover and seconder of Resolution No. III be informed that, if the British Medical Association should officially forward a copy of their Bill (if there be one) for the Amendment of the Medical Acts, the Council will be prepared to give it their earnest consideration."

Concerning the fourth motion, the Council have passed the following:

"That, as it is essential that the representative of the College on the General Medical Council should be a member of the Council of the College, the Council of the College are of opinion that the election should remain in their hands."

In regard to the dispute of the Royal College of Physicians of London and the Royal College of Surgeons of England with the General Medical Council concerning the recognition of scientific institutions, the report states that the Royal Colleges have instructed the Committee of Management to draft a reply to the questions asked by the General Medical Council in respect of each of the teaching institutions recognized by the Royal Colleges, but not approved by the Council.

Under the heading of the administration of anaesthetics it is mentioned that the two Colleges will require from candidates for their diplomas evidence of having been duly instructed in the administration of anaesthetics to the satisfaction of their teachers.

In reference to preliminary examinations for the diplomas of the two Colleges, the report states that the Matriculation Examination of the University of London is recognized by the Royal Colleges as fulfilling the requirements in regard to preliminary education, although the examination as now revised by the University does not necessarily comprise all the subjects required by the General Medical Council.

The report announces that it has been determined to hold Parts I and III for the first examination of the Conjoint Examining Board at some provincial centre as well as in London. Details are given of the research work and investigations carried on at the laboratories of the two Colleges. The scheme for cancer research, which has been approved, is printed in full.

The report states that the possibility of entering into some measure of combination with the University of London for examination purposes has received the earnest consideration of the Council, and a Conjoint Committee of the two Colleges has been formed to deal with the question. The petition, signed by 76 members and licentiates, concerning the title of doctor has also been referred to this Committee.

In reference to finance the total of the gross income is reported as higher than any recorded since 1892, while the balance of income over expenditure in respect of revenue has not been so large since 1888.

The remainder of the report deals with the issue of diplomas, foreign congresses, the King and Honorary Fellowship, the elections of officers, the museum, the library, and with certain returns of the results of professional examinations.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S QUARTERLY RETURN.

[SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.]

THE Registrar-General has just issued his return relating to the births and deaths registered in the third quarter of 1902, and to the marriages during the three months ending June last. The annual marriage-rate for that quarter was equal to 15.2 per 1,000, and was 1.7 per 1,000 below the average rate in the corresponding quarters of the ten preceding years.

The births registered in England and Wales during the three months ending September last numbered 241,054, and were equal to an annual rate of 29.0 per 1,000 of the population, estimated by the Registrar-General at nearly thirty-three millions in the middle of this year. This rate was 0.5 per 1,000 below the mean rate in the corresponding periods of the

MEDICAL NEWS.

MISS C. H. SYBIL EYRES has contributed a sum of £2,000 to King Edward's Hospital Fund for London.

MEDICAL MAGISTRATE.—Mr. Alderman Hamp, Deputy Mayor, Surgeon, has been placed on the Commission of the Peace for the County Borough of Wolverhampton.

A POST-GRADUATE course of demonstrations on diseases and injuries of the eye was commenced on November 4th at the Glasgow Ophthalmic Institution. There was a good attendance. Professor T. McCall Anderson, who introduced the lecturer, Dr. Ramsay, commented on the value of post-graduate instruction. The course will be continued on Tuesday evenings at 8 p.m., ending on December 16th.

The next dinner of the Aberdeen University Club will be held at the Trocadero Restaurant, Shaftesbury Avenue, on November 19th, at 7 p.m., when the Right Honourable Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal will take the chair. Members wishing to attend are requested to communicate with one of the Honorary Secretaries, Dr. James Galloway or Mr. J. Malcolm Balloch, 54, Harley Street, W.

MEDICAL MAYORS.—In the list of mayors who have come into office at the commencement of the municipal year, we notice the following members of the medical profession: Dr. C. Grey-Edwards (Beaumaris), Dr. Robert O. Morris (Birkenhead), Dr. John Roberts (Chester), Mr. Harry Shirley Jones, re-elected (Droitwich), Dr. William Banks, re-elected (Falmouth), Mr. James Campbell Macaulay, re-elected (Honiton), Mr. N. W. Fairles-Humphreys, re-elected (Montgomery), Dr. William Jackson (Nelson), Dr. Ernest William Skinner (Rye), Mr. Henry Stear (Saffron Walden), and Dr. G. J. Gibson (Totnes).

HOME FOR DISTRICT NURSES IN BERMONDSEY.—A new home for the nurses attached to the St. Olave's District Nursing Association, which is affiliated to Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, was opened in Cherry Garden Street, S.E., on October 31st by Colonel Bevington, Mayor of Bermondsey. The cost of the home has been largely defrayed by aid of the money collected in Bermondsey for commemorating the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, but Mr. Oswald Michell Courage presented the freehold land on which the new home stands, and, in addition to many generous donations, grants from the charities in the district have been received. A scheme of management has been drawn up by the Charity Commissioners. The object of the Association, for whose nurses a new home was urgently needed, is to supply the sick poor with home nursing, and during the past year 1,106 cases have been nursed.

LIVERPOOL EYE AND EAR INFIRMARY.—On November 3rd Mr. Charles G. Lee gave the first of a series of demonstrations on affections of the eye to an audience composed of twenty practitioners and senior students. In his opening remarks Mr. Lee referred to previous lectures and demonstrations that in former years had been given by Mr. Edgar Browne, Consulting Surgeon to the Infirmary, and by Mr. Richard Williams. The present course was intended as a continuation of these; and since University College afforded every opportunity for becoming acquainted with the theory of optics and all that appertained to that science, he would endeavour to make the evenings thoroughly practical, and therefore useful from a clinical standpoint.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:

- BEVERLEY DISPENSARY AND HOSPITAL.**—Medical Officer and Dispenser; non-resident. Salary to commence, £100 per annum. Applications to the Clerk by November 20th.
- BIRMINGHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL.**—Three House-Surgeons. Appointments for six months. Salary at the rate of £50, with residence, board, and washing. Applications to the House Governor by November 20th.
- BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND EYE HOSPITAL.**—Resident Surgical Officer. There are two Resident House-Surgeons, the Senior receives a salary of £25 and the Junior £75 per annum, and both are applicants for promotion. Candidates to state if willing to accept post of Junior House Surgeon if present residents are promoted. Apartments, board, and attendance provided. Applications to the Chairman of the Medical Board by November 17th.
- BRADFORD ROYAL INFIRMARY.**—Dispensary Surgeon, unmarried. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and residence. Applications endorsed "Dispensary Surgeon" to the Secretary.
- CARDIFF: UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE.**—Demonstrator and Assistant Lecturer in Physiology. Salary, £120 per annum. Applications to the Secretary by December 8th.
- COLCHESTER BOROUGH.**—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £475 per annum. Applications endorsed "M.O.H." to be sent to the Town Clerk, Town Hall, Colchester by November 20th.

- CROYDON GENERAL HOSPITAL.**—(1) Senior House-Surgeon. Salary, £105 per annum. (2) Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum. Board, laundry, and residence provided in each case. Applications endorsed "Senior" or "Junior" to be sent to the Secretary by December 1st.
- DEVON AND CORNWALL SANATORIUM FOR CONSUMPTIVES,** Didworthy, South Brent.—Resident Medical Officer. Applications to the Honorary Secretary, 28, Westwell Street, Plymouth.
- DORCHESTER: COUNTY ASYLUM.**—Second Assistant Medical Officer; not over 30 years of age. Salary, £140, rising £10 annually, and all found. Applications to the Medical Superintendent by November 30th.
- EDINBURGH: ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.**—Conservator of the Museum. Salary, £105. Applications to Mr. James Robertson, Clerk to the College, 54, George Square, Edinburgh, by December 8th.
- GERMAN HOSPITAL,** Dalston, N.E.—Honorary Anaesthetist. Applications to the Superintendent by November 20th.
- GREAT NORTHERN CENTRAL HOSPITAL.**—Senior House-Surgeon. Appointment for six months. Salary at the rate of £60 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to the Secretary by November 17th.
- HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST,** Brompton.—Assistant Physician. Applications to the Secretary by November 26th.
- HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN,** Great Ormond Street, W.C.—(1) Resident Medical Superintendent. Salary, 100 guineas per annum and £5 washing allowance. (2) House-Physician, unmarried; appointment for six months. Salary, £20 and £2 10s washing allowance. Board and residence provided in each case. Applications, on forms provided, to be sent to the Secretary for (1) by December 10th and for (2) by November 25th.
- HUDDESFIELD INFIRMARY.**—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, residence, and washing. Applications to the Secretary by November 27th.
- KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL.**—Assistant Physician for the Outpatients Department. Applications to the Secretary by November 17th.
- LEEDS: YORKSHIRE COLLEGE.**—Senior Demonstrator of Pathology. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications to the Dean by November 24th.
- LEICESTER INFIRMARY.**—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £30 per annum, with board, apartments, and washing. Applications to the Secretary by November 18th.
- LEYTON, WALTHAMSTOW AND WANSTEAD CHILDREN'S AND GENERAL HOSPITAL.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, rooms and laundry. Applications to the Honorary Secretary, Rev. T. J. Parks, St. Peter's Vicarage, Walthamstow, before November 18th.
- LIVERPOOL ROYAL INFIRMARY.**—Honorary Surgeon. Applications to the Chairman of the Committee by November 28th.
- LONDON HOSPITAL,** Whitechapel, E.—(1) Assistant Surgeon. (2) Medical Registrar. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications to the House Governor by November 27th.
- MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOROUGH ASYLUM,** Marton-in-Cleveland, Yorks.—Assistant Medical Officer, single, and not over 30 years of age. Salary, £130 per annum, rising to £150, with furnished apartments, board, and washing. Applications to the Medical Superintendent by November 22nd.
- NORTH WEST LONDON HOSPITAL,** Kentish Town Road, N.W.—(1) Resident Medical Officer. (2) Assistant Resident Medical Officer. Appointments for six months. Salary at the rate of £50 per annum attached to each post, with board, residence, and washing. Junior eligible for election as Senior. Applications to the Secretary by November 28th.
- OXFORD: RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY.**—(1) House-Physician. (2) Junior House-Surgeon. Appointments for six months. Salary, £40 and £30 respectively, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to the Secretary of the Honorary Staff, Dr. Ritchie, 28, Beaumont Street, Oxford, by November 21st.
- PLYMOUTH: SOUTH DEVON AND EAST CORNWALL HOSPITAL.**—Assistant House-Surgeon. Appointment for six months, but renewable. Salary at the rate of £50 per annum, with board and residence. Applications to the Honorary Secretary by December 1st.
- ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.**—Member of the Court of Examiners; must be F.R.C.S. Eng. Applications to the Secretary by December 3rd.
- ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL, S.W.**—Secretary. Salary, £150 per annum, with emoluments. Applications to the Dean of the Medical School by November 27th.
- ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE SKIN,** Leicester Square, W.C.—(1) Honorary Assistant Physician. (2) Honorary Assistant Surgeon. Applications to the Secretary by November 24th.
- ST. JOHN'S WOOD AND PORTLAND TOWN PROVIDENT DISPENSARY.**—Third Medical Officer. Emoluments, a third share of an honorarium of £120-150, with fees. Must reside in the district. Applications to the Secretary, 95, St. John's Wood Terrace, N.W.
- ST. PANCRA'S AND NORTHERN DISPENSARY,** 123, Euston Road, N.W.—Resident Medical Officer, unmarried. Salary, £105 per annum, with residence and attendance. Applications to the Honorary Secretary, H. P. Bodkin, 23, Gordon Street, Gordon Square, W.C., by November 28th.
- TEIGNMOUTH HOSPITAL,** South Devon.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £70 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to the House Committee before November 19th.
- VICTORIA HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN,** Tite Street, Chelsea, S.W.—House-Physician. Appointment for six months. Honorarium, £25, with board and lodging. Applications to the Secretary by November 22nd.
- WARRINGTON INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY.**—Junior Resident House-Surgeon, unmarried. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished residence and board. Applications to the Secretary by November 18th.
- WEST LONDON HOSPITAL,** Hammersmith Road, W.—(1) House-Physician. (2) House-Surgeon. Board and lodging provided. Applications to the Secretary by December 17th.
- WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL Broad Sanctuary, S.W.**—Medical Registrar. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications to the Secretary by November 24th.
- WORCESTER COUNTY AND CITY ASYLUM,** Powick, near Worcester.—Assistant Medical Officer, unmarried, and not more than 30 years of age. Salary, £110 per annum, rising to £130, and all found. Applications to the Medical Superintendent by November 20th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

- ACOMB, J., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,** appointed Resident Medical Officer at the Ida Semi-convallescent Hospital of the General Infirmary, Leeds.
- AMERY, John W., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.R.U.I., L.R.C.P. & S.I.,** appointed Deputy Medical Officer to H.M. Prison, Liverpool.
- BAILEY, T. W., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Lond.,** appointed District Medical Officer of the Bromley Union.
- BEDDARD, A. P., M.D. Cantab., M.R.C.P.,** appointed Assistant Physician to Guy's Hospital.
- COLQUHOUN, J. S., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin.,** appointed District Medical Officer of the Darlington Union.
- CAREY, C. de V., M.A., B.C. Cantab.,** appointed House Physician to the Paddington Green Children's Hospital.
- COSGRAVE, F. R., M.D., B.Ch. Dub.,** appointed District Medical Officer of the Rochdale Union.
- GREGORY, A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,** appointed House-Physician to the General Infirmary, Leeds.
- MACARTHUR, James, L.R.C.S. & P. Edin., L.F.P.S. Glasg.,** appointed House-Surgeon to the County Infirmary, Downpatrick, co. Down.
- McKENZIE, J. H., M.R.C.S.,** appointed Health Officer for the Shire of Melton, co. Renfrew, Victoria.
- McEAN, John Barr, M.B., B.S. Melb.,** appointed Assistant Medical Superintendent at the Hospital for the Insane, Toowoomba, Queensland, *vice* G. W. S. Marr, M.B. Syd., transferred.
- MAGUIRE, W. J., B.A., M.B., etc., R.U.I.,** appointed Medical Officer to the North District of the Royal Irish Constabulary, Belfast, *vice* Dr. D. M'Donnell, deceased.

MASON, Henry W., L.A.H., appointed Junior House-Surgeon to the Jervis Street Hospital, Dublin, vice John P. Ryan, L.R.C.P. & S.I.
 MILLER, E. J., L.S.A. Lond., appointed House-Surgeon to the Tynemouth Victoria Jubilee Infirmary, North Shields.
 MILWARD, F. Victor, M.B., B.C. Cantab., F.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Surgical Casualty Officer to the General Hospital, Birmingham.
 MOTTRAM, G. N., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Lond., appointed District Medical Officer of the Whitton Union.
 PLATTS, Sydney, M.B., B.Ch. Viet., appointed House-Surgeon to the General Infirmary, Leeds.
 RHIND, A. L., M.B., Ch.B. Vict., appointed District Medical Officer of the Bingham Union.
 RUTHERFORD, C., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin., appointed District Medical Officer of the Hexham Union.
 RYAN, John P., L.R.C.P. & S.I., appointed Senior House-Surgeon to Jervis Street Hospital, Dublin, vice Edmund (Genny), L.R.C.P. & S.I., resigned.
 SCATCHARD, T., L.S.A., appointed House-Physician to the General Infirmary, Leeds.
 STANSFIELD, F. J., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed House-Surgeon to the General Infirmary, Leeds.
 WORTHINGTON, H. E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Lond., appointed District Medical Officer of the Isle of Thanet Union.
 ERRATA.—Dr. E. Thurlow Prior was appointed Medical Officer for the Workhouse and No. 2 District of the Olddon and Clavering Union, and not Dr. McClintock, as published last week.—In the notice of the appointment of Mr. Mole as Honorary Assistant Surgeon to the Bristol Royal Infirmary he was, owing to a printer's error, described as L.R.C.S. Eng. instead of F.R.C.S. Eng.

DIARY FOR NEXT WEEK.

TUESDAY.

Royal College of Physicians of London, 5 p.m.—Dr. W. Hale White: The Croonian Lectures (prepared by the late Dr. J. W. Washbourn) On the Natural History and Pathology of Pneumonia. Lecture III.
 University of London Physiological Laboratories, South Kensington, 5 p.m.—Dr. Ernest Starling: On the Sources of Animal Energy.
 Chelsea Clinical Society, Jenner Institute of Preventive Medicine, Chelsea Gardens, Grosvenor Road, S.W., 8.30 p.m.—Dr. George Stoker: The Oxygen Treatment of Lupus, etc., with cases and demonstrations.
 Pathological Society of London, University College, W.C., 8 p.m.—Laboratory Meeting.

WEDNESDAY.

University of London Physiological Laboratories, South Kensington, 5 p.m.—Dr. M. S. Pembrey: On Animal Heat and Respiration.
 Royal Microscopical Society, 20, Hanover Square, W., 8 p.m.
 Royal Meteorological Society, Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, Westminster, S.W., 7.30 p.m.

THURSDAY.

Royal College of Physicians of London, 5 p.m.—Dr. W. Hale White: The Croonian Lectures (prepared by the late Dr. J. W. Washbourn) On the Natural History and Pathology of Pneumonia. Lecture IV.
 Royal College of Surgeons of England, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C., 3 p.m.—Annual meeting of Fellows and Members: Report of Council, etc.
 Medical-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., 3 p.m.—Address by Sir W. R. Gowers: Sanity and Insanity—Lunacy and Law. Papers: Dr. W. Lloyd Andriezen: The Pathogenesis of Adolescent Insanity. Dr. E. Goodall: The Case of An Unrecognized Degenerate—punished by the law (with Antropometric Observations).

FRIDAY.

Society for the Study of Disease in Children, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., 5.30 p.m.—Cases and Specimens by Mr. Frank Deas, Dr. Henry Ashby (Manchester), Dr. C. O. Hawthorne, and Mr. R. C. Dun (Liverpool). Paper: Dr. G. A. Sutherland and Mr. Thomson Walker: A Case of Syphilitic Arteritis and Nephritis in an Infant.

POST-GRADUATE COURSES AND LECTURES.

Charing-cross Hospital, Thursday, 4 p.m.—Demonstration of Medical Cases.
 Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, Brompton, S.W., Wednesday, 3 p.m.—Lecture on Arrested Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
 Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, W.C., Thursday, 4 p.m.—Demonstration of Cases.
 Medical Graduates' College and Polytechnic, 22, Chancery Street, W.C. Demonstrations will be given at 4 p.m. as follows:—Monday, skin; Tuesday, medical; Wednesday, surgical; Thursday, surgical; Friday, ear.
 National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic, Queen Square, W.C.—Tuesday, 3.30 p.m.—Lecture on Hemiplegia.
 North-East London Post-Graduate College, Tottenham Hospital, N., Thursday, 4 p.m.—Lecture on Diseases of the Thyroid Gland.
 Post-Graduate College, West London Hospital, Hammersmith Road, W.—Lectures will be delivered at 5 p.m. as follows: Monday, Symptoms of Nose, Throat and Ear Diseases; Tuesday, Symptoms of Nose, Throat and Ear Diseases; Wednesday, Surgical Anatomy; Thursday, Fractures of the Jaw; Friday, Therapeutics of High Frequency Currents.
 Westminster Hospital, Broad Sanctuary, S.W., Tuesday, 4.30 p.m.—Demonstration of Surgical Cases.

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 orders or stamps with the notice not later than Wednesday morning in order to ensure insertion in the current issue.

BIRTHS.

BOUSFIELD.—On November 4th, at 35, Prince's Square, W., the wife of Stanley Bousfield, M.A., M.B., B.C., of a daughter.
 BOWKER.—On October 13th, at The Bungalow, Port Shepstone, Natal, S. Africa, the wife of Charles Allan Bowker, M.B., C.M. Edin., J.P., of a son.
 FORGE.—On November 5th, at Rochford, Essex, the wife of G. Baynton Forge, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of a son.
 MCGAVIN.—On November 9th, at 21, Montagu Street, Fortman Square, W., the wife of Lawrie McGavin, F.R.C.S. Eng., of a daughter.
 MURRAY.—On November 5th, at 6, Langham Mansions, Earl's Court Square, S.W., the wife of William Murray, M.B., Ch.B. Edin., of a son.
 THOMSON.—On November 5th, at Codnor, Derbyshire, the wife of George Thomson, M.B., C.M., of a son.

MARRIAGE.

BUCKLEY-HUGHES.—On November 5th, at St. John's Church, Buxton, by the Rev. G. Lovett, Rector of St. Werburgh's, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Charles William Buckley, M.D. Lond., of 14, Hardwick Street, Buxton, to Lilian, elder daughter of Mrs. Hugh Hughes, late of Mayfield, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting Editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor, 2, 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.

N. MCC. asks for information as to the best way of stopping a child, aged 4 years, from biting its nails; the application of aloes, cascara, and tying up of hands has failed.

BORAR asks to be referred to literature on the conditions that give rise to brickdust deposit in the excretions from the bowels in children.

HONEYBEE asks for references to literature on the life-history of pediculus capitis.

MARRIAGE OF FIRST COUSINS.

LOOCHAB desires information as to the probability of the possible children of such a marriage as is described below suffering by reason of the close relationship of the parents. The contracting parties to the marriage are first cousins. The mothers of the parties were twin sisters. The fathers were brothers, but were not twins. Both parties are healthy, and there is no hereditary tendency to disease or insanity in the family on either father's or mother's side.

FREE MARTINS.

LAMERTON is informed that when a twin heifer's fellow twin is a bull she never breeds, and is known in farriery as a "martin." He wishes to ascertain whether this rule holds among mankind. Is it true that when a woman's fellow twin is a male it is impossible for her to become pregnant?

. We have referred this question to Dr. J. W. Ballantyne, of Edinburgh, who writes: I think Sir James Simpson's paper (*Obstetric Memoirs and Contributions*, vol. i, p. 314; 1855) on the Alleged Infecundity of Females Born Co-twin with Males has sufficiently shown the fallacy of the general statement that either the free martin or her human homologue is sterile. He collected the married histories of 113 women born co-twin with males, and found that 103 had families and that 10 had none, or about 1 in 10. He also recorded several instances in which a free martin gave birth to calves, but admitted that this was a rare occurrence. He concluded that the cow alone of uniparous animals had the tendency to produce such sterile offspring under these circumstances. When the free-martin calf is sterile the sterility would appear to be due to a malformation of the uterus.

Dr. Ballantyne also sends the following references: Allnat, R. H., *Lond. M. Gaz.*, xviii, 528, 1836; Monell, G. C., *New York J. Med.*, vi, 83, 1846; Moore, J., *Med. Exam.*, Philadelphia, viii, 82, 1832; Welles, J., *Boston Med. and Surg. J.*, iii, 238, 1831; Cribb, J. J., *Lond. Med. Reposit.*, xx, 213, 1823; vide also J. Hunter's *Certain Parts of the Animal Oeconomy*, p. 45; London, 1786. Our correspondent will find some curious information and speculation on the subject in a series of letters published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for 1887, vol. i, pp. 47, 93, 141, 187.

LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANIES AND MEDICAL OPINIONS.

A CORRESPONDENT has written to us under the following circumstances: The manager of a life assurance company applies to him for information respecting the life of one of his patients, and encloses a printed form with spaces for the answers to eleven questions, besides details as to the state of the uterine functions, and the past, present, or future result of marriage.

Our correspondent raises two points:

1. Is he justified in answering these questions without the permission of his patient? To this we would reply that the applicant for assurance, in supplying the name of his or her medical attendant, thereby tacitly consents to his giving to the assurance company any information that he may possess as to the health of the applicant. Though this is the course generally pursued, we think that before supplying any information to the company it would be better for the medical attendant to obtain the written consent of his patient.

2. Is the remuneration offered for filling up the form adequate, bearing in mind the responsibility involved, and the time taken up in so doing? The sum offered was "the usual fee of 4s." We are not at one with our correspondent in thinking the fee wholly inadequate for the services required. The amount of the policy was not stated in the letter