

Memoranda: MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

TREATMENT OF TETANUS.

ANYTHING which may be of use to our wounded needs no apology, therefore I wish to repeat some remarks I made in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of November 5th, 1910.

In the ordinary way tetanus is such a rare disease that it only occupies a small part of one's thoughts. Now this is not the case. Tetanus kills partly by the direct action of the toxin and partly by the exhausting effects of the convulsions. By the trismus and dread that taking food will bring on a convulsion, starvation is added to the horrors of the disease, and sleep is prevented by the painful muscular contractions. In treating the disease when it is manifest there are therefore the following indications:

1. To prevent further absorption of toxin by the removal of its source as far as possible.
2. To neutralize the toxin present.
3. To relax the muscles and prevent the tetanic spasms, so that the patient will escape the exhaustion and be able to take food and to sleep. Consequently he will be spared much suffering and be in the best position to fight the disease.

Of the first two indications, the necessity for removing every scrap of necrotic tissue or blood clot, the provision of the freest drainage, the great value of the prophylactic dose of antitetanus serum after suspicious wounds, and the necessity for large doses to produce effect when the disease is established, are too well known to need more than passing mention. But the use of chloretone to meet the third indication does not seem as well known as it deserves.

McClintock and Hutchings undertook an experimental study of the various drugs used for this purpose, and were convinced that chloretone was the best and least poisonous substance hitherto employed. Hutchings published 6 cases treated with chloretone, with 4 recoveries. The only case I have so treated was a severe one; the beneficial effects of the drug were immediate and striking, trismus was almost abolished and convulsions completely prevented, and the patient recovered. These cases seem to more than warrant a further trial of chloretone.

The method of using chloretone is as follows: 30 to 40 grains of chloretone in olive oil are given by the rectum; in one to two hours there should be an improvement in the muscular symptoms. When the effect passes off, the dose is repeated. Our man had an average of 80 grains a day for five days. Chloretone poisoning is by respiratory failure, so this must be looked out for. Its use is in no way to supersede antitoxin or surgical measures, but to act as a very useful ally.

Guildford.

ERIC W. SHEAF, M.C.Cantab.

THE ADRENALS AND URINARY SECRETION.

MENTIONING the following case to Sir Berkeley Moynihan he tells me it is worthy of report. A lady of 72 was confined to bed by sheer weakness and listlessness; she complained of nothing else. Repeated medical examinations revealed no disease, but it was found that the urinary secretion was only some 10 to 12 ounces daily.

A consulting physician diagnosed pure senile debility, and prescribed strong tonics, strychnine, etc. A good deal of improvement followed, but in an early relapse these drugs failed to resume their good offices. Several medical men then saw her, but nothing prevented the gradual decrease in strength and in amount of urine. One idea occurred to me—to try adrenalin. The result was dramatic and staggering in its efficiency. In forty-eight hours the urine rose from 5 to 40 ounces; in a few days the patient was up, and in a week was out in a bath-chair.

The improvement continued after the lapse of some months, but she continues to take adrenalin, for cessation at once causes renewed debility, etc.

Sir Berkeley gave me the interesting information, and allows me to state it here, that whilst he has not paid much attention to this side of the question he has to the converse, and, having come to the conclusion that *excessive* activity of the suprarenal glands is a cause of arteriosclerosis, has already suggested surgical measures

depriving the gland of its blood supply and leaving it attached to the kidney by only a few strands of tissue. One such early case has already undergone the operation, and Sir Berkeley Moynihan is on the look-out for another on which to perform the operation himself.

These two converse methods of treatment afford fascinating fields for further much-needed work, and will yield a rich harvest to the gleaner.

Leeds.

RALPH HOPTON, M.D.Lond.

ANAESTHETICS IN EYE-WORK.

RECENT correspondence in your columns on this subject reminds me of an experience which raises the question as to the depth of anaesthesia required in ophthalmic surgery.

The patient was an old man of 74, with but one eye and that blind from cataract. At the preliminary iridectomy he developed such spasm of the eyelids that I told him it would be unsafe to remove the lens. He, however, pleaded so insistently for its performance and carried out so earnestly the control exercises that I consented to do it under a general anaesthetic.

The operation, in all its steps, was completed in a few seconds and no time wasted over the toilet. No sooner was an attempt made to gently raise the speculum than it was followed by a most vicious spasm of the ocular muscles with a great loss of vitreous.

The patient was deeply under and cocaine had been previously used, yet the old habit spasm manifested itself.

Perhaps it would have been better to have used deep orbital injections of cocaine, as suggested by Dr. Traquair, or to have held the eye by means of the superior rectus. Fortunately the ultimate outcome was very good ($\frac{1}{2}$) with glasses, but the slow steady squeeze and the outpouring of vitreous was as surprising as it was unpleasant.

Manchester.

A. A. BRADBURN, F.R.C.S.E.

Reports

ON

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL PRACTICE IN HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL.

BULLET WOUND OF THE EYE: LOCALIZATION BY X RAYS:
EXCISION: PATHOLOGICAL REPORT.

(Under the care of Sir WILLIAM COLLINS, K.C.V.O.,
M.S.Lond., F.R.C.S.)

PRIVATE A., Coldstream Guards, was engaged in the battle of the Marne at Château Thierry on September 8th. The enemy was in occupation of a farmhouse and firing a Maxim gun from an upper window. The patient was shooting from behind a boulder when a bullet ricocheted off the stone, splashing into the right side of his face. A field dressing was applied to the face two hours later and he slept in a barn that night. Next morning he was transported by motor car and ambulance train and via Southampton to London, arriving at Woolwich on September 15th.

He was admitted at the Royal Eye Hospital on September 16th. The face exhibited several small wounds from lead splutters from a bullet; the right eye was closed by swelling of eyelids and there was photophobia in the left. The vision of the right eye was p. l. only, the tension was slightly *plus*, there was much conjunctival injection and chemosis. There was iritis, the pupil was immobile, and the fundus unilluminable. A pigmented spot midway between the corneal margin and the equator, down and out, and some corneal abrasions suggested points of entry of fragments of the bullet. The right upper canine tooth had been smashed by the bullet, and pellets of lead could be felt under the skin of the face in several places. The left eye showed some minute fragments of lead on the cornea, which were removed, but the vision was—tells time accurately; the media were otherwise clear and the tension normal. He was suffering a good deal of pain in the right eye and side of the head.

A skiagram taken by Dr. Herbert Rhodes showed a peppering of the right side of the face; fragments, the

personality that endeared him to all who came in contact with him. If ever a man could be said to be without an enemy, he might have afforded an example, and his loss will be keenly regretted by all that knew him. He was fond of music, for which he had an excellent ear. He was also a keen sportsman, and the only relaxation from his arduous professional duties that he indulged in was a few weeks' holiday in the summer, which were invariably devoted to fishing and shooting. He leaves a widow, but no children.

WE regret to announce the death, on September 6th, as the result of a cycle accident, of Dr. HORACE MANSELL MAYBURY. Dr. Maybury, who was in his 67th year, was the third son of the late William Augustus Maybury, surgeon of Frimley, Surrey. He was born in London on June 8th, 1848, and entered the City of London School. His medical training was received at St. Thomas's, London, and Queen's College, Belfast. He was M.D., M.Ch., and L.M. of the Royal University in Ireland, and held also the diplomas of M.R.C.S.Eng. and L.S.A. Dr. Maybury, as a young man of 24, became resident medical officer of the Islington Dispensary, an appointment he retained until shortly after his marriage in 1890, when he started in practice in Almeida Street. He was one of the oldest practitioners in Islington, and was held in the highest respect and affection by all who knew him. He was of a very genial, kind disposition, and his many good deeds and gratuitous medical services to those who needed his help will never be forgotten by many of his patients and friends. He was an adept cyclist, and his devotion to the wheel dated back to the old boneshaker machine. He had twice ridden from Land's End to John o' Groats. He had often gone 100 to 150 miles in one day, even in recent years. The funeral took place on September 12th at Frimley churchyard, and he was laid to rest with his late wife, who died in 1909.

Dr. ALFRED HEGAR, professor of obstetrics and gynaecology at Freiburg in Baden from 1864 till 1904, died on August 6th. He was the author of numerous writings extending over the whole field of gynaecology. He was the founder of the *Beiträge zur Geburtshilfe und Gynäkologie*.

Dr. W. J. BRANCH, of Basseterre, St. Kitts, W.I., who died recently, in his 76th year, was born in Barbados, and graduated M.D. Edin. in 1860. He had resided in St. Kitts for fifty years, and in announcing his death the *St. Kitts Daily Express* said that he had stood for all that was good and worthy in the community. "As a surgeon, a physician, a man of learning, and a friend of the poor his place will be hard, if not impossible, to fill." He had held the appointments of medical officer to the Cunningham Hospital and to the St. Kitts Hospital and analyst of vital statistics and health officer of St. Kitts, Nevis, and Anguilla. He was a member of the Leeward Isles Branch of the British Medical Association. For some years he had lived in retirement.

DEATHS IN THE PROFESSION ABROAD.—Among the members of the medical profession in foreign countries who have recently died are Dr. Hasket Derby, one of the founders of the American Ophthalmological Society and a pioneer in the speciality of eye disease, aged 79; Dr. Gutierrez, Director of the Rubio Institute, Madrid, and Senator of Spain, aged 63; Dr. Alexander S. Levery, clinical instructor in medicine, Department of Neurology, Cornell University Medical College, New York, aged 48; Dr. Martin Hayward Post, a prominent ophthalmic surgeon of St. Louis, aged 63; Dr. Paul Reclus, surgeon to the Hôtel-Dieu, Paris, and professor of clinical surgery, aged 67; and Dr. G. B. H. Swayne, one of the founders and first dean of the faculty of the Medico-Chirurgical College of Philadelphia, aged 81.

WILLIAM BLACKBORNE CLAPHAM, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., aged 87, of Eastholme, Great Dunmow, Essex, left estate valued at £41,969.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

FIRST M.B. Part I (Chemistry).—J. C. Ainsworth Davis, H. Barbash, R. H. O. Betham Robinson, A. M. Broad, E. J. Crisp, E. C. Curwen, H. V. Edwards, A. C. Halliwell, A. T. Hawley, M. S. Thomson, J. S. Williams, R. L. Williams, D. W. Winnicott. Part II (Physics).—J. C. Ainsworth Davis, H. S. Allen, H. Barbash, R. H. O. Betham Robinson, A. M. Broad, E. J. Crisp, E. C. Curwen, H. V. Edwards, A. C. Halliwell, A. T. Hawley, H. J. H. Hendley, R. Hilton, K. P. Lloyd-Williams, A. S. Redfern, M. S. Thomson, R. L. Williams. Part III (Elementary Biology).—R. H. O. Betham Robinson, A. M. Broad, H. V. Edwards, M. S. Thomson, J. S. Williams, R. H. White.

SECOND M.B. Part II (Pharmacology and General Pathology).—E. H. R. Altounyan, D. J. Batterham, W. H. Blackburn, R. S. Corbett, E. H. Dendy, J. M. Downie, J. R. Earm, J. S. Ellis, H. W. Featherstone, L. P. L. Firman-Edwards, H. Gardiner-Hill, E. A. Gibb, C. C. Goodhall, E. A. Green, F. H. S. Greenish, J. Hale, F. E. Higgins, G. M. Kenall, C. C. Kerby, E. A. Leak, W. J. MacCombie, G. L. Maule, T. D. Morgan, D. M. Muir, E. S. Orme, P. E. D. Pank, D. W. R. Richardson, J. Rickman, G. B. Sellwood, W. J. D. Smyth, N. S. Tirard, F. H. Vey, R. C. P. Whitcombe, H. G. E. Williams.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND.

A MEETING of the university was held at University College, Dublin, on Saturday, October 10th, when the following degrees and diploma were conferred:

M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.—J. B. Magennis, B.A., B.Sc., *P. J. Smyth, J. I. Enright, †W. O'Neill, P. Carney, C. I. Hannigan, B.A., M. Heenan, R. McGrath, J. J. Moonan, E. J. O'Keeffe, B.Sc., F. C. Ward.

M.D.—J. Reidy, D.P.H. (in absentia).

DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC HEALTH.—P. Steen, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. (in absentia).

* With first class honours. † With second class honours.

ROYAL COLLEGES OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, IRELAND.

THE following have passed the autumn examination for the Conjoint Diploma in Public Health:

Donal Mahony Barry (honours), M.B., R.U.I.; Rutherford Cramb, M.B. Glasg.; Hugh Reynolds McKay Ferguson, M.B. Dubl.; Percy Ernest Harrison, L.R.C.P. and S.I.; Alexander Frederick Kennedy, M.B., R.U.I.; Augustus Charles Lorena, L.R.C.P. Edin.; Robert Joseph May, L.R.C.P. and S.I.; Charles Gregg Sherlock, M.D. Dubl.

CONJOINT BOARD IN ENGLAND.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY.—K. N. G. Bailey, T. B. Bailey, H. F. G. Berncastle, K. H. Bhat, B. Bishara, L. G. Blackmore, C. J. L. Blair, J. B. Brash, A. W. A. Davies, F. G. L. Dawson, Saad el Din Ahmed El Daab, Abdel Aziz Hassan El Zeneiny, J. H. Ewen, E. F. Fernando, J. T. T. Forbes, A. R. Hart, Mahdy Sayed Hashish, T. L. Heath, H. S. Heusman, E. B. Hickson, S. R. Johnston, G. Mahya, R. S. Millar, A. Mishriky, B. Mitra, V. S. R. Pandit, W. D. Pearman, A. W. Peers, W. E. Powell, H. L. Pridham, R. Rao, R. I. Rhys, A. Rodd, H. H. Silley, M. O. Simpson, R. S. S. Smith, V. R. Smith, E. L. Stephenson, A. A. Thiel, E. S. Toogood, S. K. Vaidya, L. H. Woods, W. Yeoman.

FIRST EXAMINATION (Part I, Chemistry, and Part II, Physics).—†Y. Abdel-Massiah, †G. W. Almeyda, †J. F. Burns, †C. J. C. de Silva, †M. A. El Dardari, †M. A. El Hennawy, †A. H. El Rakshi, †M. W. M. Hassanally, †Elisabeth Esther McCulloch, †A. R. Neckle, †A. B. Olamuyiwa, †F. Y. Pearson, †M. C. Sarkies, †Gladys Mary Thurlow Williams, †S. Wolff, †V. D. Wyborn. Part III, Elementary Biology.—H. L. Bowen, F. S. Drewe, A. E. Collicie, A. H. El Rakshi, H. M. Herbert, T. R. E. Hillier, N. Howard, W. Laing, Elisabeth Esther McCulloch, J. S. Moore, R. H. Roe, J. S. Rogers, E. A. Sparks, B. M. Tonkin. Part IV, Practical Pharmacy.—D. H. Anthony, G. T. Baker, J. Behesnilian, A. S. Carter, C. T. J. Drobog, C. G. Gibson, L. A. J. Graham, W. C. Hartgill, C. G. Hitchcock, A. H. Manfield, A. D. Morris, A. G. Morris, E. H. Morris, N. F. Norman, A. L. S. Payne, C. H. Phillips, R. Quesada-Jimenez, W. L. E. Reynolds, E. E. Samaraweera, J. E. Scanlan, H. J. H. Symons, R. R. Syquia, H. Vickers.

* Passed in Part I only. † Passed in Part II only.

CONJOINT BOARD IN SCOTLAND.

THE following candidates, having passed the requisite examinations, have been admitted Diplomates in Public Health:

Hira, Singh Anand, M.B., Ch.B. Edin.; C. Gamble, M.B., Ch.B. Edin.; J. W. Edington, M.B., Ch.B. Edin.; S. R. Rao, F.R.C.S. Edin., etc.; Lakshmi Prasad Chaliha, F.R.F.P. and S.G., etc.; and J. H. Boag, M.B., Ch.B. Edin.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON.

THE following candidates at the Primary Examination passed in:

BIOLOGY.—C. E. Clarke.

MATERIA MEDICA AND PHARMACY.—A. M. Berman, C. H. Philips, A. J. A. Wilson.

ANATOMY.—A. M. Berman, J. M. Forbes, C. Gilroy-Jones, E. M. Gooda, F. J. Harrington, D. E. Hearn, R. F. Jarrett, H. D. L. Jones, S. Mikhail, J. B. Thomas, L. J. Vincent.

PHYSIOLOGY.—E. V. Beaumont, A. M. Berman, R. F. Jarrett, S. Mikhail, T. F. Reason, J. B. Thomas, L. J. Vincent.

Medical News.

THE sixth International Congress of Thalassotherapy will, as at present arranged, be held at San Remo in 1916.

DR. F. S. LEACH and Dr. John Todd were among the justices of the peace sworn in at Gateshead police court on October 7th.

AT a recent meeting of the Mississippi State Board of Health it was decided to procure a supply of vaccines, antitoxins, and serums, to be distributed to the public at cost.

A CHAIR of clinical tropical medicine has been founded in the University of Naples. The sum allocated for its maintenance is £548 a year, in addition to an annual subsidy of £120.

ONE case of plague and one death from the disease were reported at Hong Kong in the week ending September 26th, while on October 5th the colony was reported free from the infection. Seven cases of plague and seven deaths were reported at Mauritius in the week ending September 24th.

THE Council of the National Institute for the Blind, Great Portland Street, London, W., have undertaken to help, as far as practicable, all men who lose their sight while serving their country in the present war. Names and addresses of those who desire to avail themselves of this offer should be forwarded to the secretary-general of the institute.

A HOSPITAL with accommodation for 140 non-paying and 50 paying patients for the benefit of Italians has been founded at Jerusalem. It is said to be the best equipped hospital in the Levant. The operating theatres are fitted up with every modern appliance. It has isolation pavilions for contagious diseases.

THE proprietors of the Droitwich Brine Baths have undertaken to give facilities for the use of the baths to officers and men who have been invalided in the course of the war. They believe that such treatment will be specially beneficial in the case of those who have suffered from exposure. Soldiers and sailors who may therefore have been invalided home, and for whom the baths may be prescribed, may have their use free of charge.

ACCORDING to the *Medical Record* of September 26th Dr. N. T. Moore, formerly secretary of El Paso County Medical Society, is being kept a prisoner at Culiclan, Sinaloa, Mexico, because he performed an operation upon a resident of that city which resulted in his death. From this it would seem that the practice of operative surgery is almost as dangerous in Mexico as it was in some parts of Europe in the Middle Ages. Even in Italy, then the most civilized country in the world, we read that a famous surgeon before performing a critical operation insisted on being protected by a bond of indemnity signed by all the patient's friends.

THE rubber flooring for the Stephen Ward of Guy's Hospital was formally presented on behalf of the Rubber Growers' Association by Lady French on October 6th. Mr. McEwan, chairman of the Rubber Growers' Association, stated that some 170 of the producing companies had contributed. Mr. Cosmo Bonsor accepted the gift on behalf of the governors of the hospital. Particulars of a similar gift to the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary were published in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of September 12th, p. 488. The rubber flooring lately laid in the consulting room of the out-patients' department of the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, was also the gift of the Rubber Growers' Association. The association had also voted a gift of 1,000 hot-water bottles, made from plantation rubber, to the British Red Cross Society.

AMONG the books to be published this autumn by the Cambridge University Press are *The House-fly: Musca domestica* (Linn.); *Its Structure, Habits, Development, Relation to Disease and Control*, by C. Gordon Hewitt, D.Sc.; *The Chemical Examination of Water, Sewage, Foods, and other Substances*, by J. E. Purvis, M.A., and T. R. Hodgson, M.A. The publications of the University of Chicago Press are sold in Great Britain and the British Empire (except Canada) by the Cambridge University Press. Among those announced are the following: *Water Reptiles of the Past and Present*, by Samuel W. Williston; *The Osteology of Some American Permian Vertebrates*, by Samuel W. Williston (Contributions from Walker Museum, vol. i, No. 8); *The Evolution of Sex in Plants*, by J. M. Coulter; and *Proceedings of the American Sociological Society*, vol. viii (Problems of Social Assimilation).

Letters, Notes, and Answers.

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

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

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2631, Gerrard, EDITOR, *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*.
2630, Gerrard, *BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION*.
2634, Gerrard, *MEDICAL SECRETARY*.

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.

CROWN DERBY asks for hints in building a surgery and waiting room.

INDIAN will be much obliged for information as to the suitability or otherwise of Alpine mountain resorts in winter for a person subject to chronic and subacute attacks of pneumococcal bronchitis in cold wet weather.

ANSWERS.

E.G.H.W.—A small household destructor for refuse, which would be suitable for a hospital of thirty beds, is made by Messrs. Horsfalls, the Station Works, Pershore, near Worcester.

LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

THE PRACTITIONER AND THE NEW "PHARMACOPOEIA."
DR. J. C. MCWALTER (Dublin) writes: Allow me to make a vigorous protest against the meddling with the strength of the preparations of our most potent drugs—which is exhibited in the new *Pharmacopoeia*.

Take nux vomica, which is now being taken by literally millions of people. The new *British Pharmacopoeia* reduces the strength of the tincture to one-half. This means that practitioners no longer get the beneficial results they anticipate—for the dosage is suddenly cut down to half.

On the other hand, strophanthus—a most potent poison—is increased to four times its strength. Your heart patient, for whom you have prescribed a fairly liberal dose of the present *British Pharmacopoeia* tincture, will wander round the country in imminent danger of sudden death, when the conscientious chemist, after previous cogitation, insists on dispensing a tincture four times as strong as you contemplated.

Laudanum is also juggled with. It is made 25 per cent. stronger. Thus, when with fear and trembling you order a 20-minim dose, the equivalent of 25 minims will be given.

On the other hand, your syphilitic patient will be defrauded of his due dose of mercury. Liq. hydrargyri perchloridi is made weaker, and ungt. hydrargyri, used for inunction, suddenly drops to 60 per cent. of its former strength.

Surely to Heaven, digitalis should not be meddled with—but it is. The strength of the tincture is reduced 20 per cent.

There is a sudden drop in the strength of white precipitate ointment; it is reduced to half potency.

Belladonna is also altered. The tincture, formerly made from the leaves, and in the *British Pharmacopoeia* (1898) ordered to be made from the root—is now twisted back to the leaves again. Worse than that, its strength is reduced 30 per cent.

Another objectionable thing in the new *British Pharmacopoeia* is the introduction of abbreviations. We all write illegibly, but imagine sanctioning the use of "æth." when you want to prescribe ether, or "lin. sap." when you want to order soap liniment.

This extraordinary juggling with the strength of potent drugs should meet with stern reprobation.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

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