

time. If on subsequent examination the temperature of an animal in quarantine were found to sink below the arbitrary limit of 103°, it might be considered as showing that it was not in an incipient stage of the disease; and it would, after verification, be safe to replace it amongst the general stock: but if its temperature were found to be rising, it should be slaughtered without a moment's delay, as soon as the thermometer registered a temperature—say of 104°. At this point, the animal, if on an infected farm, is pretty certain to be in an early stage of the disease; but as generally no outward signs of it are visible, and a skilful expert, upon ordinary inspection, would probably pronounce it healthy, there would be little reason to fear that it had arrived at the infectious stage.

Armed, therefore, with the thermometer, and possessed of the responsibility instantly to kill apparently healthy animals, on the strength of its indications, and supplementing this with rigorous disinfection, stamping out the cattle-plague from any infected farm, district, or county, is in theory reduced to an almost mathematical certainty.

It may, however, be urged that a rise in temperature may take place without it being due to cattle-plague. This is true; but in an infected herd it is very much more probable that the increased temperature is due to the particular disease to which the animals are exposed, than to any other (Dr. Sanderson's report, p. 16); and when there are so many chances in favour of the rise in temperature being caused by incipient cattle-plague, and so few of its being caused by some other cause, it is certainly worth while to secure the safety of the rest of the herd, at the risk of slaughtering a healthy animal, when after all it might not be sickening for the disease.

In corroboration of your remarks last week, I may say that in September last, I drew the attention of the government to the danger of a renewed outbreak of the cattle-plague, which would arise when the cattle were taken up into sheds and houses for the winter, and predicted that if the disease were not entirely stamped out within six or eight weeks, it would begin to spread again.

There is great reason to apprehend that the evil is by no means diminished to the extent which a reference to bare statistics would appear to justify us in assuming. From all that I am able to learn, the disease has lost little, if any, of its virulence. When it appears on a farm it is as likely to go through the whole herd, as when it was at the height in February last; and were the cattle allowed to linger on, as in the early days, it is probable that the proportion of deaths would be equally great. The plague is simply being kept under by main force, and a relaxation of the stringent, although necessary, regulations now in force, will almost inevitably be followed by a renewed outbreak.

I am, etc., WILLIAM CROOKES, F.R.S.

London, December 18th, 1866.

NEW MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. We understand that Dr. Sutton of Finsbury Square, who is already well and favourably known by his professional labours, although still a young physician, has been elected Medical Officer of Health to the Shoreditch District, in the room of Dr. Robert Barnes, who has held the post for some years, and has resigned it by reason of the increasing pressure of practice. The appointment is one which is very creditable to the local vestry, who have in this instance selected, solely by reason of his superior professional testimonials, a candidate personally unknown to them.

Medical News.

THE VACANT EXAMINERSHIP IN THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

THE resignation of Mr. Cassar Hawkins leaves, of course, a vacancy in the Court of Examiners of the Royal College of Surgeons. This will probably be filled by election at the meeting of the Council next week. The member of the Council nearest to the examiner's chair, according to past precedent, is Mr. Cock of Guy's Hospital. There is reason to believe, however, that, without intending any shadow of slight upon Mr. Cock, and entirely without reference to his individual eminence or special fitness, an opportunity will be taken by some members of the Council to endeavour to obtain now a recognition of the true principles of the College Charter. This provides for the election of examiners from without the Council; and with the very obvious and distinct intention that the examinership should not be limited to the charmed circle of Councillors. The sincerity and earnestness of recently elected members of the Council, and the liberality and freedom from prejudice, will be severely tested of those elder Fellows who are fain to acknowledge that in this matter the plain meaning of the Charter, the best interests of science, the expressed opinions of Green and Brodie, and the known feeling of the profession, entirely concur in recommending the suggested course. What will be the result on this occasion, we abstain from forecasting; but the occasion will be one of considerable interest, and the voting will be scrutinised carefully by electors or thinkers who do not sit in the Council Chambers, but who have a legitimate interest in the carrying out of the principles of the Charter, and in the government of the College.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON. At a general meeting of the Fellows, held on Monday, December 17th, 1866, the following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examination, and satisfied the College of their proficiency in the science and practice of medicine, surgery, and midwifery, were duly admitted to practise physic as Licentiates of the College:—

Arnold, John, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Bainbridge, George, Harrogate
Browning, Benjamin, H.M.S. *Victory*, Portsmouth
Dougal, Daniel, Strathaven
Eastes, George, M.B.Lond., 43, Trinity Square, Southwark
Frampton, Thomas, Gloucester House, Gloucester Gardens
Grigg, Joseph Collings, School Infirmary, Greenwich
Nowell, Richard Bottomley, Guy's Hospital
Plomley, John Frederick, Maidstone
Reid, Lestock Holland, Toronto, Canada West
Sims, Francis Manley Boldero, 14, York Place, Portman Square
Stewart, William, Diss, Norfolk
Taylor, Henry Shinglewood, 2, Merriek Square
Taylor, James, General Infirmary, Chester
Thompson, Joseph, Nottingham
Thomson, Jno. Roberts, M.D. Edin., Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh
Turner, Arthur Cromack, General Infirmary, Sheffield

At the same meeting, the following gentlemen were reported by the examiners to have passed their primary examination for the licence:—

Baxter, Evans Buchanan, King's College
Brett, Francis Charles, St. George's Hospital
Chapman, Charles William, Guy's Hospital
Cole, Richard Mount, Guy's Hospital
Cox, William Ashley, St. George's Hospital
Dobson, Nelson Congreve, St. Thomas's Hospital
Evans, Ernest Richard, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Greenhill, Arthur Francis, St. George's Hospital
Ingilis, Walter William, St. Thomas's Hospital
McClean, Edward Henry, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Perru, Alfred, St. Thomas's Hospital
Pierce, Frederick Morrish, Manchester

Pollard, Frederick, St. Thomas's Hospital
 Richardson, William Edward, Leeds
 Saundry, James Baynard, Guy's Hospital
 Sharp, John Adolphus, Guy's Hospital
 Shoppee, Edward Collett, University College
 Wallace, Frederick, Guy's Hospital

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND. The following members of the College, having undergone the necessary examinations, were admitted Licentiates in Midwifery at a meeting of the Board, on December 12th.

Archer, Edmond, F.R.C.S.Eng. (St. Bartholomew's), Cape of Good Hope; diploma of membership dated Dec. 29, 1866
 Clarke, Edward Griffiths (St. Bartholomew's), Mold, Flintshire; dated May 1, 1861
 Crew, Eli, L.S.A. (King's College), Tetbury, Gloucestershire; April 24, 1866
 Crowther, Edward Lodewy, L.R.C.P.Lond. (Guy's), Hobart Town, Tasmania; April 24, 1866
 Hayden, James Augustus, L.S.A. (Charing Cross), High Wycombe; April 27, 1866
 Lowndes, Fredk. Walter, L.S.A. (Edin.), Liverpool; July 25, 1865
 Pollard, William Fox Branch (King's College), Demerara; November 16, 1866
 Rix, Richard Avery, L.S.A. (St. Bartholomew's), Beccles, Suffolk; April 26, 1865
 Stainthorpe, Thomas Edward (Middlesex), Hexham, Northumberland; November 15, 1866
 Visick, Clarence (St. George's), Fleet Street; May 10, 1865

It is stated that six candidates failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Board. The next examination for the licence will not take place until February.

APOTHECARIES' HALL. On December 13th, 1866, the following Licentiates were admitted:—

Burn, William Barnett, 72, Fore Street, Limehouse
 Edwards, Edward Noble, 6, Kensington Terrace, S. Gurdon, Charles Goate, Boxford, Suffolk
 Smith, William, Spilsby, Lincolnshire
 Welch, John Burges, Anglesea Place, Southampton

At the same Court, the following passed the first examination:—

Brett, Francis Charles, St. George's Hospital
 Chapman, Charles William, Guy's Hospital
 Cole, Richard Mount, Guy's Hospital
 Evans, Ernest Richard, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Johnson, Edward Reginald, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 McClean, Edward Henry, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Webster, William, King's College Hospital

BIRTHS.

ASBURY. On December 12, at Broxbourne, the wife of C. J. Asbury, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.
 REID. On December 15th, at Canterbury, the wife of *James Reid, Esq., of a daughter.
 SMALLMAN. On December 17th, at Willingham-by-Stow, near Gainsborough, the wife of *J. C. B. Smallman, M.D., of a daughter.
 TURNER. On December 14th, at Hyde, Isle of Wight, the wife of *W. F. J. Turner, L.R.C.P.Ed., of a son.
 WILLIAMSON. On December 15th, at 1, Clarendon Villas, Mildmay Park, the wife of James Williamson, M.D., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Hood, John W., Esq., of Melbourne, Victoria, to Minnie, only daughter of P. Brady, M.D., of Rathmines, Dublin, at St. Pancras Church, on November 23.
 LEWER, Alfred, M.D., Royal Horse Artillery, to Bessie, eldest daughter of Colonel J. H. Shaw, Governor of the Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, at Lee, Kent, on December 13.
 *SQUIRE, Alexander Balmano, M.B., to Ann Margaret, youngest daughter of the late John MARSHALL, Esq., of Tunbridge Wells, at Southampton, on December 15.
 WELLS, Lieut.-Colonel Frederick, to Georgina Mary, third daughter of G. R. DARTNELL, Esq., of Arden House, at Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, on December 12.

DEATHS.

GIRAUD. On December 13th, at Margate, Christina Georgiana, wife of Herbert Giraud, M.D., Surgeon-Major Bombay Army.
 HILL. On December 14th, at Cumberland Street, South Belgravia, aged 48, Eleanor, wife of Arthur Hill, Esq., Surgeon.
 LINDOE. On December 8th, at Bournemouth, Anna, widow of Robert F. Lindoe, M.D., late of Bath.
 PAGE. On December 11th, at Calne, Wilts, aged 84, Ann, widow of George Page, M.D.

ACADEMY OF MEDICINE. M. Tardieu has succeeded to the presidency of the Imperial Academy of Medicine; and M. Ricord has been elected vice-president.

ATTEMPTED POISONING. A young servant girl named Matilda Somers has got a year's imprisonment at Taunton assizes for attempting to poison her mistress, Mrs. Towils, with muriatic acid in beer.

THE HOSPITAL FOR STONE. The members of the staff of Westminster Hospital have intimated to Mr. Teevan that they cannot support his candidature for the vacant assistant-surgery at the Westminster Hospital, should he retain the office which he has recently accepted of surgeon to the Hospital for Stone.

HOSPITAL VACANCIES. Dr. Duckworth is candidate for the vacant office of assistant-physician at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The vacancy is caused by the changes consequent upon the death of the late Dr. Jeaffreson. Mr. Teevan, Mr. Frank Marsh, and Mr. Bellamy, are spoken of as candidates for the office of assistant-surgeon to the Westminster Hospital, vacated by Mr. Heath on his election at the University College Hospital.

AN ADVERTISING DOCTOR IN THE BANKRUPTCY COURT. In the Court of Bankruptcy, December 13th, the bankrupt (R. Lalor) was a doctor of medicine, of Mecklenburg Street. This was an adjourned sitting for discharge. The debts are £736; no assets. Mr. R. Griffiths opposed. The bankrupt had brought an action for slander against his client, Mr. Job Caudwell, bookseller; and on the verdict going against him, came to this court *in forma pauperis*. Altogether there were thirty-seven creditors. His Honour said the bankrupt appeared to be one of those advertising doctors, of whom the public had heard a great deal lately. The order was suspended for six months, with protection (renewed) for three months.

CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY. The last meeting of this Society was held at Charing Cross Hospital, on December 6th, when the president, Mr. W. Calthrop, read a paper "On the Comparative Anatomy and Physiology of the Eye." He commenced by explaining the primary laws of optics, as far as they related to the passage of light through the eye, and the formation of images on the retina. He then gave a minute account of the general and microscopic anatomy of the tissues of the eyeball; and concluded by tracing the organ of vision, as far as it exists, through the whole scale of the animal kingdom. The meeting was not very largely attended, but a brisk discussion followed, in which Messrs. Buck, Hugo, Little, and Adams, took part. The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the author of the paper.

PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY. The following is the list of the officers and Council of the Society proposed for election for the year 1867. The gentlemen whose names are marked with an asterisk did not hold the same office during the preceding year. *President*—*J. Simon, Esq., F.R.S. *Vice-Presidents*—*T. B. Peacock, M.D.; W. Brinton, M.D., F.R.S.; J. W. Ogle, M.D.; F. Sibson, M.D., F.R.S.; G. Critchett, Esq.; T. B. Curling, Esq., F.R.S.; P. G. Hewett, Esq.; *W. Adams, Esq. *Treasurer*—R. Quain, M.D. *Council*—J. S. Bristowe, M.D.; W. Dickinson, M.D.; *Conway Evans, M.D.; *E. Headlam Greenhow, M.D.; G. T. Gream, M.D.; Graily Hewitt, M.D.; T. Hillier, M.D.; *Hermann Weber, M.D.; J. B. Sanderson, M.D.; H. T. Rooke, M.D.; *Campbell De Morgan, Esq., F.R.S.; *Ernest Hart, Esq.; W. Callender, Esq.; C. Heath, Esq.; A. Leggatt, Esq.; *Thomas Smith, Esq.; *J. Tanes, Esq., F.R.S.; Henry Thompson, Esq.; J. W. Trotter, Esq.; T. Spencer Wells, Esq. *Honorary Secretaries*—C. Murchison, M.D.; T. Holmes, Esq.

"THE POOR-LAW AND CHARITY" is the title of a very thoughtful paper by the Rev. J. Llewellyn Davies, in *Macmillan's Magazine*.

CHARM FOR HYDROPHOBIA. The *Pall Mall Gazette* lately gave an extraordinary example of the tenacity with which the uneducated cling to old superstitions. At an inquest held lately at Bradwell, Bucks, on the body of a child, aged 5, who died of hydrophobia, Sarah Mackness stated that, at the request of the mother, she had fished the body of the dog by which the child had been bitten out of the river, and had extracted its liver, a slice of which she had frizzled before the fire, and had then given it to the child to be eaten with some bread. The dog had been drowned nine days before. The child ate the liver greedily, drank some tea afterwards, and died in spite of this strange specific.

HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON. The following is a list of the names of gentlemen proposed as officers of the Society for the year 1867. *President*—*J. E. Pollack, M.D. *Vice-Presidents*—T. Ballard, M.D.; *W. F. Cleveland, M.D.; *E. Hart, Esq.; J. B. Walker, Esq. *Treasurer*—H. W. Fuller, M.D. *Honorary Secretaries*—J. B. Ourgenvien, Esq.; C. R. Drysdale, M.D. *Council*—V. De Méric, Esq.; J. Eardley, Esq.; J. Evans, Esq.; J. Gayleard, Esq.; *R. S. Jeffs, Esq.; J. S. Lamb, M.D.; J. R. Lane, Esq.; J. Z. Laurence, Esq.; *H. W. Lobb, Esq.; E. Lowe, Esq.; *D. Menzies, M.R.C.P.; *J. Rushforth, Esq. An asterisk is prefixed to the names of those gentlemen who did not hold the same office the preceding year. The election will take place at the Society's Rooms, on Thursday, January 3rd, 1867, at eight o'clock P.M.

PHYSICAL DEGENERACY OF THE FRENCH POPULATION. One of the causes which is said to delay the final decision of the Commission on the reorganisation of the French army is the difficulty experienced in making a proper selection, owing to the physical degeneracy and decrease of the population. A practical economist, Mr. Randof, has cited several facts in confirmation of that statement. From these facts it would appear that the population of France is each year on the decline, and that there is reason to apprehend that the moment is not far distant when the births will not be equal to the deaths. At the commencement of the present century more than five children in France and more than four in Paris were born to each marriage; whereas, at the present day, the average is three for France and two for Paris. And, if it be borne in mind that in France the mortality of children only, from one day to a year, is more than 20 per cent., there will be no surprise at the progressive diminution of the population. The number of births also tends to diminish each year; the children are less and less vigorous; and when they attain manhood are worse constituted in frame and lower in stature than in any period. This fact is proved beyond doubt by the official lists of the young men from 20 to 21 who are called upon every year to draw for the conscription; and they show that, while the population still increases by 0.20 per cent. annually, the number of young men from 20 to 21 remains pretty much the same, numerically, as they were forty years ago. This is not all. Not only the number of young men does not increase, but the relative number of healthy and vigorous subjects who constitute the strength of the country, tends more and more to decline. Any one who has chanced to be present at the Councils of Revision must have been painfully affected by the number of sickly or malformed young men, who comprise the contingent particularly in the industrial and manufacturing districts.

THE FRENCH CODEX. By an Imperial decree, dated the 5th December, the use of the new French Codex is made obligatory on *pharmaciens* from January 1st, 1867.

DISEASES OF CATS. It appears that there is one branch of pathology which scientific enterprise in this country has hitherto refrained from "attacking." In replying to his numerous correspondents, the editor of the *Field* informs "Nesciens" that "we know nothing of the diseases of cats." In the suburbs of Paris, if we are not mistaken, there is a cats' hospital on the line of the Chemin de Fer du Nord.

CAUSTIC. Dr. E. Williams (*Cin. Lancet & Observer*) says:—The application of the pure nitrate of silver in substance to the eye, unless very exceptionally, and then with great care not to use it energetically, or let it touch the cornea, should be excluded from practice. It is an unmitigated outrage on humanity, both in its direct and remote effects. I have seen so many cases like the above, where terrible and irreparable injury had been done to the eye by reckless cauterisation, that I cannot too severely condemn it.

THE SANITARY ACT OF 1866. The Poplar District Board of Works appear to have resolved to put in action the new powers of the Sanitary Act of 1866, for the regulation of lodging-houses. They have had printed a series of regulations prepared by their clerk, Mr. John Layton, jun., as to registration, number of lodgers, ventilation, washing accommodation, privy accommodation and drainage, water supply, yards and areas, cleanliness, powers of entry, fevers, complaints, and penalties. This excellent Act will require great discretion in the carrying of it out as regards the question of cubic space and number of lodgers. (*Builder*.)

LUNATIC ASYLUM AT LAHORE. "The Lunatic Asylum is especially worthy of study as the finest in India. There 200 insanes of both sexes, and all classes, many of them once desperate murderers, are to be seen under no visible restraint, won over to work peaceably, if not always to sanity, by skill and kindness. When we took Lahore, we found a few miserable madmen chained and whipped, and these were the nucleus of the asylum. The visitor is struck by the appearance of one lunatic especially, who, in humble clothing, wrapped ludicrously about him, walks with mincing gait and dignified strut, and patronisingly condescends to shake hands. He fancies himself an emperor. He is a prince—Shah-zadah, a son of the last King of Delhi, and, in spite of his imbecility, is looked on with some reverence by the natives. To this have the Great Moguls come."

POOR RELIEF MEDICAL RETURNS. In the 39 work-houses of the metropolitan district there were 2,728 births in the year 1865, and 16 women died in childbirth, namely, five in Islington, three in St. Pancras, two in St. Marylebone, and one (each) in St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, in St. George's (Southwark), in White-chapel, in East London, in West London, and in Hampstead. A Parliamentary return shows also that on the 7th of July last the number of sick cases on the books of the district Poor-Law medical officers of the metropolitan district was as follows:—Fever and zymotic cases, 2,542 (only 1,854 on January 7th), acute disorders, 3,299; chronic disorders, 4,507—total, 10,348. In the half-year ending at Michaelmas, 1865, these medical officers attended 101,345 cases. The number of persons in receipt of relief in the metropolitan district ranged from 90,000 to 107,000, more than two-thirds of them relieved out of the house. The list of the district medical officers comprises 156 names.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY......Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 9 A.M. and 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

TUESDAY.....Guy's, 1½ P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

WEDNESDAY....St. Mary's, 1 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.

THURSDAY.....St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—London Surgical Home, 2 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.M.

FRIDAY......Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

SATURDAY.....St. Thomas's, 9.30 A.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Lock, Clinical Demonstration and Operations, 1 P.M.—Royal Free, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * All letters and communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the EDITOR, 37, Great Queen St., Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

COMMUNICATIONS.—To prevent a not uncommon misconception, we beg to inform our correspondents that, as a rule, all communications which are not returned to their authors, are retained for publication.

CORRESPONDENTS, who wish notice to be taken of their communications, should authenticate them with their names—of course, not necessarily for publication.

THE PUBLISHER begs to intimate that orders for JOURNALS sent by post must be accompanied by stamps for the amount. Price of each number is, by post, *sixpence*.

MR. H. FISHWICK suggests that the mummy now in the Manchester Museum is that of a lady who is mentioned by De Quincey, in his *Autobiographical Sketches*, and who, having been attended for many years by Mr. Chas. White, F.R.S., of Manchester, bequeathed £25,000 to him, on the condition that she should be perfectly embalmed; that once a year, Mr. White, accompanied by two witnesses of credit, should withdraw the veil from her face. The lady was placed in a common English clock-case, having the usual glass face.

A STUDENT, GUY'S HOSPITAL, should communicate, in the first instance, with the Editor of the *Argosy*, who will no doubt correct misstatements.

DR. H. (Southampton).—Most acceptable.

A CORONER WITHOUT INQUESTS.

G. L. writes:—The office of coroner for the University of Oxford, which Mr. Mayo has recently accepted, is, I suppose, the nearest approach to a sinecure of any coronership in the country. The emoluments are commonly estimated at about one guinea a year; five guineas is the fee for an inquest; and one in five years is a fair average. The last incumbent of the office was a clergyman; and when a fatal accident, calling for an inquest, occurred, the kindly and excellent man was so much disturbed in mind, as to wish to resign, in anticipation of the disagreeable duty. He was persuaded to hold the inquest, but would not retain the office.

A GUARDIAN.—Dr. Wiblin wrote a Guide to the Schools of Paris. Inquire of Mr. Renshaw, Strand, London.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS TO VACCINATORS.

MR. WALTER MONDAY, Kennington, wishes to know who is to make the examination, how the examination is to be carried out, and what we consider the standard of goodness or the signs of successful vaccination. The authorities on the subject will be the inspectors appointed by the Medical Department of the Privy Council. The regulations are not drawn up yet. When they are ready, our correspondent and our readers generally will have full information on this important subject.

DR. WILLIAMS, Mr. H. LEMSON, and F. B., are referred to the answer to Mr. Walter Monday.

EXCELSIOR.—Among the earliest amateur writers was the celebrated Needham, the author of the first newspaper. He wrote *Medela Medicina*, a Plea for the free Profession and Renovation of the Art of Physic, London, 1665.

TREATMENT OF NEURALGIA BY THE ETHER-SPRAY.

SIR,—Perhaps the following case may be of some service to others in the treatment of that painful, and often most obstinate affection, neuralgia. A little girl, aged 7, having just recovered from measles, was attacked with most severe neuralgia in the right side of the face. The paroxysms of pain came on at regular intervals, the worst being generally about four o'clock every afternoon. She was treated with quinine three times a day, with port wine and good diet; but, after trying this plan for a week, the severity of the attacks did not seem to be in the slightest degree lessened. Being almost at a loss what treatment to adopt, I determined on the next attack to apply Dr. Richardson's ether-spray to the seat of pain. Accordingly, when the pain returned, a patch of skin was frozen on the cheek about an inch in front of the ear. The pain ceased immediately; and, to my surprise, has never returned from that moment to the present time, now nearly two months. The child's health rapidly improved after the cessation of pain; and she is now quite strong and robust.

I am, etc., HERBERT THOMPSON, M.R.C.S.

Sevenoaks, December 12th, 1886.

NEURALGIA FOLLOWING SHINGLES.

SIR,—In answer to A. C.'s inquiry in the JOURNAL of December 8th, respecting a remedy for neuralgia following shingles, I beg to suggest the ammoniated tincture of valerian in drachm-doses three times a day, mixed with three table-spoonfuls of camphor mixture. I have repeatedly found this remedy answer when others have failed.

I am, etc., RICHARD GRAVELLY.

Newick, Uckfield, Dec. 12th, 1886.

NEURALGIA AFTER SHINGLES.

SIR,—In answer to your correspondent A. C., I would suggest, in respect to the "severe neuralgia pains attending or following shingles," that I have never found arsenic, either in the form of liquor potassæ arsenitis alone, or conjoined with the tincture of sesquichloride of iron, to fail in such cases.

I think I can also answer the question of F.R.C.P., "why pigs, whose flesh is swarming with live trichinae, do not die of irritative fever," etc., while men, who eat their flesh, do. The fact is, the trichina, when it reaches its destination, and becomes fixed in its cyst, is comparatively harmless. It is only whilst effecting its passage through the intestine, peritonum, and other sensitive textures, that it produces its irritative fever; and then the irritation produced is in proportion to the number that are at once. Thus, when introduced gradually, they may be unnoticed in their effect; but when in great numbers together, as in the recent celebrated instances, the aggregate effect of so many produces irritative fever and peritoneal inflammation, enough to kill. I will here mention a curious instance that came under my own observation. Some years ago, whilst lecturer on anatomy and physiology at the Bristol Medical School, I observed the muscles of a leg in the dissecting-room to be thickly studded with trichina-cysts; in fact, they must have been very numerous thus to have attracted my attention from a mere casual glance at the leg. I found, on inquiry, that the leg had been brought from St. Peter's Hospital by one of the students, and had been there removed from a patient by Mr. Stephens. I accordingly wrote to him, explaining the state of the leg, and asking him whether he could hear from the living patient—thus known to be suffering from trichina—anything bearing upon the symptomatology of the disease. He informed me that the leg had been removed from a man, aged 64, on account of a painful tumour above the knee-joint; that the man was otherwise in average condition; and that the only symptom, if such it were, that he could learn from him, was the occasional suffering from "rheumatic" pains in the limbs. The muscular power did not seem particularly impaired.

I am, etc., FREDK. BRITTON, M.D.,
Senior Physician to the Bristol Royal Infirmary, and
Lecturer on Practice of Medicine.

Clifton, Bristol, Dec. 8th, 1886.

J. BULT (Norwich).—The Preliminary Examination in Arts, etc., at the College of Surgeons, was brought to a close yesterday. Write to the Hall.

A PUBLIC VACCINATOR wishes to know on what authority we have made the welcome announcement that the Government have resolved to institute a system of grants to successful vaccinators, based on results of vaccination, comparable to the present Education Grants of the Privy Council. He "does not find any notice of it elsewhere in any journal, and is a little puzzled." Our correspondent will excuse us for merely assuring him that the announcement is correct in all its details; and it is one on which we have great pleasure in congratulating all "public vaccinators." It is a measure of unquestionably great public utility.

MR. WILLIAM BICKNELL.—The compliment is justly earned, and if the notice had arrived earlier in the week, we should have had a few words to say upon the subject.