

Dutch, since so very few English doctors understand that language. Had he done so, it would certainly have roused universal anger, and might have been a general stimulus to move for a revision of the Act between the two countries.

A JAPANESE PATIENT.

At Surugadai, in Tôkyô, we read in the *Sei-i-Kwai Medical Journal*, lives Mr. Tanabe, a gentleman in easy circumstances. "His mother, an inmate of the same house, has attained her 60th year, but until quite lately was a hale and hearty lady, much beloved for her virtues and esteemed for her accomplishments. The changes of these topsy-turvy times have not shaken her adherence to the faiths and fashions of ancient days. In her eyes the Japanese *samurai* still exists, though his name has been erased from the national ledger, and his place usurped by inferiors. A few months ago her wonted health began to fail. She was attacked by a malignant disease formerly held fatal, and now known to be curable only by extreme measures. At the Hongo Hospital Dr. Sato told her that a severe surgical operation could alone save her life. Was it possible that a lady of her age should survive such a method of treatment? Dr. Sato said there was good hope, and after anxious consultation her family consented to follow his advice. The old lady at once became an inmate of the hospital. After she had undergone the necessary preparation, Dr. Sato himself undertook the operation, in the presence of the chief surgeons of the Naval and War Departments and of the Imperial University. Two deep incisions in the bosom had to be made, and the assistants were about to administer chloroform. The old lady asked what was the nature of the medicine. Being told that its function was merely to deaden pain, she said that she had no need of such things. She had heard of anodyne drugs that send patients to sleep under the surgeon's knife. She preferred to remain awake. Among her friends of former days was a loyal soldier, by name Miyoshi. Fate willed that he should die by his own sword. He had disembowelled himself in her presence, and with a wide wound gaping in his bosom, had composed and written his death song. She had witnessed this thing with her own eyes. It was her notion of the example a *samurai* ought to set, and though a woman, she preferred to emulate such a spirit rather than to take refuge from pain in narcotics. With that she lay down, and bared her bosom to the knife. Dr. Sato proceeded with the operation. He made two incisions under the left breast, and two smaller incisions above. The morbid growth was removed, and twenty stitches were put in. During the whole process the old lady never made a movement or uttered a groan. Not until Dr. Sato asked whether she had suffered much pain did she open her eyes and reply quietly that the cutting of live flesh is never without suffering. Her son, who was by her side throughout, would now have answered the various inquiries that had come by telegraph and messenger, but the old lady insisted on writing four letters herself to reassure her friends. Dr. Sato declared, as well he might, that he had never, in all his experience, encountered so much fortitude and power of endurance. The *Nicht Nicht Shimbun* tells the story as an evidence that the old *samurai* spirit survives in Japan."

ALARM CLINICAL THERMOMETER.

DR. WILBERFORCE ARNOLD, J.P. (Belfast) writes in extension of the proposal made by him in the *JOURNAL* of January 19th as follows:—

A watch-shaped, or other suitable clinical thermometer, fixed in the axilla or other suitable part, might be as easily fixed as the smallest splint, and provided with an electrical connection leading to an alarm bell, which must, of course, be placed in some suitable nurse's or other apartment in hospitals and sick homes. It would give instant warning to the watchers of any dangerous rise or fall in a patient's temperature, and would permit the calling of physician's or other help without an instant's loss of invaluable time. This would, in every country and in all climates, be the means of saving many lives.

DR. DONALD W. C. HOOD (London) writes: Dr. Wilberforce Arnold, writing in the *JOURNAL* of January 19th, suggests the use of thermometers for sick-room use so constructed as to give alarm on the temperature falling to any given point. Such thermometers have been in use for many years in our stoves and orchid houses, and, I believe, were introduced by Mr. B. S. Williams, of Holloway. The instrument is described in vol. ii of his work on *Choice Stove and Greenhouse Plants* (1870).

MESSRS. GENT AND CO. (Manufacturing Electricians, Faraday Works, Leicester) write: In reference to Dr. Arnold's letter in the *JOURNAL* of January 19th, we may say that we have made such an article as he describes for many years.

PERSONS POSING AS ENGLISH PHYSICIANS ABROAD.

It is desirable to offer a word of warning to the public, and more especially to invalids who seek change of climate in health-resorts abroad, on the above subject. The report of a case has just reached us of an individual having posed as an English physician during the whole season last year, while possessing no professional English diplomas whatever. It would, therefore, be advisable for such invalids to ascertain on unquestionable authority the professional status of their physician before placing themselves under treatment.

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

Dr. Duke, Dublin; Dr. Arlidge, Stoke-upon-Trent; Dr. Griffin, Bognor; Dr. Frederic Hewitt, London; Dr. Illingworth, Accrington; Mr. A. Shadwell, Leamington; Dr. Russell, Glasgow; Mr. A. H. Benson, Dublin; Mr. S. Theobald, Leicester; Messrs. W. J. Bush and Co., London; Mr. W. J. Davies, Ebbw Vale; Mr. G. F. Oldham, London; Mr. T. Ryan, London; Dr. J. Ross, Manchester; Mr. Charles Roberts, London; Mr. C. Macnamara, London; Mr. J. Greenwood, London; Mr. D. de Farrars, London; Mr. F. B. Kersley, Newbury; Messrs. Street and Co., London; Mr. E. Trimmer, London; Mr. O. Hehner, London; Mr. F. Newland-Pedley, London; The Manager of the Institute of Medical Electricity, London; Mr. C. A. Hayman, Bristol; Dr. de Watteville, London; Mr. J. Hutchinson, London; Dr. W. Arnold, Belfast; Mr. T. E. Stewart, London; Mr. C. A. Payne, Hobart; Mr. Martindale, London; Mr. G. Munro-Smith, Clifton; Mr. J. Odling, London; Mr. G. T. Hine, Nottingham; Mr. W. D. Husband, Clifton; Mr. W. Towers Smith, London; Mr. R. Maples, Kingsclere; Mr. A. Harrison,

Clifton; Mr. G. A. Wright, Manchester; Mr. G. H. Healy, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Dr. Railton, Manchester; Mr. E. Somerset, Shrewsbury; Mr. E. Metcalfe, London; Dr. W. A. Cummins, Cork; Mr. A. G. Barrs, Leeds; Mr. G. A. Gunton, London; Mr. J. Todd, Galway; Dr. R. J. Purdon, Belfast; Dr. E. M. Cosgrave, Dublin; Dr. M. A. Curry, Halifax, Nova Scotia; Messrs. Wilson, Salomon and Co., London; Mr. C. G. Lee, Liverpool; Dr. H. Palk, Southampton; A. Hardwick, M.B., Newquay; Mr. G. Archer, Feltwell; Miss A. Armstrong, Ryde; Dr. W. Walter, Manchester; Metis; Dr. J. Anderson, Ulverston; Mr. T. Leeds, High Barnet; Dr. Thos. Oliver, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. J. H. Lock, Bath; Dr. Patrick Maxwell, Dublin; The Director-General of the Army Medical Department, London; Mr. W. Dale, Penzance; Dr. Myrtle, Harrogate; Dr. Duka, London; The Honorary Secretaries of the Medical Defence Union, London; Dr. Clouston, Edinburgh; Mr. G. M. Stansfeld, Clifton; Dr. A. W. Sinclair, London; Mr. A. Clay, Birmingham; Mr. M. Smale, London; Mr. G. O. Ryan, London; Dr. E. L. Robinson, Guernsey; Surgeon-Major G. Ryan, Guernsey; Mr. R. C. Holt, Burnley; The Editor of the *Morning and Evening Mail*, Dublin; Mr. S. Dodge, Halifax, Nova Scotia; Dr. H. Handford, Nottingham; Mr. L. Humphry, Cambridge; Dr. Forman, London; Mr. E. J. Mather, London; Mr. C. B. Lockwood, London; Mr. W. F. Tronson, London; Mr. G. Westley, Liverpool; Dr. Edwards, London; Mr. S. Plowman, London; C. A. C. Smelt, M.B., Marlborough; Mr. R. T. Jones, Harlech; Mr. G. D. Kerr, London; Dr. S. Sloan, Glasgow; Mr. J. Tate, Bradford; The Honorary Secretary of the Bath and Bristol Branch of the British Medical Association; Dr. J. Cagney, London; Mr. R. C. Lucas, London; Dr. C. B. Volsey, Chatham; Dr. F. H. Collins, Manchester; Messrs. T. Townend and Co., London; Mr. A. Perry, London; Mr. G. O. Moorhead, Port Elizabeth, South Africa; Mr. W. E. Kilburn, Ventnor; Mr. W. Whitehead, Manchester; J. R.; Surgeon S. Keays, Queenstown; Dr. W. F. Grant, London; Mr. Buckley, Thrapstone; Mr. N. Lloyd Williams, Llanberis; Mr. Harrison Cripps, London; Dr. T. Garry, Liverpool; The Santha Tea Company, London; Dr. W. T. Brett, Watford; Mr. Charles Wood, Dover; Mr. Joseph Davis, York; Dr. H. Sutherland, London; Mr. H. W. Drew, Croydon; J. H. Wilson, M.B., Hull; Mr. W. R. E. Coles, London; Messrs. Orridge and Co., London; Our Oxford Correspondent; Dr. R. Bruce, Edinburgh; Dr. D. W. C. Hood, London; Mr. S. E. Major, Barrow-in-Furness; Dr. D. Thomas, London; Dr. D. Wolfe, Glasgow; Dr. Howard, London; Mr. J. E. Blackman, Portsmouth; Mr. J. W. H. Feeny, Arcachon; A.B.C.; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Year Book of Treatment for 1889. London: Cassell and Co., Limited.
Report of a Committee of the Clinical Society of London to investigate the Subject of Myxœdema. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1888.
Diseases of the Skin: a Manual for Practitioners and Students. By W. Allan Jamieson, M.D., F.R.C.P. Ed. Edinburgh and London: Young J. Pentland. 1889.
Elementary Inorganic Chemistry. By A. Humboldt Sexton, F.R.S.E. and C. London: Blackie and Son. 1889.
The A. B. C. Medical Diary and Visiting List for 1889. London: Burroughs, Wellcome and Co.
An Illustrated Encyclopædic Medical Dictionary. By F. P. Foster, M.D. Vol. I. London: Thomas Sealey, Clark and Co.
Masso-therapeutics; or Massage as a Mode of Treatment. By William Murrell, M.D., F.R.C.P. 4th Edition. London: H. K. Lewis. 1889.

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