

for such employment, there would be far less competition such as "Microbe" complains of; but that a fully qualified medical man should be debarred from eking out his half or retired pay by private practice, is asking a little too much, I think.

**TOOGOOD v. WILKES.**  
*Wilkes Indemnity Fund.*

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**"EXALGIN."**

DR. ARCHIBALD D. MACDONALD (Liverpool) writes: The lecture of Professor Fraser, which appears in the JOURNAL of February 15th, suggests one or two observations. First, that it is almost as much benefit to mankind to determine the minimum efficient dose of a drug as it is to fix the maximum dose which may be given without poisoning or incommoding the patient. This Professor Fraser has helped to do here; and I take it that a 1-grain dose every four hours is the standard of exalgin. Secondly, as the pain-subduing property of methyl-acetanilide is largely referable to its methyl molecule and acetanilide itself possesses a much greater heat suppressing power, would Professor Fraser approve of the following prescription in cases where both actions were desired. R. Antifebrin, grs. xxiv; exalgin, grs. vj; tr. card. co., tr. limonis 3ss; aquam. ad ʒijj. M. Sig. A tablespoonful to be taken every four hours. Thirdly, it would have been of interest to know the type of toothache benefited by exalgin, whether inflammatory or purely neuralgic, and also to have had some observations on the treatment of nervous headache by this drug. Small doses (7½ to 10 grains) of antipyrin answer well in such cases; but in a series of cases which I have treated within the past two months, and especially where the pain was limited to one temple, or "nail" like; I have found even one 5-grain dose of phenacetin to give the most striking pain-subduing result. Indeed, it is clear that the whole series forms the most valuable addition to our curative and palliative resources which has been made of recent years.

**THE LATE PROFESSOR VON WAHL.**

MR. HENRY S. TAYLOR (Guildford) writes: In your obituary notice of Dr. Eduard von Wahl, in the JOURNAL of February 15th, you mention the fact of his mother having been an Englishwoman. This leads me to think that his family name was once "de Wahl," because I remember that one of Dr. Edward Rigby's sisters was married to a Russian gentleman of that name, who lived in Bathonia; and it was while on a visit to her that her sister, Lady Eastlake, then Miss Rigby, wrote her delightful *Letters from the Baltic*. The doctor's age would countenance this supposition of mine, as also his Christian name, and his natural aptitude for medical science, if he was a grandson of Dr. Rigby, of Norwich. Madame de Wahl was separated from her husband some years after her marriage, and returned to Norwich.

**"BRITISH" OR "ENGLISH."**

A SCOTSMAN writes to protest against the selfishness of his countryman, "Scotus, etc.," expressed in his letter to the JOURNAL of March 1st, in which he completely ignores Ireland, as he complains Scotland is ignored by Dr. Rogers. The term "English" is the only convenient adjective we have to include inhabitants of all divisions of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; the term "British" would clearly exclude Irishmen. What credit or dislike attaches abroad to things or people "English," has been gained for them by the exertions of Scotchmen and Irishmen, as well as Englishmen, hence Scotchmen need have no shame in submitting to the apparent ascendancy of England really gained in part by the toil of their own ancestors.

**A COLD HARBOUR.**

FEL. R. MED. CHI. writes: The annual meeting of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society was held on an unusually cold night, no doubt. Still it is evident that the fine new room in which the large audience assembled was not well warmed. Although there were so many persons in the room, the cold was a subject of almost universal complaint. On a warmer, average winter night, when the attendance is much scantier than on last Saturday, the room will still be very cold unless better warmed than at present. The truth is that it is often forgotten that the electric light does not give out heat like a gas-jet. Still the Fellows of the learned professional societies which meet at Hanover Square, will object more strongly to catching cold than to the less serious inconvenience of a slight headache from the fumes of gas. We need hardly say that the energetic officers of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society cannot be blamed for the low temperature of their meeting room. The warmth of a room when filled with people can never be correctly estimated until that room has actually been filled with people.

**FALSE CERTIFICATES.**

A DUBLIN MEMBER writes to recommend greater circumspection in giving certificates of inability to persons anxious not to serve on juries. Being importuned by such a one recently, he wrote a note stating that the bearer had been asking for a certificate, but not making any statement as to bearer's health. The man thinking that he had obtained the necessary document, handed in the note to the Recorder, who read it in open court. The sequel of the story is, however, unsatisfactory, as the Recorder contented himself with threatening the unwilling juror with imprisonment, and did not even compel him to serve.

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**BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.**

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