

ANSWERS.

DR. P. S. ABRAHAM.—The absurdity of the charge brought forward being made plain, the matter is, so far as we are concerned, at an end.

W. P. F.—We do not feel justified in selecting any particular society for recommendation.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to inform us that Dr. Collins, who objects to be described as an antivaccinator, appears on the list of the vice-presidents of the Antivaccination Society.

THE DIPLOMA IN STATE MEDICINE.

M. O. H. writes: I am a medical officer of health, and would like to take a diploma in State medicine. I have made inquiries at my own university, Glasgow, and have been informed that a three months' course of lectures was a *sine quâ non*. This, of course, is out of the question. Can you inform me (1) where I can get a qualification without having to attend lectures? (2) what the examination consists of, and what textbooks I should read?

** The quantitative analysis of water and milk can, for any useful purpose, be acquired only in a well-furnished laboratory. But in examinations for diplomas at present written questions only are given on these, the practical work being restricted to qualitative tests and microscopical detection of gross adulteration of food and pollution of air and water, which one who is fairly expert in manipulation may with great advantage practise at home with a Marsh's apparatus, a Bunsen or spirit lamp, test tubes, etc., and a clinical microscope.

The diploma best known in England is, we believe, that of Cambridge (examination in October); but the London College of Physicians holds an examination in December. Consult for subjects the Students' Number of the JOURNAL, and apply to the Registrar of the College or to Dr. Anningson, Cambridge. There is no need to read all the books recommended by the Cambridge regulations, but we would advise Parkes's, Wilson's, and Willoughby's *Hygienes*; Bell's *Food Analysis*; Wanklyn's *Water, Milk, and Bread Analyses*; Robinson's *Sewage Disposal*; Hime's *Public Health*; Galton's *Healthy Dwellings*; Hellyer's *Lectures on the Science and Art of Sanitary Plumbing*; and the Acts indicated in Willoughby's and Hime's books. The former contains all the physics and the mathematical work required. Newsholme's *Vital Statistics* would be useful for reference. Neither of the bodies mentioned requires compulsory lectures.

MEDICAL PRACTICE IN INDIA.

YOUNG MEMBER asks for information regarding appointments in India, either under Government or as surgeon to railway, tea, or other companies. What are the chances of private practice?

** "Young Member" will do a very foolish thing if he goes to India as an "adventurer." There is not the smallest chance of his obtaining employment under Government; to go there on the mere chance of employment as surgeon to railway or tea companies would be a rash step. Private practice in the great centres of wealth and business in India is in the hands of Government servants of reputation, and among natives is fast passing into those of native practitioners trained in the medical schools of India.

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

J. M. asks where he can get information respecting the new appointment of medical officer of health under the County Councils.

** There is no separate work published on the duties of the medical officer of health of a county, if this is the purport of the question. Our correspondent ought to study Sections 17 and 18 of the Local Government Act, 1888.

NOTES, LETTERS, ETC.

MR. EDMUND OWEN writes expressing the view that, on a question on which there is a division of opinion, the JOURNAL should express none. That is his particular form of *muzzle*, which is as capable of application to himself as to anyone else. When he has learnt, however, to express himself with due civility and proper observance of the forms of public discussion, we shall be happy to endeavour to obtain a hearing for him in our columns.

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

Mr. E. Burchell, London; Mr. A. Miller, London; Dr. C. W. Hayward, Liverpool; Mr. J. Y. MacAlister, London; Mr. N. Hanhart, London; Mr. J. Thomas, Cardiff; Dr. A. Henry, London; Mr. S. Murphy, London; Dr. W. Sykes, Moxborough; Mr. J. S. Wilkinson, Wellington; Mr. C. H. Byers, London; Dr. R. P. Smith, London; Mr. W. R. Williams, London; Mr. A. M. Barford, Liverpool; Mr. J. W. Taylor, Barmouth; Mr. F. W. Burton, Cambridge; Mr. W. Powell, London; Mr. W. W. Kelly, London; Mr. H. A. Mais, Brighton; Mr. H. C. Rose, London; W. T. Gardner, M.B., London; Professor J. Attfield, London; Dr. J. Christie, Hillhead; Sir William Stokes, Dublin; Mr. S. W. North, York; The Secretary of the Balloon Society of Great Britain, London; Sir Spencer Wells, London; Mr. J. W. Measures, Todmorden; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Dr. Sheen, Cardiff; Mr. H. J. Nance, Norwich; Mr. H. McCarthy, Kilfinane; Dr. G. Harley, London; Mr. W. R. P. Jones, Wrexham; Dr. J. C. McVail, Kilmarnock; Surgeon-Major T. E. Hale, Nantwich; Dr. W. T. Hingston, London; Dr. Willoughby, London; Dr. R. Stockman, Edinburgh; Mr. C. A. Brigstoke, Haver-

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Cyclopædia of the Diseases of Children, Medical and Surgical. Edited by John M. Keating, M.D. Vol. I. Illustrated. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott and Co. Edinburgh and London: Y. J. Pentland. 1889.
A Ramble Round France. By J. Chesney. London: Cassell and Co., Limited.
Royal Academy Pictures. London: Cassell and Co., Limited.

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