

PROFESSIONAL AMENITY.—We were not able last week, through want of space, to publish Dr. Inman's letter: but, in the mean time, asked him to give us some proofs of one astounding statement made in it by him; viz., "that he had investigated five cases in which for many months nothing was taken but alcohol and water, the persons keeping up their apparent health and strength, and one increasing in fat." This request, to be found in last week's notices, has produced the following note from Dr. Inman. As a reply to it, we again ask Dr. Inman to give us the details of those cases upon which he frames the statement alluded to. We will only remark, that we sincerely trust that this is not Dr. Inman's usual mode of arguing a scientific question.

"12, Rodney Street, Liverpool, Nov. 16, 1861.

"Sir,—Your notice of my letter in to-day's JOURNAL is insulting; but, as an editor, you offend with impunity.

"To fall in with the prejudices of the many may make the JOURNAL popular; but to commit breaches of good manners and good taste, will not make it respected.

"I am, etc., THOMAS INMAN."

ALCOHOL.—The following note is from a gentleman who was for some years chaplain to a county jail:—

"Sir: I have read your interesting article on the alcoholic question. I am glad to see so important a subject taken up by the faculty. My observations on the generally improved health of the prisoners in — County Jail, made me a teetotaler. As you may suppose, we had not the most favourable specimens to operate upon; on the contrary, we had, as a rule, some of the greatest drunkards in the county in the prison. No doubt, cleanliness, regularity of diet, etc., had their share in promoting the health of the prisoners. Still the treadmill and crank labour were daily endured without intoxicants; and the Infirmary was frequently without any invalids for weeks and months together; so that I arrived at the conclusion that alcoholic liquors are not at all necessary to men in health; and some ten years of personal abstinence have confirmed this conclusion. In Salford Jail, where there are between four and five hundred prisoners in daily confinement, they have not had one death for seven months, and no sickness worth speaking of."

T. S.—Perhaps you may think the enclosed advertisement worthy of notice in your JOURNAL.

"*Ask Homœopathic Dispensary.* Patron: His Grace the Duke of Beaufort. Patroness: Her Grace the Duchess of Beaufort. This Dispensary will be open on Mondays and Fridays, from 9.0 till 11.0 A.M., commencing Friday, 15th November, when advice and medicines will be administered to the poor. Medical officer: Wm. Hy. Watts, Esq., M.R.C.S. Eng. (Member of the British Homœopathic Society; late Assistant-Surgeon to the London Homœopathic Hospital, Bloomsbury, London). Terms: Two Shillings and Sixpence per Month. N.B.—Mr. Watts will attend at the Llanover Dispensary, under the patronage of the Right Hon. Lady Llanover, every Wednesday, at 3.0 P.M., and at the Llanarth Dispensary, under the patronage of the Hon. Mrs. Herbert, of Llanarth, every Thursday, at 9.30 A.M."

THE CRANLEY VILLAGE HOSPITAL.—Mr. A. Napper writes:—"In your notice of the Second Annual Report of the Cranley Village Hospital, you state, 'During the past year, twenty-three cases have been treated in this little hospital, which would otherwise have been transmitted to a London hospital.' Now, as my note which accompanied the report unequivocally stated that few, if any, of these twenty-three cases would have been sent to London, I must beg your insertion of this, as a means of controverting an erroneous impression, which I know exists in some quarters, that the multiplication of these small institutions will have a prejudicial effect on the London hospitals."

DR. GIBB AND SCIENTIFIC NOMENCLATURE.—Sir: It is to be hoped that the simple, yet precise, scientific language used by Mr. Toynbee, in his recent work on the *Diseases of the Ear*, is producing some influence upon the writings of medical men who pay attention to this branch of surgery. Dr. Gibb, however, in his paper lately published in your JOURNAL, appears to be beyond all hope, for the confusion of terms he has crowded together almost surpasses belief. Allow me to illustrate my meaning. Dr. Gibb begins by speaking of air going "into the tympanum", and of its "rupturing the membrana tympani." So far, good—the tympanum, we know, is the cavity of the drum, and the membrana tympani the head of the drum. But let us now see what terms Dr. Gibb proceeds to use when he means the membrana tympani. They are as follows:—1. *Tympanum*—"rupture of the tympanum" three times repeated. 2. *Membrana tympani*—"six ruptured membrane tympani"—"perforation of the membrana tympani." 3. *Tympanic membrane*—"rupture of the tympanic membrane", "perforation of the tympanic membrane", "ulcerative destruction

of the tympanic membrane", and "suppurative destruction of the tympanic membrane." 4. *The membrane of the tympanum*—"ulcerative destruction of the membrane of the tympanum." 5. *Tympanic membrane*—"ruptured tympanic membrane." 6, and lastly, as if to make confusion worse confounded, Dr. Gibb talks of "rupture of both tympani." It is to be hoped that before Dr. Gibb is found again "throwing these few observations together", he will throw his eyes upon his Latin grammar, and will give himself a short time to acquaint himself with the subject upon which he writes. In conclusion, sir, I may be allowed to say, that your admirable efforts to elevate the tone of the British Medical Association, and thereby that of the medical profession, are worthy of being seconded; and I sincerely hope that members of the Association will do their best to supply you with valuable, well written papers.

I am, etc.,

F.R.C.S.

MR. FLEISCHMANN.—We have received a long explanatory letter from Mr. Alfred Fleischman, respecting a matter of dispute between himself and Mr. Wallis. A report on the subject was brought before the last meeting of the Committee of Council; and judgment thereon was passed by the Committee. It is therefore impossible for us to reopen the matter in our pages; especially as the Report of the Committee of Council informs us, and Mr. Fleischmann himself admits, that he refused to attend a meeting of the judges who, with his consent, had been nominated by the Association to decide on the dispute, and consequently allowed judgment to go against himself by default. If Mr. Fleischmann is determined on reopening the subject, his proper course will be to apply to the Committee of Council.

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Dr. GRAILY HEWITT; Mr. A. B. STEELE; Dr. R. W. FALCONER; Mr. J. KENT SPENDER; Mr. SPENCER WELLS; Mr. T. M. STONE; Dr. CIACCIO; Dr. R. B. GRINDROD; Mr. R. DUNK; Mr. INGLEBY; Mr. ALBERT NAPPER; Dr. BUDD; Mr. HIGGINBOTTOM; Dr. INMAN; Mr. J. F. NICHOLSON; Dr. LATHAM; Dr. J. D. HEATON; Dr. T. HILLIER; Mr. R. GRIFFIN; THE REGISTRAR OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON; Dr. F. J. BROWN; Mr. J. RHODES; Mr. T. HUNT; Mr. J. APPLEBY; Mr. J. SMEDLEY; and Dr. BOYCOTT.

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