

give the title of the paper under the author's name—a fact which detracts much from its utility. Anyone wishing to find a paper by Fournier will, on turning to that author's name, find himself confronted with 98 references. Unless the searcher is sure of the title, and so can find the reference by the Sach-Register, this array of figures is somewhat startling. Dr. Grünfeld, the compiler of the index, has numbered all the entries in the Sach-Register, and reference is made to these numbers under the author's name. This is an improvement on the general method of referring to pages only.

A *Handbuch der praktischen Gewerbehygiene* is about to be published by Robert Oppenheim, of Berlin. The work, which according to the prospectus is intended to be a complete treatise on the diseases caused by occupations, and on the principles of industrial hygiene, will bear on the title page the names of Dr. H. Albrecht (Chief Editor), Professor Hartmann, Dr. Villaret, Dr. Oppler, Herr Clausen, Herr Oppermann, Herr Platz, and Herr Specht.

In an elaborate essay on the "Origin of Neoplasms in General, and of Cancer in Particular," now in course of publication in the *Progrès Médical*, M. A. Wassilieff formulates the following "general law": "Living matter reproduces itself more readily the more inferior it is, other things being equal." In this formula, we are assured, is contained the general theory of the development of all new growths. But the "law," according to our author, has a much wider application than this. It explains, among other things, the depopulation of France, which is causing some alarm to French statesmen. M. Wassilieff's view is that "what is erroneously called 'the depopulation of France,' is, in fact, a conclusive proof of the innate superiority of that nation to all others. While inferior countries like England and Germany are increasing and multiplying like the lowly-organised bodies they are, the French race is dying of its own greatness. Whether the French people will find consolation for their approaching absorption into the infinite in the consciousness of their superiority may be open to doubt. We venture to offer a suggestion which may do something to delay, if not to arrest, the process of gradual extinction, which M. Wassilieff holds to be "natural and inevitable." Let France attenuate her superiority by an infusion of fresh blood from some inferior race; this object would supply a definite aim, and a good excuse for her colonial enterprise. By this means, and the assiduous study of *décadent* poetry and realistic novels, she might in time reach a degree of inferiority compatible with vitality.

A HOSPITAL AT HOME.

If a few architects would bestir themselves to provide for the requirements of modern life, they might easily set a fashion which would not only be of much benefit to many ailing people, but would certainly lead to such an amount of altering of older houses as would be of no small advantage in a pecuniary sense to the architectural profession. While little people are content, and even glad, to go to hospital when ill, people of larger means are irritated in no small degree to find that, for all their fine houses and high rents, they cannot, if illness comes upon them, either isolate the patient from the noises and racket of the house, or isolate the house from the infection of the patient. Obviously, however perfect a house may be in other respects, it cannot be considered complete so long as it contains no special provision for that average of sickness which comes upon the healthiest. A sick room should be arranged for in every dwelling, a room preferably on an upper storey, separated if possible from other bedrooms by a passage having windows in it, and within easy reach of a water-closet and lavatory, which could be devoted entirely to the service of the sick room if required. Too often the "spare room" is the only one available for use in illness, which is neither kind to one's guests nor beneficial to one's invalids. Feather beds and gorgeous curtains are out of place in such a room. Everything should be simple and capable of being washed, and if the heating arrangements should include a "Calorigen" as well as an open fireplace, it would be an advantage.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1894. ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

MEETINGS of the Council will be held on July 11th and October 24th, 1894. Candidates for election by the Council of the Association must send in their forms of application to the General Secretary not later than twenty-one days before each meeting—namely, June 21st and October 3rd, 1894.

Any qualified medical practitioner, not disqualified by any by-law of the Association, who shall be recommended as eligible by any three members, may be elected a member by the Council or by any recognised Branch Council.

Candidates seeking election by a Branch Council should apply to the Secretary of the Branch. No member can be elected by a Branch Council unless his name has been inserted in the circular summoning the meeting at which he seeks election.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

LIBRARY OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS are reminded that the Library and Writing Rooms of the Association are now fitted up for the accommodation of the Members in commodious apartments, at the offices of the Association, 429, Strand. The rooms are open from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Members can have their letters addressed to them at the Office.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH.—A general meeting of this Branch will be held in the Medical Society's Rooms, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, on Wednesday, May 23rd, at 5 P.M., for the purpose of taking into consideration the question of proposing certain amendments to the Medical Acts, with a view to the better suppression of unqualified practice.—ANDREW CLARK, ISAMBARD OWEN, *Honorary Secretaries*.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.—The annual meeting for the election of officers will be held on Thursday, June 7th, at the Royal Forest Hotel, Chingford, at 6 P.M. At 6.15 the members and their friends will dine together; Mr. Henry Power, President of the Branch, will preside. Tickets 7s. 6d. each, exclusive of wine; morning dress. Anyone intending to be present is requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary as early as possible, but not later than June 4th.—H. E. POWELL, *Honorary Secretary*, Glenarm House, Upper Clapton, N.E.

MIDLAND BRANCH.—The annual meeting will be held at Lincoln on Thursday, June 14th. Members desirous of reading papers or exhibiting cases are requested to communicate with, before May 28th, W. A. CARLINE, M.D., *Honorary Secretary and Treasurer*.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH.—The third general meeting of the present session will be held at the Bell Medical Library, Cleveland Road, Wolverhampton, on Thursday, May 31st. The President, Mr. H. M. Morgan, will take the chair at 3.30 P.M.—GEO. REID, *Honorary Secretary*.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Birmingham Medical Institute on Thursday, June 14th, at 3.30 P.M., when, after the ordinary business has been disposed of, an address will be delivered by the President-Elect, Mr. H. Langley Browne. The annual dinner will take place the same evening at 6.30 at the Grand Hotel. Members of Branch intending to be present should intimate this to the Honorary Secretary, Mr. GILBERT BARLING, 85, Edmund Street, Birmingham.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT.—The next meeting will be held at the Hospital, Hastings, on Thursday, May 31st; Dr. Bagshawe will preside. Meeting at 3.30 P.M.; dinner at the Grand Hotel, 5.30 P.M.; charge 6s., exclusive of wine. The following communications are promised:—Dr. Sidney Phillips (London): On Syphilitic Heart Affections; with notes of a fatal case with Angina Pectoris. Dr. Wills: Notes of a case of Gastrostomy. Dr. Batterham and Mr. W. J. Harris will show patients. A communication will be received from the Midwives Registration Association, also from Dr. Rentoul.—J. W. BATTERHAM, *Honorary District Secretary*, Bank House, Grand Parade, St. Leonards.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT.—A meeting of the District will be held at the Hospital, Gravesend, on Thursday, May 24th, at 4.30 P.M., C. Firth, M.D., in the chair. The following communications will be made:—Mr. Hugh Smith: Three Cases of Brain Syphilis. Dr. V. Harris: On the Question of Heredity in Phthisis and its Influence on Treatment. Mr. Keetley: The Treatment of Club-foot and of Flat-foot. Mr. R. J. Bryden: Delirium Tremens and its Treatment. The dinner will take place at the New Falcon Hotel, at 6.30 P.M.; charge, 6s. 6d., exclusive of wine. To facilitate the arrangements gentlemen who intend

to dine are particularly requested to signify their intention to the chairman, C. Firth, M.D., 196, Parrock Street, Gravesend, not later than Tuesday, May 22nd. All members of the South-Eastern Branch are entitled to attend this meeting and to introduce professional friends.—E. GROUND, Honorary Secretary of the District, 1, Ashford Road, Maidstone.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital on Thursday, May 24th, at 2.15 P.M., Dr. Parsons in the chair. The annual dinner will take place at the Fountain Hotel at 6 o'clock. Charge, exclusive of wine, 6s. 6d.; an extra charge of 2s. is made to those who take no wine. It is hoped that the dinner will be well attended, and members intending to dine are particularly requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary by May 22nd so that adequate arrangements may be made. Agenda:—The usual business of the annual meeting. Mr. Brian Rigden: Notes of Two Abnormal Children. Dr. Bowles: On the Connection of Pylitis with Renal Abscess. Dr. White: Tracheotomy in Diphtheria. All members of the South-Eastern Branch are entitled to attend these meetings and to introduce professional friends.—THOS. F. RAVEN, Honorary District Secretary, Barfield House, Broadstairs.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.

A SPECIAL meeting of the members of this Branch was held at Liverpool, on May 11th, to consider the report of the committee appointed "to watch the progress of, and to oppose, any proposed legislation for the registration of midwives." The President, Mr. JAMES TAYLOR (Chester) occupied the chair, and there were 180 members of the Branch present.

Confirmation of Minutes.—The SECRETARY, Mr. James Barr, read the notice convening the meeting and the minutes of the last meeting, which were approved and adopted.

Replies to Communications from the Branch.—Replies to the former communications of the Branch were received from the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P.; Mr. Ralph Neville, M.P.; the Secretary, General Medical Council; the Birmingham and Midland Counties Branch; the South-Eastern Branch; the Metropolitan Counties Branch; South Midland Branch; the Londonderry Branch; Liverpool Medical Institution; the London and Counties Medical Protection Society; the Association of Certifying Surgeons; the Incorporated Medical Practitioners' Association; the Midwives' Registration Association.

Report of the Committee.—The PRESIDENT having settled the order of procedure, the SECRETARY read the report of the committee.—Messrs. COLIN CAMPBELL and W. H. BARR moved and seconded the adoption of the report.—Drs. W. CARTER and A. WIGLESWORTH moved and seconded an amendment that the report be not adopted, and that the committee be discharged.—In the discussion which followed the following gentlemen took part: Drs. and Messrs. HOLDEN, DUNN, FORBES-ROSS, WOODCOCK, WALLACE, J. BRASSEY BRIERLEY, W. H. IRVINE SELLERS, SINCLAIR, and H. H. PRESTON.—On the amendment being put to the meeting, 71 voted for and 87 against. The original motion was then submitted, and carried by 83 against 65. The report was then proposed from the chair paragraph by paragraph.—Various amendments were proposed by Drs. HARRIS, MORGAN, MACFIE CAMPBELL, SINCLAIR, ARCHER, STOKES, BRADSHAW, and WHITFORD.—Dr. MACFIE CAMPBELL entered a protest against the reception of the votes of the members of the committee, as they were pecuniarily interested in the passing of the report.—Eventually the whole report was adopted, and when the last resolution was put from the chair there were 55 members present. The report, as adopted by the Branch, stands as follows:

Report of the Branch Committee appointed at a special general meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch of the British Medical Association, held at Manchester on March 9th, 1894, "to watch the progress of, and to oppose, any proposed legislation for the registration of midwives."

To the President and members of the Branch:
Your Committee has met on three occasions to consider the objects for which you appointed it, and begs to present its report to a special general meeting of your Branch for your consideration and adoption.

That inasmuch as those persons interested in the proposed formation of a new order of midwifery practitioners are making very strong efforts to push their scheme, and have secured a large fund, and a report from a Select Committee of the House of Commons, your Branch Committee recommends that immediate and vigorous action be taken by your Committee to oppose any proposed legislation for the creation of such new order of midwifery practitioners.

The British Medical Association, according to its memorandum, is formed to promote "the maintenance of the honour and interests of the medical profession," and its funds, and those of your Branch are available for such objects. In no way can these objects be better carried out than by opposing a scheme which would, if adopted:

1. Impose upon the public a number of partially educated persons as

duly authorised to practise one of the most important branches of medicine, namely, midwifery; and this without any demand from the public; for we are aware that if any demand exist for such proposed legislation, it is from those who, we contend, are interested in lecturing, or granting these certificates or diplomas in midwifery.

In this connection it is constantly asserted that the number of practitioners in this country is insufficient to attend all confinements. This is inaccurate. During the year before the passing of the Medical Act, 1886, which abolished the single qualification in medicine, in surgery, and in midwifery, the proportion of practitioners to confinements was as 1 to 54.7; now, owing to the increase of medical men and women, and the marked decrease in the general birth rate, it is as low as 44.4 confinements.

2. Diminish the security of life among pregnant and puerperal women and infants, by legally placing them in charge of partially educated persons, who—as a statutory penalty has not been provided—might attempt to perform the most difficult and dangerous operations in midwifery.

3. Degrade and demoralise the profession of medicine by placing it in contact with, and also on a quasi-equality with, an inferior order of midwifery practitioners, and in direct competition with it.

Therefore your Branch Committee asks the Branch to place at the disposal of the Committee a sum of money not exceeding £250, to be taken out of the reserve fund of this Branch (which on December 31st, 1893, amounted to £546), so as to enable your Committee

A. To defray the present and future expenses incurred by your Committee in opposing any proposed legislation for the registration of midwives; such money to be advanced by the Honorary Treasurer of this Branch, on the written request being made to him signed by the Chairman, Honorary Secretary, and four members of the Branch Committee.

B. To diffuse knowledge on this proposed legislation among the profession, including our Branches, medical societies, and corporations.

C. To circulate information among members of both Houses of Parliament, by deputation, petition, or otherwise, and other public representative bodies, such as county councils, etc.

D. And that this Branch, through your Committee, petition the General Medical Council and the medical authorities under the Medical Acts to make a rule to the effect that any medical practitioner (unless such as now possess statutory powers to confer registrable medical qualifications) who, after the making of such rule, grants any certificate, diploma, or authority to any person which in any way professes to empower the holder of such certificate, diploma, or authority to practise any branch or part of midwifery, or of medicine, or of surgery, shall be held by the General Medical Council, or medical authorities under the Medical Acts, to be guilty of "infamous conduct in a professional respect," and that the name of any practitioner so offending shall, on due proof being given to the satisfaction of the General Medical Council or medical authorities, be removed from the *Medical Register* and the roll of the medical authority; and that such petition be signed, on behalf of this Branch, by the President and Honorary Secretary of this Branch and the Chairman and the Honorary Secretary of your Committee.

E. That a copy of your Committee's report be forwarded forthwith by the Honorary Secretary of this Branch to the Council and the Parliamentary Bills Committee of our Association, to each of our home Branches, and to each medical society, asking each of the Branches and societies to appoint a committee, and to vote a sum of money, so that each committee may oppose any proposed legislation for the so-called registration of midwives.

Vote of Thanks.—A vote of thanks to the President terminated the proceedings of the meeting.

DORSET AND WEST HANTS BRANCH.

THE spring meeting of this Branch was held at Wimborne on May 9th, Mr. WALTER WYKE SMITH, President, in the chair. Thirty-one members and visitors were present.

Vote of Thanks to Retiring President.—A vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. F. C. G. Griffin for his services during his year of office.

Council and Representatives.—Dr. G. H. Batterbury (Wimborne), Dr. C. Childs (Weymouth), Mr. G. W. Daniell (Blandford), Dr. J. Davison (Bournemouth), Dr. A. McLean (Weymouth), and Dr. W. V. Snow (Bournemouth), were re-elected members of the Branch Council for the ensuing year; Mr. C. H. W. Parkinson (Wimborne) was re-elected representative on the Council of the Association and on the Parliamentary Bills Committee.

New Members.—The following gentlemen were elected: Dr. George Herbert Staines Daniell (Blandford), Dr. William Davidson (Bournemouth), and Mr. George Burton Robinson (Forston Asylum).

Next Meeting.—It was decided to hold the summer meeting at Bournemouth on July 4th.

Midwives' Registration Association.—Communications were read from the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch, with resolutions against the registration of midwives, and from the Secretary of the Midwives' Registration Association, and it was resolved that this meeting approves of the resolutions passed by the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch, and instructs the representative of the Dorset and West Hants Branch to

lay the views of the Branch before the Parliamentary Bills Committee.

Amendment of the Penal Clauses of the Medical Acts.—A communication was received from the Chairman of the Parliamentary Bills Committee, and it was resolved that this meeting approves generally of the draft amending clauses.

Discussion.—A discussion on the advent and cessation of the catamenia was opened by the PRESIDENT, and taken part in by Dr. MOORHEAD, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MARSH, Dr. SNOW, Mr. CURME, Dr. LAWRIE, Dr. MACDONALD, Dr. BATTERBURY, Dr. BACON, Mr. MAHOMED, and Mr. PARKINSON.

Communications.—Dr. CHILDS explained the principles, methods, and work of the Dorset Health Association, and a resolution approving of the same was adopted.—Dr. BATTERBURY exhibited an apparatus for Wry Neck.—Dr. MACDONALD exhibited the Brain of an Idiot Boy, aged 11, showing pathological changes met with in general paralytics, and suggested that the case might be one of congenital general paralysis.

Dinner.—The members dined together at the King's Head Hotel.

SOUTHERN BRANCH: ISLE OF WIGHT DISTRICT.
THE annual meeting of this District was held at the Royal Pier Hotel, Sandown, I.W., on April 26th; Dr. J. L. WHITEHEAD, President, in the chair.

Election of Officers.—After briefly reviewing the work of the year, Dr. Whitehead vacated the chair for the new President, Mr. C. Meeres, of Sandown. The following officers were elected:—*President-Elect:* Undecided. *Vice-President:* Dr. J. L. Whitehead. *Secretary and Treasurer:* Dr. Robertson (re-elected). *Representative to the Branch Council:* Dr. Groves.

President's Address.—Mr. MEEBES then gave an address on Glances Back through Fifty Years of Medical Practice. He dwelt upon the many changes in medical theories and practice which has taken place since his own entrance into the profession, and also to some revivals under new names of forgotten or exploded systems. He instanced the recent development of hypnotism, as a resuscitation of the mesmerism of his youth, and also alluded to the deceptions practised on Elliotson at University College Hospital. He referred, also, to the discussions upon opium eating, stimulants, and infectiousness of cholera, all of which were but repetitions of those of his youth; he then noticed the almost universal practice of blood-letting then contrasted with almost total abandonment now. In allusion to the advance of hygienic science, he maintained that the enormous expense of isolation hospitals for small-pox might well be saved by a rigid enforcement of vaccination (and revaccination where necessary), and said that he himself had never during fifty years, when called to small-pox cases, adopted any other precaution against its spread than vaccinating or revaccinating the other members of the household. As a result he had never but once had two cases in the same family—the one second case being that of a man whom he did not vaccinate because he had had variola already. He then proceeded to defend the use of river water from his own experience of the diminution—almost extermination—of typhoid fever from Sandown since the introduction of the present Isle of Wight Waterworks Company's supply. He concluded by regretting that the preliminary education of medical students had not kept pace with the great advance in the more purely professional branches of education.

Case of Viper Bite.—Mr. W. E. GREEN (Sandown) read notes of this case, which will be published in a subsequent number. The meeting then terminated.

NORTH OF IRELAND BRANCH.

THE spring meeting of this Branch was held at Belfast on April 26th; Dr. J. CAMPBELL HALL, President, in the chair. There were forty-one members present.

Confirmation of Minutes.—The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

New Members.—Dr. Thomas Bowen Pedlow (Lurgan), Dr. N. O. M'Connell (Killyleagh), Dr. M. J. Nolan (Downpatrick), and Dr. Elias B. Purdon (Belfast) were elected members of the Branch.

Midwives' Registration Association.—A communication from

the Secretaries of this Association was considered and marked "read."

Communications.—Dr. DONNAN (in the absence of Professor SINCLAIR) showed a patient who had recently undergone Excision of the Head of the Humerus for Recurrent Dislocation of the Shoulder.—Dr. ST. GEORGE (Lisburn) read a paper on Croupous Pneumonia, its Symptomatology and Pathology. Drs. SMILEY, J. A. LINDSAY, and CALWELL discussed some of the points raised; and Dr. ST. GEORGE replied.—Dr. W. G. MACKENZIE showed two cases of Excision of the Elbow; two cases of Excision of the Knee of four and five years' standing; and a case of Re-excision of the Knee. Dr. O'NEILL and the PRESIDENT congratulated Dr. Mackenzie on the results of his operations.—Dr. ST. CLAIR BOYD read notes of a case of Cæsarean Section performed by him, and showed the Child.—Dr. CALWELL read notes of a case of "Érythème Induré des Scrofuleux de Bazin," with complications.—Dr. JOHN CAMPBELL showed Champetier de Ribes's Bag for Inducing Premature Labour, and Ellis's modification of the same.

GRANTS FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

THE Council of the British Medical Association desire to remind members of the profession engaged in researches for the advancement of medicine and the allied sciences that they are prepared to receive applications for grants in aid of such research. Applications for sums to be granted at the next annual meeting must be made on or before June 15th in writing addressed to the General Secretary, at the office of the Association, 429, Strand, W.C. Applications must include details of the precise character and objects of the research which is proposed.

Reports of work done by the assistance of Association grants belong to the Association.

Instruments purchased by means of grants must be returned to the General Secretary on the conclusion of the research in furtherance of which the grant was made.

RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS.

The Council of the British Medical Association are prepared to receive applications for one of the three Research Scholarships which is vacant, of the value of £150 per annum, tenable for one year, and subject to renewal by the Council for another year.

Applications to be sent in writing addressed to the General Secretary on or before June 15th, stating the particulars of the intended research, qualifications, and work done.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary.*

429, Strand, London, May 8th, 1894.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

PARIS.

Typhoid Epidemics and Polluted Water.—Enteritis and Unboiled Milk.—The Medical Staff of the Bureaux de Bienfaisance.—

The Society for the Assistance of the Blind.—General News.

DR. LANCEREAUX, in a paper read before the Paris Academy of Medicine, on the Typhoid Fever Epidemics since 1876, showed that they were due to the use of impure drinking water. In 1880 he pointed out the important part played by drinking water in these epidemics, thus furnishing fresh proof confirming Mr. Ernest Hart's views concerning water as a vehicle of disease.

The *International Review* reports three cases of enteritis resulting from drinking unboiled milk. The cow which had given the milk was suffering from hæmorrhagic enteritis. Cultivations made from the excreta of the cow and those of the patients furnished the same bacillus, but the milk and blood of the animal did not contain this bacillus; therefore it is concluded that the milk was contaminated by contact with the animal's excreta.

At a municipal council meeting M. Weber asked why the doctors of the *bureaux de bienfaisance* kept the patients waiting so long for their visit, and demanded that these medical officers should be called upon to live in the same district as their patients. The Prefect of the Seine answered that the