

granting superannuation allowances to the officers and servants of district lunatic asylums, according to the principles laid down by the Superannuation Act, 1859.

The Superannuation Act, 1859 (22 Vict., cap. 26), by sec. 2, provides that the rate of allowance shall be for ten years and under eleven years, an annual allowance of ten-sixtieths; for eleven and under twelve, an allowance of eleven-sixtieths; and in like manner a further addition of one-sixtieth for each additional year of such service, until the completion of a period of service of forty years, when the annual allowance of forty-sixtieths may be granted, and no addition shall be made in respect of any service beyond forty years. The Commissioners of the Treasury (in computing the amount of superannuation to persons holding professional and other special offices) may direct that when any person holding office shall retire from the public service, a number of years not exceeding twenty shall be added to the number of years during which he may have actually served.

VACANCIES.

BAILIEBOROUGH UNION, co. Cavan—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Termon Dispensary District.
 KILRUSH UNION, co. Clare—Medical Officer for the Workhouse; Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Registrar of Births, etc., for the Kilrush Dispensary District.
 MITCHELSTOWN UNION, co. Cork—Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Registrar of Births, etc., for the Mitchelstown Dispensary District.
 OLDCASTLE UNION, co. Meath—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Ballyjamesduff Dispensary District.
 OUGHTERARD UNION, co. Galway—Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Registrar of Births, etc., for the Lettermore Dispensary District.

MEDICO-PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Friday, May 12th.

THE SMALL-POX EPIDEMIC.—Lord Buckhurst asked if it was the intention of Her Majesty's Government to propose any additional precautionary or remedial measures to check the spreading of small-pox in the metropolis; and also moved for a return of the number of births, and of the number of children vaccinated, in the metropolitan districts during the year ending December 31st, 1869.—Lord Oranmore drew attention to the complete success which had attended the efforts to stamp out the disease in Ireland.—After a few words from Lord Lyttelton, the Earl of Kimberley could confirm the statement of Lord Oranmore with respect to the success of the system of vaccination in Ireland. Small-pox had almost disappeared in that country, but in England the Vaccination Act had not had the same success; and he feared that this result must in part be attributed to the fanatical agitators, who had persuaded a considerable number of misguided people to resist the law; and in that respect, we had great reason to be ashamed of ourselves as compared with the people of Ireland. The Poor-law Board had, before the outbreak of the epidemic, called the attention of the Boards of Guardians to the necessity of taking steps to carry out the Compulsory Vaccination Act, and had recommended the appointment of inspectors to enforce it. That course had been adopted, and had been attended with considerable success. The Government were of opinion that the present law could not be improved or amended. It seemed to them that what was wanted was that it should be thoroughly enforced. And he was informed by the Poor-law Board that they believed the Boards of Guardians were doing their best to enforce the Act, and that in this they were receiving important assistance from the inspectors appointed by the Privy Council to look after the sanitary state of the metropolis. A Committee of the House of Commons were now considering the subject, and would soon agree to their report. Any suggestions they might make would receive the immediate attention of the Government; while a Bill which was now passing through Parliament would facilitate the establishment of an additional small-pox hospital in a ship which the Admiralty were prepared to lend. There was no objection to the production of the returns for which the noble lord had moved.—The Earl of Malmesbury remarked that the small-pox epidemic had now extended from London to the country, and insisted upon the necessity of enforcing the law with respect to vaccination more stringently than had hitherto been done. Power ought to be taken to compel all classes, high or low, to have their children vaccinated; and inspectors should be appointed to see that the law was carried out.—Lord Portman drew attention to the necessity of securing an adequate supply of vaccine matter. At present, it was frequently difficult to procure lymph.—The Marquis of Salisbury suggested that, instead of fining persons for not having their children vaccinated, a policeman should be sent to fetch the child and take it to the vaccinator.—The motion was agreed to.

Tuesday, May 16th..

THE ANATOMY ACT (1832) AMENDMENT BILL passed through Committee.

LUNACY REGULATION (IRELAND) BILL.—The Commons' amendments were considered and agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday, May 11th.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACTS.—Sir J. Elphinstone asked the hon. member for Cambridge whether he meant to bring on his motion on this subject, which stood for Tuesday, the 16th.—Mr. W. Fowler said he had been informed that the report of the Commission on that question would very shortly be issued, and he had acceded to a representation made to him that it would be advisable not to proceed with his motion on the 16th. He reserved to himself, however, the right of bringing it on should the presentation of the report of the Commissioners be delayed.

Monday, May 15th.

THE LUNATICS (SCOTLAND) BILL was read a third time.

Tuesday, May 16th.

THE SANITARY LAWS.—Sir C. Adderley postponed his motion relative to the consolidation of the sanitary laws, from Tuesday the 6th to Tuesday the 13th of June.

OBITUARY.

THOMAS BROWN, M.R.C.S. Eng.

MR. THOMAS BROWN, who died on the 15th April, was born in London in 1803. He was apprenticed to Mr. Lewis of Haydon Square and received his medical education at the then united Borough Hospitals. In 1825, he commenced practice in St. Mary Axe, where he continued till his death. He took great interest in the progress of his profession; and was of a benevolent and amiable character. He was for many years a member of the Council of the Hunterian Society, and became Treasurer on the retirement of Mr. Cock. He has left a numerous family; among his sons are Dr. Burton Brown, now Principal of the Medical College at Lahore, and Mr. Gordon Brown, lately his father's partner and now his successor.

CHARLES E. V. GOATE, M.D., OF COVENTRY.

DR. GOATE died on April 5th. He was an intelligent, active, most indefatigable practitioner, a good surgeon, and able physician. On resigning the post of Medical Officer to a large district in the Leodur Union, he obtained the unusual distinction of receiving a testimonial from the Board of Guardians in recognition of his assiduous attention to the poor. He obtained the esteem and confidence of his private and pauper patients alike. Having contracted typhus fever from a patient he died after a week's illness, during the last three days of which he was unconscious.

ALEXANDER COCHRAN, M.D., OF AUCHTERARDER.

DR. COCHRAN was born at Linwood, nearly Paisley, in 1814. He attended the classes at the Glasgow University, where he graduated in 1844. After having a voyage to the West Coast of Africa, he established himself in Auchterarder, where he was much respected, and had a most extensive practice among all classes. About a year ago his horse ran away with the gig in which he was; and, the toll-bar being shut at night, he was thrown violently out of the gig, his head striking the road. He afterwards sometimes complained of pain in the head, but did not think that denoted any serious injury. Three weeks prior to his death, he felt unwell, and was partly in bed, when he received a telegram to go about ten miles. On his return from the journey, he felt very weak, and was drenched by the heavy rain. Congestion of the brain, attended with unconsciousness, set in, and he died on April 24th, at the age of 56.

HENRY C. KINGSTONE, M.B., SURGEON BOMBAY ARMY.

DR. H. C. KINGSTONE was born in July 1828, at Moorstown, co. Longford. He received his professional education in the medical schools in Dublin and Edinburgh, and became M.B. of Trinity College, Dublin, in 1853. In 1856, having passed the examination, he was admitted to the late East India Company's Medical Service, and in the following May proceeded to Bombay, where he served both in some of the vessels of the late Indian Navy and in various reg-

Br. Med. J. first published as 10.1136/bmj.1.542.546-a on 20 May 1871. Downloaded from http://www.bmj.com/ on 9 April 2024 by guest. Protected by copyright.