

and instantly brought away; it weighed twenty-six grains, and was composed of uric acid. In twenty-one days the wound was soundly healed. Mr. Jackson stated that the operation which he had described, although performed for the removal of a stone from the bladder was to be considered as a cystotomy rather than as a lithotomy; it was easy, simple, and safe. The linear cicatrix resulting from the operation barely measured half an inch, and an operation which could be performed in a few seconds was that which appeared to him to be preferable to all others for the removal of small vesical calculi from boys and male infants (see JOURNAL, April 3, p. 660).

*Tubercular Ulcer of Tongue.*—Mr. VINCENT JACKSON exhibited a married woman, aged 37, admitted with tubercular ulcer of point of the tongue. No enlarged glands were detected, but the apices of both lungs were phthisical. Local remedies proving valueless, about an inch of the front portion of the organ was sliced away, and the mucous membrane of the upper and lower surfaces was stitched together by several points of very fine silk suture at close intervals. The recovery was rapid, and the relief complete.

*Multilocular Ovarian Cyst.*—Mr. VINCENT JACKSON showed a large multilocular ovarian tumour containing much solid and semi-solid matter, recently removed from a married woman, aged 24. An unusually large incision was required before the tumour could be liberated, and lifted out of the abdomen; and great care was necessary in washing out of the peritoneal cavity a large quantity of gelatinous fluid which unavoidably flowed into it. Recovery was rapid, as, within nineteen days, the patient was discharged from the Women's Surgical Infirmary.

*Badly Made Trusses: Large Strangulated Femoral Hernia: Successful Herniotomy and Radical Cure.*—Mr. VINCENT JACKSON, in showing some improperly made trusses, narrated the following case. A woman, aged 44, stated that, when 23 years of age, whilst laughing heartily, she felt something come into her right groin. By degrees, a swelling appeared, and a truss was applied; but from this period, in spite of every kind of instrumental support, the hernia gradually increased until it reached very large proportions. As a rule, a night's rest had enabled her to return the hernia; but twenty hours before Mr. Jackson saw the patient, symptoms of strangulation commenced. The hernia was seen to be very large, occupying almost the upper half of the left thigh. It felt very tense, and seemed to contain fluid, intestine, and omentum, as was verified upon the operating-table. The tumour being freely laid open, much red serum flowed away, and the huge coils of congested small intestine were reduced, although the neck of the sac was freely incised, and stretched to its utmost extent. The omentum was carefully overhauled, but, as it was much changed in appearance, being puckered, thickened, and altered in colour, the whole was first secured by tying it at various points with carbolised silk, and then cutting it away. The sponge which had been placed over the intestines being removed, the neck of the sack was stitched together. Poupart's ligament and the fascia forming the outer edge of the saphenous opening were carefully approximated. As much of the sac as possible having been cut and torn away, the edges of the wound were united with sutures and drainage-tubes; and the dressings having been applied, the patient was removed to bed. The lady made an excellent recovery, and, although a light truss was directed to be worn, the cure was complete. The piece of omentum removed weighed one pound and a half.

*Papers.*—The following papers were read. Dr. MCALDOWIE: "Paralysis of the Arm from Lesions of the Nerve-Trunks." Dr. W. G. LOWE: "Two Cases of Diabetic Coma in Young Children;" and "A Case of Death from Diabetes Ininsipidus." Mr. VINCENT JACKSON: "An Analysis of 101 Cases of Osteotomy."

**PRESENTATION.**—Dr. H. M. Tuckwell has been presented with a gold minute repeater watch and a presentation volume, containing an address and the names of the 73 subscribers, being medical men of Oxford and the surrounding district, and a few of his old teachers and friends at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The address is as follows:—"We, the undersigned medical men, desire to convey to Dr. Tuckwell an expression of the regard we have for him, as a physician whose generous and straightforward conduct has done much to elevate the tone of our profession. We wish to express our sincere regret at his retirement from practice, and more especially for the ailment which has necessitated his doing so. We beg his acceptance of this watch, as a token of our esteem and sympathy."

**MEDICAL MAGISTRATE.**—Dr. Ryan has been appointed a justice of the peace for County Tipperary.

## REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

**SANITARY SYSTEMS, SHOWING HOW THE DEAD SHOULD BE DISPOSED OF BY NATIONS WHO STUDY THE HEALTH AND COMMERCIAL INTERESTS OF THEIR PEOPLES.** By Colonel T. MARTIN. Guernsey: Frederick Guerin, 25, High Street. 1886.

We have before us a work by Colonel T. MARTIN, published at Poona in 1864, entitled *Cinerator for Use of Brahmins, etc.*; and it will thus be seen that he is no new convert to the necessity for reform in respect of final disposal of the dead. In the work alluded to, sketches were given, showing not only how easily a cremation could be performed, but how a multiplicity of cremations could be carried out at the same time by the use of one furnace.

It was certainly the most practical article on cremation ever written with an especial meaning, as regards the furtherance of the rite in India upon such an improved system, as would render the present crude systems of cremation altogether obsolete. He showed how the castes could be separated, even in this last ritual; and, taking it altogether, that work was an earnest forecast of the present one.

His present pamphlet is certainly worth perusal, inasmuch as he has clonched the various arguments in favour of cremation, and against inhumation; and it is just such a work, as might have been expected from so enthusiastic a reformer. In this volume, Colonel Martin has issued no plans, nor were indeed any necessary, after the useful ones given in volume 2 of the *Transactions of the Cremation Society of England*, published by Smith, Elder, and Co. There can be no doubt, but that a reform is greatly wanted in the performance of cremation in India, and we are continually receiving communications, urging the establishment of some scientific system of incineration, so as to lessen the customary horrors of the burning ghauts. Cases have before now occurred in England where an Indian rajah has sought in vain for the means of cremating his wife, and, until lately, so high placed a subject could not be accommodated with what he is held to consider as perfect consumption. The pamphlet is calculated to do considerable good, and we would recommend Colonel Martin to circulate it largely in the land where he has spent so much of his life.

## NOTES ON BOOKS.

*Burial Reform and Disposal of the Dead.* By F. W. LOWNDES, M.R.C.S. (Liverpool: A. Holden. 1886.)—This is a very reasonable paper upon the disadvantages of burial of the dead, as now practised in and around Liverpool, and must be decidedly interesting to sanitarians in that neighbourhood. His conclusions are eminently satisfactory, and he begins these by saying that "Cremation should be permissible; absolute proof being required that the death has been natural, or that an inquest has been held." This formula of procedure is that entertained by every advocate of cremation, and is more or less generally accepted as the correct procedure, even by those who have not as yet the courage of their own opinions.

*Lewis's Medical Pocket Vocabulary.* (London: H. K. Lewis. 1886.)—This is a small 32mo volume of 213 pages, containing a list of the medical terms more commonly in use. To the medical student, and as a book of reference for the general reader, this pocket volume will serve a useful purpose at times and places when a larger and more bulky work would be inaccessible. The volume is clearly printed, and neatly and strongly bound in leather.

**HEBBURN.**—During the year 1885, there were 570 births and 269 deaths within this township, being a decrease of 15 births and an increase of 34 deaths as compared with 1884. The birth-rate was thus 96.77 per 1,000, and there was a slight decrease in the infant mortality as compared with this return. Mr. W. J. Sweet draws a comparison in all his mortality statistics with those of fifty large towns of England, showing that, in spite of a slight increase, the death-rates are still below the average. The general rate was 17.35, against 19.6 per 1,000, and the zymotic rate was 2.2 against 2.3 per 1,000. The information afforded as to zymotic diseases is statistical only. Measles, scarlet fever, and whooping-cough, were more or less prevalent during the year, causing respectively 18, 10, and 6 deaths. There was but one fatal case of diarrhoea. Mr. Sweet reiterates his opinion as to the desirability of having a special inspector for school attendance, who should be empowered to give certificates, if necessary, to the School Board.