

physician, however, though he became President of the College, he was not a success, though he presided through an eventful period of medical reform.

Dr. Munk has some interesting observations on the professional earnings of physicians. Radcliffe, he thinks, probably made the largest income, making allowance for the difference in the value of money, ever made by any English physician. Mead's income was from five to six thousand guineas; Warren, towards the end of last century, made about nine thousand a year; and Halford for a long series of years made more than ten thousand a year. "The professional earnings of the leading physicians of the present day," writes Dr. Munk, "are not materially in excess of some of the above mentioned."

With this quotation, which will be received, perhaps, with incredulity by many, we must take leave of this delightful volume, which has afforded us so pleasant a glimpse into the past.

NOTES ON BOOKS.

The Extra Pharmacopœia of Unofficial Drugs and Chemical and Pharmacological Preparations. By WILLIAM MARTINDALE, F.C.S., and W. WYNN WESTCOTT, M.B. Third Edition. London: H. K. Lewis. 1884.—The *Extra Pharmacopœia* is so well known, that it is necessary to do little more than record the appearance of a third edition. Under the headings of Perchloride of Mercury, Sanitas, Asthma-Powders, Compound Syrup of the Hypophosphites, and Nitrite of Sodium, several additions have been made, all of them of considerable practical value. It is, we think, a subject for regret, that the size of the book should have been unnecessarily increased by the addition of over twenty pages of advertisements. This is a matter of no little importance in a work intended for ready reference.

Pharmacopœia of the Victoria Hospital for Children (Chelsea and Margate). With an Appendix on "How to Manage Infants." Compiled by the Drug Committee. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1884.—Like all hospital pharmacopœias with which we are acquainted, this little volume contains a number of prescriptions of very various merits. Some of them are curious compounds of a great variety of drugs tending to produce similar results; such is the "mistura pertussis," which contains bromide of ammonium, lobelia, belladonna, tolu, and chloroform—a mixture which might be given with a happy confidence that, if one ingredient failed of its effect, some other one might be more fortunate. It reflects, perhaps, only too faithfully, the present state of therapeutics, in so far as concerns whooping-cough. Among the fifty mixtures, however, there are several very excellent formulæ; but we are surprised that there is not one containing mercury. The list of lotions and ointments is exceptionally full and good, and altogether the *Pharmacopœia* compares not unfavourably with those issued elsewhere. The appendix contains excellent advice on the management of infants. It is, we presume, intended to reprint and distribute this as a broadsheet.

REPORTS AND ANALYSES

AND DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW INVENTIONS IN MEDICINE, SURGERY, DIETETICS, AND THE ALLIED SCIENCES.

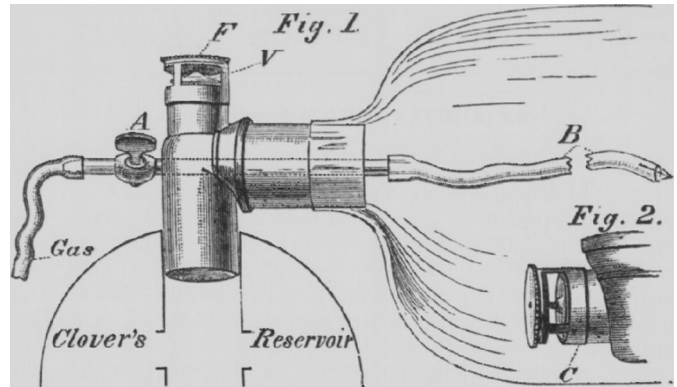
GAMGEE'S ANTISEPTIC PAD AND DRESSING.

THE new sponge and wound-pad, which has been manufactured by Messrs. Burroughes and Wellcome at the request of Mr. Sampson Gamgee, is the result of a suggestion made by Sir T. Spencer Wells. It differs from the ordinary sponge, inasmuch as it is a powerful absorbent in its dry state, and need not be previously wetted. Its absorbing power is said to be equal to fully sixteen times its own weight. It consists of concentric layers of absorbent cotton and cocoa-nut, or like fibre, within a covering of absorbent gauze. Its antisepticity is secured by placing in the centre a thin and easily friable capsule containing the antiseptic of any kind desired, eucalyptia, or thymol, carbolic acid, bichloride of mercury, etc. An antiseptic may thus be inclosed within absorbent materials, and preserved intact for weeks and months together, if necessary, until required for use. All that is required is a sharp squeeze of the sponge or pad just before using it; and by subsequent burning, all fear of sponge-infection is avoided and becomes impossible.

ETHER-APPARATUS.

By C. J. BOND, Leicester.

A REFERENCE to the figure will best explain a slight modification in Clover's ether-apparatus, as adapted for the administration of gas or ether, or both, which seems to me to possess several advantages. The gas-bottle is connected to the Clover bag by an India-rubber tube in the ordinary way, and this can be removed at A. This "gas" tube is, however, prolonged as an India-rubber tube to the end of the bag B, the object of this being to compel the gas to enter the bag at this end and out of the way of the expiratory blast, which passes up and escapes by means of the valve V; this opens outwards, and consists,



as shown on a larger scale in Fig. 2, of a flat valve-piece controlled by a spiral spring, the pressure on which can be regulated by pushing down the collar C, the valve being thus completely closed on the administration of ether only.

The advantages are that, whereas it is impossible to give gas only with the Clover's ether-apparatus alone, it can, with the addition of these modifications, viz., the expiratory valve in association with the entrance of gas at the far end of the bag, be used as a simple and very efficient gas-inhaler only, or the administrator can commence with gas, gradually passing on to ether; or, by disconnecting the gas-tube at A and closing the valve, the apparatus is practically the same as the simple ether-inhaler alone.

PARKE DAVIS AND CO.'S URINARY TEST-PAPERS.

THIS is a most ingenious contrivance for applying the various tests for the detection of albumen or sugar in the urine. In a paper pocket-case, measuring about three inches by one, is included a collection of test-papers, comprising litmus, potassium-ferrocyanide, sodium-tungstate, indigo, citric acid, potassio-mercuric iodide, picric acid, sodium-carbonate, and Fehling's solution. Full directions for their use are given.

NASAL INHALERS.

SIR,—I have just opened the issue of the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, dated May 3rd, 1884; in it, I observe a letter signed George Moore, M.D., complaining about his nasal inhaler, and stating that I described my nasal respirator in almost similar terms as he had done his inhaler in the *Lancet*. Now, I beg to disclaim all knowledge of Dr. Moore's invention, or his description thereof. About one year since, I sought everywhere, through my agent, for a nasal respirator; failing to obtain one, I, in June 1883, placed my ideas in the hands of an instrument-maker; and, in November 1883, I forwarded to you one of my respirators, together with the communication you subsequently published in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, dated February 9th, 1884. I have just had a look at the *Lancet* of a friend, and my impression is that the two instruments differ very materially in almost every respect.

Since forwarding you my respirator, I have considerably improved and simplified it. As far as I am concerned, the profession have now a simple statement of facts before them, and I hope it will not be productive of a very serious quarrel, as I fail to see a fortune in it, or that it is likely to revolutionise the course of medicine.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,
JOHN MARTIN.
Belfast.

TESTIMONIAL.—A testimonial, accompanied by a valuable epergne, was presented to Dr. Peter Maury Deas, on the occasion of his retirement from the post of Medical Superintendent of the Parkside Asylum, Macclesfield. Dr. Deas succeeds Dr. Rees Philipps as Superintendent of the Wonford House Asylum, Exeter.

THE annual dinner of the Bristol Medical Cricket and Football Club will take place at the Montague Hotel, Kingsdown, on Friday, June 20th, at 7.30 P.M. (after the distribution of prizes of the Bristol Medical School on that day).