

the small hours of the following morning. No hæmorrhage had occurred. There seemed to be nothing to account for death but collapse. How far a cold bed influenced the result it is difficult to say; but it is a painful reflection that, when we think we have done everything for our patient's safety, the omission of some ordinary precaution may be followed by a fatal result.

Think nothing trifling, tho' it small appears;  
Sands make the mountains, moments make the years,  
And trifles—life.

—I am, etc.,  
J. WRIGHT BAKER,  
Consulting Surgeon to the Derbyshire  
General Infirmary.  
Southport, February, 1889.

#### ALLBUTT v. GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL.

SIR,—The Attorney-General was misinformed when he stated at the conclusion of the above case that Dr. Clifford Allbutt, of Leeds, had no connection with the plaintiff (myself). What he should have said was no connection as regards the *Wife's Handbook*. Dr. Clifford Allbutt and I are cousins, and I only think it right that there should be no misunderstanding as regards the Attorney-General's meaning. He also said I "was at one time in practice at Leeds." I am in practice at Leeds still, and do not intend to be driven therefrom. I may also say that I have entered an appeal in the Appeal Courts for a reversal of Mr. Baron Pollock's ruling. I trust in common fairness you will insert this letter in your next issue.—I am, etc.,

H. ARTHUR ALLBUTT, M.R.C.P.E.  
24, Park Square, Leeds, February 4th.

#### CREOLIN.

SIR,—Would you kindly state, for the benefit of those wishing to study the subject, that many of Dr. Washbourn's experiments to which you refer in your article on Creolin, published in the *JOURNAL* of February 2nd, may be found in a paper by him in the last volume of the *Guy's Hospital Reports*. It is entitled "Experiments on the Influence of Creolin on the Anthrax Bacillus."—I am, etc.,

W. HALE-WHITE,  
Joint Editor of the *Guy's Hospital Reports*.  
Harley Street, W., February 5th.

## NAVAL AND MILITARY MEDICAL SERVICES.

### ARMY MEDICAL SCHOOL, NETLEY.

THE winter session of the Army Medical School was brought to a close on February 4th, when there was a large assemblage of medical and military officers in the lecture hall of the Royal Victoria Hospital, including Sir Thomas Crawford, Director-General of the Army Medical Department; Sir Joseph Fayrer, Physician to the Council of India; Surgeons-General Sir Thomas Longmore and Sir William Aitken; and Deputy Surgeons-General D. Boyes Smith and T. Blatherwick.

The School Senate had invited Surgeon-General Dr. Maclean, C.B., of Southampton, for many years the Professor of Military Medicine and Tropical Diseases at the School, to deliver the prizes on this occasion. Subjoined is the list of surgeons on probation in Her Majesty's Indian Medical Service who were successful at both the London and Netley examinations. The prizes are awarded for marks gained in the special subjects taught at the Army Medical School. The final positions of these gentlemen are determined by the marks gained in London added to those gained at Netley, and the combined numbers are accordingly shown in the list which follows: Combined marks—H. E. Drake-Brockman, 6,216 (gained the Herbert Prize of £20, with the Martin Memorial gold medal and the Parkes Memorial bronze medal); W. B. Lane, 5,693; P. J. Lumsden, 5,622; S. E. Prall, 5,248.

It was mentioned that, although there had only been four candidates studying for commissions in the Indian Medical Service during this session, a large class of surgeons of about seven or eight years' service in the Army Medical Department had been going through a post-graduate course of study at the same time.

Dr. Maclean afterwards addressed a few remarks to the students, and the usual reports having been read, a vote of thanks was passed to him.

### PRESENTATION OF SIR WILLIAM AITKEN'S PORTRAIT AT NETLEY.

THIS ceremony took place in the anteroom of the mess in the officers' quarters, immediately after the distribution of prizes above reported. The distribution of prizes in the lecture-room of the hospital was made by Surgeon-General Maclean, who also made the presentation, and, in doing so, spoke as follows:

Sir Thomas Crawford, Brother Officers, Ladies and Gentlemen—I have now a very pleasing duty to perform, namely, as secretary to the Aitken Portrait Fund, to present the portrait of the distinguished Professor of Pathology, which has just been unveiled, to you, who represent not the Senate of the Army Medical School only, but also the Medical Staff of the British Army. This portrait was subscribed for by some of Sir William Aitken's numerous pupils in the medical departments of the British and Indian services, by his colleagues, and a number of his friends in civil life. This little ceremony would have been performed at the close of the summer term, had the portrait not been on exhibition in the Royal Academy, where, no doubt, many of you had an opportunity of seeing it. It was painted by the same artist, Mr. W. R. Symonds, who was the painter of two other portraits hanging on the walls of this room. The design of the subscribers was that Sir William Aitken's portrait should be a companion picture to those of his colleagues, who, with himself, were the first four professors of the Army Medical School. I need hardly say that I consider it a great honour to represent on this occasion so large a number of Sir William's old pupils and friends, who number among them not a few of the foremost members of his profession in all parts of the kingdom, who gladly embraced the opportunity thus afforded them to pay a well-merited tribute to their learned brother. The great work on the *Science and Art of Medicine*, which has made the name of Sir William Aitken famous, first appeared as a small *manual*, and ended, as I heard his late distinguished friend Professor Sharpey say, in a *brachial*. It has gone through seven editions, and perhaps no book in modern medical literature has been more diligently thumbed by British and American students, more frequently referred to by practising members of our profession. The composition of this *magnum opus* was a work of enormous labour, and the preparation of the last edition, almost entirely rewritten, nearly cost its author his life. It is not necessary, before such an audience, to speak of Sir William's professional career, which has extended over so many years; it is well-known to you all. I am sure his old pupils, scattered over the world, will be well pleased to hear of this day's proceedings, and will be glad when they return to Netley to see the portrait of their old professor and friend in so honourable a position. I now, Sir, present this portrait in the name and on behalf of the subscribers, and with all my heart congratulate my old friend and loyal colleague on this interesting occasion.

Sir William Aitken made a suitable reply in acknowledgment of the honour done him; and Sir Thomas Crawford, in accepting the portrait for the Department, thanked Dr. Maclean in the name of the committee; and the party adjourned to the mess-room, where luncheon was served.

### VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION.

THE official inspection of thirty-four members, representing thirteen metropolitan volunteer corps, was held on Monday, January 28th, at the headquarters of the London Scottish R. V., by Surgeon-Major Roe, M.S.C., who expressed himself most satisfied with the general efficiency of the class, and awarded the army ambulance certificates.

At the prize competition, Surgeon O. M. White, T.H.R.B., and Surgeon Heather Bigg awarded the first prize to the London Rifle Brigade, and the second and third prizes to the London Scottish R. V. The instruments and books presented were the gift of Sir Morell Mackenzie.

The introductory lecture of the next course of instruction was delivered on Thursday, February 7th, at the headquarters of the Artists R. V., by Surgeon W. Pearce, M.D., on "Army Medical Organisation in the Field." Colonel Edis presided. The syllabus of lectures is complete, and the various subjects will be taken by the following volunteer medical officers: Surgeon Sir Morell Mackenzie, M.D., and Acting-Surgeon Des Vœux, M.D., Queen's R. V.; Surgeon W. Pearce, M.D., and Acting-Surgeon Cagney, M.D., Artists' R. V.; Surgeon L. Ogilvie, M.B., London Scottish R. V.; and Surgeon Heather Bigg, London Irish R. V.