

spector-General of Gaols and Chief of the Civil Medical Department in Burma.

THE ORDER OF THE INDIAN EMPIRE.

Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Kellock McKay, who has been appointed C.I.E., entered the service in 1873, and since 1894 has been Civil Surgeon and Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum at Jubbulpore in the Central Provinces. This officer was employed on famine duty during 1897-98.

Major Winthrop Benjamin Browning, who has received the same honour, joined the service in 1880, and was posted to the Madras Presidency. Until 1890 he served in Madras, and from that year he was Surgeon of the Second District, Madras, until 1895. From 1892 he has been Surgeon to the Governor of Madras.

ORDER OF ST. MICHAEL AND ST. GEORGE.

Dr. T. E. Macpherson and Dr. R. N. Moffatt, of the Uganda Administration, have been appointed Commanders of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

LITERARY NOTES.

THE third volume of the second series of the *Index Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office, United States Army*, consists of 1,100 pages of text, and carries the vocabulary through the letter C. The librarian, Surgeon James C. Merrill, states that it gives 11,112 author titles, 10,636 book titles, the titles of 34,314 journal articles, and those of 677 portraits.

A correspondent has called our attention to a curious misprint by which the late Dr. Gruby, of Paris—a short account of whom appeared in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of December 3rd, 1898—was apparently charged with making up his mixtures with *aqua fortis*. Of course the eccentric but blameless old Hebrew prescribed *aqua fontis*. We think it due to his memory to make the correction, though probably not even the most frenzied anti-Semite would take the appalling statement put into our mouths by the printer's devil *au grand sérieux*.

With the new year the *Practitioner* comes to us in a somewhat enlarged form. We are glad to note, however, that although it has grown bigger it has not become heavier. It remains the most readable and the most literary of the medical monthlies. Among the new features are some pages of Literary Gossip, and a Calendar in which the heroes and saints and the historic events are all of specially medical interest. Among the original communications are an article on Tuberculosis by Professor Clifford Allbutt, in which the subject is dealt with in a characteristically independent spirit; an interesting case of Jaundice of sixteen years' standing treated by operation recorded by Mr. Treves; and a Clinical Lecture on the "probably cortical origin of some laryngeal paralyses" by Sir Felix Semon.

Two further instalments of the *Deutsche Chirurgie* (Ferdinand Enke, Stuttgart), started by Billroth and Luecke and now in course of publication under the editorship of Professors E. von Bergmann and P. von Bruns, have just been issued. Lieferung 28 is an exhaustive treatise on the Diseases of the Bones and Joints exclusive of those due to Tuberculosis, by Professor Karl Schuchardt of Stettin; the volume contains 138 illustrations in the text and two coloured plates. Lieferung 28a is devoted to Tuberculous Diseases of the Bones and Joints, which are dealt with by Professor Fedor Krause of Altona; this volume also contains two coloured plates with 98 other illustrations.

A periodical of a decidedly novel character has recently been started in Paris. It is entitled *La Revue des Rhumatisants*, and its aim is the solace and amusement of sufferers from rheumatism. The founder is M. Alexander Hepp, eminent as a journalist and equally eminent as a martyr to rheumatism. All his collaborators are fellow sufferers. Among them are François Coppée; Jules Clarétie; Marcel Prévost; Aurélien Scholl; Emile Bergerat; Léon Daudet; Clovis Hugues; Coquelin the younger; and Caran d'Ache the celebrated caricaturist. This list would appear to suggest some close connection, hitherto unsuspected, between rheumatism and the finer arts. The matter seems to be worth investigation, and if any young physician is "spoiling" for want of a subject to work at, here is one that would be pretty certain to reward his toil.

We have received an intimation from the Medical Magazine Association that at a meeting of directors of the newly incorporated Association on December 21st, 1898, the Medical Board appointed Dr. A. G. Auld to be editor of the new magazine which begins in January.

In mentioning Sir Thomas Grainger Stewart's "Chronicle Play," we referred to the fact that Claude Bernard had begun his career as a dramatic author. Some details of the great physiologist's association with the stage may be interesting. Bernard, after finishing his literary studies, became the pupil of a pharmaceutical chemist of Lyons, who gave him board and lodging in exchange for his services. Every month he had "a day out," of which he took advantage to go to the theatre. He soon became fired with the ambition to write plays, and in the scanty moments which he could snatch from making pills and putting up bottles of physic, he managed to compose a vaudeville entitled *La Rose du Rhône*, which was actually performed at Lyons in 1833. The author's share of the profits on this masterpiece amounted to some £4, and with this capital and a tragedy in five acts young Bernard determined to seek his fortune in Paris. On his arrival there in 1834, he called on the most powerful critic of the day, M. Saint-Marc Girardin, who seems to have cured him of his dramatic aspirations. The tragedy on which Bernard had built his hopes was printed in 1887 by his friend M. Georges Barral, to whom the author had given the manuscript some ten years before. The title of the piece is *Arthur de Bretagne*. The scene is laid in Brittany, Poitou, and Normandy in 1202. Arthur comes forward as a champion of the independence of Brittany, and naturally his relations with the King of France on the one side, and with the King of England on the other, become extremely complicated. The English monarch with the proverbial perfidiousness of his countrymen breaks his pledge and places Arthur in duress vile. He is offered his liberty on condition that he surrenders his province, but prefers death to dishonour. The French suddenly come to the rescue, singing the Ave Maris Stella, but, like the first Khartoum expedition, they are just in time to learn that Arthur has been butchered by the brutal Britons. Bernard seems to have a certain tenderness for this piece, which was written when he was only 20, for he authorised its publication, though not till five years after his death. It was published, but was almost immediately withdrawn in deference to the remonstrances of Mlle. Bernard, who objected to a statement made in the preface that her father had been abandoned by his wife and daughters in the last years of his life.

BOLTON AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF COLLIERY SURGEONS.—This Society, which owes its existence mainly to the efforts of Dr. J. H. Marsh, of Little Hulton, has for its object the banding together of all the colliery surgeons of the district, with a view to increasing and equalising the remuneration for attendance upon accident cases. Prior to the Workmen's Compensation Act this was at the rate of 2s. 6d. a head per annum, but thanks to the combination of the surgeons the fee is now 15s. a head per annum. Though the new scale has been generally adopted by the colliery clubs, attempts are now being made to coerce the surgeons to revert to the old terms. These are being strenuously resisted by the Association and with every likelihood of success. The annual dinner was held at Walkden on December 22nd, 1898, when forty-five members and guests assembled under the chairmanship of Dr. Duncan (Honorary President), who gave the toast of "The Queen." "The Association" was proposed by Dr. Nathan Raw, of Liverpool, and responded to by Dr. Kershaw, of Farnworth. "The Guests" was proposed by Dr. Johnston, of Bolton, and "The Pendlebury Association" by Dr. R. Martin and acknowledged by Dr. Eames. During the evening Dr. J. Y. Martin, on behalf of the members of the Association, presented the Honorary Secretary, Dr. J. H. Marsh, with a handsome punch bowl and a silver tea service as a small token of their appreciation of his services as originator, organiser, and conductor of the affairs of the Association. In his reply Dr. Marsh urged the great necessity of unanimity of action on the part of medical men in fighting the "battle of the clubs" and commended the action of this Association to the favourable notice of others.