

Messrs. F. E. Bass, W. P. Harding, and G. M. Sharpe have completed the Final Examinations and have been admitted Licentiates of the Apothecaries' Hall, and are now qualified to practise medicine, surgery, and midwifery.

ERRATUM.—In the Pass List of the Final Examination of the Conjoint Board for Scotland, published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of February 3rd, p. 293, col. 2, the first name should be Winifred Nell, not "Hill," as printed.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

HEALTH OF ENGLISH TOWNS.

In thirty-three of the largest English towns, including London, 6,079 births and 5,750 deaths were registered during the week ending Saturday last, February 17th. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 21.2 and 22.7 per 1,000 in the two preceding weeks, further rose to 25.8 last week. The rates in the several towns ranged from 14.3 in Brighton, 15.8 in Cardiff, 18.1 in Bristol, and 18.4 in Bradford, to 41.3 in Wolverhampton, 41.5 in Blackburn, 42.7 in Salford, and 54.8 in Preston. In the thirty-two provincial towns the mean death-rate was 27.8, and exceeded by 4.9 the rate recorded in London, which was 22.9 per 1,000. The zymotic death-rate in the thirty-three towns averaged 2.1 per 1,000; in London the death-rate was equal to 1.9 per 1,000, while it averaged 2.3 in the thirty-two provincial towns, among which the highest zymotic death-rates were 3.8 in Blackburn, 5.0 in Leicester, 5.7 in Salford, and 7.5 in Preston. Measles caused a death-rate of 1.2 in Wolverhampton and in Leicester, 1.4 in Salford and in Oldham, 1.8 in Sunderland, and 4.4 in Preston; scarlet fever of 1.8 in Burnley; and whooping-cough of 1.2 in West Ham, in Birmingham, and in Liverpool, 1.4 in Norwich, and 1.9 in Salford. The mortality from "fever" showed no marked excess in any of the large towns. The 102 deaths from diphtheria in the thirty-three towns included 35 in London, 10 in Leicester, 9 in Sheffield, 5 in West Ham, and 5 in Leeds. Two fatal cases of small-pox were registered last week in Hull, but not one in any other of the thirty-three large towns. Eight small-pox patients were under treatment in the Metropolitan Asylums Hospitals on Saturday last, February 17th, but no new case was admitted during the week. The number of scarlet fever patients in these hospitals and in the London Fever Hospital, which had declined from 3,578 to 2,086 at the end of the thirteen preceding weeks, had further fallen to 2,052 on Saturday last; 159 new cases were admitted during the week, against 190, 174, and 157 in the three preceding weeks.

HEALTH OF SCOTCH TOWNS.

DURING the week ending Saturday last, February 17th, 959 births and 958 deaths were registered in eight of the principal Scotch towns. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had increased from 23.0 to 27.1 per 1,000 in the five preceding weeks, further rose to 31.0 last week, and exceeded by 5.2 per 1,000 the mean rate during the same period in the thirty-three large English towns. Among these Scotch towns the death-rates ranged from 17.2 in Greenock and 23.3 in Aberdeen, to 35.4 in Dundee and 50.6 in Perth. The zymotic death-rate in these towns averaged 2.7 per 1,000, the highest rates being recorded in Glasgow, Dundee, and Paisley. The 480 deaths registered in Glasgow included 17 from measles, 11 from scarlet fever, 3 from diphtheria, 10 from whooping-cough, and 7 from diarrhoea. Three fatal cases of diphtheria were recorded in Edinburgh, 4 of whooping-cough in Aberdeen, and 6 of measles and 2 of whooping-cough in Paisley.

FEMALE ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER.

THE appointment of an additional assistant medical officer for the West Ham Union having become necessary, the guardians after some discussion have resolved to select a lady for the post. The salary is £100 a year, with the usual residential allowances.

METHOD OF PAYING SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCE.

A CORRESPONDENT asks whether any Board of Guardians which has granted superannuation allowance under the Act of 1896, can direct the amount to be paid by one yearly sum instead of by quarterly instalments, as he believes is the general practice.

* * We cannot think that the Local Government Board would sanction any other than quarterly payments of the amount due to any claimant under this Act.

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY MANAGEMENT.

ABERDEEN ROYAL INFIRMARY.

THE annual meeting of the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and Lunatic Asylum Corporation was held on February 14th. It is very satisfactory to note that an answer to the numerous and strenuous appeals recently made to the public for pecuniary support has been received. The annual subscriptions from individuals show a total for the year more than double the average annual amount for the past ten years. The congregational subscriptions have also risen. The donations from out-patients show a small increase, and the large contribution of £600 has been raised from the Hospital Saturday Fund. These and other receipts, including—one is sorry to hear—over £2,000 of legacies, which it would have been so much more satisfactory to have seen put into capital, had that been possible, have amounted to over £10,000. Happy as such a result is in comparison with the past, the revenue account still shows a deficit of nearly £800. Every effort has been made by the directors to prevent any abuse of the charity by patients

able to afford private advice, and, in keeping a guard against such an abuse, they are satisfied that on the whole there is little to be found fault with on this score. The number of beds occupied is higher than ever before, and there has been an increase of nearly 1,000 in the number of out-patients treated. The internal working of the institution appears thoroughly satisfactory, and it may be safely hoped that another year may see the finances of the hospital in a secure position.

OBITUARY.

THE LATE SIR THOMAS GRAINGER STEWART.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased, through Sir James Reid, to express to Lady Grainger Stewart and her family Her Majesty's regret at the loss of so distinguished a physician and her sincere sympathy with them in their bereavement.

In opening the Class of the Practice of Physic on the morning of Monday, February 12th, Dr. John Wyllie said:

Gentlemen,—You have no doubt heard of the sad event which has occurred since we last met. You have heard that on the morning of Saturday, February 3rd, Professor Sir Thomas Grainger Stewart departed this life. I understand that the end at last came somewhat suddenly; but you are aware that since last summer the Professor's health had been so much impaired as to give rise to great anxiety in the minds of his friends. For a time, indeed, as I said when I first met this class in October, there was progressive improvement, and there seemed ground for the hope that, with a prolonged rest during the winter season, the Professor's health might be in great measure restored. It even seemed possible that after a time he might be able to resume the duties of his chair. These hopes, unfortunately, have not been realised. The Professor's health has been very precarious during the whole of the winter, and of late there were indications that the end might not be far off.

This is not the time to attempt to make a sketch of the Professor's career, or an estimate of the value of his services to the University and to science. Such tributes to his memory, you may be sure, will not be wanting.

I cannot, however, to-day resume the work of the class without giving some expression to the feeling which must be in the minds of all of us. We all feel deeply that, by the death of Sir Thomas Grainger Stewart, the University and the Medical School of Edinburgh have sustained a grievous loss. In him the University and the profession have lost an eminent teacher, who devoted his time and energy without stint to the duties of his chair, a man of science whose work will keep his name in lasting remembrance, a man of ability and culture whose fine presence, and whose gifts of eloquent speech and kindly humour made him a fitting leader of the profession upon public occasions when professional subjects were to be discussed or social functions celebrated.

It will be widely felt to-day that the medical profession has lost one of its foremost leaders.

SIR WILLIAM MILLER, M.B.,

J.P., Londonderry.

THE death of Sir William Miller, of Londonderry, which, as already announced, took place upon January 28th, was the result of an attack of influenza. He had been a prominent figure in Londonderry for upwards of forty years, and was very well known alike in professional, social, and municipal circles. He was a magistrate for the city and also for the county of Londonderry, a grand juror for the county, a distinguished practitioner, and had been on several occasions Mayor of his native city. He had been appointed High Sheriff of County Derry for the present year, but had not been sworn in at the time of his decease. He entered the Corporation of Derry nearly forty years ago, and remained a member until the Irish Local Government Bill came into operation. He received the honour of knighthood in the year 1876. His professional appointments included that of Surgeon to the County Infirmary of Derry, Medical Officer of Her Majesty's prison, and Surgeon-Major of the Artillery Militia. He had an extensive private practice, and was much esteemed as a practitioner and as a wise and capable public man.

DEATHS IN THE PROFESSION ABROAD.—Among the members of the medical profession in foreign countries who have recently died are Dr. Julio Cesar de Sande Sacadura Botte, Emeritus Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Coimbra, aged 52; Dr. Beydler, the oldest member of the profession in Brussels, aged 95; Dr. Steylaess, Vice-President of the Belgian Medical Federation, and an authority on medical jurisprudence; Dr. Gabriel Tourdes, sometime Professor of Medicine in the old medical faculty of Strassburg, and after the Franco-German War Professor of Forensic Medicine at Nancy, aged 70; and Dr. J. Cargill Shaw, Professor of Diseases of the Nervous System at the Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn, New York, aged 55.