

empties the glands and ducts of gonococci which constitute the plugs of muco-pus I described as filling the catheter perforations.

Having varied the circuiting and tried current reversals during the last three years of work at gonorrhoea, I believe the system I described to be the best. Still, I endeavour to keep an open mind until more is known of bacterial movements and vitality in relationship to the inflamed membranes or tissues which so many of us are trying to heal.—I am, etc.,

London, W., June 21st.

CHARLES RUSS.

THE DISCOVERY OF CHLOROFORM.

SIR,—Permit me to add a few facts in support of your views on the claims made on behalf of Waldie to be considered the discoverer of chloroform. In 1886 I put forward the claim of Samuel Guthrie of Sacketts Harbour, then an important naval base, where he resided, and as a surgeon in the Army of Independence acted as consulting chemist to the munitions department. Guthrie was a regular contributor to *Silliman's Magazine*, then the principal scientific monthly in the United States of America, and in volumes xxi and xxii he published his articles on a new method of preparing solution of chloric ether. This paper appeared ten years prior to C. W. Long's discovery of the anaesthetic properties of ether and long before J. Y. Simpson sought a substitute for the ill-smelling ethyl oxide. Guthrie's other papers consisted of "Chemical fulminating preparations," "Vapourization of mercury," "Sugar from potato starch," and "On oil of turpentine."

He is credited with not alone discovering chloroform, but also with being the first to use it medicinally.—I am, etc.,

Dublin, June 21st.

GEORGE FOY.

DESTRUCTION OF LICE AND OTHER BODY VERMIN.

SIR,—I have read Dr. J. Parlane Kinloch's admirable article in the *JOURNAL* of June 19th with very great interest. I am commandant of the 7th Northumberland Voluntary Aid Hospital, where patients are taken in from the local "billets," often in a verminous condition, and I write to beg that Dr. Kinloch would be so good as to make a suggestion as to how best to deal with the condition in the most economical way. It would be sufficient for my purposes if I could "disinfect" the kit of only one man at a time, and it would appear that the provision of a dry-cleaning bath and extractor would be unnecessarily expensive; yet I wish to use petrol rather than any other agent, as it is easily obtainable here, and its use would not require that the clothes (uniform particularly) should be dry-cleaned afterwards, as is the case, I understand, after using the phenol derivatives; indeed, to use the latter would necessitate some appliance to raise the temperature to 65° C., which we do not possess.—I am, etc.,

Monkseaton, Northumberland, June 22nd.

H. E. DAVISON.

Obituary.

SURGEON-GENERAL ARTHUR JAMES PAYNE, of the Bengal Medical Service (retired), died on May 21st, aged 88. He was born on October 21st, 1826, the son of Quartermaster Payne, of the Grenadier Guards; educated at King's College, London, took the diploma of M.R.C.S. in 1847, and the degree of M.D.Lond. in 1848. He was also B.A. of London University. He was nominated an assistant surgeon in the I.M.S. on December 20th, 1848, became surgeon on February 1st, 1863, surgeon-major on December 20th, 1868, and deputy surgeon-general on September 13th, 1879, retiring with a step of honorary rank on February 1st, 1885. After serving in the artillery for a short time after his arrival in India, in 1849, he entered civil employ in the North-West Provinces, and was civil surgeon of Fatehgarh and Gorakhpur in 1850-52. In 1852 he reverted to military duty, and on December 27th, 1855, was appointed garrison surgeon of Fort William, and spent the whole of the rest of his thirty years' service in Calcutta. On October 31st, 1856, he entered civil employ in Bengal, as second assistant surgeon of the Presidency European

General Hospital, and in 1863 was appointed superintendent of the Calcutta lunatic asylums, holding that post till his promotion to the administrative grade in 1879. In 1880 he became administrative medical officer of the province of Bengal, with the local rank of surgeon-general. Though he was serving in India during the Mutiny, the *Army List* assigns him no war service. At the time of his death he was third in seniority of the retired officers of the Bengal Medical Service, after Surgeon-Majors H. B. Hinton and W. F. Mactier.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL MONTAGUE STOKES EYRE, Madras Medical Service (retired), died at Bath on May 29th. He was educated at Edinburgh University, where he took the M.B. and C.M. in 1876, and entered the I.M.S. as surgeon on September 30th, 1876, becoming surgeon-major on September 30th, 1888, and surgeon-lieutenant-colonel on September 30th, 1896. He retired on April 7th, 1907. Though most of his thirty years' service was spent in military employ, the *Army List* assigns him no war service. He was the second son of the late Edmund Walter Eyre, Inspector-General of Hospitals, Madras.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL GEORGE TURNER TREWMAN, R.A.M.C. (retired), died suddenly on June 13th, aged 59. He was born on September 12th, 1855, the eldest son of the late Rev. Arthur Peile Trewman, vicar of Ilminster, Somersetshire, educated at Westminster Hospital, and took the diplomas of L.S.A. in 1876, and of M.R.C.S. in 1878, and the degree of M.B.Durh. in 1879. He entered the army as surgeon on July 30th, 1881, became surgeon-major on July 30th, 1893, lieutenant-colonel on July 30th, 1901, and went on half-pay on March 17th, 1904. He retired on August 3rd of the same year, but had been re-employed during the war. He served at Suakin in the Soudan campaign of 1885, and received the medal with a clasp, and the Khedive's bronze star.

MAJOR ARTHUR TREGELLES PRIDHAM, Indian Medical Service, died suddenly on June 6th. He was the second son of the late Arthur E. Pridham of Plymouth, and was born on August 4th, 1877. He was educated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and took the diplomas of M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P.Lond. in 1899, and graduated M.B.Lond. in 1900, in which year he obtained the Brackenbury medical scholarship. After acting as house-physician at St. Bartholomew's and at the Queen's Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, he entered the I.M.S. as lieutenant on September 1st, 1902, becoming captain on September 1st, 1905, and major on September 1st, 1914. He was appointed medical officer of the 8th Gurkha Rifles in 1907, and in 1912 went into civil employ in Burma as Superintendent of the Rangoon Central Gaol, but had been on sick leave since October 6th, 1913. He served in the Abor campaign on the North-East frontier of India in 1911-12, and received the medal with a clasp.

The Services.

TERRITORIAL FORCE.

EXCHANGES OF MEDICAL OFFICERS.

CAPTAIN J. M. POSTLETHWAITE, 1st East Lancashire Field Ambulance (T.F.), whose request for an exchange was published in the *JOURNAL* of May 1st, asks us to state that, as he is now at the front on active service, an exchange is no longer desired, and in any case would be difficult.

Universities and Colleges.

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER.

The following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

M.D.—J. S. B. Stopford (awarded gold medal), G. C. Mort.

In the three weeks ending June 19th, 19 cases of plague with 17 deaths were reported at Hong Kong. In Mauritius there was one fatal case of the disease on June 14th.