

officers of health are, for the most part, very meagre, consisting mainly of recapitulation of the individual nuisances reported on during the year. Some sanitary improvements have been carried out in a piecemeal fashion; but, it is probable that far more systematic and satisfactory progress would have been made, if the sanitary authority had had the uniformity of advice, and the opportunity of personal conference, at their meetings, which the appointment of a single competent officer would have afforded them".

This entirely bears out the arguments brought forward by the deputation who recently waited on Mr. Dodson with regard to this very subject; and it is to be hoped that the President of the Local Government Board will see fit to consider, in the recess, whether some stop should not be put to the Board's toleration of such appointments as these.

MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

SIR,—In a leading article of a recent issue of the *Home News*, the editor remarks, with reference to the Indian Medical Service: "Although the military branch of the service has been seriously depreciated, the civil branch has undoubtedly been improved, and now affords to candidates for the public service a career calculated to attract to its ranks men of real ability. All that is now wanted are some further slight modifications in the interest of the military branch."

Now, sir, the "modification" I would suggest, from the experience of several years' service in India, would be the complete amalgamation of the military branch of the Indian Medical Service with, or its absorption into, the Army Medical Department. The details could be easily arranged, and we would then—the civil branch being entirely eliminated and independent—have one military medical department, and hear no more of one service or branch being improved at the expense of the other, of any detriment arising from the duties of military officers being administered or superintended by men fresh from civil employ, or the complaints of the latter that officers of the Army Medical Department supersede them. The fact of the matter is, the Indian medical officers want the best of both services, to hold well-paid civil appointments as executives, and afterwards have the higher administrative grades of Deputy Surgeon-General and Surgeon-General, which should be the reward of military service. It is absurd that men should spend twenty or more years in civil employment, and then expect to be pitchforked into posts requiring an intimate knowledge of military men and military duties. The authorities appreciate the difficulty. Hence the six months' probation in medical charge of a Native infantry (!) required prior to promotion, and which is now being undergone by a medical officer who was recently officiating as Deputy Surgeon-General and Principal Medical Officer of a division in the field! The civil branch should become a distinct service, affording, as it does, a career for real ability, and giving ample scope for the talent of our Eurasian brethren, who are unfitted for military service. The latter might then be appointed locally, as you suggest in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of July 23rd, to various suitable and congenial posts.—Yours, etc.,

INDIAN ARMY MEDICAL OFFICERS.

SIR,—Will you allow me to draw your attention to a grievance long experienced by the junior officers of the Army Medical Department serving in India; namely, the low rate of pay during the first six years of their service. A surgeon in Class A at home draws, with allowances, £300 a year, and a surgeon in Class B £350 a year. On being sent to India, he finds himself entitled to draw a consolidated pay, including all allowances, of 317 rupees a month, which, at the present rate of exchange, is only £17 more than the pay of a surgeon in Class A, and £33 a year less than that of a surgeon in Class B at home. On the issue of the new warrant of the 27th November, 1879, no mention was made of the fact, that the advantages offered in it did not apply to officers serving in India, and it was not until a considerable number of candidates were admitted, that a foot-note was added, saying that: "This warrant did not apply to India". An officer, therefore, finds himself in India drawing comparatively less pay than at home, while his expenses are nearly double; consequently, he is barely able to live. The relative rank of captain carries with it in India no advantage of any kind, as the pay is about £100 a year less than a combatant officer of the same rank.

From the foregoing facts, you will see that a junior officer, on completion of his tour of five years' service in India, is as poor, if not poorer, than when he left home; and finds himself, on his return to England, very much in the same position as when he first entered the service.

Hoping that this will appear to be no groundless grievance, and that the authorities will be led to see the justice, as well as the necessity, of improving the pay of junior medical officers serving in India, I am, your obedient servant,
Bombay. JUNIOR.

LIVERPOOL PORT.—Dr. Stopford Taylor has the satisfaction to state that not one case occurred in this port last year in which it was necessary to serve a notice or take legal proceedings, the owners of ships having readily complied with every requirement. From September 6th (when the port-inspector commenced his duties) to December 31st, 1,678 vessels were inspected, of which 364 were steamships and 1,314 sailing-vessels. The chief defect discovered was the dirty condition of the fore-castle, which was noticed in 117 vessels; whilst 11 were found with faulty bulkheads, and 6 with defective water-closets. All others were found in a fair sanitary condition. Sixteen vessels were reported with disease on board, the chief of which were fever-cases from New York. Measles was very prevalent on board the training-ship *Conway* during August and September. The patients were treated by their own medical attendant; the ship was disinfected and cleansed by the crew; and 1,535 articles of clothing, etc., were disinfected by the port sanitary authority.

MEDICAL NEWS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentleman passed his Examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received a certificate to practise, on Thursday, September 22nd, 1881.

Wigan, Charles Arthur, Portishead, Somerset.

The following gentlemen also on the same day passed their Primary Professional Examination.

Forrest, James Rocheid, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Vivian, George Ernest, St. Thomas's Hospital.

Whitten, Samuel, Mercer's Hospital, Dublin.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

BETHLEM HOSPITAL.—Two Resident Medical Students. Applications to A. M. Jeaffreson, Esq., Bridewell Hospital, Blackfriars, E.C., by October 1st.

CLINICAL HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, Park Place, Manchester—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications to Mr. E. W. Marshall, Secretary, 38, Bacloen Arcade, Manchester, by October 8th.

DENTAL HOSPITAL, Leicester Square—Dental Surgeon. Applications by October 10th.

DREADNOUGHT HOSPITAL, Greenwich—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications by October 8th.

EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Shadwell, E.—Lady Superintendent. Salary, £60 per annum. Applications to the Secretary by Oct. 8th.

ESSEX AND COLCHESTER HOSPITAL.—Physician. Applications by October 5th.

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION, Brompton.—Lady Superintendent. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by October 5th.

HOSPITAL FOR EPILEPSY AND PARALYSIS, Portland Terrace.—Physician. Applications to Arthur Reade, Secretary, by October 12th.

HULME DISPENSARY, Manchester—House-Surgeon. Salary, £130 per annum. Applications to Dr. Wahlteuch, Honorary Secretary, by October 20th.

LEAVESDEN ASYLUM FOR IMBECILES, near Watford, Herts.—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £120 per annum. Applications by October 4th.

LEEDS PUBLIC DISPENSARY.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications by October 15th.

PLYMOUTH PUBLIC DISPENSARY.—Assistant Physician. Salary, £60 per annum. Applications to the Honorary Secretary by the 4th October.

QUEEN'S HOSPITAL, Birmingham—Second Casualty Surgeon. Applications by October 5th.

RICCARTSBAR ASYLUM, Paisley—Medical Officer. Salary, £60 per annum. Applications to R. Rowand, Inspector of Poor, Paisley, by October 6th.

TOWNS HOSPITAL AND ASYLUM, Glasgow—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications, etc., to Dr. Robertson by October 10th.

WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL.—House-Surgeon. Applications by October 7th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

ANDREW, E., M.D., appointed Surgeon to the Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital for Shropshire and Wales.

BUSBY, A. R., M.R.C.S., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Bath General or Mineral Water Hospital.

CARTER, R. B., F.R.C.S., appointed Consulting Surgeon to the Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital for Shropshire and Wales.

OZANNE, F. N., M.R.C.S., appointed House-Surgeon to the Weston-super-Mare Hospital and Dispensary.

SMYTH, Sydney, M.R.C.S., appointed House-Surgeon and Secretary to the Royal Isle of Wight Infirmary, *vice* C. B. Beresford, M.R.C.S., resigned.

WADDELL, C., M.D., appointed Assistant Surgeon to the Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital for Shropshire and Wales.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, is 3s. 6d., which should be forwarded in stamps with the announcements.

BIRTHS.

DAVEY.—On September 21st, at Ash Grove, Barkway, Royston, the wife of Francis A. Davey, M.R.C.S.E., L.S.A., of a son.

HOFFMEISTER.—On the 15th of September, at 3, Cambridge Road, Brighton, the wife of Dr. J. B. Hoffmeister, of a son.

LUCY.—On September 28th, at the Elms, Bush Hill Park, Enfield, the wife of William C. Lucy, M.D., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

EAMES—LORD.—On the 22nd inst., at All Saints', Hamer, by the Rev. C. F. D. Hodge, M.A., Vicar, James Crompton Eames, M.D., son of Dr. Eames, Barnfield House, Kersley, near Manchester, to Florence, eldest daughter of Thomas B. Lord, Townhead, Rochdale.

WILLIAMS—STOREY.—September 23rd, at St. Cuthbert's, North Meols Parish Church, by the Rev. J. H. Bartlett, Henry Clarence Williams, L.R.C.P., etc., Southport, to May, daughter of the late John Storey, Esq., of Moss Side in Furness. No cards.

DEATH.

BOLTON.—On September 21st, at Horncastle, Georgiana Caroline, the beloved wife of Albert E. Bolton, Surgeon, and daughter of the late Rev. William Williams, Vicar of Croft, Lincolnshire.