

of awards to 161 institutions, being three more than last year, and an increase of 56 since the first awards were made in 1873. The total amount available for distribution, after allowing sufficient for liabilities and the usual current expenses, is £40,746; of this, £38,481 5s. was now recommended to 111 hospitals and 50 dispensaries. Five per cent. of the total collected is set apart to purchase surgical appliances. The amount raised this year already exceeds a little that of last year, and is expected to exceed it by about £700 or £800—an amount which, we fear, falls far short of the expectations of the promoters of this important fund.

NAVAL AND MILITARY MEDICAL SERVICES.

FOURTH DIVISION VOLUNTEER MEDICAL STAFF CORPS.

THE third annual inspection of this corps was held at Old Trafford, the inspecting officer being Brigade-Surgeon Close, Principal Medical Officer of the North-Western District. The division was commanded by Surgeon Crookwell, the other officers present being Surgeons Coates, Darwin, and Boyd. There were eighty-six rank and file on parade wearing the new Slade Wallace equipment. The inspecting officer expressed his approval of the way in which the several cases of supposed injuries (such as broken limbs, wounds, etc.) had been treated, also of the excellence of the drill, and the extremely good equipment and clothing of the men.

HINTS TO ARMY MEDICAL CANDIDATES.

COTOPAXI writes: Just a few words to intending candidates, so that they may enter the service with their eyes open, instead of learning in the school of bitter experience.

1. Home pay and allowances are good, but bring with them little amenity, either of a social or military kind. The regiment whose sick you attend will usually carefully ignore you.
2. Your sojourns at home will be short. India will be your goal, with the magnificent pay of 317½ rupees a month all told, from which you must find everything—home, servants, tents, and meet a host of unavoidable incidental expenses. The exchange rupee is only worth about 1s. 4d., and its purchasing power in India lessens every year.
3. Whether at home or abroad, you must not look for any real military status. You will have less *bonâ fide* military rank than a warrant officer. The Adjutant-General says you are a mere hindrance to the military machine with your "silly" talk about health and sanitation. He knows much more on every subject than you. You are unfit for any military substantive rank, and in the very nature of things inferior to the "fighting caste."
4. You will not complain of stagnation. Your portmanteau must be always packed, for you will be sent flying from place to place on the shortest notice. These are some of the worries and troubles in store for you if you determine to enter the Army Medical Service as at present constituted.

THE MEDICAL STAFF.

SURGEON-MAJOR WILLIAM VENUOR has been granted retired pay. His commissions are dated:—Assistant-Surgeon, September 22nd, 1858; Surgeon, March 1, 1873; and Surgeon-Major, January 30th, 1875. He served (says *Hart's Army List*) throughout the second phase of the Ashanti campaign from December 13th, 1873 (medal); with the 15th Hussars in the Afghan war of 1878-80 with the Candahar column, including the advance to Khelat-i-Ghilzie, and was present at the affair of Takht-i-Pul in medical charge of a squadron of the 15th Hussars and a half battery of Royal Horse Artillery (medal); in the Soudan Expedition under Sir Gerald Graham in 1884 in charge of a hospital ship at the base (mentioned in despatches, medal, and Khedive's Star); and with the Burmese Expedition in 1885-87 in medical charge of No. 16, British Field Hospital, and as Principal Medical Officer, 5 Brigade, Shwebo, under Brigadier-General Stewart (mentioned in despatches, medal with clasp).

Surgeon R. E. FOOT, M.D., who entered the service July 28th, 1886, has now resigned his commission.

Deputy Surgeon-General JOHN EWING died at Alderney Street, London, on July 27th, at the age of 73. Entering as Assistant Surgeon May 21st, 1841, he became Surgeon March 2th, 1852; Surgeon-Major, May 21st, 1861; and Deputy Surgeon-General December 7th, 1867. He retired on half-pay April 28th, 1876. From *Hart's Army List*, we learn, that he served in the Eastern campaign from November, 1854, including the siege and fall of Sebastopol (medal with clasp, and Turkish medal). He was with the 95th Regiment in the Indian Mutiny campaign in 1858, and was at the siege and capture of Kotah, the battle of Kotah-ke-Seral, and the general action resulting in the capture of Gwalior (medal).

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

SURGEON-MAJOR GEORGE HENDERSON, M.D., of the Bengal Establishment, has leave of absence on private affairs for 1 year and 150 days, embarking on or after July 16.

Surgeon THOMAS ALEXANDER WISE, M.D., late of the Bengal Establishment, and whose commission dated as far back as February 2nd, 1844, died at Upper Norwood on July 23rd, at the advanced age of 87.

MILITIA AND VOLUNTEERS.

MR. JOHN BRUNT, late Surgeon in the Royal Navy, is appointed Captain in the 3rd and 4th Battalions of the Manchester Regiment (late the 6th Lancashire Militia). Captain Brunt was Surgeon of the *Agin-court* during the Egyptian war of 1882, and has the Medical and Khedive's Bronze Star for the campaign.

Surgeon R. CLARK, 5th Lancashire Artillery has resigned his commission, dating from February 1st, 1889.

Surgeon R. PATRICK, M.D., 9th Lancashire Artillery, is promoted to be Surgeon-Major (ranking as Major).

Acting Surgeons O. GRANT, M.B., and J. M. CHAPMAN, M.B., 1st Inverness Artillery, are promoted to be Surgeons.

Surgeon W. ROBINSON, M.B., 2nd West Riding of Yorkshire (Leeds) Engineers, has resigned his appointment, which was dated August 17, 1881.

Surgeon-Major (ranking as Lieutenant-Colonel) A. G. MILLER, Queen's Rifle Volunteer Brigade, the Royal Scots (late the 1st Edinburgh), has resigned his commission, which bore date February 1st, 1889, that of Surgeon being May 10th, 1864; he is permitted to retain his rank and uniform.

Surgeon J. S. HOLDEN, M.D., 2nd Volunteer Battalion, Suffolk Regiment (late the 6th Suffolk), is promoted to be Surgeon-Major (ranking as Major).

Acting Surgeon K. CRAN, M.B., 5th Volunteer Battalion, Gordon Highlanders (late the 1st Kincardine and Aberdeen), has resigned his appointment, which was dated February 2nd, 1889.

MEDICO-LEGAL AND MEDICO-ETHICAL.

BABY FARMING.

DR. MACDONALD, coroner for the north-east division of Middlesex, held an inquiry in the Board room of the Hackney Union Workhouse on July 25th, into the circumstances attending the death of Maurice Frank Marriner, aged five months, the illegitimate son of Minnie Marriner. Mr. Evans, the surgeon called in by the relieving officer of the district, reported: "I have to-day visited No. 3, Lea Terrace, Glyn Road, and found the front parlour used as a bedroom for eight people. The room was in a most filthy condition. There are three children, aged six years, four years, and four months, whose mother is seldom at home, and the children are supposed to be under the care of Martha Forward, an unfortunate girl, not 20 years of age, who rents the room, and has a child of her own. George Marriner, aged six years, in filthy condition, and head swarming with vermin; Minnie, aged four years, in a worse state still. They are both insufficiently clothed. The baby, Maurice Frank, aged five months, only weighs 7 pounds. He presented a most emaciated appearance, evidently impropriately and insufficiently fed, and had every appearance of being neglected, eczema pervading the buttocks and thighs, probably caused by neglect." The jury returned the following verdict:—"That the deceased died from exhaustion, consequent on insufficient food and insanitary surroundings, and that the mother was guilty of manslaughter; and further, that Martha Forward was deserving of severe censure for her conduct with regard to the deceased."

THE INSURANCE OF CHILDREN.

To the already long list of crimes committed for the sake of the insurance money one more murder must, it is to be feared, be added. At the Derby Assizes a few days ago George Horton was convicted of the wilful murder of his little daughter, 8 years old. That the child died from strychnine poisoning was incontestably proved. Putting aside the fact that the child had stated that her father had given her some blue stuff in a cup out of a bottle, the case for the prosecution rested mainly on two points. One was that the prisoner, who had gone out to his work before any marked symptoms of illness in his child declared themselves, had returned about an hour after her death without having been to his work and without giving any reason for his return. The other was that, when informed of his child's death, he betrayed no surprise, and did not inquire into the cause of it or the manner in which it had occurred. The only motive that could be assigned for the murder was that she had been insured in April, 1888, and that, on her death a year after that date, the sum of £7 would become payable.

CORONERS AND MEDICAL WITNESSES.

MR. SETTLE held an inquest on July 11th at West Hartlepool on the body of Elizabeth Burn, aged 21, a single woman, who died the same day at 36, York Street, the residence of her parents. The evidence showed that the deceased was confined of a female child on Sunday week, but was not seen by a doctor, having been attended by a Mrs. Holborn. She progressed fairly well until Monday, when a change for the worse took place. Dr. Gourley's assistant was called in, but the unfortunate young woman succumbed shortly after.—The foreman of the jury (Mr. W. Reed) asked if the doctor was present to give evidence. He should like to know why a certificate was refused.—The Coroner: The doctor need not give any reason she died, and we want to have his evidence. We want to know why he did not give a certificate.—The Coroner replied that the doctor's evidence was not necessary.—The Foreman: But we want to know his motive. It is through his action these poor people have been brought here.—The Coroner: You have no right, sir, to inquire into his motive, and he won't tell you if you do.—The Foreman: But how can we decide the cause of death unless we hear what the doctor has to say?—A jurymen: Can't you give a certificate, Mr. Coroner?—The Coroner: I cannot do so without your sanction. You may surmise, but you have no right to say why a certificate was refused. The poor woman was probably quite as well attended as she would have been by a doctor, and at much less expense.—The Foreman: No doubt. We are quite satisfied that she was well cared for, and that no blame rests upon anyone, but