

Anderson, B.A., Pemb.; Barber, B.A., Cai.; Barraclough, B.A., Joh.; Bates, B.A., Queen's; Beedham, B.A., Christ's; Bond, B.A.; Borchards, B.A., Cai.; Cameron, B.A., Joh.; F. P. Cayley, B.A., Trin.; A. V. Clarke, Cai.; Cooper, Emman.; Cornwall, B.A., Trin.; A. Cortes, M.A., Trin. H.; Cundy, M.A., Trin.; E. G. Daniel, B.A., Emman.; N. Devereux, B.A., H. Selw.; Garner, B.A., Emman.; Garrad, B.A., Clare; Gordon, King's; W. J. Harris, B.A., Cai.; Haward, B.A., Sid.; Hedges, B.A., Sid.; Higginson, B.A., Cai.; Hobart, B.A., Cai.; F. A. S. Hutchinson, B.A., Trin.; Irving, B.A., Cai.; Jackson, B.A., Clare; Jerrard, B.A., Cai.; T. P. King, B.A., Joh.; G. J. K. Martyn, B.A., Cai.; G. P. Mathew, B.A., Trin. H.; Maxwell, B.A., Joh.; Nowell, B.A., Cath.; Pead, B.A., Down; Lt. Powell, B.A., Trin.; Reece, B.A., Down; Saw, B.A., Trin.; Sparks, B.A., Cai.; Stewart, M.A., Christ's; C. S. Storrs, B.A., Emman.; Swainson, B.A., Christ's; Thurnell, B.A., Emman.; C. H. S. Vinter, B.A., Cai.; C. C. Webb, B.A., Clare.

THIRD M.B. EXAMINATION.—Part I (*Surgery and Midwifery*). Barrett, B.A., Cai.; Brooksbank, B.A., Trin. H.; Carr, B.A., Trin.; Chappel, B.A., Cai.; Connop, B.A., Cai.; Coulby, B.A., Trin.; Crofton-Atkins, B.A., Clare; Doman, B.A., Cai.; Durham, M.A., King's; Evans, B.A., Joh.; Floyd, B.A., Clare; Heppell, B.A., Cai.; Hollis, B.A., Sid.; Joyce, B.A., Queen's; P. Langdon-Down, B.A., Trin.; W. T. Lister, B.A., Trin.; G. A. Mason, B.A., Joh.; Master, B.A., H. Cav.; Melsome, M.A., Queen's; Pa'erson, B.A., Trin.; Pinder, Queen's; C. N. Thomas, B.A., Trin.; Thomas, B.A., H. Cav.; W. W. Walker, B.A., Trin.; A. H. Wilson, B.A., Christ's; Windsor, B.A., Emman.; Young, B.A., Joh.

#### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

At the ordinary Council held on December 12th, the recommendation of the Board of Examiners in Dental Surgery, that the certificates of attendance on the practice of the dental department of the Royal Infirmary of Bristol should be recognised, was adopted.

## OBITUARY.

### SIR JAMES RISDON BENNETT, M.D., F.R.S.,

Ex-President of the Royal College of Physicians.

THE death of Sir Risdon Bennett, at the ripe age of 82 removes from the ranks of the profession one of its veterans who has filled with ability and credit some of the highest places in the profession, and had greatly interested himself in the administrative affairs of his College and of the profession, as well as in questions of scientific progress. As President of the College of Physicians during five years, as Chairman of the Executive of the International Medical Congress in London in 1881, as Senior and Consulting Physician and Governor of St. Thomas's Hospital, as a leading member of the General Medical Council, and actively interested in the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund, Sir Risdon Bennett worked hard, thought clearly, expressed himself with vigorous logic, and exercised a distinct influence in the control and guidance of the affairs of these important public bodies.

Sir James Risdon Bennett was the eldest son of the well-known Nonconformist minister, Dr. James Bennett. Evincing a taste for a medical career, he proceeded to Edinburgh University, where he graduated M.D. in 1833. After travelling for a time on the Continent he took up his abode in the metropolis. As a lecturer at Charing Cross Hospital he had as pupils more than one man who has since risen to occupy a foremost position in the medical and scientific world. In 1846 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, and held the office of Censor in 1857-8 and 1871. He gave the Croonian lectures in 1863, and the Lumsleian in 1870, taking as his subject "Cancerous and other Intrathoracic Growths," published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, and subsequently as a volume. He was elected to the staff of St. Thomas's Hospital, and afterwards became consulting physician and one of the governing body. Sir Risdon Bennett also held the position of physician to the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, and to the Orphan Work School, Haverstock Hill, and practised for many years in Finsbury Square, City. In 1876 he was called to fill the distinguished office of President of the Royal College of Physicians, to which he was re-elected for five years in succession. He was knighted in 1881. Those who saw him at the annual meeting of the British Medical Association at Bournemouth last August will remember that he then appeared to have before him many years of a hale old age.

Sir Risdon Bennett was a man of strong religious convictions, and had contributed to the literature of the Religious Tract Society, taking an active part in the work of this and the London Missionary Society. In this, as in other things, his convictions ruled his life, and set a stamp upon his character and work. This enabled him to fulfil a consistent part, and to carry himself throughout a long life so as to win respect and consideration even from those who differed from

his policy, and were not attracted by his somewhat reserved manner. He was not gifted with any great original power, initiative imagination, or sympathetic statesmanship; but calm and conscientious in mind, and resolved to adhere to a high standard of conduct, he rose to high places and filled them blamelessly.

### GEORGE PARKER MAY, M.D. EDIN., J.P.

DR. GEORGE PARKER MAY, whose death recently occurred at his residence, Maldon, had reached the advanced age of 77. After graduating at the Edinburgh University he practised at Maldon successfully with his father, and later in partnership with Dr. Gutteridge, until about two years ago, when he retired from general and confined himself solely to consulting practice. In 1853 his name was placed on the commission of the peace, and his services in this capacity recommended him to the Lord-Lieutenant, who appointed him a justice of the peace for the county, and for many years he was an active member of the Latchington bench. In 1874 he was unanimously elected Mayor, and again occupied the chair in 1880.

Dr. May filled a number of public offices, and was one of the original members of the 23rd Essex Rifle Volunteers, to whom he acted as assistant-surgeon for several years. Dr. May was an occasional contributor to our columns, and was the author of a volume of poems of more than average merit. The deceased was attended in his last illness by Dr. Gutteridge, who called into consultation Sir Edward Sieveking. The funeral, which was of a semi-public character, testified to the warm esteem in which he was held.

## PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

### POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

#### HOUSING OF RURAL LABOURERS.

THE Chelmsford rural sanitary authority have recently had under consideration the miserable condition of a number of cottages in the village of Good Easter. Dr. Thresh, the medical officer of health, described many as unfit for habitation, but condemned only three in the first instance owing to lack of house accommodation elsewhere. It was stated that several of the principal landowners in the parish do not own a single cottage. It is most satisfactory to find that Dr. Thresh has the warm support of the authority in dealing with this matter, one of the most difficult problems in rural sanitation. Where houses are clearly unwholesome they ought to be condemned for the same reason that unsound food is condemned, and if private enterprise and philanthropy fail to supply a sufficient number of decent dwellings for those whose work compels them to live in a particular locality, then the sanitary authority have powers under the third part of the Housing of the Working Classes Act. In another matter the rural sanitary authority are in advance of the urban district of Chelmsford—namely, in the provision of means of hospital isolation. Neither district has any accommodation of this kind at present, but the rural authority have decided to proceed at once, while the urban authority still show no sign.

#### COMPULSORY NOTIFICATION: NEW FORM OF CERTIFICATE.

THE Local Government Board have issued an order prescribing a new form of certificate for the notification of infectious disease in the metropolis after January 1st next. This new form has become necessary in consequence of Section 55 of the new Public Health (London) Act, which comes into force in the new year, and requires fuller information to be given in the certificate in the future than hitherto. The new certificate must state the name, in full, of the patient, the age and sex of the patient, the full postal address of the house of which the patient is an inmate, if an inmate of a hospital the place from which the patient was brought to the hospital must be stated, together with the date at which the patient was so brought, the name of the infectious disease from which the patient is suffering. It must also state whether the case has occurred in the private practice of the practitioner certifying or in his practice as medical officer of a public body or institution. The certifier will also have to know or ascertain the sanitary district in which his patient is resident, and as this is often a matter of no small difficulty it would be well if the plan adopted in some districts of distributing a map, or diagram, or description of the sanitary district were generally adopted throughout the metropolis.

#### POST-MORTEM EXAMINATIONS IN WORKHOUSES.

OUR attention has been directed to a recently published account of a meeting of a provincial board of guardians, at which the question of the medical officer of the workhouse making *post-mortem* examinations on the bodies of the inmates without some special authority was discussed and unfavourably commented on by several of the guardians present. We may point out that though, from a professional point of view, such examinations may often be desirable, yet that the regulations under which a workhouse medical officer holds his appointment do not sanction the practice; and that if in any particular case a *post-mortem* examination is made, there should be a special reason for it, and some general or special permission should be obtained. The practice of indiscriminately