

aming the rectum, a growth could just be reached, and left lumbar colotomy was rapidly performed. From the first incision the pulse became more feeble and the respirations shallower. He ceased to administer the anæsthetic, and gave injections of brandy, and no more ether was given, but he quietly sank, the pulse and respirations slowly failing, and a few seconds after the completion of the operation the patient ceased to breathe, the pulse having been imperceptible at the wrist for about two minutes previously; artificial respiration produced no effect. A very small quantity of ether was used, and the anæsthetic was stopped for five minutes before death. The necropsy revealed free gas in the peritoneal cavity, which had escaped through a perforation at the base of one of the numerous stercosal ulcers in the cæcum. There was extensive carcinoma of the upper part of the rectum, forming a mass which pressed upon the bladder, which accounted for his bladder symptoms, and there were numerous secondary growths in the liver. The heart was normal. There was some congestion of both bones of the lungs, which were otherwise healthy. As will be seen from the above particulars, the patient's death can scarcely be attributed to the ether, but was rather due to shock, added to his collapsed condition subsequent to the perforation of the bowel.

### THE BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA AND IMPERIAL NEEDS.

THE Subcommittee of the Melbourne and Victoria Branch appointed, in accordance with the request of the General Medical Council, to make suggestions with a view of assisting the Pharmacopœia Committee of the General Medical Council have now presented their report. Our Melbourne correspondent writes that the report has been conscientiously and carefully compiled, and contains a good deal of information which is bound to be of service to the Home Committee. The recommendations consist:—

1. In enumerating a large number of medicinal plants in the *B.P.* which grow in this colony equally as well as in the regions recognised as official, and in suggesting that, as far as Victoria is concerned, the present restriction as to growth and preparation should be removed.
2. To introduce the preparations of duboisina as official. The dose of duboisina would be  $\frac{1}{10}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a grain internally. In ophthalmic application 1 or 2 drops of a solution 4 grains to an ounce.
3. To adopt the metric system of weights and measures, and failing this, that the strength of the liquors of the alkalis revert to gr. j in  $\mathfrak{z}$  ij.
4. That certain official formulæ for eucalyptus alone be used.
5. That a number of preparations and drugs at present unused in practice and unnecessary in therapeutics be omitted from the new Pharmacopœia.
6. That adeps lanæ and paraffinum molle be altogether used as the bases for ointments, and that cacao butter be recognised as the sole basis for suppositories.
7. That the tests for chloroform, carbolic acid, and other drugs be improved, and that there be mentioned with the test the specific impurity of which it is destined to show the presence or absence.
8. That the standardisation of drugs such as opium be extended to other powerful drugs such as aconite, digitalis, etc.
9. That a number of new drugs and preparations be made official, such as chloral cum camphora, some of the elixirs and syrup compounds,  $\beta$  naphthol, salicylate of bismuth, salol, resorcin, ichthyol, ethyl chloride, malt extract, a solution of copaiba cubebs and buchu, and others.
10. That the list of tabellæ for hypodermic use and the trochisci be increased.
11. That, like the decoctions, all the infusions be made up to a definite quantity.
12. That in certain drugs (tabulated) the maximal doses should be increased, and in others the minimum dose lessened, and other inconsistencies rectified.
13. That an excessive dose be not dispensed unless it has been initialled or attention otherwise drawn to it by the prescriber.

### THE CHOLERA.

THE official weekly bulletin issued by the Imperial Board of Health on September 12th shows that from noon on September 3rd to noon on September 10th there were 36 cases and 15 deaths in the German Empire, against 53 and 21 respectively in the preceding week.

The number of cholera cases is constantly increasing in Galicia and Bukovina. Two further deaths were reported on September 12th from the Lemberg district in Galicia, the total number of cases in the province on September 12th being 118, with 75 deaths. In the Bukovina on the same day there were 12 cases and 4 deaths. The report issued on the morning of September 13th for the previous twenty-four hours announced 200 new attacks and 133 deaths in that interval. This includes 3 fatal cases in the town of Lemberg among the civil population, but there have also been deaths among the troops of the garrison. On September 15th 128 cases and 87 deaths occurred in Galicia, while 10 cases and 7 deaths occurred in the Bukovina.

The malady has made its appearance in the county of Pressburg in Hungary.

A Reuter's telegram from Constantinople, dated September 12th, states that, on account of the outbreak of cholera at Broussa, the Porte desired to impose on all arrivals from that place a quarantine of ten days, to be carried out at Touzla. The foreign members of the Sanitary Board refused to agree to this, as there is no lazaretto at Touza. The Turkish Government has consequently given directions that no arrivals from Broussa shall be allowed to enter Constantinople.

Fresh cases were reported on September 13th from Breslau, Thorn, Lurahütte, and Myslowitz. In consequence of the spread of cholera in Eastern Germany, the frontier of the district of Marienwerder has been closed against traffic from Russia, except at Ostlöttschin for railway passengers, and at Schillno for water traffic. Further, the Russian dealers have been prohibited from visiting as usual the weekly market in Posen. Two more fatal cases occurred at Dinsberg, on the Kiine, on board a vessel from Rotterdam. At Liège, on September 12th, 15 fresh cases of cholera and several deaths were reported.

The following cholera returns for Russia were published on September 15th: From September 8th to the 14th, in St. Petersburg, 92 cases and 50 death; and in Warsaw, 35 cases and 16 deaths. From August 12th to September 8th, in Plozk, 910 cases, 494 deaths. From August 27th to September 9th, in Nijni Novgorod, 535 cases and 347 deaths.

### LITERARY NOTES.

THE *St. Louis Clinique* has passed under the editorial control of Dr. Emory Lanphear, late of Kansas.

*La Clinique* is the name of a new monthly medical journal which has recently begun to appear in Montreal. It is to be devoted to diseases of the nose, throat, ears, and eyes.

In the Free Library at Manresa Road, Chelsea, there is now on view a collection of relics of and pertaining to John Keats. Among them are Keats's notebooks when he was a medical student. The relics are deposited in the place mentioned "on loan in perpetuity."

*Le Correspondant Médical*, a new journal which has begun to appear in Paris under the editorship of Dr. E. Leblanc, marks the invasion of medical periodical literature by the spirit of the "New Journalism." Each number will contain a biographical sketch of a medical celebrity, with a portrait.

The *American Journal of Insanity* has recently become the property of the American Medico-Psychological Association, of which it will henceforth be the accredited organ. The journal will be edited in the meantime by a publication committee, consisting of Dr. Edward Cowles, President; Dr. Henry M. Hurd, Secretary of the Association; and Dr. Richard Dewey, the last-named gentleman being in immediate editorial charge. The office of publication has been transferred to Chicago.

The publication of a series of classical medical works been commenced by Lehmann, of Munich, under the title of *Bibliothek medicinischer Klassiker*. The series is issued under the editorship of Dr. J. C. Huber. The first part has just been issued, and consists of "Die Gynäkologie (μερί γυναικείων) des Soranus von Ephesus." The translation is by Dr. H. Lüneburg, and the commentary by the editor.

A "General Register" to the first twenty volumes of the *Zeitschrift für Ethnologie* has just been issued. The index covers the years 1869-1888, and is divided into two parts, the first belonging to the *Zeitschrift* and the second to the *Verhandlungen der Berliner Gesellschaft für Anthropologie, Ethnologie, und Urgeschichte*. The arrangement is similar to most German indices, and consists of an "Autoren Register" and a "Sach Register." Of the uselessness of the former part a good illustration may be obtained by turning up "Virchow (R.)," under this head will be found nearly nine hundred references, these are to pages only, there being no indication of the nature of the reference.