there, when he occupied the position of resident medical officer, had he learnt what he considered to be the main elements of success for anyone who attempted to govern or administer: first, never to make any promise the fulfilment of which could not be ensured; secondly, to believe that one's own opinion was not the only opinion worth considering, but to listen to that of others. If these two principles were recognised and acted upon, it would be good for those who were governed, for the man who governed, and for those to whom he was responsible.

A recent reminiscence of the time when he was dressed (as Mr. Buckton Browne as house-surgeon to Sir John Erichsen's house-physician to Sir Russell Holland, and the successful competitor of Mr. Pepper for the office of house-surgeon to the late Mr. Marshall, he referred to his recent experiences in Matabeleland. "Whatever the country might think," he went on, "the kraals must be got to.")

I am anxious that the members of the profession to which I have the honour to belong should understand what took place. I myself, previous to our troubles last year, always hoped that the Matabele question would be settled without having recourse to force. I knew that Lobulg a had always said that he would never fight with the 'white man,' and I believed that he had absolute control over his people. I therefore believed that we should come through all our difficulties without any conflict. It was egotistical enough to think that even at Pretoria, when the trouble began, I should have been able to stave off any conflict. But I was two hundred miles away, and I will give you as short an account as I can of what happened. When I arrived in the evening, both sides had declared that they would carry off their goods in preparation for a battle. But the year before the same thing had happened, and I then took up a firm position and settled matters. I thought I might do the same thing again. It turned out I was wrong. As I went up to Victoria and saw the kraals burning in every direction I knew that only two things were possible: either we must abandon two thousand people, who would certainly have lost their all, including every white man, and there would have been such a butchering of Mashonas as had never been heard of before, or we must fight.

The war was over, after the settlement, I went over the whole facts, and I heard the same account from everyone. I found I was right in regard to the king. He never wanted to fight; but I was wrong with regard to the nation. The head men had entirely the upper hand of the king. There were only two people who did not want to fight—Lobengula himself and one of the Indunas who had paid a visit to England. So I wish you to know that I believe that the only possible method we could adopt. We were driven into the country. During the three preceding years we had done everything we possibly could to avoid such a thing as a conflict. No one could be more ready than I am to condemn any attempt to bring on a war with the utmost reluctance.

The health of the Secretaries, Dr. Radcliffe Crocker, and Mr. Quarril Silcock, was given by Dr. Poore, and acknowledged by those gentlemen.

LITERARY NOTES.

We understand that a work entitled The Insane and The Law is now in the press, and will shortly be issued. It is from the pen of Mr. Pitt Lewis, Q.C., who it will be remembered took an active part in the discussion on "Criminal Responsibility of the Insane" at the annual meeting of the British Medical Association at Bristol, 1894. He has had the advantage of the co-operation of Dr. Percy Smith, Medical Superintendent of Bethlem Royal Hospital, and of Mr. J. A. Hawke, Barrister-at-Law, and Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford. The book will deal with: (1) Detention and Treatment; (2) Maintenance; (3) Responsibility, both Civil and Criminal; and (4) Capacity, including that (a) as a witness (b) to make a will. The subjects will be treated in a way to make the book of value both to the legal and to the medical profession. It will contain a table of cases giving legal references to all the reports in which the cases may be found.

The first volume of the eighth German edition of Ziegler's well-known Textbook of Pathological Anatomy has appeared. It contains 1794 pages, and forms a large volume of 746 pages, with 458 illustrations, many of these being coloured. Dr. Donald MacAlister is engaged on the third English edition, which will be entirely rewritten, and include the advances made in the science since 1885.

DEATHS UNDER ANÆSTHETICS.

A.C.E. MIXTURE.

From a report which has been placed at our disposal we learn that the patient who died under an anæsthetic at the Middlesex Hospital on January 3rd was a very muscular man, but fat and of alcoholic habits. He had been admitted for appendicitis when the operation was proposed. The perforation of the appendix was suppurring, and there was induration of the glands in the neck. The anæsthetic, which was freshly-prepared A.C.E. mixture, was administered on an ordinary flannel inhaler. The patient struggled most violently and had to be restrained. After a little chloroform had been given he died. A.C.E. mixture was then resumed. After about two minutes the muscular rigidity became less marked. A little later the breathing became shallow, and the pupils, which had been contracted, began to dilate. The anæsthetic was discontinued, but the face became pale, and the radial pulse could not be felt. Finally, respiration stopped, the face later becoming very cyanosed. The operation had not been commenced, and the anæsthetic had not been given more than five minutes. The heat was immediately lowered and artificial respiration started. Hypodermic injections of ether and enemata of brandy were given: hot applications were made to the chest and amyl nitrite held to the nostrils, but no signs of animation appeared. Artificial respiration was discontinued after an hour. At the post mortem examination the right ventricle was found to be very dilated, and there was marked fatty infiltration of its wall. The left ventricle was also dilated, and its wall had undergone some fibrosis. The lungs were emphysematous, and these organs, together with the kidneys, brain, and spleen were markedly congested.

MEDICAL SICKNESS, ANNUITY, AND LIFE ASSURANCE FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

The usual quarterly meeting of the Executive and General Committee of this Society was held at 429, Strand, on January 16th, at 5 o'clock.

There were present the Chairman (Dr. de Havilland Hall) in the chair, Dr. James B. Ball, Mr. Fredk. Wallace, Dr. Major Greig, Mr. J. H. Bradley-James, Dr. J. W. Harmer, Mr. F. S. Edwards, Mr. Edward Bartlett, Dr. A. S. Gubb, Dr. W. Knowsley Sibley, Dr. F. J. Allan, Mr. R. S. Charsley, and Dr. G. W. Crowe.

The report of the Executive Committee for the year 1894 was presented, and shows that the Society has made excellent progress during the twelve months. The number of effective members has increased from 1,386 to 1,526, and the funds have largely grown in all three branches of the business. A sum of £3,000 has been paid from the Sickness Fund as a bonus to the members in that branch, but notwithstanding this heavy draft upon it the Sickness Fund has increased from £33,903 14d. 5d. to £35,160 3s. 4d. The total net result of the year is an increase of the funds from £71,523 3s. 3d. to £75,743 8s. 5d.

The Society is now a subscriber to the Royal Medical Benevolent College, and the votes thus obtained will be used to assist members of the Society or their relatives who may be living in the College. At present only one such candidate is known, namely, the son of a member who was accidentally killed in May last, but full discretion is left with the Chairman (Dr. de Havilland Hall) to help any other eligible candidate (being a member or relative of a member of the Society), and the Secretary will be glad to hear of any such case.

Prospectuses and other particulars can be obtained on application to Mr. F. Addiscott, Secretary, Medical Assurance Society, 33, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.