

was "phthisis pulmonalis." I have considered phthisis separately, and hope to publish full particulars at a later date. Cancer is also used in its registration meaning to include sarcoma and other malignant growths, afterwards in dealing with houses each neoplasm should be studied separately.

Deaths from Tuberculosis and Cancer.

Bath 32 years, 1866-1897, among a population of about 52,000 living in about 8,500 houses.				Cambridge. 19 years. 5,685 houses.		
Houses with 1 Death.	Tuberculosis.		Cancer.		Cancer.	
	Registered.	Calculated.	Registered.	Calculated.	Registered.	Calculated.
1	1,813	—	1111	—	428	—
2	473	188	95	70	7	15.3
3	112	12	6	2.8	3	0.34
4	47	0.6	—	0.09	—	—
5	12	0.02	—	—	—	—
6	7	—	—	—	—	—
7	2	—	—	—	—	—
8	1	—	—	—	—	—

These figures help to prove the infectivity of tuberculosis, if such proof were wanted, but having regard to the long-standing belief in family predisposition they would not be considered sufficient evidence if we had no other facts, and the influence of the dwelling might be denied; but where we do not get multiple deaths beyond the probable number I think we may exclude the house altogether. It may be illogical, but it seems easier to prove the negative by exclusion than to prove the positive when only some of the causes are known.—I am, etc.,

W. H. SYMONS,

April 3rd. Medical Officer of Health, City and County of Bath.

A CASE OF DEATH UNDER CHLOROFORM.

SIR,—In reference to the recent correspondence in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL¹ under this heading, may I ask why if failure of the circulation is due to the action of chloroform on the vasomotor centre that failure takes place after the chloroform is withdrawn?

In reference to Mr. Cathcart's case we are told,² "after this no more chloroform was given," and then the disquieting symptoms were noticed.

Now Dr. R. Kirk has shown³ that the lungs of animals are emptied of chloroform vapour in 10 to 20 seconds after it is discontinued, and that it is then when the blood is getting free from chloroform that circulatory disturbances may arise.

The explanation I have given⁴ is that the heart fails during the rise of blood pressure which occurs as the chloroform passes off; and this alone covers all the recorded facts of the case; hence also the good effects of nitrite of amyl, as in Mr. Stevenson's case.⁵

I have also pointed out that pain, as of an operation, continued during partial anæsthesia, would still further raise the blood pressure, and help to overpower the heart.—I am, etc.,

Brook Street, W., April 1st.

ALEXANDER HAIG.

DIPLOMAS AND DEGREES FOR OPTICIANS.

SIR,—Your remarks regarding the advertising of the so-called diploma F.S.M.C. are very praiseworthy and certainly correct. It is misleading to the public, as well as injurious to the medical practitioner, to say nothing of the unfairness to the optician's fellow tradesmen; and, as you remark, "That if the provision is enforced in its integrity, will go far towards removing the apprehensions which have arisen," permit me to inform you that the provision is not enforced, as

¹ BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, 1899, vol. i, p. 762.

² BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, 1899, vol. i, p. 468.

³ Lancet, 1893, vol. ii, p. 429.

⁴ Lancet, February, 1895.

⁵ BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, 1899, i, p. 661.

the advertisement [enclosed] will prove, although Mr. Thornthwaite, in his letter, states: "In order to still further protect the public and the medical profession, those students who are entitled to receive certificates shall sign a legal agreement in which they bind themselves not to advertise their diploma in any way which would lead the public to infer medical qualifications." He also states: "These restrictive covenants have not been 'revised,' as your article suggests;" probably they have never been "revised," but have they ever been "enforced"? Mr. Thornthwaite also states that the diploma is only lent to the holder, and can be recalled if the rules of the Company are disregarded. Then why should this man's diploma not be recalled if Mr. Thornthwaite's statements are true? I know a certain medical man, who is also an oculist, who is a considerable loser by this misleading advertisement, and I can positively prove that the public here are grossly imposed upon, inasmuch as they mistake the letters F.S.M.C. (Lond.) for a medical qualification; yet Mr. Thornthwaite states that the Spectacle Makers' Company have appointed a Committee to control the advertising of their students. I would like to ask Mr. Thornthwaite what his Committee are doing to permit the rules of the Company to be disregarded in this flagrant manner?—I am, etc.,

March 27th.

ENQUIRER.

OBITUARY.

WILLIAM SQUIRE, M.D., F.R.C.P.

It is with much regret that we have to record the death of Dr. William Squire, which took place at his residence, Danescombe, Ealing, on April 2nd.

Dr. Squire was born in 1826, and came of an old Bedfordshire family. On completing his medical education at University College, he went into practice in Orchard Street, where he remained until ten years ago, when he went to reside at Ealing, and removed his consulting rooms to Harley Street. It was during Squire's studentship that Liston performed in 1846 his first capital operation under ether, and Squire was concerned with his uncle, the late Mr. Peter Squire, in conducting some of the experimental work previous to Liston's demonstration in the operating theatre of the value of Morton's discovery.

To many of Dr. Squire's friends—and, indeed, to many in the profession who did not know him personally—he will be remembered as one of the small group of men who years ago devoted themselves to the study of epidemiology. The subject had always interested him, and in the midst of a busy life he contrived to find time for the observations and for the record of facts which were of especial value at a time when observers were comparatively few. How soon does infection begin? how long does it last? were questions which Dr. Squire had set himself to answer, and which were the opening sentences of a paper he contributed twenty-six years ago to the Epidemiological Society. The paper was based upon numerous carefully observed cases extending over many years, and supplied material which was not before available to the profession. The value of Dr. Squire's work was not limited to the information which he himself supplied; it set others thinking and recording, and indeed he himself contributed an admirable supplement to his first paper some two years later. It is not too much to say that our public health administrators owe him a debt of gratitude for providing material which has served over and over again to guide them in their practice.

Dr. Squire's study of epidemic disease led him to bring before the Epidemiological Society, to which indeed he was Secretary for some five years, other papers of interest. The calamitous outbreak of measles in Fiji in 1875, and the destruction by small-pox of an unvaccinated group of Esquimaux who visited Europe in 1880 were subjects that he dealt with in short and pithy papers. In all of his many contributions to works on medicine he kept in the forefront the subject of epidemiology, and his conclusions were in the main based upon his own observations, and, therefore, have a value far beyond those of writers who only generalise on the observations of others.

Dr. Squire published a collection of his essays in a small volume, *Collected Essays in Preventive Medicine* (1887); but his

best known writings are perhaps his articles on Croup and Diphtheria, *Reynolds's System of Medicine*, and on the Exanthemata, on Incubation, and on Measles, Rubella, Scarlet Fever, and Whooping-cough in *Quain's Dictionary of Medicine*. He gave much attention to the diseases of children, and published essays on *Infantile Temperature in Health and Disease*, on *Temperature Variations in the Diseases of Children*, and on the *Paralyses of Childhood*.

In past years he was a very regular attendant at most of the medical societies and at the meetings of this Association. His remarks in debate were always characterised by sound common sense, and showed a complete mastery of the subject he was discussing. For many years he was Physician to the St. George's Dispensary and to the North London Hospital for Disease of the Chest.

He was, too, a geologist and naturalist, and in very truth read "sermons in stones, and good in everything," which Nature had to show him, and it was a source of real delight to him, as it was to those who were fortunate enough to be his companions, to botanise in some country lane or woodland. An ardent student of Shakespeare, among his most cherished possessions were some early editions of the great writer's works.

Notwithstanding his enforced retirement owing to ill-health, Dr. Squire kept himself well abreast of medical progress, and to the last maintained a keen interest in that profession which he had served so well. He was of a most genial, kindly disposition, and many will mourn the loss of a warm friend, as his children do that of a most loving and tender father.

HEINRICH PORT, M.D.ERLANGEN, F.R.C.P.LOND.,
Physician to the German Hospital.

DR. HEINRICH PORT, who died on March 25th, was born at Nuremberg in Bavaria in 1843, and was the son of the Rev. Christoph Port, Pastor of the beautiful church of St. Lorenz at Nuremberg. He studied at Erlangen, Tübingen, Bonn, and Würzburg, took the degree of M.D. at Erlangen in 1866, and came to London in 1868 as Resident Medical Officer to the German Hospital at Dalston. He retained this post till 1872, but served in 1870-71 in the Franco-German war on the medical staff of the Bavarian army. For these services Dr. Port received the Bavarian Military Order of Merit, the highest distinction bestowed on non-combatant officers. In November, 1872, he was elected Hon. Physician at the German Hospital, an appointment which he held up to his death. Dr. Port became a Member of the College of Physicians in 1873, and a Fellow in 1886. He was a Fellow of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical, Medical and Hunterian Societies, and a Member of the Pathological and Clinical Societies, to which he made occasional contributions. He was also a Member of the British Medical Association and of the Metropolitan Counties Branch. For many years he acted as one of the Examining Physicians to the National Hospital for Consumption at Ventnor.

Dr. Port did not write much, principally because he was always engaged with practical work, but partly also on account of great modesty, thinking that others were better fitted than himself to give communications on those subjects to the knowledge of which he might have made valuable additions. He wrote, however, amongst other papers a good article on Multiple Sarcomata of the Skin, and translated into English the climato-therapeutic portion of von Ziemssen's *Handbook of General Therapeutics*.

Dr. Port was a very accomplished physician. He devoted much of his time to his duties at the German Hospital, where his loss will be severely felt. He was most conscientious; humane, and sympathetic to his patients, poor as well as rich; a thorough gentleman in character and a warm friend. He had been a strong man and had lived a healthful life; but about fifteen months ago obscure symptoms began to manifest themselves, which at first were regarded as effects of a doubtful attack of influenza. He suffered from pyrexia, nocturnal perspiration, great muscular weakness, unnatural sleepiness and emaciation, and with the exception of a transitory improvement during and after a holiday in Switzerland these symptoms gradually increased in intensity, and proved to be due to the development of malignant disease. Secondary tumours in the brain led a few days before death to left-sided convul-

sions and hemiplegia, followed by a semicomatose condition, from which he never rallied. Death came as a deliverer from sufferings, which would have been more than probable if he had lived longer.

MR. J. T. O'CONNELL HYNES of Nottingham died on Saturday, March 25th, after a few days' illness, at the age of 57. He had not been in robust health for some time, and only returned from a visit to Ireland on March 21st. The same night he was attacked with influenza followed by pneumonia. Mr. Hynes was born at Beeston, now almost a suburb of Nottingham, where his father, a medical man, was then in practice. He was educated at the Nottingham High School, and at Queen's College, Cork. He took the L.F.P.S.Glas. in 1871 and the L.S.A.Lond. in 1872. For a short time he acted as House-Surgeon to the Halifax Infirmary. So long ago as 1872 Mr. Hynes became Health Officer and Public Vaccinator to the No. 1 District of the Nottingham Union, an appointment which he continued to hold, together with a large private practice, until his death. In relation to matters outside his profession, Mr. Hynes displayed a particularly warm interest in volunteer work. He was for over thirty-nine years connected with the Robin Hoods, having joined the battalion in 1859. In 1872 he received his commission as Assistant Surgeon, and became Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel in 1895. By reason of his long service he was one of the first among the officers to receive the Volunteer Decoration. For many years he took a prominent part in the shooting competitions in connection with the battalion, and frequently attended the meetings of the National Rifle Association at Wimbledon. He was buried with full military honours on March 28th. Mr. Hynes was twice married, and leaves a widow, and one son by his first marriage.

WIDESPREAD regret has been caused at the sudden decease of Mr. JOHN BENSON, one of the most highly respected of the senior practitioners of Sheffield. He received his medical education at the Sheffield School of Medicine and Guy's Hospital, and obtained the diplomas of M.R.C.S. and L.S.A. in 1855. He was for a time Demonstrator of Anatomy in the Sheffield Medical School. During the many years he had been in practice in Sheffield he had acted always in accordance with the best traditions of the profession. He was a man of singularly upright character and was highly respected. On April 3rd he was attending to his professional duties and whilst engaged at the bedside of a patient was seized with fatal syncope. Of his children one son was associated with him and another is in practice in an outlying district.

MR. THOMAS ALLEN REED, the well-known shorthand writer, who died on March 29th, at the age of 73, for many years acted as stenographer to the Council of the British Medical Association, and reported the proceedings of the general meetings of the Association. He was a man of considerable force of character, of quiet, reserved courteous manner, and in every detail of his work extremely painstaking. Mr. Reed had been regarded for many years as the most eminent living shorthand writer. His skill was great; he had occupied for nearly half a century a foremost position among English reporters, and had given special attention to technical reporting, which caused his personal services to be in much request. He was, perhaps, the only reporter who had been specially sent on several occasions to the other side of the earth, having gone two or three times to India to report the proceedings of the National Congress, and having also, with assistants, reported the proceedings there of the Opium Commission, while his son is now engaged in the same work for the Plague Commission. Mr. Reed took part with the late Sir Isaac Pitman in the early popularising of the system of shorthand which has practically superseded all others. He remained throughout the dominant influence amongst those who practised it, and no time or labour seemed too great for him to devote to its interests. But he was also a man of considerable culture, well informed, and a pleasant writer. He was familiar with French and German, and published an adaptation of phonography to the French language.