My total five-year results up to June 30th, 1909, have been investigated and show that, with an increased operable ratio and the adoption of the abdominal method of operation, the absolute curability of my cases has risen from 5.5 to 10.2 per cent.

Results of Vaginal Hysterectomy for Cancer of the Cervix to June 30th, 1909.

52 operations in 288 patients.
Average operability about 18 %.
Death following operation, 1.
Patients survived five years and upwards, 16.
Absolute curability, 5.5 %.

Abdominal Hysterectomy for Cancer of the Cervix to June 30th, 1909.

32 cases in 98 patients.
Operable ratio, 32.5 %.
Deaths following operation, 9.
Free for five years and upwards, 10.
Absolute curability, 10.2 %.

Of the patients surviving operation 16 of 51 = 31 per cent. of the vaginal, and 10 of 23 = 43 per cent. of the abdominal, remained well and free from recurrence for five years and upwards.

It follows from my experience that, although the final results hitherto obtained in this country are inferior to those of the best Continental clinics, they are steadily improving and may be confidently expected still further so to do. The immediate mortality of the extended abdominal hysterectomy for cervical cancer has fallen; thus, in my own work, in the six years ending Dec. 31st, 1913, there were 6 deaths in 62 operations, a rate of about 10 per cent. The operable ratio has doubled in the last ten years, and may be expected to rise considerably further when the possibilities of the operation are grasped by the profession at large and by the public. The total number of patients remaining free from recurrence for five years and upwards has also increased nearly twofold in the last decade, and we may hope before long with the surgical methods now at our disposal to achieve an absolute curability of 25 per cent. of all cases of cancer of the uterine cervix.

Hardly a year passes free from the joyous announcement of new and certain cures for cancer. Every new treatment is hailed with acclamation, tried with enthusiasm, claimed to be almost consciously selective in its action on the cancer cells, and then is dropped quietly into the oblivion of disappointing and forgotten things. Hitherto surgical methods alone have stood the test of time and have justified their use, not only by progressively improving results, but also by affording opportunities for increasing our knowledge of the pathology of the fell disease in the human race. The exact nature and the mode of origin of cancer are still veiled from our view, and the seer who shall expound these is eagerly awaited. In the meantime it behoves us to continue to give to our patients the benefit of those methods which give the greatest promise, being neither unduly lifted up by success nor cast down by many and grievous disappointments.

Birmingham.

DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.—By the will of the late Mr. Charles Chetwode Baily, of Brighton, the testator left £10,000 to the Inalienable Fund of the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton; £5000 to the Special Endowment Fund of the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Brighton; £2000 to the Endowment Fund of the London Hospital; and £1000 each to the Endowment Fund of the Brighton, Hove, and Preston Dispensary; Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney Heath; and Surgical Aid Society. He also left £10,000 upon trust for his cousin and her issue, whom failing, to the Inalienable Fund of the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton.

Clinical Notes:

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL, AND THERAPEUTICAL.

A CASE OF EMBOLISM OF THE RIGHT INNOMINATE VEIN.

BY F. S. CREAN, M.D., CH.B. DUB.,
SENIOR ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER TO THE BERMONDSEY INFIRMARY, S.E.

A MAN, aged 63, was admitted to the Bermondsey Infirmary on Nov. 18th, 1913. Ostensibly he sought admission on account of an attack of vomiting and diarrhoea, symptoms which rapidly subsided. He was extremely deaf, and could give no clear information concerning his previous health. When examined he was found to have an enlarged heart, with a systolic bruit at the apex conducted towards the axilla. Albuminuria was present, while the liver could be felt about an inch below the right costal arch. The temperature was normal, and remained so throughout the illness. Some few days after admission the patient complained of dyspnoea, a symptom which became progressively distressing from day to day. It was now found that there were flatness of percussion note and diminution of breath sound at the right pulmonary base. Eight days after admission venous pulsation in the neck, which had not hitherto been evident, was observed, and presented the striking peculiarity of strict limitation to the left side. This latter appearance was speedily followed by the onset of cedema of the right chest wall and arm, while the radial pulse became obliterated. Within three weeks of the patient's coming under observation gangrene of the right upper limb had become established, the process spreading from below upwards. Prior to death, which occurred in less than four weeks, there was incipient gangrene of both feet. A diagnosis of mediastinal growth was made.

At the necropsy a thrombus filling the right innominate vein completely, extending into the right internal jugular vein and compressing the subclavian artery, was found. The thrombus extended through the superior vena cava to the right auricle, but the obstruction in the vena cava was incomplete. Both tricuspid and mitral valves were incompetent, while the right auricular appendix contained a fragment of ante-mortem clot. There was an effusion of serum into the right pleural cavity. There was no new growth.

Bermondsey Infirmary, S.E.

FATAL INJURIES, INCLUDING RUPTURE OF THE DIAPHRAGM.

BY HERBERT WHITE, M.R.C.S. ENG., L.R.C.P. LOND.,
SURGEON, ROYAL NAVY.

AN account of the following injuries, including rupture of the diaphragm, may be of interest to readers of THE LANCET.

The victim, a man aged 46 years, was standing on the sill of a dry dock superintending the lowering and placing in position of spars reaching from the side of the dock to a battleship. These spars weigh about 175 lb. While one was being lowered the rope carried away, and the spar falling struck