case all the veins leading from the brain, together with the œsophagus and many muscles, were ruptured, large quantities of venous blood escaping through the mouth into the white cap, the lower border of which being included in the constricting noose, pent up the fluid, so that it only filtered through in a small stream to the bottom of the pit, where the prison surgeons and myself were taking the pulse. In Lipski's case the damage done to the integuments, muscles, and spine was extensive, but there was only superficial bleeding to a small extent. I may add that Lipski's pulse beat for thirteen minutes (stopping once after five minutes) at the rate of 160, which rate would prove (according to Professor Houghton) complete insensibility. All others whose executions I have witnessed had good normal pulses (80) for about ten minutes, strangulation being the cause of death.

I am, Sirs, yours truly,

J. J. DE ZOUCHE MARSHALL, L.R.C.S.I., &c.
Hastings, July 24th, 1888.

CHIAN TURPENTINE IN THE TREATMENT OF CANCER.

To the Editors of THE LANCET.

SIRS,—On Nov. 19th, 1887, the case of Mrs. B—— was reported in THE LANCET, by Dr. John Clay of Birmingham. By referring to that it will be seen that Dr. Clay speaks of it as a case of "Epithelioma of the Uterus and Vagina," in which the disease had "disappeared under the use of Chian turpentine." Mrs. B—— died on March 18th, 1888, of epithelial cancer of the uterus, with secondary deposits in the glands of the neck and abdominal glands.

I am, Sirs, yours truly,

Newton Abbot, July 18th, 1888. W. G. SCOTT, M.B.

LIVERPOOL.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARAFFIN LAMP FATALITIES.

In previous letters allusion has been made to the dangers of paraffin lamps. The city coroner held two inquests on the 24th inst., which showed the fatal results of these dangers to three persons. One of these cases was that of a woman with a baby in her arms; she was carrying a lamp, which fell from her hands, was smashed, and set her clothes alight. When the neighbours, hearing the screams of the woman, burst into the house, they found that the paraffin had done its work too well, and both mother and child died from the injuries. The other victim was a woman aged seventy, who, to use her husband's words, was "covered with burning oil from the shoulders downwards." He tried to smother the fire with her clothes, but unsuccessfully.

DRUNKEN MEN IN RAILWAY CARRIAGES.

The recent occurrence in a railway carriage, in a train coming from London to Liverpool, again brings to the front a very serious danger in connexion with railway travelling. The trains from this city to London and *vice versa* perform the journey in four hours and a half, in some instances even in less time. This means very rapid speed and very few stoppages. No reliance can be placed upon the cord of communication, nor can it always be reached. Hence passengers may be for about two hours at the mercy of a drunken maniac. There could be nothing unreasonable in a bye-law forbidding persons in a state of intoxication from travelling on any railway.

ANOTHER DEATH FROM HYDROPHOBIA.

The city coroner held an inquest to-day on the body of a girl aged seven, who died on Monday. Dr. Jarvis, one of the resident surgeons of the North Dispensary, said that the cause of death was hydrophobia. It appeared that a few weeks ago the child was bitten in the neck by a large brown dog. The same dog bit a boy, who is now apparently well. The dog was destroyed.

Liverpool, July 25th.

LAMBETH POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—On the 25th inst. the Princess Louise, accompanied by the Marquis of Lorne, inaugurated the above institution, the origin of which is due, we believe, to the Rev. Freeman Wills, of Shoreditch.

BIRMINGHAM.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE JAFFRAY SUBURBAN HOSPITAL.

ON Tuesday, the 24th inst., an additional wing to this valuable institution was opened by his Grace the Duke of Norfolk in the presence of a company of distinguished visitors. The founder, Mr. Jaffray, in an appropriate speech, gave details of the progress made in the original designs for which the hospital was established, and said that these purposes had been amply fulfilled. Already the endowment had reached £36,000, and the annual subscriptions £800 a year—a matter for much congratulation to himself and those friends who had so admirably aided him in the organisation of this undertaking.

THE INGLEBY LECTURES.

These annual lectures, two in number, were given this year by Mr. W. Thomas, one of the surgeons to the Children's Hospital, and dealt with the treatment of some of the surgical diseases of children. Carefully prepared and full of practical interest, they were duly appreciated by an audience which, though it cannot be said to have been numerous, was fully sensible of the merits of the work placed before them, which they recognised by the warm tribute of thanks accorded to the lecturer at the close.

THE MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

This triennial source of income to the General Hospital gives promise of not being behind its predecessors in the spirit in which the arrangements are being carried out for this occasion. A new oratorio, "Judith," by Dr. Parry, will form one of the principal features of the festival. Sir Arthur Sullivan's "Golden Legend," with Herr Richter as conductor, and a number of other well-known compositions, have been distributed over the four days the festival will occupy. Arrangements are in forward progress for providing for the variety of details which help to ensure success, and it is confidently expected that a brilliant and numerous gathering will respond to the efforts made for their approbation.

AN ILLICIT STILL.

The Inland Revenue authorities have recently found in this town an illicit still for distilling whisky, of unusual proportions, capable of producing 200 gallons per week. In a damp and humid cellar the detectives patiently waited for four nights in the hope of taking red-handed the owners or workers in this nefarious transaction, but, failing to pounce upon them in this manner, had to fall back upon the landlord of the premises, who protested his innocence of the undertaking. With facilities of such magnitude it might be inferred that whisky would be cheaply made and distributed; the transaction, however, may prove to have been an expensive one in the long run, and the risk of seeking to evade the law to have been dearly purchased.

Birmingham, July 25th.

NORTHERN COUNTIES NOTES.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE SCARLET FEVER EPIDEMIC IN JESMOND, NEWCASTLE.

I HAVE reasons for saying that the present epidemic of scarlet fever in the Jesmond district of Newcastle is now fast subsiding; altogether there has been close on 200 cases. Although the Jesmond district is considered the best residential part of the city as regards the streets and houses, its sanitary condition is not above suspicion. It is for the most part the flattest district in the city, and built on a deep clay soil. There have been many complaints in our daily papers as to the drains and the ventilation of the main sewers, but it is to be hoped that these defects may be speedily remedied, and that this beautiful district may be restored to its former place in the estimation of the citizens. Our active medical officer, Mr. H. E. Armstrong, has taken every pains to trace out the origin of this epidemic, and he believes very strongly that it is to be found in the contamination of the milk supply with scarlet fever infection from the family of one of the milkmen, who do not, however, reside near the cows. But it must be admitted that his chain of evidence is weak at this point; even his own committee do not altogether agree with him, for there is no