case, our infirmary has always had abundant available space for complete isolation. Three detached blocks provide accommodation for over 100 patients; very seldom fifty, rarely more than forty, patients are in the house at one time. Small-pox nurses were at once obtained from Edinburgh, and the most rigid quarantine enforced.

We were not prepared for such an occurrence; but this only led to a little extravagance in burning bed and body linen instead of washing it. There is a small kitchen belonging to the building, but no trustworthy cook could be had at a moment's notice. All food required, beyond what the nurses could prepare, has been taken to the door and placed in suitable vessels which never leave the infected building. The disease has not spread, and there is every reason to hope that it has been stamped out.

We are, Sirs, yours truly,

DAVID H., STIRLING, M.D.,
Consulting Physician and Surgeon, County and City
of Perth Infirmary.

JOHN T. GRAHAM, M.D.,
Visiting Surgeon, ditto.

LEIGH HUNT, M.B.,
Visiting Officer, ditto.

Perth, Oct. 25th, 1887.

VACCINATION AND REVACCINATION.

To the Editors of THE LANCET.

SIRS,—In connexion with the interesting discussion in your columns on the subject of vaccination, I have had a personal experience which perhaps you may consider worth publishing.

I was at a boarding school where there were about 160 pupils. Small-pox appeared; how it made an entry was never very well cleared up. Within about a week thirteen boys became ill, and at the end of that time I myself became so unwell that I was no longer able to keep to my feet, and was removed to that part of the College called the "infirmary," where the thirteen were already isolated. On the same evening everyone—boys masters, and servants, with the exception of those who had been successfully re-vaccinated or had previously had small-pox—was vaccinated. Whether all these vaccinations proved successful I cannot say. The result, however, I can answer for. Not another case of small-pox occurred from the moment of this general vaccination, although the rest of the 160 boys were subject to exactly the same influences as the fourteen who were attacked, *excepting the revaccination*. Of the fourteen, one died, and the remaining thirteen were all more or less badly marked about the face. I may mention that I had never been revaccinated, and the mark that remained from my first vaccination was scarcely perceptible. This experience has very strongly impressed me with the importance of vaccination or revaccination, as the case may be, even when small-pox has already appeared in a house.

I am, Sirs, yours truly,

ALFRED J. MACNALLY, B.A., M.B., &c.

Kingstown, Oct. 22nd, 1887.

TREATMENT OF SCARLET FEVER.

To the Editors of THE LANCET.

SIRS,—I have for some years treated all my scarlet fever cases with, in addition to the ordinary treatment by salines, an application every day of 1 in 20 carbolic oil to the whole of the surface of the body. By this means I have always been able to prevent the disease attacking others in the house, and I have noticed that all cases so treated from the beginning have done well. After the letter of Mr. Arthur Wiglesworth in your paper it occurs to me that the carbolic acid was in part absorbed, and was an important agent in the well-doing of my patients.

I am, Sirs, your obedient servant,

Southsea, Oct. 14th, 1887.

ALBERT BENTHALL.

SPANISH CONGRESS FOR THE PROTECTION OF YOUNG CHILDREN.—A Congress for the Protection of Young Children has recently held some meetings in Cadiz. The questions discussed included the establishment of hygienic schools with medical men as masters, the necessity of modifying the present system of education, the insufficiency of the support allowed by the State for children, and the regulation of the employment of children in factories and workshops.

MANCHESTER.

(From our own Correspondent.)

OWENS COLLEGE.

THE Medical Societies have commenced work again for the winter. On the 12th inst., at the Pathological Society, Mr. Stocks was elected president for the coming year. In addition to the usual pathological exhibits, Dr. Dreschfeld gave a very interesting *résumé* of some experimental work he has been doing, bearing upon the bacterial origin of malignant endocarditis. He concludes that a streptococcus associated with this disease is the true pathogenic organism producing it. The Medical Society held its first meeting on Wednesday last, when several good surgical cases were exhibited. The entries at the College, though not yet complete, show that Owens will again take the lead of the provincial medical schools, and probably not more than two or three of the metropolitan schools will exceed it in numbers. More than ninety students have been entered, of whom seventy have entered for the whole curriculum. Professor Young, the Dean, in his annual report, states that, "while there has been no diminution in the number of those presenting themselves for the degree of the University of London, the number of candidates for the Victoria University degree has largely increased." The appointment of Dr. Ross as joint lecturer on medicine with Dr. Morgan has given much satisfaction to the students. Sir Wm. Roberts and Sir H. Roscoe have been appointed Emeritus Professor of Medicine and of Chemistry respectively. It is in contemplation to present to Sir Hy. Roscoe his portrait, as a token of respect and admiration from those who have been students under him in days gone by. Subscriptions will be received from any old "Owens man" by Dr. Thorpe, Science and Art Department, South Kensington.

THE EXHIBITION.

The success of our Jubilee Exhibition has been unparalleled, considerably more than four millions of persons having visited it. If any of your readers in this district have not examined the beautiful specimens of rare chemicals, alkaloids, and other allied substances, they will do well to do so ere the Exhibition closes. Space will only permit the bare mention by name of the beautiful cinchona alkaloids and barks shown by Messrs. Howard. Lactic acid (sp. gr. 1.21), for use as a caustic, nitrate of aconitine, hydrochlorate of apomorphine, pure atropine, berberine, salts of caffeine, camphor monobromide, tannate of cannabine, chrysarobin, salts of cocaine, colchicine, hydrastine, hyoscyamine, and many other rare and interesting active principles, are shown by Messrs. Merck; whilst Messrs. Christy and Co. have a large collection of the raw vegetable, plant, fruit, &c., from which many of the foregoing are obtained. The chemical student will be interested in the rare metals, selenium and its salts, tellurium, cermanium, indium, gallium, &c., shown by Dr. T. Schuchardt of Germany.

ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS CASES.

The proposal to erect a new fever hospital at Hope on ground belonging to the Salford guardians has been vetoed by the Local Government Board, so the corporation will have to look elsewhere for a site. Seeing how large an open space exists at Monsall, where all small-pox cases from Salford are at present treated, it seems a pity that arrangements cannot be made with Manchester to receive all other infectious cases too. Owing to the continued prevalence of scarlet fever, the Monsall hospital has had considerable difficulty in finding room for all the patients admitted there, the total number under treatment at the present time being the largest since the hospital was established. Happily we have but little small-pox, but, seeing how frequent and extensive the communication with Sheffield is, where small-pox is now rife, it will not be surprising if more cases are met with.

If the ship canal scheme has done nothing else, it has wakened up our municipal authorities to take immediate steps to stop the pollution of the Irwell by sewage. Manchester is not only about setting her own house in order, but is taking energetic steps to compel all other offenders to do likewise.

Among the candidates for municipal honours at the ensuing elections for city councillors is one representative of the medical profession. Manchester at present, unlike