Salisbury, the Foreign Minister, for affording facilities for the transmission of all official letters through the Foreign Office, and, lastly, to the committees which had been formed in various foreign countries at his (Professor Corfield's) suggestion. The result of all this was that a far larger number of distinguished foreign hygienists had attended this Congress than had ever been got together before. They had come from Idaho, Argentina, and New Zealand, from Japan, Australia, and Tasmania, from Russia, Norway, and Sweden, from India and Africa, and from most of the intervening countries. His work for the Congress for some years past had been a labour of love; he had renewed old friendships and formed new ones, and he hoped to meet those present in 1894, at the beautiful twin city which had received some of them so splendidly in 1887,—the home of his old friends Von Markovszky, Fodor, and Csatory, and of his new ones Körösi, Müller, and Gezakresz, the lovely capital of Hungaria "An der Schönen blauen Donau."

Mr. MALCOLM MORRIS also responded.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a vote of thanks to the presidents of sections, which was adopted.

Sir T. FARRER responded.

Sir R. RAWLINSON (vice-president) proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Professor SELBS (Germany) seconded the motion, and it was adopted by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN, in responding, begged to thank the Press for the admirable manner in which they had reported the proceedings of the Congress, because, without the publicity which their reports had afforded, the proceedings of the Congress would not have been widely known as they now were, and would not have spread the information which the members of the Congress had been so assiduous in collecting.

THE "LIVET" FURNACES AS A DESTRUCTOR.

By SEPTIMUS FARMER, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

THE incongruous material of which household refuse of towns is composed, has always rendered it a difficult problem to medical officers of health as to its disposal without creating a nuisance. The sorting of the various materials and the utilisation of its contents are in my opinion opposed to the principles of sanitary science. The best method of getting rid of it is, according to the opinion of the highest sanitary authorities of the day, by means of a properly constructed dust destructor. I therefore take this opportunity of bringing before the notice of the profession a dust destructor which appears to carry out in a very efficient manner the destruction of all town refuse without causing any smoke, dust, or odour. By the courtesy of Messrs. Livet and Co., I have recently been able to witness some very interesting experiments which were carried out in

one of their furnaces at the Carpet Beating Company's works, 379, King's Road, Chelsea. This furnace was working a large Cornish boiler, and was driving two heavy carpet-beating machines, the only fuel used during the experiments being the ordinary town refuse.

The principle embodied in the Livet boiler-setting and furnace is the special shape of the flue in combination with two expansion chambers, forming a continuous wheel draught from the furnace to the collecting flue or chimney, with a damper placed at the chimney end of the flue. The products of combustion after leaving the furnace are conducted to the front by a lateral flue, the gases then pass back again by a second lateral flue of larger sectional area than the first. Two large chambers are placed at each end of the furnace to collect the dust. The result of this combination of flue and chambers is that a powerful and natural draught is created through the furnace with sixty feet of chimney.

At the same time air is naturally and freely introduced through the furnace in a vertical direction, thus giving time for the oxygen and carbon to combine in the furnace at the highest temperature, so that by this system any kind of inferior fuel and rubbish can be burned. The fire bars are made duplex so as to allow for the different ratio of expansion between their top and bottom parts. They are also deep and wedge shaped, thus preventing obstruction of the atmospheric air in entering the grate, and their depth affords a large metal heating surface, throughout which the oxygen gets gradually heated by friction in entering the furnace, thus facilitating combustion and keeping the fire-bars comparatively cool, thereby increasing their durability. By these means perfect combustion is obtained in the Livet system of furnace.

The amount of refuse burnt per square foot of fire grate per hour is 18·3 lbs. The clinker produced shows that perfect combustion and destruction of the refuse has taken place, and when ground is a valuable material for a variety of purposes, such as road making, cement, brick making, etc. For every 840 lbs. of refuse 254 lbs. of clinker are produced. One of the chief advantages of this system is that the heat produced by the combustion of the refuse can be used for working a boiler, and sufficient steam power can be produced to work the mills for grinding the clinker, or for working dynamos for electric lighting or for other town purposes. The steam could also be made available for the working of a "Goddard and Massey" or a "Washington Lyon's" disinfecting chamber.

FALSE BITTER ALMONDS.—Another instance of perverted ingenuity is the manufacture of false bitter almonds. They consist chiefly of grape sugar, to which a small quantity of nitro-benzole has been added, and are pressed in a mould so as to resemble natural almonds.