rats continues to be vigorously carried out, 10,164 having been destroyed since the last report. In a subsequent report for the month of January, 1902, it is stated that 7626 rats have been destroyed, bringing the total up to 100,000. In one large steamer no fewer than 1000 rats were found after fumigation.

Losses in the South African War.

An official statement just issued shows that the casualties from the beginning of the war to the end of February were 89,195, which includes, however, 68,701 men sent home as invalids, the majority of whom have recovered and resumed duty. The actual reduction of the military forces through the war is 25,962, which is made up as follows: Killed in action, 5445; died of wounds, 1903; died in captivity, 102; died of disease, 12,334; accidental deaths, 639; invalids sent home who have died, 479; invalids who have left the service unfit, 4988; missing and prisoners, 72. During last month the figures were: killed, 171; wounded, 463; missing, 18; died of disease, 525; accidental deaths, 41; invalided home, 2367; total, 3585. The 528 deaths from disease compares with 536 in January, 351 in December, 236 in November, and 136 in October.

Correspondence.

Philadelphia Municipal Hospital.

PHILADELPHIA, March 18, 1902.

To the Editor:—I was sorry to see in the issue of THE JOURNAL for March 15, under "Pennsylvania Notes," a manifestly untrue statement as to the action of the Philadelphia County Medical Society respecting the administration of the Municipal Hospital. This news item conveys an entirely wrong impression, as from my own knowledge, a vast majority of the members of the Society most cordially endorse and commend the splendid work accomplished in this Hospital, with its inadequate facilities. The facts are these: No business can be introduced at the scientific meetings of the Society, except by unanimous consent. As one member objected, I was obliged to rule against the admission of resolutions commendatory to the management of the hospital during the present epidemic of small-pox. Your correspondent must have taken his quoted sentence from the public prints, as no such language as that used by him appeared in the wording of the resolutions referred to.

Very truly yours,
THOMAS H. FENTON,
President of the County Medical Society.

Displaced Heart.

BLOOMINGTON, ILL., Feb. 6, 1902.

To the Editor:—On November 27, 1901, G. W. H., late private in the Illinois Cavalry, came before the Board of U. S. Examining Surgeons at Bloomington, Ill., for examination for an increase of pension. He was born in Illinois, and has always lived in this state, except when he was in the Union Army from 1861 to 1864. He is 58 years old, weighs 150 pounds, and is 5 feet and 7½ inches high; he has blue eyes, gray hair, light complexion, and is by occupation a carpenter. He complained of chronic rheumatism, disease of the digestive organs, abdominal hernia, injury to back, fracture of both bones of left leg, and debility from old age.

The apex impulse of the heart was evident on inspection and palpation in the fifth intercostal space one inch to the left of the right nipple line. The area of cardiac dulness was normal; the rhythm was regular; the action and sounds were normal, with no dilatation or hypertrophy. The only thing peculiar or unnatural was its anomalous position. This soldier was examined by the board about three years ago, at which time the malposition of the heart was first discovered.

In this case the apex of the heart is transposed to the right side and the base to the left side. The natural situation is simply reversed. The structure and function of the heart are normal. The arterial side is toward the left and the venous toward the right side.

In more than forty years as a student and practitioner of medicine I have never read or heard of a case similar to this. On account of its rarity I report it, thinking that it may be of interest to the profession.

JOHN LITTLE, M.D.,
Sec. Board of U. S. Examining Surgeons.

Married.

SOLOMON S. LEE, M.D., to Miss Irene Childs, both of Calumet, Mich., March 11.

ROSCOE M. WOOD, M.D., Saline, Mich., to Miss Mattie Blaess of Lodi, Mich., March 12.

OSCAR M. GILBERT, M.D., to Miss Agnes Kirkbridge, both of Boulder, Colo., March 26.

E. ZEIGLER BOWER, M.D., to Miss Mary McMahon, both of North Scranton, Pa., March 14.

EDMUND F. BURTON, M.D., to Mrs. Alberta N. Hall, both of Oak Park, Ill., at Tucson, Ariz.

JESSE A. PRINGLE, M.D., Bagley, Iowa, to Miss Gertrude Swann of Lovilia, Iowa, March 19.

HUMBERT MEREDITH, M.D., Petroleum, Ky., to Miss Effie Wooten of Lafayette, Tenn., March 11.

JOHN J. REYCRAFT, M.D., Petoskey, Mich., to Miss Metta J. Cornell, of South Bend, Ind., March 19.

EDWARD GUION, M.D., Atlantic City, N. J., to Miss Sarah Edie Fleming of Yonkers, N. Y., March 18.

HENRY V. BERGHALL, M.D., Manistee, Mich., to Miss Margaret Evelyn Herron, at Elmwood Farm, Pumptown, near Metuchen, N. J., March 15.

Deaths and Obituaries.

Henry M. Skillman, M.D. Transylvania University, Lexington, Ky., 1847, expired suddenly, from heart failure, while ministering to a patient at his office in Lexington, March 21, aged 78. He was one of the best-known and best-beloved physicians in Kentucky, and his loss comes as a personal one to a large number of the profession of Kentucky. He was born in Lexington, Sept. 4, 1824. He studied in the literary department of Transylvania University, from which he withdrew at the end of his junior year in order to prepare for the study of medicine. He spent a year in the drug store of his brother and then entered the medical department of Transylvania, from which he graduated in 1847. On graduating he was made demonstrator of anatomy, and later was called to the chair of physiology and pathological anatomy. He held this position until the buildings were burned during the Civil war. He was contract surgeon for the government for two years during the war. In 1869 Dr. Skillman was elected president of the Kentucky State Medical Society, and there have been very few meetings since then that he has missed. He was a member of the American Medical Association for about forty years, and was the first president of the Lexington and Fayette County Medical Society.

George M. Warner, M.D. Louisville (Ky.) Medical College, 1880, died suddenly at his residence in Louisville from angina pectoris, March 16, aged 44. He was born in Louisville, received his education in the public schools and graduated from the Male High School in the early 70's. For about two years after his graduation he was connected with the Louisville *Courier-Journal* as a reporter, but then entered on a course of study in the Louisville Medical College. For the five years after graduation he was lecturer on materia medica and therapeutics, and in 1885 was elected professor of these branches, which position he held up to the time of his death. He has been for ten years president of the Alumni Association of the Louisville Medical College, and since 1892 had been visiting physician to the Louisville City Hospital. From 1894 to 1899 he was editor of the Louisville *Medical Monthly*. He was a member of the American Medical Association. In 1886 Dr. Warner married Miss Hood, a daughter of the Confederate general, J. B. Hood; his widow and two children survive him.

Russell B. Freeman, M.D. College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, 1892, died at St. Anthony's Hospital in Denver, March 12, from appendicitis, after an illness of 10 days, aged 41. He was instructor in clinical medicine, Gross Medical College, and a member of the American Medical Association, Colorado State Medical Society, Denver and Arapahoe Medical Society, Rocky Mountain Inter-State Medical Society and Denver Clinical and Pathological Society. Resolutions on the death of Dr. Freeman have been sent to his family by the Denver and Arapahoe Medical Society, the staff of St. Anthony's, and of St. Joseph's hospitals.