The principles of ventilation are well known, but how to adopt these to climate, the speed of steamers, the limited space available, and such like contingencies are the desiderata. Again, when the medical aspect of the question is approached, and provision has to be made for sick and wounded persons, further difficulties have to be overcome. Messrs. Boyle have taken an initial step towards solving an important problem.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE HONOURS.

The names of the following medical officers appear among the list of Honours bestowed on the occasion of the completion of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign:—Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets, H. F. Norbury, C.B., to be K.C.B. (Military); Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets J. J. L. Donnet, to be K.C.B. (Military); Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets H. Macdonnell, R.N., to be C.B. (Military); Surgeon-General C. A. Gordon, C.B., Hon. Physician to the Queen, to be K.C.B. (Military); Surgeon-Major-General C. Sibthorpe, I.M.S., to be C.B. (Military); Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. McNulty, to be C.B. (Military); Surgeon-Major-General J. Jameson, Director-General, A.M.S., to be C.B. (Civil); Deputy-Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets H. C. Woods, to be a Member of the Fourth Class Royal Victorian Order; Surgeon-Major-General Hooper, President of the Medical Board, India Office, to be C.S.I.; Surgeon-Major-General Cleghorn, Director-General of the Indian Medical Service, to be C.S.I.

Correspondence.

"Audi alteram partem."

DRAFT BILL FOR THE REGISTRATION OF MIDWIFERY NURSES.

To the Editors of THE LANCET.

SIRS,—In your issue of June 19th, p. 1684, you kindly publish extracts from my above Draft Bill. Since sending it to you I have resolved to extend this Bill so as to include, not only midwifery, but also medical, surgical, and other nurses. I hope this will please all parties, and that we shall soon get rid of an important subject.

I now wish to ask through THE LANCET that the Secretary of each Medico-ethical Society, each Branch of the Brit. Med. Assoc., and each hospital committee and medical staff interested in this question shall now obtain a Copy of this Draft Bill and bring it before his members. I shall be glad to answer any questions. Copies of this Draft Bill may be obtained from my printers, Messrs. Hill and Co., 10, College-lane, Liverpool, at about the following prices, carriage paid: 25 copies, 5s.; 50 copies, 8s. 6d.; 100 copies, 12s.

May I at the same time request practitioners to send me a subscription to the Society, formed for the purpose of pushing this Bill through Parliament. Since 1890 I have expended out of my own pocket £373 13s. 8d. in opposing the five Midwives Bills. Since Feb. 10th, I have expended about £43. It will require a considerable sum—even to defray postage and printing—when I sent a copy of this draft Bill and a circular letter to all hospitals and Medical Societies, Colleges, Medical Schools, Universities, and Poor-law Guardians—i.e., some 1684 Boards of Guardians, 385 Medical Societies, and 1506 Hospitals, or a total of at least 3575 penny stamps required. I am more than willing to give my best time, services, and money, and the services of those in my house, but I cannot finance work which directly concerns each practitioner.

I am, yours truly,

Liverpool, June 21st, 1897.

R. R. RENTOUL.

"A METHOD OF UNITING THE DIVIDED INTESTINE."

To the Editors of THE LANCET.

SIRS,—Under the above heading the writer of a letter that appeared in THE LANCET of June 19th courteously acquits me of any want of originality. For this I thank him and beg to

assure him that after a very careful search among all records and inquiries among many London surgeons I neither found nor heard of any article of his or of anybody else that described the operation I ventured to publish on May 22nd. Without a copy of the article in question it is impossible for me to know how much my operation resembles or differs from that of the American surgeon.

I am, Sirs, your obediently,

Harley-street, W., June 21st, 1897. G. LENTHAL CHEATLE.

* * The Society of Science, Letters, and Arts of London, to which Dr. Hartigan has sent his paper, no longer exists, and was, we are informed, a bogus institution.—ED. L.

"RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS OF TOBACCO POISONING."

To the Editors of THE LANCET.

SIRS,—A paper by Dr. Morrow under the above heading has recently appeared.¹ I may be permitted to state that some years ago I forwarded to THE LANCET a brief remark upon a case of gasping respiration, in which note the exhibition of the symptom, being commensurate in degree with the extent of tobacco consumption, was attributed solely to this habit, and appeared to be a variety of Cheyne-Stokes respiration (although somewhat departing from the normal type of such), certainly as being some kindred theme from the medullary gamut of lung rhythm. One point in my case was that the distressing symptom was confined to the first hours of bed and was peculiar to the horizontal position. Dr. George Herschell, a few years ago, published a case of laryngeal spasm the cause of which, in part, he referred to tobacco—a point of some interest in this *rapport*. In conclusion, seeing that tobacco may cause perversion of central function, as in Dr. Morrow's thesis, and since it may bring about change of nerve structure also, as in retinal atrophy, it might be worth while to consider and to search out how far this universally distributed luxury be a contributory factor in either the genesis or the development of tabes, general paralysis, indeed, in all diseases of nerve, central or peripheral, functional or structural, cerebral or spinal, sympathetic, vasomotor or trophic.—I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

G. HASSALL HUNTLEY.

Lees-road, Oldham, June 7th, 1897.

THE PLAGUE IN BOMBAY.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

II.

MY communication which appeared in THE LANCET of March 27th dealt with some of the physical and social aspects of the city of Bombay from the point of view of a sanitary engineer, but no true appreciation of its present state, and the causes which led to it, can be arrived at without an outline of the governing body which controls the finances and the executive officers of the municipality. The Bombay municipality is the outcome of an experiment on a very large scale made twenty-five years ago by the Indian Government with a view to teach the Indians the art of managing their own local affairs. Based, of necessity, very largely on English models, its defects were soon apparent, and the assumption that the whole city could produce seventy-two representatives, all of them both able and willing to serve the best interests of the community gratuitously, was found to be erroneous. Bombay has never yet sent a fourth of that number of good men to the municipal council at any one time.

Among the seventy-two representatives sixteen are elected by the Bench of Justices, two by the Chamber of Commerce, two by the University, and sixteen by the Government. The corporation elects its own President, and from its members the standing committee of twelve is elected, eight of whom are nominated by the corporation and four by Government. They are paid for their attendance. In addition

¹ Brit. Med. Jour., June 5th, 1897.