though difficult to isolate in sewage, will live at least some days, and some of them may remain alive indefinitely. These questions have all been frequently and so recently discussed that I need not enter into them at the present time; but I have been for years anxious to know whether the incidence of the disease shows any increase in the houses supplied with street sewers, as compared with other houses. On the whole, the evidence is given in many cases, compared with the rest of a town or city. This could easily be mapped out where notification of typhoid fever was in force, and where a map of the town hospitals was published showing the localisations of the disease by the dejecta finding its way into the water for domestic use. I should be glad to hear if any investigations on the lines I have proposed have been carried out by medical officers of health. The question whether other diseases spread in a similar direction might be a subject of future investigation.

I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

ANTONY ROCHÉ, M.R.C.P.Irel.,
Professor of Hygiene, Catholic University Medical School of Dublin.

Stephen's green, South Dublin, March 27th, 1895.

TUMOURS OF THE SUPRA-RENAL BODIES.

To the Editors of The Lancet.

Sirs,—In treating of the liability of any part of the body to originate neoplasms, it is of primary importance not to neglect perspective. I am induced to make this remark because on reading your report of Dr. Rolleston's lecture on the Supra-renal Bodies, it seems to imply that neoplasms of the kidneys I have found that they convey a similar implication. Moreover, on looking over the chief monographs on the supra-renals I have found that they are but an instance of the many erroneous impressions that are conveyed by the term. Hence it seems to me important to call attention to the fact that in "Tristram Shandy" Stop the apothecary is entitled "Doctor," also that "Peter Findar," himself an M.D., in one of his poems makes a servant girl speak of the family practitioner as "old Doctor Stop." It is thus evident that a hundred years ago and more the title of "Doctor" was rightly or wrongly, popularly accorded to the general practitioners of the day, a class of men far inferior in education and social position to those of our day. Customs of such antiquity die hard, and, whatever we may call ourselves, we have for a very long time been "Doctors" with the public. This custom must necessarily involve a certain amount of injustice on all sides; but perhaps the most glaring injustice is that a man can obtain a degree from a university entitling him to call himself "Doctor" after passing examinations not one bit better than, if as good as, those necessary to obtain the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title. Unless some reform is shortly introduced this must really tell seriously against the London double qualification which gives no legal right to the title.

I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

G. A. SUTHERLAND.

CARLTON-HILL, N.W.

THE TITLE OF 'DOCTOR.'

To the Editors of The Lancet.

Sirs,—The problem presented by Dr. West under the above heading, of which I ventured to attempt an explanation, has now been declared by him to be of the nature of an elementary fact, and we therefore agree in regarding the existence of negative pressure as the normal condition in the first stage of the pneumatic process. —I am, Sirs, yours truly,

W. ROGER WILLIAMS.

Towel, March 20th, 1895.

PLEURITIC EFFUSION WITH NEGATIVE PRESSURE IN THE PLEURA.

To the Editors of The Lancet.

Sirs,—The problem presented by Dr. West under the above heading, of which I ventured to attempt an explanation, has now been declared by him to be of the nature of an elementary fact, and we therefore agree in regarding the existence of negative pressure as the normal condition in the first stage of the pneumatic process. —I am, Sirs, yours truly,

W. ROGER WILLIAMS.

PROVISION FOR YOUNG IMBECILES.

To the Editors of The Lancet.

Sirs,—I am unwilling again to obtrude myself upon your readers, but the publication since I wrote to you last week of a Parliamentary return as to the number of imbecile and epileptic children in workhouses (brieferly referred to on page 847 of your last issue) seems to call for some additional remark. I have no fault to find with the form of the return, which is satisfactory, inasmuch as it shows that the Local Government Board is paying attention to the necessities of the case; but I venture to suggest that the numbers given in the summary by no means adequately represent the extent of special provision which it is desirable to make for pauper imbecile children. It is not only the children of this class now formerly in workhouses that must be taken into account —there are many others residing with relatives who receive out-door relief for their maintenance. There are, moreover, a large number of epileptic children in the various county lunatic asylums, mixed up (for the most}


2 The Physiological Diagnosis of Pleuritic Effusion, July 22nd, 1893, and the Treatment of Empyema, Jan. 27th, 1894.