men who have rendered very important services. Those upon whom the honour has been bestowed are all past sixty years of age, many of them are nearer eighty; and all are of the inspectorial rank; yet, in consequence of the equalization of numbers to each branch of the service, many of that rank have been omitted, who feel severely the exclusion. Among these is one, almost an octogenarian, whose breast is bent with the labours, and I might add, with the medals gained for the many battles in which he bore his part. Two others—Drs. Mahoney and Roe—were assistant-surgeons, serving under me, I may say, if the alliteration can be pardoned, from Talavera to Toulouse. I have sent them repeatedly into the trenches, at Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajoz, for twenty-four hours at a time, when their brother officers, more really soldiers, remained but eight. They have been oftener under fire, and necessarily so, than half the general officers of the army; and when these little inconveniences were over, they have laboured for hours, and days, and nights, even incessantly, with bended knees and backs, (such bends that none but young knees and backs could bear,) stooping over the injured and the dying on the bare ground, and whose only hope of safety rested in their devotion to them—a devotion which deserves from me the warmest testimony. They, with Dr. Franklin, then also an assistant-surgeon, now an inspector-general, lately returned from India, (all that time has spared,) felt, that under the circumstances in which they were placed, they could not consider themselves; and it is gratifying to me, when I now number them amongst my warmest friends, to reflect that I never spared them, and that in those days they often said, "He will certainly kill us, if he does not kill himself." I owe to them much of the information I have been enabled to lay before you; and I can only hope, that if it shall not be the pleasure of those in authority to confer upon them the honour they have so well deserved, they may live in the literature of their profession, if I cannot say, with Horace, *perennius cere*, at least *perennius* than the record of the riband they have failed to obtain, but which, I trust, will yet be accorded to them.

There is another point, of more importance to the public. When young field officers of the army distinguish themselves in the execution of their duties, they are sometimes rewarded by the Companionship of the Bath, of which of late there have been several instances; offering an example, which, if followed in the medical department, as a reward for scientific research, would give the greatest encouragement to all, from the youngest upwards; and would have the happiest effect on the welfare of the unfortunate persons who may be committed to their care, by the promotion of scientific acquirements.

The medical officers of the public service are thankful and grateful for what has been done for them, however tardily and scantily bestowed; and her Majesty's Government may be satisfied they have rendered the public a great service in the generous rivalry they will excite amongst them. A little more liberality will obtain, in a few years, a corps of officers unrivalled in any portion of the civilized world.

ON THE TREATMENT OF RHEUMATISM BY LEMON JUICE.

By G. OWEN REES, M.D.,
ASSISTANT PHYSICIAN TO GUY'S HOSPITAL.

ALTHOUGH the treatment of rheumatic diseases by lemon-juice has received a considerable amount of favourable notice from the profession, I am still inclined to believe that it has scarcely gained the credit it deserves. This would appear to depend in some degree on its use in cases which experience has now shown me are but ill adapted for its exhibition, and which are in all probability improperly placed by our pathology in the same category with those forms of the disease in which early benefit is derived from the administration of the remedy. There is much indeed in the history of those conditions designated rheumatic to lead us to hope, that as medical science advances, important distinctions will be made where none are as yet recognised.

From the experience I have now had in the use of the remedy, I feel I have sufficient evidence before me to justify the opinion, that there are certainly two forms of rheumatic disease which cannot be benefited by the administration of lemon-juice.

The first of these is generally observed in cachectic subjects, and for want of a better name I shall call it cachectic rheumatism. It occurs in all classes of life, but more commonly I believe among the lower orders. It is more frequent in

females than in males. The swelling and redness of the parts affected are less marked than is generally the case in acutely painful rheumatism. The pain is, however, very severe, and occasionally partakes of the neuralgic character. The patient is sometimes anæmic, and on inquiry we may perhaps discover a history of long mental or physical suffering. The skin is perspirable; the pulse weak and rapid; the tongue varies, being sometimes moist and white, and sometimes clean and less moist than natural. In cases of this description I have not succeeded in relieving the patient by the exhibition of the juice; and if occasional relief has been obtained, the disease has shown a tendency to relapse, and become unmanageable under a continuance of the remedy. It may perhaps be well to mention, that in these cases I have derived the greatest benefit from the exhibition of opium in full doses at frequent intervals. The other form of rheumatism in which I have failed to obtain relief by the administration of the juice is that attendant on syphilis. In all the cases in which I have made trial of it among the female out-patients at Guy's Hospital, it has failed to exert any beneficial influence. The nature of the disease, so distinct from that of ordinary rheumatism, never indeed gave me any great hope of success. If we except the diseases above described, and cases simulating rheumatism, but really connected with ordinary dyspepsia, or, as is sometimes the case, with the existence of Bright's disease, my continued experience has but the more persuaded me of the great value of lemon juice as a remedy for rheumatism. Its action is sometimes most remarkable, causing cessation of pain and decrease of swelling and redness, such as we can rarely obtain with colchicum, even when administered in large and hazardous doses. That lemon juice sometimes fails to effect this rapidly is certainly true, and that too with respect to cases apparently identical with those in which early benefit has been observed; but the history even of these less favourable instances will generally bear comparison with the results obtained by the ordinary plans of treatment; and it is my full conviction, that since lemon-juice has been introduced at Guy's Hospital as a remedy for acute rheumatism, the period during which it has become necessary to confine patients so affected to bed has been very materially lessened.

I am anxious now to direct attention to a class of chronic rheumatic cases, in which I have used lemon-juice with very great advantage. I allude to such as are connected with deposit of lithate of soda in and about the smaller joints, and which partake more or less of the gouty character. I have met with great success in this form of disease by the continued use of lemon-juice in combination with small doses of the tincture of the sesquichloride of iron, and in several instances have effected absorption of deposits which have resisted all other plans of treatment. A case of the above description was lately reported to me, in which like success attended the administration of the lemon-juice alone. The patient, a lady, had been a cripple for several years, and was eventually restored by persevering in the use of the remedy for six or eight weeks.

Lastly, with respect to the dose in which the juice ought to be administered. Experience has shown me that it should be larger than I was at first inclined to consider necessary. In acute rheumatism, from one to two ounces should be given every four or six hours; and should pain be felt in the bowels, or diarrhoea occur, which is very rarely the case, four or five minims of tincture of opium may be added to each dose of the remedy.

Cork-street, Burlington-gardens, Nov. 23, 1850.

SUCCESSFUL EMPLOYMENT OF KOUSSO IN TÆNIA SOLIUM.

By WILLIAM WILLS, Esq., M.R.C.S.E., Totnes.

I HAVE much pleasure in reporting another successful case of the administration of the above remedy for the tape-worm. Mr. N. S—, a young farmer, living at Ipplepen, had been for seven years afflicted with the most annoying consequences, arising from this parasite. He had tried every variety of remedy, as well as every person he could think of, both regular and quack, during this period. I procured for him a dose of the koussou, and administered it on the 4th inst., according to the instructions given by M. Boggio. Four hours after, and about ten minutes subsequent to taking a seidlitz, to assist its operation, he expelled the animal, quite dead, and entire, he having suffered scarcely any inconvenience from the medicine.

Totnes, Devon, December 6, 1850.