A CHINESE GIANT.

By the courtesy of Mr. Whitfield, of the Manor House, St. Thomas's Hospital, we have had the opportunity of making the acquaintance of a most remarkable specimen of humanity—a Chinese giant.

Chang Woogow—or Mr. Chang, as he is more commonly called by Mr. Marquis Chisholm, the gentleman who induced him to visit England—is a very finely made man, aged nineteen years, and standing seven feet eight inches in his Chinese boots. His countenance is remarkably intelligent and mild, and possesses all the ordinary characteristics of the Mongolian type, his hair being shaved from the forehead and gathered in a tail behind. Although of such great height, the giant's hands and feet are not nearly so large as are frequently seen amongst men of unusual stature; and his limbs, though fairly developed, appear as yet to have hardly attained their full size. He is said to weigh twenty stone.

Mr. Chang is of good family, and is both a gentleman and a scholar, occupying himself constantly in literary pursuits. He comes of a gigantic race, for his father and grandfather were of the same height as himself. He has a brother in the Imperial army, who measures seven feet two inches, but weighs a hundred pounds more—being older and more developed—than Chang himself. He has a sister who is six feet in height, and had another (who died last year) who was ten inches taller than himself! She—to use the poetical simile of the Flowery Land—"grew up into heaven."

Mr. Chang has brought with him his wife King-foo, aged eighteen years, who is rather undersized, and presents good examples of the Chinese lady's feet, the extreme length of the soles of the boots being five inches. He is also accompanied by two male and one female attendants.

Accompanying the giant, by way of contrast, is a dwarf named Chung Mow, who is thirty years of age and only three feet high. He presents the ordinary characteristics of the dwarf, and his legs are somewhat bent.

It will be interesting to contrast the heights of some well-known examples of the giant and the dwarf. O'Byrne was eight feet two inches at twenty-two years of age; the Irish giant in Trinity College, Dublin, was eight feet six inches; the Prussian giant at Bonn was eight feet; and there is a skeleton in the museum of the College of Surgeons seven feet high. On the other hand, the Sicilian female, aged ten, in the College of Surgeons, was only twenty inches; whilst Bæbe, aged twenty-three, in the Jardin des Plantes, was three feet in height.

Correspondence.

"Audi alteram partem."

CHOLERA AND OZONE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In *The Times* of Aug. 26th and 30th there are two letters on "Cholera and Ozone," in which directions are given for the production of ozone by the use of phosphorus, and the latter is recommended as a disinfectant. I beg to state that for upwards of seventeen years I have used phosphorus for producing ozone, and for five years I have used it as a disinfectant.

In a paper "On the Luminosity of Phosphorus in connexion with Atmospheric Conditions," which I read at the Cambridge meeting of the British Association in 1862, I stated that phosphorus was a valuable disinfectant, but that it was effective only during its luminous condition, as ozone is formed only when it is luminous.

The luminosity and non-luminosity of phosphorus are influenced by atmospheric conditions. High pressure, a low degree of temperature, and wind from the north points of the compass are the conditions of non-luminosity;* and low pressure, high temperature, and wind from south points of the compass are the conditions of luminosity.† The former atmospheric conditions are those of cholera periods, and cholera disappears with the setting in of the latter.

About the 1st of September, 1853, cholera appeared in Newcastle. On the 20th the number of deaths was—cholera, 108; diarrhoea, 10. On the 19th the south, or ozoniferous, current of the air set in and continued. On the 28th the number of deaths reported in *The Times* was—cholera, 18; diarrhoea, 2. From the 1st of September to the 19th the mean quantity of ozone was scarcely 1.0 of my scale; but from the latter date to the end of the month it ranged from 3 to 8 daily. The epidemic in London in 1854 disappeared with the setting in of similar atmospheric conditions.

For purifying apartments I use phosphorus in the following way:—I take a quart bottle with a wide mouth, into which I put rather more than half a pint of water; a piece of cork carrying a flat piece of phosphorus with a clean cut surface, floats upon the water. The mouth of the bottle is loosely covered with a cork. The bottle is then placed, first in one part, and then in another, of the apartment to be purified until the peculiar smell of ozone is detected, or until my test papers indicate 1 of my ozone scale. The process of purifying may be performed night and morning, or oftener. For purifying air in the neighbourhood of street gratings or in sewers, I simply suspend a piece of phosphorus from the grating. In apartments the temperature may be sufficiently high to keep phosphorus luminous under all atmospheric conditions; but in sewers it will be luminous and non-luminous according to the height of the barometer, the temperature of the surrounding air, and the direction of the wind, and ozone will be produced only when it is luminous.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Hawarden, Sept. 1st, 1865.

T. MOFFAT, M.D.

THE LIGATURE AND THE CLAMP IN THE TREATMENT OF HÆMORRHOIDS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—It is not my purpose to enter into any controversy with Mr. James Lane on the respective merits of the ligature and clamp in the treatment of hæmorrhoids. He admits that he has not employed the clamp, and therefore he cannot possibly know anything about it. It will be time enough for me to answer Mr. Lane's criticisms when he can prove to the profession that he has been enabled by personal experience to give an opinion on the method in question which will carry any weight. I must, however, protest against the error which Mr. Lane has fallen into, in speaking of this treatment as a "new operation," and of myself as its author. If in nothing else, surely one who is so anxious to criticise a particular mode of treatment should be careful about accuracy in historical facts. I wish I could lay claim to such an ingenious and useful operation. By referring to page 88 of my Lettsomian Lectures, Mr. Lane can see that I have mentioned that late distinguished Dublin surgeon, Mr. Cusack, as the one who suggested the use of the clamp and cautery thirty years ago, and I have related how in this city Mr. Henry Lee had adopted the operation, and how I was induced by the results of his experience to follow it up. The only credit I claim is of having so altered and improved the clamp hitherto used that it seems to fulfil all the purposes desired, both as regards safety and efficiency; and in order to prevent mistakes I have invariably, in my remarks to the pupils at the hospital, disclaimed being the originator of the operation in question.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

HENRY SMITH, F.R.C.S.

Caroline-street, Bedford-square, Sept. 1865.

LICENTIATES IN DENTAL SURGERY.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In the number of THE LANCET of the 2nd instant, p. 271, and under the above heading, are the following remarks:—"We know an instance of a licentiate, residing not

* These are the conditions of the minimum of atmospheric ozone.

† These are the conditions of the maximum of atmospheric ozone.

far from Cavendish-square, who has placed the letters L.R.C.S. after his name upon his door, which he clearly has no right to do."

As I conduct my practice in the locality named, and plead guilty to the grave charge of having the letters L.R.C.S. inscribed on my name-plate, I may probably be justified in considering myself to be the party towards whom those observations point. It would not, however, have been worth while to trouble either you or myself on the subject had not an omission been made (wilfully or not I cannot say) by your informant in neglecting to state that Surgeon-Dentist was *like-wise* engraved on the tablet. As I was instructed in early years to avoid tautology as an inelegance, if not an error, in diction, I have yet to learn that I have committed a wrongful act in thus appending the said letters to my professional calling, holding, as I do, the dental diploma of the College of Surgeons.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

September, 1865. JAMES DAVIS.

ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR INFIRMARY.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I overlooked the letter of "A Guardian" in THE LANCET of Aug. 19th, or I should have replied to it earlier.

It is not true that I said "the diet was the best in London; there was not another workhouse that gave meat three times a week." For, in the first place, I was aware that in some workhouses the diet was more liberal; and, in the second, I had no reliable data on which to found such an assertion. But if "A Guardian" will forward me a copy of the twenty-two dietaries, I shall esteem it a great favour.

To show the amount of reliance to be placed on the report which appeared in THE LANCET of the previous week (copied from a local journal), and in which the reporter writes, "Mr. Cassidy (the medical officer's assistant) said that the sore on the face of one of the paupers was opened for the Commissioner to see the wound," I must tell you that Mr. Cassidy was not present at the meeting, and that "the sore on the face" means a cancerous tumour of the walls of the abdomen.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

Southwark, Sept. 1865. R. GIBSON BROWN.

Medical News.

ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT. — The Director-General presents his compliments to the Editor of THE LANCET, and begs to enclose a list of the Candidates for Commissions in H.M. British Medical Service who were successful at the competitive examination in February last, and who have passed through a course at the Army Medical School, showing the combined results of the examination:—

	Studied at	Number of Marks.
Wearne, Vivian	Cork and London	5602
Collins, R.	Aberdeen	4080
O'Farrell, F.	Galway and Dublin	3995
Robertson, S.	Edinburgh	3979
Hinds, W. R. G.	Dublin	3940
Lewis, A.	Dublin	3937
Hogan, R. E.	Dublin	3915
Sanders, G. B.	Dublin	3910
Andrew, G.	Aberdeen	3737
Belemore, A. I.	Leeds	3728
Ruttledge, W. F.	London	3683
Powell, F.	London	3653
Robertson, W.	Aberdeen	3635
Traynor, G.	Dublin	3598
Fishbourne, J. E.	Dublin	3563
Tobin, R. F.	Dublin	3530
Jackson, R.	Birmingham	3500
Campbell, J. A.	London	3435
Haurahan, J. J.	Galway and Dublin	3435
White, W. O'B.	Dublin	3410
Carew, R. H.	Dublin	3398
White, C.	London	3343
Clapp, A. J.	Dublin	3263
Evatt, G. I. F.	Dublin	3252
King, T. R.	Edinburgh	3200
Creed, J.	Dublin	3149
Shedden, A. W.	Edinburgh	3145
Keith, R.	Aberdeen	3117
Bate, A. W.	Dublin	3035
Churchill, G. F.	Dublin	2965
Pickering, T. A.	Dublin	2915
Richardson, J. F. H.	London	2915
Purefoy, J. W.	Dublin	2858
Waghorn, H.	London	2770
Wakefield, W.	Glasgow	2635
White, G.	London	2532
O'Toole, G. R.	Dublin	2525
Thorp, J. C.	Dublin	2293

PROFESSOR HUXLEY has been elected Corresponding Member of the Berlin Academy of Sciences.

THE CLARE LUNATIC ASYLUM.—The Asylum at Ennis for 260 lunatics belonging to the county of Clare is now so far advanced that it will become available within a year.

CINCHONA CULTIVATION.—From a report sent in to the Government of Madras by Mr. M'Ivor, the superintendent of the cinchona plantations in the Neilgherries, it appears that the total number of plants at the end of May was 581,578.

THE LATE ARTILLERY CAMP AT SHOEBOURNE.—It is only due to Dr. De Lisle Allen, the able and indefatigable assistant-surgeon of the 1st Middlesex Volunteer Artillery, to state that he was in camp at the above place during the entire week of the late prize meeting. The omission of his name by Dr. Thompson, camp-surgeon, in the report furnished by that gentleman to THE LANCET, was purely accidental.

DEATH-RATE.—The return of the Registrar-General for 1863, recently issued, shows that the death-rate varied from 1.735 per cent. in Westmoreland to 2.629 in Lancashire—three deaths in one county to two in another. The ratio in London was 2.447, the highest since the cholera year 1854. The death-rate of Scotland was almost identical with that of England, showing England, with her metropolis almost as populous as the northern kingdom, and with many other great city populations, to be as healthy as Scotland, which affords an average space of six acres to a person, while in England the area is less than two acres.

NATURAL SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIPS.—There will be an examination at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, on Oct. 10th, in Natural Science (electricity, chemistry, geology, anatomy) for two scholarships of the annual value of £40 each. It will be open to all students who have not commenced at the University, the only requisite being the ability to pass an examination in classics and mathematics. The successful candidates will enter at the College and pursue their medical or other studies. Information may be obtained from the Rev. J. Ellis, Tutor of the College.

VACCINE MATTER FROM THE COW.—M. Lanoix has read a paper on this subject before the Academy of Medicine of Paris. This physician, after studying the subject at Naples, is founding in the capital of France an establishment for such vaccination. In the paper it is stated that out of 820 revaccinations practised in different schools upon children from 7 to 13 years old 21 per cent. succeeded. The figures respecting a more advanced age are as follows:—From 14 to 20 years, 71 revaccinations, 31 effectual; from 30 to 40 years, 200 revaccinations, 97 effectual; from 40 to 55 years, 30 revaccinations, 7 effectual; from 50 to 60 years, 5 revaccinations, 2 effectual. The author considers that the transmission of vaccine matter from heifer to heifer is always possible, the quantity obtained being quite adequate to very numerous operations; that the matter does not lose in activity in passing through animals as it does in passing through human organisms; that vaccinations are always or almost always successful; the revaccinations with animal matter succeed more frequently than with matter obtained from human beings; that vaccination with heifer matter is extremely easy; and that such vaccinations are highly useful in epidemics of small-pox, as larger supplies of vaccine matter may rapidly be sent to extensive tracts of country.

Obituary.

DR. KING, OF ELTHAM.

ELTHAM has just lost a very useful man in the person of Dr. David King, who practised there as a medical man for the long period of fifty-four years. His history, though extended to an unusual length, is easily told. After an education in the Collegiate School of his native town, Ayr, he repaired to the University of Edinburgh, where he graduated in 1809; passed the College of Surgeons, London, in 1810, after a year's attendance at the Westminster Hospital; and finally settled in practice at Eltham in 1811, remaining there through his long and useful life. He never married; but he leaves a successor in his nephew who bears his name. In person the late