Captain W. J. Weston has been appointed to hold medical charge at Haulbowline Island, Queenstown. Captain V. G. Johnson has been appointed to Dover. Captain C. McQueen has arrived home for duty from South Africa. Captain A. B. Smallman has been transferred from the London District to the Aldershot Command. Captain A. L. Otway has been selected for appointment as Specialist Sanitary Officer to the Southern Command. Captain D. G. Carmichael has embarked for a tour of service in India. Captain A. A. Sutcliffe has been transferred from the Military Hospital at Chester to Carlisle for general duty. Captain T. S. Eves has taken up duty at Lucknow Cantonment. Captain M. O. Wilson has been placed under orders for a tour of service with the Aden Brigade.

Lieutenant E. C. Stoney has been transferred from the Military Hospital at Meiktila Cantonment to Bhamo, Upper Burma. Lieutenant A. S. Cane has been appointed to the Military Hospital at Kirkee Cantonment. Lieutenant J. M. Elliott has been transferred from Hilsea to the Military Hospital at Portsmouth. Lieutenant R. E. Porter has been appointed to the Cork District. Lieutenant J. M. Weddell has taken up duty at the Military Hospital, Fyzabad.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

The King has approved of the promotion of the following officers of the Indian Medical Service:—Lieutenants to be Captains: Mozaffer Din Ahmed Kureishi (dated Oct. 24th, 1912); Rustam Hormasji Bharucha, Framroze Jamsetjee Kolapore, Edward Galwey Kennedy, Robert Forrester Douglas MacGregor, Arthur Lewin Sheppard, Paul Knighton Gilroy, Joseph Arthur Alexander Kernahan, Maurice Lionel Corrie Irvine, Ernest William O'Gorman Kirwan, John Valentine Macdonald, George Lawrence Duncan, Anath Nath Palit, Hubert Alan Hirst Robson, and Kalyan Kumar Mukerji (dated Jan. 29th, 1913).

SPECIAL RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

Royal Army Medical Corps.

Lieutenant Arthur H. Habgood to be Captain (dated March 22nd, 1913).

Cadet Ivan Lindley Waddell, from the London University Contingent, Officers Training Corps, to be Lieutenant (on probation) (dated Feb. 14th, 1913).

William Henry Johnston, late Cadet Sergeant Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland Contingent, Officers Training Corps, to be Lieutenant (on probation) (dated Feb. 26th, 1913).

TERRITORIAL FORCE.

Army Medical Service.

Colonel Thomas M. Dawson, on vacating the appointment of an Assistant Director of Medical Services of a Territorial Division, resigns his commission, and is granted permission to retain his rank and to wear the prescribed uniform (dated March 19th, 1913).

Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Jackson, from the 3rd West Lancashire Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps, to be Colonel, on appointment as an Assistant Director of Medical Services of a Territorial Division (dated March 19th, 1913).

Royal Army Medical Corps.

3rd West Lancashire Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps: Major William B. Cockill to be Lieutenant-Colonel (dated March 19th, 1913).

Welsh Border Mounted Brigade Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps: Lieutenant William Smith resigns his commission (dated March 22nd, 1913).

2nd Northumbrian Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps: The undermentioned Lieutenants to be Captains (dated Dec. 3rd, 1912):—Arthur C. H. McCullagh and George R. Ellis.

4th London General Hospital, Royal Army Medical Corps: Thomas Crisp English to be Captain, whose services will be available on mobilisation (dated March 4th, 1913).

Sanitary Service.

Lieutenant-Colonel Nathaniel E. Roberts, Sanitary Officer of a Territorial Division, resigns his commission, and is granted permission to retain his rank and to wear the prescribed uniform (dated March 19th, 1913).

Major David Smart, from the List of Officers attached to Units other than Medical Units, to be Major on appointment as Sanitary Officer of a Territorial Division (dated March 19th, 1913).

For attachment to Units other than Medical Units.—William Ernest Lloyd Elliott to be Lieutenant (dated Feb. 1st, 1913).

Attached to Units other than Medical Units.—Lieutenant William E. Alston to be Captain (dated Jan. 1st, 1913).

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY'S MEDAL.

The committee of the Royal Humane Society has awarded to Captain F. E. Bissell, R.A.M.C., a medal for attempting to rescue a native from the Gongola river, Northern Nigeria.

Correspondence.

"Audi alteram partem."

A CASE OF VERONAL POISONING; RECOVERY.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I think the following experience may be worthy of publication. On March 8th I was called to a man, aged about 40, who the previous evening, presumably about 6.30 P.M., had taken 125 grains of veronal. It was not discovered till 10 A.M. on the following morning, his bedroom door having to be forced open to get at him. I saw him about 10.45 A.M. I washed out his stomach thoroughly, and as I was not quite sure that he had not had some opium as well, I also washed it out with potass. permanganas, finishing up with the administration by the stomach-tube of some hot coffee and a couple of beaten-up eggs. He remained quite unconscious till the morning of the 11th. With the hypodermic injections of strychnia gr. 1/40 every six hours and the continuous administration of oxygen and rectal feeding I had the satisfaction of bringing him round. I might add the bladder had to be emptied night and morning. It seems a great pity that, in addition to putting veronal on the scheduled list of poisons, the authorities have not made a prescription obligatory before a chemist may supply it.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

A. GOLDNEY CHITTY.

Shepherd's Hill, Highgate, N., March 25th, 1913.

CAN ANGLO-SAXONS COLONISE THE TROPICS?

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I have read in THE LANCET of Nov. 30th, 1912, a letter by Dr. Richard Arthur, of Sydney, under this title, in which he asks for information on the effects of the climate on the descendants of Northern Europeans whose forefathers have resided for several generations in the tropics; he presumes that such information could easily be obtained from those who have had experience in such places as the West Indies, British Guiana, &c. There are, however, so many other complicating factors that it is difficult to estimate the exact effect of the climate *per se*. I may here mention a few of these factors.

1. First and foremost there is the part played by the various tropical ailments which at times have so marked an influence on the individual and which must to a certain extent react on the race.

2. All Europeans in the tropics who can afford it take an occasional holiday in a more temperate climate; their children are, moreover, sent for their education and profession to Europe or the States. From my own experience in the West Indies I can state that under such conditions there appears to be very little race deterioration, the periodic stay in a colder climate counteracting any injurious influence the climate might exercise.

3. There are comparatively few families among whose members, after a few generations' residence in the West Indies, there does not occur some admixture of coloured blood. In these islands it is this coloured class which to a large extent fills the various official and professional positions. One cannot help coming to the conclusion that this admixture of coloured blood makes the individual better fitted, intellectually and physically, for permanent residence in the tropics. It is interesting to note that