

"As my stay is very short, and it would take eight or ten days before the diploma would arrive, although time or place makes no difference, yet it would be pleasant to have all completed while I am on the spot.

"I am, dear Sir, yours truly,
"H. A. CÆSAR, M.D., F.R.C.S.I."

COMPENSATION FOR WOUNDS.

THE regulations under which pensions and allowances are granted to officers of the Army have been revised by a Royal Warrant just issued. The loss of an eye or limb from injury received in action will be compensated by a gratuity in money of one year's full pay of his then rank or staff appointment. He may be recommended for a pension also, at a rate varying from £400 for a lieutenant-general, to £50 for a cornet; and if more than one eye or limb be lost, he may be recommended for a pension for each. For minor injuries, "not nearly equal to the loss of a limb," he may receive a gratuity varying from three to twelve months of his then pay. If the injury shall be so diminished as to be "not nearly equal to the loss of a limb," at the end of five years, during which the claimant must be twice examined by a medical board, the pension will then be permanent, otherwise it will cease. No pension or gratuity for these causes will be granted unless the actual loss shall have occurred within five years after the wound or injury was received. This scale of compensation is more liberal than by the previously existing custom, and will be received as a boon by those interested.

Correspondence.

"Audi alteram partem."

NEW REGULATIONS FOR DEGREES IN MEDICINE.

(LETTER FROM DR. CARPENTER.)

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I am desired by the Senate of the University of London to request that you will give immediate publicity to certain arrangements which they have made, with the desire to remove or to mitigate (so far as may be practicable) the inconveniences to which those candidates for medical degrees might be otherwise liable whose curriculum of study happened to correspond with the period of transition between the old and the new Regulations.

It may be well for me to point out, in the first place, that the new Regulations essentially differ from the old—

1st.—In the institution of a Preliminary Scientific Examination, to which the Chemistry and Botany of the *First* M.B. have been transferred; with the addition of Natural Philosophy and Zoology.

2nd.—In the transference of Physiology* and Chemical Toxicology from the *Second* to the *First* M.B. Examination.

Feeling confident that the curriculum as now amended will really prove in the end more advantageous to the candidate, as corresponding with the natural sequence of his medical studies, and that no serious inconvenience would accrue from at once bringing it into operation, the Senate determined upon this course after due deliberation, and have since found no reason to alter their decision. Being most desirous, however, to make the transition as little inconvenient as possible, they have carefully considered all the representations which have been made to them by those who urge that they are injuriously affected by the change; and as the result of that consideration I am directed to announce a temporary modification of the Regulations upon the following points:—

* As I have received many inquiries respecting a supposed change in the character of this examination, it may be well for me to take this opportunity of stating that no change whatever has been made in its requirements; a knowledge of those parts only of comparative anatomy being expected without which the general facts and doctrines of physiology cannot be properly understood. The subject of histology, now for the first time formally introduced, has been for many years past included in the Examination-papers.

To candidates who matriculated in July last the same exemption is now accorded from the *additional* subjects of the Preliminary Scientific Examination as had been previously granted to those who matriculated before June.*

To candidates who would be qualified, by the completion of two years of medical study subsequently to matriculation, to present themselves for the *First* M.B. Examination of 1861, and who would be required to pass the Preliminary Scientific Examination in the same year, the option will be given of postponing the *whole* of their *First* M.B. Examination (if they so desire) until 1862, without thereby postponing the date of their *Second* M.B. Examination. They will thus be admissible to the Preliminary Scientific Examination and its Honours in 1861, to the *First* M.B. Examination and its Honours in 1862, and to the *Second* M.B. Examination and its Honours in 1863. Such as do not wish, however, to compete for Honours at the Preliminary Scientific Examination, and feel themselves prepared for the *First* M.B. Examination in 1861, will probably find it more desirable to present themselves for it in that year; postponing their Examination in Physiology (as allowed by the Regulations) until the succeeding year, if they so desire it.

For candidates who have already passed the *First* M.B. Examination, the *Second* M.B. Examination will be conducted under the *old* Regulations in the years 1861 and 1862, so as to give all such candidates the opportunity of obtaining their degree without any additional trouble. But for such as may not avail themselves of this opportunity, and who delay presenting themselves at the *Second* M.B. Examination until after the omission from it of Physiology and Chemical Toxicology, the necessity will arise of their showing their proficiency in these subjects at some *First* M.B. Examination, before they can be admitted to the *Second*.

Dissatisfaction having been expressed at the imposition of an additional fee of £5 for the Preliminary Scientific Examination, I have to point out that the fee for the M.D. Examination having been reduced from £10 to £5, the whole cost of the degree remains exactly as it was.

It may be well for me to add, that the total amount of the rewards held out by the University for special proficiency in the various branches of study included in the medical curriculum, though differently distributed, has been increased by £80 per annum.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
University of London, WILLIAM B. CARPENTER.
Burlington House, Nov. 8th, 1860.

DR. TODD'S PRACTICE IN ACUTE DISEASES.

(LETTER FROM DR. MURCHISON.)

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—My attention has been directed to some remarks in the *British Medical Journal* upon the review on Dr. Todd's "Clinical Lectures upon Acute Diseases," which appeared in the last number of the *British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review*. These remarks were made by Dr. Beale in a lecture delivered at King's College Hospital, and they may be thought to require some notice on my part.

The principal point to which I desire to draw attention is the statement that my conclusions as to the results of Dr. Todd's treatment of fever are utterly wrong, because the facts upon which they are founded are incomplete. These facts were obtained from an analysis of Dr. Todd's case-books, which Dr. Beale maintains cannot justly be made the subject of statistical inquiries as to the results of treatment, inasmuch as all the cases of fever admitted under Dr. Todd were not entered in the case-books. To this I would reply:—

1. That Dr. Todd, on giving to me the case-books for the express object in question, and also in frequent conversations I had with him upon the subject, never expressed the slightest doubt as to the value of the data contained in them for arriving at a correct conclusion upon the matter. It is somewhat surprising, when the results are ascertained not to be favourable, to be told by Dr. Beale that the data are incomplete.

2. That Dr. Todd, in the work which formed the subject of the review, himself makes his case-books the subject of a sta-

* This date was fixed as being that at which the Regulations were adopted by the Senate, and with the exception that they would be promulgated before the Matriculation Examination of July. Their promulgation, however, having been retarded for several weeks by delay in the Home Office, the Senate recognise the fairness of not imposing upon candidates who then matriculated additional subjects of which they had no information.