

from the same cause—viz, asthenia produced by exhausting discharges; 2 died of consecutive fever. The cases coming under the first category ended fatally in from five to twelve hours. Their aspect was appalling to anyone not accustomed to such sights. The eyes were sunk in the back of the head like those of a corpse, but widely opened and staring; eyelids livid; skin of an ashen-grey colour, cold and clammy with moisture; the features were often so distorted as to be unrecognisable by the nearest relations; the pulse was imperceptible. The patient often shrieked aloud to the "bon Dieu" or to his or her favourite saint. The limbs were violently cramped and the whole aspect that of acute suffering and collapse. Those who survived this stage to succumb at a later period presented the usual symptoms, which have been sufficiently described in medical works. The only point to which I desire to draw attention is the greater proportion of cases which, though ultimately fatal, survived beyond the third day as compared with the percentage recorded in previous epidemics. This may be either due to the milder character of the virus or to the greater efficiency of the treatment. Only one death among medical attendants has come to my knowledge, that of a student, with whom I was well acquainted; so perhaps, after all, the Duc de Chartres in his recent act of heroism did not run any very great risk.—I am, Sir, yours truly,

ALFRED DRYSDALE, M.B. Lond.,
Mentone, July, 1884. Officier de Santé.

THE WELDON CASE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to state that I am not the defendant in the recent trial, Weldon v. Semple, and that I know nothing of the case beyond what I have read in the newspapers.—I remain, Sir, yours very truly,

R. H. SEMPLE, M.D., F.R.C.P.L.

Torrington-square, July 31st, 1884.

THE SANITATION OF MARSEILLES HARBOURS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Your Liverpool correspondent, in commenting upon the cases of cholera on board the steamship *St. Dunstan* in the current issue of THE LANCET, says:—"It transpired that the vessel was put into a dock into which a portion of the sewage of Marseilles was discharged, and the men noticed, particularly at night, a strong and offensive effluvia." I have to observe that the same thing was noticed by myself and other passengers of the Peninsular and Oriental steamship *Cathay*, which entered the quarantine harbour at Marseilles on March 25th. Moreover, the water being quite still, large quantities of excreta could be seen floating about in the early morning, and the stench was abominable. We had to undergo the stupid, absurd, and odious *fiasco* of quarantine, which was enforced for twenty-four hours, while the *Cathay* and other vessels were exposed to the influence of the effluvia of sewage, which, it would appear, was pumped into the quarantine harbour for some occult purpose. We were boarded by officials; an *officier de santé* inspected the crew and officers, but not the passengers; and, during a long interview with the ship's surgeon, he put that gentleman through a searching *viva-voce* examination on the symptoms of cholera, and the differential diagnosis between it and dysentery. He caused the hatchways to be lime-washed, and the w.c.'s of the native crew only to be nominally disinfected. From Paris I sent a report on the bad sanitary arrangements at Marseilles and the danger of cholera for publication in your columns, but it would seem that the manuscript did not reach its destination.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

July 28th, 1884.

JOHN C. LUCAS.

FOREIGN GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION.—Dr. W. C. Daniel, of Epsom, has been elected President for the ensuing year, vice Dr. H. J. Hardwicke, of Sheffield, who becomes a Vice-President. Dr. K. N. Macdonald, a former President, has been elected a Vice-President, and Dr. J. J. Bailey, of Marple, Hon. Secretary. The Council consists of twelve London and provincial foreign graduates.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE ROYAL VISIT TO NEWCASTLE.

HIS Royal Highness the Prince of Wales with the Princess and some of the Royal children are expected to arrive here on August 19th, and will at once proceed to Sir W. Armstrong's seat at Rothbury, where they will stay during their visit to Northumberland. The next day they will visit Newcastle to open the new building erected for the Natural History Museum and the Jesmond Park, presented to Newcastle by Sir W. Armstrong. The new reference department of our public library will also be opened, and the day's proceedings will conclude with a banquet given by the civic authorities to the Prince, which is expected to be a representative one, and worthy of the occasion. The next day the Prince will again visit the city, and, taking a view of the Tyne and the famous High Level Bridge, will proceed down the river to North Shields, and after opening the new dock there will go on to our "Northern Brighton," Tynemouth. Thence he will return to Rothbury, and possibly have a few days' grouse shooting in the vicinity, the place being surrounded by well-stocked moors. It has given much satisfaction that the Royal party is to be welcomed and received in our ancient town, but modern city, by a medical mayor (Mr. H. W. Newton).

ROTHBURY.

The Royal visit will bring this picturesque little mountain town into deserved prominence, so that a few words about it as a health resort may not be out of place here. Rothbury, the name of which signifies "the town in the clearing," is situated forty-one miles from Newcastle. The town has a population of rather over 5000, and has been known as a health resort for several generations. The beautiful valley of the Coquet, on which it is situated, extends from three to four miles, and is about two miles broad. The main street is about 250 feet above the sea-level, and the valley is shut in on all sides, except the west, by hills from 700 to 1400 feet in height; ample protection is thus given the town from all cold winds. Observation shows the rainfall to be moderate; but what is of far more consequence is the fact that this rainfall occurs on about 160 days, the remaining 205 being quite dry. Dr. J. Gordon Black, of Harrogate, who has given much attention to the climate of Rothbury, says that sufferers from spasmodic asthma or chronic bronchitis with asthma should carefully avoid the place, from its air being a too powerful and exciting a stimulant. In pure bronchitis, however, having a tendency to become chronic from passive congestion of mucous membrane, Rothbury is often curative by exciting a healthy circulation. For struma no better inland or rather mountain health resort could be selected. The drinking water is pure and soft, and, as Dr. Gordon Black observes, admirable as a means of solution of thickenings or coagulations of the lymphatic type. It may be mentioned that the Coquet is celebrated as the *beau idéal* of an angler's river; and that the trout streams are numerous and well stocked. The little town will supply all the wants of the visitor. Lodgings are good, and as yet the charges are moderate; but during the present season, which is an exceptional one owing to the Royal visit, visitors would do well to make arrangements as to quarters in advance.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, July 28th, 1884.

IRELAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND.

THE election for a Professor of Surgery in the Medical School of the College took place on the 24th ult., when, after an exciting contest, Mr. Edward Hamilton was successful. Of eighteen members of Council who recorded their votes, ten voted for Mr. Hamilton and eight for Mr. Corley. The result has been as I anticipated in these columns some time since—viz., the election of Mr. Hamilton by two or three votes. Either candidate was well qualified to succeed the late Dr. Stannus Hughes in the chair of Surgery. The election of Dr. Cameron to the Vice-Presidency necessarily