

New Inventions.

POCKET EMERGENCY TRACHEOTOMY CASE.

MESSRS. MAYER & MELTZER, of Great Portland-street, have made at my suggestion a Pocket Emergency Tracheotomy Case. It appeared to me that an attempt might be made to save many lives such as are now lost from diphtheria, and other affections obstructing the free passage of air through the larynx, if every medical man had at hand the appliances necessary for performing tracheotomy. I therefore suggested to Messrs. Mayer and Meltzer that they should offer to the profession an inexpensive case of instruments which should contain every requisite absolutely necessary. For this purpose three silver bivalve tubes are included in the case, one of which would fit sufficiently well for a time any patient, whatever his age, and an opportunity would be gained for obtaining a more accurately fitting tube. The three tubes alluded to as contained in the case are of sizes chosen after numerous measurements of the tracheæ of persons of various ages, and after reference to the table given by Mr. Marsh in his paper, "On Tracheotomy in Children," in the third volume of the St. Bartholomew's Hospital Reports. The smallest tube, seven-fortieths of an inch in diameter, could be used for any infant or child below the age of three years. The next size, twelve-fortieths of an inch in diameter, would more or less accurately fit the trachea of any child between the ages of three and twelve years; and the largest size, eighteen-fortieths of an inch, might be used for an adult or young person above the age of twelve years. The case contains, in addition, two pairs of dissecting forceps, an artery-forceps, a knife with a flattened handle, so that it can be used for scraping away or depressing the thyroid gland, two retractors, a sharp hook, a pair of scissors, and that most useful of all instruments in the performance and after-treatment of tracheotomy—viz., a Trousseau's dilator. In the pocket will be found silk or catgut ligatures, and a small card with printed directions for the steps of the operation sufficiently explicit to refresh the memory of the busy practitioner who may not have seen the operation performed since the days of his hospital studies.

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the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond-street.

NEW UTERINE DOUCHE.

WE have received from Messrs. Arnold and Sons a uterine douche, the principle of which was suggested by Dr. Ostlere. It consists of an external metal tube, having a small bulb at the end, perforated with fine holes; just below this bulb are six large openings: an internal tube which reaches to the bulb mentioned, and which fits the external tube, tightly only at the outer end. This inner bulb carries the injected current into the bulb, whence it escapes into the cavity of the uterus, and enters into the external tube by the holes below the bulb, thus finding a way of egress. This is one of the best forms of double tube for washing out the uterus; but it does not prevent the risk of fluid entering the Fallopian tubes, and it is open to the same objection as applies to all double tubes, that the cervix of the uterus and the vagina remain uncleansed.

NEW SYDENHAM SOCIETY.

THE twenty-fifth annual meeting of this Society was held in Liverpool on August 3rd, 1883. Mr. Mason of Bath occupied the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the report and balance-sheet, as prepared by the Council, were read and ordered for publication as usual. The report stated that the production of the Lexicon of Medical Terms had been continued

with as much speed as circumstances permitted, and two numbers had as usual been issued during the year. The issue for the current year will probably consist of a fasciculus of the Atlas of Pathology; selections from the works of Duchenne (of Boulogne), edited by Dr. Vivian Poore; two or more parts of the Lexicon of Medical Terms; the first volume of Hirsch's work on Historico-Geographical Pathology, translated by Dr. Creighton; a volume of selected monographs, of which Senator on Albuminuria and Landau on Movable Kidney will form part.

The following works had been issued during the past year:—98, Stokes on Diseases of the Chest; 99, Atlas of Portraits of Skin Diseases, Fasciculus XVI.; 100, The collected works of Dr. Warburton Begbie; 101, Lexicon of Medical Terms, Part VII.; 102, Charcot, Localisation of Cerebral Disease; 103, Lexicon, Part VIII. Amongst those which are in preparation are a fasciculus of the Atlas of Portraits of Skin Diseases; the collected works of Dr. Peacock, with memoir and portrait; one or more volumes of selected clinical lectures, from German sources.

The following officers were declared to be duly elected to their several posts:—President: Mr. William Bowman. Vice-Presidents: Dr. H. W. Acland, Dr. G. W. Balfour, Dr. Robert Barnes, Mr. E. R. Bickersteth, Dr. W. H. Broadbent, Dr. John Cleland, Sir W. W. Gull, Mr. Joseph Lister, Sir William MacCormac, Dr. Robert McDonnell, Sir James Paget, Sir G. H. Porter, Dr. Jas. Russell, Dr. William Rutherford, Dr. Hermann Weber, Sir T. Spencer Wells. Council: Drs. James Andrew, J. H. Aveling, Thomas Barlow, R. L. Bowles, J. Crichton Browne, Lauder Brunton, Thomas Buzzard, W. B. Cheadle, W. Cholmeley, W. Clement Daniel, J. Langdon H. Down, J. Matthews Duncan, John Easton, Balthazar Foster, C. J. Hare, G. E. Herman, Thos. Keith, G. H. Kidd, Stephen Mackenzie, William Roberts, G. H. Savage, J. W. F. Smith-Shand, E. R. Townsend; Messrs. Richard Barwell, T. F. Grimsdale, T. R. Jessop, S. W. North, W. B. Page, Septimus W. Sibley, C. Whipple. Treasurer: Dr. Sedgwick Saunders. Auditors: Drs. Clapton and S. Fenwick, and Mr. F. M. Corner. Hon. Secretary: Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson.

The usual votes of thanks to the retiring officers, to the hon. local secretaries, and to the chairman, brought the meeting to a close.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

FROM the financial statement of the receipts and expenditure of this College during the official year from Midsummer Day, 1882, to Midsummer Day, 1883, it appears that the income of the College from all sources amounted to £19,374 19s. 2d. The expenditure in the year (including an investment of £1007 10s. in Metropolitan Three-and-a-Half per Cents.) was £19,446 8s. 5d. On the receipt side £16,249 2s. was received by examination fees for the diploma of Member and Fellow, and Licentiate in Dental Surgery; rent of chambers and freeholds in Lincoln's-inn-fields produced £1524 8s.; dividends on stocks, £1124 5s. 2d.; incidental receipts, £131 6s. 6d.; and receipts from trust funds, £345 17s. 6d. The expenditure was as follows:—Fees: Members of Council, £228 18s.; Board of Examiners in Anatomy and Physiology for Membership and Fellowship, £2604; Court of Examiners, £4001 11s.; Examiners in Medicine, £325 4s.; Examiners in Midwifery, £181 4s.; Examiners in Dental Surgery, £37 19s. 6d. Other expenses, including cost of burial of subjects, instruments, patients, &c., £384 12s. 8d.; diploma stamps, £430. College Department: Salaries and wages, £1787 10s.; stationery, printing, advertisements, postage stamps, &c., £953 12s. 8d.; coals and gas, £326 13s. 7d. Museum Department: Salaries and wages, £1704 0s. 5d.; lectures, catalogues, specimens, spirit, glasses, &c., £696 18s. 1d. Library Department: Salaries and wages, £358 8s.; purchases and binding of books, &c., £421 1s. 9d. Pensions: £279 12s. Extraordinary expenditure: Hunterian festival and oration, in addition to receipts from fund, £133 1s. 6d.; taxes, rates, and insurance, college buildings, £997 16s. 6d.; alterations, repairs, and painting, £2142 11s.; law expenses, £71 18s. 11d.; investment, £1007 10s.; trust funds, £372 4s. 10d.