

appended), had been passed by the Legislature, which, in addition to duties covered by that of 1881, concerning which regulations of the Board had already been framed and published, specifically imposes upon the Board of making at least annually an examination of samples of all such liquors manufactured or offered for sale in any brewery or distillery in the State. The circular goes on to state that while in no case will violations of the law be condoned or connived at, yet investigations will be conducted in a spirit of fairness and with proper regard for all vested business interests. Also that information of the violation of any provisions of the statute will at all times be gladly received at the central office, where such use of it will be made as in the judgment of the Board will best carry out the intent of the law and best conserve the interests of the public.

Dr. Cyrus Edson has sent to the Metropolitan Health Board a report of the work done by his Sanitary division during the three months ending June 30; from which it appears that 15,890 pounds of beef, 64,596 pounds of pork, 14,170 pounds of poultry, 3,010 pounds of cheese, and 181,538 pounds of fish were seized as being unfit for human food. The sale of 195 packages of adulterated tea was prohibited; while 1,622 specimens of milk were examined, and 194 quarts found to be adulterated. During the quarter the inspections made by the force under Dr. Edson were as follows: At markets, 154; commission houses, 1,241; butchers' shops, 713; storehouses, 1,091; packing houses, 18; vessels, 126; stock yards, railroad depots, 209, and fish stands, 2,882.

An autopsy was made in the case of Henry H. Gorringe, the distinguished naval officer who transferred the obelisk so successfully from Egypt to Central Park, New York, and who died last week, by Dr. George L. Peabody, in the presence of Drs. Wm. H. Draper, H. B. Sands and E. C. Seguin, of New York, and Surgeon Thomas Hiland, of the Navy, Mr. Gorringe's brother-in-law. It was found that death was due to sarcoma around the spinal cord and pressing upon it; the growth apparently having originated at the left side of the sixth dorsal vertebra. There were also secondary deposits at the head of the sternum and in the lungs, liver and kidneys. The disease had probably begun several months before the patient was confined to his room, and it was impossible to say whether the accident which he met with a year ago at Philadelphia in jumping from a train while in motion was concerned in its causation or not.

A pathological laboratory has been fitted up in connection with the New York Polyclinic, and the Faculty has secured the services, as instructor, of Dr. Frank S. Billings, editor of the *Journal of Comparative Medicine and Surgery*.

The steamship Colon, of the Pacific Mail Line, arrived July 15 from Aspinwall, and on reaching quarantine the captain reported that three men had died of Chagres fever during the voyage, and that two more were suffering from the same disease. All those attacked with it were steerage passengers.

Buddensiek, the notorious builder whose row of

flimsy new tenement-houses tumbled down and killed one of the workmen engaged in their construction, has been convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment at hard labor, together with a fine of \$500. In pronouncing sentence the judge made some very sensible remarks, in the course of which he said that the jury in this case, the first of its kind in New York, rendered, in his judgment, a verdict in entire accordance with the evidence presented to them on both sides of the case. The difficulty under which the defendant labored had arisen, he said, out of a base motive to acquire money without giving any adequate return for it. This man had built a very large number of houses in the city, and, so far as he had been able to learn, hardly one of them had been properly constructed. It was simply an act of Providence that these buildings fell at the time when they did, before they were occupied; thus saving, no doubt, the lives of a great many persons. In concluding he said: "And I regret to say, from what I know of my own experience in this city, of a good many years' duration, that there are other people here engaged in the construction of the same kind of buildings as this man put up. It is necessary to teach them that the consequences will be very serious to themselves, as well as to other people. I have considered this case carefully, and have arrived at the conclusion that this man should be severely punished as a warning to other persons not to follow in his footsteps."

Mrs. Dudley, the assailant of O'Donovan Rossa, who was acquitted on the ground of insanity, has been sent to the Homœopathic Insane Asylum at Middletown. It was proposed to place her in the State Asylum at Auburn; but her lawyers succeeded in getting her consigned to the latter institution, as they believed that from it an earlier release could be secured.

P. B. P.

## NECROLOGY.

### DR. JOHN CORSON.

This able and well known physician died at his home in Middletown, Butler Co., Ohio, on June 19th, 1885. He had not been in vigorous health for some time, but was able to do professional work until very near the end. His death, however, was sudden and unexpected, being caused by basal meningeal hæmorrhage.

Dr. Corson was born in Butler Co., Ohio, on June 29th, 1825; and was married to Miss Caroline Martin in 1852. He graduated at the Medical College of Ohio in 1863. He practised medicine in Jacksonburg, Butler Co., for twelve years; the remaining years of his life being spent in active practise in Middletown.

He was a member of the Ohio State Medical Society, and of the American Medical Association. He was possessed of a strong intellect, an unusual amount of common sense. As a physician he was honest, earnest, industrious, intelligent, skillful; as a citizen, enterprising, public spirited and upright; as

a friend, generous and true; and as husband and father, faithful, indulgent and affectionate.

No man in his community was more honored; no physician more respected and beloved. His wife died only about two months before him. Three daughters survive to bear this great bereavement.

## BOOK REVIEWS.

BEDSIDE URINE-TESTING; A CLINICAL GUIDE TO THE OBSERVATION OF URINE IN THE COURSE OF WORK. BY GEO. OLIVER, M. D. London. Third Edition, pp. 260. London: H. K. Lewis. 1885. New York: J. H. Vail & Co.

The author devotes the first three chapters of his work to a somewhat minute consideration of the physical characters of normal urine, pointing out the clinical significance of the usual variations therefrom. He next considers the forms of proteids found in the urine, dealing more in detail with peptonuria, its cause, significance, and the most reliable methods of its detection. He suggests that peptones may appear in the urine through failure of their precipitation on the duodenum, as by their excess after a heavy meal, or through a deficiency or excess of bile; the latter being the normal precipitating agent.

The succeeding four chapters are devoted to qualitative and quantitative estimation of albumin in the urine by means of proper tests, which were first introduced by the author over two years ago. Brief hints are also given on the clinical significance of albuminuria. Of the test papers for albumin, the author now advises the use of but two, viz.: the 'mercuric' and 'ferrocyanic.' He no longer advises the papers to be dropped into the urine directly, but into 60 m. of water, to which the urine is afterwards submitted gradually by means of the pipette in varying quantities from 4 to 30 drops, "varying with the reagent selected and the range of albumin detecting power preferred." Besides the advantages from this method of procedure claimed by the author,—such as securing a definite range of albumin detecting power,—in the case of the 'ferrocyanic' paper, it obviates its only source of error, viz.: the occasional throwing out of urates which is prevented by the large dilution of the urine. In the case of the mercuric paper, where a precipitate is formed, the correcting agency of heat must be called in to eliminate possible errors. This, however, is unnecessary in the case of the 'ferrocyanic' paper.

In the next three chapters, the author deals with the qualitative and quantitative estimation of sugar in the urine, and the clinical significance of glycosuria. In addition to the indigo-carmin test paper proposed in the last edition, the author now brings forward a copper test paper made from the tartrate of cuprammonium, which is claimed to be a reliable test for the presence of sugar in the urine, and permanent after long exposure to the atmosphere.

The last two chapters are devoted to the consideration of the bile derivatives found in the urine, under the heading of what the author terms "choluria." The bile pigments found in urine are easily revealed by

several acid tests, and the author adds to these another, viz.: a citric acid paper with heat. The necessity, however, of a reliable test for the bile salts has long been felt, and the author proposes as such a paper charged with acidulated antiseptic solution of peptone. A solution from such charged paper develops a white precipitation at once in contact with bile salts. A quantitative method is worked out from a standard of opacity, similar to the authors method of quantitative albumin testing. Some interesting and very important hints are suggested by the author on the clinical significance of the bile derivatives in the urine—notably their possible agency in the production of uraemia. The author is among the few writers who use the word albumin (termination *in* instead of *on*) as applied to serum albumin, which we believe is strictly correct.

The little volume bears evidence of much painstaking original work on the part of its author, in a most practical and important field. The profession is certainly indebted to Dr. Oliver for rendering it possible to readily form a really comprehensive idea of the morbid conditions of urine at the bedside of the patient, by means of his ingeniously devised paper tests. The practical value of such ready knowledge, available at the same time that other organs are passing under clinical inspection, can not be over-estimated.

## ASSOCIATION ITEMS.

### MEMBERSHIP BY APPLICATION.

At the meeting of the American Medical Association held at Washington, in May, 1884, an amendment to Regulation II was adopted, which provides that membership in the Association shall be obtainable by any member of a State or County Medical Society recognized by the Association, upon application endorsed by the President and Secretary of said Society; and shall be retained so long as he shall remain in good standing in his local Society, and shall pay his annual dues to the Association. Hitherto attendance as a delegate at an annual meeting has been necessary in order to obtain such membership.

Application for membership, accompanied with FIVE DOLLARS, for annual dues, and the Certificate of Membership in the local Society, should be sent directly to the undersigned, on receipt of which the weekly JOURNAL OF THE ASSOCIATION will be forwarded for one year.

RICHARD J. DUNGLISON, M.D.,  
Treasurer.

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## MISCELLANEOUS.

COMPENSATION OF MEDICAL COUNSEL.—The Supreme Court of Michigan, in the case of Thomas vs. Caulkett, decided June 17, 1885, rendered a decision of some interest to the profession. In that case it was held that a contract between a physician and a party injured by a railroad company that the physician