

it is hoped that in future outbreaks the cholera scourge may be more successfully dealt with. Surgeon Captain PATRICK HEHIR, of the Bengal Medical Service, has found polymorphic infusoria in the blood and excreta of cholera patients, and has confirmed and extended LAVERAN'S researches in relation to similar organisms in the blood of persons suffering from malarial diseases. The full extent of his discoveries will shortly be made public in an exhaustive paper.

THE doctrine of the "abnormal skull," says *The Pall Mall Gazette*, has quickly been followed by another—the doctrine of the abnormal arm. A prisoner who was last week charged at the Westminster police-court with stealing a parcel in a Brompton omnibus, has been suffering for some time, it would seem, from paralysis, and we are sorry for him. But one of the symptoms of the disease is curious. "It makes him lift things of other people's," said the medical expert, "in mistake for his own, his sense of feeling being dulled. The effect of the disease is to blunt the muscular sensibility." It appeared, however, that the prisoner had been sensible enough to put the parcel into his pocket; and when the appropriation was detected his defence was that "he was a poor man, and hard up." In the end, however, the magistrate let him off without punishment; so that the doctrine of the abnormal arm must, we suppose, now be admitted into the *corpus* of medical jurisprudence.

THE next Examination for the diploma of the London Obstetrical Society will take place on the second Wednesday in July. All particulars can be obtained from the Secretary of the Society, 20, Hanover Square, W.

THE *Lancet* says:

"Having regard to the reappearance of small-pox in many parts of the country, and in reply to questions addressed to us on the subject, it may be useful at the present juncture to note that no uniform and definite period of time can be laid down as the minimum period of isolation of small-pox, as in measles or scarlet fever. There are so many varieties of small-pox, ranging from the varioloid and varicelloid the confluent and hæmorrhagic, that no precise time-limit of infectiveness can be laid down. Bearing in mind the active virulence of the scabs resulting from the pustulation of small-pox, the period of complete and thorough separation of these is the only guide that we have. This will necessarily vary greatly—e.g., in a varioloid case, with only a few abortive pustules; in a mild, discrete case; in a coherent or semi-confluent case; and, lastly, in the confluent variety,

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where the face and head and many parts of the body show huge adherent coalesced scabs. The patient can only be pronounced free from risk of conveying infection when every trace of scabbing, and even of powdery scaling, has thoroughly disappeared. A careful system of bathing and of lubrication will, of course, greatly hasten the process."

I SHOULD advise all Nurses who have not been vaccinated within the last seven years to undergo the inconvenience at once, because I am told, on good authority, that there is a very unusual number of small-pox cases in London and the country at present.

THE DUCHESS OF PORTLAND will open the new wing of the Children's Hospital, at Shadwell, on June 11th inst.

THE latest effort of the philanthropic world will be the institution of an Industrial Colony for Epileptics. A colony of a similar kind was started some years ago in Germany and has proved most successful; commencing as a small farm with only four patients, it has now over one thousand inmates. Negotiations are now being pushed forward for the purchase of a farm within easy distance of London; and as the Institution cannot be completely self-supporting, it is hoped that the public will liberally contribute, so that it may be placed on a sound basis. A sum of £10,000 is required for this purpose, and contributions will be gratefully received by the Hon. Sec., Miss BURDON SANDERSON, Branksome, Greenhill Road, Hampstead. Amongst those who are warmly supporting the scheme are Dr. FERRIER, Sir ANDREW CLARK, Sir RICHARD QUAIN, Sir JOSEPH LISTER, Dr. BROADBENT, Mr. F. D. MOCATTA, and a number of other well-known doctors and laymen. The wives of several leading Medical Men are also on the Executive Committee.

THE JEYES' SANITARY COMPOUNDS CO., LIMITED, inform us that they have secured a Gold Medal for their Disinfectants at the Birmingham Trades and Industrial Exhibition, Bingley Hall.

I AM requested to state that the Sub-committee of Nursing and Hygiene, in connection with Woman's Work, at the Chicago Exposition, will meet on Monday, June 13, at 5 p.m., at 53, Berners Street, W., to consider the most suitable furniture for a general Hospital Ward, and will welcome any suggestions concerning this and the construction of Hospital beds, bedding and cots.

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