

men, who are starting on an expedition to the West Coast for the purpose of making experiments and acquiring information useful in the treatment of tropical diseases. The party was headed by Major Ross, of the Liverpool School of Tropical Diseases.

The Earl of Leicester, Lord-Lieutenant of the county, has forwarded to the governors of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital a cheque for £5,000 for building the new nurses' quarters in connection with that institution. In a resolution expressing gratitude for the generosity of their president, the Board of Management conveyed their heartfelt thanks to a benefactor who on several occasions has proved his devotion to this charity by the succession of noble gifts amounting in the aggregate to no less than £40,000.

A member of the Indian Medical Staff is visiting Delagoa Bay, on behalf of the British Government, to report upon the Portuguese precautions against plague. He fears that plague will make its appearance at Delagoa Bay within three months.

The ear-boxing of privates and recruits by officers and non-commissioned officers used to be quite a common outrage in the Austrian Army. The Minister of War has now issued an order prohibiting this practice, it having appeared that thousands of soldiers have become incapable of service through the breaking of the drum of the ear.

Last Saturday a hospital for lepers was opened at Memel, in Eastern Prussia. Leprosy, as is known, is often met with in the Baltic Provinces. Eleven patients are to take up their abode in the new institution, in other words, take leave of the outer world. One of them is a girl of seventeen, who has been a leper since her fourth year, and is at present in the district hospital at Memel, where a few days ago she was confirmed. The other ten have up till now been in the University Clinic at Breslau. Two Protestant sisters of mercy from Königsburg have been engaged as nurses for the new home. The building is outside the town, completely isolated, and surrounded by a high wall.

The Catalogue and 50th Annual Announcement of the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania is a most interesting publication. A large number of the Faculty and Auxiliary Instructors are women, while of forty-six clinical instructors, all are women save the Curator of the Museum. The course of instruction in the school is for four college years, and is given by means of lectures, demonstrations, laboratory work, recitations, and clinical teaching, so arranged as to form a progressive course of study and practical work. The inventive capacity of students is stimulated by the fact that a late member of the Board of Managers has presented to the Institution the sum of 1,000 dollars, the interest of which is offered in small sums as premiums to the graduates and students of the college, for inventions or improvements of surgical instruments or medical appliances.

At the Annual Commencement, held last month, a prize of a gold medal, offered by the Professor of Surgery, for the best report of the Surgical Clinics of the Women's Hospital, was awarded to Miss Rose Hirschler.

The Old Doctors.

IN the August number of the *Gentlemen's Magazine*, Mr. C. W. Heckethorn has a most delightful chat on "The Old Doctors." When, in the course of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the medical profession rose in the estimation of the British public, the dignified successors of the despised "leeches" (we are told) might easily be divided into two great schools, "the Rough and the Smooth, the fierce dispensers of Brimstone and the gentle administrators of Treacle." The fees received by Sir Astley Cooper, who, by the bye, was not of the Brimstone school, compare very well with those earned in the present day:—

First year, £5 5s.; second, £26; third, £64; fourth, £96; fifth, £100; sixth, £200; seventh, £400; eighth, £600; ninth, £1,100. Eventually his annual income rose to more than £15,000; the largest sum he ever made in one year was £21,000. A West Indian millionaire gave him his highest fee; he had successfully undergone a painful operation, and sitting up in bed he threw his nightcap at Cooper, saying, "Take that!" "Sir, replied Sir Astley, "I'll pocket the affront"; and on reaching home he found in the cap a cheque for one thousand guineas.

This gentleman evidently agreed with the late Sir James Tyler, whilom Almoner of "Barts," who, when advising a somewhat hasty tempered Sister to moderate her ardour, remarked that "there's more flies caught with 'oney nor vinegar"!

We read that—

Dr. Matthew Baillie (b. 1761, d. 1823) was a physician who occasionally indulged in the brimstone temper, and was disinclined to attend to the details of an uninteresting case. After listening on one occasion to a long-drawn account from a lady, who ailed so little that she was going that evening to the opera, he had made his escape, when he was urged to step upstairs again that the lady might ask him whether, on her return from the opera, she might eat some oysters. "Yes, madam," said Baillie; "shells and all!"

We may congratulate ourselves we live in the days of "painless dentistry" (but do we?) when we read of the methods employed by Mounsey, the friend of Garrick, and physician to Chelsea Hospital.—

Round the tooth to be drawn he fastened a strong piece of catgut, to the opposite end of which he fastened a bullet, with which, and a strong dose of powder, he charged a pistol. On the trigger being pulled, the tooth was drawn out. Of course it was but seldom he could prevail on anyone to try the process. Once having induced a gentleman to submit to the operation, the latter at the last moment exclaimed: "Stop! stop! I've changed my mind." "But I have not, and you are a fool and a coward for your pains," answered the doctor, pulling the trigger. And in another instant the tooth was extracted.

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