

at the London Hospital, in order to present Dr. Hughlings Jackson with his portrait in oils, as a token of the great esteem in which he is held, and also for the presentation of prizes (gained last Session), to Students and Nurses.

It is reported that Lord Kelvin will resign the presidency of the Royal Society this year, and that his successor, in all probability, will be Lord Rayleigh. A better president, or one in whom the highest traditions of British science are more completely fulfilled, it would be difficult to find. He is so far from seeking popularity that, until argon brought his name forward, the general public probably knew little of his work beyond what was contained in Royal Institution lectures; and the biographer of "Men of the Time" assigns less space to his accomplishments than to the epithets which glorify some minor critics and inferior poets.

Are medical men, as a body, out of sympathy with the Unionist party? Whether that is so or not, it is remarkable that amongst the members of the new House of Commons there is no medical man who is a Conservative.

At a recent meeting of a Town Council near Edinburgh, when the question of building a Hospital came before the Board, a somewhat new view of individual responsibility was brought up. Bailie Shearer suggested that a bazaar should be got up for the erection of an Hospital, as was done in some other places. Com. Mackay objected to getting up a bazaar for an object for which all the ratepayers were bound to contribute. The Chairman also objected to a bazaar, as that would be throwing the burden on a few.

There is no question but that this is the right way in which to regard the matter. A Hospital is for the benefit of the community, and the community must realise that it is responsible for the erection and maintenance of our Hospitals, as well as for Infirmaries.

The Middlesex Hospital.

A VERY gratifying state of progress and of financial prosperity was shown at the Quarterly Court of the Middlesex Hospital held on August 29th ult. The chair was taken by Sir Ralph Thompson, K.C.B., who announced as a point for the Board to be congratulated on, that the Hospital had received from the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund the sum of £2,150, the second largest grant given to any institution by the administrators of this fund, and the Chairman assumed they might take it as a guarantee of the good management and wise disposal of the funds of the Middlesex Hospital.

Another point that needed the sanction of the Court was

the allowance of retiring pensions to two of the Sisters, who were resigning on account of failing health—one of whom had served the hospital for twenty years, and the other for twenty-three years. Pensions of £35 a year was proposed for each of these faithful Nurses.

During the quarter ending 30th June last, 499 medical and 591 surgical patients were treated in the Hospital, the records showing the following results:—666 discharged cured, 32 discharged unrelieved, 98 died, 22 left at own request, 272 remaining in Hospital on 1st July—total 1090.

In the out-patient department, 9619 patients were treated, 2892 of these cases being the result of accidents. The total number of attendances in this department was 25,356, giving an average of 2.6 attendances for each patient, and an average of 278.6 patients seen daily.

The opening of the new operating theatre, used for the first time on June 24th, was a feature in the history of the Hospital they were proud to dwell upon—the theatre being one of the most perfect in the country. ("The most perfect" one of the resident staff later on asserted!)

At this juncture a pause ensued, and after some hasty confabulation with the Secretary, the Chairman announced that the Committee had so much money to deal with that the Treasurers had not yet completed the counting, and he put it to the audience whether they would wait to hear the result, or would allow it to be reported to the weekly board, which latter suggestion was agreed to, the Court being gratified to hear of the increased revenues accruing from recent legacies and donations.

The proceedings terminated with votes of thanks.

The British Association.

THE arrangements for the British Association meeting at Ipswich on September 11th, are now practically complete. Lord Salisbury will not be present at the opening on Wednesday week, and the inauguration of Sir Douglas Galton as his successor in the presidency will have to be undertaken by one of the Vice-Presidents. Professor Schafer will succeed Sir Douglas as General Secretary of the Association and colleague of Professor Vernon Harcourt.

Amongst the papers down for reading or discussion we notice the following:—The evidence as to the simple or compound character of a gas which may be gathered from its spectrum (a summary of the discussion which has been raised over the nature of argon and helium), by Lord Rayleigh and Professor Crookes, in Sections A and B combined; orthochromatic photography, by Captain Abney and Mr. Bothamley; the electrification and diselectrification of gases, by Lord Kelvin and Messrs. Maclean and Galt; physiology and chemistry, a presidential address in Section B, by Professor Meldola; American palæontology, by Professors Marsh and Claypole; marine fisheries, a series of discussions on which will be started in Section D, by Professor McIntosh; oysters and typhoid, by Professors Herdman and Boyce; further notes on induction telegraphy (telegraphing without wires, as it has been called), by Mr. W. H. Preece; the telephone question, by Mr. A. R. Bennett and General Webber; various papers on ethnographical and anthropological subjects, by Professor Flinders Petrie, the President of Section H, and others.

In Section F (Political Economy and Statistics) the President, Mr. L. L. Price, will deal with the relation of economics to practical affairs. He will first deal with the subject generally, and will then illustrate it specially by reference to three questions of the day—(1) Industrial disputes, and their settlement by means of conciliation and arbitration; (2) Agricultural depression; (3) The currency.

The paper to be read by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick in this Section will refer to the organisation of a National Council of Women for the practical co-operation of women in various branches of labour.

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