

The *Scalpel* contains a very interesting illustrated article, by Dr. Harry Campbell, on "Acromegaly," discussing the important question as to whether this disease points clearly to the ape origin of man.

Altogether, the *Scalpel* bids fair to be a very bright and original addition to medical literature.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital Journal for January, among many other interesting items, contains a very valuable lecture by Mr. Howard Marsh on the importance of the cultivation by medical students of careful observation of their patients, and on the errors in diagnosis which arise when this care is not taken. He relates the story of a patient, many years ago, who presented symptoms which it was found hard to account for. Amongst them was a contracted and fixed pupil of one eye. The old family butler having heard this symptom earnestly discussed on two occasions, said to one of the learned doctors while a third consultation was going on, "Please, sir, I don't know if it makes any difference, but master has got a glass eye."

Mr. Marsh also gives some very interesting cases of malingering, to which some attention was recently called in the RECORD. He said:—"Many of you will recall the case of a young woman lately in one of the wards who had a strange-looking œdema of her upper extremity. I was asked by Mr. Gay, of Putney, to take her in, so that, if possible, we might bring her to the mind of discontinuing the trick of producing this œdema by tying something tightly round the upper part of the limb. When she found that the dressers, Sister, and Nurses all knew about her, and that she produced the swelling herself, she discontinued the trick, and she was discharged with the limb in a normal condition. Three or four days ago, however, she came, looking the picture of innocence, with the arm again swollen, and with several sores on the forearm, which, there could be no reasonable doubt, she had herself produced. Some of you will also remember that in the course of the summer Mr. Willett showed, at one of the Thursday consultations, a young woman who had a very extraordinary condition of her left lower limb. The limb was in a state of tense œdema nearly up to the groin. Her opposite limb had been amputated for elephantiasis some years previously, and she now wished this limb also to be removed. On investigation it was conclusively proved that she produced the œdema by tying something round the top of the thigh. The remarkable point about this case was that the patient came into the Hospital for the express and declared purpose of having the limb amputated."

The *St. Bartholomew's Hospital Journal* must prove a great source of profit and interest to past and present Bartholomew men, to whom an excellent New Year editorial is addressed.

A "Posy of Heartsease," published at the office of the *Art Journal*, and illustrated by Lancelot Speed and Godfrey Hall, consists of a very charming series of letters, illustrated by engravings of an artistic kind, written by "C." to various friends with the object of enlisting their sympathies on behalf of the Royal Hospital for Incurables. The letters are most interesting reading, and let one into the inner working of this admirable Institution, which accomplishes so much, and is badly in need of funds at the present time.

The Nursing World, a monthly magazine of modern Nursing, published at Providence, U.S.A., has begun the new year in a more attractive dress, and is ever showing signs of progress and improvement. Its pages are devoted largely to the technical details of Nursing, and it contains very valuable instruction on all the new methods and appliances of Hospital and private practice. It has been a very successful publication, and has a widespread influence, the American Nurses being clever enough to well appreciate the advantages of true Nursing journalism.

Bookland.

WHAT TO READ.

- "Platform, Press, Politics, and Play," by T. H. S. Escott. (Bristol: J. W. Arrowsmith.)
- "A Foreigner," an Anglo-German Study, by E. Gerard (Madame de Laszowska). (Wm. Blackwood & Sons.)
- "Some Annals of an Italian Village," by Madame Galetti. (London: Horace Cox.)
- "Mrs. Tregaskiss," by Mrs. Campbell Praed.
- "The Red Cockade," by Stanley Weyman. (Longman & Co.)
- "A Game of Consequences," by Albert Kinross. (The Autonym Library.)
- "Toxin," by Ouida. (The Century Library.) (London: T. Fisher Unwin.)

Coming Events.

- Jan. 31st.—"Mountain Myths and Legends" (illustrated by magic lantern), by T. Clinton Dent, F.R.C.S., 17, Old Cavendish Street, W., at 8 p.m.
- Feb. 4th.—Meeting of the Provisional Committee of the National Council of Women at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, 4 p.m.
- Feb. 11th.—Meeting of Parliament.
- Feb. 12th.—"The Influence of Subsoil Water on Health," by S. Monckton Copeman, M.A., M.D., D.P.H., the Sanitary Institute, Margaret Street, W., 8 p.m.
- Feb. 18th.—St. George's and St. James's Dispensary Dinner, Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole.
- Feb. 21st.—The Duke of Connaught, the President, will open two closed wards of St. Thomas's Hospital, when the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs will attend.
- Feb. 24th.—Public Meeting National Council of Women, St. Martin's Town Hall, 7.30 p.m. The President, Lady Henry Somerset, will preside, and deliver the address. Open to the public.
- Feb. 26th.—The Duchess of Albany will preside at the Re-opening of the Wards of the East London Hospital for Children, 3 p.m.
- Feb. 29th.—The Duke of York will preside at the Festival Dinner in aid of the funds of the Victoria Hospital for Children, Hôtel Métropole, 7.30 p.m.

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