

## Items of Interest.

The Council of the Royal College of Surgeons has refused to censure the doctors of the cheap medical aid clubs and institutes. The Council frankly says that it cannot see that these medical men have offended against the existing bye-laws.

Sir W. Crookes, F.R.S., and Professor J. Dewar, F.R.S., in their monthly report on the quality of the London water supply, state that they have analysed 182 samples, and found all "clear, bright, and well filtered." The water supply was, in fact, in a higher state of purity than in September last year.

An alarming outbreak of typhoid has occurred in Ligoniel, a suburb of Belfast, chiefly inhabited by mill and factory workers. The population of the place is about 6000, and within sixteen days over eighty cases have been reported to the sanitary authorities.

Scarlet fever of a virulent type is raging in the neighbourhood of Worcester, and in the black country there are a hundred cases. The hospital is full, and increased isolation accommodation is demanded.

More than half of the men in the Guards' dépôt at Caterham are reported to be suffering from a mild form of scarlet fever.

Several sergeants belonging to the Army Medical Staff Corps have been told off for the purpose of undergoing a practical advanced course of cookery, says the *Westminster Gazette*. Among the establishments where they will display their aptitude in the culinary art are the kitchens belonging to the Constitutional Club and the Hotel Cecil.

Many brave officers and men were killed and wounded in the storming of the Dargai Ridge on the Indian frontier. Of course our troops behaved magnificently—but the pity of it!

The names of killed and wounded officers are telegraphed home at once, but the relatives of private soldiers are kept in suspense for many days. This class distinction is, we feel sure, severely condemned by a grateful nation, that owes its existence and prosperity to the courage and martyrdom of its private soldiers, as well as to the devotion of the officers of Her Majesty's Army.

The International Jury on Medicine and Pharmacy at the Brussels International Exhibition has awarded the *Grand Prix* and two gold medals to Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome, & Co., the manufacturing chemists of Spow Hill Buildings, London, for the high standard and scientific excellence of their fine chemical and pharmaceutical products. This firm has supplied every modern exploring and military expedition with their "tabloid" compressed drugs.

The bacillus of the Egyptian eye disease has been just discovered by Dr. Leopold Müller, a professor at the Vienna University, says the *Daily Chronicle*. A scientific report of the discovery will shortly be published.

Experiments have been made in Munich with a new anæsthetic called orthoform, the discovery of two German chemists named Einhorn and Hine. Orthoform consists of ether, amydol, and other substances, and is a white crystalline odourless powder. The action is slow, but the effects last a considerable time.

Still another use has been found for the X-rays. An inhabitant of Munich possessed a fine painting of Christ crowned with thorns, attributed to Albert Dürer. Its authenticity, however, was doubted by certain experts, and the picture was radiographed to see if the uncertainty could be cleared up. The experiment vindicated the opinion of the owner of the picture. The monogram of Albert Dürer, and beneath it the date 1521, were distinctly shown among the details, though a Latin inscription of two lines close by remained illegible.

## A National Loss.

THE sudden death of Her Royal Highness Princess Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck, has aroused the most profound sorrow amongst all classes of the community; she was deservedly beloved. Her Royal Highness died early on Wednesday morning, shortly after an operation performed by Mr. Herbert Allingham, F.R.C.S., of St. George's Hospital.

## Inventions, Preparations, etc.

### ROBB'S NURSERY BISCUITS.

ONE of the most nutritious and digestible foods for children is that known as Robb's Nursery Biscuits. It is most easily prepared, only requiring to have some boiling milk or water poured upon the biscuit to make a food which infants always take with avidity. It has stood the test of fifty years' experience, and, although now subject to the great and increasing competition of other foods, deserves still the success which it formerly achieved. We know nothing better, even now, for delicate children, and even for invalids, than these excellent biscuits, and cordially recommend them to the notice of our readers. They can be obtained from any grocer or baker, or direct from Alexander Robb & Co., of 79, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.

### WHISKEY IN DISEASE.

IT is an undoubted fact, that whiskey, used as a stimulant, is often most useful in a large proportion of the patients who require the services of a trained nurse. But the dangers due to the extreme adulteration of many forms of whiskey make the choice of a brand of this spirit a matter of the greatest moment at a time when the full effect of the stimulant may be necessary to save life. A sample of "GR" Whiskey has recently been submitted to us for testing purposes. It is manufactured by the Dublin Distillers Company, and possesses all the characteristics of a pure Dublin "pot still" whiskey, than which, of course, there is none better, either from the point of view of flavour, power of stimulation, or wholesomeness; and we can cordially re-echo the praise of our contemporary, the *British Medical Journal*, which, writing of the "GR" Whiskey, says: "It has a soft and mellow taste, evidently produced by ageing, and altogether the 'GR' Whiskey is of excellent quality." It can be obtained through any wine merchant.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)