

Chamberlain's office. The competing architects include six from Glasgow, two from Edinburgh, and two from London.

Reports continue to be received in Paris confirming the gravity of the epidemic of Yellow Fever in Senegambia. The "Gaulois" affirms that a regiment of Marines which had been stationed at Dakar, recently returned to France with only 360 men and eight officers out of a total of 1,800. There is cause to fear that the disease may be brought to some of the French ports.

The steamer St. Joseph of Rouen, coming from St. Louis de Senegambia recently put into port at Brest, an apprentice and a cabin boy had died of yellow fever on the voyage and had been buried at sea, and the captain was also ill. The medical authorities were doubtful as to the nature of the captain's illness, but the vessel was put in quarantine.

Plague Precautions in London.

The Metropolitan Asylums Board have, at the request of the Local Government Board, appointed a deputation to confer with it as to the steps to be taken to deal with any cases of bubonic plague in the metropolis. At the last meeting of the Asylums Board the clerk, Mr. T. Duncombe Mann, presented the following report:—

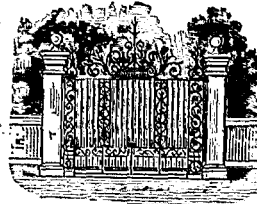
"Inquiries having been addressed to me by certain of the metropolitan medical officers of health as to whether the managers had made arrangements for the reception of cases of bubonic plague into their hospitals, in the event of the occurrence of any such cases within the district, I have, with the approval of the chairman of the Hospitals Committee, directed the superintendents of the board's ambulance stations to remove forthwith to the South-Eastern Hospital any person duly certified to be suffering from plague, and have informed the medical officers of health accordingly.

"For some considerable time past, at the suggestion of Dr. Downes, of the Local Government Board, a certain number of beds at the South-Eastern Hospital (that hospital being the nearest to the docks) have been set aside and held in readiness for the reception of any possible cases of plague; and I have now, with the approval of the chairman of the Hospital Committee, directed the medical superintendent to proceed immediately with the cleansing, disinfection, and other necessary preparations of a second ward at that hospital for the reception of such cases if they should occur. This has been duly notified to Dr. Downes, who has promised that, in the event of the managers unfortunately being called upon to receive cases of plague at their hospitals, the Local Government Board will take such steps as may be necessary to legalise the managers' action in the matter.

"I now ask the managers to approve the steps which I have taken, and to authorise the Ambulance Committee and the Hospitals Committee respectively to take such further steps as they may from time to time deem necessary for the removal to and reception at the managers' hospitals of certified cases of bubonic plague, subject to such regulations as the Local Government Board may make for that purpose, pursuant to Section 85 of the Public Health (London) Act 1891."

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



ALL honour to the British Association. At a largely attended meeting of the General Committee, held in connection with the Annual Congress at Bradford last week, under the Presidency of Sir William Turner, Professor Hartop, of Cork, proposed that in future women should be eligible for election as members of the General and Sectional Committees. He argued that in former years women were not elected because they were then merely amateurs, but now that so many women had distinguished themselves as professional followers of science they should not be excluded from taking the place they merited in the work of the Association. The motion was seconded by Professor Silvanus Thompson, who said he had just returned from the Electrical Congress at Paris, where undoubtedly the most remarkable paper was presented by a woman—an English electrician. Professor Stevenson Macadam and Sir Henry Roscoe also spoke in support of the motion.

Sir John Evans moved as an amendment that membership of the general committee should be a condition precedent to the election of women to the sectional committees. He admitted the scientific capabilities of many women but argued that in this matter the Association should proceed with caution otherwise it might be exposed to pressure which it would not be easy to resist. The amendment, a very reasonable one, was seconded by Sir William Roberts Austen, but was lost. The original motion was then put and carried, 52 voting for it, and some 12 against it. In accordance with the rules the motion will have to go before the Committee of Recommendations, to be reported on at a subsequent meeting of the General Committee.

We heartily congratulate the British Association on its just decision. It will no doubt be rewarded by the benefit it will receive from the work of those eminent women whose services will now be at its disposal. Perhaps in time—say in a hundred years or so—those most conservative bodies, the conjoint Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, may take a hint from the example of the British Association and admit women to membership. Who knows? Stranger things have happened and the force of public opinion is a compelling power.

Miss Cruickshank has given to Aberdeen University, in memory of her brother, Dr. Alexander Cruickshank, the botanic garden at Chanoury, Old Aberdeen, extending to six acres, and capable of accommodating nearly 6,000 specimens. Miss Cruickshank has devoted to its endowment the sum of £15,000.

Among the papers read before the Congress of Alpine Clubs at the Paris Exhibition was Mrs. Bullock Workman's, which dealt with the expedition she made with her husband to the Himalayas, where they were

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)