

Mr. Richard Calvert, J.P., of Preston, has given £5,000 to the fund for extending the Preston and County of Lancaster Queen Victoria Infirmary, Preston. The infirmary is being greatly extended as a memorial to the late Queen.

After a private inquiry extending over several weeks into the practice of sending pauper bodies from Yarmouth Workhouse to Cambridge for dissection in the anatomical schools, a report has been issued which states (1) that these bodies had been sent away without the knowledge of all the members of the board, (2) that certain officials, not including the master, received remuneration for their services from Prof. M'Allister, (3) that with regard to only one case investigated sufficient outside inquiries were not made to ascertain whether the dead person had any relatives or friends living, (4) that no bodies had been sent from the workhouse for dissecting purposes other than those accounted for. The board decided to censure the master's clerk, Adams, and the workhouse porter, Hurrell. Mr. J. M. Headley, to whom the discovery of the "traffic" was due, said that 56 bodies must have gone to Cambridge, and while Prof. M'Allister sent a cheque for £6 14s. 6d. for each "case," the expenses really incurred only amounted to £5 10s., so that the rest was profit. It transpired that each body was sent in a coffin conveyed in a hand barrow to the railway station, and placed upon the night mail.

The Committee of Management of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Dundee, are soliciting subscriptions for the further endowment of the institution. A sum of £20,000 is aimed at, and already £8,738 has been subscribed. The house is at present full of patients, and additional funds, in order to extend its usefulness, are urgently required.

Dr. James R. Wallace, M.D., F.R.C.S.I., Editor *Indian Medical Record*, Calcutta, has been elected President of the Imperial Anglo-Indian Association, of which Sir John Woodburn, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is the Patron.

The German Emperor says that all German physicians must cut off their beards. A cynic says there are some physicians in the United States who would be glad to have beards to cut off; and there are physicians who would be seized with consternation should such an order go forth in the country, since their whiskers are their principal stock-in-trade, and the proper care of them seems to be their chief concern in life.

A new antiseptic is said to have been discovered by Professor Novy and Professor Freer, of Michigan University, who have found how to prepare organic acid peroxides that decompose in water, giving solutions which, even when containing only five-thousandths of 1 per cent. of active oxygen derived from hyperoxides, are fatal to all bacteria, while a solution of ten times that strength will destroy spores.

The New York State Legislature has appropriated the sum of 100,000 dollars with which to erect the new State Hospital for Consumption.

Professional Review.

AN ATLAS OF THE ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF THE CHILD.

We have received an Atlas of the Anatomy and Physiology of the Child, with explanatory text by D'Arcy Power, M.B.Oxon., F.R.C.S. Published by Messrs. Ballière, Tindall and Cox, 8, Henrietta Street, Strand, price 3s., which we cordially recommend to nurses and teachers of nursing. The atlas consists of five coloured plates.

Plate II. shows the skeleton, with the cartilages and ligaments.

Plates III and IV. illustrate the muscular and nervous systems.

Plates I and V. demonstrate the vascular system (that is the heart and blood vessels), the viscera, and the lymphatic system.

There is also a table of references, and explanation of the plates, which are numbered to correspond with the explanations given. The references to the plates are so clearly arranged that they must be of the greatest use to beginners in elucidating the instruction they receive in anatomy and physiology, and every probationer would do well to provide herself with one of these handy atlases for constant reference and instruction.

The letterpress gives information with regard to anatomy and physiology most clearly and concisely. We give a quotation which serves to illustrate this and to give some idea of the scope of the work.

"The large arteries are thick-walled and elastic vessels, which do little more than transmit the blood propelled into them by the heart; but the smaller and middle-sized arteries exercise an important function in regulating the supply of blood passing through them, in accordance with the requirements of the part supplied. This function is carried out by virtue of the large amount of unstriated muscular tissue which they contain. The muscular tissue is arranged both circularly and longitudinally in the arteries. It is kept in a state of constant contraction by nervous impulses passing through the sympathetic system—the vaso-motor nerves. These impulses are of two kinds—vaso-constrictor, which are constantly in action, and vaso-dilator, which are only occasionally employed. The capillary blood vessels are so small as only to be visible under the microscope, whilst their walls are so delicate that they are formed by a single layer of flattened cells. The blood corpuscles pass through them very slowly and in single file. All interchange between the blood and the tissues takes place in the capillaries. The veins have somewhat thinner and less elastic walls than the arteries, and in many cases they are provided with valves which allow the blood to pass forward towards the heart, but do not permit of any backward flow. Many veins, however, are destitute of valves. The capillaries have a total sectional area about 800 times that of the aorta, and the united sectional area of the venæ cavæ is about twice that of the aorta."

Each item is dealt with in the same lucid and thorough manner. It will be seen, therefore, that the usefulness of the atlas is great, and that it deserves a place in every nursing library.

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