

the case of the late outbreak of cholera in the East Lancashire Regiment at Lucknow, for example, it was proved to the satisfaction of the commission of investigation into its causes that the exacerbation of the outbreak among the troops who had been moved into camp was attributable to infected filters having been removed from the cholera-infected barracks to camp. Mr. Hankin states that under certain conditions traces of the cholera microbe will even pass through the Pasteur-Chamberland or Berkefeldt filters, although he has reasons for thinking that this will not detract from their practical utility. Why should not experimental trials be made of these filters at several selected stations in India where enteric fever is unduly prevalent? It should not, surely, be difficult to devise a number of experimental trials in order to determine whether their employment was followed or not by a cessation or diminished prevalence of the disease.

THE LATE MR. DURHAM.

WE have received the following appeal from the Treasurer of Guy's Hospital:—"Dear Sir,—We are sure that the friends of the late Mr. Arthur Edward Durham would desire that steps should be taken to perpetuate his memory in association with Guy's Hospital, to which he devoted the best years of his life and work. The particular form which such a memorial should take has been a matter of careful consideration, and with the full assent and approval of his family it has been decided that at the present time, when the finances of the hospital are so seriously embarrassed, the best tribute which can be paid to his memory is the endowment in perpetuity of two beds, one in each of his old wards, Lazarus and Martha, to be called the Arthur Durham Beds. For this purpose a sum of £2000 will be requisite. In appealing to his old friends and admirers for liberal subscriptions towards this worthy object it is needless for us to dwell upon the manifold services Mr. Durham rendered to Guy's as a teacher and surgeon of the first rank, upon the unaffected kindness of his disposition, and upon those genial traits of character which endeared him to all who had the privilege of knowing him. Contributions should be paid to Mr. C. H. Wells, at the Office of the Medical School, and they will be acknowledged from time to time in the *Guy's Hospital Gazette*. In the belief that many will be glad to possess such a memento, it is proposed to present subscribers of one guinea and upwards with a platinotype enlargement of what is regarded as the most life-like photograph of Mr. Durham, in a form suitable for framing.—We are, dear Sir, yours faithfully, E. H. LUSHINGTON, Treasurer; P. H. PYE-SMITH, Senior Physician; H. G. HOWSE, Senior Surgeon."

THE BORDEAUX CONGRESSES.

IF only congresses and contentment were always united the city of Bordeaux should be simply brimming over with complacency. Taking advantage of the fact that an exhibition was in progress, the representatives of no fewer than seven erudite associations decided to hold their annual reunions in the sunny capital of South-western France; and the consequence was that during the early days of August the banks of the Garonne were thronged with learned men of well-nigh every European nationality. As Dr. E. Masse has it in his weekly bulletin:¹—"Our town of Bordeaux can never congratulate itself sufficiently on having had the honour of affording hospitality to such a large number of *savants*, of physicians, and of surgeons, who came together from all the points of the universe—Russians, Belgians, Spaniards, Portuguese, Swiss, Italians, Bulgarians, Roumanians, Greeks, all have comported themselves with honour at the diverse congresses." England

alone seems to have been unrepresented; English names are conspicuous by their absence from the various records of the proceedings, and yet the subjects dealt with were both opportune and interesting, as may be seen by the following list of titles: Geography, Protection of Infant Life, the Latin Tongues, Alienism and Neurology, the Advancement of Science, Medicine, Gynæcology, and Obstetrics. Inasmuch as four, if not five, of these congresses were concerned with matters appertaining to the science and art of medicine the absence of representatives belonging to this country is much to be regretted; but doubtless the abstention was owing to the coincidence of the British Medical Association meeting in London. Be this as it may, there can be no question that a holiday amidst the vines of Gironde would have been highly enjoyable. Notwithstanding the plethora of congresses the entire time of the 3000 visitors was by no means exclusively devoted to business. On the contrary, the majority of them contrived to find ample leisure for amusement, and the way a lengthy programme of fêtes, banquets, and excursions was done justice to clearly shows that the Continental disciples of science know how to give effect to the old Horatian maxim by a judicious admixture of the useful and the agreeable.

OCCUPATIONS FOR WOMEN.

THE *Woman's Signal* notices that in one portion of the daily press women's energies are directed towards weddings and in another towards burials. Our contemporary then says: "Ought not THE LANCET to follow with an intermediary suggestion?" As far as we can see there is no need for our interference. The intermediary state between weddings and funerals is birth, and women can and do attend at this function only too frequently as it is. We always fail to see the force of the constant cry of new occupations for women—there is nothing they do not do nowadays from literature to massage. We ourselves have seen in Armenia a woman ploughing—we mean drawing a plough,—the remainder of the team being made up of a donkey and a camel. It should be mentioned that the woman was not an Armenian, but a Tatar, and although this occupation may appear unfeminine it would seem far more hygienic and no less fitting an employment for women than much of our factory labour. To come nearer home, however, we know of a metropolitan mortuary where the assistant at post-mortem examinations is a woman, and, as far as handicraft goes, she is a most excellent and handy helper. If this employment is open to women, surely the emancipation of the sex is complete. While on the subject of post-mortem examinations in public mortuaries we wish to call attention to the fact, as we believe, that the medical man making the examination has to provide his own post-mortem instruments. This, it seems to us, is wrong. Every vestry should provide a set of its own for use in cases which are examined at the mortuary. They are not expensive and could be easily kept in order by the mortuary keeper.

UNIVERSITY STATISTICS IN SWITZERLAND.

"A HOLIDAY CONTRIBUTOR" writes under date Zürich, Aug. 28th:—"Following up your recent annotation giving the university statistics of Switzerland for the winter *semestre* of 1894-95, I have been favoured with the official return of the same for the summer *semestre* of 1895. The seven Swiss seats of learning during this half-year have numbered 3108 students, of whom 47 were ladies, and 634 amateurs, of whom 144 were ladies. The total is 3742 (191 ladies), or 71 (9 ladies) fewer than the preceding half-year. The distribution of students and amateurs into faculties is as follows: Theology, 440 (274 Protestants and 166 Catholics); law, 648 (5 ladies all at Zürich); medicine,

¹ Gazette Hebdomadaire des Sciences Médicales, Aug. 11th.