

- TAUNTON AND SOMERSET HOSPITAL, Taunton.—Resident Assistant House Surgeon for six months. Salary at the rate of £60 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing.
- TOXTETH PARK WORKHOUSE AND INFIRMARY, Liverpool.—Assistant Resident Medical Officer. Salary £100 per annum, with board, washing, and apartments.
- VICTORIA HOSPITAL, FOLKESTONE.—House Surgeon. Salary £100 per annum, with board, residence, and laundry.
- VICTORIA HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Queen's-road, Chelsea, S.W., and the VICTORIA CONVALESCENT HOME, Broadstairs.—House Surgeon for six months. Honorarium of £25, with board and lodging. Also House Physician for six months. Honorarium of £25, with board and lodging.
- WANDSWORTH AND CLAPHAM UNION INFIRMARY, St. John's-hill, S.W.—Junior Assistant Medical Officer for twelve months. Salary £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing.
- WESTERN GENERAL DISPENSARY, Marylebone-road.—Second House Surgeon. Salary £80 a year, with board, residence, and laundry.
- WORCESTER COUNTY ASYLUM, Powick, near Worcester.—Third Assistant Medical Officer. Salary £120 per annum, increasing to £140, with board, residence, &c.
- YEovil UNION.—Medical Officer. Salary at rate of £60 per annum.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

- BATTERHAM.—On Sept. 13th, at Grand Parade, St. Leonards-on-Sea, the wife of J. W. Batterham, M.B., F.R.C.S., of a daughter.
- FERGUSON.—On Sept. 11th, at Woodland-road, New Southgate, N., the wife of R. Bruce Ferguson, M.A., M.D., B.C. Cantab., of a daughter.
- HANCOCK.—On Sept. 11th, at Court House, Wiveliscombe, Somerset, the wife of W. Ilbert Hancock, F.R.C.S., of a son.
- LAUCHLAN.—On Sept. 12th, at Clapham-road, S.W., the wife of Charles A. Lauchlan, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin., of a son.
- NEWTON.—At Brook-hill, Sheffield, on 17th inst., the wife of Duncan Gray Newton, M.B., C.M. Edin., of a son.
- PANCKRIDGE.—On Sept. 11th, at Petersfield, Hants, the wife of W. P. Panckridge, M.B. Lond., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of a son.
- SMITH.—On Sept. 10th, at High Down, Hindhead, Haslemere, the wife of Gilbert Smith, M.D., F.R.C.S., of a daughter.
- SIMPSON.—On August 28th, at Coonoor, Nilgiris, India, the wife of Major D. Simpson, I.M.S., of a son.
- SYMONS.—On Sept. 14th, at Weybourne, Aldershot, the wife of Captain F. A. Symons, M.B., R.A.M.C., of a daughter.
- WHICHER.—On Sept. 14th, at The Paragon, Clifton, the wife of A. Hastings Whicher, M.R.C.S., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

- AVENT—NOCK.—On Sept. 17th, at the parish church, Alvechurch, by the Rev. John Avent, M.A. (father of the bridegroom), Arthur Avent, L.R.C.P., to Kate Hurd, daughter of the late J. B. Nock.
- CORBEN—OCKENDEN.—On Sept. 17th, at St. George's, Hanover-square, by the Rev. Everard J. Haynes, M.A., Charles Corben, M.R.C.S., to Annie Bulmer, widow of the late E. J. Ockenden, and daughter of the late Major John Godson, Madras Staff Corps.
- CRACE—CALVERT—ADAMS.—On Sept. 11th, at Clapham Congregational Church, by the Rev. J. C. Thompson, George Alfred Crace-Calvert, M.B., M.R.C.S., to Ellen Marguerite Adams, daughter of Francis Adams.
- PICKTHORN—RIDINGS.—On Sept. 12th, at Warblington Church, Hants, by the Rev. W. B. Norris, Staff-Surgeon A. J. Pickthorn, R.N., to Florence, daughter of Deputy-Inspector-General W. G. Ridings, R.N. (retired).
- PRESTON—READ.—On Sept. 12th, at the parish church, Little Clacton, by the Rev. Frank Bedell, M.A., Joseph Charles Preston, L.D.S., to Janet Mabel, daughter of Thomas Read.
- STEVENSON—LAMB.—On Sept. 17th, at St. Mary's Church, Ealing, by the Rev. Dr. Oliver, Walter Brodie Stevenson, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., to Annie, daughter of William Douglas Lamb.
- THORMAN—ADAIR.—On Sept. 11th, at St. Swithin's Church, Bathford, Somerset, by the Rev. H. Byng Tillbrook, William Henry Thorman, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., to Jeanie, daughter of the late Major Wallace Adair.
- WORTH—SHEPHERD.—On Sept. 17th, at St. John's Church, Eton, by the Very Reverend the Dean of Windsor, Francis James Worth, M.D., B.S., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., to Margaret Louisa, daughter of the Rev. J. Shephard, vicar of Eton.

DEATHS.

- BALFOUR.—At 15, Marmaduke-street, Liverpool, on the 11th inst., Alice, wife of David Balfour, M.B. and C.M., aged 30 years.
- HALFORD.—On Sept. 12th, at Glenthorne-road, Hammersmith, Edward Halford, M.D., in the 83rd year of his age.
- ROBERTS.—On Sept. 8th, at 28, Peel-square, Bradford, William Lake Roberts, M.R.C.S. Eng., in his 56th year.
- TRACY.—On Sept. 10th, at Crescent-road, Alverstoke, Hants, Samuel John Tracy, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., aged 88 years.

N.B.—A fee of 5s. is charged for the insertion of Notices of Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

Notes, Short Comments, and Answers to Correspondents.

A WEAK ARGUMENT.

A CORRESPONDENT signing himself "Exoteric" writes to us stating that in a letter which he sent to the *Times* concerning tuberculosis he observed "that the public were entitled to proofs of the transmission of the disease from man to man through the sputum," and exemplified his own case as a proof against the bacteriological origin of pulmonary tuberculosis in that "in his youth predisposed to consumption," and "at that period intimately exposed for months to the perils of the tuberculous sputum" yet he fortunately did not contract the disease. The writer of a leading article in the *Times* did not agree with "Exoteric" in his deductions, and we agree with the writer in the *Times*. "Exoteric's" argument borders on the ridiculous. That "Exoteric" did not become affected with tubercle is no reason why others should not become so. Fortunately for the human race, everybody, even if "predisposed," who is brought into contact with the infective material of tubercle does not contract the disease, any more than everyone who is brought into contact with a case of scarlet fever "catches" that disease. Nevertheless "Exoteric" will scarcely go as far as to say that therefore scarlet fever is not infectious. The sputa of patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis have countless times been shown to contain the pathogenic bacilli and to produce tuberculosis in animals. We are far from wishing to create such alarm as will cause all consumptives to be shunned by their neighbours, but we can assure "Exoteric" that the infective nature of tuberculous sputum has been overwhelmingly proved and that the fact cannot be upset simply because he has escaped infection. Every care should be taken in the disposal of the sputa of consumptives, as thereby the danger of the spread of the disease is very greatly lessened.

INSUFFICIENT LAVATORY ACCOMMODATION IN GIRLS' SCHOOLS.

To the Editors of THE LANCET.

SIRS.—The importance of the above question cannot be too forcibly impressed upon parents and guardians now that vacation is ending and school-time recommencing. The evil, for the most part, exists in high-class private schools at fashionable seaside resorts, where probably some 20 to 40 children and growing girls are residing *in statu pupillari*, without counting the teaching staff and the servants. Otherwise liberally and beneficently conducted, the absolute and paramount necessity of providing an adequate number of water-closets is not recognised or met, and habits of irregularity are started and fostered which, in their evil consequence, last a lifetime, and from which arise anæmic and dyspeptic troubles apart from others more vital and serious. As both a parent and a member of the medical profession, to me the subject, of course, becomes of grave interest.

Children, hitherto carefully trained to habits of regularity at home, during school term are perforce obliged to fall into habits of irregularity merely from insufficient accommodation. The "constipation" (save the mark!) resulting is then treated medicinally—insult added to injury. Truly, "From the mouths of babes and sucklings learn we wisdom." Let any father or mother question their children and in all probability the veracity of the following statement will be amply corroborated. "We often have to stand in a line after breakfast, waiting our turn. There is a regular rush. Then when my turn comes I don't want to go, and, besides, we must be quick so as to be ready for our morning walk. I often miss a day or two and then I am told to go and ask the governess for pills." Beneficent Nature's impulse thwarted and scoffed at and the vile habit of pill-aided peristalsis commenced, never, perhaps, to end as long as life lasts. More searching inquiries will elicit the fact that for about 27 girls, of ages varying from 11 to 19 years, and four governesses, but two water-closets are provided. Of these two conveniences one is upstairs and the other is downstairs. The upstairs accommodation is, except under special conditions, practically prohibitive; indeed, "the girls lose a mark if found there." Therefore, to the after-breakfast morning call of nature—that most general and important function moment which should never be checked—and within the limited space of time allowed between that meal and the morning walk, for some 27 pupils is provided only one convenience, and, doubtless, even to that access is governed by the school rule of *seniores priores*.

Now, how should this practical and simple illustration of the difficulties which beset our little ones at boarding-school be met? That such should not exist is my emphatic opinion, both as medical man and parent. Schools otherwise conducted on irreproachable lines are grievously at fault in this particular, and as a simple but efficacious remedy I suggest that each local governing board should empower and instruct the medical officer of health of the district to visit and inspect all scholastic establishments, and to issue or to forbid certificates to the same until adequate lavatory accommodation be provided per head, on a basis, say, of at least one water-closet to six pupils.