That the Council, without committing itself in any way to the views expressed in Mr. Teale's motion, refers it to the Examination Committee for consideration and report.

He was not satisfied that the terms "enormous increase in the number of rejections," "injustice to students," and so forth had been proved. If his amendment were carried they would show that they considered that Mr. Teale had raised a great question, the matter would be referred to the proper body to deal with it, and at the same time they would not commit themselves to the views held by Mr. Teale.

Dr. TUKE seconded the amendment.

Mr. TEALE agreed to the substitution of the amendment for his original motion. He said it had been spoken of as academic. Of necessity it must be so, because he was raising a question which had to grow for future consideration. His was not a voice from the past but the voice of the future, and his opinions would find an echo all over the kingdom; they were prevalent in all directions.

Dr. MACALISTER's amendment was then agreed to, and on being put as an original motion was also carried.

The Council adjourned at a quarter past 4 o'clock in order that the Committees might meet.

Wednesday, June 3rd.

Sir R. QUAIN, Bart., President, in the Chair.

THE APOTHECARIES' HALL OF DUBLIN.

The Solicitor presented a report on the recent application of the Apothecaries' Hall of Dublin to the Privy Council in regard to the appointment of assistant examiners in surgery. After stating the facts,¹ the report showed that it was suggested by the Privy Council that the Apothecaries' Hall should apply to the General Medical Council for the appointment of examiners in medicine and surgery renewing their application, adding medicine. This suggestion having been acquiesced in by the representatives of the Apothecaries' Hall, the case was adjourned *sine die*.

In conformity with this an application was now made by the Apothecaries' Hall of Dublin for the appointment of assistant examiners in surgery and medicine.

Dr. CHAS. R. C. TICHBORNE, the representative of the Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland, moved:

(a) That the application contained in the memorial of May 25th, presented by the Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland to the Medical Council, that the Council should appoint assistant examiners in medicine and surgery be agreed to; (b) That the names of the proposed examiners in medicine and surgery respectively be approved; (c) or, if the Council think fit, that any other examiners be appointed in those subjects.

Sir JOHN BANKS seconded the motion.

Sir PHILIP SMYLY supported the motion. He said the minority of the Council on the last occasion was a very important one, including the President, and he appealed to the majority to hesitate before wiping out an ancient institution.

Mr. BRYANT contended that nothing had occurred, either before the Privy Council or elsewhere, to cause the Medical Council to alter its previous decision.

Mr. WHEELHOUSE, as the Visitor at two examinations, supported the report on which action had been taken, and said that every possible good point had been recorded in favour of the Hall.

Dr. GLOVER supported the motion, and was followed by

Mr. W. THOMSON, the newly-appointed direct representative for Ireland, who urged that the Council should re-assert its previous decision.

Sir DYCE DUCKWORTH opposed the motion.

The discussion was continued by Sir WALTER FOSTER, Dr. THORNE THORNE, Dr. GAIRDNER, Dr. MACALISTER, and other members.

Sir WILLIAM TURNER moved as an amendment:

That the Council defers for the present the expression of an opinion on the application of the Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland for the appointment of assistant examiners in medicine and surgery, and directs communications to be made to the Apothecaries' Hall and to the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, with a view to a reconsideration of their respective positions, so that such a combination may be effected between them as may ensure that an efficient standard of examination shall be maintained which would be satisfactory to the General Medical Council.

Mr. TEALE seconded the amendment.

Dr. TICHBORNE having withdrawn his motion the amendment was accepted as a substantive motion. The debate was then adjourned.

DEATHS UNDER ANÆSTHETICS.

INVERSION IN CHLOROFORM ACCIDENTS.

SIR,—In an annotation occurring in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of July 19th, 1879, p. 100, it was stated that Dr. Chisholm, of Baltimore, had up to that date administered chloroform in more than 10,000 cases without a single serious accident. The secret of his success seemed to be inversion, and his opinion was "that what would be otherwise very alarming symptoms during anæsthesia, well calculated terribly to frighten the inexperienced, soon disappeared when the patient was in an inverted position. His hospital assistants were so familiar with these death-like appearances, and their simple means of correction, that instead of rushing about wildly for fans, hypodermics, batteries, etc., they quietly elevated the feet, hanging the head downwards, with the chin pushed back, and confidently awaited restoration; invariably inversion for one or two minutes produced the desired result."

From the above it seemed reasonable to infer that no other means of resuscitation were combined with inversion, but to make sure on this point I recently wrote to Dr. Chisholm, and had the pleasure of receiving the following reply, which is to me of great interest:

DEAR SIR,—I have received your letter, and gladly reply to your inquiries. In cases of suspended animation in chloroform anæsthesia the patient is immediately suspended head downward, the body being at an angle of at least 45 degrees, and kept so until respiration is resumed. Artificial respiration, electricity, or any other method is not used in connection with the inversion. Sometimes it is two, three, or four minutes before breathing becomes more regular, colour returns to the face and lips, and heart beats steadier. So far relief has always come; no death has occurred from chloroform in our practice since 1852, now forty-four years.—Yours very truly,

JULIAN J. CHISHOLM.

The writer, who is an M.D. and LL.D., is associated in practice (as appears from the circular in which I received the above) with Dr. Francis M. Chisholm, one of the editors of the *Journal for Eye, Ear, and Throat Diseases*, of Baltimore. The late Dr. Thorburn, of Manchester, published a case in which a patient was saved by inversion after the abandonment of artificial respiration. In many cases the result has not been so fortunate, but the remedy has always been combined with the use of artificial respiration. It has been argued that inversion is unphysiological and that it impedes respiration. It certainly would appear to do so in the first instance, but it is possible that it is for this very reason it proves beneficial. I have long thought that artificial respiration is of extremely doubtful propriety in many cases, and that it is often too vigorously performed. Meanwhile, facts must be accepted, and I must record my belief that if the practice of the Messrs. Chisholm were followed our results would be better.—I am, etc.,

Partick, Glasgow, May 14th.

ROBERT KIRK, M.D.

THE MOSCOW CONGRESS.—It is announced that the organising Committee of the Twelfth International Medical Congress has acceded to the request of Dr. Ignatiew, supported by Professor Erisman, to establish a section for the discussion of the alcohol question. The Congress will therefore consist of sixteen sections. This is the first time a special section for alcoholism had been formed.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CRIMINAL ANTHROPOLOGY.—The fourth International Congress of Criminal Anthropology will, as already stated in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, be held at Geneva from August 24th to the 29th, "under the high patronage of the Swiss Federal Council and of the Government of Geneva." M. Adrien Lachenal, President of the Swiss Confederation, is Honorary President of the Congress. Dr. Paul Ladame is President of the Organising Committee. The British members of the International Committee are Dr. Bevan Lewis, Surgeon-Captain Buchanan, of the Central Gaol, Bhagalpur; Dr. T. S. Clouston, Sir Francis Galton, Mr. Havelock Ellis, Dr. Maudsley, Rev. Douglas Morrison, Dr. Nicolson, and Dr. J. G. Garson.

¹ *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, May 9th, p. 1166; May 16th, p. 1227.