treatment, dysentery, and living under the most insanitary conditions and in the closest proximity to small-pox patients, were not attacked by the disease. Father Ohrwalder never seems to have thought of vaccination, as he merely looks upon the fact as a curious circumstance, when it was a most natural one and in agreement with what we know of the value of vaccination. It is fair to assume that Father Ohrwalder and his fellow missionaries had been vaccinated in infancy, and probably revaccinated before leaving Europe. Such an object lesson is surely more valuable than the absurd opinions of persons on things which they do not understand, persons who would be the first to resent being taught their own business or profession. But *Gegen die Dummheit kämpfen die Götter selbst vergebens!*

In El Obeid, if anywhere, all the conditions relied upon by antivaccinationists were present, yet the whites did not contract the small-pox. In a further passage (*Op. cit.*, page 73) the death of the great religious sheikh, Abu Gemaizeh, from small-pox, "struck down in the zenith of his success," is recorded.

DEATHS DURING THE ADMINISTRATION OF ANÆSTHETICS.

CHLOROFORM.

AN inquest was held at the workhouse, Bolton, on September 23rd, upon the body of William Owen, a weaver, aged 66, who died at that institution on September 4th while under the influence of chloroform. Dr. Lewis Buck, resident medical officer, deposed that deceased was an infirm old man, and had been under his care in the workhouse infirmary for three years. Recently he had suffered from cancer of the larynx, for which tracheotomy and removal were recommended. To this deceased consented, and with the assistance of Dr. Pantou, the administration of the A.C.E. mixture was commenced, but it was afterwards changed to chloroform on account of the irritation which it caused. In about a quarter of an hour, and before the man became insensible, he suddenly ceased to breathe. All the usual means of restoration were adopted, and artificial respiration was continued for half an hour without avail. The jury returned a verdict of "Death by misadventure," adding that no one was criminally responsible.

ARCHÆOLOGICA MEDICA.

XLVII.—FREDERICK THE GREAT AND MEDICINE.

THE following is significant of the Great Captain's solicitude for his troops. In his instructions to Duke Ferdinand of Brunswick, Frederick wrote thus from Potsdam, August 15th, 1756:

"Each captain shall take with him a little cask of vinegar, of which, as soon as the regiments get to camp, he must give me a reckoning, and I will then have him repaid. This vinegar shall solely and exclusively be employed for this purpose, that in places where the water is bad, there be poured into it for the soldiers a few drops of the vinegar to correct the water, and thereby preserve them from illnesses."¹

When the Great Frederick was on the march for the third time to Silesia, Carlyle states that "the arrangements of the march, foreseen and settled beforehand to the last item, are of a perfection beyond praise." In the General Order, we note that "all generals, chaises, money wagons, and regimental surgeons' wagons remain with their respective battalions."²

The King's prescription for *die gelehrte Krankheit* ("disease of the learned," dyspepsia so-called) was to ride daily, and take a dose of rhubarb every week.³

The domestic government of Frederick was no less thorough than his direction of warlike operations. He had an eye to sanitation, for we read in connection with the newly-acquired Polish province that while "the diplomatic squabbles about this acquisition were still going on (no time to wait evidently for the upshot of black artistry), he had already sent a body of his best official people into this waste-howling scene to set about organising it. The *Landschaften* (counties)

were divided into small circles; in a minimum of time the land was valued and an equal tax put upon it; every circle received its *Landrath*, law court, post office, and sanitary police."⁴

The interview of Zimmermann (the author of the book *On Solitude*, and a pupil of Haller) with the King is also of interest. According to Zimmermann, "Our dialogue became extremely brisk. The King quickened into extraordinary vivacity, and examined me in the character of doctor, with such a stringency as, in the year 1751, at Göttingen, when I stood for my degree, the learned Professors Haller, Richter, Segner, and Brendel (for which Heaven recompense them) never dreamed of. All inflammatory fevers, and the most important of the slow diseases, the King mustered with me in their order. He asked me how and whereby I recognised each of these diseases; how and whereby distinguished them from the approximate maladies; what my procedure was in simple and in complicated cases; and how I cured all these disorders. On the varieties, the accidents, the mode of treatment, of small-pox especially, the King inquired with peculiar strictness; and spoke, with much emotion, of that young Prince of his House who was carried off, some years ago, by that disorder (suddenly arrested by it while on march with his regiment, near Ruppın, May 26th, 1767). Then he came upon inoculation; went along over an incredible multitude of other medical subjects. Into all he threw masterly glances, spoke of all with the soundest" (all in superlative, adds Carlyle) "knowledge of the matter, and with no less penetration, liveliness, and sense."⁵

Making every allowance for Zimmermann's enthusiastic description of the interview, we can well believe that Frederick was keenly alive to the importance of the subject, especially as it related to the maintenance of the health of his troops, and it cannot be doubted that nothing was left undone by him to place the Prussian Army Medical Service on a sound footing.

The King's interest in the small-pox shows once again how this disease was dreaded, and the death of the young Prince is another instance to be added to many others of exalted persons carried off by it. That Frederick would have welcomed Jenner's great discovery there can be no manner of doubt; a discovery which in Prussian hands has banished small-pox from Prussian territory. But in the country where vaccination originated it is still (1898) allowed to be criticised by any man in the street who likes to give an opinion before a Royal Commission. Truly a wonderful procedure, which would not be tolerated in the ordinary affairs of life.

Other points of medical interest might be touched upon, such as that Frederick was sent into the hospitals by his father, Friedrich Wilhelm, that the effects of the venereal diseases might serve to him as an example, the use of bark in ague, etc. Sufficient has been said, however, to reveal a side of Frederick the Great not often referred to.

NOTES ON HEALTH RESORTS.

KEPHISSIA: A GREEK HEALTH RESORT.

(By G. SICHEL, Surgeon R.N.)

SITUATION AND SURROUNDINGS.

KEPHISSIA has been from time immemorial a summer resort for the rich Athenians. It is situated on the western slopes of Mount Pentelicus, about nine miles from Athens, and can be reached from that town either by rail or road. The road is excellent, both for driving and cycling; but of course nearly every yard of it is uphill, as Kephissia is some 600 feet above the capital. Just about here one leaves the dried-up looking region around Athens, and enters the fertile district surrounding Tatoy, where there is a royal palace, which accounts for the excellence of the road. Firs and Greek oaks in all their variety abound; in fact, any member of the vegetable kingdom appears able to flourish. Coming by road from Athens one first of all passes through the old part of the village, and then comes to numerous villas of the moneyed class.

SANITATION.

As far as can be ascertained, the water supply is derived

¹ Carlyle, vol. vii, cheap edition, p. 37.

² Vol. ix, p. 37.

³ Dialogue with Gellert, *op. cit.*, vol. ix, p. 110.

⁴ *Op. cit.*, vol. x, p. 41.

⁵ *Op. cit.*, vol. x, p. 51.

from several springs and wells; but it all probably ultimately comes from a spring called the "Cephalaria," which is situated a little higher up on Pentelicus than Kephissia proper. The spring is quite unprotected, and when I visited it ducks were swimming in it; a man came and washed his hands and face in it, and spat into the water; another man ate his meal on the banks, and threw crumbs to the ducks. From the spring the water runs first in an open stream, then under a road, into an open aqueduct. Twenty yards below the spring a man watered his horse. Just by the spring is a small chapel, and just above it are two houses to the right and one to the left. The water itself is fairly cool, clear, and sparkling. The bed contains bits of broken crockery, old tins, and other refuse. The soil around is a firm, sandy gravel; a little way higher up the mountain, marble comes to the surface, supplying the celebrated Pentelicus quarries. The ground immediately around the spring is evidently used as an open-air restaurant in the summer.

The drainage of Kephissia is by cesspools. At present the village appears to be healthy, but in view of the important defects in the management of water supply and drainage, it is impossible to recommend any but the inhabitants of Athens to choose it as a health resort.

The dreaded "Greek fever"—probably a mixture of malaria and "sewer-gas fever"—does not exist there, and typhoid only occurs as an occasional sporadic or imported case, though this has evidently been more a matter of luck than good management on the part of the sanitary authorities.

It is but fair to say that when I was there (October and November, 1897), water pipes in one part were being laid down; it will be well if, before it is too late, a proper drainage system be inaugurated.

ACCOMMODATION FOR VISITORS.

There is an excellent hotel there; cooking and accommodation good. The building is in part new, and bedding, etc., is clean. In the winter Kephissia is a cold, dreary place, and before I left snow had been lying pretty thickly on the ground. Taken altogether, Kephissia is quite capable of being a most perfect health resort, especially for early phthisis, but until the serious defects above mentioned are remedied, it must of necessity be looked upon as a dangerous place to send invalids—a place where at any time a single pollution might cause a terrible epidemic of such a disease as typhoid or dysentery. The season there is the summer and autumn.

LITERARY NOTES.

DURING the past academic year 661 theses for the degree of Doctor of Medicine were presented to the Paris Faculty. All these theses are in the library of the British Medical Association.

In connection with Mr. John Poland's forthcoming work on *Traumatic Separation of the Epiphyses*, Messrs. Smith, Elder and Co. will publish a *Skiagraphic Atlas* by the same author. The atlas illustrates the development of the wrist and hand as displayed by the Roentgen process. This is, we believe, the first instance in which a series of skiagraphs showing the ossification of the bones of these parts has been traced over a period of years from early infancy. Such an atlas is likely to be of great practical use to the surgeon and student.

We are asked to announce that *Public Health*, the official journal of the incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health, will in future be published by the Rebman Publishing Company, 129, Shaftesbury Avenue, to whom all communications relating to the business part of that journal should be addressed.

Messrs. Cassell and Co. will publish immediately a second revised edition of Mr. Malcolm Morris's *Diseases of the Skin*. In addition to a good deal of new matter in the text, the work will contain a considerable number of new illustrations.

Messrs. Baillière, Tindall and Cox announce for publication during the coming season the following new editions: Sir William Broadbent's *Diseases of the Heart* (third edition); Professor Stewart's *Manual of Physiology* (third edition); Professor Mayo Robson's *Diseases of the Gall Bladder* (second

edition); Mr. Gant's *Guide to the Examination of the Conjoint Board* (seventh edition); Mr. Lennox Browne's *Diseases of the Throat and Nose* (fifth edition); Dr. Muter's *Manual of Analytical Chemistry* (eighth edition); Dr. Hime's *Guide to the Public Health Acts* (second edition); Dr. Max Einhorn's *Diseases of the Stomach* (second edition); the Medico-Psychological Association's *Handbook for Attendance on the Insane* (fourth edition), and Messrs. Pearmain and Moor's *Applied Bacteriology* (second edition, with coloured plates). The following new works are quite ready: *A Pocket Dictionary of Hygiene*, by Mr. C. T. Kingzett, F.I.C., and Mr. D. Homfray, B.Sc.; *An English-French Medical Dictionary*, by M. de Méric; *Cattle Tuberculosis*, by Dr. T. M. Legge, Secretary to the Royal Commission of Tuberculosis; and a translation of Professor Bollinger's *Pathological Anatomy*, with atlas of 120 coloured plates.

The following are among Mr. Young J. Pentland's announcements for the autumn: *Contributions to Clinical Medicine*, by T. McCall Anderson, M.D., F.F.P.S.Glasg., Professor of Clinical Medicine, Glasgow University; Physician, Glasgow Western Infirmary, etc. *Textbook of Physiology*, by British Physiologists, edited by E. A. Schäfer, F.R.S., Jodrell Professor of Physiology, University College, London; volume ii. *Diseases of the Heart and Aorta*, by G. A. Gibson, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P. Edin., Assistant-Physician, Royal Infirmary, Lecturer on Medicine, School of Medicine, Edinburgh. *The Principles of Treatment*, by J. Mitchell Bruce, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician to, and Lecturer on, the Practice of Medicine, Charing Cross Hospital; Physician, Hospital for Consumption, Brompton, London. *The Principles and Practice of Medicine*, designed for the use of practitioners and students of medicine, by William Osler, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., F.R.C.P., Professor of Medicine in the Johns Hopkins University, Physician-in-Chief to the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore; third edition. *Lectures on Giddiness and on Hysteria in the Male*, by Sir Thomas Grainger Stewart, M.D., LL.D., Physician-in-Ordinary to Her Majesty the Queen for Scotland, Professor of the Practice of Physic and of Clinical Medicine in the University of Edinburgh. *Textbook of Medicine*, by British Teachers, edited by G. A. Gibson, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P. Edin., Assistant-Physician Royal Infirmary, Lecturer on Medicine School of Medicine, Edinburgh. *The Radical Cure of Hernia, Hydrocele, and Varicocele*, by C. B. Lockwood, F.R.C.S., Assistant-Surgeon and Demonstrator of Practical Surgery, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Surgeon Great Northern Central Hospital, London. *Manual of Midwifery*, by R. Milne Murray, M.B., F.R.C.P. Edin., Assistant-Physician Royal Maternity and Simpson Memorial Hospital, Lecturer on Midwifery and Diseases of Women School of Medicine, Edinburgh.

To the *Phonographic Record* for September Sir William Gowers, President of the Society of Medical Phonographers, contributes a paper on Syphilitic Disease of the Cerebral Arteries, in which he says that the characteristic symptom is generally a sudden hemiplegia, through occlusion of a narrowed vessel, by a clot beyond the narrowed part; but should the disease of the arterial wall have been lessened by treatment the symptoms are usually more chronic. Dr. Fletcher Beach concludes his interesting observations on Mentally Deficient Children, and Dr. Peyton T. B. Beale advocates the use of alcohol as a local dressing to fresh wounds.

A once familiar name has reappeared in *Virchow's Archiv*. An article was published in the July number on a special method of physiological injection of blood and lymphatic vessels, and the name of its author is Professor N. A. Trzaska-Chrzonczewsky, of Kieff. We find from the perusal of the article, which is of high interest to the pathologist, that the author is the same Dr. N. Chrzonczewsky, who wrote a valuable and original monograph on the anatomy and physiology of the liver, published in the same *Archiv* in 1866. The last generation of British medical students were very familiar with the learned professor's name placed in parentheses in certain textbooks, as one who, like Beale and Kiernan, held views on the origin of the bile ducts. They will be glad to find that the learned professor still lives and writes valuable papers. We may perhaps be permitted to add that the newly-affixed surname given above only adds to the awe which the name of the great Muscovite physiologist never failed to