Earl Carrington writes to the War Office that he and Lady Carrington will place Hill Farm House, High Wycombe, at its disposal as a convalescent home for invalid soldiers for a space of two years. Nurses and a doctor have volunteered their services, and all the authorities will have to provide will be daily rations.

The Governors of Newark Hospital have offered the War Office the use of vacant beds for invalid soldiers if they should require them.

The President of the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool, has written to the Director-General of the Army Medical Department stating that the committee will allot twelve beds for the use of sick and wounded soldiers and sailors at a charge of 2s. per day for each bed occupied or unoccupied.

The Committee of the Stanley Hospital, Liverpool, will, it is understood, place twenty to thirty beds at the service of the War Office.

Ten beds at the Convalescent Home, Reigate, have been offered by Mrs. Kitto for the use of men from South Africa.

Mr. E. A. Lee has placed a house at the disposal of the committee formed to establish at Torquay a convalescent home for soldiers and sailors invalided from South Africa.

PROPOSED GLASGOW HOSPITAL SHIP.

A fund is being raised in Glasgow to send out a hospital ship entirely equipped for the purpose of bringing back from South Africa sick and wounded soldiers to England.

AN APPEAL TO THE YOUNGER MEMBERS OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

In the crisis through which our Empire is passing, the importance of the Militia, Yeomanry, and Volunteer Forces as a support to the Army is fully evinced. And as it is impossible to forecast the further demands which may have to be made upon them in the near or distant future, it behoves us to strengthen them to the utmost of our power.

Many members and students of our profession are already enrolled in them, and are answering the call now made upon them with patriotic promptitude.

We venture to take the opportunity suggested by the beginning of a new year of appealing to such of the younger members and of the students of the medical and dental professions as are still unattached, yet capable of bearing arms or in other ways of helping in Imperial defence, at once to consider the advisability of joining some branch of the service.

(Signed)

FREDERICK T. ROBERTS, M.D., F.R.C.P.,
Physician to University College Hospital.

EDMUND OWEN, M.B., F.R.C.S.,
Surgeon to St. Mary's Hospital, London.

WILLIAM COLLINGRIDGE, M.A., M.D.,
Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Militia Med. Staff; late
Commanding Mil. Med. Staff.

WILLIAM DUNCAN, M.D., F.R.C.S.,
Captain Middlesex Yeomanry Cavalry.

J. EDWARD SQUIRE,
Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding Volunteer
Med. Staff Corps, London Companies.

London, January 1st.

LITERARY NOTES.

DR. GEORGE M. GOULD is reprinting the editorial "Suggestions to Writers" which have appeared during the past year in the *Philadelphia Medical Journal*. The volume will be entitled *Suggestions to Medical Writers*, and will be an octavo of about 150 pages. In addition to the articles which have already appeared in the *Philadelphia Medical Journal*, the book will contain a general introductory chapter on Medical English, a chapter on Medical Paleography, and a new essay entitled *History and Psychology in Words*.

Among the curiosities of the *Oxyrhynchus papyri*, which have been edited, with translations and notes, by Messrs. Grenfell and Hunt for the Egyptian Exploration Fund (Part II, London, Henry Frowde, 25s.) is a list of specifics for the ear-ache. They date from about the end of the second century, and are as follows:

Heat an equal quantity of beaver musk and poppy juice upon a potsherd, if possible one of Attic make but failing that of.....; soften by diluting with raisin wine, warm, and drop in. Dilute some gum with balsam of lilies, and add honey and rose extract. Twist some wool with the oil in it round a probe, warm, and drop in. Pound some closed calices of pomegranates, drop on saffron water, and when it becomes discoloured draw the liquor off. When required dilute as much as the bulk of a pea with raisin wine, warm, and drop in. Pound some Egyptian alum and insert into the ear an amount equal to the size of a pea. Anoint a persea leaf and insert. Thoroughly moisten a flock of wool with the gall of an ox, roll up and insert. Pound myrrh and alum in equal quantities and insert. Dilute frankincense with very sweet wine and syringe the ear; or use for this purpose the injections described above. Rinse with warm onion

juice. Syringe with gall of a bull or goat or sheep, or other similar kind of gall warmed. The sap of a pine tree, warmed, to be used in the same way.

The first specific must have been something not very unlike the old vinum opii, which not very many years ago was largely used as a local application in various painful affections, especially of the eyes; while "warm onion juice" is a popular remedy, the use of which has by no means died out at the present day. The "sap of a pine tree warmed" shows perhaps some dim striving after antiseptics.

The current number of the *Fortnightly Review* contains a very interesting article on the problems which await solution in South Africa, by Dr. Alfred Hillier. He has given it the title *Issues at Stake in South Africa*, and the subject is discussed from a point of view slightly different from that usually adopted. He dwells on the influence on the character and political standard of the Transvaal Boers, exerted by their long contact with native races. They have held these races in subjection, and individual members of them in slavery more or less openly avowed. This, he argues, has been the main element in producing certain traits which their warmest defenders cannot profess to admire. He arrives at the conclusions that their true interests are identical with ours, and that British victory now will be to their inestimable advantage in the future. We cannot pretend to trace the steps by which he arrives at this conclusion, but they are closely reasoned, and expressed in temperate and well-balanced language. The article will well repay perusal.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

COUNCIL.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the Council will be held in the Council Room of the Association, at 429, Strand (corner of Agar Street), London, on Wednesday, the 17th day of January next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

December, 1899.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS OF COUNCIL FOR 1900.

MEETINGS of the Council will be held on January 17th, April 11th, July 11th, and October 10th, 1900. Candidates for election by the Council of the Association must send in their forms of application to the General Secretary not later than twenty-one days before each meeting—namely, March 22nd, June 21st, and September 27th, 1900.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

Any qualified medical practitioner, not disqualified by any by-law of the Association, who shall be recommended as eligible by any three members, may be elected a member by the Council or by any recognised Branch Council.

Candidates seeking election by a Branch Council should apply to the Secretary of the Branch. No members can be elected by a Branch Council unless their names have been inserted in the circular summoning the meeting at which they seek election.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

LIBRARY OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS are reminded that the Library and Writing Rooms of the Association are now fitted up for the accommodation of the Members in commodious apartments, at the office of the Association, 429, Strand. The rooms are open from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Members can have their letters addressed to them at the office.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD:

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH: COUNTIES OF ROXBURGH, BERWICK, SELKIRK, AND PEEBLES DISTRICT.—This District will meet in the Railway Hotel, Newtown, St. Boswell's, on Friday, January 26th, at 3.30 P.M., Dr. Blair, Chairman of the District, presiding. Members are requested to send notices of all cases to be shown or papers to be read at the earliest possible date to the Honorary Secretary, Dr. W. HALL CALVERT, Melrose, N.B.