

true typhus, Dr. Woodward tells us, does not exist in that continent, and is only seen when isolated cases are imported on board-ship.

Dr. Woodward affirms from his researches that the following pestilential epidemics were due to a hybrid form of malarial and typhus fevers:—

The pestilential fever which destroyed the French General Lautrec and the army of thirty thousand men with which he besieged Naples in 1528.

The celebrated Hungarian fever, which, for at least three centuries, played so formidable a part in the campaigns undertaken by the House of Austria against the Turks, and chiefly in the Hungarian Campaign of Maximilian II in 1566, and in the camp before Ofen in 1542.

Dr. Woodward makes the following remark: "I cannot but believe, however, that whenever a German army goes again into the valley of the Danube, as perhaps may happen before long, unless the present disturbances in the Danubian provinces are fortunately brought to a peaceful termination, the old Hungarian plague will once more appear in its ranks—a more formidable foe to be encountered than the sword of the Turks."

Dr. Woodward concluded his address with the following words, and as they are just as applicable to us as to American physicians, we may also conclude our survey of the question by quoting them:—"The name (typho-malarial) is, after all, a mere matter of choice, but a just appreciation of the hybrid forms, which I have urged on your attention to-day, is a matter of grave practical importance. Not merely as a question of Military Medicine, though most important in that connection, for I take it whenever again hereafter an army recruited in a comparatively non-malarial region shall campaign on a malarial soil, these hybrid forms will appear once more in epidemic proportions; but meanwhile, I suppose, in sporadic or endemic-wise, we shall continue to have these cases to deal with in civil practice in all the miasmatic regions of our Middle and Southern States, and their right comprehension is, therefore, a question of serious moment to every American physician engaged in practice in such localities."

#### THE ABOO LAWRENCE SCHOOL.

It is now an annual custom with us to notice the report of the Aboo Lawrence School, and to urge its claims for assistance upon the benevolent public. The report for the year 1876-77 has now come to hand, and we are sorry to see that up to 31st March 1877, there was a deficit of Rs. 3,193-3-6. The subscriptions from the public towards current expenditure amounted to Rs. 2,664-13-0, and the donations to Endowment Fund to Rs. 3,624-8-1.

The object of the school is well known, but here we may state that it was founded and originated by the late Sir Henry Lawrence as a local institution for the education of the children of British soldiers and of others residing in Rajputana, or in the neighbouring districts. Applicants for admission are numerous. Of thirty candidates registered during the year under report, only five children, who appeared to the Committee to be in the greatest need of the benefits of the institution could be received. The number present has averaged 58.9 monthly, and in addition there are six boys and girls, children of clerks em-

ployed in public offices in Mount Aboo, permitted to attend as day scholars

When the Sub-Inspector of Army Schools visited on 18th December 1876 he remarked:—"Of the 59 inmates, 48 (?41) per cent. are children of deceased soldiers, and 59 per cent. of men serving in the army, or pensioners, while 92 per cent. are of pure European parentage." General Staveley, Commander-in-Chief, Bombay Army, remarked:—"It has given me pleasure, on my visit to the Aboo Lawrence School, to see the children of our soldiers so well instructed, and so happy and well cared for in every way."

The Medical Officer remarks:—"With an average strength of 58.9, the total admissions were 40, 38 of which were for ague, 37 cases of ague occurring between 10th October and 27th December; the ratio per cent. for ague was 64.86. No case of dysentery occurred during the year. There was no death during the period under notice. The diet, bedding, and clothing of the children are very good, and their education—moral, physical, and mental—is all that can be desired."

### Correspondence.

#### POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION IN A CASE OF RIFLE-SHOT INJURY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "INDIAN MEDICAL GAZETTE."

SIR,—As bullet injuries are always interesting, I send you the following rough notes of the *post-mortem* condition of a sepoy who shot himself a few days ago at this station. They show how completely a Snider bullet may be arrested and split up by the vertebral column, even when the rifle is placed close to the body. The wound of entrance was a clean circular hole immediately below the xiphoid cartilage, the skin around being much blackened by the discharge. On opening the chest the bullet was found to have passed slightly upwards through the pericardium to the spine. The right side of the heart was torn to rags, two vertebrae were completely disintegrated, and three ribs on either side broken close to their vertebral attachment. The spine was cut quite across, and the lower segment pushed backwards considerably. There was no wound of exit, and no portion of the bullet could be found under the skin or in the muscles of the back. From the neighbourhood of the spinal injury I recovered, after careful search, six fragments of bullet, weighing respectively, 94, 54, 45, 30, 15, and 2 grains. This is a total of 240, which is only half a Snider bullet. One portion appeared to be the extreme apex, and another the greater part of the base of the bullet. They were all blended with pieces of bone and covered with blood-clot, and could only be detected by their weight. The remainder of the bullet must have been broken up into small fragments. From the situation and direction of the wound, and the position of the body and rifle, I have little doubt that he sat on the floor facing the wall, against which he placed the butt of the rifle and pulled the trigger with his foot, from which he had removed his boot.

I am yours, &c., &c.,

GERALD BOMFORD, M.D.

BANGALORE, 27th June 1877.

**Acetic Acid and Acetates in the Treatment of Cancer of the Breast.**—M. Eugene Curie states that he has obtained excellent results in the treatment of cancer of the breast, and also in that of the uterus and stomach by the employment of acetate acid or of the acetates. Under this treatment, he observes, the pains cease and the development of the tumour is arrested, or it may even diminish in size. He employs dilute solutions for external application, and internally the acetates of lime or soda, in doses amounting to thirty grains per diem.—*Practitioner.*