

*tary Gazette* that Dr. Bellew, one of the officers thus unfairly superseded, addressed a memorial to the Lieutenant-Governor on the injustice thus done him, but that through some means the receipt of it was delayed until after the appointment had been made. We are unwilling to believe that this statement can be well founded, but, publicly advanced as it has been, it appears to call for inquiry. Mr. Cross has shown himself to be interested in the welfare of the Indian Medical Service, and we have no doubt that if this repetition of an act apparently so unjust as that involved in the appointment of Dr. Bellew as local surgeon-general is brought to his notice it will receive his careful consideration. Until an inquiry has been made by some competent and authorised person, we refrain from imputing blame to any individual, but if no such step is taken there can be little doubt that a very unpleasant feeling will be aroused with regard to the administration of the department. We recommend the subject to the consideration of Sir Joseph Fayrer, who is the authority in this country by whom the interests of the service should be looked after, and on whom should devolve the responsibility of seeing that any act of apparent injustice is brought to the notice of the governing authorities.

### THE DRAINAGE OF LONDON.

ALTHOUGH the evidence taken before the Royal Commission on Metropolitan Sewage Discharge is supposed to be kept secret, still there can be no doubt from the prominent way in which the scheme of Sir Joseph Bazalgette has been put forward in this journal that the Commissioners have practically decided upon recommending either that scheme or some altered modification of it. Roughly, it is to carry the sewage from Crossness under the river to the north shore, and to convey the whole volume to Thames Haven and there to discharge it in its *crude* state. So far as London is concerned, this will be an enormous benefit, but it is well not to forget the claims of other small places. Southend (the Brighton of the East-end) is within ten miles of the proposed outfall, and as for miles on either side of it there exist large flats and mudbanks, there can be little doubt that the deposition of crude sewage thereon must cause serious detriment to the prosperity of the place. The estimated rate to pay for the extension of the sewage works is but 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. in the pound. Surely it is worth while to spend another farthing in precipitation, and save the possibility of ruining a very popular resort. It would be a serious blunder to benefit London by destroying Southend.

### SCROFULA AND TUBERCLE.

FOR the most part experimental pathology has sided with the view that scrofula and tubercle are practically the products of one and the same disease. Clinical physicians frequently maintain the distinctive nature of these diseases. Some recent experiments made by M. Arloing would seem to give countenance to the opinion that scrofulosis and tuberculosis are not precisely similar morbid processes. It was found that subcutaneous inoculations from a caseous gland performed on a series of guinea-pigs and rabbits was followed by tuberculosis in the former animals, but for the most part the rabbits remained unaffected. When intra-peritoneal injections of the virus were carried out it was discovered that at the end of about a month all the guinea-pigs had died of tuberculosis, whilst none of the rabbits had suffered in any way. In this double set of experimental inoculations, caseous glands taken from the neck of a boy were employed as the material for inoculation. A third set of experiments, where inoculations were practised with fungoid material from the synovial membrane of joints affected with white swelling, both rabbits and guinea-pigs were simultaneously affected with

tubercle. Again a fourth series was carried out with some matter taken from swollen cervical glands in a young woman who had no other symptoms of disease. A rabbit and a guinea-pig inoculated with this material died of general tuberculosis; and three weeks after the operation for removal of the cervical glands the young woman herself succumbed to acute tuberculosis.

### EXHIBITIONS AND HOSPITALS.

IT is announced that an International Exhibition is to be held at the Alexandra Palace next year, commencing about March 31st. Exhibitions are very popular just now, and we hope that this one may be crowded every day of the six months during which it is to be open. Our enthusiasm on its behalf is evoked by the following paragraph in the prospectus:—"The administration have determined upon setting aside one-tenth of the entire receipts for admission for distribution amongst the various hospitals of the British metropolis, under the control and management of a committee for charitable purposes, of which Col. Sir Herbert Sandford, R.A., has been appointed chairman." The committee also includes, among others, the names of Sir Andrew Clark, Sir Henry Pitman, and Dr. George Johnson. We trust that the benevolent, kindly, and, as we believe, far-seeing policy adopted by the promoters of this Exhibition may result in a substantial addition to the funds of those institutions which, in the truest and best sense of the word, "entertain" the sick and wounded. Following the successful example set at South Kensington, the attractions of the exhibits will be supplemented by amusements, &c., and the building and grounds will be brilliantly illuminated by the electric light. In the interest of the hospitals, we trust that the executive, who by reason of their kindly thought deserve, will do everything to command, success.

### THE BERLIN MEDICAL FACULTY AND PROFESSOR V. SCHWENINGER.

THE dissatisfaction at the arbitrary appointment of Dr. v. Schweningen to an extraordinary professorship of dermatology in the University of Berlin is growing, and has found expression in a protest from the medical faculty. This gentleman, hitherto unknown to fame, has the fortune of being "Leibarzt" to Prince Bismarck, and rumour says that it is owing to influence from this high quarter that the Minister of Education, Herr v. Gossler, made the nomination that is so distasteful to the faculty. Professor Virchow in the Chamber questioned the legality of this appointment, and also the conferring of the title "Professor" upon several "Privat-docents," which has recently been practised. Professor Virchow maintains that new professors cannot be appointed unless there are vacancies to be filled up. Dr. v. Schweningen has already entered upon his duties, and taken charge of the dermatological *clinique* at La Charité Hospital.

### THE TRICYCLE UNION.

A SPECIAL general meeting of the members of the above-mentioned union was held on November 6th at the Westminster Palace Hotel. Dr. Richardson, the President, occupied the chair. In the course of his interesting and suggestive address we find that he assumed very much the same position that THE LANCET has taken up as regards the dangers attendant on the immoderate use of the tricycle, pointing out the ill effects likely to follow continued or excessive tension on the heart and lungs, and fixation of the body for long periods in a constrained position. He deprecated the custom of making an enjoyable and instructive mode of travelling a means for "sport" and sustenance for society journals. With his accustomed lucidity and happy