

round the trunk of a tree, prevents insects creeping up it. It has been even noticed that rats and mice quit places in which a certain quantity of chloride of lime has been spread.—*Chem. News from Dingler's Polytech. Jour.*

*Prof. Schroeder Van du Kolk.*—This estimable physician, Professor of Medicine in the University of Utrecht, died at his house on the 1st May last, at the age of 65. The correspondent of the *Dublin Medical Press* observes that "Utrecht has thereby lost one of its most estimable citizens, the University one of her ornaments, society one of her greatest benefactors, science one of her most devoted cultivators, his numerous household a loving father, their main-stay and hope."

Van der Kolk was certainly one of the most distinguished physiologists and pathologists of modern times.

*The Turkish Bath in Insanity.*—This innovation of British usages is becoming now singularly applied. An Irish physician, Dr. Powers, of Cork, is advancing it as a sovereign and most potent remedy in insanity. It has its uses—but where are its abuses to stop. Like everything novel, it has to run, we presume, the gauntlet, until it settles down to the position to which common sense would assign it.

*Londoners.*—The medical officer of the London Post Office, states that the candidates who presented themselves to him for examination, are as a whole much below the medium of height, strength and *physique* generally. Of 367 candidates in 1861, for the situation of letter carrier, messenger, porter and labourer, he found the average circumference of the chest after expiration  $31\frac{1}{2}$  inches,—the lowest requirement for the army is 35. In a considerable number the expansion of the chest on inspiration was but 1 inch. The average strength was 289 lbs.—the strongest raised 450 lbs. They varied in age between 19 and 37. The average in height was 5 ft.  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and the average weight 9 st. 6 lbs.—*London Times.*

*The British General Post Office.*—Five hundred and seventeen million letters passed through the British Post Office last year, and seventy-two million three hundred thousand newspapers, besides twelve million three hundred thousand book packages. The gross revenue of the Department was over three million and a half sterling, and the expenditure nearly two millions and a half, leaving a profit in its working of over a million sterling.

*The munificence of Mr. Peabody of London.*—This American gentleman who has made a princely fortune in mercantile pursuits in London, has given £150,000 to be disposed of by Mr. Adams, the American Minister, Lord Stanley, Sir E. Tenant, and Messrs. Lampson and Meryan as trustees for the amelioration of the poor of London.

*Death of the Prince Consort.*—The councils or governing bodies of the different Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons in England, Ireland, and Scotland, have adopted resolutions expressive of deep sympathy with the severe loss which the Queen has lately experienced, and of regret at the loss sustained by science and letters in the early demise of His Royal Highness the Prince Consort. The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Lower Canada has exhibited the same expression of sincere sympathy which every member individually feels.

*Local Anæsthesia.*—Mr. Fournie recommends for the induction of local anæsthesia, a mixture of equal parts of glacial acetic acid and chloroform. He states that complete insensibility of the part may be obtained in five minutes. He therefore recommends the local application of the mixture in all the minor operations of surgery. The author calls the process chloracetization, and says that it is the most certain, easy, and economic means of producing local anæsthesia yet introduced.—(*Abbrev. from Phar. Jour.*)