

poll may go, it is to be hoped that the new Council will endeavor to erase the blot made by the old one, *and do its duty*.

I trust Dr. McGuigan, whom I esteem, will understand that I make these remarks not at him, nor at the registrar, but at the Council as a body corporate, with duties to perform, and, in this instance, left undone.

MARK S. WADE, M.D., F.C.S.

Victoria, B. C., April 28th, 1890.

Book Notices.

Asthma, considered specially in relation to Nasal Disease. By E. Schmiegelow, M.D., consulting Physician in Laryngology to the Municipal Hospital, etc., Copenhagen. 8vo., pp. 90. London: H. K. Lewis, 1890.

That the author, though a specialist, has studied his subject in a broad spirit is indicated by the closing sentence of his book: "It must always be remembered that one has to do with a suffering person, who is not merely an appendix to his nose." He adopts Germain See's pathology of asthma, viz., that it is a neurosis in the respiratory centre in the medulla, caused by an elevated reflex irritability, native or acquired, in this organ. The attacks are due to irritations, originating in the vagus or other peripheral nerves, and show themselves in the motory nerves of the inspiratory muscles, especially the diaphragm, in which the contractions become tetaniform. At the same time the vaso-motor centre, also in the medulla, is irritated, causing reflex dilatation of the vessels in the bronchial mucosa, from which results the copious secretion. That the asthmatic attacks in many cases are due to irritation in the nasal cavities is shown by such facts as (1) that asthma may return when nasal disease gets worse, and be relieved by improving the nasal condition; (2) the aggravation of the symptoms in some cases by treatment of the nasal tract; (3) the relief of symptoms by tamponing the nose with wool containing cocaine or menthol. The author warns us against the error of ascribing all cases of asthma, in which nasal disease exists, to such disease, as in some, other causes, as bronchitis, are present also, while in others the nasal affection has no causation relative to the asthma.

Though not accepting wholly the author's pathology of asthma, we have read the work with much pleasure and profit, and heartily commend it to the profession generally as a work that will prove very helpful to the general practitioner in the treatment of a disease that too often defies our best efforts. The publisher's work, as usual, is excellent.

Personal.

Dr. Annie L. Pickering has returned home after a five months' visit to Birmingham, England.

SIR WILLIAM JENNER has left London and retired from active practice. He will live near Southampton. He is in good health and intends to do some literary work.

DR. G. L. MILNE, of Victoria, and Dr. H. Watt, of Barkerville, B.C. will receive the degree of M.D., *ad eundem*, from the University of Toronto at the next convocation.

PROFESSOR RAMSAY WRIGHT sailed for Europe the last of April. He will spend most of the summer on the Continent, where he will make a rather extensive university tour.

DR. J. E. GRAHAM left Toronto, May 10th, for Washington, where he attended the annual meeting of the American Association of Physicians. At the conclusion of the meeting he went to New York, and sailed for Great Britain, May 17th. He expects to go to the Continent, where he will remain some time, and will attend the Berlin Congress.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

MARRIAGES.

GREIG—BURNS—On the 28th April, at the residence of the bride's father, 222 Simcoe St., Toronto, by the Rev. J. Alexander, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Rev. H. M. Parsons, D.D., Dr. W. J. Greig, Toronto, to Anne J. Burns, daughter of John Burns, Esq.