

## Miscellaneous.

A LAW FOR THE PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.—Following the example of the State of New York, the State of Maine has passed the following law, which was approved by the Governor on March 28: "Section 1. Should one or both eyes of an infant become reddened or inflamed at any time within four weeks after its birth, it shall be the duty of the midwife, nurse, or person having charge of said infant to report the condition of the eyes at once to some legally qualified practitioner of medicine of the city, town, or district in which the parents of the child reside. Section 2. Any failure to comply with the provisions of this act shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$100, or imprisonment not to exceed six months, or both. Section 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of June, eighteen hundred and ninety-one."—*New Orleans Medical and Surgical Journal*.

MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND FRANCE.—Two hundred years ago the mortality in England was 80 in the 1,000, and fifty years ago 25 per 1,000, while in 1889 it had fallen to 17.85. This result is the more remarkable since the birth rate is so large, and it is well known that a large birth rate increases the annual death coefficient. In France the mortuary rate, which at the beginning of the century was 28, is to-day 22.29, but the coefficient of births has fallen from 30 to 25 per 1,000. If the births in France were in the same proportion as those in England, the increased death rate over this country would be still greater.—*Journal de Médecine de Paris*.

A SAD MISTAKE.—A writer in the *Hospitals Gazette* quotes the following story, said to have been related by Sir Richard Quain, M.D., which perhaps points a moral. He was attending the wife of an old patient, and at one of his visits the husband set him thinking by saying to the doctor, "I greatly appreciate the anxiety you feel for my poor wife, but do not let her see it again, for after you left the room she asked if you were the undertaker." As Dr. Quain rather prided himself on having a good bedside manner, he felt that he was being taken down a peg or two.—*Med. Record*.

*The Medical News'* visiting list for 1892, arranged for thirty patients per week and published by Lea Brothers, of Philadelphia, will be found to be one of the best of its kind. A special index facilitates speedy reference. Besides the usual tables of doses, incompatibles, poisons, and antidotes, it contains directions for examination of urine, ligation of arteries, and a brief résumé of the accepted treatment of the diseases most often met with.

MRS. C. P. HUNTINGTON has given the Directors of the Post-Graduate Medical School of New York city \$2000, a sum sufficient to defray the expenses of the lying-in department for one year. Professor Von Ramdohr will have charge of this department, at 543 East 13th Street, where instruction in obstetrics will be given to graduates in medicine only.

MATTHEWS DUNCAN MEMORIAL.—At the last meeting of the Aberdeen University Court, a letter was submitted from Professors Alex. Ogston and R. W. Reid, formally handing over to the court a bust of the late Dr. Matthews Duncan, to be placed in the Medical School, and a cheque for £140 to be invested to provide a gold medal to be known as the "Matthews Duncan Gold Medal in Obstetrics."—*Brit. Med. Jour.*

THE University of Lemberg is about to be blessed with a medical faculty, the Emperor of Austria having approved of the proposal to establish one. It is thought it will be ready and in good working order by the autumn of 1894. Well, we should hope so! Oklahoma will have two or three medical colleges in full blast by that time.—*Medical Record*.

A SUCCESSFUL case of bone-grafting is reported from Allahabad, a solution of continuity in the anterior layer of the frontal sinus having been induced to take on osseous repair by sprinkling the surface with "small fragments" of the hip-bone of a newly killed dog.—*Med. Press*.

THE annual dinner of the Medical Faculty of the Western University was held in the Tecumseth House, London, December 22nd.