

mology in King's College, London, and ophthalmic surgeon to King's College Hospital and to the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, and author of a well-known work on diseases of the eye. Apart from his professional attainments, Dr. Wells was a man of fine social qualities, and an excellent musician. He died while yet having only reached middle age.

—Dr. Geo. W. Beard looks upon many forms of Bright's disease as amongst the "sequences of Neurasthenia," and he claims to have had several apparent recoveries from well-marked renal disease of this nature from "faradization, galvanization, and counter-irritation over the kidneys, persistently kept up, and the administration of vegetable tonics."

OPERATING BY THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.—On the 11th December, '79, Mr. Berkeley Hill operated for vesico-vaginal fistula in University College Hospital while the vagina was lighted up by Mr. Coxeter's application of the glowing platinum wire. The apparatus consisted of a fine wire twisted into a small knot. Through this knot was sent a continuous galvanic current, strong enough to maintain the wire at a white heat. The wire was enclosed in a glass chamber, which was itself also enclosed in another glass cover. Through the space between the glasses a current of water was allowed to flow in order to preserve a low temperature round the light. The afternoon, which was dark and foggy, afforded a good opportunity of testing this plan of lighting up deep interiors, and the illumination was completely successful. A strong light was maintained for more than an hour, close to the margins of the fissure, without impeding the manipulations of the operator.

SCURVY.—In reporting the reception of Prof. Nordenskjöld and the staff of the *Vega* at Nagasaki, *Nature* notes that there was not a single case of scurvy during the whole voyage. This was owing to the free use of a curious little berry that springs out of the ice and snow during the short summer; it bears profusely, and has a taste like the raspberry, but more acid. The fruit is dried, and then mixed with the milk of the reindeer, and it can be carried in a frozen state for thousands