

allowed to enter it, or that more men are allowed to enter the profession than can obtain an honorable living in it.

An interesting item concerning the remuneration of professors in the medical faculty of Edinburgh has just appeared, stating that some of them receive as much as three thousand five hundred pounds a year in fees, equal to seventeen thousand five hundred dollars. This would indeed seem large to some of your professors in Bishop's College or even in McGill.

The Council of the Royal College of Surgeons has been gradually taking more and more power upon itself, until at last it has forgotten that it is the servant of the College, that is, of the members and fellows; so that recently they have passed an order that the members and fellows are no longer to be allowed to hold their annual meeting, which has caused the latter to grumble a good deal, as formerly they looked forward to this annual meeting to give vent to their grievances, although their murmurs never seemed to have much effect upon the Council.

A recent report upon the death rate in Edinburgh, which has lately been as low as fourteen per thousand, a difference of eight or ten per thousand in that of those living in crowded houses with rents of five pounds per year, and those living in houses with a rent of twenty pounds a year and over.

Owing to the unsettled state of affairs in Ireland, the incomes of medical men there have diminished by at least thirty per cent., and in some cases altogether. The landed gentry, who used to be the best patients of the doctors, no longer having any money to pay them, while those into whose hands the land has now passed have never been in the habit of paying the doctors anything.

A very interesting discussion took place at the Medico-Chirurgical Society, at its last meeting, on the origin of Chorea. The general conclusions arrived at were as follows:

1. That a large number of choreic patients

are liable to rheumatism. 2. That choreic patients are nearly always of a delicate constitution. 3. That chorea is sometimes caused by emotion, which may take the form of over-work, worry, or fright. 4. That chorea may cause permanent heart disease, but that it also gives rise to forms of heart disease which are not lasting. Females are distinctly more liable than males to chorea, just as they are to rheumatism, and the liability increases after the age of puberty to a very marked extent. It was urged that chorea was not, properly speaking, a disease, but only the manifestations of a disease, as to the nature of which we know nothing. The observation, however, would apply with even greater propriety to rheumatism, and would, *à la rigueur*, apply to most so-called diseases which are known to us, after all, only by associated symptoms.

The intelligent commanding officer of the First Royal Irish Rifles, Col. Burnett, has taken a step which will prove a boon to his regiment and which, it would seem, is greatly to be desired, should be adopted throughout the army. It is a notorious fact that a great deal too much bread is issued to the British soldier, while his allowance of groceries is far too short, requiring, in fact, the expenditure of between three pence and nine pence a day in order to make the rations equal to those of the average laborer. The Colonel also discovered that the bones of the meat were thrown away. He, therefore, ordered that these bones should be converted into excellent soup and that the money saved on the bread should be expended in the purchase of herrings, jam, butter, marmalade, cheese and bacon for the mens' breakfast. Heretofore the last meal the soldier gets has been at four o'clock in the afternoon, consisting of tea and bread. But the Colonel, by using the bones, is enabled to give them a supper of either Irish stew and coffee or a large bowl of nutritious soup. It is attention to such things as these that would make the soldier's lot a happier one.

A discussion has lately been going on as to the cause of baldness, which is more common among men than among women, and the following are some of the points