

creased and climatic conditions of cold and heat did not affect the men as formerly. The improved condition of the men was manifest in the successes of our war with China, and later in the Boxer trouble, and lastly in the war with Russia, when more than 30,000 men kept their health excellently and showed a sick list much less than in time of peace.

Medical science can do much for the advancement of a country. Had the Japanese navy remained as it was twenty-six years ago, it could not have withstood the wars it has passed through and would have been beaten by disease and not by the enemy.

Japanese medical education is, generally speaking, of the German school, and all medical students are taught the German language as an extra subject, and nearly all our post-graduates go to Germany. As, however, our relations with English countries are most useful to us all our youth (that is, those in the high schools) are taught the English language, and during the last three years in one medical school the English language is taught as an extra-subject. With a better command of English we will be in a position to inform our English *confrères* of our work in Japan, and will be better able to understand that done in English countries.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Professor Girdwood, seconded by Dr. Shepherd, and passed to Baron Takaki for his kindness in addressing the society.

FRAGMENTS OF RUBBER CATHETER IMBEDDED IN PROSTATE.

JAMES BELL, M.D.—The patient from whom this body was taken was a man aged 72, who came to hospital on May 5th, suffering from retention of urine since May 3rd. He first suffered from retention eleven years previously, and again once or twice since. About three years ago he had an exceptionally bad attack, and a catheter was passed with some difficulty and bleeding. When he came to hospital the bladder extended up to the umbilicus; it was emptied by a rubber catheter, except on one occasion when a silver tube was used and nothing was felt. On the 14th of May a suprapubic prostatectomy was done, when in the right half was found this piece of old rubber catheter imbedded deeply in the substance of the prostate. The prostate weighed 150 grs. The patient did well. This piece of rubber catheter must have been left behind three years previously. There had been some bleeding during the attacks of retention and while in hospital there was a lot of blood in the bladder with large clots. The patient was also toxic.