

the spread of the epidemic to themselves by isolating the prisoners from the outside world. There were between 250 and 300 cases among the British prisoners, of whom 60 died. The mortality among the French and Russians was much greater. The medical officers and the nursing orderlies suffered most. Major Fry and Captains Sutcliffe and Field died of the disease. The Committee has no doubt that "the conditions to which the camp authorities had reduced the camp and the prisoners they had abandoned was directly responsible for the deaths of these devoted men." Captain Lauder fell ill on March 7th, but recovered; when convalescent he resumed duty. The report pays a glowing tribute to the work of the English doctors and orderlies. Only once during the whole course of the epidemic did Dr. Aschenbach, the German medical officer in charge, enter the hospital or even the camp, and that visit was of the most perfunctory kind. His callousness is illustrated by an incident related by Captain Lauder. Shortly after their arrival at the camp Major Fry asked him for some medical requisite that was urgently needed. Dr. Aschenbach, who was cautiously standing outside the entanglements, refused the request and turned away with the words, "Schweine Englaender." And this is the man whom his Sovereign delights to honour with an Iron Cross! Perhaps it has been fittingly bestowed, for this "decoration," which used to be a badge of honour, has, since its wholesale conferment on baby slayers, become a symbol of infamy. The conditions of the Wittenberg camp are said to have improved, largely owing to the representations of Mr. Gerard, the American Ambassador, and measures have been taken to prevent a recurrence of the epidemic. The commandant has been removed, but Dr. Aschenbach remains in charge, and as long as he is left in authority we can feel no assurance that sick prisoners will be treated with any regard to humanity. Perhaps, like the commandant at the Cassel camp, he feels that he is making war in his own way by letting the prisoners die. The report has sent a thrill of horror through this country, and we welcome Lord Robert Cecil's announcement that steps are being taken "to bring to the notice of all civilized States these shocking revelations of cowardice and brutality."—*British Medical Journal*.

WAR SURGERY, OLD AND NEW.

In an address delivered before the Philadelphia County Medical Society, Dr. William W. Keene, Emeritus Professor of Surgery in Jefferson Medical College, gave an interesting account of the surgery of the American civil war in which he did notable service. Dressings then con-