

that the deceased woman was bitten by a cobra, and while in that state she nursed the child, which also died from the effects of the poison. With reference to this statement, Sir J. Fayrer says: "I think it quite probable. I long ago showed that the blood of an animal poisoned by cobra virus is itself poisonous when placed in the stomach. Nothing more probable than that the milk of a woman so poisoned should be poisonous to the infant, but is it quite sure that the infant did not die of some other cause?"—*British Medical Journal*.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION IN GERMANY.—According to official statistics recently published the total number of medical practitioners in the German Empire is now 21,621, being an increase of 5.46 per cent. as compared with the previous year, and 22.5 per cent. as compared with five years ago. The practitioners are distributed as follows: Prussia, 12,851; Bavaria, 2,431; Saxony, 1,563; Baden, 855; Wurtemberg, 739; Alsace-Lorraine, 632; Hamburg, 429; other provinces less than 200. The proportion of doctors to population in the whole empire is 4.37 per 10,000; the ratio in 1892 was 4.15.

VEGETARIANISM AND CRUEL TEMPERAMENTS.—There has been much written on the mildness of temper possessed by vegetarians. The Hindoo professional assassin or murderer is probably as cold-blooded and as ferocious a being as one may imagine. The Chinese are great vegetarians. Rice, beans in the green state, cabbage and large spinach, water-cresses and fruits enter largely into their diet. They are besides very fond of fish, and yet there is nothing more bloodthirsty and bellicose, more wild or more unmanageable than the Chinaman when aroused. On the other hand, the native Californians, like the native or dweller of the wild pampas of South America, who lived on an exclusive beef diet, were generous, self-composed, and not in the least given to either strife or bloodshed.—*National Popular Review*, January.

—*The Medical Register* for Great Britain and Ireland has just been issued at a rather earlier date than usual. It contains 1,054 more names than last year. The actual number of new