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next year, the Council decided to request the licensing bodies to take into consideration the possibility of holding such preliminary scientific examinations as were suggested.

A proposal, made by Mr. Macnamara, that the Council should recommend the holding of yearly examinations which the student should be required to pass before proceeding with other departments of medical study, was rejected; the proposer and seconder (Dr. McClinck) alone voting for it.

The Council exercised its judicial function in the case of Samuel Levenston, a graduate of Medicine of the University of Glasgow, who was charged with the circulation in Glasgow and the neighbourhood of pamphlets and handbills of an improper character. Dr. Levenston appeared in answer to the summons issued, and was ably defended by counsel. In his examination, the fact of the distribution of the documents was admitted; but the plea was raised that, although such conduct was highly unprofessional and improper, it was nevertheless not, in the words of the Medical Act, "infamous in a professional respect". The Council, however, decided that Levenston had been guilty of such conduct, and ordered that his name should be erased from the *Medical Register*.

The Report of the Finance Committee showed that the income of the General and Branch Councils in 1880 was £6,871 19s., and the expenditure £5,303 18s.; the excess of income over expenditure being £1,568 1s. In no previous year during the last seven years, has there been so great a surplus; indeed, in four of the years, there were deficiencies, amounting in 1874 to £878; in 1875 to £820; in 1877 to £649; and in 1878 to £116; whilst the surplus years were 1876, with £374, and 1879, with £961. On the other hand, the balance-sheet of the Dental Registration Fund showed a less satisfactory state of affairs; the income for the year amounting to only £616 7s. 3d., and the expenditure to £1,808 10s. 7d.; leaving a deficiency of £1,192 3s. 4d. to be met from the capital fund, and reducing the balance in hand from £10,489 at the beginning of the year to £9,296 at the end of the year. The treasurers calculated that there will probably be an annual future excess of expenditure over income, in the matter of Dental Registration, amounting to about £800.

Some business connected with the Dentists' Act was transacted. An application by thirty registered dentists, that their titles as surgeons should be placed on the *Dentists' Register*, was, after some debate, assented to. This determination of the Council is at variance with previous proceedings; and, while much may, no doubt, be said in favour of allowing the more extensively-educated dentists to make known the fact that they are also duly qualified surgeons, a question may be raised as to the strict legality of the action taken by the Council. A few doubtful cases of registration were considered, and dealt with according to their merits.

The visitation of examinations has been resumed, and is being conducted for the Council by Mr. Teale of Leeds, Professor Gairdner of Glasgow, and Professor Stokes of Dublin. No report has been presented this year; but it may be expected, from the known competency of the writers, that in another year much valuable information will be laid before the Council and the profession.

ARMY-SURGEONS AND THE LATE BATTLES AGAINST THE TRANSVAAL BOERS.

WE have received from time to time, while the war was in progress, reports of the admirable conduct and distinguished bravery of the army medical officers who accompanied the troops in the recent military operations on the Natal frontier against the Transvaal Boers. The number of surgeons who lost their lives, and of those who were wounded, in the various actions that took place, sufficiently testified to the fact that there was no lack of courageous devotion to duty on the part of the officers of the medical service. We are gratified in receiving equally satisfactory accounts of the excellent manner in which the hospitals in front have been conducted, and the wounded patients in them attended to. A communication recently received from Fort Amiel,

near Newcastle, mentions that there have been very few deaths among the large number of wounded that were brought there from the last action at Majuba Hill, as well as from the previous actions in the neighbourhood; while some men suffering from wounds of the severest kind, including several gunshot fractures of the thigh and penetrating wounds of the lungs, are now making favourable progress toward complete recovery.

A leading article, purporting to be what may be called a review of the medical campaign during the operations against the Boers, has appeared in one of the last numbers that has reached this country of the *Natal Witness*, an influential newspaper published at Pietermaritzburg. The article is too long to be repeated; but we are tempted to make a short extract from it, not merely on account of the remarks being so creditable, as they are, to all concerned, but because they cannot fail to afford satisfaction to many persons in this country who have had relatives or friends among the wounded in the distant colony of Natal, by showing how thoroughly their necessities have been looked after, both in the field itself, and in the hospitals where they have been afterwards placed for care and treatment.

"If a retrospective contemplation of the war now brought to a close is not wholly a pleasant one," says the article in question, "there is one feature, at all events, which we can regard with unmixed satisfaction. The treatment of our wounded men on the field and in hospital by our army surgeons would appear, by general assent, to have never been surpassed. At the action of Lange's Nek, the dressing-station for the wounded had been fixed near to the guns; but, as the 58th Regiment advanced, and the men were falling rapidly, Drs. Ring and McGann moved up behind the advancing column, and, on its retirement, remained, amidst a hail of bullets, attending to the wounded. The native bearers on this occasion—and on this occasion only—also did their duty, bravely bringing in the wounded on stretchers to the field-hospital. At the final disaster, at Majuba Hill, the officers of the medical service remained faithful to their duties, even unto death. Dr. Cornish was shot, as, with a piper of the 92nd Highlanders, he was carrying a wounded man on a stretcher that had been abandoned by its bearers. Dr. Landon, always keen for duty in the field, and taking a special pride in his Army Hospital Corps, met his fate at the final rush of the Boers, as, with a few of his men, he was engaged seeing to the wounded on the ridges. The ruling passion strong in death, he called Dr. Babington's attention, shortly before he expired, to the meritorious conduct of his men; and well he might. Private Farmer, Army Hospital Corps, with both his arms broken and in splints, wandered about that dreadful hill all night, aiding the wounded as best he could. We hear that Sir Evelyn Wood has recommended this man for a Victoria Cross. It is conduct that would certainly commend itself to that gallant soldier. With such deeds to record, and the excellent provision made to meet the demand of about three hundred and fifty grievously wounded men—before, too, reinforcements of medical men and material could arrive from England—Surgeon-General Holloway has every cause to be proud of his department. The strain on it, under such exceptional circumstances, has doubtless been great; but it has been met. Dr. Holloway wisely availed himself of the liberality of the several societies hurriedly formed at Durban, in this city, and at Newcastle, to succour the wounded; and by them every comfort and luxury not supplied by Government, that kindness could suggest, has been freely contributed."

THE MILK-EPIDEMIC IN ABERDEEN.

THE outbreak of a new disease is always a matter of great importance, both for the patient and the physician. That a new form of disease has recently appeared in Aberdeen seems quite certain; and that it was connected in some way or other with the milk-supply seems also certain, from a consideration of the following facts. Near the town of Aberdeen, there is a reformatory school, called the Old Mill, where over one hundred and fifty boys are carefully looked after, with a view to the cure of their moral obliquities, and where they may learn an honest trade likely to be useful to them in after-life. The reformatory