

would it have with an ordinary Minister? Perhaps such a statesman as Peel or Gladstone might pilot it through the House of Commons, but where shall we look nowadays for "an old Parliamentary hand" of first-rate tact, weight, influence, and experience? Weeks would be taken over the second reading of such a Bill, and it might again and again reach the stage known as "the slaughter of the innocents," till a very strong Government took it in hand. What chance would it have with a Coalition Government or with the average politician as its sponsor, and the whole weight of the Local Government Board against it?

Mr. John Burns was a very good President of the "L.G.B." He is said to have gone on the plan of not attempting to introduce new legislation till he had made the very best of the powers at his disposal in existing Acts. How far could we attain some of our ends by using to the full the Acts now on the Statute Book, or at any rate by codification, by consolidation, and by "Statute Law Revision." Nothing of the kind has been tried so far as we know. A complete collection, examination, and revision of existing Acts would at least lay a foundation on which reformers could build, with some hope of stability. Recent medical legislation has not been encouraging, and does not seem likely to be permanent at any rate in its present form.

However, we must examine Sir Bertrand Dawson's scheme undeterred by its evident difficulties, which, after all, are not impossibilities. Many of them would vanish if we had the co-operation of an intelligent, well-educated, and sympathetic public. This we lack, sadly and badly. All the more urgent is the need for the adoption of the old watchwords "EDUCATE, AGITATE, ORGANISE." But first we must make quite sure that we know what we want, and then we must all agree to work together till we obtain it. "*Stand by your order, and your order will stand by you.*"

Sir Bertrand Dawson's main object is the improvement of the Health of the People. As means to attaining it, he urges the improvement of medical education, better organisation, and distribution of work done in hospitals, chiefly by adopting "team work," the linking up of existing hospitals, and the provision of new "Health Centres," the creation of an entirely new Department at Whitehall under a Minister of Cabinet rank, assisted by an Advisory Board containing a working majority of "Registered Medical Practitioners," nominated in the first instance by Parliament, but afterwards elected by various existing medical bodies. He also provides for a sort of medical "Convocation,"

a body analogous to the "General Council of the Bar," to voice the views of the profession.

Space will not allow us to discuss all these important matters, but we propose to deal with two which touch us here and now.

For many centuries the setting up in London of a worthy home for learning has been the hope of some of the wisest men of their day and generation. Sir Thomas More, Lord Bacon, and Abraham Cowley, the Poet, put their ideas in writing. Linacre, Sir Thomas Gresham, and Lord Brougham attempted less, but left something tangible behind them. In the last age, Cardinal Newman sketched the advantages of more spacious and adequate surroundings for even such a place as Oxford. Sir Bertrand Dawson has gone quite as far and has given us a bird's-eye view of his ideal Health Centre, with the town it is to serve in the near distance. Is there anything to prevent the passage of a short Act of Parliament which should vest, as from the passing of the Act, in Trustees for our Hospital the freehold of all the land bounded on the west by the New Road, on the south by Rutland Street, and on the east by Sidney Street, excepting only that covered by the existing buildings of the Eastern District Post Office and the London County Council School in Rutland Street, and reserving rent charges, adequate to compensate the present freeholders for their interest, whether in possession or in reversion, with power to close the streets. Nothing further would be needed. The existing lessees would not be damnified, and we should have a site quite big enough to provide for a residential college large enough to house not only students and house men, but also a number of junior consultants, whose position would be similar to that occupied by official fellows and tutors at Oxford or Cambridge. They would soon find plenty of remunerative work in the neighbourhood. There would be space for paying wards on quite as large a scale as St. Thomas' Home; for an open space which might well supplement the limited playground of the school, and for most, if not all, the other departments suggested in Sir Bertrand Dawson's picture, including the local Tuberculosis Centre. A mortgage on the site would provide the capital needed for buildings. The paying wards alone would probably soon earn enough to keep down interest and sinking fund. The advantages of closing Turner Street, Oxford Street, East Mount Street, and Philpot Street would be incalculable.

To take the diverted traffic, Sidney Street, Rutland Street, and New Road could be widened where the frontages were rebuilt. A station could be constructed under the Hospital at the junction of the East London line with the

District. Probably the Receiving Room could be combined with out-patients to the great advantage of both. Every one of these changes would be a real gain to the public, and would have widespread support, especially from the class which now fills our wards.

Let us turn from these material things to that intangible but none the less real body, the Medical Profession. From pages 5 to 26 of his pamphlet, Sir Bertrand Dawson outlines a scheme intended to put the medical world and all that pertains to it into the hands of and under the control of medical men; in other words, to make us masters in our own house, as are the lawyers in the Supreme Court, the four Inns and the Law Society, and the Clergy in the various religious bodies which have developed an organisation (*i.e.*, backbone) efficient enough to preserve their continuous existence. We are inclined to think this is the most useful, because the most easily set in working of all our author's schemes. The basis of this whole organisation is set out on page 8:—"All the medical men resident in a County or County Borough should by postal vote select a Medical Council for the area . . . for four years. . . . This . . . Council would have before it all medical matters." Such a body might be ready in a month if every medical man in the country would join the British Medical Association at once.

The organisation of the B.M.A. into Branches is now fairly complete, and if only it represented the whole profession it would give us what we now sadly need, a collective voice and therewith social and political power. It would supply the place of the "Medical Council" set out above. We are aware that many good men disapprove of the doings of the B.M.A., and some have even withdrawn from it. Surely the proper way to make our views heard and accepted by a given body is to remain in it and "preach the word in season and out of season," till we are heard. Those who withdraw from politics, whether parochial or parliamentary or medical, resolving to leave their opponents to go their own way to perdition, will certainly have themselves to thank for their subsequent obscurity and loss of influence. It is clear the duty of the citizen who thinks things are going wrong to put his shoulder to the wheel and try to put them right. We, therefore, urge dissentients to take Sir Bertrand Dawson's lead with regard to the B.M.A., join it, even though they disagree, and then try to get it to adopt their views (pamphlet, pp. 9, 10, 36). The formation of a "*cave of Adullam*," or a "*Fourth Party*," has sometimes worked unexpected wonders from the days of David to those of the late Lord Randolph Churchill.

And here, with apologies to our readers, we must leave our distinguished *co-alumnus*, with our best wishes for the success of what he and we all have at heart, the well-being of our fellow-countrymen.

THE GORDON RIOTS.

The old and rare engraving of the Gordon Riots in Broad Street was recently presented to the College by Mrs. Frederick Hollins, the daughter of the late Mr. Curling, F.R.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital between 1834 and 1869. The engraving has special interest for us, as the central figure stooping over a wounded man is believed to be Sir William Blizard, Surgeon to the London Hospital between 1780 and 1833, and the founder with Dr. Maddocks of the Medical College; while another prominent figure, that of a citizen endeavouring to wrest a rifle from one of the rioters is believed to be Mr. Samuel Hoare, a well-known banker of Lombard Street, a Quaker, and the great-grandfather of Mr. Douro Hoare, the Chairman of the College Board, and of Mr. Marlborough Pryor, one of the oldest members of the Board. The scene of the disturbance is precisely located by the names New Broad Street and London Wall on the sides of the buildings. If we leave the Liverpool Street Station of the Metropolitan Railway by the passage into New Broad Street and walk westwards for some fifty yards or so, to where New Broad Street joins Wormwood Street on the left and London Wall on the right, we will find ourselves exactly on the spot which is represented in the engraving, and, in fact, certain of the houses shown on the left are still to be plainly identified although most of them have been pulled down or refaced.

The military, as judged by their uniform and equipment, belong to two different companies. As the engraving is dedicated to the London Light Horse Volunteers and the Military Foot Association, we may, I think, safely identify the small party on the left of the picture with the former and the larger party, which has just fired a volley, with the latter. The engraving is by James Heath, from a painting by Francis Wheatley, and the date of the incident is June 7th, 1780: I am indebted to Mr. Marlborough Pryor for the following interesting information:—"Mrs. Samuel Hoare, in a letter to her mother dated on the day following the 7th, described the attack on a house in Cushion Court and the sacking of another at the corner of Wormwood Street; then the arrival of a large party of 'horse guards' (? the Light Horse Volunteers) attended by a company of volunteers, the three exhortations

to disperse, and finally the firing of 'near a hundred pieces,' leaving four men dead and fifteen wounded. The large house at the south corner of Wormwood Street on the left of the engraving is No. 42, Samuel Hoare's house was No. 36. The large building further on was the Excise Office. The northern part of the front of Palmerston House stands on the site of No. 36."

As to the picture, probably everyone will be quick to remark the idealisation of all the figures represented. Fortunately, however, we need not depend entirely on the artist in any attempt to reconstruct the scene, for have we not a full and detailed description by a master hand of many such incidents in "Barnaby Rudge" ? *

Perhaps a short note on the Riots may not be out of place particularly at the present time, when the possibility of similar occurrences must be present to many minds.

Whatever may have been the real underlying cause or causes of the Gordon Riots, the ostensible reason was the introduction by Sir George Saville of a Bill to remove certain disabilities from Roman Catholics. The popular opposition to the measure took the form of a Petition to, and a

Demonstration at the Houses of Parliament. The Demonstrators met as early as 7 a.m. on Friday morning, June 2nd, 1780, in St. George's Fields on the south side of the river, a large open space lying between what are now the Borough and the Elephant and Castle. From here they

* To those who are interested in literary comparisons, the description of the Porteous Riots in "The Heart of Midlothian," may be commended.

marched in three columns, passing over the three bridges then existent, viz., London, Blackfriars and Westminster, and so on to Old Palace Yard between Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament. The demonstrators were dispersed after the reading of the Riot Act by the Horse and Foot Guards. The same night however, Catholic Churches in Duke Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, and in Warwick Street, Golden Square were burnt. Sir George Savile's house in Leicester Fields, now Leicester Square, the house stood on the site of the present Empire Theatre, and Lord Mansfield's, the Lord Chief Justice's house at the N.E. corner of Bloomsbury Square were next attacked and destroyed. It will be remembered that it was in Bloomsbury Square that poor Barnaby was hanged—

"and now we'll know what makes the stars shine." Soon the centre of disturbance shifted farther East to Fleet Market, the booths along what is now Farringdon Street, and from here were organised the raids which led to the burning of Newgate Prison, where is now

the Central Criminal Court, the Fleet Prison where is now the Congregational Memorial Hall, the King's Bench Prison in

the Borough on the edge of the St. George's Fields already mentioned, and the Borough Clink in Tooley Street, at the S.E. Corner of London Bridge. Chains were drawn across certain streets such as the Poultry and Cornhill, and an attack was made upon, amongst other places, the Bank, and it is apparently an incident in connection with this last episode which is represented in the engraving. "Seventy-two private



Margaret Nicholson

who attempted to assassinate the KING 2^d of August 1786.

Published (from an Original Drawing) by J. Nisbe Stationer (with whom she Lodged) the corner of Wigmore Street, Portman Square, London, Aug. 7, 1786.



THE GORDON RIOTS IN BROAD STREET, JUNE 7TH, 1780.

houses and four strong jails were destroyed in the four great days of these riots. The total loss of property as estimated by the sufferers was one hundred and fifty-five thousand pounds; at the lowest and less partial estimate of disinterested persons it exceeded one hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds. Upwards of two hundred had been shot dead in the streets, two hundred and fifty more were lying badly wounded in the hospitals, of whom seventy or eighty died. How many perished in the conflagrations or by their own excesses is unknown.*

For almost a week London remained, thanks to the Dogberry-like attitude of the Lord Mayor, in the hands of the mob. When finally order was restored, the majesty of the law was vindicated, but unfortunately "those who suffered were for the most part the weakest, the meanest and most miserable."*

So ended, perhaps, the least inspiring chapter in the long history of our City, a chapter which would never have been written had it not been for the existence of a depraved and vicious underworld, "whose growth had been fostered by bad criminal laws, bad prison regulations, and the worst conceivable police."* W. W.

MARGARET NICHOLSON.

Margaret Nicholson was the daughter of a barber at Stockton-on-Tees. She came to London and engaged in domestic service. A gentleman valet fell in love with her, but after a period of courtship deserted her. This desertion preyed upon her mind, she left service and supported herself by needlework, living with a shop-keeper named Fiske at the corner of Marylebone Lane and Wigmore Street. From this house she wrote to the Privy Council asserting her claim to the Throne. Her letter was unanswered. She then waylaid the King as he was leaving St. James's Palace, and struck him twice with an ivory-handled dessert knife. The knife bent upon the King's cheek, and did him no harm.

The King called out "Poor creature, she must be mad, do her no harm." She was taken before the Privy Council, who called in the two doctors, Monro, father and son, at that time the principal lunacy specialists in London. The doctors had no difficulty in pronouncing her mad, and she was taken to Bethlehem Hospital, where she remained until her death in 1828. The dress in which she is portrayed above is said to be of figured muslin, the bonnet supported upon a wire work frame.

Gentleman's Magazine, 1780.

* Barnaby Rudge.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

[*Note.*—In the attempt to make this column as complete as possible, the Editor would be much obliged if readers of the "Gazette" would kindly forward to him any newspaper cuttings, or other announcements of this nature, that they may chance to come across.]

BIRTHS

- ANDREWS.—On the 29th Nov., at 3, Mandeville Place, W.1 the wife of Captain James Collingwood-Andrews, M.C.—a son.
- AVELING.—On the 19th Nov., at Dunstable, the wife of Captain K. J. Aveling, R.A.M.C., of Bushey—a daughter.
- MAYOU.—On the 3rd Jan., at 14, Riding House Street, Portland Place, W.1, the wife of M. S. Mayou, F.R.C.S., of 59, Harley Street—of a daughter.
- WYATT.—On Oct. 31st, at the Stormont Nursing Home, Plymouth, to Lubor, wife of Surg.-Lieut. A. F. Wyatt, R.N.—a son.

MARRIAGES

- BLISS-COOPER.—On Jan. 8th, at the Parish Church, Henley-on-Thames, Captain M. F. Bliss, M.C., R.A.M.C., to Violette Mary, only daughter of the late John Manning-Cooper, Melrose Avenue, Cricklewood.
- CARROLL-STANFORD.—On the 23rd Nov., in London, Charles Herbert Carroll, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Staff Paymaster, R.N. Retired List) to Dora Stanford.
- CHANDLER-RAIMES.—On Tuesday, 4th Feb., at Cavendish, by the Rev. J. D. Barnard, M.A., and the Rev. O. G. Bolton, Frederick George Chandler, M.A., M.D. (Cantab.), to Marjorie, younger daughter of the late Frederick Raimes, J.P., and Mrs. Raimes of Hartburn Lodge, Stockton-on-Tees.
- DEW-JOHNSTON.—On the 13th Feb., at St. Barnabas, Clapham Common, by the Rev. Canon Arthur Lucas, assisted by the Rev. MacWilliams, Major J. Westcott Dew, M.C., R.A.M.C., elder son of Mr. and Mrs. Dew, of Hoddesdon, Herts, to Marion Harvey, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Johnston, of Belfast, Ireland.
- HUGHES-MAINWARING.—On Nov. 23rd, at St. Clement Danes Church, London, Captain Frank Mainwaring Hughes, R.A.M.C. (T.F.) (Legion d'Honneur, Croix de Chevalier), to Mary, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Hope Mainwaring, of Northfleet, Kent.
- MORLEY-HARWOOD.—On the 16th Jan., at Union Congregational Church, Mill Hill, N.W., by the father of the bride, Allan H. Morley, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., (late Capt. R.A.M.C.), youngest son of Dr. and Mrs. T. S. Morley, of Barton-on-Humber, to Mary Gwendolen, younger daughter of Rev. and Mrs. W. Hardy Harwood, Mill Hill.

DEATHS

- BURKE.—At Baghdad, Mesopotamia, of typhus, on December 21st, 1918, John Burke, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Captain, R.A.M.C., formerly of London Hospital, son of the late Edward Burke, of Earle Street, Crewe.
- CARR-GOMM.—On the 12th Jan., at his residence, The Chase, Farnham Royal, Francis Culling Carr-Gomm, Madras Civil Service (retired), J.P. and D.L., for the County of Bucks, in his 85th year.

