Colonel Herbert differs from me about the asepsis of sclerectomy wounds. I fear we must agree to differ.

Colonel Herbert's directions for the avoidance of late infections are founded on the assumption that scar tissue may remain indefinitely pervious to filtering fluid. In the absence of anatomical evidence in the support of this view, which, to my mind, is opposed to the teachings of physiology and pathology, I fear that I cannot discuss his contentions with any profit. We are arguing from totally different premises.

Colonel Herbert asks what becomes of the corneal portion of the conjunctivo-corneal flap, and assumes that it becomes sealed down to the subjacent cornea. May I quote him one paragraph out of several from my book, which he speaks so kindly of, in answer to his question. "The photographs (Figs. 145 and 146) show this very clearly. Suffice it here to say that the flap made by splitting the cornea along its planes of cleavage, and by flushing those planes at once and permanently with isotonic, aseptic, aqueous fluid, does not tend to cicatrise down to the underlying sclera." Any surgeon who has used my method will bear out this contention. I need not labour the point.

In conclusion, I should be sorry to think that I had said anything either to hurt Colonel Herbert's feelings or to disparage the valuable work he has done both in the domains of pathology and of clinical research. I thought I had made it clear that the criticism to which he takes exception was directed to one point, and one point only, namely, his conception of a spongy filtering scar. I hasten to make all the amends in my power, if I, quite unintentionally, conveyed any other impression.

Yours truly,
R. H. ELLIOT.

54, WELBECK STREET,
CAVENDISH SQUARE, W.1.
April 6, 1921.

THE GUILD OF BLIND GARDENERS

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

SIR,—I write to ask your kind help in making known to the medical profession an organization (The Guild of Blind Gardeners) which is being established to provide out-door occupation for the blind.

The matter was brought before the Oxford Ophthalmological Congress in 1919, and met with very warm sympathy from the medical men present. Since then a good deal of work has been

done, and we propose to inaugurate the Guild at a meeting to be held on May 26, at 5.30, at the National Library for the Blind, 18, Tufton Street, Westminster. It is hoped in the near future to obtain a piece of land with sufficient accommodation to establish a training centre for the blind and partially blind.

Among the speakers will be Godfrey Mowatt, Esq., Capt. Pierson Webber, and Mr. Fred Marriot, all blind, and the latter a practical gardener.

My committee are most anxious to interest medical men in the cause, as they, more than any others, can contribute to the success of the enterprise by putting their patients in touch with our organization.

I desire, in conclusion, to emphasize one point: our aim is to help these unfortunate people to the obtaining of a useful occupation of their time, and not merely to offer them charity.

I enclose you a list of the officers of the Guild.

Preliminary Committee:—P. H. Adams, Esq., Professor Sir W. R. Bragg, Dr. T. Harrison Butler, Bernard Cridland, Esq., Sir Anderson Critchett, Bt., K.C.V.O., Mrs. Adolphus Duncombe, Colonel R. H. Elliot, J. B. Lawford, Esq., Dr. P. Macdonald, Godfrey Mowatt, Esq., Dr. Amy Sheppard, Captain Towse, V.C., and Captain Pierson Webber.

BEATRICE DUNCOMBE,

President of the Guild.

1, STAFFORD MANSIONS,
BUCKINGHAM GATE, S.W.1.

NOTES

Deaths

JOHN F. CAMPBELL, of Toronto, died on July 14, 1920. Bruce F. Moore, of Memphis, Tenn., died on November 27, 1920, of lobar pneumonia. John Morgan, of Springfield, Boston, and of New York City, died on August 30, 1920. Richard Nunn, an Irishman, Professor of Diseases of the Eye, Ear, Nose, and Throat, in the University of Oregon Medical School, died on August 17, 1920. In 1915 he went to England and joined the Royal Army Medical Corps. John E. Harper, Emeritus Professor of Diseases of the Eye in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Chicago, died on January 8, 1921, at the age of 69 years. Dr. A. von Szily, Professor of Ophthalmology at Buda-Pesth, has died at the age of 73 years.

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Appointments

W. B. BROWNIE, of Blackburn, has been appointed Medical Referee for ophthalmic purposes to County Court Circuit No. 4. J. A. Valentine has been appointed Ophthalmic Surgeon to the