

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION:
FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Forty-Eighth Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held at Cambridge, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, August 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th, 1880.

President: DENIS C. O'CONNOR, A.B., M.D., Professor of Medicine in Queen's College, Cork.

President-elect: G. M. HUMPHRY, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.S., Professor of Anatomy in the University of Cambridge; Senior Surgeon to Addenbrooke's Hospital.

An Address in Medicine will be delivered by J. B. BRADBURY, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician to Addenbrooke's Hospital; Linacre Lecturer in Physic.

An Address in Surgery will be delivered by TIMOTHY HOLMES, M.A., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to St. George's Hospital.

An Address in Physiology will be delivered by MICHAEL FOSTER, M.D., Hon. M.A., F.R.S., Prælector in Physiology in Trinity College, Cambridge.

The business of the Association will be transacted in Eight Sections.

SECTION A.: MEDICINE.—*President:* George Edward Paget, M.D., D.C.L., F.R.S., Cambridge. *Vice-Presidents:* George Johnson, M.D., F.R.S., London; P. W. Latham, M.A., M.D., Cambridge. *Secretaries:* W. B. Cheadle, M.A., M.D., 2, Hyde Park Place, London, W.; D. B. Lees, M.A., M.D., 2, Thurloe Houses, Thurloe Square, London, S.W.

SECTION B.: SURGERY.—*President:* William S. Savory, M.B., F.R.S., London. *Vice-Presidents:* William Cadge, F.R.C.S., Norwich; John Wood F.R.C.S., F.R.S., London. *Secretaries:* John Chiene, F.R.C.S.Ed., F.R.S.Edin., 21, Ainslie Place, Edinburgh; George E. Wherry, M.B., M.C., F.R.C.S., 63, Trumpington Street, Cambridge.

SECTION C.: OBSTETRIC MEDICINE.—*President:* W. S. Playfair, M.D., London. *Vice-Presidents:* H. Macnaughton Jones, M.D., Cork; Henry Gervis, M.D., London. *Secretaries:* R. N. Ingle, M.D., F.R.C.S., 21, Regent Street, Cambridge; C. E. Underhill, M.D., 8, Coates Crescent, Edinburgh.

SECTION D.: PUBLIC MEDICINE.—*President:* Henry W. Acland, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., Oxford. *Vice-Presidents:* Arthur Ransome, M.A., M.D., Manchester; Thomas Pridgin Teale, M.A., F.R.C.S., Leeds. *Secretaries:* William Armistead, M.B., St. Mary's Villa, Station Road, Cambridge; Thos. J. Walker, M.D., 18, Westgate, Peterborough.

SECTION E.: PSYCHOLOGY.—*President:* J. Crichton Browne, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., London. *Vice-Presidents:* G. F. Blandford, M.D., London; P. M. Deas, M.B., Macclesfield. *Secretaries:* G. M. Bacon, Hon. M.A., M.D., Lunatic Asylum, Fulbourn, Cambridge; Henry Sutherland, M.A., M.D., 6, Richmond Terrace, Whitehall, S.W.

SECTION F.: PHYSIOLOGY.—*President:* William Rutherford, M.D., F.R.S., Edinburgh. *Vice-Presidents:* Arthur Gamgee, M.D., F.R.S., Manchester; Robert McDonnell, M.D., F.R.S., Dublin. *Secretaries:* W. H. Gaskell, M.A., M.D., Grantchester, Cambridge; William Stirling, D.Sc., M.B., Marischal College, Aberdeen.

SECTION G.: PATHOLOGY.—*President:* Sir James Paget, Bart., D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S. *Vice-Presidents:* Samuel Wilks, M.D., F.R.S.; W. Howship Dickinson, M.D. *Secretaries:* W. S. Greenfield, M.D., 15, Palace Road, Albert Embankment; Charles Creighton, M.A., M.D., Anatomical Museum, Cambridge.

SECTION H.: OPHTHALMOLOGY.—*President:* William Bowman, F.R.C.S., F.R.S., London. *Vice-Presidents:* Henry Power, F.R.C.S., London; Henry R. Swanzey, M.B., Dublin. *Secretaries:* W. A. Brailey, M.A., M.D., 38, King's Road, Brownswood Park, London, N.; David Little, M.D., 21, St. John Street, Manchester.

A Subsection of Otolgoy will be formed, of which Mr. W. B. Dalby, F.R.C.S., of London, will be Chairman, and Dr. James Patterson Cassells of Newton Terrace, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, honorary secretary.

Treasurer: R. M. Fawcett, M.D., 3, Scrope Terrace, Cambridge.

Honorary Local Secretaries: Bushell Anningson, M.A., M.D. (Hon. Medical Secretary), Walt-ham-sal, Barton Road, Cambridge; A. P. Humphry, Esq., M.A. (Hon. Reception Secretary), Corpus Buildings, Cambridge.

Letters relating to the strictly medical work (Sections, Museums, etc.) of the meeting should be addressed to Dr. Anningson; other letters to Mr. A. P. Humphry.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10TH, 1880.

2 P.M.—Meeting of Committee of Council.

2.30 P.M.—Meeting of the Council of 1879-80.

8 P.M.—General Meeting. President's Address; Annual Report of Council and other business.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11TH.

9.30 A.M.—Meeting of Council of 1880-81.

11 A.M.—Second General Meeting. Address in Medicine.

2 to 5 P.M.—Sectional Meetings.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12TH.

9.30 A.M.—Meeting of the Committee of Council.

10 A.M.—Third General Meeting. Reports of Committees.

11 A.M.—Address in Surgery.

2 to 5 P.M.—Sectional Meetings.

6.30 P.M.—Public Dinner.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13TH.

10 A.M.—Address in Physiology.

11 A.M.—Sectional Meetings.

1.30 P.M.—Concluding General Meeting.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

ACCOMMODATION IN CAMBRIDGE.

MEMBERS of the Association who propose to bring ladies to Cambridge on the occasion of the Annual Meeting in August, and desire to have lodgings engaged for them, are recommended to make early application to the Honorary Reception Secretary, A. P. Humphry, Esq., 56, Corpus Buildings, Cambridge. The prices at which lodgings will be obtainable vary from three shillings to one guinea per day (inclusive of attendance) for a bed-room and sitting-room.

Hotels.—The following are the principal hotels in Cambridge.

"Bull" (Trumpington Street).—Bed, 3s. 6d.; sitting-room, 6s. to 10s. Attendance, 1s. 6d.; breakfast, from 2s.

"Lion" (Petty Cury).—Bed, 3s. 6d.; sitting-room, 5s. to 7s. 6d. Attendance, 1s. 6d.; breakfast, from 2s. 6d.

"Hoop" (Bridge Street).—Bed, 5s.; sitting-room, 7s. 6d. Attendance, 1s. 6d.; breakfast, from 1s. 6d.

"University Arms" (Regent Street).—Bed, 2s. 6d.; double bed, 3s. 6d.; sitting-room, 5s. Attendance, first day, 1s. 6d.; following days, 1s. Breakfast, with meat, 2s. 6d.; plain, 1s. 6d.

Applications for hotel-accommodation should be addressed direct to the landlords.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

THE sixth ordinary meeting of this Branch will be held at the Bristol Museum and Library, on Wednesday evening, May 19th, at half-past seven o'clock; J. BEDDOE, M.D., President.

Clifton, May 1880.

E. C. BOARD, *Honorary Secretary.*

NORTH OF IRELAND BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held in the Belfast Royal Hospital, on Thursday, the 20th May, at 4 P.M. The members will afterwards dine together.

Members wishing to read any papers, or intending to be present at the dinner, will please communicate with

JOHN MOORE, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*

2, Carlisle Terrace, Belfast, April 26th, 1880.

EAST YORK AND NORTH LINCOLN BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Hull Infirmary on Wednesday, May 26th, at 1.30 P.M.

Gentlemen who desire to make any communication, or to propose any resolution, are requested to inform the Secretary on or before May 15th. It has been decided that the time allotted to each communication shall be limited to fifteen minutes.

E. P. HARDEY, *Honorary Secretary.*

Regent Terrace, Hull, April 29th, 1880.

EAST AND WEST KENT DISTRICTS: CONJOINT MEETING.

A CONJOINT meeting of the above districts will be held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, on Thursday, May 27th, at 2 P.M. The chair will be taken by Dr. BOWLES of Folkestone, President of the South-Eastern Branch.

The dinner will take place at the Bull Hotel, at 5 P.M.; charge, 6s. 6d., exclusive of wine.

The following papers will be read :

1. Dr. Bowles : Observations on Stertor.
2. Dr. Golding-Bird : On the Galvano-Cautery.
3. Dr. Bell : Five Cases of Strangulated Hernia.
4. Mr. Tyson : Three Cases of Tracheotomy for Croup.

WILLIAM KNIGHT TREVES } *Hon. Secs.*
A. H. B. HALLOWES }

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SURREY DISTRICT.

A MEETING of the above district took place at the Queen's Hotel, Upper Norwood, on March 11th, at 4 P.M.; WILLIAM GANDY, Esq., in the chair. Thirty members and visitors were present.

The Honorary Secretary.—The following resolution, proposed by Dr. BOWLES, President of the Branch, and seconded by Dr. HOLMAN, was unanimously passed : "That the best thanks of this meeting be given to Dr. J. H. Galton, for his able, zealous, and courteous discharge of the duties of District Honorary Secretary during the past six years." Dr. J. Herbert Stowers was elected Honorary Secretary.

Papers.—The following papers, etc., were read :

1. Dr. W. F. Coles : On Aids to Lingered Labour. Dr. Coles also described and exhibited a new instrument, which he considered will prove of much value to obstetricians, often taking the place of forceps, and capable of being applied with both rapidity and safety.
2. Dr. J. S. Bristowe : On Ulcerative Endocarditis.
3. Mr. A. E. Durham exhibited a specimen of Wound of the Heart, and a drawing.

The following took part in the several discussions : The Chairman, Drs. R. L. Bowles, J. S. Bristowe, W. F. Coles, H. Hetley, C. Holman, D. W. C. Hood, R. M. Miller, S. Parsons-Smith, J. Walters ; and Messrs. A. E. Durham, E. H. Galton, and the Honorary Secretary.

Next Meeting.—The following resolution was passed. Proposed by Dr. J. H. GALTON, and seconded by Dr. W. F. COLES : "That the next meeting of the District be held at Reigate, on Thursday, October 14th."

Dinner.—Eighteen members sat down to dinner.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

MELBOURNE.

THE Health Section of the Social Science Congress held their first meeting last week; the President, Dr. McCrea, in the Chair. Papers are invited on the following subjects, which are to be discussed : 1. Ventilation in all its bearings ; 2. The Disposal of Noxious Gases ; 3. Drainage and Sewage ; 4. Water ; 5. Food and Drink ; 6. Contagious Diseases and their Prevention ; 7. The Registration of Diseases ; 8. Poisons ; 9. Recreation ; 10. Keeping and Killing of Animals for Food. Dr. Neild, who has been lately elected a member of this Committee, has been unanimously appointed honorary secretary to the same. The activity shown in this department augurs well for its results, the Committee itself consisting of the best representative men.

A movement which is assuredly growing in importance and engaging the public mind is the foundation of a paying or self-supporting public hospital, on the principle of the home hospitals. The originator of this proposed scheme is Mr. William Gillbee. At a meeting of the Committee of Management of the Melbourne Hospital, Mr. Gillbee moved a resolution to the effect that a self-supporting hospital will be the means of meeting a serious want; that it will be of great service in preventing the hospital abuse which at present exists; that it will meet the cases of many classes of people who at present, when attacked by illness, are unable to procure, for a payment within their individual means, the medical attendance, skilled nursing, and home comforts which they need. Mr. Gillbee strongly opposes the idea of paying wards in a hospital. He states that this would have the effect of breaking down the discipline and management of the institution, if it were allowed; that a mixed community of paying and non-paying patients would be detrimental to the hospital. He proposes that a suitable building be procured, and that the rent or purchase of the building be defrayed by debentures. I think that this proposition is a good counteraction to that spirit of pauperism which characterises the origin of our impositions, and thereby a means of preventing habits of improvidence and recklessness among the wage-earning classes of our community.

March 18th, 1880.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE REPRESENTATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

SIR,—I have to express my acknowledgments to Dr. Horace Jeafrason for his sentiments on my behalf with regard to the representation in Parliament of the University of London. The moment I understood that Sir William Gull would allow himself to be put in nomination, I used my best endeavours on his behalf, feeling sure that he would be a far more acceptable representative than myself, and far more likely to carry weight in Parliament. I have also every hope that his heart is in favour of medical reform, and that he will protect the interests of his medical brethren in the public services. In the face of Sir W. Gull's candidature, I feel a certain amount of disappointment at the support given by members of our profession to other candidates.—Yours truly,

ALFRED CARPENTER.

Croydon, May 5th, 1880.

SIR,—In a letter on the representation of the University of London Dr. Rogers says : "I believe I am correct in asserting that by far the largest number of graduates are members of the medical profession." I would point out to him that the list of members of Convocation contains 1,819 names, or thereabouts; and that, of these, only 460 are medical graduates. We, therefore, form, as nearly as possible, only a quarter of the constituency. Under these circumstances, it would, I fear, be impossible for us to expect to return a member of our profession, unless he happened to be also a man of marked eminence in general politics and statesmanship.

The late election showed that two-thirds of the graduates belong to the Liberal party; and it showed, if I mistake not, that a large majority of the medical graduates voted for the Conservative candidate. It would, therefore, be an unfortunate time for us to start a medical candidate, as such. In times of great national importance, when questions of vital interest to England are at stake, it is, I think, our duty to be "citizens" first and "doctors" afterwards. As a Liberal, I, of course, exceedingly regret that so many of our medical graduates should have thought fit to throw in their lot with the opposite party. It used not to be so; but I am bound to believe that they were actuated, by motives of public duty.—I am, sir, yours very truly,

W. L. WINTERBOTHAM, M.B. Lond.

Bridgwater, May 3rd, 1880.

SIR,—May a Conservative Member of Convocation offer a remark or two upon the letter addressed by Mr. Fowler, the Chairman of Mr. Charles's Committee, during the recent contest to one of the secretaries of Sir George Jessel's Committee? This letter has been issued as a circular to the Conservative graduates. The effect of it will probably be, that some Conservatives at least may be induced to support Sir George Jessel, in the belief that he is, in the judgment of the active members of their party, the most acceptable candidate. It should be understood that the Conservatives have taken no collective part in the present contest. Mr. Fowler has no authority to speak on their behalf. A very large proportion of the Conservative Members of Convocation are graduates in Medicine and Science. Many, probably most of them, think there are lawyers enough in the House; that we are lawyer-ridden enough as it is; whilst the men fitted to represent science might be counted on one's fingers. Accordingly, lacking a Conservative candidate, their sympathies are largely in favour of the claim of Sir John Lubbock, our Vice-Chancellor, who would carry into the House literary culture, eminent scientific capacity, and the confidence and esteem of the scientific world.—I am, etc.,

M.D. LOND.

SURGICAL STATISTICS.

SIR,—Your judicial summing up in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of April 10th induces me to ask your publication of the following remarks, seeing that, by your editorial pen, special emphasis is laid on Professor Lister's advocacy of what he terms "a principle". My reason for taking part in the discussion is lest the bulwarks of surgery be overthrown. Professor Spence, having taught surgery for nearly half a century, is apprehensive of the fundamental truths on which the art is based becoming swept away (in one fell swoop) by a new method of treating wounds, properly termed Listerism, but improperly, I think, called the antiseptic method. He considers that there are varieties of lacerated wounds, as every general practitioner knows there are various kinds of coughs. Some lacerated wounds will heal kindly by the use of cold pure water, while others heal better when dressed with

PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES. SUPERANNUATION OF POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS.

SIR,—At a meeting of the Council of the Poor-law Medical Officers' Association, held at their rooms, 3, Bolt Court, Fleet Street, last Monday evening, it was decided to seek an interview as early as may be practicable with Mr. Dodson, the newly appointed President of the Local Government Board, for the purpose of impressing on him the expediency of so amending the Poor-law Medical Officers' Superannuation Act as to secure that, in all proper cases, superannuation allowance shall be granted by all local boards, subject to the initiation of the Local Government Board. The Council already possesses information as to several cases of special hardship where superannuation has not been granted; but, with the view to making their case as complete as possible, they would feel obliged if Poor-law medical officers would supply any instances that have come to their knowledge where superannuation allowance has been refused. To make such information really useful, it will be necessary that the name of the ex-medical officer of the union, the term during which he held office, his age, and the grounds (if any) given for refusing superannuation, should be supplied. As I am engaged in drawing up a memorial which we propose to present to the President, I shall be much obliged if gentlemen will forthwith send any such information to me.—I am, sir, yours obediently,

JOSEPH ROGERS, Chairman of Council.

33, Soho Square, May 4th, 1880.

DUNGANNON UNION.

A CASE of considerable interest to dispensary medical officers was decided at Dungannon Quarter Sessions last week. Drs. Jameson, Kydd, Browne, and Leatham, medical officers of the various dispensary districts in the union, proceeded against the Dungannon Board of Guardians by civil bill process, the cause of action having arisen in the following way. It appears that, early in 1879, a majority of the board of guardians, from economical motives, at a special meeting, carried a resolution reducing all the salaries of the officers of the union by fifteen per cent. The medical officers objected to this proceeding, and petitioned the Local Government Board, who communicated with the guardians, and refused to sanction the proposed reduction. The guardians, however, were obstinate, and declined to be guided by the Local Government Board, asserting their right to alter and fix the salaries of their officers. Cheques were filled for the salaries of the medical officers as reduced, and forwarded to them, but in every case were returned, and processes issued against the guardians for the recovery of the balance. The Chairman, after a lengthened hearing, ruled that the Local Government Board was the supreme authority in fixing and regulating salaries and matters of the kind; and that, as their authority was conveyed to the guardians by sealed orders directing them to continue the salaries as originally arranged, the plaintiffs were entitled to decrees with costs.

MALLOW UNION.

At a meeting of the guardians of this Union, held on the 30th ultimo, it was proposed that the salary of Dr. Fitzgerald, medical officer of the workhouse, should be increased from £100 to £120 *per annum*. The Chairman spoke in high terms of Dr. Fitzgerald, and warmly recommended the considerable reduction he had effected in the amount of stimulants used in the hospital. For the increase, twelve voted; and five against; the resolution granting the increase being adopted.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—At the primary examination for the diploma of membership of the Royal College of Surgeons, *i.e.*, in Anatomy and Physiology, which has just been concluded, there were one hundred and fifty-four candidates, out of which number no less than forty-six failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Board of Examiners, and were consequently referred to their studies for three months, including three who had an additional three months.

MEATH HOSPITAL AND COUNTY DUBLIN INFIRMARY.—On Saturday morning, the ceremony of the distribution of prizes awarded at the close of the winter session, 1879-80, took place in the theatre of the above-named institution, in the presence of the staff. The prizes were awarded as follow. First medical prize, Mr. E. E. Lennon; second medical prize, Mr. Austin Cockle. Senior surgical prize, Mr. A. H. Murray; junior surgical prize, Mr. John Mullins.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—The following gentlemen were admitted Licentiates on April 29th, 1880.

Bailey, Robert Greenock, Public Dispensary, Leeds.
Billiard, Richard Atherstone, Kingston, Herefordshire.
Bovill, Henry Howard, 32, James Street, Buckingham Gate, S.W.
Bush, Erasmus, New Thornton Heath, Croydon.
Butler, Herbert Paton, Lambeth Infirmary, S.E.
Chafley, Wayland Charles, 23, Cedars Road, S.W.
Challinor, Samuel Macmillan, Bolton.
Clark, William Thomas Marston, Cross Deep, Twickenham.
Dickinson, Thomas Vincent, 33, Sloane Street, S.W.
Gibbs, Alfred Napier Godby, Clifton, Bristol.
Hartley, John, Middlesex Hospital, W.
Henty, Sydney Haviland, 308, Camden Road, N.
Hine, Henry, Nottingham.
Holland, Edward Wilmot, 140, York Road, S.E.
Kemp, John Robert, Richmond, Surrey.
Pepler, William Henry, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C.
Plummer, Charles Joseph, 3, Wilton Terrace, S.E.
Rake, Beavan Neave, Guy's Hospital, S.E.
Renner, Charles, M.D. Würzburg, 42, Harley Street, W.
Spackman, Henry Robert, 14, Percy Circus, W.C.
Stevenson, Frederick Coney, M.B. Toronto, Castletown, Isle of Man.
Wheeler, William Henry, 63, King Edwards Road, E.
Wilkins, Henry George Gastrill, Ealing, W.
Williams, William Daniel Campbell, 118, Gower Street, W.C.

The following gentlemen were admitted Members on April 29th 1880.

Dunbar, James John Macwhirter, M.B. London, 77, Ladbroke Grove, W.
Lubbock, Montagu, M.B. London, 6, Foulis Terrace, S.W.
O'Connor, Bernard, M.D. Queen's University, 40, Brook Street, W.
Tirard, Nestor Isidore Charles, M.B. London, King's College, W.C.
Whittle, Ewing Mould Glynn, M.D. Dublin, Cambridge.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen passed their primary examinations in anatomy and physiology, at a meeting of the Board of Examiners, on the 29th April, and, when eligible, will be admitted to the pass examination.

Messrs. St. John O. Rands, Maurice P. Jones, Alfred Searle, Arthur T. F. Brown, George H. Graham, and Charles E. Beebe, students of Guy's Hospital; Hugh Rayner, Arthur R. Rackham, Frederick Stroyan, and Frederick J. Paley, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; William D. Halliburton, John E. Penn, and Francis G. Penrose, of University College; Francis E. Marston and Edward C. Maynard, of St. Thomas's Hospital; Hugh St. D. Griffiths and Edward Corner, of King's College; Charles H. Wise, of the Westminster Hospital.

Six candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on the 30th ultimo.

Messrs. Arthur Shadwell, Thomas G. C. Evans, Stanley S. Hoyland, Dence J. Slater, Arthur J. Williams, and Frank Broadbent, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Robert T. N. Samuel, Robert N. Fenner, Edwin C. Tatham, and Herbert W. S. Verity, of King's College; Richard W. Brogden, George Kendall, and Thomas Carr, of Guy's Hospital; Howard Downes, Edward A. Dingley, and George E. Perry, of University College; Henry U. Bromley, of St. Mary's Hospital; George Locke, of the Charing Cross Hospital.

Six candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on the 3rd instant.

Messrs. Arthur H. Roberts, Howard W. Hunt, Arthur Maude, Edward R. Williams, Edmund W. Roughton, and Ernest Wilcox, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Arthur J. Stiles, Henry P. Birch, W. Vernon Shone, and George H. Fink, of University College; Robert H. S. Spicer, Walter R. Tytheridge, Percival Whitcombe, of St. Mary's Hospital; William F. Lacey, Charles J. W. Tatham, and Edward B. Townsend, of King's College; William T. F. Davies, Sidney Worthington, and Alfred E. C. Woodhouse, of Guy's Hospital; Rolla E. Rouse, St. Thomas's Hospital.

Four candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on the 4th instant.

Messrs. George H. Vos, James R. Payne, and Walter Overend, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; R. Hamilton Russell, of King's College; Francis A. Stokes, of University College; H. Swetenham Turner, of St. Mary's Hospital.

Four candidates were rejected, including one who had an additional three months.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, April 29th, 1880.

Pestonji, Bejanji, Bombay.

Williams, William Rees, 40, Cambridge Street, S.W.

The name of George S. Clarke was omitted from the list of candidates who passed the Preliminary Examination in Arts (second class), April 23rd and 24th.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN.—At the First Commencements in Trinity Term, held on Thursday, April 22nd, in the Dining Hall of Trinity College, the following Degrees in Medicine and Surgery, and Licence in Medicine, were conferred by the University Caput.

Master in Surgery.—John Benjamin Story.

Doctor in Medicine.—Charles Richard Whitty.

Licentiate in Medicine.—George Brazier-Creagh.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND.—At a meeting of the Court of Examiners held on April 19th and 20th, the undernamed gentlemen were admitted to the Fellowship of the College.

Banks, Dr. Samuel Henry, Surgeon-Major H. M. Bombay Army.
Potter, Dr. Henry, Surgeon-Major H. M. Bengal Army.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

Particulars of those marked with an asterisk will be found in the advertisement columns.

The following vacancies are announced:—

- *BELGRAVE HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN—Physician. Applications to the Honorary Secretary on or before May 30th.
- *BELGRAVE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN—House-Surgeon. Stipend, £30 per annum, with board and lodging in the hospital. Applications, with testimonials, to the Honorary Secretary on or before May 30th.
- *BIRKENHEAD BOROUGH HOSPITAL—Junior House-Surgeon—Salary, £60 per annum, with board, lodging, etc. Applications, with testimonials, before May 11th.
- CUMBERLAND INFIRMARY, Carlisle—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary on or before May 11th.
- *DUDLEY DISPENSARY—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £120 per annum, with apartments, coals, and gas. Applications, with testimonials, to the Honorary Secretary before May 22nd.
- HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST—Resident Clinical Assistant. Applications, with testimonials, on or before May 8th.
- LIVERPOOL INFIRMARY FOR CHILDREN—Assistant House-Surgeon. Remuneration, £50 per annum.
- *LONDON HOSPITAL, Whitechapel—Sixth Assistant Physician. Applications, with testimonials, on or before May 24th.
- NOTTING HILL PROVIDENT DISPENSARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, firing, lighting, and attendance. Applications, with testimonials, to the honorary secretary on or before May 25th.
- PARISH OF BIRMINGHAM, MARSTON GREEN COTTAGE HOMES—Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications not later than May 11th.
- *ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn Road—Junior Resident Medical Officer. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary on or before May 19th.
- ROYAL ISLE OF WIGHT INFIRMARY, Ryde—House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications, with testimonials, not later than May 18th.
- SPILSLEY UNION—Medical Officer for the Stockney District.
- SUNDERLAND UNION—Medical Officer for Bishopwearmouth East District.
- *TORBAY HOSPITAL AND PROVIDENT DISPENSARY, Torquay—Junior House-Surgeon and Dispenser. Salary, £90 per annum. Applications, with testimonials, to the Honorary Secretary not later than May 22nd.
- *UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL—Resident Medical Officer. Applications, with testimonials, not later than May 18th.
- WALLINGFORD UNION—Medical Officer for the Dorchester District. Salary, £100. Applications on or before May 17th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Names marked with an asterisk are those of Members of the Association.

- CHAFFEY, Weyland C., M.R.C.S., appointed House-Surgeon to the Victoria Hospital for Children, *vice* Paul Tarleton, L.R.C.P.Ed., resigned.
- CHISHOLM, J. M., M.A., M.B., appointed Junior House-Surgeon to the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool, *vice* R. Wearing, M.D., resigned.
- DAVIES, A. Mercer, L.S.A., appointed House-Physician to the Westminster Hospital, *vice* Seaton G. Hamilton, M.R.C.S.
- HARKNESS, Thomas, M.B., appointed House-Surgeon to the Inverness Northern Infirmary, *vice* D. S. Macdonald, M.B., resigned.
- *NEILL, Channing, M.D., appointed Honorary Physician to the Ryde Dispensary.
- *ROSS, James J., M.D., appointed Consulting Physician to the Inverness Northern Infirmary.
- *RYERSON, G. S., M.D., appointed Lecturer on Ophthalmology in Trinity Medical School, Toronto, Canada.
- TAYLOR, George, M.B., appointed Junior House-Surgeon to the Cheltenham General Hospital and Dispensary, *vice* William Shaw, M.B., resigned.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, is 3s. 6d., which should be forwarded in stamps with the announcements.

BIRTH.

COGHILL.—At St. Catherine's House, Ventnor, I.W., on the 30th ultimo, the wife of J. G. Sinclair Coghill, M.D., F.R.C.P.Edin., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

DUNCAN—GALT.—On April 29th, at St. Andrew's Church, Southport, by the Rev. Thos. Eagar, M.A., Rector of Ashton-under-Lyne (uncle of the bride), assisted by the Rev. Prebendary Cross, M.A., Vicar of St. Andrew's, James Duncan, M.B., Ashton-under-Lyne, to Maria, youngest daughter of the late John Galt, F.R.C.S.E.
EBERLE—HOBSON.—On the 1st instant, by licence, at Hornby Church, near Bedale, Yorkshire, John James Eberle, Physician of the Medical College, Easingwold, Yorkshire, to Lucy Elizabeth, elder daughter of Joseph Hobson, of the same town.
SHAND—TRACEY.—On April 10th, at the British Legation, Berne, Henry M. Shand, M.D., Aberdeen, to Mary G., youngest daughter of the late Frederick Tracey, Esq., of New York.

DEATH.

*MITCHELL.—Suddenly, on the 29th April, J. T. Mitchell, Esq., M.R.C.S., 206, South Lambeth Road, aged 51.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—During last week, being the seventeenth week of this year, 3,596 deaths were registered in London and twenty-two other large towns of the United Kingdom. The mortality from all causes was at the average rate of 22 deaths annually in every 1,000 persons living. The annual death-rate was 22 in Edinburgh, 22 in Glasgow, and 38 in Dublin. The annual rates of mortality in the twenty English towns were as follow: Brighton 14, Wolverhampton 14, Portsmouth 16, Sunderland 17, Hull 18, Bristol 18, Sheffield 19, London 20, Birmingham 20, Leeds 20, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 21, Bradford 21, Salford 21, Norwich 22, Leicester 22, Oldham 26, Manchester 26, Nottingham 28, Liverpool 28, and again the highest rate 36 in Plymouth. The annual death-rate from the seven principal zymotic diseases averaged 2.9 per 1,000 in the twenty towns, and ranged from 0.7 and 1.1 in Wolverhampton and Leeds, to 3.9 in Nottingham and Salford, and 16.0 in Plymouth. In London, 1,387 deaths were registered, which were 201 below the average, and gave an annual death-rate from all causes of 19.8 per 1,000, a lower rate than has prevailed in any week since October last. The 1,387 deaths included 18 from small-pox, 31 from measles, 35 from scarlet fever, 15 from diphtheria, 78 from whooping-cough, 13 from different forms of fever, and 12 from diarrhoea—altogether, 202 zymotic deaths, which were 47 below the average, and were equal to an annual rate of 2.9 per 1,000. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had declined from 395 to 294 in the four preceding weeks, fell to 260 last week, and were 80 below the average; 153 resulted from bronchitis, and 73 from pneumonia. Different forms of violence caused 61 deaths; 46 were the result of negligence or accident, including 17 from fractures and contusions, 5 from burns and scalds, 8 from drowning, and 11 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. No fewer than 13 cases of suicide were registered. At Greenwich, the mean temperature of the air was 44.8°, and 3.7° below the average. The general direction of the wind was north-easterly, and the horizontal movement of the air averaged 14.6 miles per hour, which was 3.4 above the average. Rain fell on three days of the week, to the aggregate amount of 0.08 of an inch. The duration of registered bright sunshine in the week was equal to 44 per cent. of its possible duration.

A VERY sensible recommendation was appended to the verdict of the jury which on Wednesday last was empanelled to inquire into the deaths lost at a fire at the warehouse of Messrs. Hodgkinson, druggists, in Aldersgate Street, on Friday last. The verdict was as follows: "We are agreed that the fire arose from accidental causes, but we are of opinion that great carelessness was shown in permitting the use of a naked gaslight in a room containing inflammable oils, and recommend that future accidents be guarded against by the use of a wire gauze surrounding the burner, and the use of a fixed instead of a hinged gas-bracket."

WE regret to announce the sudden death of Miss Mary Merryweather, the Lady-Superintendent of the Training School for Nurses for Westminster Hospital. A long controversy at the hospital had just been closed by a resolution expressive of a desire to continue the work of the nurses. Miss Merryweather had been seized by her mortal illness before hearing of this event, and died of apoplexy early on Wednesday morning. She and her sister, after a successful labour in the same work at Liverpool, had been transplanted to Westminster in 1874 by the instrumentality of Lady Augusta Stanley; and some of the great improvements manifest in the Westminster Hospital since that time are owing to her care and supervision.

SAMARITAN FREE HOSPITAL.—On Tuesday last, May 4th, a concert was given by Miss Holland's choir at Grosvenor House, by kind permission of the Duke of Westminster. The entertainment, which was in aid of the extension fund of the hospital, consisted chiefly of Bach's musical version of Schiller's "Lay of the Bell". It was highly successful, a large and fashionable audience being present. The sum of £159 was collected by tickets, exclusive of £10 in donations.

CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—The thirty-second anniversary festival in aid of the funds of this hospital was held on the 28th ult., under the presidency of Mr. C. T. Ritchie, M.P. The chairman, in proposing the principal toast of the evening, said that since its establishment, in 1855, as many as 340,000 persons had been relieved. The committee were unable to make use of forty beds standing unoccupied for want of funds. A large amount had been subscribed for the support of the hospital by that class of persons for whose benefit it was especially intended. The Bethnal Green Working Men's Society had given altogether £2,300; the Mile End New Town Working Men's Society had subscribed £700; the Hackney Road Working Men's Society, 250 guineas; the Stepney Benevolent Society, 300 guineas; the Mutual Friendly Aid Society, 280 guineas; and the East End Society Fund, £1,000. Subscriptions were announced amounting to about £3,200.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY	Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.
TUESDAY	Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—West London, 3 P.M.—St. Mark's, 9 A.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 3 P.M.
WEDNESDAY	St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Mary's, 1.30 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, 2.30 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Peter's, 2 P.M.—National Orthopaedic, 10 A.M.
THURSDAY	St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 P.M.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.
FRIDAY	Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Royal South London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department), 2 P.M.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.
SATURDAY	St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Free, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.

HOURS OF ATTENDANCE AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

CHARING CROSS.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, M. Th., 1; Dental, M. W. F., 9.30.	
GUY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, exc. Tu., 1.30; Obstetric, M. W. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 1.30; Tu. F., 12.30; Ear, Tu. F., 12.30; Skin, Tu., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 12.	
KING'S COLLEGE.—Medical, daily, 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., M. W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th. S., 1; Ear, Th., 2; Skin, Th., Throat, Th., 3; Dental, Tu. F., 10.	
LONDON.—Medical, daily exc. S., 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30 and 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 9; Ear, S., 9.30; Skin, W., 9; Dental, Tu., 9.	
MIDDLESEX.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 8.30; Ear and Throat, Tu., 9; Skin, F., 4; Dental, daily, 9.	
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., W. S., 9; Eye, Tu. W. Th. S., 2; Ear, M., 2.30; Skin, F., 1.30; Larynx, W., 11.30; Orthopaedic, F., 12.30; Dental, F., 9.	
ST. GEORGE'S.—Medical and Surgical, M. Tu. F. S., 1; Obstetric, Tu. S., 1; o.p., Th., 2; Eye, W. S., 2; Ear, Tu., 2; Skin, Th., 1; Throat, M., 2; Orthopaedic, W., 2; Dental, Tu. S., 9; Th., 1.	
ST. MARY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.15; Obstetric, Tu. F., 9.30; o.p., Tu. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 1.30; Ear, W. S., 2; Skin, Th., 1.30; Throat, W. S., 12.30; Dental, W. S., 9.30.	
ST. THOMAS'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, except Sat., 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 2; o.p., W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th., 2; o.p., daily, except Sat., 1.30; Ear, Tu., 12.30; Skin, Th., 12.30; Throat, Tu., 12.30; Children, S., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 10.	
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1 to 2; Obstetric, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; Eye, M. W. F., 2; Ear, S., 1.30; Skin, Tu., 1.30; S., 9; Throat, Th., 2.30; Dental, W., 10.3.	
WESTMINSTER.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. F., 3; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 9; Skin, Th., 1; Dental, W. S., 9.15.	

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

TUESDAY.—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Lawson Tait, 1. "Third Case of Extra-Uterine Gestation, treated by Abdominal Section"; 2. "On the Treatment of Pelvic Suppuration by Abdominal Section and Drainage"; Mr. Fredk. Eve, "On a Case of Subcoracoid Dislocation of the Humerus, without laceration of the Capsule".	
FRIDAY.—Clinical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Darwell, "On Section of the Femur above the small Trochanter for Angular Ankylosis of the Hip"; Dr. Greenhow, "Ten Cases of Rheumatic Fever treated with Salicin"; Dr. Greenhow, "Fifty Cases of Rheumatic Fever treated with Salicylate of Soda"; Dr. Graily Hewitt, "A Case of Acute Hysterical Vomiting of ten months' duration, caused by Displacement of the Uterus"; Mr. Henry Morris, "Two Cases of Disease of the Mastoid Bone, in one of which a severe attack of Herpes of the Face followed Thrombosis of the Jugular Vein and Lateral Sinus". Dr. Stephen Mackenzie will show a case of Anterior and Posterior Polio-myelitis following Small-pox.	

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor, 161, Strand, W.C., London; those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the JOURNAL, etc., should be addressed to the General Manager, at the Office, 161, Strand, W.C., London.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, are requested to communicate beforehand with the General Secretary and Manager, 161, Strand, W.C.

CORRESPONDENTS not answered, are requested to look to the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.—Advertisements for insertion in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL should be forwarded direct to the Publishing Office, 161, Strand, London, addressed to Mr. FOWKE, not later than *Thursday, Twelve o'clock*.

PRESCRIBING DRUGGISTS.

SIR,—Can you inform me whether a druggist can be prosecuted under the Apothecaries' Act for prescribing over the counter? We have one here, who boasts that he does no retail, but gets a living entirely by prescribing. Owing to his "cheap Jack" eloquence, he attracts immense numbers of the better class of people, whom he supplies with medicine at eightpence a bottle.—I am, sir, yours, etc., W.

*. An unqualified person practising as our correspondent describes can be prosecuted under the Apothecaries' Act.

DR. DOBELL'S SEDIMENT-COLLECTOR.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit us to state that we made this instrument, in accordance with Dr. Dobell's instructions, so far back as May 1879.—We are, your obedient servants, S. MAW, SON, AND THOMPSON.
7 to 12, Aldersgate Street, London, E.C., May 3rd, 1880.

BROTHERLY KINDNESS.

SIR,—There can be very little doubt that the case to which you have so properly directed attention was one of central detachment of the placenta, and that Mr. Smith was entirely free from blame. Some years ago, Dr. Oldham published a series of cases of this kind in *Guy's Hospital Reports*, which fully explain why it is that the patient is moribund before help can be given.

Many years ago, I was asked to see a case of this sort for a brother practitioner in his absence. On my arrival, I found the woman dying. She lived only a few minutes after my arrival. She had been working in the fields, when she "felt something snap inside her"; she went home, being near the time of her confinement. Attempting to pass water, there was a sudden gurgling hæmorrhage, nearly filling the uterus. I found her blanched and pulseless; the os undilated; no sound of fetal heart. As the case was in the country, more than an hour had elapsed since the hæmorrhage, and the patient was at the point of death. Any interference was simply impossible. At the *post mortem* examination, the placenta was found to be detached centrally, exactly as in Dr. Oldham's case.—I am, yours truly, M.D.

SIR,—I have just read, at page 659 of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, the notes of a case of sudden death from so-called accidental uterine hæmorrhage, reported by Mr. W. J. Smith of Rotherham. A case precisely parallel to that related by Mr. Smith occurred three years since amongst the patients of the Western General Dispensary. The woman, aged about 26, in her third pregnancy, and at the eighth month, mounted on a chair, and stood partly on it, partly on the edge of a dressing-table, in order to adjust a window-blind. The latter coincidence is very remarkable. While in that position, with her arms extended upwards, she slipped and fell, the enlarged and prominent abdomen coming probably into violent contact with the small table on which her right foot had rested. Profuse hæmorrhage, just as in Mr. Smith's case, immediately ensued, while the poor woman lay in a prostrate condition on the floor. Not a moment was lost in summoning the house-surgeon from the Western General Dispensary, close by; and he, on his arrival, immediately despatched a messenger and cab for me. I followed instantly, but only to find the room deluged with blood, and the patient a corpse. She had died within half-an-hour after the accident; and the house-surgeon, Dr. Tidbury, a competent obstetrician, as well as one of our midwives, who first saw her, assured me there was not time for anything to be done. No inquest was held; and the husband, who was greatly afflicted by the occurrence, which took place while he was absent at work, would not hear of a *post mortem* examination.—I am, etc.,

T. FITZPATRICK, A.M., M.D., late Honorary Physician Accoucheur to the Western General Dispensary.
April 30th, 1880.

"SISTER DORA" AND THE CHOPPED-OFF FINGER.

SIR,—Can any of your readers give information of the name of the surgeon of the Walsall hospital referred to by Miss Margaret Lonsdale in the following paragraph, which I extract from that lady's *Biography of Sister Dora*? If the words mean what they appear to do in the writer's report of the case of reunion of an amputated finger, it might be scientifically instructive to obtain further particulars regarding it from the surgeon in question. The extract is taken from page 108 of the fifth edition of the abovementioned work.

"The surgeon considered that she set all kinds of fractures better than general practitioners (probably because she had more practice), and he used to affirm that a broken thigh would most likely be better dealt with by her than by himself. A boy came up to the hospital one day, having just chopped off one of his fingers. 'Where's the finger?' inquired Sister Dora. 'It's at home,' replied the boy. 'You stupid fellow! Go and fetch it this moment, and mind you are quick.' On the production of the missing article, she set the fracture, and the surgeon bears witness that the finger healed perfectly and became useful.—I am, etc.,

A SURPRISED SURGEON.

COLONIAL APPOINTMENTS.

SIR,—In reply to "West Indian's" query in the JOURNAL of February 7th, 1880, p. 231, allow me to inform him that such Colonial appointments in the West Indies or in British Guiana are not desirable. They are not worth applying for. They are not "desirable appointments for a married man with a wife and family to accept".—Yours truly, A BRITISH GUIANA SURGEON.

THE EFFECTS OF HYDROFLUORIC ACID.

SIR,—"An Aberdeen Student" must have been mistaken as to the words used by a Professor of Chemistry. I have made and used large quantities of the acid a few years since, and have occasionally had small ulcers from its use. These are troublesome to heal, more especially if the person still continue at his work with it; but if the patient be in fair health and be removed from the vicinity of the fumes, the healing process will take place. Of course, there are some people of a strumous habit, who would be doubly unfortunate in contracting hydrofluoric acid ulcers, and the healing of such ulcers might be difficult.—I am, etc., The Laurels, Aldbro, Hull, May 3rd, 1880. Wm. HENRY BROWNE.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

A LONDON correspondent of the *Allgemeine Wiener Medizinische Zeitung* (who signs himself "Physician eines Hospitals in London") announces that "Sir Henry Thompson, the celebrated operator for stone in the bladder and stricture of the urethra, has been elected a member of the new Liberal Parliament". The writer is evidently referring to Sir Henry M. Thompson, Bart., the member for Knaresborough, whom he has confounded with the eminent surgeon of partly similar name.

NOTICES of Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Appointments, intended for insertion in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, should arrive at the Office not later than 10 A.M. on Thursday.

INFLAMMATION OF THE BREAST TREATED BY COLD APPLICATIONS.

MORE than forty years ago I made a friend stare by telling him I should like to treat a case of inflammation (that was not under my care) by cold applications. Some time later I was able to do, as I then thought best, by treating a case of mammary inflammation as above suggested. The breast got well; but some time later there supervened cardiac symptoms—valvular obstruction; in course of time ascites, temporarily relieved by tapping; finally death at an early age. I do not now recommend cold in such cases. The only doubt as to the cause of the later illness arose from the mother of the young patient dying of the same complaint a few years afterwards.—I am, etc., J. R. WELLS.

20, Fitzroy Street, Fitzroy Square, W.

TREATMENT OF RANULA.

SIR,—I have at present a case of ranula under my care, which so far has resisted all treatment. I have tried simple incision, and keeping it open by passing a probe, removing a large piece by scissors, and lastly, making a free circular opening, and throwing into the cavity some powdered red oxide of mercury. A small part under the tip of the tongue has consolidated, but it is again forming opposite the molar teeth, and last time I saw the patient there was a fluctuating swelling under the jaw, which, at meal times, was stated to increase considerably in size.

I shall be glad if any of your readers will inform me what treatment they have found most efficient; and, also, what effect the obliteration of the duct is likely to have upon the salivary gland.—I am, yours faithfully,

YOUNG SURGEON.

PRIORITY GIVEN TO DOCTORS' BILLS.

AN American contemporary says that Captain John H. Chamberlayne has introduced a bill into the Virginia Legislature, of which the following is a portion: "Where the assets of the decedent in the hands of his personal representatives, after the payment of funeral expenses, claims for physicians' fees for services rendered during the last illness of the decedent, and druggists' accounts for articles furnished during the same period, and charges of administration, are not sufficient for the satisfaction of all demands against him, they shall be applied—first, to debts to the United States; secondly, taxes, levies, etc.; . . . thirdly, debts due as personal representative; . . . fourthly, all other demands ratably, except those in the next class; and, finally, voluntary obligations."

THE CURE OF COLD BY ABSTINENCE FROM LIQUIDS.

SIR,—Could any of your readers inform me why total abstinence from drink of any kind for forty-eight hours effects a cure for common catarrh. I know it does, having tried it myself, and Dr. Tanner in his work on *Medicine* says: "Dr. C. J. B. Williams assures us that any cold can be cured in forty-eight hours or less by almost total abstinence from liquids." But he does not give the reason why it serves as a cure, which reason I am anxious to know.—Yours obediently, Bampton, Devon, May 4th, 1880. R. H. COLLINS.

* * Dr. C. J. B. Williams used to recommend the treatment referred to in his lectures on Medicine at University College. We believe that his explanation of the *modus operandi* was that it reduced the amount of fluid in the body.

GLASS PESSARIES.

THE *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* says: Dr. A. A. Smith recently exhibited to the New York Clinical Society a glass pessary, which had been given him by a medical friend living out of New York, with the following history. In 1849—thirty years ago—it was introduced into a vagina, and had not been once removed until a short time ago. The woman recently fell downstairs, and subsequently had a bloody vaginal discharge. The physician discovered and removed the pessary, which had become well imbedded in the tissues. It was incrustated with calcareous deposit, and was introduced for uterine displacement years ago, with no advice, according to the woman's statement, regarding its subsequent removal. The pessary was concavo-convex, and about three inches in diameter, with a small opening in its centre. To effect its removal, a catheter was passed through this opening and traction made upon it. Dr. Smith called attention to the duty of physicians to impress upon the patients the importance of the regular removal of pessaries. Dr. Peabody said he had found a pessary, thickly coated with calcareous material, in making a *post mortem* examination. He mentioned an instance of the removal of a pessary, by Dr. E. K. Henshel, which had been introduced seventeen years before by the latter's father. Dr. Foster said he had cut out from the vaginal tissues a pessary which seemed to have been made of iron. Dr. Smith mentioned the removal of one by Dr. Sayre from the uterine cavity after its retention for ten years, and alluded to another case of prolonged retention of a pessary in the vagina, which finally gave rise to an attack of peritonitis. Dr. Weir remarked that he had removed a glass pessary eight years after its introduction, and asked whether glass pessaries were better borne than others, to which there was no reply.

"ADVICE AND MEDICINE, SIXPENCE!"

SIR,—The tradesman, who, whilst vending an inferior article at a first-class price, holds out to the public a bait in the shape of a trumpery "present," is of course looked upon by all his fellows (who would be honest if they were allowed) as a mean underhanded person, who seeks to enrich himself by any means, however sordid, at the expense not only of his brethren, but of the public generally, and one who aims at the very root of all fair dealing. But what shall we think of a member of a learned profession, who, instead of trying to raise the status of his calling, degrades not only himself, but his brother practitioners, by such mean and paltry acts as advertising, puffing, and, without a blush of shame, offers his services at so many pence? I have not the honour legally to belong to your profession, inasmuch as I am unqualified, and have nothing to look forward to but a life of hard work as an assistant. Still, I consider my position far preferable to that of a man whose windows are plastered over with whitening like those of a mock-auction room, and daubed with a dozen such inscriptions in red and blue, as "Certificates for Clubs and Schools, 6d. each," "Visits, 6d. each," "Advice and Medicine, 6d. each bottle" (*sic*), etc. So long as I uphold the honour of my profession by all means in my power, by conducting the practice of my principal in a gentlemanly manner, having a due regard for all the little amenities of medical etiquette, and so long as I continue to look upon the means by which I earn my living as one of the noblest on God's earth, so long shall I think myself socially and professionally the superior of a "qualified gentleman," who stands on his doorstep on an evening in his shirt-sleeves, smoking a long pipe. I often wonder if the turning over in his pockets of the money obtained in so mean and grovelling a manner is sufficient to compensate him for the contempt of, not only his professional brethren, but even of their "un-

qualified" assistants. I enclose two handbills emanating from the surgery of this "gentleman", in which, like Little Jack Horner, he proclaims to the public, "What a great man am I!" And of what class are his assistants, Drs.—and —? have they taken service in such a concern knowing it to be what it is? If they are, as their principal "advertises" them, two qualified men, then have we two more scabby sheep, two more social lepers and professional outcasts. If, on the other hand, they are unqualified men (and the man who estimates his own services as low as sixpence is scarcely likely to pay first-class salaries), by what right are they Doctors?

I can see in every week's medical journals complaints of unprofessional behaviour on the part of "gentlemen", but the profession at large has the power to stamp out such practices as these, which are every year lowering the status of a grand and noble profession, and bring not only the perpetrators themselves, but also those who have every disposition to uphold the dignity of their calling, into scorn and disrepute. There are said to be scabby sheep in every flock, but I cannot think very highly of the licensing bodies if they are powerless to put a stop to such unprofessional practices, or too torpid to notice them. There are plenty of restrictions, but no manner of protection.

Let us rather have the honest old barber-surgeon, or the white-aproned apothecary and the open surgery, than "duly qualified" medical "gentlemen" who do not estimate their services at a higher rate than "Advice and medicine, sixpence each bottle."—I enclose my card, and have the honour to remain, sir, your obedient servant, PASQUIN.

* * We have already, some time ago, expressed our opinion of the handbills to which our correspondent refers. They are simply disgraceful.

RECURRENT HERPES, WITH LIGHTNING PAINS: NO ATAXIA.—The article referred to by "Herpes" was by Dr. Buzzard, and is to be found in *Brain*, No. 2 (Macmillan and Co.).

WANTED DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT.

SIR,—A married lady, aged 27, has for many years suffered at intervals from intense pain in one of her toes. This pain is described as that of a red hot iron being pressed into the toe; and the agony is at times so acute as to cause a feeling of sickness and faintness. It is unaccompanied by any redness, swelling, or external appearances whatever. It is not caused by pressure from tight boots. It attacks either foot, and the third toe is the one generally affected. The pain comes on at irregular intervals; sometimes when out walking, at other times in the morning on rising. The patient is not subject to hysteria or neuralgia, and is healthy in all other respects. I should be glad to receive hints as to treatment.—Yours, M.D.

EXOTIC ENGLISH.

In an advertisement extolling the virtues of a medicament for the treatment of phthisis, which has just been issued in English by a Paris *pharmacien*, the following quaint paragraph occurs.

"The phthisis, as everybody knows, begins by the growing lean, paleness and loss of appetite. Soon after comes a light dry cough with expectoration of clear spittle; the growing lean continues then some nightly perspirations make their appearance, mainly on the breast; some pains are felt in the back, between the shoulders; finally, one or several bloody expectorations ensue. Then the cough becomes more frequent, more capricious; the spittles are of a greenish colour opaque, striated with yellow, later of a rounded form, heavier, sometimes floating in the midst of a clear liquid; afterwards they become greyish like a pea-soup, mixed with blood. The oppression increases, the fever becomes more intense, mainly during the night; then follow vomitings, diarrhoea, and the consumption so rapidly increases that the patient slowly dies."

COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, etc., have been received from:—

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