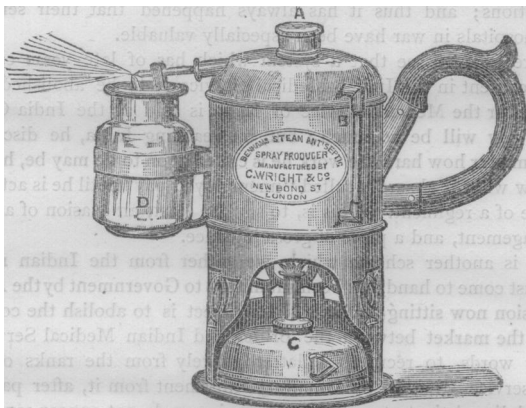


## REPORTS AND ANALYSES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW INVENTIONS IN MEDICINE, SURGERY, DIETETICS, AND THE ALLIED SCIENCES.

### NEW STEAM ANTISEPTIC SPRAY PRODUCER.

SIR,—The accompanying illustration represents a new form of inexpensive Steam Antiseptic Spray Producer, invented by Mr. Benham, connected with this hospital, and by whose name the apparatus will be known. It is composed wholly of metal, and is provided with an excellent safety valve and glass gauge for ascertaining the contents of boiler; the handle is also of a very convenient form and can be held for a considerable length of time without tiring the hand. The apparatus is constructed to produce an uninterrupted spray for upwards of an hour and a half.



Having already effected numerous successful operations on the antiseptic method with the aid of these sprays, I am able to recommend them to the profession with every confidence. They are both inexpensive and portable, and are well adapted for operating and dressing for hospital or private practice, and their low price should place them within the reach of every country practitioner. They are manufactured by C. Wright and Co., 108, New Bond Street, London.—I am, sir, yours obediently,  
JAMES ROUSE, F.R.C.S. Eng.  
St. George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner, April 20th, 1880.

### HYPOPHOSPHINE.

DR. FREDERICK CHURCHILL, in a paper on the hypophosphites (BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, March 27th, 1880), remarks that, with the exception perhaps of cod-liver oil, no remedy has of late been so largely used as chemical food. He states that the salts contained in this preparation are not in a condition favourable to assimilation, nor the large quantity of sugar present calculated to improve the digestive organs. He recommends a similar preparation, but one containing an actual solution of the salts of the hypophosphites, prepared according to a definite process of chemical manipulation, instead of being merely a suspension of the salts in syrup; and having phosphorus in a higher and more active state of combination, as well as possessing all the therapeutic properties of this drug, without the danger attending its administration in the crude state.

Impressed with these remarks, Messrs. Gale and Sons (of Bouverie Street) determined to combine the solution of the hypophosphites with cod-liver oil, and the wine, etc., Dr. Churchill recommends. The result of their endeavours is an emulsion which commends itself as an elegant and very agreeable preparation, emulsified without the use of gums or alkalies, which might derange the digestion.

Further experiment will no doubt determine the value of hypophosphine as a therapeutic and dietetic agent in the treatment of diseases arising from deficiency of power or the poverty of blood. Its composition appears to indicate it as a "brain and nerve food", and as adapted to the treatment of consumption, hysteria, myalgia, etc.; to enrich the milk of nursing mothers by furnishing elements favourable to the development of bone and tissue, and to counteract the exhaustion of prolonged nursing, or general emaciation. It is agreeably flavoured, does not provoke nausea by any after-taste, and would appear to be easily digestible. The name has been chosen "with a view to brevity and expressiveness".

## SELECTIONS FROM JOURNALS.

### MEDICINE.

PARACENTESIS OF THE PERICARDIUM.—Dr. C. Hindenlang has reported a case in the *Deutsche Archiv für Klin. Medicin*, Band 24. The patient was a man aged 20, previously in good health, who was admitted into the hospital at Freiburg on account of pericarditis with effusion, from which he had suffered for two and a half months. On admission, there were cyanosis, dyspnoea, frequent pulse, almost entirely intermittent during inspiration, very extensive pericardial dulness, absence of the apex-beat, and the heart-sounds were almost inaudible. On the third day, puncture was made by means of Dieulafoy's apparatus in the fifth intercostal space, two inches to the left of the edge of the sternum; then a *centimètre* (0.4 inch) farther outwards; and again in the fourth intercostal space, two *centimètres* from the left edge of the sternum; no result being obtained on either occasion. The needle was introduced to the depth of about an inch and a half. Next day, the operation was repeated by means of a fine trocar, 0.06 inch in diameter, in the fifth intercostal space, 1.6 inches to the left of the sternum; the instrument being introduced to the depth of 2 to 4 inches. Three hundred *grammes* (more than 10 ounces) of dark red fluid were now removed by aspiration; on microscopic examination, it was found to contain numerous blood-corpuscles, with fibrin in the form of flakes, hyaline membranes, or finely granular masses. The patient's condition improved essentially after the operation; the dyspnoea and cyanosis decreased; the area of dulness was reduced; and the quantity of urine was considerably increased. At the end of six weeks, the symptoms had returned; paracentesis was therefore repeated in the same place, and 500 cubic *centimètres* of nearly clear yellow fluid were removed. This was followed by relief of the symptoms and increase of the quantity of urine, with disappearance of the *pulsus paradoxus*. The patient was discharged relieved at the end of five months, but died two months afterwards. No *post mortem* examination was made. The interesting points in the case were the presence of the *pulsus paradoxus*, which had been already observed by Traube and Bäumler in cases of extensive pericardial effusion, and the increase in the quantity of urine after each operation. In a second case, which had been treated by Professor Kussmaul of Strasburg, and afterwards came under Dr. Hindenlang's care, there was an effusion in the right pleural cavity as well as an abundant one in the pericardium. Puncture in the fifth right intercostal space, about three-fifths of an inch to the outside of the nipple-line, was followed by the escape of clear serum; and, when the needle was introduced more deeply, turbid brownish-red fluid escaped. The pericardium was probably punctured through the pleura. The patient left the hospital before complete recovery. Dr. Hindenlang has collected all the recorded instances of paracentesis of the pericardium (including his own two cases), and concludes that the result of the operation is fairly successful. In 50 cases, the operation was performed 65 times; and was followed by more or less complete recovery in 32.3 per cent. of the cases. The modes of operation were: incision in 7 cases; incision with puncture in 3; puncture (with or without aspiration) by the trocar in 21, and by the hollow needle in 11 cases; puncture with Pravaz's syringe in one case. The situation of the operation was very various. The author recommends puncture with the trocar or with 'the hollow needle, combined with aspiration, in the fourth, fifth, or sixth intercostal space, three or four *centimètres* to the left of the sternum.

THE DOSIMETRIC SYSTEM.—On the occasion of the visit to London of Dr. Burggraave, Emeritus Professor of Anatomy and Surgery of Ghent University and Member of the Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium, several members of the profession met on the 27th, at the residence of Dr. Phipson, F.C.S., to listen to a discourse by the veteran professor, on the history of his researches upon the alkaloids, and their application to the treatment of diseases by what is termed the dosimetric method. Professor Burggraave, in spite of his seventy-four years, addressed the meeting with great fluency, and without fatigue, for upwards of two hours. He illustrated his remarks by cases taken for the most part from his own practice. His object was to urge that strychnin, hyoscyamin, aconitin, veratrin, digitalin, etc., can be applied in medicine as safely and efficiently as quinia in cases of intermittent fever. He gave his views of their action in fevers and other forms of disease.

tradition of the three fountains which issued from the ground where the head of the Apostle of the Gentiles touched it in rebounding, after his decapitation. It is a gloomy, fever-stricken spot, and the old churches seem more dismal, the monks more careworn, from the associations of the place. In 1867, it was handed over by Pius IX to the Trappists, who still inhabit it, as the Italian Government allows them to remain on condition that they should plant with eucalypti more than half of the four hundred hectares of land attached to the monastery. The monks have consequently done everything in their power to grow eucalypti, and many of the young trees now seem most flourishing. In the severe winter of 1876-77, however, hundreds of the young plants perished; and this winter, when the frost was very persistent, and the thermometer fell more than once to  $-8^{\circ}$  cent. ( $17.8^{\circ}$  Fahr.), more than one-third of all the plants under three years of age were killed. When this happens on a carefully prepared soil, and with the use of artificial measures for the protection of the young plants, it is not surprising that the percentage of those surviving in the open, untilled, and undrained Campagna, should be so small. Those trees which have grown have afforded as yet but little protection from the malaria, as two of the brethren died from fever in the autumn of 1879.

The Government, in spite of those discouraging results, have not given up in despair, and they have lately sent about one hundred and fifty convicts to the Tre Fontane, to prepare about two to three hundred hectares of ground for a final attempt to grow the hardiest varieties on a large scale. Some years must elapse before we know the result of this renewed experiment.

## 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. Swanzy, M.B., Dublin. *Secretaries:* W. A. Brailey, M.A., M.D., 38, King's Road, Brownwood Park, London, N.; David Little, M.D., 21, St. John Street, Manchester.

A Subsection of Otolaryngology 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 Secretary to Museum:* G. Wallis, Esq., Corpus Buildings, 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.
- 4 P.M.—Short service, with sermon by the Bishop of Ely in King's College Chapel.
- 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.
- 9 P.M.—Soirée in the Fitzwilliam Museum by the Reception Committee.

#### 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.
- 4 P.M.—Garden party in the grounds of King's College by the Reception Committee.
- 9 P.M.—Conversazione in St. John's College.

#### EXCURSIONS.

On Saturday, August 14th, there will be excursions to Ely, Peterborough, and Audley End.

Notice is hereby given, that a motion will be made at the Annual General Meeting of members of the British Medical Association, to be held at the Senate House, Cambridge, on Tuesday, the 10th day of August next, at eight o'clock in the afternoon, that the following regulations for the conduct of Annual General Meetings be adopted.

#### General Control of Meeting.

1. The programme of the Annual General Meeting shall be under the control of the Committee of Council. The following regulations shall guide the Committee of Arrangement and any local Committee that may be formed.

#### Necessity of Limiting the Expenditure.

2. The gradual and constant increase of the members of the British Medical Association renders it expedient to express the strong opinion of the Committee of Council, that the medical men of the locality at which the Association holds its meeting should not deem it necessary to incur a large expenditure; as, otherwise, the choice of a place of meeting must be more and more limited to the larger towns of the kingdom.

#### Annual Dinner.

3. The Annual Dinner shall be under the control of the Committee of Council.

#### Papers to be Read at Meeting.

4. All papers intended to be read at the Annual Meeting shall be forwarded, together with an abstract, to the Secretaries of Sections, ten days before the Annual

Meeting takes place, excepting the Addresses of the Presidents of Sections, or the Addresses to be delivered in General Meeting.

*Directions for Sections.*

5. The President, Vice-Presidents, and Secretaries of Sections shall form a Committee of Reference, with power to accept, decline, or postpone any paper, and to arrange the order in which the papers shall be read.

*Grouping of Papers for Discussion.*

6. The papers in each section shall, as far as possible, be grouped together, so as ensure a general discussion on kindred subjects.

*Length of time to be occupied by Papers or Speeches.*

7. No communication shall occupy more than fifteen minutes, and no person shall be permitted to speak more than once or for more than ten minutes during the discussion thereon.

*Resolutions at Annual Meetings.*

8. No motion shall be brought forward at the Annual Meeting, unless it has been proposed by the Committee of Council or a Committee of the Association, or notice of the same shall have been given on the previous day, in writing, to the General Secretary, to be entered on the Agenda of the day and printed in the daily journal. This does not apply to amendments moved in due form.

*Meeting of Committee of Council. Meeting of Council.*

9. The Committee of Council shall meet on the first day of the Annual Meeting, in the afternoon. The Council of the Association shall meet subsequently, and the first General Meeting of the Association shall be held in the evening.

*Reports of Committees.*

10. All reports of Committees of the Association shall be printed in the JOURNAL before the Annual 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.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*,  
British Medical Association.

161A, Strand, London, June 3rd, 1880.

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL:

NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the Committee of Council will be held at the offices of the Association, 161A, Strand, London, on Wednesday, the 7th day of July next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

161A, Strand, London, May 29th, 1880.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH.**

THE thirty-sixth annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 8th, at two o'clock P.M., in the Royal Pavilion, Brighton; W. WITHERS MOORE, M.D., President-elect, in the Chair.

CHARLES PARSONS, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.  
2, St. James's Street, Dover, May 19th, 1880.

**LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.**

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Assembly Rooms, Free Trade Hall, Manchester, at 2 P.M. on Wednesday, June 30th. Council meeting at 1 P.M.

Dinner, 5.30 P.M., at the Queen's Hotel. Tickets 10s. 6d., exclusive of wine.

Members intending to read papers are requested to communicate at once with the honorary secretary, who will also receive the names of those who wish to take dinner-tickets.

A. DAVIDSON, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.  
2, Gambier Terrace, Liverpool, May 31st, 1880.

**SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH.**

THE annual meeting will be held at the Hospital, Swansea, on Wednesday, June 30th, at 11 A.M.; T. D. GRIFFITHS, M.D., President-elect. Members desirous of reading papers, etc., are requested to communicate with one of the Honorary Secretaries without delay.

ALFRED SHEEN, M.D., } *Honorary Secretaries*.  
J. HANCOCKE WATHEN, }

May 25th, 1880.

**MIDLAND BRANCH.**

THE annual meeting of this branch will be held at Nottingham, on Thursday, 24th June. Members desirous of reading papers are requested to communicate at once with Dr. Marshall, *Honorary Secretary*, Nottingham, or with C. HARRISON, M.D., Lincoln. *Honorary Secretary of the Branch.*

**YORKSHIRE BRANCH.**

THE annual meeting will be held at the Town Hall, Bradford, at 3 P.M., on June 16th, 1880; P. E. MIAL, Esq., in the Chair.

Members intending to contribute papers are requested to communicate at once with ARTHUR JACKSON, *Secretary pro tem*, Sheffield.

**SOUTHERN BRANCH: SOUTH-EAST HANTS DISTRICT.**

THE seventh annual meeting of this Branch will be held at Curraghmore, Bournemouth (the residence of Dr. STEWART FALLS, the President-elect), on Wednesday, June 16th, 1880. The general meeting will commence at twelve o'clock.

Members desirous of reading papers or other communications at this meeting are requested to forward the titles to the honorary secretary before the 12th of June. No communication must exceed seven minutes in length, and no subsequent speech must exceed five minutes.

The address will be delivered by the President-elect at 2 P.M.

During the afternoon, the members will have an opportunity of visiting several places of interest in the locality.

The dinner will take place at the Exeter Park Hotel, at 4.30 P.M. Tickets, 6s. each, exclusive of wine.

The Committee request that those gentlemen who intend to be present at the dinner will send in their names to Mr. W. D. Hemming, Bournemouth, on or before Monday, the 14th instant.

J. WARD COUSINS, M.D., *Honorary Secretary and Treasurer*.

**BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH.**

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the County Hotel, Carlisle, on Friday, June 25th, at one o'clock.

Gentlemen intending to read papers are requested to give early notice to one of the Branch secretaries.

J. KENDALL BURT, } *Honorary Secretaries*.  
JOHN SMITH, }

Kendal, May 31st, 1880.

**SOUTH-WESTERN BRANCH.**

THE annual meeting, under the presidency of Dr. HOGARTH CLAY, will be held at Plymouth, on Friday, the 18th instant.

A steamer, starting from Millbay about 11 A.M., will take the members up the river Tamar, and an opportunity will be given for seeing Cothelie and other places of interest. The business of the meeting will be conducted during the excursion. Luncheon will be provided by the President.

The dinner will be at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel, at 6 P.M. punctually.

Members who intend to read papers or make any communication are requested to give notice as early as possible to

SUTHERLAND REES-PHILLIPS, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.  
Wonford House, Exeter, June 2nd, 1880.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.**

THE annual meeting of this District was held at Rochester on Thursday, May 27th, at 1.30 P.M.; Mr. RIDGEN in the Chair.

The Annual Accounts were audited and passed.

The Honorary Secretary was re-elected.

The Ethical Committee, with the exception of Mr. Reid, who resigned office, were re-elected.

Places of Meeting.—The following places of meeting were chosen for the ensuing year; Folkestone for September, Canterbury for November, Dover for March, and Canterbury for May.

last Tuesday. A few of his oldest and dearest friends alone followed him to his grave; but, had he been removed to Manchester, a public funeral had been arranged to do honour to his memory.

## MEDICO-PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday, May 27th.

*Alkali Acts.*—In answer to Mr. W. EGBERTON, who asked whether it was intended to introduce a Bill to amend these Acts or to carry out the recommendations of the Noxious Vapours Commission, Mr. DODSON said that, although the time had been very short, he had had, and still had, the report of the Commission under his consideration, and he was sure the hon. member would leave the matter in his hands, as the subject was important, and he was desirous of giving it every attention.

*The Local Government Board.*—In Committee of Supply, on the vote of £318,417 to complete the sum of £404,617 for the Local Government Board, Mr. DAWSON complained of the insufficiency of the supply of lymph in Dublin, and moved a reduction of the vote by £7,000.—Dr. LYONS hoped that this vote would be increased rather than diminished, inasmuch as it afforded the only opportunity which the Government had of giving aid to scientific bodies. With regard to vaccination in Ireland, it was, in his opinion, very efficient compared with the very small grant which was made for the purpose.—Mr. MARK STEWART hoped that when the proper time came, Scotch medical men would be placed upon the same footing as those of England.—Mr. DAWSON would gladly withdraw his amendment if the Government would give him an assurance that the vote with respect to Irish medical practitioners would be increased.—Mr. DODSON said it was out of the power of the Government to move to increase the vote, and he certainly had no intention of doing so.—Mr. DAWSON, in the circumstances, would press his amendment, to show his sense of the unjust way in which Ireland was treated.—Mr. SCLATER-BOOTH remarked that in many counties the Act referred to had worked exceedingly well, but there certainly remained several matters in connection with this branch of the law which would, he hoped, receive early attention from Her Majesty's Government.—Mr. PELL could not agree in the opinion that the law was working well at present. As far as his knowledge enabled him to speak, nothing could well be more unsatisfactory than the present state and working of the law.

## PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

### POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

#### THE POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS' (ENGLAND) SUPERANNUATION ACT.

IT was the intention of the legislature, in sanctioning the Poor-law Medical Officers' Superannuation Act, that such allowance should be granted in all suitable cases; such being those of aged or infirm gentlemen who had reached sixty years, and many of whom had been tempted, to the detriment of the sick poor, to retain their offices long after (owing to physical inability) they were incapable of efficiently performing their duty—solely, as we have too much reason to believe, in many instances, from the want of other means of subsistence.

The Act is permissive only. Owing to this cause, and to the fact that, in its passage through the Lords, it was provided that superannuation allowance should be a local charge—this being contrary to the rule that holds good as regards the salaries, half of which are paid from the Consolidated Fund—in far too many, if not in the majority, of the cases where application has been made, it has been refused. Several instances of great hardship—even of cruel injustice—have been reported to us. Unfortunately, the central department, though desirous, in the interest of the sick poor and their infirm attendants, to use its authority, is legally powerless to interfere. We are pleased, therefore, to notice that Professor Thorold Rogers, M.P. for Southwark, has, at the instance of his brother, Dr. Joseph Rogers, moved for a "return of the number of applications made under the Medical Officers' Superannuation Act (England) to boards of guardians for superannuation allowances; the names of the unions in which such applications have been made; the ones in which such allowances have been made or refused; the number of years' service of the officers; and the grounds (if any) which have been alleged for refusing such application." We are pleased to note that not only was this return unopposed, but that the department feels that the information which will be thereby obtained will have a tendency to strengthen their hands.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—At the half-yearly examination for the Fellowship of the College on the 26th May, the following gentlemen passed their primary or anatomical and physiological examination.

Messrs. Herbert H. Back, Charles F. Bailey, and Henry B. Tait, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Henry Blatherwick and Walter C. Dendy of Guy's Hospital; William T. Crick and Charles S. Evans, of St. Thomas's Hospital; Frank Hewkley, of the London Hospital; Thomas H. Pounds, of the Charing Cross Hospital; C. Wray, of the London Hospital and Newcastle-on-Tyne School.

The following gentlemen passed on the 27th May.

Messrs. Francis H. E. Voss and D. P. Harris, of the London Hospital; Stephen Chapman Townsend, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Five candidates were rejected.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, May 27th, 1880.

Abbott, James Eastal, Darlington.  
Benham, Harry Arthur, Clifton, Bristol.  
Beckett, Thomas George, Brick Lane, Spitalfields.  
Benthall, Winfred, Sherbourne, Dorset.  
Furness, John, Heskethedmarket, Cumberland.

The following gentlemen also on the same day passed their primary professional examination.

Dashwood, Edmund Samuel, Guy's Hospital.  
Hodges, James, King's College.  
Kilham, Charles Speight, Sheffield Infirmary.

### MEDICAL VACANCIES.

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

THE following vacancies are announced:—

- BEXLEY LOCAL BOARD—Medical Officer. Salary, £30 per annum. Applications on or before June 8th.
- BIDEFORD UNION—Medical Officer to the Abbotsham District. Salary, £7 7s. per annum.—Medical Officer to the Hartland and Clovell District. Salary, £75 per annum. Applications not later than June 7th.
- BIRMINGHAM GENERAL DISPENSARY—Resident Surgeon to the Aston Branch. Salary, £170 per annum, with furnished apartments, coals, and attendance. Applications, with testimonials, on or before June 21st.
- \*BIRMINGHAM GENERAL DISPENSARY—An additional Resident Surgeon for the Dispensary, Union Street. Salary, £150 per annum, with furnished apartments, coals, attendance, etc. Applications, with testimonials, on or before June 21st.
- CARRICKMACROSS UNION—Medical Officer for Raperagh Dispensary District. Salary, £100 per annum, with £15 yearly as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination fees. Election on the 11th instant.
- EAST RIDING LUNATIC ASYLUM, Beverley—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, apartments, etc. Applications, with testimonials, not later than June 18th.
- GATESHEAD DISPENSARY—Assistant-Surgeon. Salary, £120 per annum, Applications, with testimonials, to the Honorary Secretary not later than the 15th of June.
- \*KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications not later than June 25th.
- MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY—Surgeon.
- MULLINGAR UNION—Medical Officer for Multifarnham Dispensary District. Salary, £120 per annum, together with £15 yearly as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination fees. Election on June 7th.
- NAAS UNION—Medical Officer to the Clane and Trillick Dispensary District. Salary, £125 per annum.
- NEWPORT (Monmouthshire) UNION—Medical Officer to the Marshfield District. Salary, £40 per annum. Applications not later than June 11th.
- \*OWENS COLLEGE, Manchester—Demonstratorship in Anatomy. Stipend, £150 per annum. Applications, with testimonials, not later than June 30th.
- OUNDLE UNION—Medical Officer to the Weldon District. Salary, £70 per annum.
- \*ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL, Paddington—Assistant-Physician. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary on or before June 10th.
- \*SHEFFIELD PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY—Junior Assistant-House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications, with testimonials, to the Honorary Secretary on or before June 15th.
- \*SMALL-POX HOSPITAL, Highgate Hill—Resident Surgeon. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary on or before June 24th.
- SPILSLEY UNION—Medical Officer for the Stockney District.
- \*WESTMINSTER GENERAL INFIRMARY—Physician. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary on or before June 21st.
- WHITEHAVEN AND WEST CUMBERLAND INFIRMARY AND FEVER HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Salary, £150 per annum, with residence in the Infirmary. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, before June 25th.

### MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

- BERNSTEIN, Meyer Joseph, M.B., appointed Junior House-Surgeon to the Birkenhead Borough Hospital, *vice* H. H. Boucher, M.B., resigned.
- \*HOLDERNESSE, William Brown, M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Visiting Surgeon to the Royal Windsor Dispensary and Infirmary, *vice* Thos. Fairbank, M.D., deceased.

JOHNSTONE, C. R., B.A., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Dudley Dispensary, *vice* John Steel, L.R.C.P. Edin., resigned.

\*LIMRICK, O. E. B., L.K.Q.C.P.I., appointed House-Surgeon to the Liverpool Dispensaries, *vice* J. B. J. Bradley, L.K.Q.C.P.I., resigned.

\*MC EWEN, F. Alexander, M.B., appointed House-Surgeon to the Alnwick Infirmary, *vice* James Oliver, resigned.

O'BRIEN, Russell J., M.B., appointed Assistant House-Surgeon to the Liverpool Dispensaries, *vice* O. E. B. Limrick, L.K.Q.C.P.I., appointed House-Surgeon.

OLIVER, James, M.B., appointed Resident Physician to the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, *vice* W. H. Osborn, M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed House-Surgeon.

OSBORN, W. H., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed House-Surgeon to the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham.

\*PHIBBS, Robert Featherstone, M.R.C.P. Ed., appointed Visiting Physician to the Infirmary for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest and Throat.

RALFE, Charles Henry, M.D., appointed Sixth Assistant-Physician to the London *vice* Thomas Barlow, M.D., resigned.

WILSON, Wilfrid, M.B., C.M., appointed House-Surgeon to the Cumberland Infirmary, *vice* W. H. Beverley, L.R.C.P. Lond., resigned.

\*YOUNG, Alfred H., M.B., C.M., appointed Pathological Registrar to the Manchester Royal Infirmary, *vice* J. D. Bradshaw, M.B., resigned.

DR. RICHARD RADLEY LEADER, of Millstreet, is a candidate for the coronership of the East Riding of the County Cork, vacant by the death of Mr. Daly.

LORD NORTON last week presented a petition to the House of Lords, from the Guardians of the Meriden Union, Warwickshire, praying that the appointment of medical officers under the Public Health Act should be made optional instead of compulsory.

BEQUESTS.—The late Mr. Allan Reddoch of Showlands has made the following charitable bequests: Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, £500; Western Infirmary, £500; Orphan and Destitute Children Emigration Homes, £200; Saltcoats Home, £200; Deaf and Dumb Institution, £200; and Blind Asylum, £200.

LOCH KATRINE WATER.—The monthly report of the quality of Loch Katrine water has been issued as prepared by Professor Mills. The results are returned in parts per 100,000, and are as follows: Total solid impurity, 3.02; organic carbon, 0.115; organic nitrogen, 0.016; ammonia, 0.000; nitric nitrogen, 0.006; total combined nitrogen, 0.022; chlorine, 0.61; hardness, 0.95. The water, which was sampled on May 17th, was of a pale brown colour, and contained little suspended matter, but appeared to possess an exceptionally large amount of free oxygen.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—During last week, being the twenty-first week of this year, 3,489 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 21 deaths annually in every 1,000 persons living. The annual death-rate was 25 in Edinburgh, 23 in Glasgow, and 38 in Dublin. The annual rates of mortality in the twenty English towns were as follow: Wolverhampton 16, Leeds 17, Hull 17, Portsmouth 18, Leicester 18, Birmingham 19, Plymouth 19, London 19, Bradford 19, Sheffield 20, Nottingham 20, Brighton 21, Bristol 22, Sunderland 22, Oldham 23, Liverpool 23, Norwich 24, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 24, Manchester 26, and the highest rate 29 in Salford. The annual death-rate from the seven principal zymotic diseases averaged 3.2 per 1000 in the twenty towns, and ranged from 0.7 and 0.9 in Leeds and Birmingham, to 7.6 and 8.4 in Salford and Plymouth. In London, 1,333 deaths were registered, which were 107 below the average, and were equal to an annual death-rate of 19.0. The 1,333 deaths included 10 from small-pox, 30 from measles, 68 from scarlet fever, 11 from diphtheria, 76 from whooping-cough, 14 from different forms of fever, and 17 from diarrhoea—being altogether 226 zymotic deaths, which were 7 below the average, and were equal to an annual rate of 3.2 per 1,000. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 286 and 241 in the two preceding weeks, further declined to 208 last week, and were 46 below the average; 116 were referred to bronchitis, and 60 to pneumonia. Different forms of violence caused 53 deaths; 36 were the result of negligence or accident, including 15 from fractures and contusions, 4 from drowning, and 10 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. No fewer than 14 cases of suicide were registered, being nearly double the corrected average number. At Greenwich, the mean temperature of the air was 58.4°, and 2.3° above the average. The mean degree of humidity of the air was 67, complete saturation being represented by 100. The general direction of the wind was south-west, and the horizontal movement of the air averaged 13.5 miles per hour, which was 3.3 above the average. Rain fell on Thursday to the amount of 0.02 of an inch. The duration of registered bright sunshine in the week was equal to 47 per cent. of its possible duration. The recorded amount of ozone showed a marked excess from Monday to Thursday.

BEQUESTS.—Miss Mary Wasey, of Prior's Court, Chieveley, Berks, has bequeathed £3000 to the Berkshire County Hospital, and £2000 each to the Bath Hospital for Strangers, the Consumption Hospital, Brompton, and the Cancer Hospital, Brompton.—Sir Theodore Brinckman has left £100 to the Windsor Infirmary, and Mr. William Cobbett, of Wellmore Square, has left £100 to the Surrey County Hospital, and £10 to the Western General Dispensary. Mr. John Farrell, late of Rathdrum, has bequeathed £200 to St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin, and a similar amount to Jervis Street and the Mater Misericordia Hospital.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—At the recent pass examination for the diploma of membership of the Royal College of Surgeons, out of the eighty-four candidates examined, thirty-seven (or forty-four per cent) having failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the court of examiners, were referred to their professional studies for six months, and four gentlemen who passed in surgery will be admitted members of the college when qualified in medicine. At the half-yearly examination in anatomy and physiology for the fellowship of the college, which was brought to a close on the 27th, out of the sixty candidates examined—the dates of whose diplomas, when they were members, ranged from May 1860 to November 1878, ten were rejected the first day, seven on the second, nine on the third, and five on the fourth and last day, making a total of thirty-one candidates referred to their anatomical and physiological studies for six months.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—In connection with the conference on the progress of public health, which, it is announced, will be held by the Society of Arts on the 10th and 11th of next month, it is intended, as in former years, to hold an exhibition of sanitary appliances. These exhibitions, though on a small scale—the society's premises not affording room for a large collection—have been found very useful in former years, as the conferences have always been largely attended by sanitarians from different parts of the country.

PRESENTATION.—Dr. Stephen Monckton of Maidstone has been publicly presented with a very handsome silver salver, inscribed: "Presented to Stephen Monckton, Esq., M.D., J.P., etc., Chairman of the Conservative party in Maidstone, in grateful recognition of his long and valuable services, culminating in the return of Major Ross and Captain Aylmer as Conservative members for the Borough, May 1880."

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—We learn that, up to Thursday evening last, the nomination papers of only four candidates for seats in the Council, at the ensuing election in July, have been received at the College, namely, those of Messrs. Bryant of Guy's Hospital, Hulke of Middlesex Hospital, T. Smith of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and Berkeley Hill of University College. We have reason to believe that five other candidates will be in the field, namely, Messrs. Cadge of Norwich, W. Adams, Lister of King's College, Sydney Jones of St. Thomas's, and R. Harrison of Liverpool. As nominations are only received up till Monday, the 7th, those intending to come forward as candidates should lose no time in forwarding their papers, duly signed, to the Secretary at the College.

WAKEFIELD RURAL DISTRICT.—This district, in common with many others, suffered severely from diseases of the respiratory organs during 1879. Of the total of 846 deaths, no fewer than 65 were due to phthisis, and 194 to bronchitis, pneumonia, and pleurisy: figures which hardly deserved to be passed over in complete silence, as Mr. Wood has done. Excluding the deaths at the West Riding Asylum, the death-rate for the year was 19.5 per 1,000, against 21.2 for 1878. The infantile mortality and that of children under five years of age shows a marked improvement. The only zymotic disease that was seriously prevalent was scarlatina, which caused in all thirty-one deaths. Thirteen deaths from typhoid fever occurred, a smart outbreak of that disease in a property of thirteen houses being still under investigation. Several townships are spoken of as needing better drainage and water-supply; but some progress in these directions is being made.

TAMWORTH RURAL DISTRICT.—Dr. Fausset's report is a very good one, dealing with the sanitary wants of the district in a practical and comprehensive fashion. It is evident that considerable progress is being made in sanitary work, but the cottage accommodation seems to be generally defective. A large scheme of water-supply is in a forward state of preparation; but the drainage throughout the district seems to be most unsatisfactory. During the year 1879, there were 584 births and 232 deaths registered in the district, equal to rates of 43.9 and 17.4 respectively. Ninety-five of the deaths were those of children under five years of age, of which 26 were from diseases of the zymotic class. Measles was present in an epidemic form throughout the year, and caused 9 deaths. Scarlatina was also prevalent, but was only fatal in two instances. Dr. Fausset, like many other medical officers of health, laments the absence of compulsory notification of infectious disease.

## 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., 9; 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. Th. 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., 1; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 9; Skin, Th., 1; Dental, W. S., 9.15.

## MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.—Odontological Society of Great Britain. Mr. J. R. Mummery, "A Remarkable Case of Strabismus and Blanching of the Hair, arising from a Diseased Tooth; with additional instances of Nervous Disorders arising from Dental Irritation". Also a short paper by Mr. Edwin Canton. Casual communications from Dr. Walker.

TUESDAY.—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Douglas Powell and Mr. R. W. Lyell, "On Basic Cavity of the Lung treated by Paracentesis"; Mr. Henry Morris, "On a Case of Aneurism of the External Carotid, in which, after failure of the ligature of the common carotid, the old operation was successful".

WEDNESDAY.—Royal Microscopical Society, 8 P.M. Professor H. Smith, "The Life-History of the Diatomaceæ"; Mr. S. Holmes, "A New Binocular Microscope with Isophotal Prism"; Mr. W. H. Gilbert, "The Structure and Functions of the Scale-Leaves of *Lathraea Squamaria*"; Mr. J. W. Stephenson, "On the Relative Visibility of Minute Structures when mounted in Phosphorus, Bisulphide of Carbon, or other Media".

## 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.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.—We shall be much obliged to Medical Officers of Health if they will, on forwarding their Annual and other Reports, favour us with Duplicate Copies.

CORRESPONDENTS who wish notice to be taken of their communications, should authenticate them with their names—of course not necessarily for publication.

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

## ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND: EXAMINATIONS.

At the half-yearly examination for the diploma of Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons on May 21st, when sixty-eight candidates presented themselves, the following were the questions on Anatomy and Physiology submitted to them. They were required to answer three questions out of the four. *Anatomy*.—1. Describe the peculiarities of the Skull at birth. 2. Give a Dissection to expose the Glossopharyngeal Nerve from its exit at the base of the skull to its termination. Describe the distribution and connections of the entire nerve. 3. Give the attachments and actions of the Deltoid Muscle, and the arrangements of its Muscular Fasciculi and Tendons. Describe the Structures exposed upon removal of the Muscle. 4. The Left Innominate Bone being removed, describe the Dissection necessary to expose the Anterior Primary Branches of the Sacral Nerves with their distribution and connections inside the Pelvis. *Physiology*.—1. Give an account of the Development of the Eye. 2. Describe the minute structure of the Pancreas. State the mode in which a proteid-digesting extract may be obtained from a perfectly fresh Pancreas. How does the action of such an extract differ from that of a proteid-digesting extract of the gastric mucous membrane? 3. Give an account of the changes that take place in the Uterus during Pregnancy, and describe the mode of formation of the Placenta and of the Membranes enclosing the Fœtus. 4. Describe the structure of Striated Muscular Tissue, and the phenomena attendant upon its contraction.

At the half-yearly pass examination for the Fellowship, the following were the questions in Pathology, Therapeutics, and Surgery. Candidates were required to answer all the questions. 1. Describe the changes which may be found in the Spinal Cord after Death from Injury to the Spine. 2. Describe the structure, development, and course of the various forms of Cystic Tumours of the Mammary Gland. 3. To what causes may a Rise of Temperature, after a severe injury or operation, be due? Describe the circumstances which would influence your view of it, in relation to Diagnosis and Prognosis? 4. What are the Diseases which may cause obstruction of the Nasal Fossæ? How would you distinguish them from each other? Give the Treatment you would adopt in each case.

At the recent pass examination for the membership, the clinical cases on which the candidates were examined were selected from the following hospitals: St. Bartholomew's, St. Mary's, St. George's; University College, Charing Cross, Guy's, Middlesex, King's College, and Moorfields Ophthalmic. They consisted of—Acute Peritonitis; Enormously Enlarged Testicle, with Strumous Disease of the Organ in another Patient; Disease of the Upper Jaw-Bone; Cicatrix after Epithelioma, and Eversion of the Lower Eye-Lid in the same Patient; Facial Paralysis; Hydrocele; Chronic Inflammation of the Right Elbow subsequent to Injury; Gouty Effusion into the Knee-Joint; Enlargement of both Testicles; Enlarged Cervical Glands with Protrusion of the Eye-Ball; Ulceration of the Frænum Linguae; Strumous Disease of the Elbow-Joint; Abscess in the Loins; Strumous Peritonitis; Enlarged Carpal Bursa; Chronic Inflammation of the Lid, Gonorrhœa, and Orchitis in a boy aged 14; Iritis; Hernia and Scabies in same Patient; Varicocele; Sarcoma in the Axilla; Epithelioma of the Cheek and Lips; Rodent Ulcer of the Temple; Bursa enlarged and indurated in the Nates, etc.

INQUIRER asks what special works can be recommended to assist him in preparing a course of lectures for nurses and an ambulance class.

## A LARGE TAPE-WORM.

SIR,—A few weeks since, a prisoner in the District Jail showed symptoms of tape-worm. After a little preparation, I gave him half a drachm of liquid extract of male fern. He soon after passed a worm ninety-three feet long. Many separate segments and short pieces were lost in the washing. Had all been collected, the total length of the worm would probably have been one hundred feet. The neck was visibly segmented right up to the well-marked rounded head. Under the microscope, the head was seen to be furnished with four suckers; it had no rostellum nor coronet of hooks. There appeared to be a slight depression in the usual position of the rostellum, but I could not make out a fifth sucker. The ripe segments were not examined. The worm appears to have been a specimen of the "tænia medio-cancellata". The prisoner had suffered from the disease before his conviction. He was in the habit of eating meat whenever he could get it. He could not well have contracted the disease in jail, as meat does not form part of the ordinary jail dietary.—I am, etc.,

MATTHEW D. MORIARTY, M.B., Civil Surgeon.

Muzaffamagar, N.W.P., India.

MR. JOHN SCOTT (Manchester).—The National Health Society's plain rules for the management of infants are published in cheap broad sheets, and may be had on application to Professor Ray Lankester, National Health Society, Berners Street, Oxford Street.

## THE CONTAGION OF TUBERCLE.

SIR,—With reference to your article on "Tuberculosis as a Contagious Disease", perhaps you will allow me to ask whether the contagion-virus of tubercle may not be an altered condition of the corpuscular elements of the parts. If this was admitted, we might still suppose it to be sometimes the offspring of the cell-proliferation of a catarrhal pneumonia, and understand Niemeyer's "secondary tuberculosis".—I am, sir, yours respectfully, DUNCAN J. MACKENZIE, M.D. Glossop, May 22nd, 1880.

**CORRESPONDENTS** are particularly requested by the Editor to observe that communications relating to advertisements, changes of address, and other business matters, should be addressed to Mr. FRANCIS FOWKE, General Secretary and Manager, at the Journal Office, 161, Strand, London, and not to the Editor.

#### HOSPITAL FLOORING.

SIR,—In answer to your correspondent F.R.C.S., regarding the most suitable flooring for a hospital, I believe it would be difficult to find a better substance for that purpose than teak. I am not aware of any English hospital being paved with cement, nor do I think it at all suitable for such a purpose, as most cements absorb, and are difficult to clean. The only means I can suggest to render a cement floor fit for hospital use would be to cover it with linoleum or corticine, or, if a more durable material be desired (for passages), and sufficient money can be obtained for the purpose, to overlay the whole with broken marble mosaic.

As your correspondent may wish to know what my experience in such matters may be, I beg to say that it has been acquired during the construction of a large metropolitan hospital now in process of building.—I beg to remain, sir, yours faithfully,

REGINALD E. THOMPSON.

9, Cranley Place, South Kensington, May 28th, 1880.

SIR,—There is a request in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, May 29th, for information respecting the most suitable flooring for hospitals. I know from experience that flooring done in the way I am about to describe is not only pretty but good and useful.

The wood, if deal, should be narrow boards, and fine-grained, stained a pretty shade of brown, then a coat of size, next a coat of oak varnish, after that a regular rubbing with beeswax and turpentine. The size and varnish prevent slops from sinking into the wood; the wax and turpentine keep the floors pure, and are indeed a good antiseptic. The floors should not be washed oftener than once in four or six months, but must, of course, be swept twice a day (as, indeed, any hospital flooring should be), rubbed a little with a long handled weighted rubber after each sweeping, and "waxed" once a week, care being taken not to use too much wax, and to have it thin enough. Oak varnish is quite good enough, if care be taken that it is such as will dry at once; it will not crack, as it is not exposed to the weather, and is constantly rubbed with the wax and turpentine. Old floors may be stained, etc., if the wood be good, and they are planed first. Cement floors are cold, noisy, and so hard that they cause much breakage.—I am, yours truly,

A. DANNATT.

Royal Infirmary, Preston, June 1st, 1880.

**A COUNTRY PRACTITIONER.**—In addition to the articles on the subject of the use of fuchsin in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, our correspondent may consult Feltz et Duclos, *Gazette Hebdomadaire*, 1877; Feltz, *Gazette Hebdomadaire*, 1876, No. 25; *Gazette des Hôpitaux*, 1877, No. 50; *ib.*, 1878, No. 43; Divet, *De la Fuchsin dans le Traitement de l'Albuminurie*, Thèse de Paris, 1879; Dieulafoy, *Gazette Hebdomadaire*, 1879, Nos. 30 et 32.

#### ERGOT SUPERSEDED.

SIR,—Unfortunately, I have only just seen Dr. Smith's letter in the JOURNAL of the 15th instant. The answer to his inquiry how the air is to be retained in the pessary, is, by the simple process of folding the tube upon itself, and tying a piece of tape or twine round it.—I am, etc.,

S. S. ROSEN.

Droitwich, May 26th, 1880.

**A NROUVICUS CANDIDATE.**—Reporters have never been admitted to the Fellowship examination at the Royal College of Surgeons. The gentleman who took copious notes was Mr. Gant, a Fellow of the College by examination, doubtless with a view to another edition of his useful little work.

**DR. HARRIS.**—Next Monday will be the last day for nominating candidates for seats in the Council of the College of Surgeons, soon after which their names will be known through the letter to be sent out by Mr. Trimmer. Sir James Paget will take the chair at the annual festival.

#### TRICYCLES VERSUS HORSES.

SIR,—Some time ago, a very interesting letter was published in this JOURNAL concerning pedo-motive machines in the place of horses, and signed "Vacuus Viator cantabit coram Latronibus". By many readers it was thought to have too much *couleur de rose*; but still, from the many letters that have appeared since, it seems the ball has been set rolling; and the cost of horse-flesh, with its accessories, has led many to seriously contemplate the possibility of employing the bicycle or the tricycle in country practice. I am a small and not a strong man, and I am accustomed to speak the truth. On these very grounds, I believe my remarks will be not only of interest, but of value to some.

Bicycles, I think, are not adapted for the purpose, for the following reasons: 1. Agile young men only can ride them; 2. The best riders are liable to dangerous falls; 3. The rider cannot stop to speak to a person in the road, but must either dismount or fall off; 4. Good roads and good weather are almost essential for the bicycle; 5. There is much trouble in learning to ride them. The tricycle I advise has not one of these drawbacks.

Many, however, consider there is a loss of dignity in riding these machines. A similar argument has often been objected against the use of new and ill-understood inventions; and he was a bold but a sensible man who first walked down the Strand in the rain, protected with the then new-fangled thing now known as an umbrella. That man was laughed to scorn, but he was right.

I have experience of nearly all the tricycles in the market, and give my testimony in favour of the new "Salvo" by Starley of Coventry; this machine is a great improvement on the earlier "Salvo" he brought out; and I consider it outdistances by a long way every other tricycle. The driving wheels are forty-six inches high, and the machine is thirty pounds lighter than the first "Salvo". My country is hilly, but I never dismount, and can easily ascend gradients of 1 in 18, or even steeper. I can get an average pace on the turnpike road of eight miles an hour up hill and down as it comes. I have travelled at the rate of twelve miles an hour; but this is a racing speed, and not required.

As I practise a speciality, and my patients come to me instead of me going to them, my "Salvo" is not much used actually in practice; but it is most easy to ride, requires no trouble to learn, and is ready at any instant for use. Moreover, you are perfectly secure from accident or upset: perhaps more so even than with a pony carriage. My "Salvo" which I first rode had fifty-inch driving wheels; and in adding up the various runs I had made with it, I found I had soon done a thousand miles. The new "Salvo" I ride usually in the evenings, and generally go from ten to thirty miles or more. One can carry thirty pounds of luggage if needed; and the machine is fitted with an oil lamp, which gives a brilliant light and is not jerked or put out by jolting over a rough road, which is a great thing for night travelling.

I fully believe when these machines are known, their use will become far more general than at present. It was from reading the letter to which I have already referred, that I was induced to purchase one of these machines; and I have never regretted having done so.—I am, etc.,

W. A. HUNT, L.R.C.P.Lond., etc.

Yeovil, May 26th, 1880.

SIR,—As "An Irish Surgeon" is in quest of a thoroughly good tricycle, I wish to bring to his notice the Devon tricycle. It possesses many advantages over most machines, and is certainly an elegant carriage. In the number of the *Exchange and Mart*, published January 30th, 1880, there is an article by Mr. H. Hewitt Griffin describing it in detail.—Yours respectfully,

ARTHUR KEMPE.

20, St. Sidwell's, Exeter, May 31st, 1880.

**A COUNTRY FELLOW.**—If our correspondent have not received the usual notice, it is simply his own fault, as, on reference to the calendar, his name appears without any address. The last notice sent him was, we are told, returned through the post office endorsed "Gone away, address not known". He should write to the Secretary of the College.

#### UTERINE HÆMORRHAGE.

SIR,—In your last issue, the treatment of this condition is mentioned in a letter written by Mr. Frank Smith, and he advises the use of perchloride of iron to check the hæmorrhage. This is no doubt effectual; but I would suggest a much readier and less troublesome method, and very efficient, viz., the hypodermic injection of solution of ergotine, which has proved most satisfactory in my practice without any injurious results. I hope to show, on another occasion, that this method of treatment is better than the injection of the solution of perchloride recommended in Mr. Smith's letters.—Yours faithfully,

JAMES THOMPSON, M.D.

Leamington, May 31st, 1880.

**THE YOUNGEST FELLOW.**—Having passed the examination on Saturday last, you can record your votes for the candidates for seats in the Council at the annual meeting at the College on Thursday, the 1st proximo. The Secretary will send full instructions.

#### A DISTRESSING CASE.

THE following sums have been received by Dr. Heywood Smith for Mr. Dalton since February 28th.

Mar. 31.—Decimus Curme, Esq., Childe Okeford .. ..	£0 10 0
May 26.—Charles Spurway, Esq., Cheltenham .. ..	2 2 0

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#### BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Diagnosis of Diseases of the Spinal Cord. By W. R. Gowers, M.D., F.R.C.P. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1880.

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