

as an ordinary chloral-hydrate does. Among Finzelberg's products, for which Messrs. Zimmermann are also agents, are especially to be mentioned the pure dialysed ergotin, which is in the form of a brown colloid, and, being purified by dialysing, is especially favourable for subcutaneous injections, being free from the irritating properties which, in some instances, give to the subcutaneous injection of ergotin the disagreeable quality of causing abscess. The pepsina porci is very powerful; the vehicle for it is pure sugar, and it stands Wittstein's tests well. On the whole, perhaps, one of their most interesting products is crystallised peptonised iron—a chemically united compound which is recommended as a form of iron particularly valuable for delicate constitutions, easily absorbed, and not likely to cause derangement of the stomach.

SELECTIONS FROM JOURNALS.

SURGERY.

THE FORMATION OF CALLUS.—MM. Rigal and Vignal presented a note on this subject before the Paris Académie des Sciences, which is reported in the *Gazette Hebdomadaire* of June 4th. In 1865, M. Ranvier, in his *Thèse de Doctorat*, and in 1869, MM. Cornil and Ranvier, in their *Manuel d'Anatomie Pathologique*, taking experiments as their basis, showed that the callus in simple fractures, in the human subject as well as in animals, in the first instance went through a cartilaginous stage; whilst in compound fractures it became directly bony in the midst of fleshy granulations proceeding from the medullary substance of the fractured bone. M. Ranvier further demonstrated that the suppurative inflammation had no influence on the progress of ossification in the cartilaginous callus when this was already formed. The writers made the following experiment. From the middle third of the tibia of a full-grown rabbit, they removed the periosteum three or four times in succession, so as to thoroughly destroy all its osteogenic properties; then, a fortnight after the last removal, they fractured the bone in the centre. Twelve days after the fracture (at that stage there is always a cartilaginous callus in the rabbit), the animal was killed, and the examination of the fracture showed that in the midst of the fleshy granulations, proceeding from the enlarged canals of Havers, a distinctly bony peripheral callus had formed. This experiment, several times repeated, always yielded the same results. The following experiment is still more conclusive. The periosteum was removed on two occasions at a fortnight's interval. The wound being cicatrised, the bone was broken in the middle, as in the first experiment, and the animal was killed twelve days subsequently. At the posterior part, where the periosteum had been preserved, the callus had formed, as in simple fractures, by the aid of cartilage; whilst at the anterior part, it was formed in the midst of fleshy granulations, as in suppurating and compound fractures. These experiments seem, then, to prove that the subperiosteal layer, when the irritation is active, as in fractures, contributes to the repair of the bone by becoming transformed into cartilaginous tissue. In another experiment, made on the same animal, the other conditions besides those to be created being exactly the same, after having divided the skin of one of the legs and carefully put aside the muscles until the periosteum was reached, the latter was somewhat strongly irritated by rubbing it with a highly polished surface—an agate burnisher, for instance—taking care not to touch the adjacent parts. On the opposite leg, the periosteum was irritated by thoroughly breaking up the adjacent soft parts, so as to bring on a sanguineous effusion. Then both wounds were closed by points of suture, and the animal was killed between the tenth and twelfth days. If union by first intention of the wounds in both legs had been obtained, some osteophytes would have been found under the periosteum of the first, whilst under that of the second, larger or smaller cartilaginous masses would have been found. The last experiment explains the directly bony formation of the points of subperiosteal callus the furthest from the seat of the fracture.

CONGENITAL DISLOCATION OF THE WRIST.—Some authors do not believe that congenital dislocation of the wrist ever occurs without fracture. Thus far, but ten cases of congenital dislocation of the radiocarpal joint have been placed on record, to which Dr. J. H. Pooley, of Columbus, Ohio, adds another. The patient, a married woman, aged 33, had remarkably short forearms, being both of the same length, and measuring eight inches and a quarter from the olecranon to the styloid process of the ulna, being about an inch and a half shorter than the average; the radius measured seven inches and a half in length, and the hand six and a quarter. The appearance presented was that of dislocation forward of the wrist. On the posterior surface of the joint, there was a projection of the ulna and radius to the extent of three-

quarters of an inch. The carpal bones were pushed forward in the opposite direction. The joints allowed greater flexion than would be the case were there no deformity; whilst extension was performed with difficulty, and limited to a line parallel with the forearm. The patient had always enjoyed good health, never having received any injury of the parts involved, nor had they been the seat of disease at any time. She could use her hands with freedom in the performance of her household duties, and could sew with ease. The main points in favour of its being a congenital dislocation were the history of the case and the examination, together with the presence of the deformity on both sides.—*American Practitioner*, April 1880.

MEDICINE.

JAPANESE INUNDATION FEVER.—Under this name (*Japanische Fluss- oder Ueberschwemmungsfeber*), E. Baelz and Kawakami describe in Virchow's *Archiv*, Band 78, a disease hitherto unknown to Europeans, which breaks out every year in July and August in parts that have been inundated during the spring. It is an acute non-contagious disease with a typical febrile course, commencing with limited necrosis of the skin and leading to swelling of the lymphatic glands and a cutaneous eruption. There are no special premonitory symptoms. The onset of the disease takes place, generally after six days' residence in the infected locality, with rigors, headache, loss of appetite, and great feeling of debility. The lymphatic glands soon become painful, and the skin in their vicinity rapidly becomes necrosed. This, with the resulting ulcer, is the specific and characteristic sign of the inundation fever, and is never absent. The patients are abnormally sensitive to draughts of air and to the contact of water. The temperature gradually rises, until at the end of the first week it reaches 104° Fahr.; it then remains at this height for eight days, and gradually returns to the normal in the course of the third week. The frequency of the pulse is slightly increased during the fever. A sudden increase in the frequency of the pulse in the third week, when the temperature is normal, is a warning of severe symptoms. On some part of the skin there is formed a dry scab, which, in being thrown off, leaves a crateriform ulcer. The neighbouring lymphatic glands swell and become tender to the touch. Catarrh of the conjunctiva is always present. On the fourth or sixth day, there generally appears a papular non-suppurating eruption, first on the face, then on other parts of the body. The examination indicates that the disease has reached its acme, and lasts from four to six days; it is attended with continued high fever. At the end of the second week, the fever begins to remit, and convalescence rapidly sets in. The mortality is about fifteen per cent. The authors regard the disease as of miasmatic origin. Salicylate of sodium in small doses appears to be useful, while quinine has no effect. In order to prevent the development of the poison, the authors recommend the cultivation in the infected districts of the *Paulownia imperialis*, which possesses many advantages over the eucalyptus.

THERAPEUTICS.

TONGA.—Under the name of "tonga", a new remedy for neuralgia has recently attracted considerable attention in the medical profession. Some months ago, Mr. Ryder, a gentleman residing in Fiji, brought home a drug used by the Fijians in cases of this malady (*London Medical Record*, April 15th). It was brought in the form of small broken fragments, consisting of a mixture of woody fibre, bark, and leaves, broken up into such small pieces as to make it almost impossible to identify any portion botanically. This broken vegetable matter was tied up into spherical bundles, each about the size of an orange, covered with a wrapper consisting of the fibrous and breathing base of the leaves of the cocoa-nut palm (*Cocos nucifera*). Notwithstanding the broken state of the drug, Mr. G. M. Holmes, the curator of the museum of the Pharmaceutical Society, has (*Pharmaceutical Journal*), after careful examination, arrived at the conclusion that the principal component part of the contents of the bags is the stem of an arviduous plant, a species of *Rhaphidophora*, probably *R. vitiensis*. The mode of preparing a draught of tonga for use is extremely simple. The bundle, while still closed, is to be allowed to soak in cold water for ten minutes. The liquid is then to be squeezed out into a tumbler, and a claret-glass of the infusion taken three times a day, about half an hour before each meal. The bundle is to be dried and hung up in a dry place, and can be used several times for a year. Experiments made in its administration by Dr. Sydney Ringer and Dr. Murrell, in eight cases, proved successful: in six, it acted very promptly; one was much improved; the other was not affected. The peculiarity of the action of this drug is its rapid action on the nerves; it does not affect the pupil when topically applied, nor increase nor lessen either perspiration or saliva.

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. Brailley, M.A., M.D., 38, King's Road, Brownwood Park, London, N.; David Little, M.D., 21, St. John Street, Manchester.

A Subsection of Otolgy 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.

The following subjects have been arranged for discussion in the various Sections.

1. Medicine.—On Hysterical Anæsthesia, opened by Dr. Bristowe; and on Asthma, introduced by Dr. Andrew Clark.
2. Surgery.—On the Treatment of Wounds, by Professor Lister; and on Stricture of the Urethra, by Sir Henry Thompson.
3. Obstetric Medicine.—On Uterine Hæmostatics, by Dr. Atthill; and on the Removal of Uterine Tumours by Abdominal Section, by Mr. Spencer Wells.
4. Public Medicine.—On the General Working of the Public Health Administration in Great Britain and Ireland, opened by Dr. Alfred Carpenter and Dr. Francis T. Bond; and on Diseases communicable to Man from Diseased Animals when used as Food, by Mr. Francis T. Vacher and Mr. Edmund J. Lyon.
5. Psychology.—On the Influence of Alcohol on the Causation of Insanity.
6. Physiology.—Is Urea formed in the Liver? by Professor Gamgee, F.R.S.; and on Sleep and Hypnotism, by Professor W. Preyer of Jena.
7. Pathology.—The Influence of Injuries and Morbid Conditions of the Nervous System on Nutrition, by Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson; and on Micro-organisms, their relation to Disease, opened by Professor Lister.
8. Ophthalmology.—The Nature of Glaucoma—some points relating to the perception of Colours, by Professor Donders.

Subsection of Otolgy.—The following questions will be discussed, viz.: The Therapeutic Value of Electricity in Ear-Diseases, and the Comparative Value to the various Mechanical Aids to Hearing, with special regard to the several kinds of Artificial Drumheads, and to those Instruments which assist Deafness, conducting or transmitting Sound, either directly or indirectly, to the Organs of Hearing.

EXCURSIONS.

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

Notice is hereby given that, at the Annual General Meeting of members to be held at the Senate House, Cambridge, on Tuesday, the 10th day of August next, at eight o'clock in the afternoon, the following regulations for the conduct of Annual Meetings will be proposed for adoption on behalf of the Committee of Council.

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.

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., }
J. HANCOCKE WATHEN, } *Honorary Secretaries*.

May 25th, 1880.

EDINBURGH BRANCH.

THE annual general meeting of this Branch will be held at 5, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, June 29th, at 4 o'clock P.M.
CHAS. E. UNDERHILL, *Honorary Secretary*.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held in the Lecture Room of the Literary Society, Fawcett Street, Sunderland, on Wednesday, June 30th, at 3 P.M.

Dinner at the Queen's Hotel, Fawcett Street, at 5 P.M. Tickets, 6s. 6d., exclusive of wine.

T. W. BARRON, M.B., *Honorary Secretary*.

Durham, June 9th, 1880.

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held on Thursday, June 24th, at 2 P.M., in the Faculty Hall, 242, St. Vincent Street. The President-Elect (Dr. BRUCE GOFF) will give an address. Thereafter, the members will be conveyed to the Western and Royal Infirmarys, where demonstrations will be arranged by the physicians and surgeons.

The annual dinner will follow, at 5.30, in the Bath Hotel, 153, Bath Street.

JOSEPH COATS, M.D., }
JAMES G. LYON, M.D., } *Secretaries*.

MIDLAND BRANCH.

THE annual meeting will be held in the Board Room of the General Hospital, Nottingham, on Thursday, June 24th, at 2 P.M. President: J. WRIGHT BAKER, Esq.; President-Elect: T. WRIGHT, M.D. After the transaction of the usual business of the Branch, the following papers will be read and discussed.

1. By J. F. Goodhart, M.D.: Stray Observations on the Rheumatic Diathesis in Children.

2. By William Newman, M.D.: A few words on cases of “Latent Pneumonia”. Dr. Newman will exhibit a man who has had large Syphilitic Osteitis of Olecranon and Shaft of Ulna: recovery after excision of three inches of bone.

3. By W. Legge, Esq.: Results of one thousand cases of Midwifery.

4. By William Milligan, Esq.: On Morphea; a case will be shown.

5. By C. B. Taylor, M.D., Nottingham: Notes on certain cases of Supposed Incurable Blindness in which sight was restored; and

6. On the best method of operating in cases of Senile Cataract.

7. By George Elder, M.B.: Remarks on a case of Uterine Flexion simulating Ulceration of Stomach; and

8. Note on Chian Turpentine in Uterine Cancer.

9. By L. W. Marshall, M.D.: Cases in the Surgical Practice at the Children's Hospital.

Dr. Marshall will show three case of Amputation at the Hip-Joint by Furneaux Jordan's method, and other cases at the Children's Hospital, at twelve o'clock.

Luncheon will be provided by the President-Elect at the General Hospital. Dinner at the George Hotel at five o'clock.

C. HARRISON, M.D.,

Lincoln, June 7th, 1880. *Honorary Secretary Midland Branch.*

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE twenty-eighth annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, on Wednesday, July 7th, 1880, at 4 P.M.

At 6.30 P.M. the members will dine together; S. O. HABERSHON, M.D., F.R.C.P., in the Chair. Tickets, 10s. 6d. each (exclusive of wine). Members intending to be present are specially requested to give notice to the Secretaries on or before July 5th.

ALEXANDER HENRY, M.D. }
W. CHAPMAN GRIGG, M.D. } *Hon. Secs.*

57, Doughty Street, W.C., June 14th, 1880.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, on Tuesday, July 6th, at 3 P.M. An address will be delivered by the President, Mr. R. PROSSER.

The annual dinner will also take place at the Grand Hotel, at 5 P.M. precisely, for the convenience of country members. Dinner tickets (exclusive of wine), five shillings each. Members intending to be present are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretaries on or before July 3rd, in order that suitable arrangements may be made.

E. MALINS, M.B., 8, Old Square, } *Hon.*
E. RICKARDS, M.B., 14, Newhall Street, } *Secs.*

Birmingham, June 9th, 1880.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held on Thursday, July 1st, 1880, at the Mineral Water Hospital, Bath, at 4.30 P.M., when J. BEDDOE, M.D., will resign the Chair to ALEXANDER WAUGH, Esq., President-elect.

The dinner will be held at the Grand Pump Room Hotel, Bath, at 6.30 P.M. The Bath Secretary earnestly requests all members intending to be present to favour him with their names on or before Monday, June 28th.

R. S. FOWLER, } *Hon. Secs.*
E. C. BOARD, }

Bath, June 14th, 1880.

THAMES VALLEY BRANCH.

THE next meeting of this Branch will be held at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, on Thursday, July 1st, at 6 P.M.

Dr. Balmanno Squire will read a paper On the Treatment of Skin-Diseases as practised at Leukerbad, in Switzerland.

The dinner will take place after the meeting, at 7 P.M.

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

FREDERICK J. WADD, *Honorary Secretary.*

June 16th, 1880.

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; Dr. CAMPBELL, President-elect, in the chair.

The resolutions of the Metropolitan Counties Branch upon Medical Education will be considered at this meeting.

Gentlemen intending to read papers are requested to give notice to one of the Branch Secretaries, who will also receive the names of those who intend to be present at the dinner.

J. KENDALL BURT, } *Hon. Secs.*
JOHN SMITH, }

Kendal, June 14th, 1880.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT.

A MEETING of the above district was held at the Royal Kentish Hotel, Tunbridge Wells, on Friday, May 21st; Dr. W. FAIRLIE CLARKE in the chair.

Communications.—The following communications, etc., were made:

1. Dr. Milner Barry: On German Measles.

2. Dr. Ranking: On After-Pains.

3. Mr. Stamford: A Case in which a Hair-pin was removed from the Female Bladder.

4. Dr. Fairlie Clarke exhibited a selection of Pathological Drawings.

Dinner took place at the hotel at the close of the proceedings; Dr. W. Fairlie Clarke presiding.

The *Next Meeting* will be held at Uckfield in September; Dr. Treutler of Fletching is to be invited to take the chair.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE thirty-sixth annual meeting of this Branch was held at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on Tuesday, June 8th. Previously to the meeting, luncheon was provided for the members by the President-elect, Dr. Withers Moore. The Chair was taken by the retiring President, Dr. R. L. BOWLES of Folkestone, who introduced his successor, Dr. W. WITHERS MOORE.

Votes of Thanks were given to the late President, Dr. Bowles, and to the late Vice-Presidents, Mr. Rigden of Canterbury, and Dr. T. S. Rowe of Margate.

President's Address.—Dr. MOORE acknowledged with grateful thanks

the compliment they had paid him in electing him their President, and said, although it was not given to everyone to command success, it would, at all events, be his duty to endeavour to merit it. In delivering the usual inaugural address, he said he had often ventured to think that, on these occasions, at least on some of them, it might not be amiss to take for discussion one of the many serious and pressing questions of the day, on which, as guardians of public health (moral, as well as physical), popular opinion looked to them for direction. Such a question was that of intemperance. Of the deterioration, moral and physical, caused by habitual intemperance, few were aware of it so thoroughly as the members of the medical profession. The remedies for intemperance would be a reduction of public-houses, and their conversion into club-houses proper; the private houses of the working classes should be made good wholesome homes, and something should be done for the individual habitual drunkard. He enlarged upon these remedies, and, in conclusion, said, having satisfied themselves as to the etiology and pathology of the disease, it was not always easy to apply the remedy. This was specially true of that widespread malady alcoholism; but, as the public had a moral right to look to the medical profession for assistance and direction in their grievous emergency, he would offer a few suggestions. Few persons would question that the Imperial Government had very much in its power the eradication of this plague-spot in their social life, and chiefly in this wise. 1. By exercising a firm control over the licensing of public-houses, making them bear in number some fitting relation to the population they were intended to accommodate. 2. By taking care that the penalties for permitting drunkenness and for serving liquor to drunken men were rigidly carried out, and made to entail the necessary suspension, or forfeiture, of the personal license; a second or third conviction carrying with it the suspension, say from two to five years, of the license granted to the house. 3. By firmly putting the law in force against the habitual drunkard, a third or fourth conviction within the year entailing a period of compulsory confinement, during which time he might be taught to be an abstainer. 4. As no man was allowed to attempt to poison himself with impunity, so, upon a proper representation before a magistrate by his near kin, supported by medical testimony, he should be prohibited from killing himself with alcohol; in a word, the Habitual Drunkards' Act should be made obligatory instead of, as now, optional. 5. The Artisans and Labourers' Dwellings Improvement Act, if put in operation throughout the country, would do much to remedy the structural, hygienic, and moral evils complained of, for, as Sir R. Cross himself remarked, in introducing the Bill, "What the homes of the people are the people themselves will be"; but, by giving the incriminated landowner the power of requiring the local authorities to purchase the property complained of, a strong inducement was held out to the latter not to put the law in force.

Mr. MURRAY (Brighton) proposed a vote of thanks to the President for his address, which he highly eulogised, and referred to the President's distinguished career. Mr. HODGSON (Brighton) seconded the motion, which was carried.

Report of Council.—Dr. PARSONS, honorary secretary, read the following report.

"The report for the past year which your Council have the pleasure to present to the members to-day, is satisfactory inasmuch as the Branch maintains its prosperity; yet it must be admitted that it does not exhibit that increase in numbers which it is so pleasant to record. At the last annual meeting, the Branch consisted of 424 members. In the interval, two have been removed by death; twenty-four have either resigned or have left the area of our Branch, and have doubtless been absorbed by other Branches; whilst some few have emigrated to distant lands. It has been the painful duty of your Council during the past year to erase the names of eight gentlemen from the list of members as defaulters, and their arrears have been lost to the Branch. The total losses for the year are thirty-four, but these gaps in our ranks have been almost filled by the election of thirty-one new members; and the Branch now numbers 421. Last year, your Council ventured to appeal to the members individually to use their personal influence with their neighbours to induce them to join the ranks of the Association through the agency of the South-Eastern Branch. Your Council desire to urge this appeal with even greater earnestness this year, and would invite every member to bring at least one recruit each to our Branch. Our combined action would soon obliterate all semblance of stagnation, and give place to vigorous growth and development.

"As regards the six districts, your Council have to report the loss of the services of Dr. J. H. Galton, the honorary secretary of the East Surrey District, who for a period of six years discharged the duties of his office with such zeal, courtesy, and efficiency, as to win the grateful and hearty thanks of his whole district. He has been succeeded by Dr. Herbert Stowers, of Lower Tulse Hill, who brings to the work a reputation which augurs well for the future of the district. The retire-

ment of Mr. Harris, of Worthing, from the West Sussex District, after many years of faithful service, has just occurred, and has been followed by the election of Mr. Golding Bird Collett of Worthing, as honorary secretary. To both Dr. Galton and Mr. Harris, as also to the other four gentlemen who are continuing at their posts in the other four districts, our best thanks are due for much valuable and unselfish devotion to the work of the Branch. During the year, combined meetings of East and West Sussex at Brighton, and East and West Kent at Rochester, have produced such large gatherings, and have been attended with such marked success, that your Council would recommend such meetings to be held occasionally in each of the three counties which form the Branch, viz., Kent, Surrey, and Sussex.

"As regards the business of the past year, the most important subject by far which occupied the attention of your Council was the question of medical education. The resolutions of the Metropolitan Counties Branch upon this topic were sent by our honorary secretary, in the form of a circular, to every member of this Branch for consideration, and free expression of opinion was invited from all. A subcommittee was appointed by your Council to consider and report upon the replies received to this communication; and this report has been received, and forwarded to the Committee of Council, in compliance with their wishes.

"Upon the occasion of the retirement of Dr. Farr from the department of the Registrar-General, your Council felt it to be their duty to place on record their high appreciation of the value of Dr. Farr's labours for the public welfare, and their deep sense of the loss which the nation sustained in consequence of his resignation. A resolution embodying these sentiments was framed, and a copy of it was forwarded to Lord Beaconsfield; and your Council ventured to express the hope that, in recognition of such signal services, his lordship would see fit to recommend Dr. Farr for some distinguished mark of Royal approval and honour.

"The Parliamentary Bills Committee of the Association has occupied itself actively during the year now past in promoting the interests of the public services, in investigating and discussing the question of animal vaccination in connection with legislative measures, and in examining the present state of the law and the desirable modes of improving it in respect of the registration of infectious diseases. Their efforts on behalf of the army medical officers have met with signal success. Last year, the chairman of the committee was asked to prepare, for the War Office Departmental Committee, a statement of the principal remaining grievances of the army medical officers, and the remedies to be desired. The memorandum handed in urged the abolition of the short service system; improved pay, forage allowance, and retirement; the retention of entrance examinations and Netley training. The latter requirements met with great opposition, nevertheless they have been virtually conceded in full. Numerous communications expressing the gratitude of the service have been received; and the result has been to secure contentment to the service in the main, and a larger supply of highly competent candidates than has been seen for many years. It remained to secure like advantages to the naval medical service. Steps were taken, by communications with leading members of all ranks of the Naval Medical Department, to obtain an accurate view of the reasonable requirements of the service. On the basis of a great mass of information thus obtained and carefully collected, Mr. Ernest Hart, by authority of the Committee, prepared a carefully considered scheme for the amelioration of the position of naval medical officers, which, after an interview with the Naval Lord, he submitted by request to the Board of Admiralty. This document was at once referred to a departmental committee appointed *ad hoc*, whose report is, it is believed, now ready for issue. Much may be anticipated from this action. An elaborate and extensive report on animal vaccination was adopted by the committee in connection with Dr. Cameron's Bill. It was discussed at three successive meetings, influentially attended by leading members of the Association and some distinguished foreigners; and its conclusions in favour of the employment of animal vaccine-lymph as seed for commencing series of arm-to-arm vaccinations were presented to the President of the Local Government Board, and are now in process of examination by the department. In two successive reports, the anomalies of local Acts for the registration of disease were examined, and a model clause prepared and adopted. These reports and the conclusions have been largely accepted by medical officers of health at their meetings in England, and were also endorsed at the annual meeting of the Dublin Branch. Communications have also been made to the Government on the subject of the Amendment of the Coroners' Bill, and of the Infant Life Protection Act. In no former year has the action of the Parliamentary Committee, in the maintenance of professional interests and the promotion of the public welfare, been more extended or more generally recognised as of professional and national importance."

On the motion of Dr. BOWLES, seconded by Mr. RIGDEN, a vote of thanks was given to the Council, auditors, and secretaries.

Annual Meeting in 1881: Officers.—Dr. A. CARPENTER (Croydon) proposed, Mr. CHALDECOTT (Dorking) seconded, and it was agreed, that the next annual meeting be held at Reigate; and that the President-elect be Mr. F. B. Hallowes (Redhill); and the Vice-Presidents-elect, Dr. J. H. Galton (Guildford) and Dr. Horace Jeaffreson (Wandsworth). On the proposal of Dr. HOLMAN (Reigate), seconded by the PRESIDENT, Dr. C. Parsons was re-elected Secretary.

Dinner.—In the evening, the members dined together in the banqueting room of the Royal Pavilion.

NORTH OF IRELAND BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

The second annual meeting of this Branch was held in the Belfast Royal Hospital, on Thursday, May 20th, at 3 P.M.; J. K. MACONCHY, M.B., President, in the Chair. There was a large attendance of members present.

Report of Council.—The HONORARY SECRETARY read the following report for the past year.

The Council of the North of Ireland Branch of the British Medical Association, in presenting this, the second annual report, desire to congratulate the Branch on the continued prosperity which has attended it since its first formation. During the past year, eighteen new members joined the Branch, which now numbers 107 members. In accordance with a resolution passed at the last annual meeting, meetings of the Branch have been held on the first Friday in each of the months of September, December, and March. At the meeting held on Friday, September 5th, Dr. Cuming exhibited a specimen of abscess of the brain, and detailed the history of the case. Mr. Fagan showed an ovarian tumour he had successfully removed, and introduced the patient. Dr. John Moore directed the attention of the members to the provisions of the Bill for the control of habitual drunkards of last session of Parliament. At the meeting of the Branch held on December 5th, 1879, Dr. McKeown introduced a patient from whom he had removed a large pharyngeal polypus, having previously removed the anterior wall of the superior maxillary bone; the growth had returned, and was now beyond the reach of operative interference. Dr. McKeown also described his method of operating for cataract, and detailed the results. Dr. Thompson of Omagh exhibited photographs of a case of rickets, in which he had succeeded in removing the deformity by fracturing the extremities. He also exhibited a set of air- or water-cushion pads which he found exceedingly serviceable, of which an account has been published in the JOURNAL of the Association. He also exhibited a trocar and cannula, fitted for emptying cavities without admitting the entrance of air. Dr. John Walton Browne read notes of two cases of lithotomy in which he had operated, and exhibited the calculi removed. Dr. John Moore described a case of popliteal aneurism, which he had consolidated by compression, but which was followed by gangrene of the limb. At the meeting of the Branch on March 5th, Dr. Frazer (Armagh), in the unavoidable absence of Dr. Palmer, described an operation in which he had assisted the latter, where the right subclavian and common carotid arteries had been successfully ligatured for a case of aneurism. The further details of this interesting case we shall have the pleasure of hearing to-day from Dr. Palmer himself. Dr. George Gray (Castellwellan) read notes of a case of attempted poisoning by strychnia, successfully treated by hydrate of chloral. This has been since published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL. Mr. Fagan read notes of two cases of tracheotomy which he had performed for croup. In both cases, great relief was afforded by the operation, though the patients ultimately sank. From this summary of the patients introduced, the specimens exhibited, and the cases read, it will at once be seen how valuable and interesting have been the subjects brought before the Branch at each of its meetings. A communication was received from the Committee of Council of the Association, enclosing a series of resolutions passed by the Metropolitan Counties Branch of the Association on the subject of medical education, and submitted to the Branch at its last meeting. These resolutions were referred to a committee consisting of Drs. Cuming, McKeown, and the secretary. No report has yet been prepared. The Branch has been enabled through its organisation greatly to assist the prison medical officers in coming to terms of arrangement with the Government, on more advantageous conditions than they would otherwise have done. The progress of the Branch since its formation is most encouraging. It has now taken firm root, and will no doubt grow and flourish, fulfilling all the anticipations and hopes of its founder, by affording facilities of intercourse to the members of the profession in the North of Ireland, and of uniting them more closely to the great body of their professional brethren.

It was resolved, "That the Council's Report then read be adopted, and entered on the minutes of the Branch".

President's Address.—The PRESIDENT delivered the following address.

Before vacating the President's Chair of this Branch, I have a few words to address to you, and am happy to do so under the hopeful circumstances which are shown by our secretary's report; yet my first words must be those of apology for my unavoidable absence from two of our quarterly meetings. On both occasions, I was prevented from attending by important midwifery engagements, and hope that the impossibility of postponing the cases to suit my wishes will with medical men plead my excuse. You have already heard in the secretary's report that the members of the Branch have increased during the year by eighteen. The loss during the year has been seven. No doubt this increase is encouraging, but it leaves much yet to be effected by those who are interested in the success, not only of the Branch, but of the Parent Society; and I am sure most of you will agree with me that we should exert ourselves to enlarge the number of men enrolled in the Branch, and join with me in the hope that Belfast itself, as our to-day's election leads us to hope, will contribute a larger contingent. No doubt, when men of our profession become deeply engaged in private practice, and hold perhaps no public appointment, or none of prominent importance, there is not the same personal object in joining what is now a great professional confederation; yet even the most isolated practitioner as more or less influenced by the general status of the profession. And it cannot be denied that the Association has done much in the past for the furtherance of professional interests; and its strength and power of speaking with authority depend in a very large measure on the success of its branches. And now, looking to the probabilities of the immediate future, it seems likely that the profession will have to consider its legal position, or rather the position in which it may be placed by legislation, and the duties that may be imposed on numbers of its members; and, as legislative changes are probably imminent, it is more than ever necessary that the profession shall have a mouth-piece of its own to express its opinions, irrespectively of either the corporate bodies or of the Government of the country. And the authority with which the General Council of the Association can speak, obviously depends mainly on the strength of its Branches throughout the kingdom. I do not wish it, however, to be thought that such objects should be the chief motives for supporting the system of Branch organisation; there is besides what must be always of paramount interest to the man of true professional instincts, and that is, the production of short scientific papers, and the narration of instructive cases, with short and amicable criticism from a friendly audience. This attribute of the Branch organisation is no doubt chiefly interesting to the country members, who rarely have the advantage of intercourse with more than a few members of their professional brethren. The more isolated any man is, the more it will repay him to make an effort to attend the quarterly Branch meetings; and I am confident that every county member of our Branch will endeavour to get as many of his professional neighbours to join as he possibly can. I have purposely abstained from introducing scientific subjects, as I see the notice paper is rich in its promise of interesting matters; but before, concluding, I must again and most sincerely thank you for the honour you conferred on me in electing me to the chair for the past year, and to assure you that I shall steadily work for the advantage of the Branch and Association, as far as my limited power will permit.

It was resolved that the best thanks of the Branch be given to the President for his excellent address.

Officers and Council.—The following were elected officers of the Branch for the ensuing year. *President:* J. W. T. Smith, M.D. (Senior Physician to Belfast Royal Hospital). *Vice-Presidents:* T. K. Wheeler, M.D.; Edward Thompson, M.B. *Representatives of Branch on the Council of the Association:* J. Fagan, Esq.; Wm. McKeown, M.D.; Sir Wm. Miller, Kt., M.D.; J. M. Palmer, Esq.; T. K. Wheeler, M.D. *Council of Branch:* J. W. Browne, M.D.; J. Cuning, M.D.; Alex. Dempsey, M.D.; R. F. Dill, M.D.; Archibald Dunlop, M.D.; J. Fagan, Esq.; Alex. Filson, M.D.; Robert Gray, Esq.; Alex. Harkin, M.D.; Abraham Kidd, M.D.; Wm. McKeown, M.D.; J. K. Maconchy, M.B.; Sir Wm. Miller, Kt., M.D.; J. M. Palmer, Esq. *Honorary Secretary and Treasurer:* John Moore, M.D.

Dinner.—The members dined together in the evening at the Imperial Hotel, and brought to a pleasant close a most successful meeting.

SCARLET FEVER has recently been spreading in Kendal, after a remarkable immunity, while it was raging in some of the villages around, and there are now a large number of cases in various parts of the town, one or two having already proved fatal. An outbreak has also occurred among the children in the workhouse.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

BIRMINGHAM.

Hospital Saturday.—*The Queen's Hospital Bazaar.*—*Sir Josiah Mason's Science College.*—*The Medical Institute.*—*Death of Mr. A. Bracey.*

THE meeting of the General Committee of the Birmingham Hospital Fund was held on the 15th inst., in the Town Hall Committee Room, for the purpose of distributing the proceeds of this year's collection amongst the various charities. The total amount of receipts was £3,759, and the expenditure amounted to £325 7s. 2d. There was a sum available for distribution of £3,500, which was £500 more than the amount distributed last year. These figures may be taken as an indication of a slight improvement in the trade of the town as compared with last year.

The bazaar held in the Town Hall for the benefit of the Queen's Hospital Fund proved a great and well-deserved success. The interior of the Hall was made to represent the street of an ancient English town, in which the stalls were the shops, while the orchestra was converted into a baronial castle, in which refreshments were supplied. The great attraction of the bazaar was a melo-dramatic performance, entitled, "Gentle Gertrude; or, Drugged and Drowned in Digbeth," founded on a legend of great local interest, with reference to the early introduction of brass into Birmingham. At a meeting held on Tuesday, the Chairman submitted a report of the bazaar subcommittee, and a statement of accounts, showing a surplus of £3,687 as the result of the bazaar. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, referred to the great success that had attended the labours of the bazaar committee, and said that in one point only had their expectations not been realised. The subscription list had been augmented by only £312, instead of £1,000, as the committee had hoped. On the other hand, the committee only expected to raise £4,500, whereas, including the surplus of the bazaar, £5,969 had been raised by their labours. Councillor Dixon said the town had responded liberally to their appeal, and they could not expect to make any farther demand upon its generosity for a long time. It, therefore, behoved the Board to do what they could to obtain additional subscriptions. He hoped the time would shortly come when the revenue of the hospital would be equal to its expenditure. For the first time in its history, the Queen's Hospital was free from debt.

Sir Josiah Mason's Science College will be opened on the 1st of October, with an introductory lecture by Professor Huxley. The building is everything that could be desired in so far as the plans have extended, and its external appearance constitutes the chief architectural ornament of the town. The classes for students will commence on Tuesday, the 5th of October. The course of instruction, as at present arranged, includes Mathematics (Professor M. J. M. Hill, M.A.); Chemistry (Professor W. A. Tilden, D.Sc. Lond., F.R.S.); Physics (Professor J. H. Poynting, M.A., B.Sc. Lond.); and Biology (Professor J. W. Bridge, M.A., F.Z.S.). The course is designed to prepare students for the degrees of B.Sc. and D.Sc. of the University of London. Mason's College is the nucleus of a great educational institution, such as great centres like Birmingham need sadly, and in the provision of which England is much behind other civilised countries, including her own colonies.

The Medical Institute, in Edmund Street, is slowly approaching completion, and we are looking forward to opening it in October. The building is a handsome red brick structure, with terra-cotta ornaments. It contains ample accommodation for all the requirements of the profession, in the shape of library, reading and committee-rooms, and a hall for meetings.

We have had to lament the death of Mr. Arthur Bracey, formerly one of the surgeons to the Eye Hospital. He was a man of very considerable abilities, but his usefulness was impaired and his life spoiled by constant ill-health.

LIVERPOOL.

Liverpool a City.—*Medical Officer of Health.*—*Annual Report.*—*A Practical Burial Difficulty.*—*A Remarkable Attempted Suicide.*—*Royal Infirmary School of Medicine.*—*Liverpool Eye and Ear Infirmary.*—*Seamen's Dispensary.*

SINCE my last letter appeared in the JOURNAL, Liverpool has become a city, with all the privileges which attach to such a state, including a bishop, and a pro-cathedral. Our new bishop is described as a fearless, outspoken man; and it is to be presumed his voice will be

throat, or otherwise diphtheria". A few days after this, I observed, in my weekly returns of deaths, that the same child (aged three years) had died, and that the certified cause was acute nephritis, no other disease being mentioned. Also, within the last few days, I have heard that the child's aunt has been ill with a "bad throat". During all this time, the house has been open to the public, and has entertained its usual customers.

Again, in this week's list of deaths, I noticed one of a child aged nine months, certified as having been the result of diphtheria. My inspector of nuisances immediately went to the house, and brought back the news that all the surviving children were exhibiting the extensive desquamation on the hands that is characteristic of scarlet fever; and furthermore, that the medical attendant was the same as in the first-mentioned case.

I refrain, at least at present, from making any comment on the above facts, since they seem to speak loudly enough for themselves; but I should like to know whether (keeping in view the existence of my own private practice in the neighbourhood) I should be justified in making a personal examination of another man's patients under such suspicious circumstances.—I remain, sir, yours, etc., M. O. H.

* * We can only answer this question by reference to general principles. A medical officer of health has no legal right to enter any such premises as those referred to in this letter without the consent of the occupier. Whilst Section iv (6) of the General Order of the Local Government Board of November 1872 (and the similar provision in the recent Orders of March 1880), requires a medical officer of health, on receiving information of the outbreak of any contagious, infectious, or epidemic disease of a dangerous character, to visit the spot without delay, and inquire into the causes and circumstances of such outbreak, it does not authorise him to insist on admission, or to compel information for the purpose of satisfying himself as to the nature of the outbreak.

FEEES FOR OPERATIONS.

SIR,—Can you tell me to what fee I am entitled from a Board of Guardians for the following case? A man, in the winter, had a severe frost-bite, which caused the extremities of his thumb and some fingers to mortify, necessitating amputation of the thumb of one hand and two fingers of the other hand. I obtained a certificate from another legally qualified surgeon that the operations were required, in accordance with the Poor-law regulations. I amputated the thumb soon after the date of the certificate, but the two fingers I did not amputate until some time afterwards, as I waited until the line of demarcation was formed. The fee for amputation of a finger is £2; and the question is, if I amputate three fingers, can I claim a fee of £2 for each finger. The Board of Guardians have only allowed me a fee of £2 for the case; and I make the following quotation from the letter of the clerk to me on the subject: "You will observe the fees claimed are for the same person, and arising from the same cause or injury; and the Local Government Board's orders appear to imply that in such cases only one fee is to be paid; and if the fees vary, the highest." I was directed to point out to you that the last two operations were performed without a second medical opinion or certificate being procured; and to put the best and fairest construction upon the certificate produced by you in the first instance, it only expresses a probability of a further operation being necessary." I forget the exact wording of the certificate of my medical friend who saw the case, but I think it was something to this effect: "I certify that I have examined A. B., and, in my opinion, it is necessary to amputate the thumb of the right hand and some fingers of the left hand."—I am, sir, yours obediently,

UNION DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER.

* * We would strongly advise our correspondent not to press for an additional fee beyond that of the £2 allowed in the case, where he amputated a thumb and two fingers; for, on the grounds on which he made his application, we doubt whether, if the guardians granted it, it would be sanctioned by the auditor, and also because, after the kind letter of the clerk (the Board's legal adviser), it would be a mere waste of time so to do. In cases such as our correspondent describes, the judicious course to adopt is to lay the facts before the Board, and to ask for an additional grant, on the grounds that it has been accompanied by "long attendance, difficulty, or danger"; then, if the guardians entertain it, and grant an extra fee, the application and their decision would have to be submitted to the central board, without whose sanction such vote would not be legal. In the case given, our correspondent can only legally demand a fee of £2.

KAPPA.—You do not state whether the sanitary authority propose to ask for the payment from Government of half the salary of their new officer. If not, we are afraid you have no redress, as no regulations are laid down for the conduct of elections of medical officers of health no part of whose salaries is paid by Government. But if the authority propose to ask for the approval of the Local Government Board to the appointment of your successor, we think you have quite fair ground for appeal. The authority appear to have acted upon Article 8 of the Order of March 11th, 1880, which provides that "if in the case of an officer who may have been appointed for a specified term, the sanitary authority should desire to renew his appointment for a further term or otherwise in conformity with the provisions of this Order, and no fresh arrangement should be proposed with respect to the district or districts, or the terms of the appointment, it shall not be necessary for that purpose that Articles 2, 3, and 4 of this Order should be complied with, but it shall be sufficient if the sanitary authority, at a meeting held after notice given at one of their two ordinary meetings next preceding such meeting, pass a resolution renewing the appointment accordingly on the expiration of the term for which it was made, and the Local Government Board sanction such resolution". The authority having, as we understand from your letter, passed such a resolution to re-elect you at their next meeting, we do not see how it was competent for them to elect anyone else. The question is an important one, and we would advise your appealing to the Local Government Board as to the validity of the election. Under the circumstances, it certainly appears to us to be void.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

BARNES, Arthur Richard, M.B., appointed Medical Officer to the Fourth District of the Hailsham Union, *vice* Josiah Sarjant, M.D., resigned.

BOULTER, Walter Ernest, M.D., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Woolwich Union, *vice* A. K. Hoet, L.S.A.

TOUGH, W. R., M.B., appointed Medical Officer to the Audlem District of the Nantwich Union.

WILMOT, Alfred, M.R.C.S., appointed Medical Officer to the Burnham District of the Eton Union, *vice* William Fairbank, M.D., resigned.

WILSON, David, M.D., M.B., C.M., appointed Medical Officer to the Paddock District of the Huddersfield Union, *vice* George Wilson, M.D., resigned.

PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

*BRADLEY, Michael McWilliams, M.D. and C.M., appointed Medical Officer of Health for the borough of Jarrow, *vice* John Spear, M.R.C.S., etc., resigned.

PARRY, J. H., L.R.C.P., appointed Medical Officer of Health to the Horfield Local Board, Bristol.

MEDICAL NEWS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, June 10th, 1880.

Branthwaite, Robert Welsh, Westbury House, Willesden, N.W.

Pritchard, Owen, 100, Commercial Road, E.

Vaisey, Thomas Frederick, Canterbury Hospital.

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

Daney, Horace Michael, University College Hospital

O'Connor, Thomas, St. Thomas's Hospital.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

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

The following vacancies are announced:—

ABBEYLEIX UNION—Medical Officer for Durrow Dispensary District. Salary, £100 per annum, with £20 as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination Fees. Election on July 2nd.

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.

*BRADFORD FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' MEDICAL AID ASSOCIATION—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £200 per annum. Applications, with testimonials, on or before July 1st.

*BRISTOL GENERAL HOSPITAL—Physician's Assistant. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary on or before July 12th.

*CHELSEA PARISH—Medical Officer to the South-West District. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications, with testimonials, on or before June 22nd.

CHESTER GENERAL INFIRMARY—Consulting Surgeon.

DUNMOW UNION—Medical Officer to the Thaxted District.

ENNISKILLEN UNION—Medical Officer for Holywell Dispensary District. Salary, £120 per annum, with £15 yearly as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination fees. Election on the 26th instant.

*GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, Caledonian Road, N.—Physician to Outpatients. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary on or before July 6th.

*HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Soho Square—House-Physician. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary on or before July 3rd.

*INGHAM INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY, South Shields.—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £60 per annum, with board, residence, and washing. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, not later than June 23rd.

KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications not later than June 25th.

*LEEDS PUBLIC DISPENSARY—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, lodging, etc. Applications not later than June 24th.

*LIVERPOOL DISPENSARIES—Assistant Resident House-Surgeon. Salary to commence at £108 per annum, with furnished apartments, coals, gas, and attendance. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, not later than June 21st.

*LONDON HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE—Demonstrator in Anatomy. Salary, £200 per annum. Applications, with copies of testimonials, on or before July 8th.

*LONDON HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE—Two Assistant Demonstrators. Salary, £90 per annum. Applications, with copies of testimonials, on or before July 8th.

MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP—Medical Officer for St. Michael's District. Salary, £170 per annum.

*MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY, DISPENSARY, AND LUNATIC ASYLUM—Honorary Assistant-Surgeon. Applications, with testimonials, not later than June 28th.

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL—Aural Surgeon. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary by one P.M. on Saturday, June 19th.

*NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE INFIRMARY—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, washing, and lodging. Applications, with testimonials, before June 23rd.

*OWENS COLLEGE, Manchester—Demonstratorship in Anatomy. Stipend, £150 per annum. Applications, with testimonials, not later than June 30th.

ROYAL ALBERT EDWARD INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY, Wigan—Senior House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with apartments and rations. Applications, with testimonials, before June 30th.

- *SMALL-POX HOSPITAL, Highgate Hill—Resident Surgeon. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary on or before June 24th.
- TEIGNMOUTH, DAWLISH, AND NEWTON INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £65 per annum, with, board, lodging, and washing. Applications, with testimonials, on or before June 19th.
- WESTMINSTER GENERAL INFIRMARY—Physician. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary on or before June 21st.
- WEST RIDING ASYLUM, Wakefield—Resident Clinical Assistant. Applications, with testimonials, to the Medical Superintendent.
- WHITEHAVEN AND WEST CUMBERLAND INFIRMARY AND FEVER HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Salary, £130 per annum, with residence in the Infirmary. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, before June 25th.
- *WOLVERHAMPTON AND STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL, Wolverhampton—Surgeon. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary on or before June 28th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

- *BAUMGARTNER, J. R., M.R.C.S., appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Hospital for Sick Children, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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.

- SNELL.—On June 13th, at 17, Eyre Street, Sheffield, the wife of Simeon Snell, M.R.C.S., of a son.

DEATHS.

- ANDERSON, Alexander, Ext. L.R.C.P., Staff-Surgeon Royal Navy, at Edinburgh, on June 11th.
- *BUSIGNY, Charles E., M.R.C.S.Eng., at Worcester, aged 49, on June 11th.
- *EVANS, Thomas, M.D., Consulting Physician to the Gloucester Infirmary, at Gloucester, suddenly, aged 75, on June 3rd.
- FRASER, Roderick, M.D., late of Florence, at Morningside, Edinburgh, aged 64, on June 11th.
- JONES, Robert Wynne, M.R.C.S.Eng., at Beaumaris, aged 71, on June 12th.
- MAYBERRY.—On June 12th, at Riversdale, Kenmare, co. Kerry, Ireland, George Mahony Mayberry, Esq., M.D., J.P., aged 65, deeply and deservedly regretted.
- WHIDBORNE, George H., M.R.C.S.Eng., at Topsham, Devon, aged 37, on June 10th.
- WILLIAMS, James, M.D., late of Malvern, at Croydon, aged 60, on June 9th.

MEDICAL MAGISTRATES.—Mr. S. Chaplin has been appointed to the Commission of the peace for the County Kildare; and Dr. Thomas M. Nash of Grouse Lodge, Dumkeeran, for the County Leitrim.

THE Birmingham Borough Coroner ordered the exhumation of the body of a child who, though a surgeon certified it had died of scalds from falling into a boiler, had nevertheless been buried before an inquest was held.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, CORK.—The following prizes and certificates have been awarded at the Sessional Examinations. *Practical Anatomy*: John J. Lynch, William Barter, Daniel O'Mahony, John S. Nealon (certificate). *Chemistry*: Benjamin Hosford, R. Edward Kelly. *Zoology and Botany*: Francis G. Tooker, William Barter, Richard Edward Kelly, John J. Lynch, Thomas Leslie Crooke (certificate). *Exhibition in Practical Medicine*: Jeremiah Cotter and James Whitton, equal. *Exhibition in Practical Surgery*: Jeremiah Cotter. *Exhibition in Practical Midwifery*: Jeremiah Cotter.

BEQUESTS.—The late Mr. Abraham Mocatta, of Gloucester Place, Portman Square, has left £100 each to the Cancer Hospital, University College Hospital, the London Hospital, and the Metropolitan Free Hospital, and £50 to the Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—During last week, being the twenty-third week of this year, 3,415 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 24 in Edinburgh, 26 in Glasgow, and 42 in Dublin. The annual rates of mortality in the twenty English towns were as follow: Brighton 13, Birmingham 15, Leicester 15, Wolverhampton 16, Bradford 17, Portsmouth 18, Leeds 18, Sheffield 18, Hull 18, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 18, London 18, Oldham 19, Plymouth 19, Salford 20, Norwich 21, Nottingham 23, Sunderland 23, Manchester 23, Bristol 24, and the highest rate 27 in Liverpool. The annual death-rate from the seven principal zymotic diseases averaged 2.8 per 1000 in the twenty towns, and ranged from 0.8 and 1.2 in Leeds and Portsmouth, to 7.3 and 7.6 in Norwich and Sunderland. In London, 1,294 deaths were registered, which were 130 below the average, and gave an annual death-rate of 18.4. The 1,294 deaths included 10 from small-pox, 32 from measles, 65 from scarlet fever, 8 from diph-

theria, 48 from whooping-cough, 13 from different forms of fever, and 16 from diarrhoea—altogether 192 zymotic deaths, which were 52 below the average, and were equal to an annual rate of 2.7 per 1,000. The deaths referred to lung diseases, which had declined from 286 to 191 in the four preceding weeks, rose again to 230 last week, and exceeded the corrected average by one; 118 were referred to bronchitis, and 72 to pneumonia. Different forms of violence caused 51 deaths; 40 were the result of negligence or accident, including 17 from fractures and contusions, 3 from burns and scalds, 3 from drowning, and 10 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. Eight cases of suicide were registered. At Greenwich, the mean temperature of the air was 53.9°, and 4.7° below the average. The general direction of the wind was south-westerly, and the horizontal movement of the air averaged 12.2 miles per hour, which was 1.7 above the average. Rain fell on four days of the week, to the aggregate amount of 0.38 of an inch. The duration of registered bright sunshine in the week was equal to 26 per cent. of its possible duration.

CONGENITAL ANKYLOSIS OF THE TARSAL BONES.—To a previous communication on a rare case of synostosis of the astragalus and os calcis, Dr. Zuckerkandl adds (*Wiener Med. Jahrbücher*, 1880) the description of two new cases of coalition of the tarsal bones in a boy aged 10 and a man aged 29. In these cases, there was on the one side complete bony union, and on the other a transition between the normal separate condition of the bones and synostosis. Disease, as a means of explaining the abnormal condition, was excluded by the special relation of the astragalus and os calcis to each other in the first case; in the second, by the transition of the cartilage of the anterior surface of the scaphoid bone into the cartilage covering the anterior surface of the os calcis, and also by the connection of the two bones by a dense fibrous tissue; and, in both cases, by the absence of any remains of pathological processes and the physiological integrity of the remainder of the joint. There thus remains only the assumption of a congenital interference with development, which perhaps occurs most frequently between the astragalus and os calcis, because the formation of joint-cavities in the embryo takes place latest in this part.

THE INCREASE IN LUNACY.—THE following statistics on this important subject are extracted from the twenty-first annual report of the General Board of Commissioners in Lunacy for Scotland. "Since 1859, the private lunatics registered in England have increased from 4,980 in 1859 to 7,692 in 1878, or from 25 to 31 per 100,000 of the population; and the pauper lunatics have increased from 31,782 in 1859 to 60,846 in 1878, or from 161 to 245 per 100,000 of the population. In Scotland, the increase has been, for private lunatics, from 1,035 in 1859 to 1,468 in 1879, or from 34 to 41 per 100,000 of the population; and for pauper lunatics, from 4,980 in 1859 to 7,690 in 1879, or from 164 to 214 per 100,000 of the population. The total increase in England has been, for each 100,000 of the population, from 187 in 1859 to 276 in 1878; and in Scotland, from 199 in 1859 to 255 in 1879."

LATBLY, Mr. C. H. Hull concluded an adjourned inquiry at the Surrey County Lunatic Asylum, Wandsworth, as to the death of George Brown, aged fifty-six, a tailor, who was admitted from the Lambeth Infirmary on March 4th last, and died on the 3rd instant. After hearing the evidence, the jury returned a verdict, "That the deceased died from the effects of fractured ribs; but how these injuries were inflicted there is not sufficient evidence to show".

A CHILD WITHOUT LIMBS.—At a recent meeting of the district Medical Society of Munich, Professor Ranke showed a female child, five months old, the subject of congenital absence of all four limbs. It was the fourth child of healthy parents; and, while lying in its cradle with the face alone exposed, it presented a perfectly healthy appearance: the facial expression was lively, the eyes followed the movements of the bystanders, and all the senses were well developed. The body was strong and healthy. The shoulder and pelvic girdles, with all their muscles, were present as in the normal condition. The shoulders presented small prominences, formed by the union of the clavicles with the acromion processes, and covered by little cushions of fat. In place of the lower limbs, there was on each side, over the region of the acetabulum, a projection of skin, which could be somewhat retracted by muscular action into the cushion of fat surrounding it. The movements of the body were extremely lively and powerful. The coccyx was well developed: the child, placed on the tubera ischii and the coccyx, could retain the erect position with little support. Dr. Ranke attributed the deformity to arrest of development, and not to intra-uterine amputation. The child at the time appeared healthy and likely to live; but it has since died.

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 Orthopædic, 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 Orthopædic, 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.; 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; Orthopædic, 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; Orthopædic, 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.

FRIDAY.—Quekett Microscopical Club, 8 P.M. Mr. W. H. Gilburt, "On the Histology of Pitcher Plants"; Dr. Patrick Manson, "Further Observations on Filaria", communicated by the President.

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.

THE STATE OF THE HEART IN DEATH FROM CHLOROFORM.

SIR,—In the report of an inquest at Oxford given in the JOURNAL of the 12th instant, Mr. Vachell is stated to have said, "The heart was large, with much fat in the substance of it," and "As far as he knew, no medical man could tell the state of deceased's heart when it was in the condition in which the deceased was." This seems happily to have satisfied the jury; but having been present at an inquest relative to a death from chloroform, where, though no fault was found with the administration, the jury were much dissatisfied, and something like a vote of censure was passed on the administrator, because he did not in that case or usually examine the patients' hearts before anaesthetising, I should like to elicit the opinion of the profession as to whether any advantages are to be gained by examining a heart before anaesthetising, and whether there are any conditions besides fatty degeneration (such as dilatation or valvular disease) which increase the risk of, or contraindicate, anaesthetics. Can fatty degeneration be diagnosed either from symptoms or by physical examination? And if it can, is it the duty of the surgeon in such a case (except where the administration is absolutely necessary to avoid shock) plainly to name the extra risk and incur the chance of rendering the patient more highly nervous, and thus increase the difficulty of giving an anaesthetic or of operating without one; or is one justified, in this as in other cases, in assuming that every patient knows there is a certain risk incurred in taking an anaesthetic?

One other point is the value of feeling the pulse during the administration. Some assert that it is useless, while others think it should invariably be done, among the latter number being generally jurymen at an inquest.

Having largely given anaesthetics myself, as well as having seen much of their administration, I am of opinion that by carefully watching the respiration and colour of the face one best ascertains the approach of danger; but I shall be glad to have the opinion of the members on this as on the other points in question.—Yours truly, M.B.

CARE OF AN INSANE PATIENT.

SIR,—A "Member of the British Medical Association" who wrote to you under the above heading may be glad to know that we take private patients here at sixteen shillings a week, and that the same thing is done in many other county asylums. It should be added, that the private patients are not treated differently to the paupers, but that all fare alike, such being required by the forty-third section of the Lunacy Acts, 16 and 17 Vic., c. 97.—I am, yours truly,

S. W. D. WILLIAMS, Medical Superintendent.

County Asylum, Hayward's Heath, June 1880.

MR WYNDHAM COTTLE's paper on the Treatment of Ringworm, which was published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for May 29th, was read in the Subsection of Dermatology at the meeting of the British Medical Association in Cork in 1879. An abstract of it was given in the JOURNAL for August 23rd.

THE BRUSSELS DEGREE.

SIR,—At the June examination at the Brussels University, thirteen candidates presented themselves, of whom six were rejected in the first Doctorate, two in the second, and one in the third. The four successful candidates were: Wigg (University College), Bullock (University College), Plummer (Guy's Hospital), and Crean, with honours (Manchester).—I am, sir, your obedient servant, 26, Bury New Road, Manchester, June 15th, 1880. RICHARD CREAN.

SIR,—I should esteem it a favour if any of the subscribers to the JOURNAL would kindly inform me the names of the best makers of a good and useful microscope, at a cost of from £7 to £10, suitable to the requirements of a general practitioner.—I am, sir, faithfully yours, L.R.C.P.

A QUESTION OF PROFESSIONAL DUTY.

SIR,—I should be obliged by your opinion on the following case. On Thursday, May 27th, 1880, I examined Mr. B. (aged 53) for life-assurance. One of the questions I was called upon by the office to answer was: "Is the applicant suffering from stricture or enlarged prostate?" He was suffering from incontinence of urine. I therefore passed a flexible catheter and drew off about a quart of light coloured urine. I told him, for his satisfaction, that if he applied to his usual medical attendant, he would probably be relieved. I gave no advice, or made no further comment on the case. The next day B. informed me that "Mr. —, his medical attendant, told him that I had no right to examine him in such a manner, and that he did not believe that there was such a quantity of urine in his bladder." On hearing this, I wrote to Mr. —, giving him the facts of the case, and stating "that patients often mistook what was said to them, and I should be glad to hear it was so in the present instance, but that I could not allow such a remark (if made) to pass unchallenged." In reply, I received a note as follows: "Mr. — begs to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. —'s letter of the 29th." I have communicated further with Mr. —, but can get no more satisfactory reply. I may say that, having only recently commenced practice in this district, I may be somewhat sensitive to adverse criticism, coming from a gentleman considerably my senior and of much greater local influence. I enclose my card, and am, yours, etc., M.R.C.S.

. M.R.C.S. obviously only did his duty in examining the bladder in the circumstances mentioned.

UTERINE HÆMORRHAGE.

SIR,—In answer to Dr. Thompson's letter in the JOURNAL of June 5th, I would reply that I do not undervalue subcutaneous injection of ergotine in suitable cases, but have often employed it when I have had reason to expect a flooding from the character of the pains and pulse. In violent post partum hæmorrhage, the circulation becomes so feeble that throwing a drug like ergot under the skin is of no value, as it does not readily become absorbed, and valuable time is lost whilst it is in action. In the above cases, I should apply the styptic iron injection to the uterus, and give the ether and ergot by the hypodermic method to produce retraction and ensure uterine contraction.

For the hypodermic injection of ether, Messrs. Maw and Son have sent me a syringe, the joints of which are packed with brass instead of cemented, as the ether dissolves the cement generally used, and the syringe becomes useless.—Your obedient servant, FRANK SMITH.

Plumstead, June 9th, 1880.

THE PLAGUE OF FLIES.

SIR,—If, on hot days, "Musca" will sponge his horse's neck and flanks with a cold infusion of walnut leaves, he will find relief from the plague of flies in a way not less agreeable to the rider than to the steed.—I am, etc., SCOTO-CANADIAN.

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.

FOUND DEAD.

STERNE's days are long gone by, yet there remain several matters that they order better in France. There is always room for improvement where there is opportunity for adoption. Instead of building a morgue, which has the disadvantage of encouraging morbid curiosity, we might with advantage adopt a suggestion of Mr. G. E. Boggis in the *Echo*, and establish in London an office for the registry of all persons found dead, with such a description of their appearance and person as would enable anyone in search of a lost relative or friend to obtain at once such information as could be supplied within a circle of many miles. A great number of bodies are yearly picked up, and too often buried as unclaimed paupers at the expense of the parish where they may be found. The utilisation of dead-houses for medical education would be of great benefit to society. A hospital lecturer on Forensic Medicine might, as opportunity arose, give a practical demonstration to his class of the appearances of the body after different forms of violent death. His pupils, who after qualification would be all more or less certain to figure in the witness-box, would derive great benefit from his instruction. In these days, when the real object of medical education appears to be preparation for satisfying examiners, we must hail with relief any proposal to assist the student in learning how to satisfy patients or juries.

WILL any member kindly inform me where I can find an account of Dr. Liebreich's "Effects of Certain Faults of Vision on Painting"? S. WINTER FISHER.
136, Marine Parade, Brighton, June 2nd, 1880.

IMBECILE CHILDREN.

SIR,—Can you kindly inform me of any institution or institutions where children of weak intellect are received for moderate payment (say ten shillings to fifteen shillings per week) with the object of developing their latent mental powers?—Yours obediently, J. T.

"MOST BENIGNANT" DISEASE.

SIR,—Much of the recent coinage of medical terms is not very happy. It does not strike us that a great naming genius is abroad, at least in our department of the scientific world. This may be matter for regret; but rather to be deprecated is the arbitrary wresting of English words to new uses which are utterly senseless and which must sound absurd to any but professional ears.

In a letter in last week's JOURNAL, Dr. Drysdale thus speaks of syphilis: "As a general rule, the disease, as I see it, . . . among healthy young women, is most benignant". This reminds me of a remark I once heard from a surgeon; he thought it was a good thing for a man to get syphilis, because whatever should be the matter with him afterwards, we could always cure him by giving iodide of potassium. In this view, Dr. Drysdale's term might be no misnomer; and perhaps a satirist could suggest another reason why doctors should call disease benignant. By a well-understood figure of speech, a disease may be called malignant, and another, contrasted with it, non-malignant; but to speak of a diseased process like syphilis, however amenable to treatment, as positively, yea superlatively, benignant, is surely the imbecility of nomenclature. I had thought the term was dropping out of use, even as applied to tumours.—Your obedient servant,

MEMB. BRIT. MED. ASSOC.

SURGEON A.M.D. asks: Can any of your readers inform me where I can find an article by Surgeon Mulcuhy, R.N., on "The Similarity of Enteric and Malarial Fevers"?

SALARIES IN CEYLON.

SIR,—In reference to an advertisement in the accompanying *Ceylon Observer*, I send this as a warning to any intending candidates. The salary offered is not really the money paid to a common clerk or storekeeper out here, and is barely sufficient to provide for the necessities of life in the Coffee Districts, where a rupee has not the purchasing power of a shilling in England, and where the requirements are more. Any medical man accepting such an appointment would find his status in society very anomalous, and would certainly, at the end of the year, find himself out of pocket or in debt. Nothing need be expected from other "emoluments". That is only a pleasant fiction. The work is hard, done all by riding; the roads are not only bad but dangerous, as witness the number of medical men who lost their lives during the last seven years; and finally, the service is very unpopular and uncertain—likely, indeed, to be entirely abolished in the course of eight or ten months. I leave it to you to judge whether it would be judicious in anyone to accept such an appointment.—I am, sir, yours truly, M.D.
Central Province, Ceylon, May 16th, 1880.

COMPOUND FRACTURE OF THE SKULL AND THE ANTISEPTIC TREATMENT.

SIR,—I noticed, in your impression of June 5th, a report of an interesting case of compound fracture of cranium, under the care of Mr. John Croft at St. Thomas's Hospital. The case was specially interesting to me, as it was almost identical, both in extent of lesion and ultimate results, with a case treated by me in the Forfar Infirmary, and reported in the *Lancet* of July 7th, 1877. I should not have troubled you with any remarks on Mr. Croft's case, but for the strong evidence in the report of "Listeromania", as we dubbers call it. This is not as yet, in the complete form, as the reporter terms it, a received doctrine by the great bulk of medical practitioners; and in the interests of truth I would object to hasty generalising on one case. In his prologue, the reporter writes: "Such a result can only be certainly obtained from such a system of treatment. An equally successful issue might result from some other plan than 'Listerism'; but on no other known system can the surgeon rely for a succession of such results." But he fails to give us the data on which he grounds this opinion. Again, in his epilogue, he says: "The perfectly aseptic states of the lesions negatived any inflammatory action; and consequently none of the calamities of surgery occurred to mar the progress to recovery." How, then, would he account for the result in my case, where the dressings were by no means Listerian? The lesions were certainly as serious, and the result as successful, or even more so, as my patient left the hospital in less than five weeks, while Mr. Croft's patient was only dismissed in less than eight weeks. This is a subject which, in my opinion, should not be taken up in a spirit of partisanship, but the results of the cases treated by the various dressings should be collected and calmly weighed before passing an opinion. Surely the opinions of men with the experience of Professor Spence, Mr. Sampson Gamgee, etc., are entitled to every respect.—I remain, yours very respectfully, WILLIAM F. MURRAY, F. and L.R.C.S. Edin.
Forfar, June 9th, 1880.

TRICYCLES.

SIR,—In reply to the inquiries of "An Irish Surgeon", from experience I would recommend the "Improved Triumph Tricycle" manufactured by Warman, Laxton, and Co., Coventry. Without any prejudice or disparagement of the Salvo, I can scarcely understand a letter in the *Journal* of May 29th, signed J. A. Erskine Stuart, wherein he recommends the "Salvo", and, in conclusion, states that the same does not come up to his little views of its usefulness and adaptability to country practice. I have found very little difficulty in using the "Triumph" over a moderately hilly country.—Yours truly, M. D.
Birmingham, June 1st, 1880.

MR. ISRAEL MATHEWS (Holyhead) asks for directions for the application of the ethylate of sodium in naevi and other vascular growths.

AMERICA FOR PHTHISIS.

SIR,—Will you allow me to make the following inquiry through your JOURNAL? I have a patient suffering from incipient phthisis, who refuses to go to Australia, but is willing to go either to Kansas or Colorado. I am anxious to know what part of North America is the most favourable for such cases; and if any particular locality of either Kansas or Colorado possesses a climate suitable for such cases?—Yours, etc., A. W.

CORNUBIENSIS should, we think, have discussed the matter first in his own Council before bringing it under notice in the JOURNAL. It is very much a matter of domestic regulation, and one, we feel sure, the Council would like to have laid before it for careful consideration.

F. W. B. would be glad to know of any cases, or reference to cases, or authors who have treated of gouty affections of the throat.

ARTIFICIAL LEGS.

SIR,—I have a patient, a young man, who has had both legs amputated through the calves. Will you or any of your readers kindly inform me what will be the best artificial substitutes for the lost locomotory organs?—Yours obediently, CRU'S.

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

Mr. Watson Cheyne, London; Dr. H. G. Rawdon, Liverpool; Mr. T. Holmes, London; Mr. R. P. Oglesby, Leeds; Mr. R. Martin, Birmingham; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Mr. F. A. Southam, Manchester; Mr. G. Eastes, London; Dr. Crichton Browne, London; Dr. W. S. Playfair, London; Mr. W. C. Blackett, Durham; Dr. S. W. D. Williams, Hayward's Heath; Dr. Turle, North Finchley; Our Paris Correspondent; Dr. F. H. Daly, London; Dr. James Gardner, Box; Dr. M. M. Bradley, Jarroon-on-Tyne; Dr. W. Murray, Forfar; Mr. W. J. Black, Edinburgh; Mr. G. S. Middleton, Glasgow; Dr. J. Wilkie Burman, Hungerford; Dr. Charles Parsons, Dover; Dr. A. Grant, London; Our Liverpool Correspondent; Mr. A. A. Tindall, London; Mr. A. S. Morton, London; Dr. Seguin, New York; Messrs. Mothershead and Co., Manchester; Dr. Humphry, Cambridge; Mr. W. Taberner, Wigan; Mr. R. C. Harrison, London; Dr. Edith Pechey, Leeds; Dr. J. Williams, Sheffield; Dr. Barras, Govan; Mr. S. S. Wigley, Cheltenham; Mr. S. F. Murphy, London; Dr. Joseph Rogers, London; F.R.C.P.; Mr. Simeon Snell, Sheffield; Mr. W. N. Mager, Shrewsbury; Mr. F. Alcock Nixon, Dublin; Mr. J. McConnell, London; Mr. A. Hallowes, Maidstone; Mr. Alban Doran, London; Our Dublin Correspondent; Dr. Fairlie Clarke, Southborough; Mr. H. Nelson Hardy, Dulwich; Mr. Charles E. Abbott, Braintree; Dr. R. Saundby, Birmingham; Our Glasgow Correspondent; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Spirit of Nature. By Henry Bellyse Baildon, B.A. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1880.
Cranotomy and its Alternatives. By R. J. Kinkad, A.B., M.D. Dublin: 1880.
Science, a Stronghold of Belief. By Richard Budd Painter, M.D., F.R.C.S. London: Sampson Low and Co. 1880.
Edgar Allan Poe, his life, letters, and opinions. By John H. Ingram. Two volumes. London: John Hogg, Paternoster Row. 1880.
Royat; its Mineral Waters and Climate. By C. H. Brandt, M.D. London: H. K. Lewis. 1880.
A Treatise on Comparative Embryology. By Francis M. Balfour, M.A., F.R.S. Vol. 1. London: Macmillan and Co. 1880.
Manual of Diseases of the Throat and Nose. Vol. 1. By Morell Mackenzie, M.D. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1880.
Food and Feeding. By Sir Henry Thompson, F.R.C.S. London: Fredk. Warne and Co. 1880.

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