

standing this, the children have been supplied with a Christmas tree of no mean dimensions, gaily attired with fancy articles of various kinds. Christmas morning saw the children gleefully disporting themselves with presents of toys. Each possessed a parcel carefully directed to itself in particular. At midday they were regaled with turkey, through the generosity of the children of St. Barnabas Parish School, who supplied the welcome fare; whilst heaps of Christmas cards, and picture books, and such like bounties, added much towards obtaining for the little inmates some share at least of the season's productions. On New Year's Day the services of a conjuror were secured, whose sleight of hand called forth acclamations of wonderment and approval. The magic wand, as usual on such occasions, received credit for more than its due, and proved a faithful source of amusement at any rate, if not the *fons et origo* of many useful articles sporadically produced. One small boy, whose long dark eyelashes and cachectic appearance betrayed the nature of his constitution, and who recently had had a limb amputated, looked on with fixed gaze; may be, that in his reverie he was thinking whether the wonderworking conjuror could restore his lost member! Halfpence poured forth from a boy's scalp like the shelling of peas. One of the nursing staff expressed a fervent desire to know how that trick was done. Another boy had apparently been breaking through the rules on this festive occasion, for a sugar-stick of colossal dimensions was found impacted in the gullet. The operator proved himself a surgeon of no ordinary skill in extracting it. It will, however, scarcely be credited that it measured eight feet in length. By the time the conjuror had finished, the lights on the Christmas tree had grown dim, reminding the children that the festivities must come to a close. The wards gradually assumed their accustomed quietude amid the glow of Christmas fires.

HOME AND INFIRMARY FOR SICK CHILDREN, SYDENHAM PARK.

On Tuesday, December 29th, the little patients had their annual Christmas treat. After a good substantial tea, to which thirty-four children sat down, they were ushered into the playroom, where a grand Christmas-tree shined, resplendent with a hundred lights, which brought to view toys of all sorts and sizes, kindly provided by the friends of the institution. The children sang three or four pretty carols during the distribution of toys, closing with the glee of "Good Night." There was a small stall of children's and other work, from which was realised £8 4s. About eighty ladies and gentlemen of the neighbourhood were present.

ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, WATERLOO ROAD.

The Christmas treat to the children does not take place until later. At Christmas there was the usual distribution of toys, etc.

SAMARITAN HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

The usual Christmas festivities have taken place. They consisted of an excellent dinner, followed by a New Year's tea, and the distribution of presents for the women, and a Christmas-tree for the children.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

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 12th day of January next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

161A, Strand, London, December 18th, 1880.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND HEREFORDSHIRE BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held in the Board-room of the Infirmary, Worcester, on Thursday, January 20th, at 2.30 P.M. Members willing to read papers or cases will please communicate with the Honorary Secretary some days beforehand. The following papers are promised: 1. On some points on the Chemical Examination of the Urine: Dr. Swete. 2. General Results of one hundred cases of Chorea treated in the Worcester Infirmary: Dr. Strange. 3. The use of Belladonna in certain cases of Hernia: Mr. Batten. Dinner at Mountford's, High Street, at 4.45 punctually. Tickets, exclusive of wine, four shillings. Members intending to dine will please intimate same to the Honorary Secretary, Dr. CROWE, Worcester.

DUBLIN BRANCH.—The fourth annual general meeting of this Branch will be held in the Hall of the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland, Kildare Street, on Thursday, January 27th, 1881, at 4 P.M. Dr. Robert McDonnell, F.R.S., President of the Branch, will deliver an address; and the officers and council for the ensuing year be elected. By the kind permission, also, of the President and Fellows, the annual dinner will be at the College of Physicians, at 7 P.M. on the day of the meeting; the incoming President of the Branch, Dr. Hayden, in the chair.—GEORGE F. DUFFEY, M.D., Honorary Secretary, 30, Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin, January 1st, 1881.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.—The third ordinary meeting of the session will be held at the Bristol Museum and Library, on Thursday evening, January 20th, at half-past seven o'clock: Alex. Waugh, Esq., President. The following communications are expected: 1. Discussion on Dr. Goodridge's cases of Pseudo Hypertrophic Muscular Paralysis, and Dr. A. W. Fox's case of Progressive Muscular Atrophy. 2. Exhibition of a new Freezing Microtome and other Histological Apparatus: R. Roxburgh, M.B. 3. Primary Healing and Antiseptics: J. Greig Smith, M.D. 4. Notes of three cases of Antiseptic Ovariectomy: N. C. Dobson, Esq. 5. Transference of Senses: J. G. Davey, M.D.—E. MARKHAM SKERRITT, R. S. FOWLER, Honorary Secretaries, Clifton, January, 1881.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: SOUTH LONDON DISTRICT.—The next meeting will be held at Guy's Hospital, on Wednesday, January 12th, at 8 P.M., when a paper will be read on the Treatment of Spinal Curvatures by means of the Poroplastic Jacket, and a demonstration of the mode of application will be given by the inventor, Mr. J. T. Cocking. A case of Myxoedema (living) will also be shown, with notes of two cases, by Dr. Lloyd.—H. NELSON HARDY, Honorary Secretary, Dulwich, January 5th.

SOUTH-WESTERN BRANCH.—A meeting of this Branch will be held in the Athenaeum, Plymouth, on Tuesday, January 11th, at 2 P.M.: Dr. Hogarth Clay, President. The following communications are promised: 1. Excrescent Disposal and Fryer's Patents: Dr. Stephenson. 2. Notes on two cases of Strangulated Hernia; A case of Fractured Patella treated by Wiring; Cases of Excision of the Hip-Joint: Mr. W. Paul Swain. 3. A case of Ovariectomy: Dr. Henderson. 4. A case of Operation for Extensive Cicatrices of Bone of Leg: Mr. C. Bulleel.—SUTHERLAND REES PHILLIPS, M.D., Honorary Secretary, Wonford House, Exeter.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.—The fourth meeting of the session will be held in the Medical Institute, New Edmund Street, on Thursday, January 13th, 1881. The chair will be taken by the President, Mr. R. Prosser, at 3 P.M. Business.—The following candidates for membership will be balloted for: Reginald Bower, 36, Newhall Street; Edwin G. Bull, 189, Stratford Road; T. Neilson, M.B., The Dispensary; W. C. Partridge, Meriden; C. C. Smith, M.B., Redditch. Papers.—Dr. Johnston: Gout and its Correlative Diseases. Mr. Priestley Smith: The Development of Myopia in School-Children. Mr. Solomon: 1. On Circumcision of the Conjunctiva (Peritomy); 2. Practical Remarks on the Use of Leeches in Ophthalmia. Members are invited to exhibit patients, pathological specimens, new drugs, instruments, or appliances, at the commencement of the meeting. Mr. Gangjee will exhibit specimens of prepared Millboard Splints. N.B.—Members are requested to pay their subscriptions to Dr. Rickards.—E. MALINS, M.B., 8, Old Square; E. RICKARDS, M.B., 14, Newhall Street, Honorary Secretaries. Birmingham, January 5th, 1881.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH: AUTUMNAL MEETING.

THE autumnal meeting of this Branch was held at the Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary, on Friday, October 29th, 1880; President, Dr. CAMPBELL.

Previously to the meeting, the members, on the invitation of Dr. Adam, visited the Crichton Royal Institution, and were entertained to luncheon.

Papers.—The following papers were read at the meeting.

1. Dr. Grange (Moffat): Home-made Koumiss.
 2. Dr. Barnes (Carlisle): Report of a Case of Hydatid Disease of the Liver, successfully treated by Paracentesis.
 3. Dr. Smith (Dumfries): Notes of a Case of Unusual Monstrosity and Deformity in the Foetus.
 4. Dr. Hicks (Newcastle-upon-Tyne): Notes of a Case of Aortic Aneurism (read by Dr. James Thomson).
- Dr. Smith also presented to the meeting (a) a Case of so-called Dislocation of the Scapula; (b) an Hermaphrodite.

New Member.—Dr. Adam (Crichton Royal Institution) was admitted a member of the Branch.

Dinner.—The members, after the meeting, dined together in the King's Arms Hotel; Dr. Campbell in the chair.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE first ordinary meeting of this session was held at the Railway Hotel, Stoke-upon-Trent, on Thursday, November 25th, 1880: present, Mr. W. H. FOLKER, President, in the chair; and nineteen members.

New Member.—The following member of the Association was elected a member: J. Sheedy, Esq., Wolverhampton.

Communications.—The following communications were made.

1. Mr. Spanton exhibited a Malformation of the Leg, of a child two years of age, and which had been amputated below the knee.
2. Mr. Spanton exhibited a Tumour of the Left Breast, removed from a man aged 24, who had previously been an out-patient of the North Staffordshire Infirmary. The breast had been gradually enlarging for about eight years, and became so painful as to render the man unfit for work. There was no indication of malignancy; it appeared to be a case of irritable chronic mammary tumour. The tumour consisted of hypertrophied glandular tissue, in some portions very dense, and indurated; the fibrous element was largely increased; and the acini of the gland were filled and surrounded by elongated cells. The patient made a good recovery. With the above were two specimens, some excellent wax casts of the same, prepared by Mr. G. Russell, M.P., house-surgeon at the North Staffordshire Infirmary.

3. Mr. Spanton showed a new form of pad Truss (made for him by Messrs. Maw and Son), and which he now employed in most of the cases operated upon for the radical cure of hernia. It was very comfortable to wear, and gives ample support without the pressure of a spring.

4. Mr. Spanton read Notes of a Case of Intestinal Obstruction, caused by a wine-bottle, and removed by abdominal section—the patient not recovering. The bottle was shown *in situ*, occupying the rectum and descending colon.

5. Mr. Sampson Gamgee (Birmingham) made some remarks upon Wound-Treatment, followed by a practical demonstration of his method.

CORRESPONDENCE.

GUY'S HOSPITAL.

SIR,—Hitherto, though I have thought much, I have written nothing, regarding the *imbroglio* at Guy's hospital. But the letter of "A Metropolitan Hospital Surgeon," in your issue of December 25th, induces, or rather compels, me to abandon my expectant attitude, and endeavour briefly to set before your readers a view of the present state of matters, somewhat more in accordance with fact than the effusion of your anonymous surgical correspondent.

Let me premise that the strife, in the previously peaceful and prosperous hospital, was commenced by the arbitrary proceedings of the new treasurer and the newer matron, both of whom seemed determined to magnify their office at the expense of the hospital, the nurses, the patients, and the medical staff. These last, being frequently subjected to inconvenience and annoyance in the discharge of their duties, and finding the nursing arrangements of the wards overturned at the caprice of the matron, and, as everybody knows, to the detriment of the patients—in order, as some of the staff believed, to carry out an ecclesiastical system which provokes much more to ill will and confusion, than to love and good works—opposed for a considerable period, a *united and unbroken resistance* to the new officials and their measures; and, in particular, demanded the removal of the matron. An unfortunate sentence, which was capable of being construed in an offensive sense, led the governors to request the resignation of Dr. Habershon and Mr. Cooper Forster, who, as senior physician and surgeon, had signed the memorial of August 13th to the governors, on behalf of the medical staff. With the withdrawal of this memorial, and the concession by the governors of the right of two members of the staff to attend "the taking-in committee", the unanimity of the staff seems to have ceased; and the views, once so resolutely upheld by every member of it, seem now to be maintained only by Dr. Habershon and Mr. Cooper Forster.

On October 14th, the governors, while not insisting on the resignation of these two gentlemen, go on to say: "The governors, however, must at the same time record their resolution to maintain in its integrity the power to govern the hospital, entrusted to them by law, and this resolution must be accepted by the medical staff." The decision of the two seniors was at once taken. They saw that matters were substantially unchanged; that nothing of all they had been contending for had been granted, except the right to attend the sub-committee, to the constitution of which many of the staff strongly objected; and this equivocal boon was accompanied by an assertion of irresponsible power over the medical staff, so vulgar and offensive, that Dr. Habershon and Mr. Cooper Forster at once wrote their letters of resignation. This instinctive protest against insult and tyranny would have been carried out without delay, and without counting the cost, but for the earnest request of their colleagues, that they should remain. They consented to do so *till they had finished their clinical lectures*. This done, they at once gave effect to their resolution, which they had never abandoned, and severed the connection which had been so honourable to them, and so beneficial to the hospital and its school; not without much pain, but with a clear conscience.

And now, our anonymous surgeon seeks to minimise this act of self-sacrifice, by representing it as merely the anticipation, by "a month or two" of their necessary retirement. The truth is, that Dr. Habershon had *five*, and Mr. Cooper Forster, *three* years to run of their natural term of office. If we suppose the yearly emoluments to be £350, and I should think they cannot be less, their resignations imply the pecuniary sacrifice in the one case of £1,750, and in the other, of £1,050, besides the much greater one of abruptly terminating their hospital labours, in the full vigour of their powers, and ripeness of their professional experience. What could prompt this, but the firm conviction of the impropriety of continuing to hold office on such terms as were prescribed by the governors? I do not judge those who have felt it their duty to remain; but I protest against this ungenerous attempt to depreciate the motives and

conduct of the seceders, whose names will long be held in honoured and affectionate remembrance by the multitude of men who have gone forth from Guy's during the last forty years to practise their profession in every quarter of the globe.—Yours faithfully, A. P. STEWART.
Grosvenor Street, W., December, 29th.

MIXED ANÆSTHESIA.

SIR,—Through the courtesy of the house-surgeon of the Leeds Infirmary, Mr. W. H. Brown, I am enabled to publish fuller notes of the cases of death after mixed anæsthesia referred to in my last communication.

Case 1. A man, aged 60, was admitted to the Infirmary, on September 30th last, suffering from a large and rapidly growing tumour of the lower jaw. It was considered to be of malignant character, and its removal was advised. On October 26th, about ten minutes before the operation, one-third of a grain of morphia was subcutaneously injected, and ether was administered by a Clover's inhaler. The operation was a severe one, lasting half an hour, a large portion of the lower maxilla being removed. The hæmorrhage was free but not excessive. A small quantity of chloroform was administered during the operation. When the operation was completed, the patient had a good pulse, respiration rather slow, pupils contracted to pin's point, and there was profuse sweating. Two hours after, as he had shown no signs of consciousness, and the pupils remained the same, efforts were made to arouse him, but without success. The pulse grew worse, and an hour after he died with all the symptoms of opium poisoning. At the *post mortem* examination, the kidneys and other organs were found to be healthy.

Case 2. A woman, aged 50, was admitted under the care of Mr. Jessop, for malignant disease of the upper jaw. One-third of a grain of morphia was injected twenty minutes before the operation, and the upper jaw was removed in the usual way. There was very little bleeding. She died with symptoms of narcotic poisoning about two hours after the operation was completed, having never regained consciousness.

Case 3. The following case was related to me by my friend, Mr. A. F. McGill. A woman, age about 47, was operated on by Mr. McGill, for strangulated femoral hernia. Ether was administered, and the operation completed with no great difficulty. Opium had been administered previously to facilitate taxis, and when the ether was given she was under the influence of the narcotic. After the operation she remained drowsy, and the breathing was somewhat embarrassed. This increased, and two hours after, she died, having never regained consciousness.

Quite recently there has come to my knowledge a case of death which occurred during the operation for hernia, under ether, at a provincial hospital in the south of England. The details of this will soon be published. Whether the patient was under the influence of opium or not, I was not able to ascertain; but it is a remarkable fact, that of fourteen deaths under ether of which I have notes, occurring during the past decade, no less than five should be for operations for hernia or intestinal obstruction.

The exact cause of death in these and similar cases is far from clear. There are three relations in which we may regard an anæsthetic with regard to a death occurring under its use. First, it may be the direct lethal agent, as in the case of a healthy patient who dies suddenly from chloroform administered for a trivial operation. In a second class come cases like those we have been considering, where the anæsthetic is probably one of a series of factors modifying the fatal issue. In the first case, for instance, we have to consider five points: 1. The age of the patient; 2. The shock and the hæmorrhage of a severe operation; 3. The morphia; 4. The chloroform; 5. The ether. And it seems improbable that only one of these should be the cause of death. In a third class of cases, the patient dies from shock or hæmorrhage, without our being able to blame the anæsthetic in any degree.

In reply to Mr. Fearnley's letter of last week, I have only to repeat that to hold a single fold of lint charged with a drachm of chloroform loosely over a patient's face is not "filtering pure chloroform vapour into his lungs". That a glance at the death list shows that the hospitals, where the "only rational method" is adopted, have a place there as well as others; and that in regard to watching the heart and pulse, most persons will prefer to profit by the extensive experience and skill of men like Mr. Clover, and Mr. Mills, whose recent letters on the subject I have read with great interest.

I have no wish to practice the "bag and baggage" policy with regard to chloroform. It is an admirable anæsthetic for young children, and for old persons who are subject to bronchitis; and to these cases I think it should be confined. But I especially wish to urge that now there is

niary loss through the heavy costs that he has unwittingly incurred. This may be law, but it certainly is not equity; and we trust the inhabitants of Grantham, who were protected from the epidemic spread of scarlatina by the prompt isolation of the early cases in the tents, will testify their appreciation of Mr. Eaton's services by subscribing liberally to a fund to indemnify him for the serious expenses to which he has been put. The case may serve as a wholesome warning to medical men to be wary in their relations with local authorities; and to be careful, above everything, that all money relations are put upon a strictly legal footing before any services for the authority are entered upon.

REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

JARROW.—Mr. Spear's report on this district possesses an unusual importance; because it is at Jarrow that the exceptional powers for dealing with infectious disease, that have since been adopted for several other towns, were first put in operation. Of the great usefulness in the borough of the notification of infectious cases, we have already spoken (page 603); and it appears that action was also taken last year, under other clauses of the local Act, in employing nurses, closing dairies, and preventing persons living in infected rooms working at certain employments. The point of greatest interest in the report is the account given of an outbreak of typhus in the borough after several years' absence. The disease seems to have been imported from Sunderland; and, in the absence of hospital accommodation, to which the early cases could be removed, spread to about ninety-nine persons, mostly living in ill-ventilated and crowded houses. Notwithstanding the difficulties in which Mr. Spear was placed, through the absence of a hospital, and his consequent helplessness in staying the ravages of the disease by effectual isolation, he speaks in the highest terms of the value of the information as to the existence of cases. He adds that, whilst he was generally successful, as regards most of the centres of infection, in stopping the progress of the disease by such precautionary measures as could be enforced in the sufferers' houses, "the one thing needed to put an effectual end to all the disease, and death, and misery that we were coolly watching—hospital accommodation—the sanitary authority could not or would not provide. That question was still, as it had been for five years, 'under consideration'." During the year, there were 919 births and 437 deaths in the borough, equal to rates of 40.8 and 19.5 per 1,000. Twenty-nine per cent. of the total number of deaths were those of infants under one year of age, and 46 per cent. of children under five years. The zymotic mortality was equal to 3.3 per 1,000. Measles and whooping-cough were, in the latter part of the year, epidemically prevalent. Nineteen cases of typhoid fever (4 fatal), and 38 of scarlet fever (8 fatal), were compulsorily reported to the sanitary authority.

WANDSWORTH.—In a district which is being so rapidly and extensively built upon as this, it is obviously very difficult to fix upon an even approximately accurate estimate of the population. Upon the official estimate, however, the birth rate was 39.7, and the death rate 20.5 per 1,000, each of which shows an increase on the figures for 1878. The death-rates of the five constituent parishes were: Battersea 23.9, Wandsworth 19.0, Clapham 17.5, Streatham 15.6, and Putney 15.0. An increase of 82 zymotic deaths over the number for 1878 is recorded. A remarkable decrease in the fatality of diarrhoea occurred, but, except a trifling decrease in the deaths from diphtheria and whooping-cough, the other zymotic diseases show an increase. Measles and scarlatina were the chief epidemics of the year, the mortality from each being considerably above the average. Diseases of the respiratory organs were very fatal, no less than 891 of the 1,356 deaths being ascribed to lung disease. Probably at least 1,200 deaths, or more than a third of the entire mortality of the district were due to diseases of the lung. The proportion of deaths under one year to the total mortality was 21.1, and of deaths under five years 46.2 per cent. The subject of uncertified deaths is referred to by nearly all the five health officers; and strong comments are made on the unsatisfactorily high proportion of such deaths obtaining in the district.

SCARBOROUGH.—During the third quarter of 1880, there were 239 births and 159 deaths at Scarborough, against 240 and 152 in the corresponding quarter of 1879. As compared with the previous year, there was a very large increase in the number of deaths in children under one year, and between the ages of one and seven years; the increase being almost entirely due to the much greater fatality of infantile diarrhoea. Last autumn, 28 deaths occurred from this disease, against only 5 in the autumn of 1879. No fewer than 21 of these deaths occurred during the four weeks ended September 29th, and appear to have followed a season of several weeks of almost rainless weather,

which was succeeded by a rainfall of nearly three inches during the week ended September 15th. Dr. Taylor regards improper food as quite as important a factor in producing diarrhoea as hot weather; and he states that he has frequently been told, when asking "what food baby has", "Oh! it has the same as we have—just what is going". There need be, therefore, no occasion for wonder at the high infantile mortality recorded. Eleven of the deaths occurred amongst visitors, and 40 amongst persons aged sixty years and upwards; 6 deaths being recorded of persons between eighty and ninety years old.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—Admitted Licentiates, December 30th, 1880.

Allen, Thomas W. J., University Hospital, W.C.
 Bathe, Anthony J., 3, Whittington Villas, N.
 Bull, George C. Robins, 15, London Street, Paddington, W.
 Carpenter, Arthur B., Duppas House, Croydon
 Grayling, Arthur, Forest Hill, S.E.
 Harvey, Sidney F., 9, Catherine Terrace, Lansdowne Road, S.W.
 Macdowall, Cameron J. F. S., 32, Osnaburgh Street, N.W.
 Maynard, Foster F. M., St. Andrew's Park, Hastings
 Mills, Thomas W., M.D. McGill, 116, Murray Street, N.
 Patten, Charles A., Marpool House, Ealing, W.
 Pearce, Walter, 62, Oxford Terrace, Edgware Road, W.
 Phillpotts, William Alfred, Longton Grove, S.E.
 Renshaw, Israel J. E., Sale, Manchester
 Wilkinson, Frank T., 6, Dean Street, S.E.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen passed their primary examinations in anatomy and physiology, at a meeting of the Board of Examiners, on the 5th instant, and when eligible will be admitted to the pass examination.

Messrs. Charles Slater, J. F. Gordon Dill, Thomas Rushbrooke, and Harry Groom, of the Cambridge School; Edward Paxton and Joseph Whittaker, of the Manchester School; Albert G. Cunningham and Joseph H. Powell, of the Bristol School; Charles W. Thompson, of the Leeds School; Frank Pearce, of Guy's Hospital; William H. Burke, of the Dublin School; H. Simpson Wood, of the Melbourne School; and Thomas Kelly, of the McGill School, Toronto.

Eleven candidates were referred to their anatomical and physiological studies for three months, including one who had an additional three months.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

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

The following vacancies are announced:—

- AYLESBURY UNION**—Medical Officer to Third District and Workhouse.
- BALLINROBE UNION**—Medical Officer for Ballinrobe Dispensary District. Salary, £100 per annum, with £25 as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination fees. Election on the 13th instant.
- BLACKBURN UNION**—Medical Officer to the Rishton District.
- BRACKLEY UNION**—Medical Officer to the Sulgrave District.
- *BRIGHTON AND HOVE DISPENSARY**—Resident House-Surgeon to the Western Branch. Salary, £140 per annum, with furnished apartments, coals, gas, and attendance. Applications, with testimonials, on or before January 31st.
- BROMYARD UNION**—Medical Officer to First District. Salary, £130 per annum.
- BURTON-ON-TRENT UNION**—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Burton-on-Trent District and Workhouse. Salary, £120 per annum, with £30 per annum for Workhouse. Applications, with testimonials, on or before January 10th.
- CARRICKMACROSS UNION**—Medical Officer for Donaglimore Dispensary. Salary, £125 per annum, exclusive of registration and vaccination fees. Election on the 14th instant.
- DORSET COUNTY ASYLUM**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £70 per annum, and £10 additional as Secretary. Applications, with testimonials, to the Chairman, on or before January 12th, 1881.
- GERMAN HOSPITAL, Dalston**—Honorary Assistant Physician. Applications, with testimonials, to the Honorary Secretary on or before January 12th, 1881.
- KILKENNY DISTRICT LUNATIC ASYLUM**—Consulting and Visiting Physician. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications received to 15th instant for the appointment, which in the first instance will be probationary.
- KILKENNY UNION**—Medical Officer for Gowran Dispensary District. Salary, £100 per annum, with £20 yearly as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination fees. The person appointed will probably be elected medical officer to the Gowran Fever Hospital at £30 yearly. Election on the 17th instant.
- *LEEDS AMALGAMATED FRIENDLY SOCIETIES MEDICAL AID ASSOCIATION**—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £140 per annum. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, on or before January 13th.
- LONDON LOCK HOSPITAL, 91, Dean Street, Soho**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, residence, and washing. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, on or before January 15th.
- LOUTH UNION**—Medical Officer to Louth District and Workhouse. Salary, £100 per annum.
- MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY**—Resident Medical Officer for the Convalescent Hospital at Cheadle. Salary, £150 per annum, with board and residence. Applications, with testimonials, on or before January 22nd, 1881.

MOUNTMELICK UNION—Medical Officer for Coolran Dispensary District. Salary, £90 per annum, with £15 yearly as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination fees. Election on the 10th January, 1881.

RYDE, Borough of—Medical Officer of Health.

***ST BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL**—Surgeon. Applications, with testimonials, on or before January 24th.

TAUNTON UNION—Medical Officer to the Corfe District. Salary, £110 per annum. Applications, with testimonials, on or before January 10th.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH—An additional Examiner of Pathology. Applications and testimonials to the Secretary not later than January 17th, 1881.

WOLVERHAMPTON FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' MEDICAL AID ASSOCIATION—Resident Medical Officer. Applications (stating salary required), with testimonials, not later than February 1st, 1881.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

CAMPBELL, Colin M., M.A., M.B., C.M., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Durham County Asylum, *vice* R. L. Rutherford, L.K.Q.C.P.I., resigned.

CARRE, George E., A.B., M.B., appointed Resident Medical Superintendent to the Omagh District Lunatic Asylum, *vice* Francis J. West, M.R.C.S.E., deceased.

LYNCH, J. Roche, M.R.C.S., appointed Honorary Consulting Surgeon to the London Diocesan Deaconess Institution, on retirement from the honorary acting staff.

MORGAN, John H., F.R.C.S., appointed Demonstrator of Surgery, Pathology, and Ophthalmology to the Charing Cross Hospital Medical School, *vice* Edward Amplett, M.A., M.B., deceased.

SMITH, Robert, M.A., M.B., appointed Demonstrator of Merbid Anatomy to the Charing Cross Hospital Medical School, *vice* J. Pearson Irvine, M.D., F.R.C.P., deceased.

STEDMAN, Arthur, M.R.C.S., appointed Medical Officer to St. John's Foundation School at Leatherhead.

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.

MARRIAGES.

BARLOW—DALMAHOV.—On the 30th December, at 69, Queen Street, Edinburgh, by the Rev. A. Whyte, M.A., Thomas Barlow, M.D., F.R.C.P., to Ada Helen, daughter of the late Patrick Dalmahov, Esq., writer to the Signet.

MCDONAGH—PATTISON.—On the 29th instant, at St. Matthew's, Oakley Square, James T. McDonagh, M.R.C.S., of Mornington Villa, Hampstead Road, N.W., to Dora, eldest daughter of the late Jacob Pattison, Esq., and grand-daughter of the late F. N. Pattison, J.P., of Coppeshall, Essex.

DEATHS.

EVANS.—On December 31st, at Rome, of typhoid fever, George Harrison Evans, M.B., F.R.C.S., of Edgbaston, eldest son of the late G. F. Evans, M.D., of Birmingham, aged 35.

GIBSON.—On the 29th December, at Auteuil, Paris, Isa, second daughter of William Gibson, M.D., Campbelltown, Argyle, aged 18.—Friends are requested to accept this, the only intimation.

GOODMAN.—On December 23rd, at his residence, Eastbourne House, Gloucester Road, Birkdale, Southport, Charles Rowland Goodman, M.D., late of Manchester, aged 43.

HAILEY.—On January 2nd, at Tickford Lodge, Newport Pagnel, Hammett Hailey, M.R.C.S., aged 57, after a few days' illness.

DEPUTY SURGEON-GENERAL J. L. JAMESON, Army Medical Department, has been appointed to succeed Surgeon-General Thompson as principal medical officer at Cork. Deputy Surgeon-General Jameson has recently arrived home from India on promotion.

The Local Government Board have approved of an increase in the salaries of Dr. Brett of Watford as medical officer to the workhouse and district of Watford. The increase, which commenced on December 25th, is from £55 and £70, to £70 and £100 respectively.

WEST-KENT MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.—The second meeting of the present session was held at the Royal Kent Dispensary, Greenwich, on November 5th, 1880; Mr. H. W. Jackson in the chair, when Mr. W. Rivington, surgeon to the London Hospital, read a paper on "A Wound of the Knee-joint Treated Antiseptically". Mr. Rivington first gave a detailed account of the case and treatment, which went to show that it was a severe wound in the knee-joint, which made a perfect recovery under the Listerian treatment. Mr. Rivington then said that it was unlikely that the case would have gone on so well under the old treatment, and compared the issue of cases treated in former years under the old system, and cases now treated under the protection of carbolic acid and carbolic gauze. Admitting that excellent results were obtained in the perfectly pure atmosphere of the country, with a modified antiseptic procedure, and even without antiseptic precautions, Mr. Rivington said that the comparison must only be between cases which were treated in the loaded atmosphere of great cities and hospitals.

WANT OF SUBJECTS FOR DISSECTION.—The lack of subjects for dissecting purposes is being felt, not only in our own hospitals, but in those of India. The Principal of the Madras

Medical College, in his report for 1879, alludes to this matter; and says that, whereas at least fifty bodies were required during the winter session for two departments alone, only twenty-five subjects were actually available. Similarly, in the summer season, only nine subjects were available for the operative surgery class—a number which the Professor of Surgery considered quite inadequate for the practical instruction of his swollen classes. In a city circumstanced as Madras is, it apparently ought not to be difficult, with proper arrangements, to secure an ample supply of bodies—the special difficulties which beset English medical schools not being operative there.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—During the week ending Saturday, December 25th, 4,841 births and 3,146 deaths were registered in London and twenty-two other large towns of the United Kingdom. The mortality was at the average rate of 19 deaths annually in every 1,000 persons living. The annual death-rate was 22 in Edinburgh, 19 in Glasgow, and 27 in Dublin. The annual rates of mortality in the twenty English towns were as follow: Brighton 16, Sheffield 16, Portsmouth 16, Wolverhampton 16, Birmingham 17, Bristol 17, London 18, Leicester 18, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 19, Bradford 19, Manchester 19, Salford 19, Plymouth 19, Leeds 20, Oldham 20, Hull 21, Sunderland 22, Liverpool 22, Norwich 26, and the highest rate, 26, in Nottingham. The annual death-rate from the seven principal zymotic diseases averaged 2.4 per 1,000 in the twenty towns, and ranged from 0.5 and 0.9 in Brighton and Birmingham, to 4.5 and 5.4 in Sunderland and Nottingham. In London, 1,242 deaths were registered, which were 666 below the average, and gave an annual death-rate of only 17.7. The 1,243 deaths included 15 from small-pox, 40 from measles, 45 from scarlet fever, 16 from diphtheria, 27 from whooping-cough, 14 from different forms of fever, and 15 from diarrhoea—being altogether 172 zymotic deaths, which were no fewer than 109 below the average, and were equal to an annual rate of 2.5 per 1,000. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs were 290, and were no fewer than 273 below the average; 175 resulted from bronchitis, and 71 from pneumonia. Different forms of violence caused 54 deaths; 51 were the result of negligence or accident, including 25 from fractures and contusions, 7 from burns and scalds, 6 from drowning, and 7 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. At Greenwich, the mean temperature of the air was 40.6°, and 1.0° above the average. The general direction of the wind was S.W. Rain fell on four days of the week, to the aggregate amount of 1.26 inches. The duration of registered bright sunshine in the week was equal to 17 per cent. of its possible duration. During last week, being the fifty-second week of last year, 5,683 births and 3,971 deaths were registered in London and twenty-two other large towns of the United Kingdom. The mortality was at the average rate of 24 deaths annually in every 1,000 persons living. The annual death-rate was 20 in Edinburgh, 23 in Glasgow, and 36 in Dublin. The annual rates of mortality in the twenty English towns were as follow: Newcastle-upon-Tyne 16, Portsmouth 16, Sheffield 19, Bradford 19, Norwich 21, Birmingham 21, Plymouth 22, Hull 23, Brighton 23, Leicester 23, Bristol 23, London 23, Manchester 24, Leeds 26, Sunderland 26, Salford 27, Oldham 28, and the highest rate, 30, in Wolverhampton, Liverpool, and Nottingham. The annual death-rate from the seven principal zymotic diseases averaged 2.8 per 1,000 in the twenty towns, and ranged from 0.7 and 1.0 in Plymouth and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, to 5.5 and 5.8 in Wolverhampton and Sunderland. Small-pox caused 17 more deaths within registration London, whereas no fatal cases were recorded in any of the nineteen provincial towns. In London, 1,648 deaths were registered, which were 224 below the average, and gave an annual death-rate of 23.5. The 1,648 deaths included 17 from small-pox, 67 from measles, 61 from scarlet fever, 10 from diphtheria, 16 from whooping-cough, 14 from different forms of fever, and 15 from diarrhoea—being altogether 200 zymotic deaths, which were 74 below the average, and were equal to an annual rate of 2.8 per 1,000. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs were 353, but were no fewer than 189 below the average; 218 were attributed to bronchitis, and 82 to pneumonia. Different forms of violence caused 70 deaths; 61 were the result of negligence or accident, including 20 from fractures and contusions, 11 from burns and scalds, 2 from drowning, one from poison, and 20 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. Seven cases of suicide were registered. At Greenwich, the mean temperature of the air was 40.6°, and 1.9° above the average. The general direction of the wind was S.W., and the horizontal movement of the air averaged 12.6 miles per hour, which was 0.13 below the average. Rain fell on five days of the week, to the aggregate amount of 0.96 of an inch. The duration of registered bright sunshine in the week was equal to 2 per cent. of its possible duration. The recorded amount of ozone showed an excess during the week, especially on Wednesday.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY	Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.
TUESDAY	Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—West London, 3 P.M.—St. Mark's, 9 A.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 3 P.M.
WEDNESDAY ..	St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Mary's, 1.30 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, 2.30 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Peter's, 2 P.M.—National Orthopaedic, 10 A.M.
THURSDAY	St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 P.M.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—North-west London, 2.30 P.M.
FRIDAY	King's College, 2 P.M.—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., 1; Ophthalmic Department, W., 1; Ear, Th., 2; Skin, Th., 3; Dental, Tu. F., 10.
LONDON. —Medical, daily exc. S., 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30 and 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 9; Ear, S., 9.30; Skin, W., 9; Dental, Tu., 9.
MIDDLESEX. —Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 8.30; Ear and Throat, Tu., 9; Skin, F., 4; Dental, daily, 9.
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S. —Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., W. S., 9; Eye, Tu. W. Th. S., 2; Ear, M., 2.30; Skin, F., 1.30; Larynx, W., 11.30; Orthopaedic, F., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 9.
ST. GEORGE'S. —Medical and Surgical, M. Tu. F. S., 1; Obstetric, Tu. S., 1; o.p., Th., 2; Eye, W. S., 2; Ear, Tu., 2; Skin, Th., 1; Throat, M., 2; Orthopaedic, W., 2; Dental, Tu. S., 9; Th., 1.
ST. MARY'S. —Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.15; Obstetric, Tu. F., 9.30; o.p., Tu. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 1.30; Ear, W. S., 2; Skin, Th., 1.30; Throat, W. S., 12.30; Dental, W. S., 9.30.
ST. THOMAS'S. —Medical and Surgical, daily, except Sat., 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 2; o.p., W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th., 2; o.p., except Sat., 1.30; Ear, Tu., 12.30; Skin, Th., 12.30; Throat, Tu., 12.30; Children, S., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 10.
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE. —Medical and Surgical, daily, 1 to 2; Obstetric, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; Eye, M. W. F., 2; Ear, S., 1.30; Skin, Tu., 1.30; S., 9; Throat, Th., 2.30; Dental, W., 10.3.
WESTMINSTER. —Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 9; Skin, Th., 1; Dental, W. S., 9.15.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY. —Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Sir Joseph Fayrer, Lettsomian Lecture on Dysentery.—Odontological Society of Great Britain, 8 P.M. Annual general meeting. Election of officers for ensuing year. President's Valedictory Address. Curator's, Librarian's, and Treasurer's Reports. Mr. G. Wallis will show Mr. Lennox Browne's adaptation of the Lime-Light. Casual communications.
TUESDAY. —Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Knowsley Thornton, "One hundred and seventy-two Antiseptic Abdominal Sections, with remarks on the Causes of Death in the fatal cases"; Mr. Frederick Treves, "Case illustrating the Condition of Large Arteries after Ligature under Anti-septic and Non-Antiseptic Measures"; Mr. Henry Lee, "On Radical Cure of Varicocele"; Mr. J. McCarthy, "Aneurism of Axillary Artery, treated by Antiseptic Ligature of third part of Subclavian Artery".
WEDNESDAY. —Obstetrical Society of London, 8 P.M. Specimens will be shown by Dr. Chambers, Mr. Doran, Dr. Hoggan, and others. Papers: Dr. Thos. Chambers, "Complete Exstirpation of the Uterus, with both Ovaries; Recovery"; Dr. W. R. Rogers, "Case of Chronic Complete Inversion of the Uterus, successfully treated by Sustained Elastic Pressure"; Dr. Matthews Duncan, "Delivery in a case of Double Uterus"; and other communications.—Hunterian Society, 7 P.M., Council Meeting. 8 P.M., Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, "The Clinical Importance of recognising the Precancerous Stage of Cancer".
THURSDAY. —Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Higgens, "Hypocleral Cyclotomy"; Dr. W. A. Brailley, "A Rare Form of Muscular Asthenopia"; Mr. Hulke, "Ophthalmoplegia Interna"; Dr. A. D. Davidson and Mr. Fitzgerald (Dublin), "Cases of Detachment of the Retina in Albuminuric Retinitis". Living specimens must attend at 8 o'clock.
FRIDAY. —Clinical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Annual meeting. Election of officers. Report on the Treatment of Hip-Disease, with especial reference to the Operation of Excision. Mr. Croft, "A Case of Traumatic Hydronephrosis"; Dr. R. H. Lloyd, "Two Cases of Myxedema"; Dr. Sutherland, "Case of Chronic Vomiting, in which no Food except Koumiss was taken for sixteen months".

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 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 Manager, 161A, Strand, W.C.

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.

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

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

THE publication of the Index to the second volume for 1880 is unavoidably deferred till next week.

THE MODE OF ELECTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

SIR,—Mr. G. Pollock has done good service in drawing attention to the subject of the election of the Council of the College of Surgeons, for a feeling exists that some change in the present mode of conducting these elections would be attended with advantage. To allow fellows to vote by proxy would obtain from them a much more general expression of opinion than can be the case under the present system. Many busy men, both in town and country, are unable to spare the time to attend personally to record their votes, though anxious to do so. Voting by proxy would give them this opportunity. The adoption of such a scheme as Mr. Pollock suggests would surely, with some modification of details, allow of a more dignified procedure and a more discriminating choice than at present obtains, and would eliminate much that is undesirable in the present methods of election. It would also be a gain if the general body of fellows had clearly laid before them the views, on any points of special interest at the time, of the gentlemen for whom they were asked to vote. This might be done in such a way as to exclude all resemblance even of canvassing, but would prevent the elections degenerating into the chance selection of a name. To the great majority of the fellows these gentlemen must be personally unknown; and without some such indication they would have but little to guide them in their choice.—I am, sir, yours obediently,
3, Savile Row, W. WYNDHAM COTTLE.

THE CASE OF MR. ARTHUR O'BRIEN JONES.

SIR,—This case is not the first of the kind, nor is it, we may be sure, the last. The cost to the defendant may be so great as to amount, in some instances, in the absence of help, almost to ruin; and I write to suggest that we should have a better provision against such hardship than the uncertain result of an appeal for subscriptions. Why should we not have a sort of mutual insurance or protection association against such risks? It is stated, in a recent impression of the JOURNAL, that the British Medical Association numbers nearly eight thousand members. If even only a half of these were to adopt such a scheme, an annual subscription of five shillings would yield an income of £1,000; but if a larger subscription were required, I do not think it would be grudged. No one can say that his turn will not come. An action for having granted a lunacy certificate may crop up any day, perhaps in a case where not to have granted it would have been a culpable shirking of duty. Then there have been cases of false charges, for the purpose of extorting money, of criminal assault in the consulting-room—and that is a risk to which every general practitioner is daily exposed. It would assuredly be considerable comfort to the victim of such persecutions to know that, if his innocence is established, he will not be involved in a loss of money by his defence.—I am, etc.,
Dundee. J. W. MILLER, M.D.

* * The subject is worth discussing, but we can see serious objections to such a fund. It would be liable to numerous calls, which it would be hard to refuse, and yet injudicious to encourage. It would possibly tend to lessen the prudence which a sense of individual responsibility emphasises; and, on the whole, it is probably not so disadvantageous as it seems, that only in special and individual cases, each considered on its own merits, pecuniary indemnity should be obtained by professional aid from costs incurred by the operation of the law.

LUNATIC ASYLUMS IN IRELAND.

SIR,—The inspectors of Irish asylums, as you have rightly remarked in your issue of December 25th, are disposed to apologise for the difficulty which a compiler finds in avoiding repetitions after he has been engaged in writing reports for thirty years. I cannot go back for so long a period; but I was connected with an Irish asylum some years ago, and used to read the inspectors' reports assiduously. I can testify to the difficulty which the inspectors labour under. In their twenty-third report, published in the year 1874, they tell the same marvellous story about a criminal lunatic, who had been many years insane, and whose brain was perfectly healthy, which they think worthy to be again recorded in their twenty-ninth report. The story must be the same, for the previous history in the two cases is identical. The pathological portion has improved a little by keeping, as such tales are apt to; for, whereas we are told in the twenty-third report that "a slight opacity of the membrane covering the middle and posterior portion of the organ" was noticeable—a fact which is adduced as proving "that grave mental affections can exist for a long series of years without any appreciable lesion of structure"—we learn, from the twenty-ninth report, that "the brain and its membranes were found to be in the healthiest condition". One might be inclined to conclude that *post mortem* examinations were rather rare in Irish asylums, when the inspectors were forced to unearth this pathological gem in order to decorate their last report. The quotation from Reid, however, is new. Perhaps an extract from some more recent author—say, Ferrier—would have better suited a modern generation.—Your obedient servant,
CHILBLAINS.

SIR,—Can any of your readers tell me the best remedy or chilblains? I am driving about all day, and suffer from them on my feet, hands, and ears. I have tried iodine and stimulating liniments without avail.—Yours truly,
M.D.

TREATMENT OF RINGWORM.

Sir,—About a year ago I wrote to your JOURNAL, asking for suggestions in the treatment of tinea tonsurans, as I had a family of six children under treatment in which the disease was most obstinate and unyielding. I received a large number of replies to my communication, recommending a host of remedies, many of which are said to be specific; and in order that I might do justice to all the gentlemen who were kind enough to give me their experience, I tried the great majority of them; and my experience is, that the most success was obtained from a mixture, to be applied to the parts affected, of carbolic acid and glycerine in the proportion of one to eight (weaker if it inflames). The general health also requires attention. Tonics, including arsenic and cod-liver oil, are often indicated; also a prolonged change to a bracing coast.—I remain, yours faithfully,
Elder House, Chesterfield.

RICHARD JEFFREYS.

P.S.—I should also strongly advise shaving the heads regularly until the disease has disappeared.

C. W. (Macclesfield).—The book is not published in English.

THE MANAGEMENT OF THE THIRD STAGE OF LABOUR.

Sir,—The adverse record of your correspondent "Placenta" as to the value of "expression" of the afterbirth should not be allowed to pass without refutation. During the past three years, I have only twice found this method fail me, and in each instance morbid adhesion was present to render it inapplicable. The hardened uterus, even in fat subjects, can always be readily felt; and by firm pressure the placenta becomes "expressed" into the vagina, whence it may be removed by what is then legitimate traction of the cord. By such means, the uterus is steadied, the severity of the after-pains seems modified, and the risk of *post partum* hæmorrhage certainly diminished. The introduction of the hand into the uterus, as recommended by your correspondent, is certainly retrograde, being as objectionable in practice as it is to the patient.—I am, sir, yours obediently,
Dalston, E., Dec. 28th, 1880.

F. E. COCKELL, junior, M.R.C.S.E.

Sir,—In answer to "Placenta," I like himself, have wandered from the teaching of the text-books. We are told that, as a rule, the placenta is expelled in half an hour by the uterine action. It may be so; but I rarely have seen it. Immediately after the separation of the child, I grasp the uterus firmly, and encourage its descent on the placenta, and for a few minutes hook the latter near the insertion of the cord. In this way I avoid all flooding, and save myself much time and annoyance. The squeezing of the uterus is the main instrument; and practice will determine the amount of traction on the placenta. I have only met with two cases of hour-glass contraction, and those in the earlier days of my adoption of this plan.—Yours, etc.,
Longtown, Abergavenny, Dec. 21st, 1880.

LESLIE THAIN, M.R.C.S.

MEDICAL MEN AND THEIR FEES.

Sir,—I observe in to-day's JOURNAL, that a county court case of mine has travelled to you by way of Leeds, and is the subject of an editorial annotation. Your remarks apply pointedly to our county court judge. It may interest your readers to know that, in the case referred to, the defendant, who was sued for attendance on a deceased relative, admitted in court having received more than sufficient money to cover expenses, and had literally no defence except that the money was spent. I may add that, although I had not supplied items on the face of the bill, I was prepared with my ledger to prove them in court. In a subsequent case, the judge, finding this to be so, actually insisted that I ought to be able to state the age and personal appearance of the person attended, and on my somewhat indignantly, and, perhaps, imprudently, replying that I was not a photographic apparatus, allowed only a portion of the bill. It will thus be apparent to your readers that dishonest debtors have a good time of it in Oldham; and that I, having figured in court for the first time in a professional experience of eleven years, am not ardently desirous of going there again, at least as plaintiff.—I am, etc.,
Oldham, Jan. 1st, 1881.

GEORGE THOMSON, M.D.

TEMPERANCE WORK OF NON-ABSTAINERS.

IN the annual summary of the *Church of England Temperance Chronicle* we read the following:—"THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, official organ of the British Medical Association, with 10,000 subscribers, has had repeated friendly references to temperance. The Editor, Mr. Ernest Hart, takes a warm interest in coffee taverns and the new Music Hall Company. He spoke out strongly at Dr. N. Kerr's lecture in the Memorial Hall. His admirable efforts have our warm appreciation; and he well illustrates the power of a non-abstainer. Much valuable aid has been rendered to branches of our society by the frequent addresses of Dr. Alfred Carpenter, whose position as President of the Council of the British Medical Association adds special weight to his words."

PRACTICE BY ARMY SURGEONS.

Sir,—In reply to the question of "Medicus" contained in his letter published in the JOURNAL of the 25th December, it may be stated that there is no regulation prohibiting army medical officers from practising, when such occupation does not interfere with their official duties. In many parts of the world their services are much in request, and in some places no other medical aid is available.

Civilians are frequently entrusted with the medical charge of troops; but it does not appear that this is made a ground of complaint by military surgeons, who are thereby relegated to foreign service.

Your correspondent complains of great injury inflicted upon those who have to pay rent and taxes by army surgeons in one locality being called in for consultation, as though the latter enjoyed an immunity from taxation, and lived rent free! This is by no means the case. A few unmarried officers are here and there accommodated in barracks; it is true (thereby forfeiting part of their emoluments), but the majority provide their own dwellings, and, with smaller means, are subject to the same charges as their brethren in private life.—Your obedient servant,
December 27th, 1880.

BRIGADE-SURGEON

THE "HAMMOND PRIZE" OF THE AMERICAN NEUROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION. THIS American Neurological Association, offers a prize of five hundred dollars, to be known as the "William A. Hammond Prize," and to be awarded at the meeting in June, 1882, to the author of the best essay on the Functions of the Thalamus in Man. The conditions under which this prize is to be awarded are as follows. 1. The prize is open to competitors of all nationalities. 2. The essays are to be based on original observations and experiments on man and the lower animals. 3. The competing essays must be written in the English, French, or German language: if in the last, the manuscript is to be in the Italian handwriting. 4. Essays are to be sent (postage prepaid) to the secretary of the Prize Committee, Dr. E. C. Seguin, 41 West Twentieth Street, New York City, on or before February 1st, 1882; each essay to be marked by a distinctive device or motto, accompanied by a sealed envelope, bearing the same device or motto, and containing the author's visiting card. 5. The successful essay will be the property of the association, which

will assume the care of its publication. 6. Any intimation tending to reveal the authorship of any of the essays submitted, whether directly or indirectly conveyed to the committee or to any member thereof, shall exclude the essay from competition. 7. The award of the prize will be announced by the undersigned committee, and will be publicly declared by the president of the association at the meeting in June, 1882. 8. The amount of the prize will be given to the successful competitor in gold coin of the United States, or, if he prefer it, in the shape of a gold medal, bearing a suitable device and inscription.—Signed F. T. MILLER, M.D., Baltimore, J. S. JEWELL, N.D., Chicago, E. C. SEGGIN, M.D., New York.

THE LECLANCHÉ BATTERY.

Sir,—I will thank you to allow me to ask you, or your readers: What constitutes a Leclanché element, or cell, in galvanism? What is the best way to put it together? and, What is the strength of the solution, or solutions, used? I understand that a battery composed of Leclanché cells is the one to be most commended for wear and constancy of power.—I am, sir, faithfully yours,
ELECTRON.

P.S.—What is the best way to prevent the crystallisation of the solution (which is chloride of ammonium, I think), on the zinc rod?

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

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

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Conscious Matter; or The Physical and the Psychological universally in Causal Connection. By W. Stewart Duncan. London: David Bogue. 1880.
Atlas of Pathological Anatomy. By Dr. Lancereaux and M. Lackerbauer. Translated by W. S. Greenfield, M.D. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1880.
A German-English Dictionary of Words and Terms used in Medicine and its cognate Sciences. By Fancourt Barnes, M.D. London: H. K. Lewis. 1881.
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