

## Association Intelligence.

### BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
NORTH WALES. [Ordinary.]	Dudley Arms Hotel, Rhyll.	Tuesday, Jan. 27, 1.22 P.M.

### NOTICE REGARDING NEW MEMBERS.

By desire of the Committee of Council, the General Secretary requests that the Local Secretaries will be good enough to forward to him the names of all New Members who join the Association through the Branches; as otherwise the JOURNAL cannot be sent to them.

PHILIP H. WILLIAMS, M.D., *General Secretary.*

Worcester, November 10th, 1862.

### NORTH WALES BRANCH.

An ordinary meeting of the members of this Branch will be held on Tuesday, January 27, 1863, at 1.22 P.M., at the Dudley Arms Hotel, Rhyll.

Gentlemen having papers or cases to communicate, will please to give an early intimation of the same to the Secretary.

D. K. JONES, *Hon. Sec.*

Beaumaris, January 13th, 1863.

## Reports of Societies.

### ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13TH, 1863.

B. G. BABINGTON, M.D., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

ON THE WIRE COMPRESS: A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE LIGATURE. BY JOHN DIX, ESQ., HULL.

[Communicated by JOHN BIRKETT, F.R.C.S.]

THE wire compress—the subject of this paper—is a modification of the method of arresting hæmorrhage devised by Dr. Simpson of Edinburgh, and introduced by him about three years ago as a substitute for the ligature. The “acupressure,” as it is called, has been tested by but few surgeons of note; and in London, especially, it is almost unknown and ignored. Although probably a real improvement on the ligature, it undoubtedly labours under certain inherent disadvantages, most or all of which (it is believed) are obviated by the use of a fine wire of iron or of silver, instead of the steel needles of Dr. Simpson.

This idea was first promulgated in a paper on Acupressure published in the *Medical Times and Gazette* of June 2nd, 1860: and first put to the proof in a case of amputation of the finger, September 1860. In this operation two arteries were secured by wire, which was removed on the third day. The case did well: there was no bleeding, and very slight suppuration.

In the next case—Chopart's amputation, performed April 26th, 1861—five wires were applied on as many arteries: four of these were removed in forty-eight hours, and the other on the fourth day. It was found that the wire was easily applied, as easily withdrawn, and entirely effectual for the purpose it was intended to serve—namely, the arrest of the bleeding from the cut vessels. The patient, being the subject of constitutional syphilis, did badly. There was sloughing of the entire surface of the wound, and the flap was totally destroyed; notwithstanding which there was no hæmorrhage; but she died on the thirteenth day after the operation, of pyæmia.

In an amputation of the thigh, done September 21st, 1861, after Mr. Luke's method, there were seven bleeding arteries. Upon five of these the wire was used, and with the femoral artery the femoral vein was intentionally included; two very small branches were treated by torsion. This case did well. Seventy-two hours after the operation four of the “presse-artère” wires were withdrawn with perfect ease and without bleeding. The one on the femoral remained five days, when it, too, was removed without any difficulty and without a trace of blood. There was but little suppuration, and an excellent stump was the ultimate result.

These cases proved that this mode of securing arteries is practicable, efficient, safe, and manageable. It was also believed to possess a certain positive superiority over the ligature, as the following comparison showed.

A ligature in a wound impedes union and induces suppuration. Cure, by primary adhesion, of a large wound—as, for instance, an amputation—is an event of extreme rarity, and this because of the ligatures. A thread of silk is, in fact, a miniature seton, and the whole number required in an operation make up one of considerable size, and can scarcely fail to lead to the formation of pus. Again, the ligature of necessity excites ulceration of the artery upon which it is tied; it cannot in any other way be got rid of. This is another unhealthy process, antagonistic of repair. In applying a ligature, the end of the artery is drawn out from its sheath, by which its natural connexions are disturbed and its vasa vasorum broken up; its coats also are lacerated and bruised. The ligature remains for an indefinite time, long after it is useful or necessary, and it is not unfrequently pulled at by the dresser before it has become detached. Its knot, often deeply buried between the flaps, cannot be withdrawn without tearing through adhesions, or damaging the granulations. All these are serious obstacles to the healing process both in the stump and in the artery itself, and much protract the period of cure. Moreover, the following is an interesting and noteworthy formula: Pyæmia is the offspring of purulent secretion, of which the ligature is an efficient and probable cause. Bleeding arises solely from ulceration of an artery, of which again the *primum mobile* is the ligature.

From one and all of these objections to the ligature, the “wire compress” is almost or altogether free. Thus, in accordance with a well-known pathological law, *it*, being a metallic substance, is freely tolerated by the living body, and has little or no tendency to excite suppuration or irritation. Neither does it cause ulceration of the artery. This is positively affirmed from actual observation of its effect as witnessed in the sloughing stump before alluded to. It is applied without interference with the natural relations and vital connexions of the vessel. It is removed at any time, according to the will and judgment of the surgeon, without disturbance to the reparative action going on in the artery and in the rest of the wound, without futile premature attempts, and almost without pain to the patient. It is not liable to loose its hold, or to become detached too soon, as not unfrequently happens to a ligature applied upon a brittle or sloughing artery. Twigs of nerve accidentally included in the embrace of the wire are not injured and excited as by the tight strangulation of the ligature, and, if thought advisable, the veins are easily and safely occluded, along with the arteries.

Although this has been spoken of merely as a modification of acupressure, yet it is believed to be a decided and important improvement on “Simpson's skewers,” as the needles have been irreverently called, and which are fairly open to the following objections. When several of them are required, the stump resents, as it were, being thus pierced through and through in various directions. From the injury thus inflicted, and from the

from which it appeared that 605 volumes had been presented to the Society by Sir Charles Locock, Bart., Dr. Clay of Manchester, and others.

*Officers.* The following gentlemen were elected officers of the Society for the year 1863:—

*Honorary President*—Sir Charles Locock, Bart., M.D.; *President*—H. Oldham, M.D. *Vice-Presidents*—J. Hall Davis, M.D.; R. Druitt, M.R.C.P.; W. Ferguson, Esq.; Robert Hardey, Esq. (Hull); J. G. Swayne, M.D. (Bristol); and T. H. Tanner, M.D. *Treasurer*—R. Barnes, M.D. *Honorary Secretaries*—Graily Hewitt, M.D., and Braxton Hicks, M.D. *Other Members of Council*—H. Woodruffe Bailey, Esq. (Thetford); C. Clay, M.D. (Manchester); Wm. Fred. Cleveland, M.D.; C. Drage, M.D. (Hatfield); G. T. Gream, M.D.; R. Greenhalgh, M.D.; F. Seymour Haden, Esq.; G. Harley, M.D.; Isaac Harrinson, Esq. (Reading); Henry James, Esq.; J. C. Langmore, M.B.; Alfred Meadows, M.D.; H. Madge, M.D.; Joseph T. Mitchell, Esq.; W. Tyler Smith, M.D.; F. Symonds, Esq. (Oxford); Alfred J. Tapson, M.D.; and J. G. Wilson, M.D. (Glasgow).

*Annual Address.* The first point dwelt upon in the address was the financial and numerical prosperity of the Society. The success of the volume of *Transactions* for 1862 was then briefly referred to. The additions made to the library during the year, the unique value which would attach to a large collection of purely obstetrical works, and the need which existed for appointing a librarian, and making some arrangement which should render the books accessible to the fellows, were next alluded to. The loss of fellows by death during the year was stated to be unusually large, including the names of Dr. Metcalfe Babington, Dr. Waller, Mr. Jessop (of Cheltenham), Mr. Smith (of Crawley), Mr. Rowland (of Wrexham), and others. The trials which had occurred during the year, in which persons practising midwifery were accused of malpraxis, were commented on, and especial notice was taken of the case of Mr. Robinson, convicted of manslaughter at the Central Criminal Court. It was shown that in many of these cases the charge of malpraxis arose out of the attendance of midwives in the first instance; and the anomaly that midwives, without any special training or qualification, are allowed to attend in cases often involving the question of life or death, was commented on. The progress of ovariotomy during the year, and its evident connexion with obstetric practice, were noticed. The recent discussion respecting the genealogy of the Chamberlens and the discovery of the forceps, was alluded to, and reasons were adduced for giving the merit to Mr. Peter Chamberlen, surgeon-accoucheur of the City of London, and the first of the family of whom we have any record. The address was concluded by the retiring President thanking the Society for the kind support which he had received during his tenure of office.

**AN ABSTAINER FROM MEATS AND ALCOHOL.** At a discussion which lately took place in Dublin, Mr. J. Haughton, who had himself lived in health for eighteen years without animal food or intoxicating drink, protested against the high feeding in prisons, ascribed the greater part of the crime of the country to intemperance, and protested in the strongest terms against capital punishment.

**CAUSE OF SAID PASHA'S DEATH.** It is now known that Said Pasha died of a cancerous affection of the rectum. M. Ricord, who had already attended him, and whom he had consulted during his last visit to Paris, had declared that he would die before he was a year older. His surgeons in ordinary had advised an operation, to which he had at last agreed; and M. Nélaton, who had been summoned to Egypt, was on the point of leaving Paris for that purpose when the news of the viceroy's death was received.

## Medical News.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.** The following gentlemen passed their primary examinations in Anatomy and Physiology, at meetings of the Court of Examiners, on January 13th, 14th, and 15th; and, when eligible, will be admitted to the pass examination.

Adams, F. W.	McCandlish, W.
Adeock, C.	Mathews, J.
Bowie, R.	Morris, J.
Brown, I. B.	Morton, S.
Bullmore, C. F.	Murray, S. H. L.
Butcher, H. D. F.	Parkes, H. McK.
Canny, D. J.	Pearson, E. B.
Chambers, F. E.	Penn, W. C.
Charles, A.	Penruddocke, G.
Cheatle, E.	Phillips, G. R. T.
Cockerton, C. E.	Picard, P. K.
Demaine, J.	Robinson, J. C.
Downman, J. R.	Ruddock, E. H.
Drust, J.	Shackleton, J.
Dukes, W. P.	Stedman, J.
Dwelly, H. J.	Smallhorn, T.
Ellis, E. T. C.	Saife, W. E.
Freeman, R. T.	Sutton, F.
Griffiths, G.	Taylor, F. S.
Hardwicke, E. J.	Tuxford, A.
Hay, R.	Walls, A. W.
Henderson, R. W.	Weld, C. H.
Hewley, J. P.	Whidborne, G. H.
Hughes, W.	Wignmore, W.
Hyde, E.	Willnot, R.
Jackson, H. W.	Wilson, T.
Lloyd, T. F.	Woodhams, J. A.
Loane, J.	Wright, M.
Lupton, R. J.	Wright, G. V.
Mackinnon, H. W. A.	

**UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREW'S.** List of gentlemen on whom the degree of Doctor of Medicine was conferred, on December 31st, 1862:—

Anderson, John, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Grantham  
 Allan, Patrick M., L.R.C.S. Ed., Arbroath  
 Ball, John J., Dublin  
 Ballard, William W., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Tunbridge  
 Banks, Alfred J. H., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Stafford  
 Barker, Edward R., M.R.C.S., Denbigh  
 Barnes, Thomas H., M.R.C.S., L.M., Clare, Suffolk  
 Barrett, Barnabas, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Liverpool  
 Barrie, John T., L.F.P.S. Glasg., Newarthill, Lanark  
 Barwise, Joseph, L.A.C., Wigan, Lancashire  
 Beattie, Henry, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Waltham Abbey  
 Beeby, Walter Thomas, London  
 Belcher, Joseph S., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., London  
 Blennerhassett, Rowland, L.R.C.S. L., C.P.E., co. Kerry, Ireland  
 Bowen, Josiah A., L.F.P.S. Glasg., Bretherton, Lancashire  
 Bramley, William S., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., St. John, Wakeshire  
 Bright, John M., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Forest Hill, Kent  
 Brown, Augustus, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Islington  
 Brunwell, John R., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Burnley  
 Bury, Edward C., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Wisbeach  
 Candy, John, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Alstonefield, near Ashbourne  
 Cannell, John, Peel, Isle of Man  
 Carrick, George L., Edinburgh  
 Cleghorn, James, Caithness  
 Creed, Thomas, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Greenwich  
 Cresswell, Nathaniel E., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Canterbury  
 Crompton, Samuel, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Manchester  
 Curgiven, William G., Plymouth  
 Davies, David, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., London  
 Douglas, George, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Gateshead-on-Tyne  
 Dowson, Edward, M.R.C.S., London  
 Ellerton, John, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., Wakefield, Yorkshire  
 Evers, Charles, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., London  
 Ewing, James, L.R.C.P. Ed., L.F.P.S. Glasg., New Lanark  
 Fawcus, Henry R., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., S. Charlton, Northumberl.  
 Fegan, Richard, L.R.C.S. L., L.K.Q.P., Belfast  
 Ferguson, Alex. J., L.F.P.S. Glasg., Perth  
 Fernie, Edward, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Macclesfield  
 France, John, L.F.P.S. Glasg., Glasgow  
 Frankish, John D., Guy's Hospital  
 Fulham, John, L.R.C.S. L., L.A.C., Drogheda  
 Furner, Charles, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Brighton  
 George, Frederic, M.R.C.S., Cottenham, Surrey  
 George, Hugh, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Revesby, Lincolnshire  
 Goddard, Richard W., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., London  
 Gramshaw, James H., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Gravesend  
 Greene, Michael, L.R.C.S. Ed., L.A.C., Ennis, co. Clare  
 Griffiths, Francis P., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Sheffield

Griffith, Griffith H., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., L.R.C.P.Ed. by ex., Folkestone, Kent  
 Griffith, James, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Smarden, Kent  
 Grove, John, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., London  
 Gwynn, Samuel T., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Whitechurch, Salop  
 Harris, Abraham, L.R.C.P.Ed. by ex., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Camborne, Cornwall  
 Harris, Walter, M.R.C.S., London  
 Hodgkinson, Edward Rodolphus, L.A.C., Umballoch, India  
 Hopton, Abney C., M.R.C.S., London  
 Hughes, Ebenezer, L.F.P.S.Glasg., Liverpool  
 Hulme, James D., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Wighton  
 Irvine, John W., L.R.C.S.Ed., L.A.C., Lancaster  
 Jackson, Thomas, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Scarborough  
 James, Alfred, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Forest Hill, Kent  
 Johnson, James M., L.F.P.S.Glasg., Liverpool  
 Jones, John E., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Dolgelly, North Wales  
 Keogh, Edward A., Dublin  
 Lambert, Wm. O., L.F.P.S.Glasg., L.R.C.P.Lond., Sunderland  
 Lawlor, Jeremiah, L.F.P.S.Glasg., Queenstown  
 Lees, Joseph, L.A.C., London  
 Levey, John, M.R.C.S.Ed., L.M.  
 Lloyd, Edwin, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Workop, Notts  
 M'Diarmid, Albert, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Rochester, Kent  
 Macdonough, George V., L.R.C.S.I., Sunderland  
 Macgown, John, L.F.P.S.Glasg., Millport  
 McKenna, Arthur, L.R.C.S.Ed., H.M.S. *Hogue*  
 Mackenzie, Wm. J., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Greenwich  
 Macintyre, Duncan, L.R.C.S.Ed., Fort William  
 Marshall, John M., L.R.C.S.Ed., Edinburgh  
 Mason, Thomas E.  
 Mayou, George, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Newport, Monmouthshire  
 Mayer, John, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Macclesfield  
 Miles, Edwin J., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Gillingham, Dorset  
 Mills, Thomas, M.R.C.S., Tipton, Staffordshire  
 Mills, Wm. P., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., L.R.C.P.Lond., Ipswich  
 Miller, John, L.F.P.S.Glasg., Glasgow  
 Morrison, Peter, L.F.P.S.Glasg., Glasgow  
 Moss, Edward L., L.R.C.S.I., L.M., Dublin  
 Mulholland, Patrick, L.F.P.S.Glasg., Glasgow  
 Murdoch, William, M.R.C.S., London  
 Murray, Henry A., L.A.C., Evesham, Durham  
 Nell, George M., M.R.C.S., L.M.  
 Nelson, George D., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Bridlington Quay  
 Owen, John, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Bromyard, Hereford  
 Paterson, Robert, L.F.P.S.Glasg., Galston, Ayrshire  
 Pullin, Thomas, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Sidmouth, Devon  
 Ransom, Robert, F.R.C.S., L.A.C., L.M., Cambridge  
 Rawlins, William P., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Kentish Town  
 Read, George, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., London  
 Reed, Samuel C., L.R.C.P.Ed., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., London  
 Reid, James B., L.F.P.S.Glasg., Ayrshire  
 Rice, William, L.C.P.E., L.F.P.S.Glasg., Glasgow  
 Ring, John, L.A.C., 1st ex. M.D., Kettering, Northamptonshire  
 Roberts, John, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Talaron, North Wales  
 Rushton, John L., M.R.C.S., Macclesfield  
 Samuels, Arthur, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Liverpool  
 Sandford, Folliott J., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Drayton  
 Scott, David, L.F.P.S.Glasg., Dumoon  
 Sealy, George J., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Maidstone, Kent  
 Selwood, Henry C., M.R.C.S., Birkenhead  
 Simons, Joseph A., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Sussex  
 Skae, Frederick, Edinburgh  
 Smart, Francis W., L.R.C.S.I., Lic. K. & Q. Coll., Kilworth, Cork  
 Smith, Andrew F., Tweedmouth  
 Smith, James A., L.F.P.S.Glasg., Glasgow  
 Smith, John, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Chatham  
 Smith, Robert C., L.F.P.S.Glasg., Manchester  
 Spicer, Robert H. S., L.R.C.P.Ed., M.R.C.S., North Molton  
 Stry, George F., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Army  
 Staples, Joseph H. P., M.R.C.S., London  
 Steel, Richard J. P., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Ed., L.A.C., Blaenavon  
 Steele, James, L.R.C.S.E., Lanarkshire  
 Taylor, John W., New Malton, Yorkshire  
 Teare, Thomas M., M.R.C.S., Ramsay, Isle of Man  
 Telford, Samuel, L.R.C.S.I., Dublin  
 Tessier, William H. C., L.A.C., Dublin  
 Thomas, Richard R. G., L.R.C.P.Ed., L.M., Hartland, Devon  
 Thompson, Robert Farren, L.R.C.S., L.A.C., Jarrow, Durham  
 Trotter, Alexander, L.F.P.S.Glasg., Blyth, Northumberland  
 Trotter, Charles H., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Sydney  
 Tyte, Edward C., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Harrow  
 Usher, Thomas S., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Hull  
 Waddington, E., L.R.Q.C.P., L.R.C.P.Ed., L.R.C.S., Wakefield  
 Waghorn, Frederick, M.R.C.S., London  
 Ward, John, Glossop, near Manchester  
 Warder, Alfred William, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Ottery, Devon  
 Warrington, Francis Wm., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Congleton  
 Watson, John, M.R.C.S., Manchester  
 Webster, Joseph, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Ed., Golcar, Huddersfield  
 Weir, Archibald, F.R.C.S.Ed., Malvern  
 Whipple, John H. C., Plymouth  
 Wilson, James, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Lancashire  
 Wilson, Thomas, M.R.C.S., Lancashire  
 Wise, Wm. C., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Plumstead, Kent  
 Wood, James, L.R.C.P.Ed., L.R.C.S., Kirkby Overblows  
 Wood, William F., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.A.C., Rochdale

Woodman, Frederick, L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S., Isleworth  
 Wrangham, John D., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Wragby, York  
 Young, Henry J., M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Bath

#### APOTHECARIES' HALL. On January 15th, the following Licentiates were admitted:—

Elliot, George Stokoe, Southwell, Notts  
 Leeds, Edward, Stretford, near Manchester  
 Parker, Benjamin Whitehead, Farrington, near Preston  
 Reynolds, John, Truro, Cornwall  
 Selwood, Henry Corpe, The Hospital, Birkenhead  
 Yarrow, George Eugene, No. 8, Central Street, E.C.

At the same Court, the following passed the first examination:—

Coombs, Carey Pearce, St. Mary's Hospital

#### APPOINTMENTS.

BELL, Joseph, M.D., appointed Assistant-Surgeon to the Edinburgh Eye Infirmary.  
 FITZGIBBON, Patrick, L.R.Q.C.P.I., appointed Medical Officer to the Clonmel Constabulary, in the room of the late J. W. Dowsley, M.D.  
 PALFREY, James, M.D., elected Physician to the Surrey Dispensary, in the room of G. Whitley, M.D.  
 SPANTON, William D., Esq., appointed Assistant House-Surgeon to the Sheffield Infirmary, in the room of A. E. H. Trotter, Esq.  
 WRIGHT, F. W., Esq., elected Resident Surgeon to the Birmingham and Midland Counties Lying-in Hospital, in the room of T. H. Hughes, M.D.

#### ARMY.

GALLWEY, Surgeon-Major M. B., Royal Artillery, to be Staff-Surgeon-Major, *vice* F. L. Fitzgerald.

To be Staff-Assistant-Surgeons:—

MILLAR, Assistant-Surgeon W., 75th Foot, *vice* W. R. Kerans.

#### ROYAL NAVY.

KEOWN, Thomas H., Esq., Surgeon, to the *Dauntless*.  
 MANSFIELD, Pierre, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Caradoc*.  
 PRATT, Alfred J., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Triton*.  
 RODGERS, Maxwell, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon, to Plymouth Hospital.  
 BROWNE, Thomas, Esq.  
 CARLETON, William, Esq.  
 FLETCHER, William B., Esq.  
 MANNING, N., M.D.  
 STEVENS, William, Esq.  
 CLARKE, John G., Esq.  
 HAINES, Frederick A. P., M.D.  
 LAW, E., M.D.  
 MACDERMOT, William L., Esq.  
 SHIELD, John, Esq.

Acting-Assistant-Surgeons, to the *Victory*, for *Haslar* Hospital.

Acting-Assistant-Surgeons, to the *Royal Adelaide*, for Plymouth Hospital.

#### MILITIA.

GOMPERTZ, W. F. L., Esq., to be Surgeon 6th Royal Lancashire Militia.

#### VOLUNTEERS. (A.V.—Artillery Volunteers; R.V.—Rifle Volunteers):—

BUTTERFIELD, H. H., Esq., Surgeon, to be Ensign 2nd Brecknockshire R.V.

To be Honorary Assistant-Surgeon:—

HOLMAN, C., M.D., 5th Surrey R.V.

#### BIRTH.

\*BRETT. On January 15th, at Watford, Herts, the wife of Alfred T. Brett, M.D., of a son.

#### DEATHS.

ARMSTRONG. At Peckham, on January 18, aged 2, Charlotte J., eldest daughter of Henry Armstrong, M.D.  
 DAVIS. On January 15, Mary, wife of George Davis, M.D., Dublin.  
 GARDNER. Roger, G. C., Esq., Surgeon, at St. Leonard's-on-Sea, aged 50, on January 17.  
 HEWLETT. On January 9, at St. Leonard's-on-Sea, the Rev. Alfred S. Hewlett, eldest son of \*Thomas Hewlett, Esq., of Harrow.  
 LADD. On January 20, at 9, Holland Place, Kennington Park, aged 18 months, Mary Ada, youngest daughter of Theodore E. Ladd, M.D.  
 STUCKEY, Henry, Esq., Surgeon, at 50, Wellclose Square, aged 36, on January 12.  
 WARDER. On January 15, at Ottery St. Mary, Devon, Alicia, wife of Alfred Warder, M.D.  
 WEBBER. On January 14, at 20, Connaught Square, aged 7, Mary F., daughter of Charles Webber, Esq., Surgeon.  
 WOOLCOMBE. On January 17, at Wooton Rectory, Northamptonshire, aged 72, Anne Elford, widow of William Woolcombe, M.D., of Plymouth.

**HUNTERIAN ORATION.** On February 14th prox. this biennial oration will be delivered by George Gulliver, Esq., in the theatre of the Royal College of Surgeons.

**LONGEVITY.** The obituary of the *Times* of the 21st inst. records the decease of persons who had attained the following advanced ages; viz., 92, 90, 82, 82, 82, 80, 78, 78, 76, 74, 72, 72, and 70 years respectively.

**THE MILK-COMPOSITION DISPUTE.** The interesting point in the matter is this: that the milk taken from the cow in the evening is richer than that which is obtained in the morning.

**DR. W. T. GAIRDNER**, who lately left Edinburgh to fill the office of Professor of Practice of Medicine in the Glasgow University, has been appointed Medical Officer of Health for that city.

**HEALTH OF MANCHESTER.** Notwithstanding the late dreaded rumours of coming fever, we learn with pleasure, that Manchester was never freer from fever than it is at the present moment.

**THE LINCOLNSHIRE POISONING CASES.** Gamer and his wife have been committed on two charges of wilful murder by arsenic-poisoning. Dr. Taylor showed that death resulted from arsenic; or at least found arsenic in the viscera.

**THE MILITARY SCHOOL OF ST. CYR** has been disbanded in consequence of the presence of typhus fever. Four of the scholars have fallen victims to the epidemic, and sixty are confined to their beds, many of them in a most critical state.

**MEDICAL SURVEYOR OF NUISANCES.** The Town Council of Leeds has been memorialised to appoint a medical man Surveyor of Nuisances. The increase and extent of impurities in the town has led to the demand of the services of such an officer.

**THE WELL KNOWN STATUE OF KING EDWARD VI.** which once stood in the centre of one of the quadrangles of the late St. Thomas's Hospital, has been removed to the present abode of the hospital. So also has the statue of Sir Robert Clayton.

**THE ACCIDENT TO THE PRINCESS ALICE.** Mr. Grove, the young medical student who so opportunely assisted Her Royal Highness the Princess of Hesse, when she was thrown from her carriage in the Isle of Wight a few weeks since, has been presented with a valuable gold pin and a set of shirt studs.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.** Professor Huxley, F.R.S., will commence his course of lectures on Comparative Anatomy, in the theatre of the College, on Tuesday, February 17th, at 4 o'clock, when he will deliver an inaugural lecture on the Skeleton of a *Glyptodon* recently presented to the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons by Senor Don Maximo Terrero, the son-in-law of the celebrated General Rosas, who is living in retirement at Southampton. Mr. Waterhouse Hawkins, so well known in connexion with the restoration of certain extinct animals at the Crystal Palace, has been engaged for a considerable time past in making a perfect skeleton of this rare animal, from the innumerable fragments presented to the College by the above named liberal Spaniard. The introductory lecture will be followed by six lectures on the Classification, and on the Characters of the Principal Groups, of the Animal Kingdom; after which Professor Huxley will deliver twelve lectures on the Structure and Development of the Vertebrate Skeleton.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREW'S AND ITS DEGREE.** During December last, 379 candidates presented themselves for the degree of M.D., of which number 336 passed, and 43 were rejected; of the former there were 32 without any qualification; all the others, possessed one, two, and three qualifications. The amount of fees

at £26:5 each arising from those who were *capped*, amounted to £8820; and if to this sum be added the four guineas forfeited by each of the 43 rejected candidates, making together £180:12, and added to the larger sum it gives a total of £9000:12. The government stamp of £10 on each diploma produces £3360. In addition to the 43 rejected on their examination, a great number withdrew without completing their work, and others without even commencing it, deterred from so doing by their antecedents being too well known by the University authorities; to whom great credit is due for their surveillance exercised on this the last occasion of such a rush, as in future the degree cannot be conferred without residence, except in the case of a few old practitioners, and then by a fee of fifty guineas instead of twenty-five guineas. (*Dublin Med. Press.*)

**A HOSPITAL PHYSICIAN'S AFTERNOON.**—The staff of the great hospitals is utterly insufficient to allow of their performing themselves the work allotted to them. .... We discover every now and then a conscientious physician, who tries to do his work. We once calculated this work up in a particular instance. At half-past six in the evening the Esculapian bee was putting on his overcoat to return home; he had taken his seat in a wooden-bottomed chair at 1 p.m. For five and a half hours he had sat there, ringing his bell, calling out "Come in," examining his patients, and writing prescriptions, without a break. In the course of that period he had counted 4,480 strokes of the heart, listened to 86 chests, looked at 190 tongues, asked 1,120 questions, written 336 separate recipes, 11 certificates for clubs, 3 certificates of deaths, and brief notes in the hospital books of 29 new patients, giving their age, sex, occupation, duration of illness, residence, and disease. Altogether he had given advice *gratis* to 224 people, and remarked that he fell short of his usual number. Shall we describe the man at the end of his day's work? He was so pale that he might have played Ghost to Hamlet in broad sun-light. He was a little deaf on one side from the frequent use of the stethoscope; one of his fingers was sore from percussing; his eyes were wearied; his back ached intensely; his head was heavy, and his voice was hoarse and tremulous. He had a misgiving that at the close of his work he had written a prescription for one patient on another patient's letter, and was dreadfully put out to find that, right or wrong, the patients had gone off with their medicines. As he passed out of the hospital nine persons whom he had never seen in his life waited to ask him privately his solemn opinion as to cases some of which had not been before him for weeks, and of which he had no more recollection than of Adam. His face of white despair conveyed to the anxious listeners meanings of which he had not the remotest conception. When he got away from them all there were still three long miles yawning between himself and his dinner. (*Social Science Review.*)

**ON PAIN AND ANÆSTHETICS.** Dr. Valentine Mott, in an essay, advances the following propositions:—1. To prevent pain is humane; 2. Pain is useless to the pained; 3. Pain is positively injurious to the pained. Passing from the discussion of these propositions, the author considers the various narcotics used to assuage pain, and finally the use of anæsthetics. It will interest the profession to learn that the author prefers chloroform to ether. The rules which he gives for the exhibition of anæsthetics are excellent, and cannot be too carefully heeded. He concludes as follows:—"For such reasons then as have been recounted, I desire to direct the attention of the surgeons of the Army and Navy to the advantages which would accrue from a more extended use of anæsthetics in naval and military practice. I am satisfied that if, in these operations, the pain were more generally prevented, many lives would be saved which are now lost from the shock to the nervous system, and

thus in all severe cases, the prospect of recovery is better, and the subsequent inflammation is milder, when an anæsthetic has been used. To this conclusion I have not come hastily. Of so much import have I always regarded the prevention of the pain of operations, and so desirable, if it could be practically effected, that ten years before the introduction of anæsthetic vapour I listened patiently and attentively to the claims of animal magnetism to this power to produce insensibility; but found, and I may say with unalloyed regret, that when fairly brought to the test, its most ardent friends were compelled to admit its utter inefficiency, and even since the invention of anæsthetic inhalation, I have carefully tested the power of other agents, such as nitrous oxide, to produce insensibility to pain, but still consider none of them deserving of mention when compared with chloroform or ether. In conclusion, perhaps I may say, that these observations and reflections have been made during the intervals taken from a business still pressing, at a time of life when most men desire repose. They are given to the cause of American nationality, and may claim to be at least an old surgeon's offering on the altar of his country. The flag of our Union, the glorious stars and stripes, has repeatedly protected me in foreign lands beneath its broad folds, and if what I have written here shall be in any measure successful in preventing the sufferings and prolonging the lives of that noble army who are now serving under my country's banner, I shall receive my reward."

#### OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....Royal Free, 2 P.M.—Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 1.15 P.M.—Samaritan, 2.30 P.M.—Lock, Clinical Demonstration and Operations, 1 P.M.

TUESDAY. .... Guy's, 1½ P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.

WEDNESDAY... St. Mary's, 1 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.

THURSDAY..... St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—London, 1.30 P.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—London Surgical Home, 2 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.

FRIDAY. .... Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.

SATURDAY..... St. Thomas's, 1 P.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.

#### MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY. Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. W. C. Calthrop, "Spontaneous Closure of the Axillary Artery after Division (by a Gun-shot Wound), with final recovery of the Patient."—Royal Geographical.—Entomological (Anniversary).

TUESDAY. Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Buchanan (of Glasgow), "On a White Fibro-Serous Discharge from the Thigh"; Dr. J. A. Marston, "On Syphilis as a Constitutional Disease."—Zoological.

WEDNESDAY. Society of Arts.

THURSDAY. Royal.—Antiquarian.

SATURDAY. Royal Institution.

#### POPULATION STATISTICS AND METEOROLOGY OF LONDON—JANUARY 17, 1863.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

	Births.	Deaths.
During week.....	{ Boys.. 984 Girls.. 947 }	1931 1477
Average of corresponding weeks 1863-62 .....		1934 1475

Barometer:  
Highest (Th.) 30.256; lowest (Sun.) 29.667; mean, 29.965.

Thermometer:  
Highest in sun—extremes (Th.) 60 degs.; (Sun.) 42 degs.  
In shade—highest (Tu.) 46.8 degs.; lowest (Mon.) 27.7 degs.  
Mean—38.1 degrees; difference from mean of 43 yrs.—2.5 degs.  
Range—during week, 19.1 degrees; mean daily, 8.1 degrees.  
Mean humidity of air (saturation=100), 89.  
Mean direction of wind, N.E.—Rain in inches, 0.74.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

\* \* All letters and communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the EDITOR, 37, Great Queen St., Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

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

DR. PHILBRICK'S CASE.—We regret to say that it is quite true that an action has been commenced against Dr. Philbrick by the husband of the woman whose death was the subject of the Coroner's Inquest at Leamington, to which we some few weeks ago called especial attention. It is manifest enough to us, that the man has not the slightest shadow of a chance of obtaining a verdict. We have no hesitation in saying, that the medical reasonings upon which was founded the allegation of Dr. Philbrick being in some way responsible for the woman's death, would fall to pieces at once in a Court of Justice. Nevertheless, if the action is brought, Dr. Philbrick will, under any circumstances, be sorely tried in purse as well as in temper. We are, therefore, glad to hear, that already he has received letters of sympathy and promises of pecuniary support from medical friends. We shall keep our readers apprised of the case; and, should the action go into a Court of Justice, shall again bring the facts of it prominently forward, in order to call upon the profession at large and the Association to support a gentleman—one of their own *corps*—who has, in our opinion, been most cruelly used, and especially by members of his own fraternity.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR DRUGGISTS' ASSISTANTS.—W. O. E. sends us the following advertisement from the *Times*:—

"CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS.—Wanted, a competent Assistant, of good appearance and address, accustomed to first-class business, not under 24 years of age. Apply, stating age, height, and salary, Mr. Amos, Canterbury."

He remarks upon it:—Can it be that the druggist has an artistic eye, and requires a certain æsthetic conformity between the bottles, counter, and shelves, and the height and form of the dispenser? Does this picturesque aptitude for photographic effects add to the efficacy of the drugs and chemicals? or is it simply a homage to the lust of the eye? If stature is so important an element in the qualification of the retail chemist, it is but fair that a standard height should be declared in the prospectus of the Pharmaceutical Society, in order that all King John's "five foot men" should be thus warned to avoid a painful disappointment.

J. K.—Under the Pauper Lunacy Amendment Act, the following is the qualification of medical officers:—

"The term physician, surgeon, or apothecary, wherever used in the Lunacy Acts, shall mean a person registered under 'The Medical Act', passed in the session holden in the twenty-first and twenty-second years of the reign of her present Majesty, chap. 90."

F. T.—Our attention has been called to the following in a bankruptcy account lately published. It certainly is worthy of attention, and for this reason: that so many members of our profession have been unwarily led into many great difficulties in the same way. We fear that the mischief occurs more frequently than is generally supposed. Naturally enough, the sufferers, under such circumstances, do not care to have their misfortunes blazed about. This is the statement referred to:—

"Of the liabilities, £3,000 are in connection with the State Fire Office, of which bankrupt was the medical officer. He allowed his name to be put down for 3,000 shares, on the understanding that the allotment was to be nominal; but the company now being in course of winding-up, he was called upon for £3,000."

THE REPORTED DECAPITATION BY HANGING.—The account of the execution did not escape us. The incident occurred in the backwoods in Western Canada; and, as we all know, strange things have come from the woods of America—the famous puccoon, for example; and, more lately, a cure for another incurable disease—viz., for small-pox. We do not deny the fact, that a man's head might, in the act of hanging, be separated from his body by the jerk resulting from "plenty of rope"; but we must have better evidence before we believe it. It seems to us, that any rope which would be used for the purpose, would give way before the neck of the man would.

A CORRESPONDENT inquires if we can give him any information respecting the "noble charity" at No. 1, Red Lion Square, referred to in the *Holborn Journal* in the following terms:—

"Last week, a correspondent drew the attention of our readers to one of those noble charities with which our neighbourhood abounds; viz., the Infirmary for Diseases of the Leg, Red Lion Square. Though not strictly a local charity, our district nevertheless greatly benefits by its presence amongst us. Up to the year 1857, there was no institution established for the special treatment of a malady which so frequently afflicts the working classes, as that of disease of the leg. It was in that year that Mr. Thomas Westlake, the eminent surgeon, opened the hospital in our district; and, up to the present time, the expense of maintaining this establishment, including the payment of rent, has been mainly borne by the founder. The committee of the institution have considered it unjust that Mr. Westlake should continue to bear the burden any longer, and have made an appeal to the public to take a share of it upon their own shoulders. To this, we have no doubt there will be an adequate response. An institution whose beneficial results have been so appreciated, that there have been four hundred applicants weekly, and one thousand cures of an almost incurable disease effected, will, we are persuaded, not be permitted to fail for want of funds."

[We were unaware of the existence of this noble charity. We find, on reference to the *Directory*, that 1, Red Lion Square, is the address of T. H. Westlake, Esq. We suppose, therefore, that there must be some mistake on the subject. **EDITOR.**]

MR. S. F. SMITH.—We have received a printed missile, entitled "Annual Report from the Case-Book of S. E. Smith, Esq., M.R.C.S.L., Cambridge House, Bristol." The Report consists of four lines; and informs us that Mr. Smith has cured 506, and has under treatment 403 patients of various ages. The rest of this cheaply got up document consists of extracts from various papers—*The London Medical Review*, *The Bristol Gazette*, *Bristol Mirror*, *Bristol Mercury*, *Daily Post*, and so forth; all, of course, to the effect that the aforesaid Mr. Smith is a man of surprising ability, and has performed "successful," "most interesting," "important" operations. What surprises us is, that there would appear to be some person who is envious of Mr. Smith's success; for at the end of his paper we read:—

"To prevent disappointment and imposition, Mr. Smith begs to state that he is not, nor has he ever been, professionally connected with any person whatever, and can only be consulted at his Chambers, Cambridge House, 22, College Green, Bristol, between the hours of eleven to three o'clock daily (Sundays excepted)."

We sincerely, however, trust that Mr. Smith is in error in supposing that any other member of the profession has really attempted to rob him of this fame and practice of his.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS.

THE following Laws of the Association will be strictly enforced:—

15. The subscription to the Association shall be One Guinea annually; and each member on paying his subscription shall be entitled to receive the publications of the Association of the current year. The subscriptions shall date from the 1st of January in each year, and shall be considered as due unless notice of withdrawal be given in writing to the Secretary on or before the 25th of December previous. If any member's subscription remain unpaid twelve months after it shall have become due, the publications of the Society shall be withheld from such member until his arrears be paid.

16. The name of no member shall remain on the books of the Association, whose arrears extend over three years; but the omission of the name from the list of members shall not be deemed, either in honour or equity, to relieve any member from his liability for the subscriptions due for the period during which he has availed himself of the privileges of membership.

PHILIP H. WILLIAMS, M.D., *General Secretary*.

Worcester, January 1863.

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Dr. WILLIAM BUDD; Dr. P. M. LATHAM; Mr. ASHLEY G. OSBORN; Mr. JAMES PAGET; Mr. C. F. BROWN; Dr. KIDD; Mr. JOSEPH HINTON; Vox RURE; THE HONORARY SECRETARY OF THE ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY; Dr. HYDE SALTER; THE REGISTRAR OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON; L.R.C.P.Ed.; Dr. SAMUEL WILKS; Dr. JOHN LYLE; Dr. J. B. NEVINS; Dr. JONATHAN TOOGOOD; Mr. THOMAS HORNBY; Dr. A. T. BRETT; Mr. PRESCOTT HEWITT; Dr. T. J. WALKER; Mr. H. G. WRIGHT; Mr. RICHARD GRIFFIN; Dr. GRAILY HEWITT; Dr. RENSCHAW; Dr. WILLIAM ROBERTS; Δ; and Dr. BEALE.

### ADVERTISEMENTS.

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*The Medical Times and Gazette*  
*The Medical Circular.*  
*The Edinburgh Medical Journal.*  
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