

proper form. It seemed to him that these principles were directly antagonistic to what a good law should be. The first rule he would lay down as an essential to a good lunacy law was that no inquiry into the sanity of an alleged lunatic, whether by a Master in Lunacy or otherwise, should be held in private, but in public, and upon sworn evidence, given by witnesses produced for cross-examination, conducted by a competent judicial officer, assisted either by a jury or by sworn medical assessors, at the option of the alleged lunatic. Where lunacy took a violent form provision might be made for apprehension and detention until such inquiry could take place. His second cardinal rule, therefore, would be that no lunatic should be liable to be forcibly detained in any asylum, or other place whatever, until lunacy had been established by inquiry, except under a warrant from a magistrate, which warrant should be grantable only upon sworn depositions showing that the deponent had reason to fear, and did actually fear, that the lunatic, if left at large, would be dangerous either to himself or some other persons, such warrant only to be valid for seven days. These provisions, if thoroughly carried out, would, he thought, be sufficient to secure at least as high a degree of probability that no sane man was kept under detention as a lunatic as that no innocent man was condemned to penal servitude as a criminal. In conclusion, he expressed his opinion that no question could be brought before Parliament of greater importance to society.—A discussion ensued, in the course of which Dr. MORTIMER GRANVILLE deprecated the statements often made with reference to lunatics that did not bear investigation. In twenty years' close study of the practical working of the lunacy laws he had never found evidence of malpractices. Instead of proprietors wishing to detain patients, it was too often the case that, smarting under fear of accusation, there was a tendency, on the other hand, to discharge cases rather too soon. There was no necessity to mix the question of the treatment of lunatics with their social disabilities. The first was purely a matter for medical men to consider, and the second for lawyers.—Dr. WOOD said that it was a great mistake to suppose that lunatics were ill-treated. On the contrary, most asylums were happy homes for the inmates. His opinion was that public inquiries would be most harmful, as in the present frame of mind of people generally such inquiries would mean ruin, not merely to individuals, but to whole families.—Mrs. LOWE expressed her belief that there were many cases of illegal incarceration, and that she was in possession of proofs of several, and advocated the employment of female inspectors.—Mr. MOZLEY thought that the lunacy laws should, for the purposes of incarceration, be assimilated as much as possible to the processes before detention for crime.—The discussion was continued by Mr. CRUTTWELL, Mr. R. HAMILTON, Dr. HENRY HICKS, and others, several of whom opposed the views expressed by the medical gentlemen, after which Mr. MILLER replied.—The CHAIRMAN, in proposing a vote of thanks to the reader of the paper, without expressing any definite views on the whole question, thought that the more publicly it was known where hereditary insanity existed the better it would be for all concerned. During the discussion on Mr. Dillwyn's Bill in last session the Home Secretary indicated his willingness to accept the appointment of a Select Committee. He would therefore suggest that those desirous of seeing an amendment in the lunacy laws should get some member of the House of Commons to move for such a committee, before which all opinions could be fully and fairly ventilated, and the result would probably be a report that would lead to beneficial legislation, not reflecting on the medical profession, but for the good of the country at large.—The customary compliment to the chairman brought the business to a conclusion.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

COMMITTEE ON THE STUDY OF AURAL SURGERY.

At a meeting of the Committee, appointed by the Committee of Council of the British Medical Association, to consider and report on "the best means of promoting the study of aural surgery, especially in regard to compulsory examination in this subject by the various examining bodies", held on January 11th, it was announced that the following otological teachers had signified their willingness to join the Committee—viz.: Messrs. A. Gardiner Brown, H. H. Clutton, A. E. Cumberbatch, W. B. Dalby, G. P. Field, A. Hensman, W. L. Purves (London), Thomas Barr (Glasgow), J. J. Kirk Duncanson (Edinburgh), A. H. Jacob (Dublin), J. Macfie (Glasgow), and J. A. Nunneley (Leeds). Dr. Urban Pritchard was elected chairman, and Mr. Cresswell Baber honorary secretary of the Committee. The following gentlemen were elected members—viz.: Messrs. G. F. Hodgson (Brighton), F. M. Pierce (Manchester), J. M. E. Scatliff (Brighton), W. J. Tivy (Clifton), and E. Woakes (London). The names of numerous other gentlemen, in all parts of the kingdom, interested in

otology, were also added to the Committee, on the condition of their consent being obtained. The next meeting will be held at 3, George Street, Hanover Square, London, on Wednesday, January 25th, at 4 P.M. Communications on the subject should be addressed to Cresswell Baber, Esq., M.B., 4, Preston Street, Brighton.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL:

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1882: ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

MEETINGS of the Committee of Council will be held on Wednesday, April 12th, July 12th, and October 18th. Gentlemen desirous of becoming members of the Association must send in their forms of application for election to the General Secretary not later than 21 days before each meeting, viz., March 22nd, May 22nd, September 27th, in accordance with the regulation for the election of members passed at the meeting of the Committee of Council of October 12th, 1881.

November 4th, 1881.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

DUBLIN BRANCH.—The annual general meeting of this Branch will, by the kind permission of the President and Fellows, be held on Wednesday, January 25th, at 4 o'clock P.M., in the Hall of the King and Queen's College of Physicians, Kildare Street. The officers and Council for the ensuing year will be elected by ballot, and any other necessary business transacted. Owing to the lamented deaths of the President and President-elect, the Council has nominated Dr. Kidd, Vice-President, for the presidency of the Branch, and he has kindly consented to deliver an address on the occasion. The annual dinner of the Branch will be in the College Hall, at 7 o'clock P.M., the incoming President in the chair. Dinner tickets for members who purchase their tickets on or before Tuesday, the 24th instant, 17s. 6d.; for members purchasing their tickets after that date, and for guests, £1.—GEORGE F. DUFFEY, M.D., Honorary Secretary and Treasurer.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.—*Preliminary Notice*.—A special meeting of this Branch will be held at Manchester in the beginning of February, to consider the subject of Compulsory Notification of Infectious Disease.—A. DAVIDSON, Honorary Secretary, 2, Gambier Terrace, Liverpool.

CORRESPONDENCE.

EXHUMATION NOT BODY-SNATCHING.

SIR,—A paragraph quoted from your paper, headed "Body-snatching", in Friday's *Globe*, is of so misleading a character, and many of its statements so incorrect, that I must ask you to publish this letter in your next issue. As the case alluded to will shortly be before the public in the law-courts, I need only ask you to suspend your judgment; and I think that you will be disposed to do so when I assure you that this is no case of "body-snatching"; that the family of the deceased knew perfectly well that, if the removal of the body could be accomplished, it would be done; that the authorities at the cemetery were obliged to allow the removal under an order from the late Home Secretary; and that no step was taken upon which high legal opinions had not first been given. I have, moreover, read the will of the deceased gentleman, in which he gives directions to enable the friend, who succeeded in carrying out his desire, to have possession of his body; and orders his executors to provide the necessary funds.

In common justice, you will, I feel sure, publish this letter; and feel regret that your highly credible correspondent should have supplied you with a misstatement of facts, the publication of which has caused no little pain to the friends of a most estimable person.—Your obedient servant,

TRUTH.

NORTH WEST LONDON HOSPITAL.—A highly successful Christmas-tree entertainment was thoroughly enjoyed by over 100 children (past and present in-patients) on Thursday evening, January 12th. Mr. Cecil Collard, of the firm of Collard and Collard, kindly lent a grand pianoforte, and several ladies and gentlemen contributed to the fund of amusement, which included a magic lantern exhibition, conjuring tricks, etc. The tree was unusually large and well laden with toys and clothing.

THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR AND LONDON HOSPITALS.—The *Charity Record* states that Count Karolyi, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, has apportioned half of the proceeds of the concert given at the Albert Hall on the 7th instant, on behalf of the sufferers by the Vienna catastrophe, in three equal shares of £91 14s. 10d., each, to the Brompton Hospital for Consumption, the Hospital for Sick Children, and the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem and St. Elizabeth, both in Great Ormond Street.

OBITUARY.

CHARLES DELACHEROIS PURDON, M.B., F.R.C.S.I.

ON last Sunday, the 8th instant, death removed a distinguished practitioner—one holding an honoured name in Belfast—Dr. C. D. Purdon. He succumbed, in his sixty-fourth year, after a couple of days' illness, much regretted by the profession, and a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Dr. Purdon was the son of Dr. Henry Purdon, who practised as a surgeon in Belfast many years since, and received his medical education at Trinity College, Dublin, where he duly graduated in Arts and Medicine; while, two years previously, he obtained the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. He proceeded to practise in Belfast, and became medical officer to the Belfast Charitable Society, and, for nearly twenty years, physician to the Deaf and Dumb Institution. He also received the appointment of surgeon under the Factories' Acts, and was elected vice-president of the Ulster Medical Society. Dr. Purdon was connected with various scientific societies; and, being possessed of a strong bias in relation to antiquarian subjects, he was well qualified to hold the position of Secretary for Ulster for the Royal Archaeological and Historical Society of Ireland. Of a genial and kind disposition, Dr. Purdon was greatly esteemed; and his loss will be regretted by a large number.

RICHARD W. W. GRIFFIN, M.D.

DR. GRIFFIN, well-known as one of the medical practitioners of Southampton, died on December 24th, at the age of forty-five. He had been suffering for some time past from a painful malady. For some years, Dr. Griffin filled the post of medical officer under the Incorporation, the duties of which he discharged with satisfaction till he retired from it. He was also on the medical staff of the Southampton Dispensary, in the welfare of which institution he took much interest. He likewise assisted in the establishment of the Charity Organisation Society at Southampton, the cause of which he advocated with much earnestness and ability, both by means of his tongue and pen. In the Hospital Sunday Fund he also took a lively interest, being a member of the executive committee; and at the annual meeting, held a few weeks ago, reference was made to his serious illness, which elicited an expression of sympathy from those present. He was the son of the late Mr. Griffin of Weymouth, whose name was well-known some years ago as the representative of the cause of Poor-law medical officers.

MEDICAL NEWS.

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 12th instant, and when eligible will be admitted to the pass examination.

Messrs. Geoffrey S. Clayton, William H. F. Farmer, and William A. Griggs, students of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; William A. Shillwell, of Guy's Hospital; Charles R. Bishop, of King's College; Henry W. Dixon, of the Newcastle School; Arthur W. G. Thomas, of the Charing Cross Hospital; Edward R. Tweed, of St. George's Hospital; and Sydney B. Jolly, of St. Thomas's Hospital.

Two candidates, having failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Board of Examiners, were referred to their anatomical and physiological studies for three months.

With this meeting the primary examinations were brought to a close, when, out of the 179 candidates examined, no fewer than 69 were referred to their studies, including 11 who had an additional three months.

At a meeting of the Council on the same day, Mr. Richard Cross, M.D. St. Andrew's, of Carlton House, Scarborough, who had previously been elected a Fellow of the College, was admitted as such, his diploma of membership bearing date March 13th, 1840.

The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations, were admitted Members of the College at a meeting of the Court of Examiners on the 17th instant.

Messrs. Robert Hulis, L.S.A., Carshalton; Alfred C. Wallace, L.R.C.P. Lond., Streatham; George L. L. Lawson, L.R.C.P. Ed., Egremont, Cumberland; Frederick C. Mears, L.S.A., Bromley-by-Bow; Joseph H. Martin, L.S.A., Northampton; Thomas H. Openshaw, L.S.A., Bury, Lancashire; Octavius A. G. Collins, Kingstown, Dublin; Geoffrey F. Travers, Garden Court, Temple; Arthur R. Broom, Ottery St. Mary; F. Herbert Mayo, Deal; Charles E. Paget, Cambridge; Charles R. Bamford, Uttoxeter; Herbert Canton, Finsbury Park; Rayner D. Batten, Palace Gardens, Kensington; Richard S. Wright, Sutherland Gardens; Charles T. Griffiths, Cathcart Road, South Kensington; Edward J. Jenkins, M.A. Oxon., Sydney, N.S.W.; William

Mill, Cholwell, near Tavistock; Alexander G. Wildey, Southsea, Hants; and Cecil M. Hendriks, Jamaica.

Eight candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen were admitted members on the 18th instant.

Messrs. Lockhart E. W. Stephens, L.S.A., Emsworth, Hants; James Robertson, L.R.C.P. Ed., Pall Mall, S.W.; D'Arcy Power, M.A. Oxon., Great Cumberland Place, Hyde Park; Edward T. Trevor, Queen's Gardens, Bayswater; Charles L. Stow, Tunbridge; Quinten R. Veitch, Exeter; Herbert C. Simmons, Tufnell Park, N.; John A. P. Price, Brecon, South Wales; Arthur S. Nance, Eccleshall, Staffordshire; William G. Ellis, Wellington, Somerset; Frederick Bass, Tufnell Park, N.; and Charles F. Rumbold, Melksham, Wilts.

Ten candidates were rejected.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their Examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, January 12th, 1882.

Davies, Edward Cluneglas, Pontfain, Lampeter.
Mears, Frederick Charles, Bromley-by-Bow.
Nicholson, Frederick William, Upper Richmond Road, Putney.
Openshaw, Thomas Horrocks, Bury, Lancashire.
Stuart, Sidney Offord, Woolwich.

The following gentleman also on the same day passed the Primary Professional Examination.

Crone, John Smyth, Queen's University, Ireland.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

BEDFORD GENERAL INFIRMARY.—Resident Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by 26th January.

BELMULLET UNION.—Medical Officer for Binghamstown Dispensary District. Salary, £100 per annum, with £10 yearly as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination fees. Election on February 2nd.

CARNARVONSHIRE AND ANGLESEY INFIRMARY, Bangor.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by 11th February.

CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL, West Strand, W.C.—Assistant-Physician. Applications by 28th instant.

CRAIGLOCKHART HYDROPATHIC, near Edinburgh.—Resident Physician. Applications to the Managing Director, Craiglockhart Hydropathic Company, Limited, 40, Frederick Street, Edinburgh, by 6th February.

DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON, Leicester Square.—Dental Surgeon. Applications by February 13th.

DROGHEDA UNION.—Medical Officer for Duleek Dispensary District. Salary, £110 per annum, with £20 per annum as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination fees. Election on the 23rd instant.

EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT DEACONESSES INSTITUTION AND TRAINING HOSPITAL, Tottenham.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications to M. Laseon, Esq., M.D., The Green, Tottenham, by the 23rd instant.

GENERAL HOSPITAL, Birmingham.—Assistant Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by the 30th instant.

GENERAL HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY FOR SICK CHILDREN, Pendlebury, and Gartside Street, Manchester.—Physician. Salary, £300 per annum. Applications by February 8th.

GRANARD UNION.—Medical Officer for Finnea Dispensary District. Salary, £100 per annum, with £14 per annum as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination fees. Age of candidate not to exceed forty years. Election on 3rd proximo.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—Medical Officer. Salary, £600. Applications by 26th January.

HECKMONDWIKE INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY (Limited), Medical Aid Department.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £200 per annum. Applications by 26th January.

HUDDERSFIELD INFIRMARY.—Senior House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications to F. Eastwood by January 21st.

HUDDERSFIELD INFIRMARY.—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £40 per annum. Applications to F. Eastwood by January 21st.

INFIRMARY FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST AND THROAT, 26, Margaret Street, Cavendish Square, W.—Visiting Physician. Applications by January 28th.

LEAMINGTON AMALGAMATED FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £200 per annum. Applications to the Secretary, Mr. C. Wildman, 6, Woodbine Street, Leamington.

LONDON LOCK HOSPITAL, Male and Out-Patient Department, 91, Dean Street, Soho, W.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications by January 21st.

MERCER'S HOSPITAL, DUBLIN.—Resident Medical Officer and Apothecary. Applications to the Medical Registrar by January 20th.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND.—Professor of Practical and Descriptive Anatomy. Application to John Brennan, Registrar, by January 21st.

ROYAL CORNWALL INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £120 per annum. Applications by 26th January.

ROYAL SURREY COUNTY HOSPITAL.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £75 per annum. Applications by January 30th.

ST. MARYLEBONE GENERAL DISPENSARY, 77, Welbeck Street, Cavendish Square.—Honorary Physician. Applications by January 30th.

ST. ASAPH UNION.—Medical Officer. Salary, £83 per annum. Applications by 25th instant.

ST. OLAVE'S UNION.—Resident Assistant Medical Officer and Dispenser. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by 20th January.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON—Assistant Registrar. Salary, £500 per annum. Applications to A. Milman, Registrar, University of London, Burlington Gardens, W., by January 31st.

WEST HERTS INFIRMARY, Hemel Hempstead.—House-Surgeon and Dispenser. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by 1st February.

WOLVERHAMPTON AND STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL, Wolverhampton. Honorary Physician. Applications by January 30th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

FLINN, David Edgar, L.K.Q.C.P., L.R.C.S.I., appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Brownhills District of the Cannock Union, and reappointed Medical Officer of Health to the Brownhills Urban Sanitary District.

KEMPE, Arthur W., L.R.C.P.Ed., appointed Medical Officer of Health of the Budeleigh Salterton Urban District, *vice* Robert Walker, M.D., resigned.

RICH, A. Creswell, M.B.Lond., M.R.C.S., appointed Honorary Assistant-Surgeon to the Liverpool Hospital for Cancer and Skin-Diseases, *vice* G. G. Stopford Taylor, L.K.Q.C.P.I., appointed Surgeon.

TAYLOR, G. E. Stopford, M.R.C.S., L.K.Q.C.P.I., appointed Surgeon to the Liverpool Cancer and Skin Hospital, *vice* R. T. Lodge, M.D., deceased.

THOMAS, A. Harrison, M.B. and C.M., appointed Assistant Medical Superintendent of the Ayrshire District Asylum.

WRIGHT, C. St. John, M.B., appointed Medical Superintendent to the Islington Workhouse and Infirmary, *vice* A. G. Mickley, M.B., resigned.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

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

BIRTHS.

COUPLAND.—On January 17th, at 14, Weymouth Street, Portland Place, the wife of Sydney Coupland, M.D., F.R.C.P., of a son.

HARRIES.—On the 12th instant, at Tufnell Park, N., the wife of Arthur Harries, M.D., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

WILLIAMS—**KIRKPATRICK-HOWAT**.—On January 17th, at St. Michael's and All Angels, Paddington, Dawson Williams, M.D.Lond., to Catherine, youngest daughter of the late Robert Kirkpatrick-Howat, Esq., of Mabie, J.P., and Deputy-Lieutenant for the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, N.B.

THE Duke of Cambridge has kindly consented to take the chair, at a public dinner, which will be held at the Star and Garter Hotel, Richmond, on Wednesday, February 8th, in aid of the funds of the Richmond Hospital.

PRESENTATION.—At the last meeting of the Birmingham Circulating Medical Book Society, the presentation of a handsome silver salver was made to Mr. George Jones "as a token of their esteem and regard, and in testimony of his kindness and courtesy as honorary secretary for a period of twenty-one years."

SOCIETY FOR RELIEF OF WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF MEDICAL MEN.—A Quarterly Court of the Directors of the above Society was held on Wednesday, January 11th, at 5 p.m. The chair was taken by the President, Sir George Burrows, Bart. Five new members were elected, and the deaths of three reported. The applications for grants from fifty-eight widows and nine orphans were approved, and the sum of £1212 10s. was voted to be distributed according to the merits of the respective cases. Two widows, recipients of grants, were announced as dead. There were no fresh applications for grants. The Christmas present of £5 additional to each widow and £2 to each orphan amounted to £320, and had been paid in December last. The working expenses of the quarter were £65 9s. 7d.

MESSRS. EVANS, Sons, and Co., wholesale druggists, Hanover Street, Liverpool, have opened offices at No. 1 and 2, Exchange Buildings, Crompton Court, Market Street, Manchester, for the purpose of showing samples of drugs, pharmaceutical preparations, druggists' sundries, etc. The offices will be under the superintendence of Mr. Blyton, and will be open every Tuesday and Friday from 11 to 5 o'clock; also, at other times by arrangement.

TREATMENT OF GONORRHOEA.—Dr. A. W. Morris, of Kentucky, in the Medical Herald, says: "Early after I graduated, I was disappointed in the treatment of this disease, both by astringent injections and the internal administration of remedies; and, as I had a large number of cases coming to me, I made an effort to secure a treatment giving more satisfactory results." In my series of experiments, I purchased a "Bartholow's Catheter," an instrument with an olive bulb on the point, and holes in the shoulder of the bulb—the point not being pierced. The tube was of the size of a No. 6 catheter, the bulb being much larger, preventing an outward flow of the injected fluid, and causing it to flow backward and outward. I attached this to a good pump-syringe by India-rubber-tubing; and in the next case, after throwing in about a gallon of cold water, I took a small penis-syringe, and gave an in-

jection of sulphate of zinc, as thorough as possible, and told my patient to call again next day. I saw no more of him for a month; when he said that as it cured him, he never thought any more about it. Holding the theory of the limitation of the disease, as given by Bumstead, and other authorities, I had no faith in the result of this case, and determined to give it a further test, and reached the following result. Out of twenty-five cases, twenty-two were entirely well twenty-four hours after the treatment. No treatment of any kind was given, other than washing out the urethra, and the sulphate of zinc injection first and once only given. One was well in three days, one in seven days, and the other, a drinking man, who kept up his bad habits all the time, was cured in two weeks. After this, in fifteen cases, the result was not so satisfactory, but much more than the old treatment.—*Southern Medical Record*.

ST. JOHN'S AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION.—A meeting, summoned by the Central Executive Committee, was held on Monday afternoon at St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, to consider the desirability of placing those metropolitan police stations where the Order of St. John litters are established in telegraphic communication with the various hospitals, and further to consider the best description of wheeled transport available for London use. Sir E. H. Lechmere, M.P., presided. Many representatives of the chief London hospitals, and police divisional surgeons, were present. Major Duncan mentioned that at seventy-five of the metropolitan police stations there were now St. John wheel-ambulance litters. Mr. E. Owen, St. Mary's Hospital, moved: "That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that a system of street-ambulances should be organised in London." Mr. J. H. Crossman, seconding, invited the members of the order to a meeting to be held on February 2nd, at the United Service Institution, when the Duke of Cambridge would preside, and two excellent ambulances would be presented to the London Hospital. The motion was carried. On the proposal of Major Duncan, seconded by Mr. Furlley, it was decided to offer a prize for the best design of horse ambulance, it being considered that the hand ambulance supplied to the police stations was already perfect. A third resolution was passed, on the proposal of Dr. Allfrey, and seconded by Mr. V. B. Kennett, in favour of placing those metropolitan police stations not already in communication—in electrical communication—for ambulance purposes with the hospitals and with one another. General Burnaby, Mr. Cantlie, Superintendent Turner, Dr. Platt, Mr. Godlee, and others spoke to the subject.

HEALTH OF FOREIGN CITIES.—Trustworthy indications of the recent health and sanitary condition of various foreign and colonial cities are afforded by the following facts and figures, derived from a table in the Registrar-General's last weekly return. According to the most recent official weekly returns, the annual death-rate was equal to 28.4 in Bombay, and 30.3 in Madras. Cholera caused 20 deaths in Bombay, and 7 fatal cases of small-pox were recorded in Madras. The death-rate in Alexandria, during the last week of December, averaged 38.6; the deaths including 19 fatal cases of "fever" and 12 of whooping-cough. In twenty European cities, the death-rate averaged 30.2, and exceeded by 6.9 the average rate prevailing during last week in twenty-eight of the largest English towns. The death-rate in St. Petersburg was equal to 53.5, showing a further increase upon the high rates in recent weeks; the 682 deaths included 32 from "fever", and 27 from diphtheria. In three other northern cities—Copenhagen, Stockholm, and Christiania—the death-rate did not average more than 24.5, the highest being 25.9 in Copenhagen; measles caused 18 of the 57 deaths in Christiania, and 4 fatal cases of diphtheria occurred in Stockholm. In Paris, the death-rate declined to 27.7, although the deaths included 72 from diphtheria and croup, 28 from typhoid fever, and 10 from small-pox. The rates of mortality in Brussels and Geneva were equal to 22.3 and 32.3. The death-rate in the three principal Dutch cities averaged 23.4, and was equal to 20.4 in Amsterdam, 25.2 in Rotterdam, and 28.7 in the Hague; whooping-cough caused 5 deaths in Amsterdam. The Registrar-General's table includes returns from eight German and Austrian cities, in which the death-rate averaged 29.0, and ranged from 24.9 in Berlin and 28.2 in Munich, to 31.4 and 32.4 in Buda-Pesth and Dresden. Small-pox caused 15 deaths in Vienna, 9 in Buda-Pesth, and 4 in Prague; diphtheria fatality showed a considerable excess in Berlin and Dresden. In two of the principal Italian cities, the death-rate averaged 26.9, and was equal to 24.4 in Naples and 31.8 in Turin; typhoid fever showed fatal prevalence in both these Italian cities. In four of the principal American cities, the death-rate averaged 26.1; it was equal to 21.0 in Philadelphia, 24.0 in Baltimore, 24.3 in Brooklyn, and 32.8 in New York. Small-pox caused 12 deaths in New York and 11 in Philadelphia; diphtheria showed fatal prevalence in New York, Brooklyn, and Baltimore.

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, 2 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., 1; Dental, M. W. F., 9.30.
GUY'S.—	Medical and Surgical, daily, exc. Tu., 1.30; Obstetric, M. W. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 1.30; Tu. F., 12.30; Ear, Tu. F., 12.30; Skin, Tu., 12.30; Dental, Tu. 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., 1; Throat, Th., 3; Dental, Tu. F., 10.
LONDON.—	Medical, daily exc. S., 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30 and 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 9; Ear, S., 9.30; Skin, W., 9; Dental, Tu., 9.
MIDDLESEX.—	Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 8.30; Ear and Throat, Tu., 9; Skin, F., 4; Dental, daily, 9.
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S.—	Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., W. S., 9; Eye, Tu. W. Th. S., 2; Ear, M., 2.30; Skin, F., 1.30; Larynx, W., 11.30; Orthopaedic, F., 12.30; Dental, 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, M. Th., 2; Skin, Th., 1.30; Throat, W. S., 12.30; Dental, W. S., 9.30.
ST. THOMAS'S.—	Medical and Surgical, daily, except Sat., 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 2; o.p., W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th., 2; o.p., daily, except Sat., 1.30; Ear, Tu., 12.30; Skin, Th., 12.30; Throat, Tu., 12.30; Children, S., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 10.
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—	Medical and Surgical, daily, 1 to 2; Obstetric, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Tu. Th. F., 2; Ear, S., 1.30; Skin, W., 1.45; S., 9.15; 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. Second Lettsomian Lecture, by Mr. Hutchinson Royes Bell, on Diseases of the Testicles and their Coverings.
TUESDAY.—	Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Robert Barnes: On Hernia of the Ovary; with the Relation of Cases observed by the author.
WEDNESDAY.—	Hunterian Society, 7.30 P.M., Council Meeting. 8 P.M., Report of Committee on Mr. Stevens's Case of Cerebral Tumour. Dr. Carrington: Cases of Hepatic Abscess associated with Dysentery. Dr. Turner: Miliary Anæstisms from a Case of Cerebral Hemorrhage.—Association of Surgeons practising Dental Surgery, 8.30 P.M. General Meeting for the Election of Officers and Council.
FRIDAY.—	Clinical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. W. H. Kesteven: A Case of Unilateral Nanthropis. Cases of Renal Calculus removed by Operation: by—1. Mr. Marcus Beck; 2. Mr. Butlin; 3. Dr. Whipple and Mr. Haward.—Quekett Microscopical Club, 8 P.M. Mr. J. G. Haller: On Sand.

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.

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

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

FEES AT CORONERS' INQUESTS.

M. B. M. A.—No provision is made for the payment to a medical witness of any further fee than one guinea for attending to give evidence at an inquest in Great Britain in obedience to the order of a coroner, when the *post mortem* examination has been already made, or more than two guineas for making the examination, either with or without an analysis of the contents of the stomach, and attending to give evidence thereon. Nor are there any legal cases recorded in which it appears that any additional remuneration has been granted to or applied for by medical men for their attendance at adjourned inquests. We have been informed by one of the greatest authorities in the metropolis upon the law of inquests, that no fee or fees had been or would be allowed to medical witnesses for attending at and giving evidence at adjourned inquests. It seems to us, therefore, that provision should be made for due remuneration for going to, and giving testimony at, adjourned inquiries.

SIXTEEN COMMANDMENTS OF THE FRENCH ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

THESE commandments relate to the care and feeding of infants; and Dr. Halliday, who translates them for an American contemporary, expresses the sincere hope that all mothers and nurses will commit them to memory and observe them as faithfully as the ten commandments. 1. During the first year the only suitable nourishment for an infant is its own mother's milk, or that of a healthy wet-nurse. Suckling should be repeated every two hours—less frequently at night. 2. When it is impossible to give breast milk, either from the mother or a suitable nurse, cow's or goat's milk given tepid, reduced at first one-half by the addition of water slightly sweetened, and after a few weeks one-fourth only, is the next best substitute. 3. In giving milk to an infant always use glass or earthenware vessels, not metallic ones, and always observe the most scrupulous cleanliness in their management, rinsing whenever used. Always avoid the use of teats of cloth or sponge so frequently employed to appease hunger or quiet crying. 4. Avoid carefully all those nostrums and compounds so liberally advertised as superior to natural food. 5. Never forget that artificial nourishment, whether by nursing bottle or spoon (without the breast), increases to an alarming degree, the chances of producing sickness and death. 6. It is always dangerous to give an infant, especially during the first two months of its life, solid food of any kind—such as bread, cakes, meats, vegetables or fruit. 7. Only after the seventh month, and when the mother's milk is not sufficient to nourish the child, should broths be allowed. After the first year is ended, then it is appropriate to give light broths or paps, made with milk and bread, dried flour, rice, and the farinaceous articles, to prepare for weaning. A child ought not to be weaned until it has cut its first twelve or thirteen teeth, and then only when in perfect health. 8. A child should be washed and dressed every morning, before being nursed or fed. In bathing a child, temper the water to the weather, carefully cleanse the body, and especially the genital organs, which require great cleanliness and care; and the head should be carefully freed from all scabs and crusts which may form. Where the belly-band is used, it should be kept on for at least one month. 9. An infant's clothing should always be so arranged as to leave the limbs freedom of motion, and not to compress any portion of the body. 10. An infant's clothing should be studiously adapted to the weather; avoiding at all times exposure to the injurious effects of sudden changes in temperature without proper covering; but nurseries and sleeping apartments should invariably be well ventilated. 11. An infant should not be taken into the open air before the fifteenth day after birth, and then only in mild fair weather. 12. It is objectionable for an infant to sleep in the same bed either with its mother or nurse. 13. No mother should be in too great a hurry to make a child walk; let it crawl and accustom itself to rising on its feet by climbing on articles of furniture, or assisted by the arms of a careful attendant. Great care should be taken in the too early use of baby wagons, etc. 14. No trifling ailments in infants, such as colics, frequent vomiting, diarrhoea, coughs, etc., if persistent, should be neglected—a physician's advice should be at once obtained. 15. In cases of suspected pregnancy, either of mother or nurse, the child should be weaned at once. 16. A child ought to be vaccinated before the fifth month.

SCRUBBING & WAXING HOSPITAL FLOORS.

SIR,—May I ask, through your columns, what is the experience and opinion generally entertained of the relative merits of the above named processes, more especially with regard to cleanliness, sanitary value, economy of servants' time, appearance, and safety of locomotion, in the case of aged or feeble patients?—Yours truly,

SCRIPTOR.

* It is now pretty generally admitted that scrubbing of hospital floors is undesirable, both on account of the time and labour required, and also because it is difficult to dry them with sufficient rapidity. Scrubbing ought certainly not to be done in wards while they are in occupation, the damp so produced being hurtful to patients. Floors that require scrubbing are usually of common deal, and, therefore, objectionable, both on account of the absorbent nature of the wood itself, and also because they seldom fit well, and so leave interstices in which organic matter lodges. Waxed floors, or floors rendered otherwise impervious, are to be preferred in every way; the only possible objection being the chance of falling for the aged or the feeble. The use of soft slippers would, however, obviate any such danger.

SELF-MUTILATION.

SIR,—The case of Isaac Brooks is no doubt one of great psychological interest. In connection with it, I should like to record the following case, which was under my charge when I was resident surgeon to the Guest Hospital, Dudley.

A labourer, aged 40, was admitted on July 29th, 1876; he was brought in by the police, who had discovered him lying in a field, bleeding severely, and with a pocket-knife—which they produced—by his side. I found he had an incised wound the whole length of, and completely opening up, the scrotum; the left testicle was missing; the cord had retracted considerably, and there was a great deal of hæmorrhage, which I had difficulty in stopping. About an hour after his admission, the police brought to the hospital the missing testicle, covered with dirt, which they had succeeded in finding in the grass, about six yards from the spot where he was first discovered.

A woman who had been lately seen in his company was arrested, in the belief that she had inflicted the injury; but she was released, on the man subsequently confessing to me that he had removed the testicle himself with his pocket-knife, in a fit of remorse. It appeared that he had had a quarrel with his wife, and had then been drinking for several days in company with a prostitute; he informed me that he considered his act of self-mutilation was an atonement for his misconduct. He was perfectly calm and rational on admission, and I could not detect, during his stay in the hospital, any trace of insanity; neither did there appear to have been any in his family. He was discharged, cured, on August 14th.

I heard of him occasionally for about a year afterwards, and during that time he did not make any further attempt upon himself.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,
2, Ospringe Road, N.W., January 17th, 1882. ARTHUR ORWIN, M.D.