

again fallen below the demand. The warrant of 1858 was not an isolated measure. The aim and end of it was to secure for the service of the State the highest available professional talent and skill.

We have already quoted Lord Dalhousie's famous minute, and with one other extract from that dispatch, demanding equal justice for military surgeons, we conclude:—"I respectfully submit that such inequalities are founded on no sound grounds of justice, expediency, or policy; no valid reason has ever been given or can be alleged for maintaining them. Their effect is to depress the spirit of the medical officer, to depreciate a profession and class of service which ought to be held in the utmost respect, and supported equally from motives of prudence and gratitude." (*Army and Navy Gazette*.)

SIR WILLIAM PETTY, THE FOUNDER OF THE LANSDOWNE FAMILY.

THE fortunes of the Lansdowne family were formed by a man chiefly known as the founder of a new science—the science of Political Arithmetic, but whose life involved so many of the modes of activity which a very remarkable period afforded, that one is surprised to find that it has been almost entirely overlooked by the biographers. Sir William Petty, the son of a clothier at Romsey, fought his way desperately to fame and fortune in the times of the Commonwealth and the Restoration. He entered the navy, and soon left it; he tried merchandise for a time, and left that also; he then invented a copying machine, but received no profit from it; he turned to medicine, and dissected in Paris under the guidance of Hobbes; he became Professor of Anatomy at Oxford; to anatomy he added music, and became professor of this art at Gresham College; subsequently he became physician to the Irish army during the Protectorate; not content with these occupations, he contracted for the admeasurement of lands in Ireland forfeited by the rebellion, his survey being still of great value in the law courts as a work of reference; he became a member of parliament under Oliver; he was knighted by Charles II; he was one of the founders of that Royal Society which has had so much influence on the development of science; he at length became a shipbuilder, inventing a double-bottomed vessel to sail against wind and tide; and, finally, by various important works on taxation and national wealth, he established, as we have said, the new science of Political Arithmetic. He died, leaving what in these times would be considered very large possessions—personal estate to the amount of £15,000, and landed property to the value of £6,500 a year. Such are the self-made men who supply our English aristocracy with new blood and preserve it in vital connection with the hearts of the people. He married a lady who was Baroness Shelburne in her own right, and by her daughter, his only surviving child, who had intermarried with the Kerry family, he became the great grandfather of the celebrated Earl of Shelburne, the first Marquis of Lansdowne, and the father of the deceased Marquis.

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL. Among the legacies bequeathed during the past quarter to this charity, there was one from Mr. Cropper, who was ninety years old when he died, and had, it appears, survived all his relations. He was a barrister-at-law, and lived in the most frugal manner in his chambers at Gray's-inn. The amount of his property at the time of his decease is estimated at about £1,000 *per annum*, and £10,000 in money, the whole of which he has bestowed upon London charities, selecting Middlesex Hospital as his residuary legatee.

Association Intelligence.

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.

BRANCH MEETING TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
BATH AND BRISTOL. [Ordinary.]	Athenaeum, Corn Street, Bristol.	Thursday, Feb. 26, 7 P.M.

EAST KENT DISTRICT MEDICAL MEETINGS.

The next meeting will be held at the Pavilion Hotel, Folkestone, on Thursday, March 5th, at 3 P.M.

THOMAS BOYCOTT, M.D., *Hon. Sec.*

Canterbury, February 10th, 1863.

Reports of Societies.

ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, FEB. 3RD, 1863.

J. CRAWFORD, Esq., President, in the Chair.

ON THE PSYCHOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES WHICH EXIST AMONGST THE TYPICAL RACES OF MAN.

BY ROBERT DUNN, F.R.C.S.

As papers of a psychological character have so rarely been read at the meetings of the Society, the author offered no apology for asking the attention of the meeting to this subject, being satisfied that if there was any branch of the science more interesting than another it was that which related to the psychological differences which characterise the different varieties of the human species. That the genus *Homo* was one, the author believed and maintained, on the ground that in man's moral and religious attributes the inferior animals do not participate; and it was this, he considered, that constituted the difference between him and them. The barrier was thus, he considered, impassable between man and the chimpanzee and gorilla; and wherever two-handed and two-footed man, in his erect attitude and with his articulate voice, is found, his claims to our common humanity must be immediately acknowledged, however debased the type may be or mean the garb in which that humanity is clothed. Mr. DUNN's conviction was, that there was proof of a general unity exhibited in all the races of the great family of man; inasmuch as they were all endowed with the same instinctive, sensational, perceptive, and intellectual faculties—the same mental activities, however much they may vary in degree. It had, he thought, been fairly argued that all the races of the human family form but one species, from the physiological fact that they are all capable of fruitful union, which would not be the case with the hybrids of two species of even the same genus. Believing the brain to be the material organ of the mind where the ultimate molecular changes take place, and whence the mandates of the will issue, the author considered the study of the cerebral organisation and development in the various typical races as one of the most effectual means of better understanding and elucidating the psychological differ-

GRATUITOUS MEDICAL SERVICES.

LETTER FROM FREDERICK J. BROWN, M.D.

SIR,—The Medical Act is bearing good fruit; it is uniting the members of the profession into one faculty, whilst it admits of professional distinctions. As regards the public, the one thing needful is registration. Changes of every kind are springing up day by day in our profession, promoted, I believe, by the Medical Act. Amongst these changes, I include the general outcry of the profession for a cessation of gratuitous services to public charities. The pride of the heads of the profession made them, in times past, desirous of appearing superior to the acceptance of salaries. At the present moment, the dignity of Fellows and Members of the Royal College of Physicians would be hurt by suing at law for fees.

The same pride obtains amongst barristers; but it appears to me that this "chivalry" has nearly seen its day, both in law and medicine.

I do not think that there is an instance of the same sort of "chivalry" in the church. Clerics, after all, are less fantastic in money matters than their brethren of the forum and of the clinique.

Besides the pride of the profession itself, there has been another cause in operation keeping up gratuitous public services. This is a desire on the part of the public to drive a bargain with medical practitioners. It is commonly said that medical gentlemen are bad business men, and they often confirm this saying by their conduct.

In the matter of gratuitous public services, the public reason thus: Dr. A. or Surgeon B. will benefit himself vastly by this hospital appointment. He will be consulted by hundreds, and will become eminent and rich. Why pay him for benefiting himself? This style of reasoning reminds us of the custom of certain Oriental patients that demand a backsheesh from the doctor that attends them; for, say they, "Think of the great experience that you have gained by attending us." (See *Gadsby's Travels*.)

I wish to ask the members of our Association what they think of the scheme drawn up by the Chancellor for St. Bartholomew's Hospital at Rochester. The hospital will be opened after Midsummer, and is to be in charge of a resident surgeon. There will be a licentiate of the Apothecaries' Hall to act as a *pharmacien*, and there will be a consulting physician and a consulting surgeon. There will be fifty general beds, and thirty lock beds for women. The resident surgeon and the resident apothecary will receive salaries, but the consulting officers will not be paid. The duties of the consulting officers is to visit the hospital twice a week at least, so as to examine every patient on admission and on discharge (except Lock patients); and to attend the meetings of the Board. The duties, therefore, are those of examining as well as of consulting officers. They are to be ready to consult on all occasions, but they will not have the treatment of patients.

Now, I ask the members of our Association whether they think this scheme to be either practicable or just. The resident surgeon will have to prescribe for out-patients and to treat all the in-patients. It appears to me to be too much work for one man. Then it will be dangerous, I believe, for one man to attend thirty Lock patients as well as the general patients. Next, as to the consulting officers' appointment, it would be a loss of time to medical practitioners, without any compensation whatever; for there is not the professional pleasure afforded them of the care and treatment of patients.

I have brought the matter before the trustees of the charity, and before the public of Rochester and Chatham, deeming it my duty to our profession so to do.

It is a good case for an attempt to obtain an altera-

tion in the system of hospital services; for the charity is rich, being the oldest in England since the conquest. St. Bartholomew's Leper House Charity was founded in 1078.

I am, etc.,

FREDERICK J. BROWN.

Rochester, Feb. 9th, 1863.

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS. The following gentlemen passed the first part of the Professional Examination for the Licence of the College, on February 9th, 1863:—

Bryan, John Morgan, St. Mary's Hospital
Burrell, Edwin, Guy's Hospital
Hyde, Sidney, King's College
Lovegrove, Washington, 34, Dowgate Hill
Low, Alexander James, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Pyle, George Edward, Middlesex Hospital
Squarey, Charles Edward, University College

APPOINTMENTS.

COLES, Robert W., Esq., appointed Certifying Surgeon, under the Factory Act, for the District of Oldham, East.
*COULSON, William, Esq., appointed, by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Sheriff of Cornwall, for the ensuing year.
FREEMAN, Robert G., M.D., appointed Surgeon for the Greenwich District of the Royal Kent Dispensary.
KAVANAGH, Patrick, M.D., appointed Surgeon for the Deptford District of the Royal Kent Dispensary.
LESLIE, William, Esq., appointed Inspector, under the Factory Act, for the Aberdeen District.
MURRAY, J. Jardine, Esq., appointed Surgeon to the Brighton and Sussex Infirmary for Diseases of the Eye.
OLDHAM, James, Esq., appointed Consulting Surgeon to the Brighton and Hove Lying-in Institution.
RIVINGTON, Walter, Esq., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Tower Hamlets Dispensary.
SAVERY, John, M.D., appointed Surgeon Extraordinary to the East Sussex Infirmary.
WILL, James, M.D., appointed Inspector, under the Factory Act, for the Aberdeen District.
*WOLLASTON, Robert, M.R.C.P., appointed Physician to the Stafford General Infirmary.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICE.

ALLISON, William, M.D., to be Medical Officer to the Clandy District of the Londonderry Union.
ATKINSON, Frederick A., Esq., to be Medical Officer to the New Leake District of the Boston Union.
CRAMER, Frederick A., L.R.C.P.E., to be Medical Officer to the Haubury District of the Droitwich Union.
CRICKMAY, Edward, Esq., to be Medical Officer to the Dilwyn District of the Weobley Union.
MCGREEVY, Neil, L.K.Q.C.P.L., to be Resident Apothecary to the Workhouse of the Lurgan Union, Armagh.
MACKLEY, Herbert, Esq., to be Medical Officer to the Clackheaton District of the North Brierly Union, Yorkshire.
O'CONNOR, Laurence G., Esq., to be Second Medical Officer to the Clifden District of the Clifden Union, Galway.
TIMMINS, Daniel, Esq., to be a Public Vaccinator for Dudley.
TURNER, Edward W., Esq., to be Medical Officer to the Deddington No. 1 District of Woodstock Union.

ARMY.

FRANKLIN, Staff-Surgeon-Major H., from half-pay, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* J. T. Telfer.
JOHNSTONE, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon John, M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon 26th Foot, *vice* J. McIetchie.
STEWART, Deputy Inspector-General A., retiring on half-pay, to be Honorary Inspector-General of Hospitals.

To be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon:—

CRAWFORD, Assistant-Surgeon J. R., 69th Foot.

ROYAL NAVY.

BAYNES, W. W., Esq., Staff-Surgeon, to the *Indus*, for the *Canopus*.
GEORGES, Thomas E., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Asia*, for the *Hannibal*.
GIMLETT, Hart, M.D., Surgeon, to the *Asia*, for the *Hannibal*.
HADLOW, Henry, Esq., Assistant-Surg. (additional) to the *Fisgard*.
KEPLING, Thomas, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Indus*, for the *Canopus*.
MC CARTHY, Charles D., Esq., Surgeon, to the *Vigilant*.
MINNOCH, Alexander, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the Woolwich Division of Marines.

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

SEALE, J. L., M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon 2nd Wiltshire R.V.

To be Honorary Assistant-Surgeon:—

VYE, E., Esq., 4th Devonshire R.V.

DEATHS.BLACKMAN, Matthew, Esq., Surgeon, at Whitstable, on Feb. 4.
BROOKS, Richard B., Esq., formerly of Chelmsford, at Madeira, aged 27, on January 12.

*COLLYNS, William, Esq., at Chudleigh, Devon, on January 15.

HOLMES. On February 8th, at 11, Great Coram Street, Louisa

Theresa, widow of the late James Holmes, Esq., Surgeon R.N.

LAING. On February 7, at Aberdeen, Mary G. T., widow of Francis

Laing, M.D., Staff-Surgeon.

PACKMAN, William S., M.D., of Clarges Street, at Alexandria, aged

45, on January 24.

WHITE, Peter, Esq., late Surgeon 72nd Regiment, at Brompton, aged

82, on February 5.

*WILLIAMS, R. Parry, Esq., at Bron Offa, near Wrexham, lately.

WINSTON, David, Esq., late of Haverstock Hill, aged 30, on Feb. 1.

Mr. CURITT has resigned the office of President of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Dr. HARLEY has been elected a corresponding member of the Royal Academy of Sciences, of Bavaria.

SUCCESSFUL MIDWIFERY. Only nine fatal cases have occurred in 3,540 deliveries effected during 1862, at the Royal Maternity Charity.**ARMY MEDICAL OFFICERS.** Each medical officer in an army has made his charge an average of 241 soldiers, exclusive of soldiers' wives and children.**UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.** Dr. Rolleston and Sir Benjamin C. Brodie, Bart., have been nominated examiners for the Burdett Coutts scholarship.**REJECTIONS OF RECRUITS.** About 350 per 1000 of those who present themselves for medical examination as recruits, are rejected on account of physical disability.**BIRTHS IN 1862.** During the past year 711,601 children were born in England and Wales, amounting to an average of 1,950 *per diem*. This is the largest number of births ever recorded as occurring in this country.**SANITARY STATE OF WINDSOR CASTLE.** We are glad to find from a report of Mr. Rawlinson, that he believes Windsor Castle to be the most complete in sanitary works, appliances, and arrangements of any large building in existence.**CONGRÈS INTERNATIONAL DE BIENFAISANCE.** The publication of the *Compte Rendu* of the recent London Session is in progress. The foreign papers and reports will be in French, forming one volume; the English papers and reports in English, forming a second volume.**CARBONIC ACID AS AN ANÆSTHETIC.** M. Ozannan has given a mixture of three parts carbonic acid with one part of atmospheric air with success as an anæsthetic. After breathing it for ten minutes the patient became insensible, and an operation was performed without his evincing any sign of pain.**ROYAL INSTITUTION.** At a general monthly meeting, held on the 2nd instant, the secretary reported that the executors of the late James Walker, Esq., F.R.S., M.R.I., had bequeathed to the Institution a marble bust of Professor Faraday, by Mr. Matthew Noble, M.R.I. The thanks of the members were returned to Professor Tyndall, and to his Eminence Cardinal Wiseman, for their discourses on the evening meetings on Fridays, January 23 and 30.**NON-COMBATANTS.** Dr. Detmold of New York says in his lectures as military surgeon:—"In case of a disaster to the army, such as a hasty strategic movement, change of base, or whatever else the commanding general may

choose to call it, where the wounded are left behind, I need not say that the surgeon must remain with the wounded, that is, a sufficient number of surgeons must be left behind to take care of the wounded which fall into the hands of the enemy. It is beginning to become an established custom no longer to make prisoners of war of the surgeons; they are non-combatants, and as they extend a helping hand to all wounded, whether friend or foe, so should their sacred calling protect them; and wherever surgeons have been captured of late they have, I believe, invariably been unconditionally released."

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON. On Saturday last, the result of the last year's competition of three candidates for the clinical gold and silver medals, instituted at the suggestion of Dr. Elliotson by the late Robert Fellowes, LL.D., for the best observations on the medical cases in the hospital, was reported by the examiners, Dr. Walsh, Dr. Garrod, Professor Jenner, and Dr. Hare. The council, on the recommendation of the examiners, in consideration of the very high order of merit of all the papers sent in, awarded as follows: the first place and the gold medal to Mr. Talfourd Jones, the second place with an extra gold medal to Mr. Frederick T. Roberts; the third place with the silver medal to Mr. Richard Dawson.

SCHOLARSHIPS IN NATURAL SCIENCE AT SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE. This College has just issued a notice that two scholarships, of the value of £40 per annum each, will be given this year for natural science, the examination to commence on October 13th; the subjects being electricity, chemistry, geology, and anatomy (human osteology and general anatomy). The scholarships are perfectly open. The successful candidates will be required to enter at the College. Further information may be obtained from the Rev. J. C. W. Ellis, tutor of the College. Other scholarships, ranging in value from £32 to £80 per annum, are to be competed for at the same time.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND PUBLIC CONVEYANCES. In the House of Commons, on Monday, Dr. Brady asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department if his attention had been directed to the evils resulting from persons labouring under infectious diseases being carried to hospital in public conveyances; and, if so, if it be his intention to introduce any measure this session with a view to remedy the same. Sir G. Grey said his attention had not been called to the subject except by reading letters in the newspapers. The subject had been discussed when the Hackney Carriage Act was before Parliament, and a clause had been proposed to meet the difficulty suggested by the hon. gentleman. On discussion, however, the clause had been withdrawn. It was in the power of parochial authorities to deal with the matter by their own private acts, and some of them kept carriages for the purpose of conveying persons to the hospital. He thought the driver of a public conveyance would be justified in refusing to convey a person labouring under an infectious disease. In reply to a further question from the hon. member, the right hon. gentleman the Home Secretary said, so far from having any objection to the hon. member introducing a bill to remedy the evil, he should be much obliged to him to do so, that he might know in what way he proposed to deal with the question.

REGISTRATION IN IRELAND. In the House of Commons, on Monday last, Sir Robert Peel moved for leave to introduce a Bill on this subject. He said that a system of registration would be of immense utility. It would be very beneficial, for instance, in promoting sanitary reforms. If correct data could be obtained as to the health of the people, measures would be more promptly and effectually taken to mitigate disease. All

classes will be benefited by its adoption in Ireland, not as a mere registration of births and deaths, but as a plan for bringing annually before the public, as in England and Scotland, the causes affecting the health of the community. Ireland is almost the only civilised country in the world where no such system of civil registration of births and deaths exists. The English Act was passed in 1836. It caused a good deal of agitation at the time, but it has worked admirably. The passing of the Scotch Act was even more strongly opposed, and it was not until 1854 that the opposition was overcome. The Scotch Act is an improvement upon the English one. In the present Bill, he adopted a system in conformity with that in operation in England—so that the areas or districts will be the areas of the unions, the dispensing medical officers of the unions will be the registrars, and the clerks of the unions will be the superintendent registrars. The Poor-law districts are well known, whereas considerable inconvenience would have resulted in that respect from the employment of the constabulary. In Ireland, besides 163 unions, we have 718 dispensary districts with 777 dispensary medical officers—thus forming an admirable machinery ready to our hand. As to expense, the deputations from the College of Surgeons of Ireland, the Statistical Society, and the Social Science Association, all recommended that the remuneration of the registrars should be defrayed from the local rates, but that the superintendent registrars should be paid out of the Consolidated Fund. He proposed that the registrars should be paid, as in England, out of the rates, but that the superintendent registrars should receive their fees out of the Consolidated Fund. Considering the advantage that will be derived by all classes from this measure, the total burden that will be thrown upon the public will be comparatively very trifling—namely, £16,000. He proposed to pay the registrars 1s. for each entry, and the superintendent registrars 2d. There will be no other outlay attending the scheme except the salary of the Registrar-General, to be increased to £1,000 a year. "We require by this Bill the compulsory attendance of the parties. This is absolutely necessary; and Registrar-General Graham says the want of it is one of the chief blots in the English system. The only other point on which I need trespass on the time of the House is a very important one—namely, the medical certificates. We wish to make our scheme as complete as possible, in order to obtain not a mere registration of births and deaths, but a scientific record of vital statistics, and with that view we have introduced into our Bill a provision which we think will meet the approval of the medical officers. We have not desired, as is done in Scotland, to make it binding on them penally to give the return. From the opportunities I have had of conversing with the President of the Royal College of Surgeons, and judging also from other sources of information, I believe that the medical officers generally, will be prepared to co-operate with the State, and to furnish it with the requisite particulars as to the deaths of persons whom they may have attended professionally with greater readiness if it is left to them to do it freely, instead of its being made compulsory on them by the insertion of a penal clause." Lord Naas could not congratulate the right hon. baronet on the experience he had gathered during the recess, for it was to be feared that he had got into the hands of the doctors, and very few men were much the better for that. Of all the schemes propounded for obtaining these important statistics, that which called in the aid of the doctors was the worst. Many of the dispensary doctors were eminent in their profession; they were in large practice, their time was occupied from morning till night. In his opinion, doctors, of all others, were the most unsuitable for the performance of these duties in Ireland. Dr. Brady maintained that medical men were of all classes the best qualified to act as registrars. In this country butchers and bakers were ap-

pointed registrars, who, in copying the cause of death from the medical certificate, were often totally at a loss, being ignorant of the professional meaning of the terms employed. Mr. Maguire thought that however great a calamity it might be to fall into the hands of the doctors, it would be still worse to fall into the hands of the public. After a few words from Sir R. Peel in reply, leave was given to introduce the Bill.

MORTALITY DURING LAST QUARTER. The mortality in England and Wales in the last quarter of 1862 was at the rate of 2.226 per cent.; in 1860 it was 2.043; in 1861, 2.061. Though the autumn of 1862 was not as a whole colder than those of 1860 and 1861, the sudden invasion of cold in November, and the abrupt succession of heat account for its having been the most fatal. The north-western counties, York-shire, London, the northern counties, and the west midland are the five divisions in which the highest rate of mortality prevailed. In the first, which contains the districts of the cotton manufacture, the rate—2.66 per cent.—was higher than in any other division. This distinction is not of recent birth; it is not the fruit of adverse circumstances, but has sprung from causes which have been in operation since Liverpool, Manchester, and other towns, in what has been called the worst drained part of England, rose into importance as seats of commerce and manufacture. But whatever be the sanitary condition of the towns and villages they inhabit, human beings must be affected by the atmosphere in which they are immersed, and the effects of which they can but partially control; and as the cotton districts participated with the rest of the kingdom in the benefit of a healthy summer, they have also suffered, like other parts, from a less healthy autumn. Scarlatina and diphtheria, and also diarrhoea, prevailed to a considerable extent in Manchester. An increase of deaths in Ashton-under-Lyne is attributed to scarlatina and measles. Scarlatina caused eighty deaths, being a third part of the total number, in Oldham-above-Town; these occurred not only in the working-class, but in the general population. In Blackburn and Wotton the mortality was increased by measles and bronchitis, and at the latter place there was "much sickness in consequence of the damp weather." The mortality in the Chorley subdistrict was nearly doubled, chiefly by measles, and the weather, "mild and damp," was considered unfavourable to health. The deaths in the districts of Liverpool rose from 1,883 and 2,193 in the corresponding quarters of 1860 and 1861 to 2,625 last quarter; those in West Derby rose from 1,111 and 1,472 to 1,726. A great part of this formidable increase has been caused by the ravages of scarlatina. This disease caused 50 out of 105 deaths in the Clowance subdistrict in Devonshire. Of 203 deaths in Kingstown (Portsea Island) no less than 126 were those of children from scarlatina or other fever and croup. A very malignant form of scarlatina raised the deaths much above the average at Halstead, in Essex, and it is reported in many other parts. Diphtheria caused a third part of the mortality at Hailsham, in Sussex, and it has been very prevalent in the neighbourhood of South Walsham, in Norfolk; 13 out of 34 deaths from all causes being from this disease. Diphtheria was very prevalent in the subdistrict of Diss, Norfolk, and trebled the average mortality in the parish of Dickleburgh. Measles has been unusually rife and fatal in Falmouth, hardly a family with children escaped, and many adults were attacked by it. (*Registrar General's Quarterly Report.*)

LANSDOWNE HOUSE LIBRARY. The library itself was exquisitely decorated by Cipriani in imitation of the antiquities found in Herculaneum, and it was while occupied in this superb temple, as the librarian, philosopher, and friend of Lord Shelburne, that Priestly made the discovery of oxygen.

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 Orthopædic, 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. Thomas Bryant, Lettsomian Lecture "On the Differences between Surgical Diseases of the Nervous, Respiratory, Circulatory, Digestive, and Urino-Genital Systems of the Child and the Adult."—Asiatic.

TUESDAY. Statistical.—Pathological.—Ethnological.

WEDNESDAY. Society of Arts.—Geological.

THURSDAY. Zoological.—Royal.—Antiquarian.—Linnean.—Chemical.—Harveian.

FRIDAY. Royal College of Physicians, 5 P.M. Dr. Pavy. Gulstonian Lectures. "On the Amyloid (so-called) and Fatty Degenerations."—Geological.—Royal Institution.—Western Medical and Surgical, 8 P.M. Dr. Anstie, "On the Therapeutical Value of Cod-Liver Oil in Convulsive Diseases."

SATURDAY. Association Medical Officers of Health.

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.

THE TITLE OF DOCTOR.—From press of other matter, we must defer until next week the publication of many letters which we have received on the subject of the Title of Doctor.

PELLAGRA AND ECZEMA.—SIR: The great interest which attaches to that rare disease, pellagra, may perhaps excuse so remote an allusion as the following to the subject. It will occur to some of your readers to have seen chronic eczema of both hands and both arms, with light mulberry tinge, a constricted, rather dry, shining surface, stiff attenuated fingers, and a decrepit posture of the hands: such cases are seen in persons of a poor habit and enfeebled constitution. They have been pointed out to me by those who have seen pellagra, as bearing a considerable resemblance to that disease. The opinions of M. Bielt are well known; viz., that pellagra depended upon a gastro-intestinal irritation for its proximate cause. If it be so, the two diseases are brought into yet nearer affinity, as the early treatment of eczema rests upon that hypothesis. Eczema, too, results from over fatigue, and we may suppose from nervous exhaustion generally. It might be serviceable to inquire whether such cases as I have described above, occur in establishments allotted to insane patients. I must add that M. Bielt had great opportunities of studying this disease in Italy.

I am, etc., GEORGE GASKOIN.

3, Westbourne Park, February 9th, 1863.

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