

We heartily commend the project to the favourable consideration of our readers, especially those connected with the numerous cottage hospitals that have been established throughout the country; and we trust that the Committee will receive much valuable aid from them in their endeavour to recognise the important services rendered to humanity by Mr. Napper.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF HOSPITALS.

THE Home Secretary having been asked by the Council of the Social Science Association to receive a deputation to urge the prayer of a memorial that Her Majesty might be pleased to issue a Royal Commission to inquire into the management and administration of hospitals, Sir William Vernon Harcourt has expressed a wish to have the "desires and suggestions of the Council" conveyed to him in writing, instead of by deputation. Mr. Clifford Smith, the Secretary of the Association, has therefore forwarded to the Home Office a "Memorial," to which was attached an explanatory "Memorandum," which were adopted a few weeks ago by the Council, on the recommendation of a special committee they had previously appointed. Amongst those who served on this committee were the following: Mr. F. S. Powell (chairman), Sir Thomas F. Buxton, Bart., Mr. I. H. Buxton, Mr. H. C. Burdett, Dr. Alfred Carpenter, Mr. William Clode, Mr. H. H. Collins, Dr. Farquharson, M.P., Dr. Grigg, Dr. Habershon, Mr. R. Hamilton, Mr. Timothy Holmes, Colonel Keatinge, V.C., Mr. C. Macnamara, Mr. F. G. P. Neison, Dr. Phené, F.S.A., Sir William Robinson, Mr. Edwin Saunders, Dr. Gilbert Smith.

The following are the terms of the memorial.

#### MEMORIAL OF THE COUNCIL.

*To the Right Honourable Sir William Vernon Harcourt, M.P., Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department.*

The Memorial of the Council of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science, sheweth,—

1. That your memorialists have had their attention directed to the question of the administration of metropolitan hospitals, and the other institutions for the medical treatment of the sick, and have, by public discussions held under the auspices of the Association, in which those well qualified from their position and experience to join have taken part, and by other modes of inquiry, arrived at the conclusion that reforms are desirable in the existing system of administration.

2. That your memorialists have agreed upon the following resolutions: (a) That the hospital accommodation of London is imperfectly distributed, and, in many districts, altogether inadequate. (b) That the want of organisation and co-operation among the medical institutions of the metropolis materially lessens their usefulness, and leads to unnecessary expense. (c) That the present system of indiscriminate relief injuriously affects the independence and self-reliance of those who are able to meet, in some degree at least, the cost of medical and surgical treatment. (d) That the funds at present available, either for proper maintenance of nearly all the existing institutions, or for the extension of relief to districts hitherto unprovided for, are very insufficient. (e) That the hospitals are managed (some of them under Acts of Parliament) on very different systems, and some of these systems can hardly be worked consistently with the advance which has been made in medical science, and with the change of opinion which is taking place regarding the administration of medical charity. (f) That it is desirable to make more use than is at present made, in the education of medical students, of the materials contained in the numerous hospitals and dispensaries now administered by the Poor-law Department and the Metropolitan Asylums Board, and that there should be more intimate communication between these and the general hospitals. (g) That the operation and constitution of the numerous special hospitals and dispensaries demand inquiry, in order to inform the public as to the advantages and disadvantages of such institutions. (h) That it is desirable that a uniform system should be devised and adopted of keeping the books of accounts and registers of diseases in all hospitals.

3. That your memorialists, whilst anxious to disavow the intention of adopting any recommendation in favour of compulsory Government control or management of voluntary hospitals, are not less desirous of expressing their opinion that a favourable time has now come for the institution of a full and impartial inquiry into the accommodation afforded by, and the present system of the management and administration of, the metropolitan hospitals and the other institutions for the medical treatment of the sick.

4. That your memorialists venture to accompany this memorial with a statement of some of the reasons on which the above resolutions have been based.

Your memorialists, therefore, humbly pray that Her Majesty may be pleased to issue a Royal Commission to ascertain fully the needs of the

metropolis in the above respects, with a view to obtain reliable data upon which to base such reforms as may be necessary, and to make such recommendations as may appear to it desirable. And your memorialists, etc.,  
(Signed) G. W. HASTINGS,  
May, 1882. President of Council.

## 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, 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., June 22nd, and 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.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: SOUTH LONDON DISTRICT.—The annual dinner will take place at the St. James's Restaurant, Regent Street, on Friday, June 2nd, at 6.30 P.M.; Dr. Farquharson, M.P., Vice-President of the Branch, in the chair. Tickets 7s. 6d. each, exclusive of wine. Members of the Branch intending to dine, or to introduce friends, are requested to give notice to the Honorary Secretary as early as possible.—H. NELSON HARDY, Honorary Secretary, The Grove, Dulwich, S.E.—May 15th, 1882.

SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held in the Committee Room of the Northampton General Infirmary, on Thursday, June 1st, at 2.30 P.M., under the presidency of C. J. Evans, Esq. The following cases and papers have been promised. 1. W. Newman, M.D.: Short Notes on a Case of Heart-Disease. 2. R. H. Kinsey, Esq.: Notes on a Case of Sarcoma of Femur. 3. Frank Buszard, M.D.: Cases illustrative of Acute Disease of the Spinal Cord. 4. W. H. Bull, Esq.: Treatment of Surgical Cases in Country Practice. 5. James More, M.D.: Accouchement Forcé. 6. G. F. Kirby Smith, Esq., and G. H. Percival, M.B., will show a few cases of Excision of Joints and of Osteotomy. 7. David Thomson, M.D.: Uterine Displacements and their Treatment. 8. George Harday, Esq.: Remarks on a Case of large Tumour filling the floor of the mouth. 9. F. W. S. Culhane, Esq.: (a) Case of Revolver-Shot through the Heart; (b) Case of Hæmorrhage after Extraction of two Teeth. 10. W. Kennedy, Esq.: Two Cases of Puerperal Septicæmia. 11. A. H. Jones, M.D.: The Association of Skin-Diseases with Acute Rheumatism. David Bower, M.D., Bedford, has also kindly promised a paper.—G. F. KIRBY SMITH, Honorary Secretary, Northampton.—May 20th, 1882.

SOUTH-WESTERN BRANCH.—*Preliminary Notice.*—The annual meeting will be held at Barnstaple, under the Presidency of Mr. Joseph Harper. Special notice will be sent to the members as soon as the day is fixed.—S. REES PHILLIPS, M.D., Honorary Secretary.—Wonford House, Exeter.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH.—The spring meeting of this Branch will be held at Moffat, on Friday, June 2nd. Gentlemen intending to read papers are requested to communicate at once with one of the Honorary Secretaries.—J. KENDAL BURT, Kendal; J. SMITH, Dumfries, Honorary Secretaries.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST SUSSEX DISTRICT.—The next meeting of this District will be held at the Infirmary, Worthing, on Wednesday, May 31st, at 3.15 P.M.; W. J. Harris, Esq., in the chair. The dinner will take place at the Marine Hotel at 5.30 P.M.; charge 6s. 6d., exclusive of wine. The following communications have been promised. Dr. Kelly, On Small-pox; Mr. Simpson, Two Cases of Spina Bifida in the same family; Dr. Uthoff, On the Early Treatment of some Eye-Diseases.—G. B. COLLET, Honorary Secretary, 5, The Steyne, Worthing.

NORTH OF IRELAND BRANCH.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held in the Belfast Royal Hospital on Tuesday, June 13th, at 4 o'clock P.M. The members will dine in the evening at the Imperial Hotel at 7 o'clock.—JOHN MOORE, M.D., Honorary Secretary.

### SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH: SPRING MEETING.

In the report of this meeting, which was held on April 20th, on page 754 of last week's JOURNAL, the number of members present was omitted by inadvertence. Twenty attended the meeting.

### METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.

THE last meeting of the District was held on April 20th, at the London Hospital; Dr. STEPHEN MACKENZIE in the chair.

*Communications.*—The following communications were made.

1. The Chairman exhibited a patient suffering from Lichen Planus with Leucomatous Patches on the Buccal and Lingual Mucous Membrane.

2. Dr. Hunt read a paper on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Pleuritic Effusions in Children.

3. Dr. Stephen Mackenzie read a paper on Vertigo, especially dealing with Auditory Vertigo or Menière's Disease.

*Collective Investigation.*—The members present agreed to form a sub-committee to carry out the objects of the Collective Investigation Committee, which were explained by the Chairman.

#### SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.

THE annual meeting of the above District was held at the County Hospital, Canterbury, on May 4th; J. E. SCHÖN, Esq., in the chair.

*The Accounts* for the year were audited and passed.

*Secretary.*—A vote of thanks was passed to the Honorary District Secretary for his past services, and he was re-elected.

*Meetings.*—A conjoint meeting with the West Kent District was arranged for September at Folkestone, and Dr. Bowles was elected President.—A meeting at Deal was also arranged for March 1883.

*Communications.*—The following communications were made.

1. Mr. Bishop showed a large Sarcomatous Tumour, weighing 15 lbs., that he had removed from the occipital region of a woman aged 27. It recurred in twenty-one days, and appeared to start from the parotid region.

2. Dr. Gogarty read a case of Suppression of Urine, that lasted five days; cold was the exciting cause; there were no convulsions nor coma; at the necropsy, the left kidney was found to be absent, and there was blood-infiltration into the fat around the right kidney.

3. Dr. Gogarty also showed two perfectly Sacculated Kidneys from a boy aged 18, who had a calculus in each, and pain over his muscles on pressure. The urine contained one-eighth of albumen, and the quantity varied from forty-six to eleven ounces in the twenty-four hours.

*Dinner.*—The members afterwards dined together at the Fleur de Lis Hotel.

#### LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.

AN ordinary meeting of this Branch was held at Blackpool, on Wednesday, May 17th, 1882; Dr. R. C. BROWN, of Preston, presiding. About eighty or ninety members were present.

*Communications.*—The following communications were made.

1. Mr. Rushton Parker (Liverpool) read a paper on the Materials of Blood-poisoning, and showed, with Dr. A. Barron's assistance, a number of microscopic preparations of septic organisms.

2. Mr. W. Whitehead (Manchester) showed a patient who had the Tongue removed for Epithelioma, and on whom tracheotomy required to be performed, and afterwards gastrostomy; the mode of feeding him with milk was shown.

3. Mr. Whitehead also showed casts and photographs of a case of Endemic Elephantiasis of the Leg, which had been successfully treated.

4. Dr. Walters (Manchester) read a case of Hystero-Epilepsy which had been cured by the operation of excising both ovaries.

5. Dr. Rich (Liverpool) gave an account of the symptoms in a number of cases of Poisoning from Cray-fish which had occurred under his care in one of the mail steamers.

6. Mr. Farrar (Morecambe) read notes of a case of Poisoning by Mussels.

*Luncheon.*—Dr. Leslie Jones of Blackpool entertained the members present at lunch at Bailey's Hotel before the meeting.

*Dinner.*—Over seventy members were present at the dinner; the Mayor of Blackpool and the Vicar attending as guests.

**HOSPITAL SUNDAY FUND.**—A meeting of the council of the Hospital Sunday Fund was held this week at the Mansion-house. The Lord Mayor presided, and there were present Bishop Beckles, Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., Mr. R. B. Martin, M.P., Mr. Alderman M'Arthur, M.P., Sir J. Risdon Bennett, the Rev. Canon Nisbet, Mr. Thomson Hankey, and others. The Lord Mayor, in expressing his cordial co-operation with the council, intimated his intention of attending with the Sheriffs and the Corporation in State at St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey on Hospital Sunday, June 11th. The Rev. S. Hansard thought that those who had received treatment and who were constantly making use of the medical charities of London should, as far possible, be made alive to their duties to contribute on Hospital Sunday to the full extent of their means. The council then proceeded to make the necessary arrangements for the collection on June 11th. Mr. S. Morley, M.P., in proposing a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor for presiding, conveyed to him the congratulations of the council on the honour conferred on him by Her Majesty, and, the Lord Mayor having replied, the meeting adjourned.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND.

SIR,—As a very large number of the Fellows of the Irish College of Surgeons are members of the Association, I take the liberty of asking them, through your columns, to consider what would be the wisest course to pursue at the approaching elections on June 5th for Vice-President and Council.

If, at the beginning of the College year, two candidates should be nominated for the office of Vice-President, it is the usual and, I believe, the proper course for the candidate of junior professional standing, even though he might make the contest a close one, to retire in favour of his senior. By doing so, he not only saves the College from an undesirable contest, but he places his brethren under a kind of obligation which generally redounded in his own favour on a future occasion. Unhappily, at present a different feeling prevails.

One candidate, a very junior Fellow—although he is no doubt a very promising man, but, as yet, is comparatively little known in the surgical world. Relying, however, upon great electioneering energy, he has point-blank refused to retire. Now, the caucuses, *cliques* and stratagems of a contest are bad enough, but, when a distribution of first-class return-tickets becomes a potent element of warfare, we must feel the dignity of our College is in danger. The legality of the election, carried on under this modified form of bribery, may yet be questioned, but of its gross impropriety there can be little doubt.

For the Council, it appears, there are as many new candidates up as there are old members of Council who seek re-election. The Council, as at present constituted, is a most heterogeneous body. It may be divided into many cliques—such as schemers (*i.e.*, those who support the new educational scheme), anti-schemers, College of Surgeons' schoolmen, private schoolmen, and non-schoolmen. These cliques all appear to be working against each other, and it is really impossible for an outsider to know what to do or what section to support.

Among the new candidates are Fellows who have very recently passed, and, it seems, they entirely forget what a Council of the College should be composed of. At one time it was considered—and, I think, very properly so—that the office of councillor was reserved for representative men, or the seniors of the profession who have justly won the position by a long career of honourable and genuine work.

Matters are entirely changed now in this respect, for the most junior of Fellows of a few months' standing aspire to the position; and hence the scramble for places, in fact turning the whole election into a burlesque.

This election, I feel, will have one good effect: it will teach young men that they must win their spurs before they can wear them. And when the poll is declared, these juveniles will find that few will be got to appreciate their latent ability; and, if they secure their own vote on this occasion, it will be as much as they can reasonably expect.—I am, sir, etc.,  
"A PERPLEXED IRISH FELLOW."

### A STUDENT'S GRIEVANCE.

SIR,—Having noticed in your issue of last week that £300 balance money has been handed by the Executive Committee of the International Medical Congress to Dr. S. Wilks, as Treasurer of the Association for the Advancement of Medicine by Research, I would ask whether it is generally known that copies of the *Transactions* have not been supplied to the "student members" of the Congress. There was considerable talk at the time about the liberality of allowing students to become members on payment of half-a-guinea. In addition to the fact that we participated in few of the amusements provided for the members, we are now (for the first time) informed that the *Transactions* will be supplied to us only on receipt of the published price. Would not the liberality have been more apparent had we been allowed to pay the full fee, and participate in the most tangible benefit of the meeting?—I am, sir, yours obediently,  
A STUDENT MEMBER.

### SIMPLE AND ASEPTIC OVARIOTOMY.

SIR,—Allow me to make a few remarks on your article on simple and aseptic ovariectomy in last week's JOURNAL. The writer thereof speaks of the apparently contradictory results of experience in Switzerland and in Edinburgh. The reverse is the case: the experience is the same. Professor Kocher has given up carbolic spray in private practice as injurious in the conditions where it is not indispensable. I have done the same. I have found it injurious, and have given it up, though not in ordinary surgical work. The long list of success I once had is apparently attributed by your correspondent to the use of the

tract will always be a thorn in the side of Exmouth by keeping up a high death rate, and thus making the place compare unfavourably with other health resorts.

**DURHAM.**—Mr. Stoker's report consists of a series of quarterly statements of mortality, which he has at different periods of the year prepared and presented to his authority. No mention whatever is made of the sanitary condition of the district, but this would seem to be explained by the fact that the health-officer has been confined to his bed through sickness for the last two years, and that no deputy has been appointed, a resolution proposed in the Town Council in July, 1880, that such an appointment be made having been lost. The death-rate for 1881 is returned at 17.46, or 6 per 1,000 lower than that recorded for the previous year, a result which may be due to the decline of the scarlet fever epidemic. In the first quarter of the year three deaths were attributed to this disease, in the second quarter two, in the third one, and in the last quarter one death. In view of the state of things revealed by Mr. Spear's recent inspection of the town on behalf of the Local Government Board, it is high time that the arrangements for the discharge of the duties of health-officer should be put on a more satisfactory footing.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.**—The following gentlemen were admitted Fellows on the 23rd instant.

Bowles, Robert Leamon, M.D. St. Andrew's, Folkestone.  
Champneys, Francis Henry, M.B. Oxford, 60, Great Cumberland Place, W.  
Duncan, James Matthews, M.D. Aberdeen, 71, Brook Street, W.  
Glynn, Thomas Robinson, M.D. London, Liverpool.  
Leech, Daniel John, M.D. London, Manchester.  
Ross, James, M.D. Aberdeen, Manchester.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.**—The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted Members of the College at a meeting of the Court of Examiners on the 18th instant.

Messrs. Joseph W. Hodgson, M.B. Aber., Leighton, Beds; William D. J. Morris, L.R.C.P. Ed., Fishguard, Pembrokehire; Yorke T. G. Moore, Hackney; William R. Scroggie, Bombay; James C. Pincott, Brixton Hill; Alfred Robinson, L.S.A., West Cross, Swansea; Edward R. P. Faddy, Lower Norwood; John A. Gray, Essex Road, N.; Walter T. Brooks, L.S.A., Stoke Newington; John R. Day, L.S.A., Camden Road, N.W.; and John C. Davies, L.S.A., Malmesbury Road, E.

Eight candidates were rejected.

The following Members of the College passed their primary examinations in Anatomy and Physiology for the Fellowship of the College, at the half-yearly meeting of the Board of Examiners, on the 22nd instant, and when eligible will be admitted to the pass examination.

Messrs. Charles Gross, of Guy's Hospital, diploma of membership of the College dated July 31st, 1876; Frank Marsh, of King's College, [April 24th, 1877; and William Henry Elam, of the Leeds School of Medicine, November 13th, 1877.

The following gentlemen who have passed the primary membership.

Messrs. Thomas Pugh Beddoes, B.A. Cantab., of the Cambridge School; William Owen Travis, of the Liverpool School; Charles John Evers, of the Birmingham School; and James Edward Blomfield, of University College.

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

The following gentlemen passed on the 23rd instant.

Messrs. Gerald George Hodgson and Thomas Sydney Short, of King's College; Arthur William Scott, of the Birmingham School; Arthur Ernest Larking, of Guy's Hospital; John Hedley Crocker, of the Charing Cross Hospital; Herbert Child, of the Leeds School; Sidney Plowman, of St. Thomas's Hospital; Henry Robert Woolbert, of University College; and Alfred Ernest Hind, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Eleven candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on the 24th instant.

Messrs. John Francis Steedman, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Herbert William Allingham, of St. George's Hospital; Arthur John Drew, of University College; Walter Hurst, of the Manchester School; Henry Boynton Lee, of the Leeds School; Yasuzumi Saneyoshi, of St. Thomas's Hospital; Sydney Sargent Merrifield, of King's College; Charles Drummond Muspratt, of Guy's Hospital; and William Johnston, M.D. Queen's University, Ireland, of the Belfast School.

Eleven candidates were rejected.

**APOTHECARIES' HALL.**—The following gentleman passed the Examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received a certificate to practise, on Thursday, May 18th, 1882.

Eugene John Kauffmann, Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A.

## MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

- ADDENBROOKE'S HOSPITAL, Cambridge.**—House-Physician. Salary, £65 per annum. Applications by June 6th.
- BOLTON UNION.**—Resident Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications by May 29th.
- BRISTOL FORESTERS' DISPENSARY.**—Qualified Medical Practitioner. Salary, £120 per annum. Applications to E. L. Burgess, 34, Horfield Road, Kingsdown, Bristol, by the 20th instant.
- BUCKINGHAMSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY, Aylesbury.**—Resident Surgeon and Apothecary. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications to Mr. George Fell, Solicitor, Aylesbury.
- CHELSEA HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN.**—Assistant-Physician. Applications by June 1st.
- CHELSEA HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN.**—Two Physicians. Applications by June 1st.
- CROYDON GENERAL HOSPITAL.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by June 6th.
- DUNSHAUGHLIN UNION.**—Medical Officer for Dunboyne Dispensary District. Salary, £110 per annum, with £15 yearly as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination fees. Election on June 2nd.
- EAGLESHAM.**—Medical Officer under the Public Health (Scotland) Act to attend the Poor. Salary, £40 per annum. Applications to J. Hutchison, Inspector of Poor, Mearns, by Glasgow, by the 27th instant.
- EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN AND DISPENSARY FOR WOMEN, Shadwell.**—Clinical Assistant. Applications to 28, Welbeck Street, Cavendish Square, W.
- FLINTSHIRE DISPENSARY.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by the 20th instant.
- GLAMORGANSHIRE AND MONMOUTHSHIRE INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY, Cardiff.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by June 12th.
- GUEST HOSPITAL, Dudley.**—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £120 per annum. Applications by June 9th.
- HALLSIDE, NEWTON, N.B.**—Medical Officer for the Sick Society in connection with the Steel Company of Scotland's Works. Applications to Mr. McFarlane, 20, Hallside Cottages, Newton.
- HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST.**—Resident Clinical Assistant. Applications by June 3rd.
- KINGTON UNION.**—Medical Officer. Salary, £30 per annum. Applications by June 5th.
- LANCASTER INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £120 per annum. Applications by May 29th.
- LIVERPOOL NORTHERN HOSPITAL.**—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £70 per annum. Applications by June 3rd.
- MID AND SOUTH YELL AND FETLAR AND NORTH YELL.**—Medical Officer. Salary, £70 per annum. Applications to Inspector of Poor, Mid Yell, Shetland.
- NATIONAL HOSPITAL FOR THE DEFORMED, 234, Great Portland Street.**—Surgeon. Applications by May 29th.
- NEW ZEALAND.**—Inspector of Lunatic Asylums. Salary, £800 per annum. Applications by June 20th.
- PARISH OF ST. MARY, Islington.**—Medical Officer for the Ninth District (St. Peter's West). Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by May 30th.
- RATHKEALE UNION.**—Medical Officer for Pallaskerry Dispensary District. Salary, £100 per annum, with £15 per annum as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination fees. Election on June 8th.
- RICCARTON ASYLUM, Paisley.**—Assistant Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £60 per annum. Applications to R. Rowand, Inspector of Poor, Paisley, by June 5th.
- ROYAL HANTS COUNTY HOSPITAL, Winchester.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by June 10th.
- ROYAL PIMLICO DISPENSARY, 104, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.**—Resident Medical Officer. Applications by June 5th.
- ROYAL SOUTH LONDON OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, St. George's Circus, S.E.**—Clinical Assistant. Salary, £25 per annum. Applications by the 27th instant.
- ST. PANCRAS AND NORTHERN DISPENSARY.**—Physician-Accoucheur. Applications to the Committee at the Dispensary by June 1st.
- TAVISTOCK UNION.**—Medical Officer of Health for the Rural Sanitary District. Applications by June 9th.
- THE INFIRMARY, Halifax.**—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications to the Senior Physician of the Medical Staff by June 20th.
- TOWCESTER UNION.**—Medical Officer for the Blisworth District. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications by the 29th instant.
- TUNBRIDGE WELLS BENEFIT SOCIETIES' MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.**—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £200 per annum. Applications by May 29th.
- WEST BROMWICH DISTRICT HOSPITAL.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications by June 6th.
- WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL, Broad Sanctuary, S.W.**—Junior House-Physician. Applications by June 1st.
- YORK COUNTY HOSPITAL.**—Honorary Physician. Applications by June 24th.

## MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

BAILEY, William E., M.B. and C.M., appointed Assistant Resident Medical Officer to the Manchester Workhouse Hospital, Crumpsall.  
COANE, J., L.R.C.P.E., appointed Medical Officer for Scotstown Dispensary District of the Monaghan Union, *vice* R. C. George, M.B.

FLYNN, E. F., L.R.C.S.I., appointed Junior House-Surgeon to the Sunderland Infirmary, *vice* C. H. Welford, M.B., resigned.

HACKMAN, L. K. H., L.R.C.P., appointed Medical Officer to the Provident Dispensary of the Royal Portsmouth, Portsea, and Gosport Hospital.

KEIR, W. J., L.R.C.P., appointed Medical Officer of Health to the Melksham Urban District.

MALET, Henry, M.B., appointed Physician to Out-Patients to the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire General Hospital.

MIVART, F. St. George, M.R.C.S., appointed Surgeon to the City Dispensary, 46, Watling Street, *vice* A. Newsholme, M.D.

NEWSHOLME, A., M.D., appointed Registrar and Chloroformist to the Evelina Hospital for Sick Children.

PHILLIPS, John, M.B., appointed Honorary Physician to the British Lying-in Hospital.

UNDERHILL, T. Edgar, M.B., F.R.C.S.Ed., appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Guest Hospital, Dudley, *vice* Alfred Jones, M.R.C.S., deceased.

VOISEY, C. B., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., appointed Assistant Resident Medical Officer to the Manchester Workhouse Hospital.

WHITEHOUSE, J., M.R.C.S., appointed Senior House-Surgeon to the Sunderland Infirmary.

### 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.

BROWN.—On May 10th, at the Willows, Tredegar, Monmouthshire, the wife of George Arthur Brown, M.R.C.S., of a daughter.

JULER.—On the 24th instant, at 77, Wimpole Street, Cavendish Square, the wife of Henry Juler, F.R.C.S., of a daughter.

THE LATE PROFESSOR ROLLESTON.—It is proposed to hold a meeting of the subscribers to the proposed memorial in honour of the late Professor Rolleston on Thursday, June 1st, in the Library of the Royal College of Physicians. This meeting will be for the purpose of deciding upon the nature of the memorial.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.—The election of a Professor of Animal Morphology will take place on Wednesday, May 31st. This new professorship was founded by grace of the Senate on the 11th inst. The stipend of the professor is £300 per annum. The electors are the members of the Senate on the electoral roll. The Vice-Chancellor and Proctors will receive the votes from 12.15 to 1.15. It is understood that Mr. F. M. Balfour, M.A., F.R.S., Fellow of Trinity College, will be elected without opposition.

CONSIDERABLE excitement has been raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan, over the death of a lady from Battey's operation. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict to the effect that the deceased came to her death from the operation performed. There is talk of criminal prosecution; but the case will probably be dropped. The physicians claim that the operation was perfectly justifiable. They should publish a full report of the case in some medical journal.

OPEN SPACES IN SOUTH LONDON.—The parish churchyard of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, which has been planted and laid out as a public garden, has been opened by the rector, the Rev. Burman Cassin, and dedicated to the public. The churchyard overlooks the High Street, Borough, and is the centre of one of the most densely populated parts of the metropolis. Another churchyard, that attached to the parish church, Horsleydown, close to Tooley Street, has also been laid out in a similar manner, and will be opened to the public in the course of a few days. This garden is nearly twice the size of that of St. George's. The parish churchyard of Bermondsey is also undergoing a similar transformation, and will shortly be dedicated to the public for all time as a recreation ground. The Metropolitan Board of Works bears one-half the cost of converting these churchyards into gardens, the other half being borne by the parish in which they are situated.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—At the pass examination for the diploma of membership of the college, which was brought to a close on the 18th inst., there were ninety-six candidates examined, against ninety-three the corresponding period last year, when forty-six were rejected. Of the ninety-six just examined, forty-three having failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the court of examiners, were referred to their professional studies for six months. Twelve were approved in surgery; and, when qualified in medicine, will be admitted members of the college. Of the candidates who possessed recognised medical licenses, there were the following: viz., "M.D. Toronto," one; "M.B. Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Durham," of each one; "L.R.C.S. Edinburgh," one; "L.K. & Q.C.P. Ireland," two; and "L.S.A.," twenty. With this meeting, the examinations for membership for the present session were brought to a close.

GUILD OF ST. LUKE.—We understand that Mr. T. G. Vaudrey has been appointed by the Guild of St. Luke medical missionary to the Central African Mission, under Bishop Steere; the guild, assisted by a lady, providing a salary of £200 a year. Mr. Vaudrey has been in practice at Handsworth, Birmingham, for several years, but is giving it up to devote himself to the medical care of the natives of Central Africa. This is a piece of self-sacrifice deserving the highest praise. Mr. Vaudrey has been a member of the guild since 1871, is still young, healthy, abstemious, and unmarried, and, we would venture to prophesy, has a brilliant and useful future before him.

ARTISANS' AND LABOURERS' DWELLINGS.—The Select Committee of the House of Commons upon the subject of artisans' and labourers' dwellings have met in private for the consideration of their report. The committee was appointed to consider the working of the Artisans' and Labourers' Dwellings Act of 1879, with a view to suggesting how the expense, delay, and difficulty in carrying out these Acts may be reduced, and also to inquire into any causes which may have prevented the reconstruction of dwellings for the artisan classes and authorised by Parliament. On account of the subject being a complex one, the committee were only able to prepare about the half of their report, but they expect to complete it at their next meeting on Thursday, although it may not be presented to the House of Commons until after Whitsuntide. The committee will report in favour of relaxing those provisions which require that the whole of the cleared areas should be devoted to cheap dwellings for artisans—a consideration involving enormous cost, and which has hitherto deterred action by public bodies, especially on the part of the Metropolitan Board of Works. It will probably be proposed that only from a half to two-thirds of the cleared areas should be built upon with artisans dwellings, the remaining half or third being left available for purposes more calculated to repay the cost.

HEALTH OF FOREIGN CITIES.—A table in the Registrar-General's last weekly return supplies the following facts and figures, which afford trustworthy indications of the recent health and sanitary condition of various foreign and colonial cities. According to the most recent official weekly returns, the annual death-rate averaged 30.0 in the three principal Indian cities, and was equal to 35.1 in Calcutta, 33.8 in Madras, and 25.4 in Bombay; cholera caused 76 deaths in Calcutta and 31 in Madras, while measles caused 30 deaths in Bombay, and small-pox 19 in Madras. The death-rate in Alexandria was equal to 30.0, and the deaths included 10 fatal cases of whooping-cough and 2 of small-pox. In twenty-three European cities, the death-rate averaged 29.0, and exceeded by no less than 9.3 the average rate prevailing last week in the twenty-eight large English towns. The death-rate in St. Petersburg was equal to 54.1, but showed a further decline from still higher rates in previous weeks; the 695 deaths included 41 from typhus and typhoid fevers, and 30 from scarlet fever. In three other northern cities—Copenhagen, Stockholm, and Christiania—the death-rate averaged 24.9; the highest rate being 25.9 in Copenhagen, where 4 fatal cases of measles were recorded; one death from small-pox occurred in Christiania. The death-rate in Paris further declined to 24.7; the 911 deaths included 51 from diphtheria and croup, 33 from typhoid fever, and 19 from small-pox. The death-rate in Brussels was 24.7, and 2 fatal cases of small-pox were recorded. In Geneva, the death-rate was so low as 14.3. In the three principal Dutch cities, the death-rate averaged 23.6, the highest rate being 25.4 in Rotterdam; measles caused 11 more deaths in Amsterdam. The Registrar-General's table includes returns from nine German and Austrian cities, in which the death-rate averaged no less than 30.0, and ranged from 24.8 and 25.4 in Berlin and Dresden, to 37.2 in Buda-Pesth and 36.7 in Prague. Small-pox caused 26 more deaths in Vienna and 8 in Buda-Pesth; diphtheria again showed fatal prevalence in Berlin and Dresden. The death-rate averaged 33.0 in the four Italian cities, and ranged from 27.1 in Turin, to 36.7 in Rome. Typhoid fever caused 10 deaths in Turin and 5 in Naples, and 18 fatal cases of measles were recorded in Rome. The annual death-rate in four of the largest American cities averaged 27.4, and ranged from 20.4 in Baltimore to 34.2 in New York. Scarlet fever and diphtheria again showed fatal prevalence in New York and Brooklyn, and typhoid fever caused 19 more deaths in Philadelphia.

BEQUESTS AND DONATIONS.—Mr. Charles Ford of Russell Square has bequeathed £1,000 to the Royal Medical Benevolent College, Epsom, and £500 each to the Middlesex Hospital, the Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, the Cancer Hospital, King's College Hospital, University College Hospital, Queen Charlotte's Lying-in Hospital, and the Royal Free Hospital.—The Royal Hospital for Women and Children has received £1,000 under the will of Mr. Charles Pearce.—Mr. Robert H. C. Harrison has given £500 to St. George's Hospital, in addition to a subscription of £50 per annum.

## 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.; 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.; 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, 1.45; Obstetric, Tu. F., 9.30; o.p., Tu. F., 2; Eye, Tu. F., 9.15; Ear, M. Th., 2; Skin, Tu. Th., 1.30; Throat, M. Th., 1.45; 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. 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., 3; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 9; Skin, Th., 1; Dental, W. S., 9.15.

## MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

FRIDAY.—Royal College of Surgeons of England, 4 P.M. Dr. Gerald Francis Yeo: On the Relations of Experimental Physiology to Practical Medicine.

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

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.—We shall be much obliged to Medical Officers of Health if they will, on forwarding their Annual and other Reports, favour us with Duplicate Copies.

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

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

## A FATAL CASE OF POISONING BY GERMAN ACONITINE.

DR. FERDINAND SPRINGMÜHL, M.A., related, in a lecture delivered before the Balloon Society of Great Britain, on the 5th instant, the following case of suicidal poisoning of an analytical chemist at Breslau, by eight grains of German (Merck's) aconitine.

The alkaloid was swallowed after dinner. Half an hour later, the first violent symptoms appeared. These were a burning sensation in the throat and mouth, which increased in intensity; intense pains in the stomach, which, in a few seconds, became so violent that the patient writhed shrieking in convulsions, and trying to strike the wall with his head. He was held with difficulty, and emulsive drinks were given to him. Very soon, he became incapable of swallowing, was seized with spasmodic coughing, and desire to vomit. In spite of emetics, no vomiting could be induced till an hour after the poison was taken, and then, with great exertion, a dark greenish fluid was ejected; but this afforded no relief to the abdominal pain, nor to the burning of the throat, which rendered swallowing and the administration of antidotes very difficult. Neither did the stomach-pump, used immediately (*sic*), give any relief; and, although exhaustion ensued after violent convulsions, the symptoms reappeared with renewed force, in spite of all the remedies applied. In three hours, the pains and convulsions attained such violence that death was expected every instant. In the fourth hour, after repeated injections of morphia, the patient seemed somewhat better. Previous to this, he intimated that his skin was greatly irritated (formication); this continued throughout the course of the intoxication; and he scratched his skin in a convulsive manner. He glared wildly, sometimes with a fixed stare. The convulsions were repeated at almost regular intervals, and the inclination to vomit remained, although vomiting did not continue after the second hour. At intervals of about forty minutes, the patient seemed to lose consciousness, but only for a few minutes; after which, the convulsions and other symptoms returned with undiminished violence. Three hours after the first appearance of symptoms, he became incapable of uttering intelligible words, but gave those about him to understand that he felt giddy, and, a little later, vision appeared to be lost. He threw himself about on the couch, and screamed and groaned frightfully. Exhaustion and apparent coma supervened, and then renewed attacks of the most violent description; next, a difficulty in breathing, and he appeared to be suffocating. At intervals, he was conscious; and, when asked where he felt pain, he made rapid motions to his head and stomach alternately. He wanted to drink, but could not swallow. The pulse and temperature fell considerably; and before death he became exhausted, unconscious, his body was bathed in cold perspiration, and he became deathly pallid. Although death from asphyxia was anticipated, he died in syncope, twelve hours after taking the poison.

On *post mortem* examination, the pupils were found dilated. The mucous membrane of the mouth was very pale. The brain was congested; the lungs congested. The cardiac valves were very flaccid. Inflammation of the stomach was apparent, and the mucous membrane was congested (*sic*). The liver and kidneys were congested. The alkaloid was found, by chemical analysis, in the contents of the stomach, but not in the urine of the deceased. It is not stated what means were resorted to for the detection of aconitine. It is stated that death occurred in spite of the application of every possible remedy. The nature of these is not mentioned, beyond the fact that emetics and demulcents were given, the stomach-pump applied either immediately or after the use of emetics, and that morphia was repeatedly injected. No mention is made of the use of digitalis or other physiological contra-poison.

So far as the printed report of Dr. Springmühl's lecture enables us to judge, the fatal symptoms resulting from the administration of eight grains of German aconitine did not differ greatly in character from those observed in the two previously reported fatal cases of aconitine poisoning. We refer to that of Dr. M., in 1850, in Holland, from probably one-sixteenth of a grain of French nitrate of aconitine; and the case of Percy John from an unknown dose—probably two grains—of English aconitine. Unfortunately in Dr. Springmühl's case, the state of the pupils and of the heart are not recorded, beyond it being stated that the pulse fell considerably; but whether in force, in frequency, or in both respects, is not mentioned. Dr. Springmühl properly draws attention to the dangers attending the administration of English for German aconitine—the safe doses of these substances differing greatly. So far as we know, no accident has occurred in this country from confounding the two substances. A few accidents have, however, occurred on the continent in consequence of the substitution of crystallised French or English aconitine for the German preparation. Dr. Springmühl says “we do not know how many cases of death may have been caused by such mistakes” (the administration of English for German aconitine), “for it but seldom comes to light when a doctor accidentally poisons his client. Thousands, without doubt, found their deaths in this manner.” We believe this to be altogether a misstatement as regards the members of our profession.

## NEW METHOD OF EXAMINING THE LEAVES OF VEGETABLES.

MR. A. W. BLYTH, the author of the recent book on *Food*, claims to have discovered an easy means of rendering leaves, such as the tea-leaf, so transparent as to permit the demonstration of their structure under the microscope, thus affording an extra process for the detection of adulterations. A portion of the leaf to be examined is sandwiched between two ordinary microscopical cover-slips, and held in place by means of a weight on the upper glass. The enclosed leaf is then oxidised by aid of a strongly alkaline solution of permanganate of potash; this salt attacks the colouring matters, first of the contents of the cell, and then of the cell-wall. When the leaf has been sufficiently oxidised, it is removed, washed in water, and treated with a little strong hydrochloric acid, which at once clears up the oxide of manganese. A tea-leaf thus prepared looks like a translucent white membrane, and the microscope shows the details of its histology. Another method is to place the leaf between two circles of glass as just described, weight the upper one with a silver coin, and burn the prepared leaf on a layer of platinum. The ash cannot be disarranged, and so a complete skeleton of siliceous ash remains—the “skeleton ash” of the author.

## PRURITUS VULVÆ.

A MEMBER writes: If “H. H. O.” will swab the parts twice weekly with solution of nitrate of silver (3ss to ʒi), and give his patient a lotion for ordinary constant use containing two or three drachms of liquor carbonis detergens to a pint of water, he will find her much benefited. A pill of reduced iron and strychnine twice or thrice daily (such as Kirby's Formula No. 85) will help the diabetetic state.

## TRANSACTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CONGRESS.

SIR,—In the report of my address at the International Medical Congress on the Etiology of Enteric Fever, given in the second volume of the *Transactions*, on page 536, line 14, for “Surgeon-General Jones, C.B.” read “Surgeon-General Innes, C.B.” I would be much obliged if each member will make this correction in his own copy in ink.—Yours faithfully, JOHN MARTIN, Surgeon A.M.D.  
2, Audley Place, Cork, May 22nd, 1882.