

average wall-space per bed, excluding doors, of about 8 feet 4 inches. The floor-space is 132 square feet, and the cubic space 1,560 cubic feet, per bed. Windows are placed between each bed, extending from 2½ feet from the floor to within about a foot of the ceiling; and ample provision is made for ventilation, both at the floor-level and at a height of about 7 feet. From the inner part of the ceiling, and also from the floor, ventilating outlets are led to an extraction-shaft, which encircles the smoke-flues.

The walls of all the wards, water-closets, and bath-rooms, are to be of glazed bricks or tiles. The floors of the wards are to be of oak, bees-waxed and polished. Separated from each ward by a cross-ventilated corridor are the bath-room and water-closets. Connecting the circular ward with the main corridor is a well-ventilated passage, on either side of which is a single-bedded separation-ward; and between these wards and the circular ward are the nurse's rooms and the ward-scullery.

A subway is provided from the cellar-floor of the administration-block to the wards; in this, all pipes will be laid, and along it coal, foul linen, cinders, and sweepings, may be conveyed. Provision is made on the site for the addition of four other wards, similar in size to those described, and also for a children's ward for fourteen beds. This is intended to be 40 feet in diameter, to have no central staircase or sun-room, and to have a dome-shaped ceiling.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

An ordinary meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England was held on Thursday, the 14th inst. The minutes of the ordinary council, held last month, were read and confirmed. A report was read from the Committee on the Mode of Election to the Council, which was carried. It was as follows. "The first and second reports of the Committee, dated the 30th of October and the 27th of December, 1883, respectively, having been approved and adopted by the Council, the Committee met on this date to consider the following resolution¹ of the Council of the 10th of January last, viz.: That Section 14 of the Charter of the 7th Victoria, pages xxxviii and xxxix of the Calendar, relating to substitute members of the Council, be referred to the consideration of the Committee on the Mode of Election to the Council, and on other matters relating to the Charters and By-laws of the College, with directions to report thereon to the Council, and having considered the same, adopted the following as their third report to the Council, viz.: The Committee, having fully considered Section 14 of the Charter of the 7th Victoria, relating to substitute members of the Council, are of opinion that it is inexpedient that any alteration should be made therein."

Mr. Erichsen moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Cadge, and carried unanimously: "That, in accordance with Section XVIII of By-laws, the President be requested to convene a meeting of the Fellows and Members of the College, to report to the Fellows and Members the alterations in the charters proposed by the Council, and to receive from them any suggestion or recommendation with respect to these or any other alterations in the Charters which they may have to offer for the consideration of the Council." The presidents and vice-presidents were requested to make, and report to the next meeting of the Council, the necessary arrangements for the meeting, which will probably be held about March 27th. The President, Professor John Marshall, F.R.S., was elected to represent the College at the Tercentenary Celebration of the University of Edinburgh in April, and at the International Medical Congress at Copenhagen in August.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1884: ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

MEETINGS of the Council will be held on Wednesday, April 9th, July 9th, and October 15th, 1884. Gentlemen desirous of becoming members of the Association must send in their forms of application for election to the General Secretary not later than twenty-one days before each meeting, viz., March 20th, June 20th, and September 25th, 1884, in accordance with the regulation for the election of members passed at the meeting of the Committee of Council of October 12th 1881.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary.*

COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION OF DISEASE.

CARDS for recording individual cases of the following diseases have been prepared by the Committee; they may be had on application to the Honorary Secretaries of the Local Committees in each Branch, or on application to the Secretary of the Collective Investigation Committee.

I. Acute Pneumonia.

II. Chorea.

III. Acute Rheumatism.

IV. Diphtheria, clinical.

v. Syphilis, acquired.

va. " inherited.

VI. Acute Gout.

URGENT.—The Committee needs 150 more cases of Pneumonia, and hopes that they will be sent in as soon as possible.

Applications should be addressed to

The Secretary of the Collective Investigation Committee, September, 1883. 161A, Strand, W.C.

NOTICE.—The *Life-History Album* prepared by the Collective Investigation Committee is now ready, and can be ordered of all book-sellers, price 3s. 6d.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH BRANCH.—Meetings are held on the first Friday in every month, at half-past nine, after dinner at eight o'clock. Gentlemen wishing to be present are requested to communicate with the Secretaries, Surgeons SHIRLEY DEAKIN and W. A. MORRIS, 8, City Road, Allahabad.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH.—The second general meeting of the present session will be held at the Railway Hotel, Stafford, on Thursday, February 28th, at half-past three o'clock in the afternoon.—VINCENT JACKSON, Secretary.—January 28th, 1884.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT.—The next meeting of this district will take place on Friday, March 28th, at Woolwich; Sir James Hanbury, K.C.B., A.M.D., in the chair. Gentlemen desirous of reading papers or exhibiting specimens are requested to inform the Honorary Secretary of the district, A. W. Nankivell, F.R.C.S., St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Chatham, not later than February 29th. Further particulars will be duly announced.—A. W. NANKIVELL, Honorary Secretary.—January 29th, 1884.

THAMES VALLEY BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held at the Griffin Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames, on Wednesday, February 27th.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.—The next meeting of the above District will be held on Thursday evening, February 21st, at the Hackney Town Hall. The chair will be taken at half-past eight o'clock. Dr. Herman will read a paper on *Prolapse of the Pelvic Floor*. The Honorary Secretary will call the attention of the members to the benefits of the "Medical Sickness, Annuity, and Life-Assurance Society," and invite suggestions to extend, if possible, its usefulness.—FREDERICK WALLACE, Honorary Secretary.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held at the Central Hotel, Carlisle, on Friday, February 22nd. The chair will be taken at 6 P.M. Dr. Angus Macdonald, of Edinburgh, will open a discussion on *Puerperal Pyrexia* and Dr. Taylor, of Penrith, will be presented with an address on the occasion of his retiring from practice. Dinner at 8.30 P.M., 6s. per head, exclusive of wine.—H. A. LEDIARD, Carlisle; J. SMITH, Dumfries. N.B.—It is particularly requested that members and visitors will give early notice to Dr. Lediard of their intention to be present, in order that the dinner arrangements may be adequate.

DUBLIN BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE seventh annual general meeting of this Branch was held on Thursday, January 31st, in the King and Queen's College of Physicians; Dr. BANKS, Regius Professor of Physic in the University of Dublin, Physician in Ordinary to the Queen in Ireland, and President of the Branch, in the chair. There was a large attendance of members, including the President of the College of Physicians, the President of the Irish Medical Association, the Vice-President of the College of Surgeons, and the Governor of the Apothecaries' Hall, etc.

Report of Council.—The honorary secretary, Dr. George F. DUFFEY, read the following report.

"In presenting the seventh annual report, the Council of your Branch have the satisfaction of announcing its continued prosperity and usefulness. During the past year thirty-six gentlemen were elected members of the British Medical Association by the Council of the Branch, and 22 members were elected into the Branch. Owing, however, to several members of the Branch having left Dublin, and in consequence also of a few—five—resignations, the number of members now on the roll of the Branch, viz., 185, shows an increase of three only, as compared with last year.

"At the last annual general meeting, the outgoing Council submitted a *precis* on the 'Report of Her Majesty's Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Grant of Medical Degrees,' together with some remarks thereon; and in the seventh paragraph of their annual report, the Council stated that, as a result of the views it had expressed in the special report above referred to, it could not advise the Branch to accede to the request of the Medical Reform Committee of the parent Association to memorialise the Government to introduce a Medical Acts Amendment Bill, based on the report of the Royal Commissioners. On the motion for the adoption of the annual report, exception was taken to these views of the Council, and, after an animated debate, which was twice adjourned, the following amendment, moved by Dr. Atthill and seconded by Dr. Jacob, was carried on a division: 'That the annual report of the Council be received and adopted, except the 7th paragraph, which, together with the annexed report on the sub-

ject, is referred to the incoming Council for reconsideration, with a recommendation that the policy of the parent Association in reference to medical reform shall be, in principle, supported by the Branch. As a result of the adoption of this resolution, five of the members of the Council elected at the last annual meeting resigned their seats. Although the opinions held by these members upon the subject of the medical reform were not in accordance with those of the majority of the Branch, your Council has experienced a loss, by their withdrawal, of some of its former most experienced and active members.

“ During the past year your Council held eight meetings, the attendances at which is shown on the balloting paper. At its first meeting, after careful consideration of the resolution adopted by the annual meeting, it was resolved to withdraw the paragraph, No. 7, referred to in that resolution, from the annual report of the outgoing Council, as well as their remarks on the report of the Royal Commissioners, also mentioned in the same resolution.

“ The Council had under their consideration, at several of their earlier meetings, the Medical Acts Amendment Bill. Bearing in view the resolution adopted by the last annual general meeting, the Council felt justified in expressing its approval of the general principles of the Bill, as containing much that met the wishes of a majority of the members of the Branch and of the medical profession. At the same time the Council was of opinion that the Bill, as it was introduced into the House of Lords, required amendments in several particulars. The Council accordingly drew up a report upon the Bill, indicating what, in its opinion, these points were. A copy of the report was sent to every member of the Branch, as well as to the chairman of the Parliamentary Bills Committee of the Association, and to a number of other persons interested in the subject. The Council also forwarded a petition for presentation to the House of Lords, not in favour of the Bill as introduced into their lordships’ House, but praying that the provision therein made for improvement in the examination of candidates for the medical profession, and for the introduction of representatives elected by the registered medical practitioners residing in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland into the Medical Council, might become law.

“ With regard to the amendments made in Committee of the House of Lords on the Bill, especially the amendment whereby one of the three representatives of the King and Queen’s College of Physicians, as originally proposed by the Bill, was removed, thus giving the University representatives a majority on the Medical Board for Ireland, the following resolution was unanimously adopted, and a copy thereof was sent to a large number of peers, as well as brought personally under the notice of several of those members of their lordships’ House who took part in the debate and voted on the subject.

“ That the President and Council of the Dublin Branch of the British Medical Association, emphatically and respectfully protest against any of the Irish medical authorities having a greater number of representatives than another on the Medical Board for Ireland, as laid down in Clause 9, Subclause 5, of the Medical Acts Amendment (H. L.) Bill, as amended in Committee; inasmuch as the representatives of different bodies on a board having the distribution of moneys should be, in the opinion of this Council, equally balanced.”

“ This Branch having taken the initiative four years ago in bringing the subject of the notification of infectious disease before the public and the profession in Ireland, your Council was gratified at receiving recently an invitation from the Dublin Sanitary Association to join it and other bodies in a deputation to the Chief Secretary, to press on him the importance of Government introducing a Bill for this object, on the lines of the Bill suggested by the Council of the Branch, and by the Committee of Council of the Irish Medical Association. This recognition by a lay association of the plan of notification of infectious disease to the sanitary authority not being made compulsory on the medical attendant, while, at the same time, it was left optional with him to notify if he should think fit, shows the advance that has been made in educating public opinion on this important matter. The views put forward by the deputation were cordially received by the Chief Secretary, who expressed his approval of the proposal, and the intention of the Government not to do anything in the matter until it was fully satisfied as to the views held by the majority of the profession upon the subject. Your Council, in April last, petitioned against the English Bill introduced by Mr. Hastings for the compulsory notification of infectious diseases by the medical attendant.

“ Your president and several members of the Council had also the pleasure last week of joining officially in a deputation to the Chief Secretary in support of the Union Officers Superannuation (Ireland) Bill, and in bringing the claims of the hardly worked and badly paid dispensary medical officers to an equitable retiring pension, under the

notice of the Government, and urging the reintroduction of the Bill at as early a period as possible in the approaching session of Parliament.

“ Your Council observes with pleasure the accession to this Branch and to the Association of a large number of officers of the Army Medical Department. The British Medical Association has done good service for this important part of the profession; and your Council feel assured that, by availing themselves of the organisation afforded by this and other Branches of the Association, and by thus also bringing their department into more intimate relationship with their unequivocally ‘noncombatant’ professional brethren, mutual advantage will result. A resolution with reference to certain hardships at present affecting the Army Medical Department will be submitted to the meeting.

“ Your honorary secretary and treasurer, Dr. George F. Duffey—who, as Honorary Secretary for the Association in Ireland, interested himself, in conjunction with the president-elect and other members of the Council, in forming this Branch in 1877—does not seek re-election this year as Branch Secretary, in consequence of the increasing demands upon his time. The Council have had much satisfaction in the nomination of so efficient a successor to Dr. Duffey as they believe Dr. Richard Hayes will prove.

“ In order to obviate any inconvenience that might arise from voidance of posts among the officers and council in the interval between annual meetings of the Branch, the following addition to By-law VII is proposed by the Council: ‘All interim vacancies may be filled by the Council.’

“ The accounts of the Branch up to the 29th instant have been audited by Dr. E. H. Bennett, and show a balance in favour of the Branch of £18 1s. 1d.

“ The thanks of the Branch and of the Council are again eminently due to the President and Fellows of this College, for their courteous permission to hold our meetings within its walls.”

The adoption of the report was moved by the Vice-President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Dr. E. H. BENNETT, who referred to the regret felt at the withdrawal of Dr. Duffey from the post of Honorary Secretary, and to the efficient manner in which he had performed the duties of the office.

Dr. ATTILLI, in seconding the motion, said he did not approve of the Medical Acts Amendment Bill introduced last year, and if such a Bill were again introduced he would oppose it. He trusted that both those who agreed with and those who differed from him last year would unite, if a Bill should be introduced this year, in endeavouring to see that it contained a moderate amount of reform, and was calculated to prevent the anomalies and disgraces which at present existed in the profession, and at the same time would protect their old and respected corporations.

Dr. KIDD said that he was glad to hear Dr. Attill’s statement, but regretted that the Council had expressed its approval of the principle of the Bill, which he believed to be necessarily ruinous to the medical corporations.

Dr. JACOB, President of the Irish Medical Association, did not agree with this observation. He warmly approved the effort at reform the Bill contained, but he as strongly dissented from certain portions of it which dealt unjustly with the licensing bodies.

Dr. KIDD said he was just as warm an advocate of reform as Dr. Jacob and Dr. Attill; but he objected to revolutionary Bills.

The resolution was put, and carried unanimously.

Army Medical Department.—In the unavoidable absence, through indisposition, of the President of the Royal College of Surgeons, Mr. Wheeler, who was in charge of the resolution, the President of the Irish Medical Association, Dr. JACOB, moved: “ That this Branch observes with regret the great block in promotion which at present exists in the senior ranks of the Army Medical Department, and the extremely short period of home service that is now enjoyed by surgeons-major, and requests the Council of the Branch to take such steps as it may deem advisable, to direct the attention of the Government to these points.” Dr. Jacob pointed out that, at the time of the Crimean War and the subsequent Indian Mutiny, a large number of young medical men had joined the Army Medical Department. The gentlemen who entered the service then had now come to the condition of being surgeons-major of high standing and of long service; and the complaint they had to make was that the upper ranks of the military medical service, into which they had reasonably expected by this time to have been promoted, had become so blocked by the continuance therein of surgeons-general and deputy surgeons-general, that there was not the slightest probability of those junior officers receiving the position to which their length of service now entitled them. In a year or two there would be about two hundred of those gentlemen without hope of promotion to the administrative ranks of the army service. It was indispensable, in

the interests of both the public and the Army Medical Service, that this matter should be grappled with. He did not say how this block was to be removed; but it appeared to him that the only way in which it could be done was by offering inducements to the existing officers to retire. The resolution he moved had been framed with the purpose of not setting out any method of dealing with this matter. It was proposed that it should be left to the Council of the Branch to consider and take advice from those acquainted with the organisation of the Army Medical Department as to what action, if any, should be taken.

Dr. EDWARD HAMILTON, president-elect, in seconding the resolution, said this was not a shadowy but a real grievance, and one which, if allowed to continue, would damage the entire army medical service. The great inducement to enter that service was the certainty which had hitherto prevailed that, if men did their work faithfully, efficiently, and conscientiously, they would be rewarded with good positions. If that hope were to be taken away from them, he for one would use his influence to prevent young men from entering the army. The question was one which involved status, pay, and retiring allowance. It was objectionable that men advanced in life should be obliged to remain in executive spheres when they could not be expected to retain the firmness of nerve, decision, and steadiness of eye and hand that they possessed in their youth. There was no doubt that of late years the Government had done a great deal for the Army Medical Department, and they were entitled to due credit for it.

Surgeon-Major J. B. HAMILTON, A.M.D., said the present administration of the army had nothing to say to the block that was complained of. It was the result of an emergency that occurred thirty years ago.

Brigade-Surgeon ROE thought it might be better not to press the resolution, as the state of things which led to the grievance complained of would probably be only temporary.

Dr. JACOB said it would do no harm to refer the matter to the Council.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Officers and Council.—The result of the ballot for officers and Council was announced to be the following. *President*—Edward Hamilton, M.D. *President-Elect*—Lombe Athill, M.D. *Vice Presidents*—E. H. Bennett, M.D., and T. W. Grimshaw, M.D. *Council*—J. K. Barton, M.D.; John T. Banks, M.D.; J. H. Chapman, F.K.Q.C.P.; A. H. Corley, M.D.; George F. Duffey, M.D.; Samuel Gordon, M.D.; Surgeon-Major J. B. Hamilton, M.D., A.M.D.; Robert M'Donnell, M.D., F.R.S.; E. D. Mapother, M.D.; J. W. Moore, M.D., Pres. K.Q.C.P.; Walter G. Smith, M.D. *Representative on the Council of the Association*—George F. Duffey, M.D. *Honorary Secretary and Treasurer*—Richard A. Hayes, M.D., 56, Merrion Square.

The newly elected president, Dr. HAMILTON, then took the chair amid applause.

Vote of Thanks to Out-going President.—On the motion of the President of the College of Physicians, seconded by Dr. KIDD, a vote of thanks was passed to the outgoing president, Dr. Banks.

President's Address.—The PRESIDENT then delivered an address, entitled "Thoughts on Education." It is published on page 305.

Vote of Thanks to Dr. Duffey.—Dr. BANKS moved, and Dr. GRIMSHAW seconded, a vote of thanks to Dr. Duffey, for his services to the Branch while he had held the office of Honorary Secretary and Treasurer. The resolution was carried by acclamation, and Dr. Duffey, having replied, the proceedings of the annual meeting terminated.

Annual Dinner.—In the evening the annual dinner took place at the College of Physicians. The President occupied the chair, and among those present were Dr. Lyons, M.P.; General Darby Griffiths, C.B.; Dr. Banks; Dr. Robert M'Donnell; Dr. Cameron, M.P., Glasgow; the Registrar-General; the President of the College of Physicians; the Vice-President of the College of Surgeons; Sir John Barrington, D.L.; the Principal Medical Officer for Ireland; the President of the Irish Medical Association; the Medical Commissioner of the Local Government Board, etc. Covers were laid for fifty-five; and after dinner an admirable selection of music was given in the interval between the toasts.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH : WEST MIDDLESEX DISTRICT.

THE first meeting of this District was held at the Horbury School Rooms, Notting Hill, on the evening of January 30th. Dr. C. J. HARE, President of the Branch, was in the chair, and made a few introductory remarks.

Communications.—The following communications were made :

1. Dr. J. Braxton Hicks read a short paper, illustrating, by three cases, the assistance which the Diagnosis of Abnormal

Conditions in Pregnancy derives by the knowledge of the Intermittent Contractions of the Uterus. Two cases were complicated with tumours in the uterine walls; in the third, an almost transverse position of the uterus, complicated with haemorrhage at the fourth month, required elucidation; and the exact relationship of the several parts was clearly established by the observation of the changes in the density of the uterine walls. At the commencement of the paper, a short retrospect was given of the papers read by the author on the subject. A discussion followed, in which the President, Dr. Cleveland, Dr. Hemming, and others took part.

2. Dr. Herringham gave an address on the object of the Collective Investigation Committee.

3. Dr. Braxton Hicks exhibited two kinds of Bed Lifts, and explained their mode of use.

4. Dr. Cleveland mentioned the occurrence of three Cases of Typhoid Fever at St. John's Wood, which he had clearly traced to the use of milk from a particular dairy in the neighbourhood.

5. The President mentioned the Case of a Gentleman, at present under his care, with attacks of *petit mal*, whose pulse came down to 17, and afterwards to 13½ in the minute.

6. Dr. Braxton Hicks also mentioned a Case of a Gentleman, the subject of a street accident, whose pulse was reduced to 8 in the minute, during the three weeks he survived.

Votes of thanks were unanimously accorded to Dr. Braxton Hicks, and to Dr. Herringham.

In consequence of the unavoidable absence of Mr. Malcolm Morris, the reading of his paper on Alopecia was deferred till a future meeting.

Vote of Thanks.—On the motion of Mr. J. Merriman, seconded by Dr. E. H. Vinen, a vote of thanks to the President, Dr. Hare, for presiding, and also for his admirable address at the annual meeting, was passed unanimously.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

LETTERS FROM THE RIVIERA.

II.—CANNES.

Situation, Climate, and Meteorology.—*Bouille-à-baisse.*—*Natural Merits and Acquired Defects.*—*Promenades and Pleasures.*—*The City of the Future.*—*Open Spaces.*—*The Neglected Classes.*

MR. ERNEST HART writes from Cannes:—

Cannes is the garden-city of the Riviera. Facing southward, encircled by a triple rampart of Alps and hills, occupying a picturesquely undulating and hilly area, extending about four miles across the seaboard, and running two miles back to the mountains, Cannes, with its suburbs and adjacent villages, may boast of a situation and extent of ground which no other city of the Riviera can rival. It is sheltered between the east and west-south-west points from all the winds that blow round by the north. Its sandy soil, its granite and calcareous rocks, its fir-clad hills, are throughout the winter warm and dry. Its winter day-temperature ranges generally from an average of 65° to 59°, and is alike remarkable for its mildness and equality; the clearness and purity of the atmosphere, the gentle heat of the winter sun, rarely veiled by clouds, and unobstructed by dampness or fogs, invite the invalid and the holiday-maker to continuous life in the open air, from early morning till sunset. From November till May, the weather and the temperature remind the English visitor of a season of perpetual May-time. It is rarely too hot for riding or walking, at any hour of the day; invalids are bidden to protect the head by umbrellas and sunshades, but I have not at any time during the day found the sun-shine overpowering or needed the protection from the "darts of Phœbus" which I was rhapsodically warned to provide. The Cannois have not always been wise in their generation, or they would have protected their seashore from the encroachment of the railway, which has been allowed to cut off all access to the sands on the western side of the town, as far as La Bocca. This is a misfortune for those who love to roam on the shore and to skirt the ocean in their walk. Two miles of what might have been the loveliest promenade of the Riviera are thus rendered unavailable, except to those who, like myself, would rather plough through heavy sand, cross forbidden "side ways," climb embankments, and trespass, of malice aforethought, over paths forbidden "by authority," than lose the pleasures of a sea-side ramble along a shore which is laved by the blue Mediterranean, and in full view of the purple chain of the Esterels, of which the tints are ever changing, and to which the grand parasol pines of La Bocca furnish a foreground of solemn beauty. The eastern shore has been embanked, and a good

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

THE CHAIR OF BOTANY.—The Professorship of Botany has been filled up by the election of Dr. Isaac Bayley Balfour, Regius Professor of Botany in the University of Glasgow. Dr. Balfour is the son of (we regret to say, the late) Professor Balfour, of Edinburgh, who died early this week. Graduating finally as a Doctor of Medicine, and gold medallist at Edinburgh, having previously taken the degree of Doctor of Science with first-class honours, he spent two years on the continent, with a view of acquiring a knowledge of the best methods of morphological and physiological research, under Professors De Bary and Sachs. For some years, he assisted his father, the Regius Professors of Medicine and Botany in the University of Edinburgh, in conducting classes, alike in the lecture-room, in the laboratory, in the herbarium, and in practical field work. For four years he was assistant to the Regius Professor of Natural History in the University of Edinburgh, and for six years lecturer on botany at the Royal Veterinary College there. In 1879 he was appointed Crown Professor of Botany in the University of Glasgow, where he has had the charge of a large herbarium and garden, appointed by the Royal Society in 1874, as botanist and zoologist to the expedition to Rodriguez, to observe the transit of Venus. He published the botanical results of his expedition in the *Philosophical Transactions*. In 1880 he made a scientific exploration of the island of Socotra, the report on the botany of which is now in course of publication by the Royal Society of Edinburgh. Under the new statutes of the college, Professor Balfour becomes a Fellow of Magdalen College so long as he holds the Professorship. We may congratulate the University and College on such a valuable addition to the scientific staff of Oxford professors.

MEDICO-PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday, February 7th.

Poisonous Patent Medicines.—Mr. MUNDELLA, in reply to Mr. Warton, said the attention of the Privy Council had been called to the recent case of death through the use of a patent medicine known as "Holt's Specific for Whooping Cough," and to similar cases. A Bill was now under consideration, which would be introduced very shortly into the House of Lords, dealing with the whole subject.

Monday, February 11th.

Surgeon Wheeler and the Crown.—Mr. HEALY asked the Solicitor-General for Ireland by whose advice was Surgeon Wheeler's demand against the Government (for attendance on a wounded landlord) resisted; whether it was deposited in evidence that the Government were willing to pay him £700, while his claim was £1,147 18s.; whether the Government employed the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, and Mr. Dodd (instructed by Mr. Lane Joynt) to resist his claim before a jury; if he could state what amount was marked on the briefs of the Government lawyers, and how much they obtained as "refreshers;" whether it was the fact that the Government ultimately admitted in court the full claim of Surgeon Wheeler, that the case was withdrawn from the jury, that they had to pay in addition to their own costs the costs of three opposing Queen's counsel; and if he could state how much the taxed costs of the plaintiff amounted to, and how much the suit had cost the Government altogether beyond the £1,147 18s. originally claimed, which they subsequently admitted in court was due to Surgeon Wheeler.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL for IRELAND said the demand was resisted on the advice of the then Attorney-General and Solicitor-General for Ireland. The Government considered the claim too large, but were willing to pay £700 on foot of it. The Government employed the counsel named in the question. It had never been usual to state the amounts marked on the briefs of Crown lawyers, and he could not state the amounts. The Government defended the action on the faith of a memorandum of terms which had been handed to Surgeon Wheeler by direction of the late Mr. Burke, who was afterwards assassinated. After the trial had been commenced, Mr. Wheeler stated that he had had a conversation with Mr. Hamilton, in which the amount of the fees was agreed upon. Mr. Hamilton, when appealed to, although he could recollect the conversation, would not undertake to swear what occurred. Hence the Government admitted the claim, and, as a matter of course, had to bear the costs of both sides. The taxed costs amounted to £208 14s. 7d., and the suit would cost the Government, as he was informed, about £400, in addition to the £1,147 18s.—Mr. HEALY gave notice that on the estimates he would move to reduce

the salary of the hon. and learned gentleman by £400.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL for IRELAND, whose rising produced general laughter, said he did not receive any of the £400.

Criminal Information Against Medical Men.—Sir T. LAWRENCE asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether it was by his authority or under his instructions, or, if not, by whose authority or under whose instructions, that the Public Prosecutor appeared at the Lambeth police-court on September 11th, 1883, to support a criminal information against two medical men, Dr. Bower and Mr. Keates, for the manslaughter of a child by the improper performance of the operation of tracheotomy, and by criminal negligence connected therewith; whether the medical officer of the Treasury, or any other medical adviser, was consulted before the Public Prosecutor was instructed to appear to support the charge; what were the circumstances which were held to justify the intervention of the Public Prosecutor in the case; whether he was aware that the magistrate before whom the charge was heard dismissed it without hearing the witnesses or the counsel for the defence, with the remark that it was "persecution rather than prosecution"; and whether it was the intention of the Treasury to recompense Dr. Bower and Mr. Keates for the injury they had suffered from the appearance of the Public Prosecutor against them, and for the heavy expenses they had thereby been put to.—The ATTORNEY GENERAL said this matter did not come within the cognisance of the Home Secretary. The director of public prosecutions acted entirely upon his own responsibility, merely instructing a solicitor to see that the facts on both sides were elicited. He had acted perfectly rightly.

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY MANAGEMENT.

THE NURSING OF CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL.

The nursing at the Charing Cross Hospital has for the last sixteen years been performed under a contract by the St. John's House and Sisterhood. This arrangement worked, on the whole, to the mutual advantage of the Hospital and St. John's House; and, in spite of some occasional friction, the medical officers of the hospital were unwilling to terminate the agreement. After the occurrence of the differences at King's College Hospital last summer between the authorities of that institution and St. John's House, which resulted in the withdrawal of the sister-in-charge, all the other sisters of St. John's House, both at King's College Hospital and at Charing Cross Hospital, sent in their resignations. The terms on which they would consent to stay were so preposterous, that the Council of the House could not accept them. The Council thus deserted have, however, since carried on the nursing as before at Charing Cross Hospital. No fault has been found with the manner in which the new sisters and nurses have performed their work, and the feeling of the medical staff on this point is unanimous, as shown in the following resolution, which was passed at a meeting held last week to ascertain the individual opinions of that body. "The medical and surgical officers having been requested by the Weekly Board to report on the manner in which the present sisters and nurses have discharged their duties in the hospital during the past five months, beg to report that the hospital has been nursed during this time by an adequate staff of highly trained, skilful, and attentive nurses; that the results, both in the medical and surgical wards, have been eminently satisfactory, and that the patients have been kindly and humanely treated." Acting on this report, the Council, on February 6th, passed a resolution by a large majority, thanking the present sisters and nurses. In November last, notwithstanding the well-understood feeling of the medical officers, a resolution was passed by a small majority of the Council of the Hospital, giving notice to St. John's House of a determination of the agreement between the two bodies on June 24th next. This was mainly brought about by the energetic action of the Treasurer of the Hospital, Mr. R. Few, who has warmly espoused the cause of the late sisters, and has severed his connection with St. John's House, to whose Council he had for many years belonged. At the annual meeting of the governors and subscribers to the Hospital, which was called for Wednesday last, it was decided to ascertain the opinion of a majority of the governors, whether the notice given to St. John's House shall still hold good, or whether the excellent nursing by St. John's House shall be continued as at present. The only alternative which presented itself under the circumstances, and which the treasurer was earnestly striving to bring about, was to delegate the nursing to the ladies who deserted St. John's House and the Charing Cross Hospital in July last. The medical staff naturally felt most strongly that their work would be greatly hampered, and their position compromised by such a course.

ceding week, and included 19 in London, and 3 in Liverpool. The deaths from small-pox in these twenty-eight towns last week, which had been 4 and 14 in the two previous weeks, further rose to 21 last week, of which 9 occurred in Birmingham, 4 in London, 3 in Liverpool, 3 in Sunderland, 1 in Wolverhampton, and 1 in Manchester. The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs, judged by the metropolitan returns, was again much below the average; the deaths referred to these diseases in London, which had been 360 and 367 in the two previous weeks, fell to 347 last week; they were as many as 284 below the corrected average weekly number, and equal to an annual rate of 4.5 per 1,000. The causes of 80, or 2.3 per cent., of the 3,466 deaths registered last week in the twenty-eight towns were not certified, either by medical practitioners or by coroners. The proportion of uncertified deaths in London did not exceed 0.9 per cent., while it averaged 3.4 per cent. in the provincial towns, and showed the largest excess in Hull, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Blackburn, and Halifax.

HEALTH OF SCOTCH TOWNS.—During the week ending Saturday, the 9th inst., 827 births and 597 deaths were registered in eight of the principal Scotch towns, having an estimated aggregate population of 1,254,607 persons. The annual rate of mortality, which had been 20.1 and 22.5 per 1,000 in the two preceding weeks, further rose last week to 24.7, which exceeded by so much as 4.1 per 1,000 the average rate for the same period in the twenty-eight large English towns. Among these eight Scotch towns, the death-rate was equal to 19.5 in Leith, 20.8 in Dundee, 22.1 in Edinburgh, 25.8 in Paisley, 26.1 in Aberdeen, 26.6 in Glasgow, 27.2 in Greenock, and 31.9 in Perth. The 575 deaths registered in these towns last week included 97 which were referred to the principal zymotic diseases, against 87, 74, and 67 in the three preceding weeks; of these, 23 resulted from diphtheria, 23 from whooping-cough, 15 from scarlet fever, 14 from "fever," 12 from measles, 10 from diarrhoeal diseases, and not one from small-pox. These 97 deaths from zymotic diseases last week in these towns were equal to 16.2 per cent. of the total deaths, and to a rate of 4.0 per 1,000, which considerably exceeded the average zymotic death-rate recorded last week in the twenty-eight English towns. The lowest zymotic death-rates in the Scotch towns were 1.4 in Aberdeen and 1.7 in Perth; whereas the rate was equal to 5.5 in Glasgow, 5.1 in Edinburgh, and 7.2 in Greenock. The fatal cases of diphtheria, which in the three previous weeks had declined from 22 to 6, rose again last week to 23, and exceeded the number returned in any week since November last; no less than 7 occurred in Greenock, also 6 in Glasgow, and 3 in Edinburgh. The 23 deaths from whooping-cough exceeded by 2 the number in the preceding week, and included 12 in Glasgow and 6 in Edinburgh. The fatal cases of scarlet fever, which had steadily declined in the three previous weeks from 12 to 5, rose again to 15, of which 12 occurred in Glasgow and 3 in Edinburgh. The 14 deaths referred to different forms of fever also showed a marked increase upon recent weekly numbers, and included 7 in Edinburgh and 4 in Glasgow. Of the 12 fatal cases of measles, which exceeded by 4 the number in the preceding week, 6 were recorded in Edinburgh, where no fewer than 40 deaths from this disease have been registered since the beginning of the year. The mortality from diseases of the respiratory organs in these Scotch towns was again much below the average, and was equal to an annual rate of 4.5 per 1,000. Of the 597 deaths registered last week in these towns, as many as 82, or nearly 14 per cent., were uncertified.

HEALTH OF IRISH TOWNS.—During the week ending February 9th, there were 459 deaths in the sixteen principal town districts of Ireland. The average annual death-rate was 27.8 per 1,000 of the population, the respective rates for the several districts being as follow, ranging in order from the lowest to the highest: Armagh 10.3, Londonderry 19.6, Sligo 24.1, Belfast 24.2, Dundalk 26.2, Galway 26.9, Limerick 27.0, Cork 27.3, Lisburn 29.0, Dublin 29.5, Kilkenny 29.6, Lurgan 30.8, Wexford 34.2, Newry 35.1, Waterford 39.4, Drogheda 46.5. The deaths from the principal zymotic diseases in the sixteen districts were equal to an annual rate of 2.5 per 1,000, the rates varying from 0.0 in Galway, Newry, Kilkenny, Wexford, Sligo, Lisburn, Lurgan, and Armagh, to 11.6 in Waterford; the 17 deaths from all causes registered in the last-named district comprising 1 from typhus and 4 from whooping-cough. Among the 101 deaths from all causes registered in Belfast are 3 from scarlatina, 2 from whooping cough, 1 from diphtheria, and 1 from diarrhoea; and among the 42 deaths registered in Cork are 4 from measles and 1 from diarrhoea. The 11 deaths registered in Londonderry comprise 1 from scarlatina and 2 from whooping-cough; and the 20 deaths in Limerick comprise 1 from whooping-cough and 2 from enteric fever.

HEALTH OF FOREIGN CITIES.—It appears from statistics published in the Registrar-General's return for the week ending the 9th instant, that the annual death-rate, according to the most recently received weekly return, was equal to 32.9 per 1,000 in Bombay, and to 46.7 in Madras. Cholera caused 19 deaths in Bombay and 25 in Madras, and 35 fatal cases of small-pox were also recorded in the latter city; "fever" mortality showed the largest excess in Bombay. According to the most recently received weekly returns, the average annual death-rate in twenty-one of the largest European cities was 27.6 per 1,000, and was no less than 7.0 above the mean rate last week in the twenty-eight large English towns. The death-rate in St. Petersburg was equal to 40.1, showing a further increase upon the rates in previous weeks; the 713 deaths included 40 from typhus and typhoid fever, and 14 from scarlet fever. In three other northern cities—Copenhagen, Christiania, and Stockholm—the death-rate averaged 24.0, ranging from 22.3 in Copenhagen, to 25.6 in Christiania; scarlet fever caused 3 deaths in Stockholm and 2 in Christiania. In Paris the death-rate was equal to 25.4 (5.9 above the rate in London), and the deaths included 16 from typhoid fever, and 59 from diphtheria and croup. The 188 deaths in Brussels, of which 8 resulted from small-pox, gave a death-rate of 23.3. In Geneva the rate was 27.3, and 3 of the 37 deaths resulted from whooping-cough. In the three principal Dutch cities—Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and The Hague—the mean death-rate was 26.7, the highest rate being 29.7 in Amsterdam, where 27 of the deaths were referred to diphtheria and croup; 4 of the 75 deaths in Rotterdam resulted from scarlet fever. The Registrar-General's table includes eight German and Austrian cities, in which the death-rate averaged 26.6, and ranged from 22.2 and 25.3 in Berlin and Vienna, to 30.5 in Munich and 40.1 in Prague. Small-pox caused 34 deaths in Prague and 3 in Vienna; the mortality from diphtheria was greatest in Dresden, Berlin, and Hamburg. The death-rate averaged 29.1 in three of the principal Italian cities, and was equal to 28.1 in Rome, 28.2 in Turin, and 32.9 in Venice; malarial fever caused 10 deaths in Rome, and measles 11 in Turin and 6 in Rome. The usual return from Lisbon does not appear to have come to hand. In four of the largest American cities, the rate did not average more than 21.9, and ranged from 20.6 in Brooklyn to 23.4 in Baltimore. Typhoid fever caused 10 deaths in Philadelphia, and measles 11 in Baltimore; diphtheria was more or less fatally prevalent in each of these American cities.

INDIA AND THE COLONIES.

INDIA.

SMALL-POX NEAR BOMBAY.—The *Englishman's Overland Mail* reports that, during the last week of December and the early part of January, there was a severe epidemic of small-pox at Belgaum and in the district. A few cases occurred among the men of the two native regiments stationed there.

CHOLERA IN CONNECTION WITH THE AKHA EXPEDITION.—Cholera has broken out at Balipara-hat, near Tezpur, owing, it is said, to bad sanitary arrangements in connection with the troops told off for the Akha expedition.

THE TIMES OF INDIA states that the Government of India have refused to make any alteration in the rules of the Bengal Medical Retiring Fund, under which the annuities of £300 each offered annually in July to subscribers to that Fund, are considered to have been declined by any officer who does not intimate his intention to accept an annuity before the 31st October of the same year. Under these circumstances, any medical officer who, not having accepted the annuity before the prescribed date, wishes to retire from the service, will have to forego the annuity and wait until it is again offered in July of the following year.

CANADA.

MEDICAL SCHOOLS FOR WOMEN.—As the outcome of the difficulty between the male and female medical students in the Kingston Medical College last winter, two medical colleges for females have been inaugurated, one in Kingston and the other in Toronto. That they can both be well sustained at present is, says the *Canada Lancet*, "entirely out of the question, and we hope shortly to see an amalgamation of the two institutions."

NEW HOME FOR CONSUMPTION.—It is reported that Lord Henry Somerset is about to establish, at Bournemouth, a home for young men suffering from phthisis. The majority of the beds are to be free, the institution being designed especially for poor clerks or shop-assistants; but patients who can afford to defray the cost of their own maintenance, will also be admitted.

OBITUARY.

JOHN HUTTON BALFOUR, M.D., F.R.S., L.&E.

ON Monday, there passed away from us one who had occupied a prominent position in academic life, John Hutton Balfour, Emeritus Professor of Botany in the University of Edinburgh. He was born in 1808, and was educated at Edinburgh High School, Edinburgh University and St. Andrew's University. Of a strongly religious cast of mind, his studies seemed to tend to a theological rather than a scientific line of work; the study of botany, however, would seem to have determined his attention to the study of medicine, in the faculty of which it had, at that time, a prominent position. He entered upon the systematic pursuits of a medical curriculum by apprenticeship to the late Professor Sir George Ballingall, and by courses of instruction in the University College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. From the latter body he received his diploma in 1831, and from the former the degree of M.D. in 1832. During these two years he was one of the presidents of the Royal Medical Society. Subsequently he studied in Paris; in Edinburgh he was resident in the infirmary for some time, and also acted as a dispensary physician. Latterly he became partner in the practice of his former master, Sir George Ballingall. There is nothing particular to record of Dr. Balfour's career as a practitioner, except his conscientious attention to his duties. It was in 1836 that, along with the late Professor Edward Forbes and some other enthusiastic naturalists, he founded the Botanical Society of Edinburgh, a society which has since flourished and done much good work, and which has owed its success largely to the enthusiasm with which Dr. Balfour devoted himself to its interests. In 1838 he founded the Edinburgh Botanical Club. So strongly had Dr. Balfour attached himself to the subject of botany, that, in 1840, he conducted a course of lectures and demonstrations in botany as an extra-mural lecturer; and it spoke well for the ability of the lecturer and the enthusiasm of his pupils that, although this was an entirely voluntary course, it was attended by about fifty members. Owing to the translation of Dr. Hooker from Glasgow to Kew in 1841, a vacancy was created in the Chair of Botany in Glasgow University, and this was filled by the appointment to it of Dr. Balfour. Four years subsequently, through the death of Professor Graham, a similar vacancy occurred in the University of Edinburgh, and after a keen contest, Professor Balfour was elected to it by the Town Council. This Chair he occupied for thirty-four years, until failing health caused his retirement in 1878. During that time, the attendance on his course of lectures shared the same success as other classes, and rose latterly to over 400 in number; from first to last he must have instructed considerably over 7,000 pupils. His enthusiasm as a teacher caused him to plan and carry out many botanical excursions, and they formed a regular institution in his course. Hundreds of members of the profession will, this week, remember with saddened pleasure the Saturdays spent with the late Professor in the glens and on the hills of Scotland at a time when their cares were fewer, and their appreciation of the wholesome relaxation from the class-rooms and grinding of the session rendered keener by their rural surroundings. Professor Balfour did much to extend the knowledge of botany and the practical study of it by his contributions to the literature of the subject; he was author of a *Manual of Botany*, *Class Book of Botany*, *Elements of Botany*, *The Flora of Edinburgh*, *a Catalogue of British Plants*, *The Botanist's Companion*, and *The Plants of the Bible*. He was author of the article "Botany" in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*.

Dr. Balfour enjoyed for many years the position of Regius Keeper of the Botanical Gardens, and was for thirty years Dean of the Faculty of Medicine. In this latter position he was in intimate relation with many hundreds who are now members of the profession, and who will remember him as an eminently just, if somewhat austere, man of business.

For many years Dr. Balfour was secretary of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and lately he acted as assessor to the Edinburgh University Court. Dr. Balfour's services to science were recognised by the Universities of Edinburgh, Glasgow, and St. Andrew's, each of which created him LL.D. A prominent feature in Dr. Balfour's character was his devotion to religion; and of many societies of a religious character he was a consistent supporter.

Dr. Balfour will be mourned by a wide circle of friends and former pupils as a sincere friend, consistent Christian, and upright man. He is survived by four sons and four daughters. The newspapers published the day of his death announced the appointment of his second son, Professor Isaac Bayley Balfour, of Glasgow University, to the Sherardian Chair of Botany in Oxford University.

MEDICAL NEWS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentleman passed the Examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received a certificate to practise, on Thursday, February 7th, 1884.

Hillstead, Herbert John, Lewisham High Road, St. John's, S.E.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced.

ANDERSON'S COLLEGE DISPENSARY.—Two vacancies for Physicians on the Dispensary Staff, and one Physician for Diseases of Women and Children. Applications to D. Wilson, 42, Bath Street, Glasgow.

ARMAGH UNION.—Medical Officer, Richhill Dispensary. Salary, 140*l.*, and fees. Applications to James Best, Honorary Secretary, up to February 25th.

BEDFORD GENERAL INFIRMARY AND FEVER HOSPITAL.—Resident Surgeon. Salary, 100*l.* per annum. Applications by February 28th.

CHORLEY DISPENSARY.—House-Surgeon and Apothecary. Salary, 130*l.* per annum. Applications by February 20th.

CITY OF ELY DISPENSARY.—Surgeon-in-Ordinary and Dispenser. Salary, 60*l.* and 20*l.* per annum. Applications to the Rev. K. H. Smith, by February 16th.

GENERAL HOSPITAL, Birmingham.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, 130*l.* per annum. Applications by February 25th.

HEARTS OF OAK BENEFIT SOCIETY.—Consulting Physician. Applications by February 16th.

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—Resident Clinical Assistant. Applications by February 16th.

HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Soho Square, W.—Assistant-Physician and Assistant-Surgeon. Applications by March 1st.

HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Soho Square, W.—Administrator of Anæsthetics. Honorary, 20 guineas. Applications by March 5th.

ISLANDS OF SANDAY AND NORTH RONALDSHAY, Orkney.—Medical Officer. Salary, 60*l.* per annum. Applications by March 5th.

JERSEY GENERAL DISPENSARY.—Medical Officer. Salary, 120*l.* per annum. Applications by May 1st.

KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL.—Physician. Applications by March 22nd.

LIMERICK UNION.—Resident Medical Officer for Workhouse. Salary, 150*l.* per annum, to be increased 10*l.* yearly until 200*l.* be reached, with furnished apartments, coal, and light. Election on February 20th.

LISNASKEA UNION.—Medical Officer, Maguiresbridge Dispensary. Salary, 90*l.* and fees. Election on February 20th.

NOTTINGHAM BOROUGH ASYLUM.—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, 100*l.* per annum. Applications by February 16th.

QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S LYING-IN HOSPITAL, St. Marylebone Road, W.—Resident Medical Officer. Applications by February 23rd.

RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY, Oxford.—Dispenser. Salary, 100*l.* per annum. Applications by February 27th.

ROCHESTER AND DISTRICT FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, 200*l.* per annum. Applications by February 28th.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn Road.—Senior Resident Medical Officer. Salary, 104*l.* per annum. Applications by February 27th.

ROYAL SURREY COUNTY HOSPITAL, Guildford.—House-Surgeon. Salary, 75*l.* per annum. Applications by February 16th.

WONFORD HOUSE HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE, near Exeter.—Resident Medical Superintendent. Salary, 500*l.* per annum. Applications by March 11th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

ANGUS, J. A., M.R.C.S., appointed Medical Superintendent to the Hospital for Incurables, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

EMERSON, P. H., M.R.C.S.E., appointed Sambrooke Medical Registrar to King's College Hospital, *vice* L. F. Silk, M.B., resigned.

FITCH, Richard A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Ed., appointed Resident Surgeon to the Birmingham General Dispensary.

GIBBES, Heneage, M.D., appointed Lecturer on Morbid Histology in the Medical School of the Westminster Hospital.

HARGREAVES, J. B., F.R.C.S., appointed Consulting Surgeon to the Imperial Union Accidental Assurance Company for the Leeds district.

LANE, W. Arbutnott, M.S.Lond., F.R.C.S., appointed Assistant-Surgeon to the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street.

SALTER, S. T., M.A., M.B.Cantab., appointed House-Surgeon to the Seamen's Hospital, Greenwich.

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.

BIRTH.

LYON.—At Houghton-le-Spring, co. Durham, on the 11th instant, the wife of Walter Lyon, M.A., M.D., of a son.

MARRIAGE.

ALLAN—BROWNING.—On the 7th instant, at St. Stephen's, St. John's Wood, by the Rev. Dan Greatorex, B.D., vicar of St. Paul's, London Docks, assisted by the Rev. E. H. Nelson, M.A., vicar, Francis John Allan, M.D., to Ellen Mary, second daughter of the late Thomas Gaul Browning, Esq., A.I.C.E., Chief Surveyor of Marylebone.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY	St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—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.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.
TUESDAY	St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—West London, 3 P.M.—St. Mark's, 9 A.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 3 P.M.
WEDNESDAY	St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Mary's, 1.30 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, 2.30 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Peter's, 2 P.M.—National Orthopaedic, 10 A.M.
THURSDAY	St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.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.—Chelsea Hospital for Women, 2 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. T., 1.30; Obstetric, M. W. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; 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, Th., 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., M. Th., 9.30; Eye, Tu. F., 9.30; Ear, W. S., 9.30; Throat, M. Th., 9.30; Skin, Tu. F., 9.30; Electrician, Tu. F., 9.30; 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., 10.30.
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.

MONDAY.—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Papers embodying the results obtained in the London Hospitals by the Cold Bath Treatment of Enteric Fever will be read by Drs. Coupland, Bristow, Cayley, and Frederick Taylor. The subject will be continued on February 25th. Mr. Fleming will show a Surgical Lamp-battery in the Library. Dr. Sansom will show specimens of Solid Liniments.
TUESDAY.—Pathological Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Angel Money: Spinal Cord from a Recent and Old Case of Infantile Palsy. Dr. Coxwell: Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis. Dr. Sainsbury: Malignant Disease of Mesentery. Dr. Norman Moore: Interstitial Disease of Ovary. Dr. Hobson: Secondary Nodules in Peritoneum in a Case of Ovarian Tumour. Mr. Watson Cheyne: Two Cases of Purpure Haemorrhagica in which Organisms were present. Mr. Barwell: A Neoplasm affecting the Knee-joint. Mr. Lane: Fracture of Cartilage of the First Rib. Dr. Hale White: Insular Sclerosis. Mr. Dent: Deformity of Feet from Perforating Ulcer (living specimen). Mr. Shattock: Double Vena Cava, the left being the larger (card).
WEDNESDAY.—Royal Meteorological Society, 7 P.M. Mr. Marriott: The Great Storm of January 26th, 1884. Professor Archibald: The Height of the Neutral Plane of Pressure, and Depth of Monsoon-Currents in India. Hon. F. A. Rollo Russell: On the Sunrises and Sunsets of November and December 1883, and January 1884.
THURSDAY.—Harveian Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. W. H. Day: Case of Scarlet Fever in a Boy, followed by Nephritis, Convulsions, and Death; Temporary Relief by Wet Packing. Dr. Broadbent: Prognosis in Structural Diseases of the Heart.

FRIDAY.—Clinical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Mansell-Moulin: A Case of Thrombosis of the Vena Cava. Mr. R. Clement Lucas: A Case of Charcot's Joint-disease. Mr. Noble Smith: A Case of Dislocation of one of the Semilunar Cartilages. Dr. Samuel West: A Case of Multiple Hepatic Abscesses in a Boy. The following living specimens will be exhibited: A Case of Excision of the Patella, by Mr. R. Clement Lucas; Anomalous Affection of Certain Bones and Joints, by Mr. W. Morrant Baker; A Case of Nodules on the Finger, by Mr. Godlee; Case of Pulmonary Regurgitation, by Dr. J. Kings顿 Fowler.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor, 161A, Strand, W.C., London; those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the JOURNAL, etc., should be addressed to the Manager, at the Office, 161A, Strand, W.C., London.

In order to avoid delay, it is particularly requested that all letters on the editorial business of the JOURNAL should be addressed to the Editor at the office of the JOURNAL, and not to his private house.

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.

SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF MEDICAL MEN.

A WIDOW who has been left with eight young children to educate, and who is possessed of very slender means with which to accomplish it, inquires if she could obtain help from this Society. We can refer her to the Honorary Secretary, Mr. J. B. Blackett, 28, Green Street, Grosvenor Square, W., but fear that her quest will be useless. This Society, which has now about £6,000*£* invested, gives its assistance only to the widows and orphans of its own members. We should advise our correspondent to make application to Mr. Edward East, 18, Clifton Gardens, Maida Vale, W., Secretary to the British Medical Benevolent Fund, who may possibly be able to grant her some assistance.

CANVASSING FOR APPOINTMENTS IN THE DAILY PAPERS.

We have received from Liverpool several letters from medical practitioners complaining of the manner in which canvassing for hospital appointments is carried on in that city. As long as this particularly objectionable method of seeking election for vacancies of this kind is rendered compulsory by the bad system of selecting conditantes, which still finds favour with the authorities of most English hospitals, so long will aspirants for these appointments be compelled to have recourse to measures which are humiliating to the profession. We strongly deprecate the whole system in a leading article, last November, on canvassing at a metropolitan hospital, and made especial comment on the manifestoes which several candidates caused to be inserted in the daily papers.

THE HIND FUND.

We are requested to state that this fund will be closed on Thursday, March 6th next, until which date subscriptions will be thankfully received by Dr. Richardson, F.R.S. (chairman), 25, Manchester Square; John Tweedy, Esq., F.R.C.S., 24, Harley Street, honorary treasurer; A. J. Pepper, Esq., F.R.C.S., 122, Gower Street; and Thomas Wakley, jun., Esq., L.R.C.P., 96, Redcliffe Gardens, honorary secretaries; or by Messrs. Coutts and Co., Strand. The following additional contributions have been received and paid to the account of the "Hind Fund" at Messrs. Coutts' Bank.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Hutchinson, Jonathan, Esq. (additional donation)	5 5 0	Somer, James, Esq.	1 1 0
Muscroft, H., Esq.	0 10 0	Sylvester, Dr. C.	2 2 0
Rogers, T. Esq.	1 0 0	Thomas, Dr. Danford	1 1 0
		Woakes, Dr.	1 0 0

COMPLICATED PREGNANCY: A WARNING.

SIR.—The following being unique in my experience of twenty-three years, in a pretty extensive midwifery practice, I should like to ask, through the medium of the JOURNAL, if such cases have been frequently met with by others.

Some time since, I was called to see a woman who supposed herself to be pregnant, on account of not having menstruated for over four months. She complained of her unusual size, which was that of a woman at the full time. She had not felt the usual symptoms of quickening. Her bowels were constipated, and her urine was dark in colour and slightly turbid, though normal in relievability and passed without difficulty or pain. I prescribed with a view to relieving the bowels and altering the character of the urine. As the symptoms were no different a month after this, and as she had still not felt any signs of quickening, I requested her to go to bed, in order that I might examine her more particularly. I found the abdomen greatly distended with a circumscribed and fluctuating tumour, but could not feel anything like a pregnant uterus. *Per vaginam*, I found the os uteri very low down, and I did not detect a fetus in utero; but probably I came to this conclusion too readily, through ascertaining that the abdominal tumour was extra-uterine. I made a diagnosis of ovarian dropsey, and sent the woman into the hospital to be operated upon. The surgeon took the precaution to pass a catheter, which drew off between three and four quarts of urine, which was the secret of the tumour. Had I taken the precaution to pass a catheter, I should have been spared the humiliation of making a false diagnosis; but as there was neither pain nor difficulty in connection with the bladder, I certainly did not suspect the case to be what it was.

I may say that the patient went to her full time, and had no further retention of urine.—I enclose my card, and am, yours faithfully,

FORREST.

TINEA VERSICOLOR.

SIR.—Let "Member (Egypt)" try the sulphide of calcium lotion, which is used in the army for the cure of scabies (see *JOURNAL*, February 9th, p. 260). I have found it uniformly successful in tinea versicolor. The first effect is to darken the growth, which, after a short time, and with scrubbing with soap and water, comes away. The cure requires a little time, and the remedy I proffer is undoubtedly disagreeable from its smell, but it is efficacious.—I am, etc.

MEMBER.

In reply to "A Member (Egypt)," Staff-Surgeon W. H. PUTSEY writes that, while serving in Egypt, he treated and cured a severe case of this disease, of many years' standing, by a single application of chrysophanic acid ointment (3*ʒ* to 3*ʒ*). He strongly recommends "A Member" to give this remedy a trial.

MR. EDWARD HYNES (Nottingham) suggests the following. Moisten the affected parts with cold water, and then sprinkle over some chrysophanic acid. The disease generally, he says, disappears in a week or ten days under this treatment. After the application of the acid, the spots assume a deeper hue. He would like to hear of the further progress of the case.

MR. C. A. GRAY suggests that "A Member" should use a five-per cent. ointment of olate of mercury (Dr. Shoemaker's), with vaseline, as Bass's. Any local application in this affection is comparatively inert without the previous thorough use of the flesh-brush following a hot bath.

THE STAFF OF PROVIDENT DISPENSARIES.

In reply to a communication received from a Member on January 26th, we may observe that the managers of a provident dispensary must be allowed to judge as to the number of medical officers whom it is advisable to appoint. We can hardly suppose that, at any dispensary in a populous district, all the medical men of the neighbourhood can, if they think fit, be placed on the staff. When a vacancy occurs, which the Committee intend to fill up, it will, no doubt, be made known in the usual way.

BOOKS ON MICRO-ORGANISMS.

PRACTITIONER asks us to mention works which give full information about the low forms of vegetable life affecting man.

** Our correspondent is referred to the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* for January 5th, p. 41. We may also mention the first volume of *Ziegler's Pathology*, translated by Mr. Mac Alister of Cambridge, which contains, perhaps, the most systematic account of the subject as yet published.

PRELIMINARY EDUCATION IN SCIENCE.

K., who is interested in a lad aged 17, who has passed the examination of the College of Preceptors (Second Class), inquires whether we can recommend any institution, school, or private tutor, in London or elsewhere, where the lad could work for a year at physics, geometry, mathematics, chemistry, and botany.

** It is obviously impossible for us to recommend individual tutors, and "K.'s" best course will probably be to apply to the Warden at St. Bartholomew's or the London Hospital, or the Secretary of Guy's Hospital, or of King's College or University College. Classes in the subjects mentioned are held at all these schools, as well as at others; and the wardens or secretaries generally have lists of gentlemen living within easy reach who are willing to take pupils into their houses. At King's College, and at University Hall, Gordon Square (apply to the Principal), students are taken at an early age, and have the advantage of a certain amount of supervision. The preparatory school of the West London Hospital might meet the necessities of the case.

INFLUENCE OF THE OVARIES IN THE DETERMINATION OF SEX.

SIR.—Among the many theories regarding the determination of sex, is one broached or supported by Mr. Thomas Tuckey, that the right ovary is for males, and the left for females, *vide Digest*, Sec. 277:2. On the 5th instant, I delivered a lady of a male child upon whom left ovariotomy was performed in January 1883. Dr. Hamilton in the *Lancet*, page 191, records a case where two males were born after the removal of the right ovary, the patient having borne two female children previous to the operation. These cases refute the ovarian theory.—Yours obediently,

RICHARD NEALE, M.D. Lond.

CONTINUOUS INHALATIONS OF ANTISEPTICS.

SIR.—What are the best formulae for using these? Is a solution of carbolic acid (1 to 40) sufficiently strong?—Yours,

PRACTITIONER.

SPASM OF CREMASTER MUSCLE AND RETRACTION OF TESTICLE.

M.R.C.S.E., I.S.A., asks for the best remedy for spasm of the cremaster muscle and retraction of the testicle. The condition has been present for about a week and ten days; the retraction does not cease. He has given the following. B Potasse bicarb. 3*ʒ*; tinct. hyoscyami 3*ʒ*; spir. chlorof. 3*ʒ*; decoct. pareira ad 3*ʒvii*. An eighth part to be taken three times a day. He has also given triticum repens, and has used warm bathing, with poppy-heads, and camphor-liniment, with belladonna.

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

Mr. L. A. Waddell, Calcutta; Dr. Norman Kerr, London; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Dr. Herman, London; Dr. Tripe, London; Mr. R. W. Jenkins, Fawley; Mr. Alfred James, Biggleswade; Mr. Power, Portsea; Dr. Bradbury, Cambridge; Mr. Rupert C. Chicken, Nottingham; Dr. Styrap, Shrewsbury; Mr. W. A. Lane, London; Mr. W. H. Surgeon, Maryport; Dr. T. J. Walker, Peterborough; Dr. Fancourt Barnes, London; Our Paris Correspondent; Mr. J. J. Marsh, Manchester; Mr. L. H. Tossaville, Exeter; A Member; Mr. J. W. Sheridan, Stowmarket; Mr. W. W. Dunkley, Coventry; Mr. T. G. Gardiner, London; Mr. F. C. Crossle, Newry; Mr. J. B. Richardson, Torquay; Mr. D. C. Black, Glasgow; Mr. T. A. Mitchell, Catford; The General Register Office, Somerset House; Mr. S. S. Sargent, Eastbourne; Mr. F. Spencer, Chippenham; Mr. T. Clifford Smith, London; Our Dublin Correspondent; Dr. E. H. Vinen, London; Mr. S. Farrer, Slough; Dr. Hurdle, Darwen; Dr. A. Weith, St. Croix, Switzerland; Mr. N. W. Allt, London; Mr. M. Haydon, Newton Abbot; Dr. J. G. Parsons, Bristol; Dr. C. P. Coombs, Castle Cary; Mr. R. J. Godlee, London;

Mr. J. C. Miller, London; Dr. C. F. Pollock, Hillhead; The Honorary Secretary of the Society of Medical Officers of Health; Dr. G. Hudson, Scarborough; Mr. Robert Thompson, Thurles; Dr. Mackey, Brighton; Dr. Mahomed, London; Messrs. C. Wright and Co., London; Dr. Strahan, Belfast; Mr. Shirley F. Murphy, London; Dr. Robert Rentoul, Liverpool; Mr. C. A. Gray, Glasgow; Mr. H. W. King, Chester; Dr. E. Firth, Norwich; Dr. Farquharson, London; Dr. Henry Rayner, Hanwell; Mr. E. B. Evans, Swansea; Our Manchester Correspondent; Mr. M. Marriott, London; The Secretary of the National Provident Institution; Mr. F. Wallace, London; Mr. A. H. Young, Manchester; Mr. Simeon Snell, Sheffield; Mr. B. Duke, London; Mr. E. Chapman, Oxford; Mr. F. Barnes, London; Dr. Clement Godson, London; Dr. T. Lauder Brunton, London; Mr. J. Cantlie, London; Dr. Saul, London; Dr. Ross, Plymouth; Dr. Sawyer, Birmingham; The Secretary of the International Food Exhibition; Mr. W. Dunnott Spanton, Hanley; Mr. A. H. F. Cameron, Liverpool; The Secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh; Mr. J. W. Batherham, Wolverhampton; Dr. W. Ewart, London; Dr. Willoughby, London; Mr. W. H. Putsey, Derby; Mr. A. Macpherson, Chester; Dr. J. A. Lindsay, Belfast; The Secretary of the Harveian Society; Dr. Douglas, Tantallon, Bournemouth; Mr. Freeman, Bath; Dr. Brailey, London; Dr. McKellar, London; Dr. S. C. Smith, Halifax; Mr. Martin F. Bush, Bristol; Our Aberdeen Correspondent; Mr. R. A. Fitch, Birmingham; Mr. E. Walford, Ramsgate; Mr. Alexander Wheeler, Darlington; Dr. W. M. Campbell, Liverpool; Dr. Neale, London; Dr. Crichton Browne, London; Mr. A. W. Mayo Robson, Leeds; Mr. E. Hynes, Nottingham; Dr. Vincent D. Harris, London; Mr. R. W. Parker, London; Dr. Roger McNeill, Colonsay; Messrs. Feltham and Co., London; Dr. Joseph Rogers, London; Dr. Burns Gibson, London; Aspirans; Messrs. W. Hutchiman and Co.; Mr. William Rae, Victoria, Australia; Dr. W. V. Black, Edinburgh; Professor Ewald, Berlin; Mr. J. B. Hargreaves, Armley; Mr. W. H. Harvey, London; Dr. W. J. Irvine, Nottingham; Mr. C. E. Walker, Hurworth-on-Tees; Dr. Sidney Davies, Cairo; Dr. Fairlie Clarke, Southborough; Mr. Walter Whitehead, Manchester, etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Facts Around Us. By C. Lloyd Morgan, F.C.S. London: Edward Stanford. 1884.

The Pedigree of Disease; Being Six Lectures on Temperament, Idiosyncasy, and Diathesis. By Jonathan Hutchinson, F.R.S. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1884.

Transactions of the American Gynaecological Society. Vol. VIII. 1883. New York: D. Appleton and Co. 1884.

Transactions of the American Surgical Association. Vol. I. Edited by J. Ewing Mears, M.D. Philadelphia: printed for the Association and for sale by P. Blakiston, Son and Co. 1883.

Nursery Hints: A Mother's Guide in Health and Disease. By N. E. Davies. London: Chatto and Windus. 1884.

Notes on Dental Practice. By H. C. Quinby. With Illustrations. London: J. and A. Churchill. Liverpool: G. G. Walmsley. 1883.

A Study of the Bladder During Parturition. By J. Halliday Croom, M.D. Edinburgh: David Douglas. 1884.

Traité de L'Affection Calcaleuse du Foie. Par Le Docteur Jules Cyr. Paris: V. Delahaye et Lecrosnière Éditeurs. 1884.

How to Arrest Infectious Diseases. By Edgar G. Barnes, M.D. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1883.

Illustrations of the Influence of the Mind upon the Body in Health and Disease; Designed to Elucidate the Action of the Imagination. By D. H. Tuke, M.D. Second Edition. Vols. I and II. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1883.

The International Encyclopaedia of Surgery. Edited by John Ashurst, Jun., M.D. Vol. IV. London: Macmillan and Co. 1884.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital Reports. Edited by W. S. Church, M.D., and John Langton, F.R.C.S. Vol. IX. London: Smith, Elder and Co. 1883.

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