

which would lead to the settlement of this question on sound and just principles, just to the different bodies interested, and sound to the people of this country, who are deeply interested in the medical profession being placed on a satisfactory footing. "I think," said his Excellency, "from what I have gathered of the speeches I have heard to-day, that a great deal of unnecessary alarm has been created by the Bill itself. I feel quite certain that the Government never intended, nor was it the wish of the Commission itself, to bring to uselessness and poverty—those are the words of Dr. Kidd—a body that has done such eminent services as the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. I am certain that even under this Bill the utility of that body will remain, and that it will be a Bill to do in the future for Ireland, and the medical world in general, what they have done in the past. Now, I do not gather from the report of the Royal Commission, that the Bill was strictly following out the lines of the Royal Commission report—that the Commission wish to bring all education to a dead level, and to cut out all competition between the various educational bodies; and I find an important paragraph in the report of the Commission which puts that notion aside.

"Although we have recommended that the divisional boards should prepare and submit for the approval of the Medical Council regulations for courses of study, we are of opinion that there should be only an outline of what is necessary. It would be a mistake to introduce absolute uniformity into medical education."

"The paragraph then refers to some other details, and concludes as follows:

"In certain matters of general importance, such as the duration of study and the age at which a student should be permitted to practise, some regulations ought, we think, to be laid down; but we wish to record our opinion that nothing should be done to weaken the individuality of the universities and corporations, or to check emulation amongst the teaching institutions of the country."

"I confess that that is the view with which I approached the subject, and the view which I still entertain, and I should be extremely sorry if the Bill introduced by Her Majesty's Government went contrary to those principles. Those are the principles I understand Dr. Kidd to advocate also, and it is merely a question where, in the application of the measure, the Government may differ from you. The Government are most anxious to do what they can to get this question settled. I have been in communication with Lord Carlisle, and I know he is most anxious to press forward this measure, and if possible to carry it. He does not think it is open to the objections which have been made by you and others, but he will be most ready to take into account and consider any representations which would be made by you, and which have been made by you, on the question of the Bill. I can say for myself that there probably may be a good many questions upon which some alteration to meet your views may be made. I am quite certain he will take these most carefully into account, but I am afraid, I must not encourage you to think that he will withdraw the Bill, to which he attaches immense importance, and to which the Government attach immense importance, though it is most desirable for the community that a Bill affecting the interests of everyone connected with this important profession should be passed into law. As to the question of the assessors, it does not follow that if the Government appointed them the result would be as satisfactory as it is now, when they are appointed by the colleges themselves."

LONDON SANITARY PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

THE third annual general meeting of this Association was held on February 23rd, at their offices, 1, Adam Street, Adelphi. In the unavoidable absence of His Grace the Duke of Argyll, the chair was taken by the senior vice-president, Mr. Hugh Leonard, who read the report of council, and moved its adoption. The report stated that the membership on December 31st, 1883, had reached 723, including Eton College and all the boarding-houses there, the governing body being reckoned as one member only. During the year, the engineers had inspected 404 houses for the first time, the majority of them being in London, but some at great distances, such as the neighbourhoods of Norwich, Lynn, Bury St. Edmunds, Sherborne, Wimborne, etc. This made a total of 927 houses inspected and reported upon by the engineers of the Association in the three years of its existence, most of them three or four times. Similar associations were springing up rapidly in the provinces, to all of which the officers of the London association gave all the assistance in their power. There were already nine in existence, and three more would be founded very shortly. It was a matter of deep regret to the Council that the aid of the Association had not been more freely sought for in connection with the improvement of the dwellings of the poor, but they hoped that if the Mansion

House Council on that subject, or the numerous sanitary aid committees now being formed, placed themselves in communication with that Association, they might work in harmony, and much good might result.

MR. TIMOTHY HOLMES, the Honorary Treasurer, in presenting his balance-sheet and report, said that it showed a gross income of £1,543, and an expenditure of £1,279, leaving a balance of £264, against which there were outstanding accounts amounting to £114, leaving a net balance of £150 to be carried forward. This encouraged the Council to engage a fourth engineer, so that in 1884, in addition to the three gentlemen whose names were in the prospectus, they should have the services of Mr. Alexander Ryd.

MR. FORD, MR. ROBINS, and MR. WILLIAM SHAEN having addressed the meeting upon the report, Dr. WHITELEGGE, the Executive Officer of the Mansion House Council on the Dwellings of the Poor, asked how far that Association was willing to assist the Mansion House Council in the work they had undertaken.

DR. BRISTOWE, a member of Council, said that, as a medical officer of health, he deprecated the idea of the Association setting itself in opposition to any body of men such as the parish authorities, or mixing itself up in any contentious business which was likely to lead to litigation; and Mr. HOLMES, the Treasurer, having spoken to the same effect, the CHAIRMAN replied that the matter would be taken into the careful consideration of the Standing Committee of the Council, and an answer would be sent to Dr. Whitelegge.

THE CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by Dr. BRISTOWE, and carried unanimously.

THE formal business of the election of President and Council for 1884 was then proceeded with. The whole of the outgoing Council were declared to be re-elected, with the addition to their number of General Lord Chelmsford, G.C.B., and with His Grace the Duke of Argyll as President.

General Lord CHELMSFORD moved a vote of thanks to the Council for their services during the past year, and thanked the meeting for electing him on to the Council, saying that it would give him much pleasure to serve upon it.

Colonel FRASER having seconded the vote of thanks, which was carried unanimously, the proceedings terminated.

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*.

COUNCIL.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the Council will be held in the Council-Room of Exeter Hall on Wednesday, the 9th day of April next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

161A, Strand, London, March 6th, 1884.

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. | v. Syphilis, acquired. |
| II. Chorea. | va. " inherited. |
| III. Acute Rheumatism. | VI. Acute Gout. |
| IV. Diphtheria, clinical. | |

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.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: SOUTH LONDON DISTRICT.—The next meeting will take place at the Bethlem Hospital, St. George's Road, on Wednesday, March 12th, at 8.30 P.M. Dr. Hack Tuke will introduce the subject of Sleep-Walking. Dr. J. A. P. Price will give details of a case of combined Somnambulism and Hypnotism. It is hoped that members will second the efforts made to ensure a good attendance.—ROBERT E. CARRINGTON, Honorary Secretary, 15, St. Thomas's Street, E.C.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT.—It is proposed to hold a meeting of the above district at Hertford, one day towards the end of March. Members desirous of reading papers are requested to send the titles as early as possible to the undersigned.—R. R. LLOYD, St. Albans, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH.—The spring meeting will be held at Llanelly, on Wednesday, April 2nd. Further particulars in circulars. Members wishing to read papers or make communications are requested to send titles of the same to Dr. Sheen, Cardiff, not later than March 12th, in order that they may appear in the circulars.—ALFRED SHEEN, M.D., D. ARTHUR DAVIES, M.B., Honorary Secretaries.—February 26th, 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.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.—The next meeting of the above District will be held at Ashford, on March 13th; Dr. Wilks in the chair. The Chairman kindly asks all members to lunch at his house, and has obtained the Royal "permit" to conduct the members over Eastwell Park, the residence of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, before the meeting. The order of business will be as follows: 12.45 P.M., Lunch at Dr. Wilks's, 1.30 P.M., Carriages to Eastwell Park. 4 P.M., Meeting at the Cottage Hospital, Report of Collective Investigation Subcommittee. Dr. Wilks: A case of Delirium Tremens treated by Cold Affusion; a case of Hydatid Mole, with Specimen. Dr. Tyson: Malignant Disease versus Syphilis. Dr. Bowles: Case of Myxædema. Messrs. Down Bros. of London will exhibit Surgical Instruments at the Cottage Hospital. 6 P.M., Dinner at the Saracen's Head.—T. WHITEHEAD REID, Honorary Secretary, 34, St. George's Place, Canterbury.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SURREY DISTRICT.—The next meeting of the above will be held at the Queen's Hotel, Upper Norwood, on Thursday, March 13th, at 4 P.M. John Rand, Esq., in the chair. The following papers have been promised. Dr. J. Milner Fothergill: The Uses of Ipecacuan. Noble Smith, Esq.: Mechanical Principles in Orthopaedic Surgery—(the subject will be illustrated by numerous diagrams). Dr. Stowers: 1. The Treatment of Acne Rosacea, and Vascular Hypertrophy of the Nose. 2. The Sequel to a case of Paget's Disease of the Nipple. Members desirous of reading cases, are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary without delay. Dinner will be served at 6 P.M.; charge, 7s., exclusive of wine.—J. HERBERT STOWERS, Honorary Secretary, 23, Finsbury Circus, E.C.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST AND WEST SUSSEX DISTRICTS.—A conjoint meeting of the above districts will be held at the Grand Hotel, Brighton, on Tuesday, March 25th, at 3.30 P.M. Dr. Mackey will preside. Dr. Sturges, physician to the Westminster Hospital, will introduce a discussion on Acute Pneumonia. Dr. Bagshawe, Dr. Treutler, Dr. Roberts, Dr. Fuller, and some Brighton members have promised to take part in the discussion, if possible. The Chairman will read Brief Notes as to some New Remedies, and Cases of Rare Diseases in Children. Dinner at 5.30 P.M. Charge, 6s, exclusive of wine.—T. JENNER VERRALL, G. B. COLLETT, Honorary Secretaries of above districts, 95, Western Road, Brighton.—March 4th, 1884.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST SURREY DISTRICT.—The next meeting of the above will be held at the Red Lion, Dorking, on Thursday, March 27th, at 3.30 P.M. Members desirous of making any communications, or reading papers, are requested to write to the Honorary Secretary without delay.—A. ARTHUR NAPPER, Honorary Secretary, Broad Oak, Cranleigh.

NORTH WALES BRANCH.—The next intermediate meeting will be held in Denbigh during the last week in March. Members intending to read papers are desired to signify their titles to the Secretary on or before Tuesday, the 11th instant, in order that they may be included in the circular convening the meeting.—J. LLOYD-ROBERTS, Honorary Secretary, Denbigh.—March 4th, 1884.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.—The Spring Meeting of this Branch will be held at the Railway Hotel, Taunton, on Thursday, April 5th, at 5 o'clock. The subject settled by the Council to be discussed after dinner will be "Chorea," when answers will be invited to the following questions:—"What is your experience as to its pathological anatomy, with special reference to concomitant heart-disease?" "What treatment have you found most useful?" Dr. Long Fox, of Clifton, has promised to open the discussion. The election of a representative of the Branch on the Council of the Association, to hold office for one year from the second day of the next Annual Meeting of the Association, should now take place, in order that his name may be returned within the prescribed time. A copy of the Articles and By-Laws of the Association, as lately altered, will be submitted with a view to the Branch having its By-Laws brought into accordance with the altered Articles and

By-Laws of the Association. Members having any communications for the meeting, are requested to send early notice of the title to W. M. KELLY, M.D., Honorary Secretary.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.—It is proposed to hold an intermediate meeting at Wigan, at the end of March or beginning of April (the exact date cannot be fixed until next meeting of Council). Members desirous of reading papers, or of making communications, are requested to send their names to the Honorary Secretary without delay.—CHARLES E. GLASCOTT, M.D., Honorary Secretary, 23, St. John Street, Manchester.

SOUTHERN BRANCH: ISLE OF WIGHT DISTRICT.

An ordinary meeting of this district was held at the Royal National Hospital for Consumption, Ventnor, on January 31st: present—Dr. J. NEAL (President) in the chair, ten members, and four visitors.

The By-Laws of the Association and the District Laws.—The new laws of the parent Association were presented by the Secretary, who stated that, in accordance with the request of the General Secretary, the President and himself had read them carefully, and found that the district laws did not clash in any way.

Collective Investigation.—Mr. GREEN reported that the Collective Investigation Committee had issued a card on Paroxysmal Hemoglobinuria since the last meeting; also Mr. Galton's Book for Family Registers. No fresh cards had been received from members during the past quarter.

The Annual Subscription.—Dr. DAVEY asked when the District and Branch annual subscription commenced.—The Secretary (Mr. GREEN) replied that the accounts were submitted at the annual meeting in April, but that the subscriptions were due on January 1st of the current year. He explained that the £1 ls. went to the parent Association, 2s. 6d. to the Branch, and the remaining 2s. 6d. was reserved for the expenses of the district.—Dr. DAVEY inquired whether the Isle of Wight could be made into a separate Branch. Reference to the rules of the parent Association showed that any number of not less than twenty members could form a Branch.—Mr. GREEN said he believed that, in future, it was not the intention of the Council to sanction the formation of new Branches in small districts which were already affiliated to a Branch. He explained that the 2s. 6d. subscription to the Branch was to meet the expenses of the Branch, and for the payment of the expenses of members to attend the Council meetings on behalf of the Branch.

Phthisis.—Drs. COGHILL and ROBERTSON showed an interesting series of cases illustrating different types of phthisis. Among them was a case of empyema, which had been discharging through a drainage-tube for two years. The patient, an ingenious mechanic, had fitted a special guard for the drainage-tube, which answered the purpose excellently, and described the method he adopted for washing out the cavity.

Pupil-Teachers.—Dr. WILLIAMSON read a paper upon the Relations of the Work of Pupil-Teachers to their Health. He stated that, as a rule, it was not the strong member of a family who was selected for school-work, but the delicate one, who was considered unfit for hard work; that the applicants did not undergo as stringent a medical examination, before commencing their duties, as they ought; that the number of hours of work, and the amount of teaching expected from them, was excessive; that the number of pupils in a class—i.e., forty—was too many; and, as a result of all this strain, their physical health frequently gave way, and they were often entirely unfitted from following out the career laid down for them.—Dr. Coghill, Dr. Robertson, Mr. Barrow, and Mr. Watkins joined in the discussion which followed.—Mr. WATKINS stated that he had acted for many years as manager of a large school, and spoke of the great and increasing difficulty in obtaining pupil-teachers. He did not think that forty children were too many for one to look after.—Dr. ROBERTSON thought one factor of the ill-health was, perhaps, caused by deficient ventilation, and the possibility that many of them were underfed.—Dr. WILLIAMSON replied.

A Vote of Thanks was unanimously accorded to Drs. Coghill and Robertson for their hospitality and cases, and to Dr. Williamson for his paper.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND HEREFORDSHIRE BRANCH: MEETING.

A meeting of this Branch was held at the Imperial Hotel, Malvern, on Tuesday, February 19th, at 4 p.m.

Papers.—The following papers were read:

1. Dr. Roden: The Physiological and Curative Influence of Saline Baths in certain forms of Disease.
2. Dr. Douty: Melancholia in its Relation to Morbus Cordis and Anæmia.
3. Mr. Bates: Case of Cæsarean Section.

4. Dr. Crowe: Sudden Death from Rupture of Internal Jugular Vein.
 5. Mr. Vevers: Compound Dislocation of Humerus into the Axilla.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE fourth ordinary meeting of the session was held at the Museum and Library, Bristol, on Wednesday evening, February 27th; E. CROSSMAN, Esq., President, in the chair. There were also present 48 members and 9 visitors.

New Members.—The following gentlemen were elected members: G. O. Risdon, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Wells; J. T. Hyatt, M.R.C.S., Shepton Mallet; Deputy Surgeon-General W. B. Beatson, M.D., F.R.C.S., Bath; W. Irvine, M.D., Bath; W. J. J. Scofield, M.R.C.S., Bath; J. Merces, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Bath.

Communications.—The following communications were made:

1. Dr. R. Shingleton Smith read a paper on a Case of Typhoid Fever, illustrating the effects of Kairin, which was discussed by Drs. Spencer, Waldo, Markham Skerritt, Harrison, and Bouville Fox.
2. Mr. Nelson C. Dobson communicated the details of Two Cases of Amputation at the Shoulder-Joint for Tumour of the Biceps, and exhibited specimens. Messrs. Ransford, Cross, Prichard, and Lowe joined in the discussion which followed.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

MANCHESTER.

Stockport Infirmary.—*The Lower Broughton Murder.*—*Clinical Hospital for Women and Children.*—*Open Spaces.*

THE Stockport Infirmary will be remodelled and enlarged shortly at a cost of £5,000, and half of this amount has been already contributed. Messrs. Pennington and Bridgen, architects, of Manchester, have been entrusted with the work. The building will be constructed on the pavilion principle, and the accommodation will be increased from thirty-eight to fifty-five beds.

At the last Liverpool Assizes, before Mr. Justice Brett, Sarah Mac-linson, a married woman, from Manchester, was found guilty of causing the death of Louisa Brierley, a single woman, 28 years of age, by procuring abortion, and Samuel Smart (28), of Huddersfield, was found guilty of being an accessory before the fact. Both were sentenced to death. Dr. Maguire, pathologist to the infirmary, gave the result of his *post mortem* examination, that death had been caused by peritonitis, induced by the operation. Both the prisoners have been since reprieved.

The annual meeting of the Clinical Hospital for Diseases of Women and Children was held on the 26th ult., and presided over by the Bishop of Manchester. The report stated that 3,543 children and 2,154 women had been attended to during the year, as compared with 3,396 children and 1,901 women during the previous year. The total receipts during the year amounted to £3,727, and the expenditure to £2,836. It was stated that the lectures given by the medical officers to ladies on the treatment of children had been a great success, and that the largest room in the hospital was too small to accommodate all that came. The lectures will be resumed next year, and an effort will be made to increase the accommodation.

The subject of open spaces has been taken up in earnest. At the recent conference, the mayor (P. Goldschmidt, Esq.), presided, and he was supported by Lord Brabazon, Canon Stowell, Mr. Herbert Philips, the Venerable Archdeacon Anson, and other influential gentlemen. Dr. Ransome stated that, with the exception of Liverpool and Glasgow, there were in Manchester more persons on one acre of ground than in any other town, the figures being, Manchester, 84; Liverpool, 103; and Glasgow, 96. There were 2,872 persons to each acre of park in Manchester, 1,025 to each acre in Liverpool, and 1,293 to each acre in Glasgow. It was, therefore, evident that we still needed a large amount of space for the purposes of recreation. Among other interesting statements by Mr. Greg, he said that in the three unions of Manchester, Salford, and Chorlton, about £110,000 was last year spent on pauperism, and only £9,796 was devoted in Manchester to the parks. At the evening meeting, the Bishop of Manchester presided, and strongly supported the objects of the agitation. Lord Brabazon said it lay in the hands of the people of Manchester, if they wanted to provide open spaces, to meet and agitate, and go on agitating until they got what they wanted. Ward committees will probably be formed shortly to bring pressure to bear on candidates for seats in the Council; and the

band of enthusiastic men who have taken the matter up are determined to attain their object. Members of the medical profession should certainly aid this most praiseworthy movement.

CORRESPONDENCE.

IS COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION DANGEROUS?

SIR,—In a paper read before the North London District of the Metropolitan Counties Branch, Dr. G. W. Potter points out some of the difficulties and dangers which attend collective investigation. He urges, very truly, that the material brought together must be of very unequal value, both in respect of the examples themselves and of the capacity of individual observers. By way of illustrating the varying circumstances which "profoundly modify every incident and feature of a case," he adduces the numerous forms of pneumonia, that of "a breezy sea-side down, and that of a poisonous city slum." In Dr. Potter's belief, the conditions applying to collective inquiry are so complex, that even a moderate degree of certainty is unattainable. This fear is, however, lest "the weak and the timid," attaching undue weight to such investigation, should come to believe that original observation was no longer necessary.

It has been said in some quarters that the business of collective investigation has been somewhat over-praised; and that, so far, it is better known by its talk than its work. Here is a little cold water; useful, it may be, and even necessary, to clear away some misapprehensions as to the object and scope of such method of inquiry. Yet, notwithstanding the truth and cogency of much that he advances, is not Dr. Potter, in fact, speaking with two voices? With the one, he expresses fear lest injury should be done to individual observation, which, even in the hands of the weak and timid, he holds to be necessary and profitable; with the other, he mistrusts observation altogether, and warns us that the joint work of many labourers—the weak and the strong, bold and timid—all working together, is of doubtful value.

It may be a tenable proposition—although, I think, very few of us would venture to put it thus nakedly—that our observations upon disease are, for the most part, of small service, owing to their want of "scientific precision." But, that individual inquiry should be respected and fostered, while collective inquiry is held to be worthless, is surely a paradox. Indeed, the very facts to which Dr. Potter alludes, for the sake of impugning the value of collective investigation, serve very well to indicate its actual motives and sanctions. How, he asks, is an example of pneumonia on the sea-coast to be compared with one in a London slum? How, indeed, except by some system of combination? And, inasmuch as these two modes of pneumonia are far from representing all its varieties, such combination must engage more than two or three. It must, in fact, be collective investigation of the very pattern we are now attempting. In the case of pneumonia, therefore—or of any other affection which, like it, varies with the latitude, the social condition, the time of life, and many other things—this method of inquiry is essential. There is no other that can take its place.

But while certain classes and features of disease are peculiarly fitted for this plan of observation, it is not every doubtful question which can be best solved in the same way. Dr. Potter speaks humorously of "the discovery of truths by committees;" but the real function of the Committee is to settle what are the particular points which can be fitly determined by reference to the profession at large, as distinguished from those that must be left to experts—questions, I mean, involving niceties of auscultation or expert knowledge, and where the precise competence of each contributor must be known.

Dr. Potter has referred to the first subject of investigation, pneumonia; let me, by way of illustration, refer to the second, chorea. No doubt there are questions still unsolved relating to it, such as its cardiac signs and muscular irritability, which must be referred to special inquirers. But there are many other points connected with chorea—notably its connection with rheumatism, and response to treatment—that emphatically call for collective observation; the observation, that is to say, of a large number of independent medical men, who are free from that dangerous bias which besets all students of this, and of many other subjects, so soon as they begin to "have views." It is needless, however, to compare the two methods of inquiry, since each has its use. To a large extent, indeed, they occupy common ground. For, when we talk of "scientific precision" in practical medicine, it is worth considering that, whatever method we pursue, the aggregate of medical knowledge—all that concerns the family-history, and a great deal that concerns the individual—depends upon the testimony of illiterate pa-

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY MANAGEMENT.

ROYAL ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, BRIGHTON.

A MEETING of governors of the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children was held recently, for the purpose of considering, and, if approved, of passing, a body of statutes altering the original ones in several respects, amongst others, in the circumstance of making election to the staff and the consulting staff less controllable by the medical committee than previously. The proposed changes had aroused a good deal of feeling, and further efforts to take the sense of a larger body were to be made at the said meeting, when the chairman ruled that no amendments could be taken, and the whole body of new statutes must be accepted or rejected *en bloc*. This ruling was strongly opposed; and, being persisted in, a technical objection to the status of the meeting was raised on the ground that many governors, notably ladies, had not been summoned, and adjournment was the only course left.

At the annual meeting held last week, the Bishop of Chichester spoke in the highest terms of this institution. A very satisfactory report was presented, showing an increase of work done and of funds received—the beds now filled being upwards of fifty, the income over £2,200, and the expenditure £1,700. Considerable interest was taken by the governors, by ladies especially, in the question of the age of patients, which was ultimately decided as from 1 year to 12 years for in-patients, and from birth to 14 for out-patients. The new statutes were passed without further discussion. The wise resolution of building without delay a laundry, at a cost of £600, was unanimously carried. Stress was laid upon a further adoption of the provident or paying system.

SUSSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL.

THE report recently presented to the annual meeting shows no trace of the "impecuniosity" spoken of some time ago. On the contrary, the income of £15,000 is rather splendid; a legacy of £3,000 has made it larger than usual. The expenditure was £11,000. The average daily number of in-patients was 146, and the average stay thirty-four days; 7,000 out-patients received treatment. The long desired convalescent home in connection with the hospital has been established during the year, and done excellent work. The resignation of Dr. Fussell was recorded; also the appointment of Dr. Rutter as physician, and of Dr. Branfoot as assistant-physician, in his place.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE DISPENSARY.

AT the annual meeting of governors of the Brighton and Hove Dispensary, a satisfactory report was presented, including the very large amount of £4,000 from legacies and several handsome donations towards the establishment of a northern branch, which was decided upon. Dr. W. Fisher was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. Tyler Smith. Great regret was expressed for the premature deaths of Mr. Jardine Murray and of Dr. Warburton Fuller.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

THE annual report of the institution now called the Brighton and Hove Hospital for Women and Children, formerly the Lying-in Institution, records attendance on the confinements of nearly nine hundred women, mainly by trained nurses. Mr. T. J. Verrall has joined the staff in place of the late Dr. Fuller. There is a deficit in the financial account, but obligations were expressed, in the report, to the Hospital Sunday Fund.

BRIGHTON, HOVE, AND SUSSEX THROAT AND EAR DISPENSARY.

THE Throat and Ear Dispensary presents a report of increasing work and income, in new premises advantageously placed. The number of patients is given at over 600, of which number about one-sixth were children. More than £40 has been received in patients' fees—an extension of the provident system now largely utilised at Brighton charities. Mr. G. F. Hodgson has resigned office, and Mr. E. Treves was elected assistant-surgeon.

NAVAL NURSES.—The *Broad Arrow* states that the Admiralty are about to abolish the present staff of hospital nurses, and to replace them by men chosen from the Fleet. These will receive special training at the hospitals. They will thence be drafted to sea; but, on paying-off, will return to their hospital, instead of being sent to the depot ships, as at present. Both the pay and position of these men are to be ameliorated.

MEDICAL NEWS.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN SCHOOL OF PHYSIC IN IRELAND.—At the Hilary Term Examination for the M.B. Degree, held on February 11th, 1884, the successful candidates were arranged in order of merit as follows.

Ninian M. Falkiner; William B. Day and Charles J. Power (equal); Reginald J. Windle; Thomas Lyndon; John S. A. Ireland; Robert Morrow, George W. Yeates.

Senior Candidates.—Charles S. Grant; John F. W. Tatham.

At the Hilary Term Commencements, held in the Examination Hall of Trinity College, Dublin, on Tuesday, February 26th, the University Caput, in the presence of the Senate, conferred the following degrees in Medicine and Surgery.

Bachelors in Surgery.—Charles H. Blood, William S. Boles, John J. Cochrane, Harloe H. Fleming, Richard G. Hanley, John S. A. Ireland, Charles R. Kil-kelly, Thomas Lyndon, Victor E. Smith, George W. Yeates.

Bachelors in Medicine.—Ninian M. Falkiner, Charles S. Grant, John S. A. Ireland, Thomas Lyndon, Charles J. Power, Victor E. Smith, John F. W. Tatham, Charles H. Thompson, Reginald J. Windle, George W. Yeates.

Doctors in Medicine.—Charles S. Grant, Charles J. Power.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their Examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, February 28th, 1884.

Boyd, Joseph Thomas, Northcote Road, Wandsworth Common.

Brooks, Jabez Pratt, Tollington Park, N.

Hayward, Arthur Ernest, Maxilla Garden, Notting Hill, W.

Hichens, Frank, Redruth, Cornwall.

Morrini, William Raoul de, Myddelton Square, E.C.

Plowman, Sidney, St. Thomas's Hospital.

Satchell, Charles George, Caversham Road, N.W.

Simms, Henry, Pedmore, Stourbridge.

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

Michell, John Charles, The London Hospital.

Roberts, Hugh Jones, Guy's Hospital.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced.

BARNSTAPLE UNION.—Medical Officer. Salary, 80*l.* per annum. Applications by March 18th.

BRIDGNORTH INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon and Secretary. Salary, 130*l.* per annum. Applications by March 18th.

CANCER HOSPITAL (Free), Brompton, S.W.—Clinical Clerk and Dresser for six months. 20*l.* for the term. Applications by March 17th.

CANCER HOSPITAL (Free), Brompton, S.W.—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, 75*l.* per annum. Applications by March 17th.

CARRICKMACROSS UNION.—Donaghmoyn Dispensary. Medical Officer. Salary, 115*l.* per annum and fees. Applications to Thomas McCabe, Honorary Secretary, Loughmoylean House, to March 11th.

CITY PROVIDENT DISPENSARY AND SURGICAL APPLIANCE ASSOCIATION, 165, Aldersgate Street, E.C.—Surgeon. Applications to the Secretary by March 17th.

EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Shadwell, E.—Resident Clinical Assistant. Applications by March 19th.

ESSEX AND COLCHESTER GENERAL HOSPITAL.—Physician. Applications by March 19th.

FLINTSHIRE DISPENSARY.—House-Surgeon. Salary, 100*l.* per annum. Applications to the Secretary, Board Room, Bagillt Street, Holywell, by April 15th.

HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Soho Square, W.—Administrator of Anæsthetics. Honorarium, 20 guineas. Applications by March 8th.

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

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

MARTLEY UNION.—District Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator. Salary, 55*l.* per annum. Applications to Mr. A. W. Knott, Solicitor, 14, Foregate Street, Worcester, by March 18th.

NORWICH FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' MEDICAL INSTITUTE, Norwich.—Medical Officer. Salary, 150*l.* per annum.

PAROCHIAL BOARD OF WESTRAY, Orkney.—Salary, 70*l.* per annum. Applications at once.

ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN AND WOMEN, Waterloo Bridge Road, S.E.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, 70*l.* per annum. Applications by March 10th.

RUBERY HILL ASYLUM.—Resident Clinical Assistant. Applications to Dr. Lyle, Medical Superintendent.

ST. GEORGE-IN-THE-EAST PARISH.—District Medical Officer. Salary, 250*l.* per annum. Applications by March 8th.

ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE SKIN, Leicester Square, W.C.—Assistant Honorary Medical Officer. Applications to St. Vincent Mercer, by March 10th.

ST. PETER'S HOSPITAL FOR STONE AND URINARY DISEASES, etc. Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C.—Surgeon. Applications by March 17th.

SALFORD AND PENDLETON ROYAL HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.—District Surgeon. Salary, 804 per annum. Applications by March 10th.

STOCKPORT INFIRMARY.—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, 701 per annum. Applications by March 14th.

SUSSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL, Brighton.—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, 401 per annum. Applications by March 19th.

WEST LONDON HOSPITAL, Hammersmith.—Surgeon. Applications by March 31st.

WEST RIDING LUNATIC ASYLUM, Wakefield.—Resident Clinical Assistant. Applications to Dr. Herbert Major, the Medical Superintendent.

WONFORD HOUSE HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE, near Exeter.—Resident Medical Superintendent. Salary, 5001 per annum. Applications by March 11th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

BUCHAN, William A., M.B. Edin., appointed House-Surgeon to the South Devon Hospital, Plymouth.

DOWNIE, J. Walker, M.B., appointed Lecturer on Diseases of the Ear and Throat at the Western Medical School, Glasgow.

HOBRACKS, W. H., M.B., appointed House-Surgeon to the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.

MACGURE, R., M.D., appointed Demonstrator and Assistant Lecturer in Pathology to the Owens College, Manchester.

MCCLELLAND, Joseph, M.D., M.R.C.S., appointed Honorary Physician to the Liverpool Infirmary for Children, *vice* J. Armstrong, M.B., resigned.

MAYO, F. H., M.R.C.S., appointed House-Surgeon to the General Infirmary, Leeds, *vice* E. Ward, M.B.

OSWALD, J. W. Robert, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. & S. Ed., appointed Attending Surgeon at the South London Medical Aid Institute, *vice* P. J. Allen, L.K.Q.C.P.I., resigned.

POWELL, Simpson, M.B., M.R.C.S., appointed Assistant-Physician to the Hospital for Epilepsy and Paralysis and other Diseases of the Nervous System, Portland Terrace.

READ, L., L.D.S., appointed Assistant Dental Surgeon to the Dental Hospital of London, *vice* F. Carton, L.R.C.P., resigned.

SPICER, R. H. Scanes, M.B., B.Sc. Lond., appointed Medical Superintendent to the new Infirmary, Fulham, S.W.

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.

LUNN.—On the 3rd instant, the wife of J. R. Lunn, F.R.C.S. Ed., Medical Superintendent of the Marylebone Infirmary, Notting Hill, of a son (prematurely), who only survived his birth a few hours.

MARRIAGE.

SELLERS—COOK.—February 26th, at Prestwold Church, by the Rev. J. H. Killick, M.A., John William Sellers, L.R.C.S. and P. Edin., Brook House, Sileby, Leicestershire, to Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. Thomas Cook, of Prestwold, Leicestershire. No cards.

DEATH.

EASTES.—At his residence, London Street, Folkestone, on the 2nd instant, Silvester Eastes, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., J.P., aged 71.

BEQUESTS TO SCOTTISH CHARITIES.—Mr. William Renton Clapper-ton, Edinburgh, sole executor of a gentleman deceased, has, from the funds realised by the estate, paid the following donations, free of Government duty: Royal Infirmary, £500; Convalescent Home, £100; Royal Edinburgh Hospital for Sick Children, £50; Institution for Relief of Incurables, £25; and numerous other sums to other charities in Edinburgh. In Aberdeen, by the death of Mr. Alexander Black, formerly of that city, the following charities benefit to the extent of £50 each: Royal Infirmary, Lunatic Asylum, the Hospital for Incurables, the Sick Man's Friend Society, and the West Aberdeen Sick Man's Friend Society; and £30 each to the Dispensary and other charitable institutions.

SUICIDES IN NEW YORK.—124 men and 27 women committed suicide in New York during the past year; 78 were married, 43 single, and 24 widowed or divorced. Nine were less than 20 years old, while 5 became tired of life in the eighth decade. Among the nationalities, Germans came first with 70 suicides. Shooting was the mode of suicide resorted to in 56 instances; there were 19 hangings, 15 stab-bings and cuttings, 12 drownings, and 11 falls from high places; 18 persons poisoned themselves with Paris green, and 7 with opium.

PUBLIC URINALS.—At a meeting of the Paddington Vestry, on March 4th, a committee was appointed, at the instance of Mr. Mark Judge, to provide suitable urinals and water-closets for both men and women in every part of the parish.

GROCERS' COMPANY.—The Court of Assistants of the Grocers' Company have voted ten guineas in aid of the funds of the Metropolitan Public Garden, Boulevard, and Playground Association, whose address is 83, Lancaster Gate, W., and twenty guineas to the Parkes Museum of Hygiene.

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 p.m. Dr. Corfield: The Connection of Disease with Defective House-Sanitation.—Royal College of Surgeons, 4 p.m. Professor W. H. Flower: The Principal Types of the Human Species.

TUESDAY.—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 p.m. Dr. Champneys: Fourth Contribution on Artificial Respiration in Stillborn Children; an Experimental Inquiry. Mr. J. B. Sutton: On the Value of Systematic Examination of Stillborn Children.

WEDNESDAY.—Epidemiological Society of London, 7.30 p.m. Council meeting, 8 p.m. Dr. George Gulliver: Etiology and Pathology of Cholera.—Royal Microscopical Society, 8 p.m. Professor Abbe: On the Distance of Distinct Vision. Mr. T. B. Rosseter: Further Observations on *Stephanoceros Eichlamii*.—Royal College of Surgeons, 4 p.m. Professor W. H. Flower: The Principal Types of the Human Species.—Hunterian Society, 7.30 p.m. Council, 8 p.m. Mr. Poland: Case of Acute Suppuration of the Hip and Elbow Joints. Dr. G. H. Savage: Cases on the Borderland of Insanity, and their Treatment.

THURSDAY.—Parkes Museum, 5 p.m. Deputy Surgeon-General Dr. Henry Veale: Organisation and Management of Field-Hospitals.—Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom, 8.30 p.m. Living and Card Specimens at 8 p.m. Mr. Hartridge: Tumour of Choroid. Mr. R. Marcus Gunn: Case of Arterio-venous Communication on the Retina. Mr. A. Stanford Morton: Hemorrhage in Region of Macula. Mr. Adams Frost: An Artificial Eye. Dr. A. H. Benson: 1. A Case of Coloboma of the Iris, with Drawing; 2. Some Drawings of Ophthalmic Cases. Mr. Nettleship: 1. Case showing Blood-vessels in the Vitreous; 2. Lymphatic Nevus of Orbit and Eye; 3. Central Senile

Grattate Choroiditis; 4. Central Senile-Areolar Choroidal Atrophy; 5. Thickening of Retinal Vessels in a Case of Glaucoma. Communications.—Mr. S. Snell: Two Cases of Retinal Glioma, in one of which shrinking of the eyeball occurred without perforation. Dr. G. A. Brown: A Case of Severe Conjunctivitis with Formation of Membrane on the Cornea, caused by whiskey thrown in the eyes. Mr. McHardy: Some Clinical Observations, which appear to indicate a Means of reducing the Danger from Malignant Glaucoma while increasing the Efficacy of Iridectomy in the Treatment of Chronic Glaucoma. Mr. G. E. Walker: 1. Acute Glaucoma of Four Weeks' Duration, with Recovery of Good Vision; 2. Sympathetic Ophthalmia; Evulsion of False Membranes and Part of Iris; Recovery of Good Vision (with living specimens). Dr. W. B. Gowers: On Some Cases of Spasm of the Ocular Muscles. Dr. D. McKeown: On a Means of Diminishing the Blindness from Purulent Ophthalmia in Infancy. Dr. A. H. Benson: Some Observations on Jequirity, and its Value as a Therapeutic Agent. Mr. R. M. Gunn and Dr. J. Anderson: A Case of Nerve-disease with Ocular Symptoms, including alleged Unilateral Diplopia. Mr. Nettleship: 1. Cases of Recovery from Amaurosis in Infants; 2. Cases of Retro-ocular Neuritis.

FRIDAY.—Clinical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. S. West: Multiple Hepatic Abscesses in a Boy. Mr. Butlin: Foreign Body in Esophagus; Esophagotomy. Dr. Finlay: Cases of Enteric Fever associated with Rheumatism. Mr. Davies-Colley: Case of Dislocation of the Spine. Living Specimens.—Mr. Edmund Owen: Perforating Ulcer of the Foot. Mr. Golding-Bird: Dislocation of the Patella.—Royal College of Surgeons, 4 P.M. Professor W. H. Flower: The Principal Types of the Human Species.

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.

THE MEDICAL ACT AND THE HOLDERS OF ONE QUALIFICATION.

"M.R.C.S. Only" says that he has lately received several circulars from a gentleman anxious to aid him in taking another qualification, and that this gentleman informs him that, under the new Act, he will not be able to practise without doing so. Our correspondent does not practise, and has no intention of doing so, but believes that the new Act would not interfere with the right to practise which he at present enjoys.

* Our correspondent is undoubtedly correct. The diploma of any of the medical authorities in Schedule (A) of the Medical Act, 1858, may be inserted in the Medical Register, and the Government Medical Bill in no way interferes with existing rights.

W. M., who writes on the subject of the medical service of Atlantic steamers, has omitted to enclose his card.

SUPPRESSION OF URINE.

SIR,—Mr. William Sedgwick's note in the JOURNAL of February 16th is interesting to me. On February 12th, I performed herniotomy on an intemperate old lady, aged 68. A very large bunch of omentum was ligatured and removed. Subsequently to the operation, the following was all the urine secreted: in the first twelve hours, half an ounce; in the second, one drachm; in the third, one drachm; in the fourth, one ounce. After this, the quantity gradually rose to normal. There was no albumen, and no symptom of uræmia. The case was otherwise interesting, but I merely mention this one point as bearing on the note referred to.—I am, etc., H. E. SPENCER.
York, February 17th.

MEDICAL TITLES.

SIR,—Will you kindly inform me in what terms a member of a British College of Physicians by examination, and honorary physician to a provincial hospital, should style himself on his door-plate? I enclose my card, and am, your obedient servant, M.R.C.P.

* The form least liable to objection would be "A. B., Physician."

A YOUTHFUL MOTHER.

SIR,—Your insertion in the JOURNAL of March 1st of Mr. J. W. Irvine's case of youthful maternity, reminds me that, on May 19th, 1879, M. H. gave birth to a female child, also at full term. She was then just two months over 14 years old. She had a lingering labour, but was delivered without forceps or ergot, and made a very prompt and satisfactory recovery. The father of the child was over 50 years of age. The girl always declared that there had not been more than one intercourse, and that a forcible one, by her master.

I am also reminded of a case I attended when a student. The patient was scarcely 15 years old when her child was born. She was married, and her husband was 34 years old, and at the time of the confinement he was in hospital with fracture of both upper extremities.—I am, yours faithfully, HENRY HORTON, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.M., L.S.A. Lond.

MATERNAL IMPRESSIONS.

SIR,—After reading Dr. Hurley's letter upon "maternal impressions," I send you the following. I attended Mrs. H. in two confinements, natural in their character and results; upon her third confinement, I noticed that the child's left arm presented all the appearance of a stump after amputation below the elbow-joint. My patient at once said she was not at all surprised, for, ever since she had seen the stump of an arm shown by a schoolfellow of her husband's when she was three months advanced in pregnancy, she had felt something would be wrong. My services were again required in her next confinement, when, to my horror, I found both the forearms of the child, enclosed in the integument of the upper arm, the child being otherwise quite healthy. Again, without seeing the child, she described how her husband came home drunk, and, upon her remonstrance, he took hold of each hand, and boxed her ears violently with her own hands. Upon her next confinement, the child's nose was flat upon its face. I said to the mother, "Well, pray what performance was this?" "O," she replied, "he threw me on my face on the kitchen-floor, and held me there until I was nearly suffocated." These are facts; whether "coincidences" or not, I must leave others to judge.—Yours faithfully, THOMAS GODFREY.
Mansfield, March 1st, 1884.

SECRETION OF MILK IN THE MALE.

SIR,—A. S., aged 36, was, on January 16th, delivered of a healthy male child, and went on well. Two days afterwards, her husband, a spare, thin, and sickly-looking man, complained of shooting pain in the breasts, with severe headache and nausea. On January 19th, after a mild aperient, and fomentations of poppy-heads and hot water to the breasts, milk began to flow freely; when about three teaspoonfuls were taken away in a wineglass. The milk continued to be secreted until January 23rd, after which time there was a gradual diminution; and, on January 26th, no traces were to be found, leaving the nipples with an elongated, and the glands themselves a dwindled appearance. The milk, after standing for a few hours, separated into two portions; the first or top portion contained bodies like fat-globules, of a bright yellow colour, floating on the surface; and the second or bottom portion, when compared with a half-grain solution of indigo to an ounce of water, had a similar appearance.—I am, etc., RUSHEY GREEN HOUSE, CATFORD, S.E. T. A. MITCHELL, L.R.C.S.I.

WINDOW-GARDENING.

In reply to several correspondents, we may state that *A Handy-book on Window-Gardening*, which was reviewed in our pages on February 23rd, is published by Barrett and Son, 6, Church Street, Lisson Grove, London, N.W. The pamphlet was originally written to help the work of a committee "formed for the purpose of carrying out flower-shows for the poor" in St. Marylebone. The flower-show held last July was very successful, and the committee may well find imitators in other parishes.

POLICE-SURGEONS.

SIR,—In answer to "Member," under the head of Police-Surgeons, I received my appointments as medical officer of a borough gaol, also of the police-force, from the corporate body of that borough—the visiting justices attending to the gaol, and the Watch Committee (a local board of the Town Council) to the requirements of the police.

My duty was to render medical aid to the police-force, and to certify as to their fitness or unfitness for duty. For this I received (as also for gaol duties) a fixed salary. When called upon by the police to attend any case at the station, or elsewhere, a fee was ordered to be paid by the prisoner, in addition to any fine inflicted by the magistrates. In general, in giving evidence before the Bench, a fee of 10s. 6d. was allowed.

As to duties and remuneration of a divisional surgeon of a metropolitan district, I have had no experience.—I am, etc., SPENCER T. SMYTH, M.D., L.R.C.P., F.R.C.S.

Forest Hill, March 1st, 1884.

SIR,—In answer to "A Member," a police-surgeon in a borough is usually appointed by the borough "magistrate," not by the Council. His duties are probably the same as those of the divisional surgeon to the metropolitan police; but the remuneration probably differs materially, viz., the pay of the former is inclusive. There are few, if any, extras. In my own case, which is of nearly twenty-five years' standing, the only extras are the certifying of all pauper lunatics in the borough, with very rarely an inquest on cases brought in by the police; or cases of criminal assault which may be sent for trial to the sessions or assizes. The salary includes the examination of all candidates for the police-force, which is by no means an unimportant one; in addition to this, the attendance on the police-force in sickness, and the supply of medicine, etc., in connection with this. "A Member" does not ask for information with reference to the county force, or I could give him information on the point, having been connected with that force for nearly forty years.—I am, sir, yours truly, A POLICE SURGEON.

MEDICAL STUDENT should address his inquiry to the Director-General of the Army Medical Department, who will furnish him with the desired information.

AMPUTATION OF THE UTERUS AMONG THE ANCIENT GREEKS.

SIR,—In reference to Dr. Godson's account of Porro's operation, as published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of January 26th, I ask leave to observe that the removal of the uterus had already been done by the ancient Greek physicians; thus Soranus of Ephesus, who, in his book on diseases of women (*περί γυναικῶν παθῶν*), says: "τὴν μέντοι γε μήτραν οὐκ ὑποληπτέον κυριότητα πρὸς τὴν ἔχειν. ἐπ' ἐνὶναι δὲ καὶ ἀποκόπτεται, διχα τοῦ θάνατον αὐτὴν ἐπενεγκίειν, ὡς ἰσθρῆσε Θεμισίων ἐν Γαλατία δὲ τὰς δὲ εὐστροφώτερας γίνεσθαι φασὶ μετὰ τὴν ἐκτομὴν τῆς μήτρας." This signifies that the uterus is not to be considered as indispensable to existence. In certain cases, Themison has recorded that it has been removed without fatal results; and, indeed, the operation used to be performed in France upon pigs for the purpose of fattening them. In p. 302, he further observes: "τὴν σύμπασσαν (μήτραν) ἀπομυήτεον οὐ μόνον διὰ τοὺς ἰσθρῆσαντας αὐτὴν ἀκύνδονος ἐκτρέμεσθαι, ὡν ἐμπροσθεν ἐμνημονεύσαμεν ἀλλὰ..." which means that the whole of the uterus can be removed without danger.

From these remarks, we may gather the truth of the old saying—"There is nothing new under the sun."—I am, sir, faithfully yours, L. BELLOS, M.D. Athens (Greece).

16, Landwehr Strasse, Munich, Bavaria, February 22nd, 1884.

Ἡ Συριακὴ Ἐφεσίου περὶ γυν.: παθῶν. Ed. by Ermerius, p. 15.

A CORRECTION.

SIR.—I observe, in the report of my remarks at the Medical Society on antipyretic treatment, by some inadvertence, I quoted statistics of the "Charité Hospital" at Berlin. It should have been "Bethanien Hospital."—Yours faithfully,

W. CAYLEY.

THE SHOEING OF HORSES.

SIR.—I have been much interested in the letters that have appeared in the JOURNAL with reference to the Charlier horseshoe or tip. In this country, one is constantly annoyed, and the horse injured by cutting himself with the long sharp canklis which the shoers think necessary to impose upon the poor brute. Again, the heel-caulks, being longer than the toe one; tend to throw the horse over in the knees, and to strain the muscles of his legs, as he is perched up on three pins, and has no firm foothold. Could any of your readers kindly inform me where the tips could be got, and where I could find a description and figure of them?—Yours truly,

G. STERLING RYERSON.

317, Church Street, Toronto, Canada, February 19th, 1884.

NATIONAL HOSPITAL FOR THE PARALYSED AND EPILEPTIC.

SIR.—A proposal having been publicly made that wards or beds should be set apart in this hospital for a particular class of patients, I beg permission to state that the medical committee has passed the following resolution respecting it.

"(1) As this hospital already undertakes the treatment of all such varieties of diseases of the nervous system as are capable of being treated in a hospital as distinguished from an asylum; (2) as cases of insanity are not legally admissible; and (3) as it would be detrimental to the interests of the other patients to admit insane persons, if the legal difficulty were met, we advise the Board of Management not to accept the proposal made to them."—I am, sir, your faithful servant,

B. BURFORD RAWLINGS, Secretary.

National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic,
Queen Square, February 7th, 1884.

ERRATA.—In the title of Mr. L'Heureux Blenkarne's Obstetric Memorandum in the JOURNAL of March 1st, page 408, col. 2, for "or placenta," read "on placenta." In line 19 of the article, for "difficulty in passing," read "difficulty in grasping."

DETERMINATION OF SEX.

SIR.—When our knowledge is greater than it is at present, I believe it will be found that the ovum, on leaving the ovary, is either a male or a female ovum, and that it is simply fertilised by the spermatozoa. The latter have no power as to sex. Microscopically, they are all alike. The determination of sex is very often hereditary on the side of the female, and quite independent of the menstrual period as to time.—Yours truly,

A. T.

OLD MEDICAL WORKS.

SIR.—In reference to your article on Woolveridge's *Speculum Matricis*, published in 1670, it may interest many of your readers to know that there is, amongst the splendid collection of books in the library of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland, one of the oldest surgical works in existence. It is a MS. of 500 pages, written and illustrated in 1349 by John Arderne, surgeon, of Newark, Nottinghamshire. This rare old work is extensively reviewed by Surgeon-Major Gore, in the *Dublin Medical Journal* for October 1883.—Yours, etc.,

BOOKWORM.

THE VALUE OF VACCINATION.

SIR.—If nothing else could convince us as to the value of vaccination, I think the following facts would be sufficient.

In July last, I was called to see Mrs. B., who was suffering from small-pox. Her husband and three children were unvaccinated; the father and two eldest were vaccinated by me when the eruption on the mother was in the papular stage, the youngest being very delicate, and the parents being opposed to vaccination. I deemed it advisable not to operate on the child. The results were as follows.

1. The mother made good recovery.
2. The unvaccinated child died from small-pox on the fourth day of the eruption.
3. Those who were vaccinated escaped from infection entirely.—I am, yours, etc.,

WALTER BUCHANAN, M.R.C.S.E.

Chatham, February 1884.

GAS-FIREPLACES.

"NE QUID NIMIS" is desirous of learning the experience of others in regard to gas-fireplaces (not stoves). Do they give out much heat? Can the smell of burnt gas be perceived in the room?

MARRIAGE OF COUSINS.

J. B. W. will find information on this subject in Vol. II of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for 1883, page 456. In the case to which he refers, marriage would be decidedly inadvisable.

WORKS ON PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE.

I. W.—There is no cheap "Manual of Psychological Medicine." Other works than Bucknill and Tuke's Manual, are Clouston's *Clinical Lectures on Mental Diseases*, and Blandford's *Insanity, and its Treatment*; but these do not profess to be systematic treatises.

THE MEMBER of the British Medical Association who has forwarded a page from the advertisements in the JOURNAL has omitted to enclose his card.

PRESCRIPTIONS IN ENGLISH.

THE advocates of phonetic spelling should study the following order, sent to a druggist (in America): "Gumm camfor, 1 owize; loduom, 1 owize; kloryforme, 1 owize; oil sassyfras, 1 owize." Also this: "Surip of squilla, parygaric, oyl of amonds, bolsom pavia, swet sperrit nighter. Give baror a canul (calomel) powder for agrone persien."

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

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Hydatid Disease. By John D. Thomas, M.D., F.R.C.S. Adelaide: E. Spiller. Bacteria and the Germ-Theory of Disease. By Dr. H. Gräde. Chicago: W. T. Keener. Dental Medicine. By F. J. S. Gorgus, M.A., M.D. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1884. An Experimental Investigation of the Physiological Action of Saline Cathartics. By Matthew Hay, M.D. Edinburgh: MacLachlan and Stewart. London: Simpkin, Marshall and Co. 1884. Experimental Chemistry for Junior Students. By J. E. Reynolds, M.D., F.R.S. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1884. Cassell's Technical Educator. London, Paris, and New York: Cassell and Co., Limited. Burdett's Official Intelligence. Vol. II. Part Second. London: Effingham Wilson. E. Crossman and Co. Sampson Low and Co. A Practical Introduction to Medical Electricity. By A. De Watterville, M.D. Second Edition. London: H. K. Lewis. 1884. The Book of the Horse. By S. Sidney, late Manager of the Agricultural Hall Horse Show. London, Paris, and New York: Cassell and Co., Limited.

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