

GREAT NORTHERN CENTRAL HOSPITAL.

On Saturday, February 25th, the new buildings of this institution were shown to visitors by the architects, Mr. Keith Young and Mr. Henry Hall. So far as at present constructed the hospital consists of three rectangular wards (twenty beds in each), one above another in a building of three stories, with a block for administrative purposes, and separate buildings for the out-patient department and mortuary chambers. It is also in contemplation to erect a block containing three circular wards (twenty beds in each), so that when the hospital is finally completed, it will be capable of making up 120 beds, besides the accommodation of the special wards (one bed in each), and provision is also to be made for the reception of 24 paying patients. As at present arranged, each bed in the rectangular wards will have 127.5 square feet of floor space and 1,659 cubic feet of air space, each ward having a length of 88 feet, a breadth of 29 feet, and a height of 13 feet. The circular wards will have a diameter of 57.5 feet and a height of 13 feet, which will give practically an identical amount of floor space and air space to each one of the twenty beds which they are to contain. It will thus be seen that when finally completed an interesting experiment will be carried on within the walls of this institution, which should go far to settle the claims made as to the rival merits of the oblong and circular ward systems.

It is, perhaps, needless to say that, in the general design, the best approved and most modern principles of hospital construction, ventilation, warming, drainage, and general convenience have been everywhere applied by the architects. The lowest ward is raised some feet from the ground by vaults open on each side for their whole length for thorough ventilation; there is, thus, no possibility of ground air gaining admission into the wards. The arrangements made for the ventilation of the wards are most complete. In winter fresh air is admitted warmed by passing through one of two stoves (Boyd's Hygiastic Hospital Grates) placed in the centre of the ward; whilst in summer the outer air can enter in an upward slanting direction by revolving on its lower border the upper portion of each one of the windows, and special fresh air wall inlets are also provided near the floor at the heads of the beds. For the escape of vitiated air there are four extraction shafts for each ward, which are kept warm by the flues of the stoves in winter and by Bunsen gas burners in summer. The wards can be heated as well by hot water pipes leading from a boiler house. Each ward is paved with solid wood-block flooring, and the beds are fitted with spring wire mattresses and movable fracture boards. At the further end of each ward are the water closets, bath room, and slop sinks in a turret block separated from the ward by a cross ventilated lobby. The roof of the building is flat, and is to be used as an exercise ground for the patients; there is besides a covered balcony attached to each ward for the use of patients. The kitchens and sculleries are placed at the top of the building; all the cooking is to be done by gas and steam. A very commodious operating theatre lighted from the roof is in connection with the first floor, and a hydraulic lift large enough to carry a hospital bed runs the whole height of the building from roof to basement. Attached to the boiler house is a small destructor furnace for burning dirty dressings, poultices, bandages, etc., which are usually relegated to the dusthole. The water supply and drainage appliances are the best of their kind. Great care has been bestowed on the ventilation of drains, soil pipes, and waste pipes, and we were glad to see that siphonage of water closet traps—a possibility often overlooked by architects—is rendered well nigh impossible by the system of ventilation pursued. The main drain is a 9-inch pipe which is laid outside the building, and is disconnected from the sewer in the usual manner.

The out-patient department has been designed to secure at once the greatest amount of comfort to the patients during their long hours of waiting, as well as the requisite facilities for the out-patient surgeons and physicians in their examination and treatment.

It is only to be regretted that to such a hospital there is no medical school attached, but it is intended that the institution shall be open to medical practitioners in the neighbourhood, and it may possibly add to its usefulness by becoming an important post-graduate teaching centre for the north of London.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1888.

Meetings of the Council will be held on April 18th, July 18th, and October 17th, 1888. Candidates for election by the Council of the Association must send in their forms of application to the General Secretary not later than twenty-one days before each meeting, namely, March 28th, June 27th, September 26th, and December 28th, 1888.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

ANY qualified medical practitioner, not disqualified by any by-law of the Association, who shall be recommended as eligible by any three members, may be elected a member *by the Council* or by any recognised *Branch Council*.

Candidates seeking election by a Branch Council should apply to the Secretary of the Branch. No member can be elected by a Branch Council unless his name has been inserted in the circular summoning the meeting at which he seeks election.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION OF DISEASE.

THE Report upon the CONNECTION OF DISEASE WITH HABITS OF INTemperance, which was presented to the Section of Medicine in the Annual Meeting of 1887, and a further portion of the Report upon OLD AGE have been completed, and will shortly be published in the JOURNAL.

Reports upon the two remaining inquiries, namely, that into DIPHTHERIA, and that into the GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN DISEASES, are in preparation, and will be published as soon as ready.

The following inquiry only of the first series remains open, namely, that on THE ETIOLOGY OF PHthisis.

A fresh inquiry into the ORIGIN AND MODE OF PROPAGATION OF EPIDEMICS OF DIPHTHERIA has just been issued.

Memoranda upon these subjects, and forms for recording observations, may be had on application to the Secretary of the Collective Investigation Committee, 429, Strand, W.C.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.—The next meeting of the above District will be held at Ashford, on Thursday, March 15th, Dr. Wilks in the chair. Anyone wishing to send communications should inform the Honorary Secretary at once.—W. J. TYSON, 10, Langborne Gardens, Folkestone.

EAST SURREY DISTRICT: SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH.—The spring meeting of this District will be held at the Queen's Hotel, Upper Norwood, on Thursday, March 8th, at 4 P.M., W. F. R. Burgess, M.D., of Streatham, in the chair. Dinner at 6 P.M.; charge, 7s., exclusive of wine. The following papers have been promised: Mr. Noble Smith: On Hip-joint Disease, with diagrams. Dr. P. T. Duncan: On Simple Catarrhal Fever. Members desirous of exhibiting or reading notes of cases are invited to communicate at once with the Honorary Secretary, P. T. DUNCAN, M.D., Croydon.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.—The next meeting will be held in the Hackney Town Hall, on Thursday, March 15th, at 8.30 P.M. A paper will be read by A. J. Pepper, Esq., on Medical Evidence in Courts of Law. Visitors will be welcomed.—J. W. HUNT, Honorary Secretary, 101, Queen's Road, Dalston.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST AND WEST SUSSEX DISTRICTS.—A conjoint meeting of the above districts will be held at the Grand Hotel, Brighton, on Thursday, March 22nd. F. W. Salzmänn, M.R.C.S., will preside. Meeting at 3.30 P.M.; dinner at 5.30 P.M.; charge 6s., exclusive of wine. The following papers will be read: Dr. Starling: A case of Fibroid Induration of the Stomach (with specimens). Dr. Howard Marsh: Recovery after Laparotomy for Intestinal Obstruction; with Remarks. Gentlemen desirous of making any communication to the meeting should write to the undersigned or to Dr. Gostling, West Worthing.—T. JENNER VERRALL, Honorary Secretary, 97, Montpellier Road, Brighton.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.—The sixth general meeting of this Branch will be held in the Medical Institute, Edmund Street, on Thursday, March 8th, 1888. The chair will be taken by the President, Mr. Lawson Tait, at 3 P.M. Business: The following member of the Association will be proposed as a member of the Branch: E. R. Woodhouse, M.B., C.M. Edin., West Bromwich Hospital. The officers of the Branch to be elected at the annual meeting will be nominated. Papers: Dr. Suckling: Alcoholic Paralysis. Mr. J. W. Taylor and Dr. Stacey Wilson: Treatment after Perforation from Ulcer of Stomach. At the Council meeting to be held after the Branch, the following gentlemen will be proposed as members of the Association: James A. B. Thompson, M.D. Glasgow, Brilles, Warwickshire; Frank J. Allen, M.A., M.B. Cantab., Mason College, Birmingham; Joseph Henry Patrick, M.R.C.S., 212, Balsall Heath Road; John Angell James, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Queen's Hospital. Mem.

bers are invited to exhibit patients, pathological specimens, new drugs, instruments, and appliances at the commencement of the meeting.—ROBERT SAUNDY, M.D., 83A, Edmund Street; JORDAN LLOYD, F.R.C.S., 22, Broad Street, Birmingham, Honorary Secretaries.

SOUTHERN BRANCH: ISLE OF WIGHT DISTRICT.

An ordinary meeting of this District was held at Daish's Hotel, Shanklin, on January 26th, 1888. The chair was taken by Mr. CHARLES MEERES.

New Members.—The following new members were admitted: G. Bernard Hoffmeister, M.D., Cowes; Henry Harland, M.D., Ryde.

The Heart in Phthisis.—Dr. ROBERTSON gave notes as to the results of a careful physical and sphygmographic examination of the heart and pulse in fifty cases of phthisis.

Demonstration.—Mr. ELLIS exhibited sections of a Carious Tooth under the microscope, showing the manner in which, after erosion of the enamel, the leptothrix buccalis inserted itself, wedgeshape, and split up the tooth, allowing decay to progress rapidly.—Mr. GREEN exhibited *Tinea Trichophyton*, and also photographs of the diseased and natural hairs as seen under the microscope; also *Microsporon Fur-fur*, *Gregarines*, the *Bacillus of Anthrax*, and *Diplococcus of Pneumonia*.

Antifebrin in Phthisical Pyrexia.—Dr. SINCLAIR COGHILL read a paper on this subject. He began by reference to his previous paper on the Action of Kairin, Thallin, and Antipyrin. He had entirely given up the two former, but had continued to employ antipyrin, but in cases in which that drug had failed to reduce temperature he had latterly employed antifebrin with much success; indeed, he thought it preferable to antipyrin. It produced no unpleasant effects, and seemed to be tolerated for indefinite periods. In commencing its administration it was as well to test the tolerance of the patient by giving a dose of 5 grains, but usually 10 grains would be found the best initial dose. The temperature should be taken every three hours, and a dose of from 5 to 7½ grains given each time it registered above 99°. He had found the control of the pyrexial state, when treated by antifebrin or antipyrin, much aided by giving tincture of strophanthus in doses of from 3 to 5 drops three or four times a-day, to sustain the action of the heart, and reduce the vascular tension, which was certainly increased by the action of these drugs. From 5 to 10 grains of quinine should also be given as often as the temperature was found under 98°. He also showed a chart of a case of enteric fever in which antifebrin had kept the temperature steadily under control.

Dinner.—The members afterwards dined together, and a pleasant evening was spent.

NOVA SCOTIA BRANCH.

THE third ordinary meeting of this Branch was held at the Hon. Dr. Parker's office, Halifax, on February 16th, 1888. Present: Deputy Surgeon-General MACDOWELL, C.B., President of the Branch, in the chair; Hon. Dr. Parker, Dr. Farrell, Surgeon-Major Bolster, A.M.S.; Dr. de Witt, Dr. Wickwire, Surgeon Deeble, A.M.S.; Dr. Trenaman, City Medical Officer of Health; Drs. Black, Campbell, Curry, Surgeon Fowler, A.M.S.; Surgeon Grier, A.M.S.; Drs. Cameron, Goodwin and Chisholm; and Dr. Tobin, Honorary Secretary.

Injuries to the Eye.—Dr. TOBIN read notes of three cases of injury to the eye, involving the cornea and iris and the lens; in two instances producing traumatic cataract. In all, the wound was in the ciliary region or dangerous zone. In one the sclerotic had been freely opened, and required a suture to retain the contents of the globe; yet this case had recovered with a fair amount of vision. In all an indelible cicatrix occupied the area of the pupil, extending across the cornea, but leaving the rest of that membrane transparent. The eye, in all three cases, had been saved, and no sympathetic trouble had, so far, arisen though several months (in two of the cases) had elapsed since the receipt of the injury. The patients were brought in and examined by the members present.

Proposed Public Health Act.—A letter was then handed in from Mr. Bulmer, barrister-at-law, asking the help of the Branch towards procuring from the local Legislature a Public Health Act, the same being much needed in this province. The letter was discussed, and a Committee appointed consisting of three civilian (Drs. Trenaman, city medical officer; Drs. Campbell and Curry) and two military members (Surgeons Deeble and

Grier), to report upon the matter to the Branch at an extraordinary meeting to be held a fortnight hence.

Appointment of Treasurer.—Dr. TOBIN then proposed that a treasurer be appointed to collect subscriptions from members for the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, and to forward the same to the General Secretary in England; also to collect the local subscription for the Branch. A motion to that effect was moved and seconded, and carried, and Dr. Tobin was himself desired to act as treasurer as well as secretary to the Branch. The meeting then adjourned.

JAMAICA BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch was held at the Public Library, Kingston, on January 27th.

Office-bearers.—The following are the office-bearers for the present year:—**President:** Hon. J. C. Phillippo. **President-Elect:** Dr. F. H. Saunders. **Honorary Secretary and Treasurer:** Dr. G. F. Da Costa. **Members of Council:** Dr. A. L. Saunders; Dr. J. L. Cox; Dr. C. Gayleard; Dr. Plaxton; Dr. G. C. Henderson; Hon. C. B. Morse; H. Strachan; Dr. J. Scott.

Dinner.—The annual dinner was held in the evening at Park Lodge, at which eleven members were present.

ABERDEEN, BANFF, AND KINCARDINE BRANCH.

THE February meeting of the Branch was held at 193, Union Street, Aberdeen, on Wednesday, February 15th, at 8 P.M., Dr. Urquhart, in the chair.

Minutes and Nomination of New Members.—The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved, and seven new members were nominated for ballot at next meeting.

New Member.—Dr. J. Marshall Lamb, Borneo, was admitted a member of the Branch.

Medical Officer of Health for Aberdeen.—Dr. WIGHT proposed a motion that the Branch memorialise the Town Council of Aberdeen that the appointment of medical officer of health, at present vacant, be filled up by a qualified medical practitioner, who shall be precluded from private practice, and whose whole time shall be devoted to the duties of the office, in terms of the duties of the medical officer of health of the city of Aberdeen, of date March 15th, 1886.—Dr. URQUHART seconded the motion.—Dr. ANGUS FRASER moved as an amendment that the Branch do not memorialise the Town Council, on account of being beyond its province.—Professor STEPHENSON seconded.—The amendment being lost, Professor OGSTON proposed that the words following "private practice" in Dr. Wight's motion be altered to read "and who shall devote himself to sanitary and medico-legal work."—Professor STEPHENSON seconded this amendment, which was lost on being pitted against Dr. Wight's motion. The latter accordingly became the ruling of the meeting, and the secretaries were instructed to have the memorial prepared and submitted to the Town Council of the city.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.

A MEETING was held at the Town Hall, Walthamstow, on Thursday, February 15th, at 8.30 P.M. Present, 21 members and visitors. Dr. ADAMS, Vice-President of the District, was in the chair.

Pernicious Anæmia with Jaundice.—Dr. BRISTOWE read a most interesting paper on Pernicious Anæmia with Jaundice, and Cases illustrating it, and he compared those cases with others of jaundice which were not due to pernicious anæmia. A discussion followed.

Specimen.—Mr. G. WELLER showed a specimen of typhlitis due to perforation of the vermiform appendix, and read notes of the case.

Votes of Thanks.—Hearty votes of thanks brought the meeting to a close.

Salol in Cystitis.—Professor Demme, of Berne, has recorded (*Therap. Monatshefte*) a case of cantharidin poisoning following the application of an enormous blister over the sacrum. The patient was a boy, aged 5, and the blister was recommended by a "friend" as a cure for nocturnal incontinence of urine. The general symptoms were very severe for two days, and subsequently the boy suffered from cystitis, which, however, yielded to salol. The quantity given daily was gradually increased from twenty-three grains to thirty-eight grains; improvement commenced on the second day, and the cure was complete on the fourth day of the treatment. In another case of cystitis, which had been caused by measles, salol was also given with benefit.

MEDICAL NEWS.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON.—The following gentlemen having passed the Qualifying Examination in Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery have received certificates entitling them to practise in the same, and have been admitted as Licentiates of the Society.

Carter, Ernest, 4, Beaconsfield Villas, Brighton.
Crofton, Edward Regan, Cleheen House, Carrick-on-Shannon.
Ducket, Charles Alexander, Great Yarmouth.
Fletcher, Frederick James, 13, St. John's Road, Dudley.
Fox, Hugh Clayton, Caddenham, Needham Market, Suffolk.
Haynes, Edmund Lyall, 1, Lansdowne Villa, Scarborough.
Howard, Arthur Bertram MacLagan, 42, Orchard Road, Kingston-on-Thames.
Moss, Arthur James, 11, Royal Crescent, Whitby.
Sugden, Henry Clapham, Broad Oak Park, Worsley.
Thomas, Charles Ernest, 126, Leadenhall Street, E.C.

The following gentlemen passed the Surgical portion of the examination.

J. O. W. Barratt, of University College Hospital; G. A. Gunton, of St. George's Hospital; S. H. Hughes, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; W. J. Midelton, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; H. H. Phipps, of University College Hospital; F. H. Roberts, of King's College Hospital; T. H. A. Valintine, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; L. L. Verrano, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; J. S. Walton, of the Newcastle School of Medicine; R. B. Weigall, of the University of Melbourne; G. H. Whitaker, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

The following gentleman passed the Medical portion of the examination.

A. E. Read, of Thomas's Hospital.

ERRATUM.—In the pass list for the final examination of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, published in the JOURNAL of February 4th, Mr. J. Hoy, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, should have been Mr. J. Hoyle.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following Vacancies are announced:

BRISTOL DISPENSARY.—Surgeon. Applications by March 8th to E. Stock, Esq., 57, Queen Square, Bristol.

BRITISH SEAMAN'S HOSPITAL, Cronstadt, St. Petersburg.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £180 per annum, with furnished apartments, etc. Applications to H. Bell, Esq., H. M. Consul, St. Petersburg.

CANCER HOSPITAL, Brompton.—Registrar. Salary, £50 per annum, with board and residence. Applications by March 6th to the Secretary.

CENTRAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.—Two Assistant Surgeons. Applications by March 6th to the Secretary.

CITY OF ABERDEEN.—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £300 per annum. Applications by March 14th to W. Gordon, Esq., Town Clerk, Aberdeen.

CITY OF ST. ALBANS.—Medical Officer of Health and Analyst. Salary, £85 per annum. Applications by March 7th to I. N. Edwards, Esq., Town Clerk, St. Albans.

CLOUGH UNION.—Medical Officer, Aughnacloy Dispensary. Salary, £115 per annum, and fees. Applications to Honorary Secretary of Committee. Election on March 14th.

COTON HILL LUNATIC HOSPITAL.—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, etc. Applications by March 10th to the Medical Superintendent.

DEWSBURY AND DISTRICT GENERAL INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80, with board, etc. Applications by March 6th to the Chairman of the House Committee.

EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Shadwell, E.—Resident Clinical Assistant. Board and lodging. Applications by March 22nd to the Secretary.

LEICESTER INFIRMARY AND FEVER HOUSE.—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £50, with board, etc. Applications by March 10th to the Secretary, 24, Friar Lane, Leicester.

LUDLOW UNION.—Medical Officer, Munslow District. Salary, £70 per annum, and fees. Applications by March 10th to W. J. Holyoake, Esq., Clerk, Poor-Law Office, Ludlow.

MOUNTMELLICK UNION, Coolrain Dispensary.—Medical Officer, Salary, £115 per annum, and fees. Applications to Mr. P. Kelly, Honorary Secretary, Derryduff, Mountrath. Election on March 5th.

OUGHTERAD UNION.—Medical Officer, Oughterard Dispensary. Salary, £112 per annum and fees. Applications to Mr. Robert Mons, Honorary Secretary, Drumnakill Lodge. Election on March 7th.

OUGHTERAD UNION.—Medical Officer to the Workhouse, Infirmary, and Fever Hospital. Salary, £70 per annum. Applications to Mr. J. Gillmore, Clerk of Union. Election on March 7th.

OWENS COLLEGE, Manchester.—Professor of Obstetrics. Applications by March 20th to the Registrar.

ST. HELEN'S FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' MEDICAL AID ASSOCIATION.—Resident Medical Officer. Applications by March 20th to Mr. H. Whittle, Secretary, 85, Argyle Street, St. Helen's, Lancashire.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.—Four Examiners in Medicine. Annual fee, £30 or £40. Applications by March 5th to the Secretary of the University Court, G. D. McLellan, Esq., 145, West George Street, Glasgow.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

ACKLAND, W. R., M.R.C.S., L.D.S., appointed Dental Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary, Bristol.

CALVERT, James, M.D. Lond., B.A., B.Sc., appointed Assistant-Physician to the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road, *vice* J. J. Pringle, M.B., C.M. Edin., resigned.

CLARK, A. F. C., M.B., C.M., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the District Asylum, Roxburgh.

HARDWICK, F. S., M.D., C.M., appointed Medical Officer to the West Ashford Union, Second District.

JONES, F. W. Brandram, M.B., C.M., appointed Medical Officer to the Monmouth District of the Monmouth Union.

MACKINNON, Charles, M.B., C.M. Glas., appointed Medical Officer to the Cirencester Union, *vice* C. P. Hooker, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin., resigned.

MITCHELL, Gerald, M.D., appointed Medical Officer to the Templemore Dispensary District, *vice* Wm. Fennelly, L.R.C.P., deceased.

RUSSELL, W., M.D., appointed Pathologist to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

PRIZE ESSAY.—Prizes of the value of 1,500 pesetas (£60) and 750 pesetas (£30) respectively, are offered by the Royal Academy of Medicine and Surgery of Barcelona under the will of the late Dr. Francisco Garó y Boix, for the two best essays on the following subject: Pathogeny of Gonorrhœa (with illustrative preparations); its Clinical Features, with Special Reference to the Chronic Forms of the Disease, and to Recurrence; the various Morbid Processes accompanying and following it; its Prophylaxis and Treatment. In addition to the money prize, the title of Corresponding Fellow of the Academy will be conferred on each of the successful candidates. Essays, which must be written very legibly either in Spanish, French, or Italian, must be sent to the Perpetual Secretary of the Academy, Dr. Luis Suñé y Molist, Baños Nuevos No. 9, Barcelona, before midday of June 30th, 1889. No essay must bear the name or address of the author, which must be sent separately in a sealed envelope, bearing a motto corresponding to one on the essay. The successful essays are to be the property of the authors, who will be at liberty to publish them, but without any correction, addition, or suppression.

INTERHOSPITAL FOOTBALL MATCHES.—In the penultimate round (Association), the match St. Bartholomew's v. St. Mary's was decided on February 22nd. These clubs had previously played a draw, but St. Bartholomew's got together their best team and gained a decisive victory by five goals to one. In the penultimate round (Rugby), St. Thomas's v. St. Bartholomew's was postponed until Monday last on account of the frost. It was expected that the St. Thomas's forwards would effectually prevent their opponents backs being dangerous, and the result was a victory for St. Thomas's by one goal, five tries, and four minors to *nil*. Up to half-time only a try had been scored, but towards the end the game was one-sided. St. Mary's v. Middlesex (Holders): Unfortunately for the holders, they lost both their half backs about half-time—one with fractured clavicle, and the other with a crushed malar bone. The game was fairly even, but the St. Mary's men held the scrimmage. The result was one goal, four tries and four minors to *nil*.

IN connection with the Royal visit which the Queen paid to the Royal National Hospital for Consumption, Ventnor, on February 11th, Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to forward eight engravings of herself and other members of the Royal Family, including one of the late Duke of Albany, who was President of the hospital at the time of his death. The Board of Management have received a communication from the Home Secretary stating that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to command that the block of houses which was inspected by the Queen shall be known hereafter by the title of "The Victoria Block" of the Royal National Hospital for Consumption.

SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL, GREENWICH.—The report presented at the annual court of governors of the Seamen's Hospital, Greenwich, stated that the institution had extended its operations to Gravesend, for the benefit of the sick sailors arriving there, and that, during the last year, 2,382 patients had been treated in the wards at Greenwich, in addition to the treatment of out-patients. There was a lessened income, owing to the falling in of annuities.

PAISLEY INFIRMARY AND CONVALESCENT HOME.—During 1887, there were treated in Paisley Infirmary 1,207 patients, of whom 114 had died. It is satisfactory to observe that there has been an increase in all items of income, and a previously existing deficiency on revenue account had been reduced from £639 to £356.

GREENOCK INFIRMARY.—The report of this infirmary for 1887 shows the total number of cases treated during the year to be 924, an increase of 61 on 1886. Of these, 575 were admitted to the medical and surgical wards, 19 fewer than during the preceding year. A very large proportion of the cases consisted of accidents and other urgent cases. The mortality was 8.8 per cent. To the fever hospital 349 had been admitted, an increase of 80, and the mortality in this department was less by 2 per cent. than in 1886. Scarlet fever had prevailed during the whole year, and had been epidemic in September, October, and November. No less than 208 children of 10 years of age and under had been admitted, of whom 7 died. The calls at the dispensary numbered 10,750.

THE METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD.—The returns presented at the meeting of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, held on Saturday last, stated that during the fortnight up to midnight on February 23rd, 239 patients were received into the fever asylums, as against 260 in the previous fortnight; 33 died and 384 were discharged, leaving 1,507 cases under treatment, including 1,358 of scarlet fever. The number under treatment on Friday morning, February 24th, was 178 fewer than a fortnight before.

INSPECTION OF THEATRES.—The Bill for a reform of the present system of licensing and inspecting of metropolitan theatres and music halls, which bears the name of Mr. Dixon-Hartland, Mr. Woodhall, Mr. Lawson, and Sir Albert Rollit, proposes to place these places of entertainment under the Home Secretary, who will have the power of appointing inspectors, whose duty it will be to make an annual inspection of the arrangements, and to report thereon. No licence will be granted until the Home Secretary's certificate is obtained. This is a step in the right direction.

THE POLLUTION OF THE THAMES.—In the Queen's Bench the case of the Queen v. the Staines Local Board recently came before the Court in the form of an indictment against the Local Board under the Public Health Act to recover penalties for the pollution of the Thames by the influx of sewage. The Thames Conservancy were the prosecutors. The Staines Local Board agreed to a verdict against them on the facts, with the view of having the points of law involved discussed on a future day.

DEATH FROM A FOOTBALL ACCIDENT.—A man named Murphy has recently died in Bootle Hospital from injuries sustained at a football match. In the course of the game in which he was engaged Murphy received his opponent's elbow in his throat with such force as to burst the trachea. A tube was inserted, but the deceased never rallied.

A STOMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—"Stomatology" appears to be the latest development of specialism. It has not yet spread to this country, so far as we are aware, but a Society has, it is said, been founded in Paris which is to devote itself exclusively to the study of diseases of the mouth and its "annexes."

DR. T. LAUDER BRUNTON, F.R.S., has been elected a member of the Athenæum Club by the Committee under Rule 2, which empowers them to elect nine persons annually "of distinguished eminence in science, literature, or the arts, or for public services."

THE PARKES MUSEUM (Margaret Street, W.).—The following donations to the funds of the museum have just been received: The Right Hon. Earl of Derby, £25; the Leathersellers' Company, £21; Mr. Robert Pullar, £10 10s.; and also a donation from the officers of the Army Medical Staff, Netley.

WEST LONDON HOSPITAL.—The Duke of Cambridge has signified his intention to preside at the festival dinner in aid of the funds of the West London Hospital, Hammersmith Road, on Tuesday, May 1st, at the Hôtel Métropole.

FAILURE OF ANTIFEBRIN IN EPILEPSY.—Antifebrin has been tried in epilepsy by Dr. Borosnyoc, of the Hermannstadt Asylum. He found (*Therap. Monatshefte*) that it had no effect on the fits.

ARDER UNION.—The Local Government Board have sanctioned the appointment of Dr. Bradley as medical officer to St. Mary's Dispensary.

LIMERICK WORKHOUSE.—It appears that the hospital part of the workhouse is greatly overcrowded; and a committee of the guardians has been appointed to consider the matter.

SUCCESSFUL VACCINATION.—Dr. Charles J. Jones, Justice of the Peace of Rhondda Valley, South Wales, has for the third time received the Government grant for efficient vaccination.

MR. ERNEST SHEAF, F.R.C.S.Ed., M.R.C.P., of Toowoomba, has been appointed Justice of the Peace in the Colony of Queensland.

THE next meeting of the American Medical Association will be held in Cincinnati in May.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, 4 P.M.—Professor Charles Barrett Lockwood, F.R.C.S.: Lecture I. On the Development of the Organs of Circulation and Respiration, including the Pericardium, Diaphragm, and Great Veins.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON—General meeting at 8 P.M. Ballot. Ordinary meeting at 8.30: Dr. Ferrier and Mr. Victor Horsley: A Case of Successful Treatment of a Cerebral Abscess in connection with Otitis Media. Dr. Ord: A Paper on Some Curious Relations of Gastric Ulcer. Dr. Broadbent: A Paper on the Prognostic Significance of the Blood Pressure in Acute Renal Disease.

ODONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.—Casual communications by Mr. David Hepburn and Mr. Boyd Wallis. Mr. Frederick Eve: Communication on Actino-Mycosis and some Micro-parasitic Affections of the Jaws and Mouth. Inaugural Address by the President, Daniel Corbett, M.R.C.S.

TUESDAY.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON, 5 P.M.—Dr. W. J. Mickle: The Goulstonian Lectures: Lecture I. Insanity in Relation to Cardiac Disease and Phthisis.

PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.—Specimens.—Sir W. Mac Cormac: Epithelioma of Kidney associated with Calculus. Mr. B. Pitts: Villous Carcinoma of Breast. Mr. H. Fenwick: Villous Papillomata and "Contact" Carcinoma of Bladder. Dr. N. Moore: Two Cases of Renal Disease. Mr. Silcock: Acute Necrosis. Mr. Clutton: Osteitis Deformans. Mr. Treves: Horny Tumour on Neck of Mouse. Card Specimens.—Mr. Shattock: 1. Ossous Ankylosis after Gouty Disease. 2. Gouty Deposit in Bone. Mr. Treves: Tumour of Spermatie Cord. Mr. Mansell-Moullin: Syphilitic Crania.

WEDNESDAY.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, 4 P.M.—Professor Charles Barrett Lockwood, F.R.C.S.: Lecture II. On the Development of the Organs of Circulation and Respiration, including the Pericardium, Diaphragm, and Great Veins.

OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8 P.M.—Specimens will be shown. Dr. Boxall: Scarlatina during Pregnancy and the Puerperal State. Dr. Champneys: Description of a New Operation for Vesico-uterine Fistula.

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION, Brompton, 4 P.M.—Dr. Theodore Williams: Pathology and Modern Treatment of Bronchial Asthma.

THURSDAY.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON, 5 P.M.—Dr. W. J. Mickle: The Goulstonian Lectures: Lecture II. Insanity in Relation to Cardiac Disease and Phthisis.

FRIDAY.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, 4 P.M.—Professor Charles Barrett Lockwood, F.R.C.S.: Lecture III. On the Development of the Organs of Circulation and Respiration, including the Pericardium, Diaphragm, and Great Veins.

CLINICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.—Mr. Croft: Case of Dislocation of Semilunar Cartilage of Knee-joint; Excision; Cure. Mr. C. Symonds: Two Cases of Dislocation of Index Finger; Reducing by Opening the Joint and Division of a Retaining Band after Failure of Other Methods. Mr. G. R. Turner: Case of Dislocation Backwards of the Metacarpophalangeal Joint of the Thumb in which Resection of the Head of the Metacarpal Bone was practised. Mr. Bland Sutton: Case of Adenoma of the Pinna. Dr. Hadden: Case of Dry Mouth or Suppression of Salivary and Buccal Secretions.

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 announcement.

MARRIAGE.

BEALES—BARNBY.—On February 28th, at the Parish Church, Great Yarmouth, by the Vicar, Thomas Wm. Lewis Beales, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., to Clara Barnby, youngest daughter of the late J. E. Barnby, Esq., of Great Yarmouth.

DEATHS.

DOWNES.—On Wednesday, February 29th, 1888, at Mellerstein, Bolton Road, Kestbourne, Ellen Mary (May), the only daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Downes, aged two years and seven months.

MERRIMAN.—On February 25th, at 42, Kensington Square, John William Conyers Merriman, L.R.C.P. and M.R.C.S.E., in the 34th year of his age, eldest son of John J. Merriman, of Kensington.

SANKEY.—February 28th, at the Elms, Sutton Valence, Kent, William Sankey, M.D. St. And., M.R.C.S., and L.S.A., aged 72.

TERRY.—On February 23rd, at Mells, Frome, George Terry, M.R.C.S., aged 60.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....	10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1.30 P.M.: Guy's (Ophthalmic Department); and Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: Metropolitan Free; St. Mark's; Central London Ophthalmic; Royal Orthopaedic; and Hospital for Women.—2.30 P.M.: Chelsea Hospital for Women.
TUESDAY.....	9 A.M.: St. Mary's (Ophthalmic Department).—10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1.30 P.M.: Guy's; St. Bartholomew's (Ophthalmic Department); St. Mary's; Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: Westminster; St. Mark's; Central London Ophthalmic.—2.30 P.M.: West London; Cancer Hospital, Brompton.—4 P.M.: St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department).
WEDNESDAY.....	10 A.M.: National Orthopaedic.—10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1 P.M.: Middlesex.—1.30 P.M. St. Bartholomew's, St. Thomas's; Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: London; University College; Westminster; Great Northern Central; Central London Ophthalmic.—2.30 P.M.: Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children; St. Peter's.—3 to 4 P.M.: King's College.
THURSDAY.....	10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1 P.M.: St. George's.—1.30 P.M.: St. Bartholomew's (Ophthalmic Department); Guy's (Ophthalmic Department); Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: Charing Cross; London; Central London Ophthalmic; Hospital for Diseases of the Throat; Hospital for Women.—2.30 P.M.: North-West London; Chelsea Hospital for Women.
FRIDAY.....	9 A.M.: St. Mary's (Ophthalmic Department).—10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1.15 P.M.: St. George's (Ophthalmic Department).—1.30 P.M.: Guy's; Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: King's College; St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department); Central London Ophthalmic; Royal South London Ophthalmic; East London Hospital for Children.—2.30 P.M.: West London.
SATURDAY.....	9 A.M.: Royal Free.—10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1 P.M.: King's College.—1.30 P.M.: St. Bartholomew's; St. Thomas's; Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: Charing Cross; London; Middlesex; Royal Free; Central London Ophthalmic.—2.30 P.M.: Cancer Hospital, Brompton.

HOURS OF ATTENDANCE AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

CHARING CROSS. —Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, M. Th., 1.30; Dental, M. W. F., 9.
GUY'S. —Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, M. Tu. 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., 3; 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, Tu., 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. Th. S., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 2; Skin, F., 1.30; Larynx, F., 2.30; Orthopaedic, M., 2.30; Dental, Tu. F., 9.
ST. GEORGE'S. —Medical and Surgical, M. T. F. S., 1; Obstetric, Tu. S., 1; o.p., Tu., 2; Eye, W. S., 2; Ear, Tu., 2; Skin, W., 2; Throat, Th., 2; Orthopaedic, W., 2; Dental, Tu., S., 9, Th., 1.
ST. MARY'S. —Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.45; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.45; o.p., M. Th., 1.30; Eye, Tu. F. S., 9; Ear, M. Th., 3; Throat, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, M. Th., 9.30; Electrician, Tu. F., 2; Dental, W. S., 9.30; Consultations, M., 2.30; Operations, Tu., 1.30; Ophthalmic Operations, F., 9.
ST. THOMAS'S. —Medical and Surgical, daily, except Sat., 2; Obstetric, M. Th. 2; o.p., W., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 2; o.p., daily, except Sat., 1.30; Ear, M., 12.30; Skin, W., 12.30; Throat, Tu. F., 1.30; Children, S., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 10.
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE. —Medical and Surgical, daily, 1 to 2; Obstetrics, 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, M., 9; Skin, Th., 1; Dental, W. S., 9.15.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor, 429, Strand, W.C., London; those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the JOURNAL, etc., should be addressed to the Manager, at the Office, 429, Strand, W.C., London.

In order to avoid delay, it is particularly requested that all letters on the editorial business of the JOURNAL 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, 429, 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. CORRESPONDENTS not answered are requested to look to the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

MANUSCRIPTS FORWARDED TO THE OFFICE OF THIS JOURNAL CANNOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES BE RETURNED.

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.

QUERIES.

A CASE OF "QUINTAN" AGUE.

T. E. L. L. writes: In the JOURNAL of February 18th Dr. J. P. Henry describes a case of "quintan" ague. It would be interesting to know if the patient's blood was ever examined for *filaria sanguinis hominis*, as the febrile attacks occasionally occurring in persons who have *filaria* in their blood somewhat resemble ague with a long interval.

SEA-SICKNESS.

M.R.C.S. would be glad to have the practical experiences of any member as to the value of antipyrin as a cure for sea-sickness.

PODOPHYLLIN.

M.D. writes: Will any of your readers who are in the habit of using resina podophylli kindly answer the following question: Is podophyllin in solution as effectual as a purgative or cholagogue as the same dose given in the solid form to the same patient? I say the same patient because this drug varies in its effect in different cases.

OILY DIARRHŒA.

DEPUTY SURGEON-GENERAL writes: A healthy-looking lad, aged 10½ years, has suffered for the last five years from discharge of oil from the bowels; the discharge is most frequently at night, and involuntary—occurs during sleep; the discharge is not constant, nor is it of the same amount always; usual quantity about one drachm and a half when most severe. Ordinarily it is sufficient to stain his clothes or sheets. He is bright, intelligent, and very active, except when the discharge is greatest, when he is dull and looks depressed. His motions are very offensive, never natural in colour or consistence, whitish and clay- or chalk-like. He does not suffer apparently from disease of liver, spleen, or pancreas, except so far as the oily discharge points to disease of the latter. He has had iron and bismuth, Parrish's chemical food, and attention to diet; but, although with benefit, not with such marked improvement as to encourage a continuance of the treatment. Any indigestible food increases the disorder. Appetite is very good, often too much. The lad had cholera in India about eight years ago, but this complaint did not show itself until some three years afterwards. Suggestions regarding this case are requested.

ANSWERS.

B.—The publication of the addresses of medical officers on the illustrated advertisement of the Chelsea Hospital for Women is not in accordance with professional rule.

DR. JOHN WIGHT.—Yes.

IDIOSYNCRASY TO QUININE.

D. L. R. writes: In reply to "H. G. H." I may state that I know of two cases in which quinine produced exactly the symptoms mentioned. One was a lady I attended for malarial symptoms during a voyage from India, in which it produced redness of all the skin and intense itching. The other is in myself. Ever since taking an overdose some years ago I cannot take even a small dose without its producing redness and great itching of all the body, accompanied by diarrhoea. Arsenic did not prevent the symptoms in either case.

NOTES, LETTERS, ETC.

METROPOLITAN PROVIDENT DISPENSARIES.

DR. RICHARD PARAMORE (2, Gordon Square, W.C.) writes: Your correspondent Dr. Rentoul says: "It is well known that a club doctor's life is a broken-hearted life, full of worries and insults." The provident dispensary is an extension of the club system. Yet Dr. Rentoul hopes that the provident system will be given a trial in London. It has been tried, and it has been found defective. Its warmest advocates admit that it is merely a tentative measure. There never has been before the profession a more absurd and mischievous attempt to improve medical matters than the establishment of provident dispensaries. In endeavouring to relieve the congested state of the out-patient department of hospitals, the interests of the great mass of the profession have been jeopardised, and all that makes life worth having, namely, happiness, in danger of being sacrificed.

I challenge anyone to show any difference between the club system, which Dr. Rentoul holds up to contempt, and the provident dispensary, for which he has an affection. Surely love is blind! When the controversy was raging on the Metropolitan Provident Medical Association in 1881, Mr. Timothy Holmes said he was proud of his connection with the movement, and extolled the Leicester Provident Dispensary, which, according to the *Leicester Journal* of January 15th, 1888, has exemplified its inferiority to ordinary club practice by giving quassia in a decomposed state, methylated spirits to make the tinctures, and the price of one hundred bottles of medicine being the same as one bottle!

I ventured to write a letter, which was published in the *Lancet*, in answer to Mr. Timothy Holmes, in which I said: "Contract work is notoriously bad, especially when the greatest amount has to be done for the least remuneration. Club practice is degrading and is a loophole for dishonesty, and it is rare for a club patient to receive the same amount of attention and quality of medicine that ordinary private patients obtain, and yet this dispensary scheme is merely an amplification of the club system—with this important difference, that in clubs and friendly societies none but candidates of a certain age and in good health can be admitted."

It is sad to see men of intelligence lending themselves to bolster up a system which has nothing to recommend it beyond pandering to those mean, paltry, niggardly, and contemptible persons who gladly avail themselves of cheap doctoring, especially when they read, in one of the handbills extensively circulated by the Metropolitan Provident Medical Association: "Families may join and insure against the risk of heavy doctors' bills, often difficult to pay."

The stamp of respectability has been endeavoured to be put on that touting which has hitherto been looked upon as disreputable. What may be forgiven under extenuating circumstances in a young, needy, and struggling practitioner is unpardonable in a company of medical men who are firmly seated on the saddle of successful pursuit.

The following are some of the objections to the scheme of the Metropolitan Provident Medical Association: 1. That it is destructive to the interests and welfare of the members of the medical profession, whose peace of mind is

essential to the proper discharge of their duties. 2. That it salls under false colours by offering independence, no charity, self-support, self-management, choice of a doctor to those who will join it, and by saying every medical man of respectability may be on the staff of the dispensary. 3. That it is injurious to the public by creating distrust and want of confidence in the medical profession, and encouraging medical men to scamp their work by underpaying them. 4. That it fosters meanness, trickery, lying, and deception on the part of the members who join it who are well able to pay ordinary medical charges. 5. That it condones and encourages fraud by obtaining for an unlimited time what ought to be valuable services under the pretence of payment which amounts to next to nothing, so that each member can get "on demand" and as "a matter of right" "the sort of treatment that the family doctor gives to the rich men." 6. That it is founded on the club system, which has continued to exist through greed on the one hand and impunctuality on the other to degrade the medical profession and to demoralise the public.

I repeat what I wrote seven years ago: "Wherever the provident dispensary movement has been tried, it has done more harm than good. Evidence is not wanting to prove that its introduction has harassed and undermined the profession." The happiness of the many is sacrificed by the more than doubtful benefit of the few. We have already too many medical monopolies, and quite enough to contend against, without the manoeuvres of provident dispensaries or any great wholesale plan of treating disease. If there were a scarcity of medical men and a dearth of medical relief there would be some excuse for the cruel, wanton, and needless experiment on the lives of suffering humanity in the form of provident dispensaries. I know it has some upholders; so has every wrong that has disgraced the world!

VENTRAL NEPHRECTOMY FOR HYDRONEPHROSIS.

Mr. R. H. A. HUNTER (Battersea) writes: In reply to the letter of Mr. Clement Lucas, I can only repeat what I stated in my last communication that as in my opinion each case of hydronephrosis requires to be treated on its own merits, it is a waste of time to continue this controversy. As Mr. Lucas did not see the case, I maintain he is not in a position to judge as to whether the treatment adopted by me was right or wrong. My own impression, as well as those who were with me, regarding the case is that I acted rightly, so much so that should a similar case fall into my hands I would treat it in the same manner, with the addition of the drainage-tube, when I would have but little fear as to the result. Such operations I am confident do not depend so much upon their magnitude as the manner in which they are performed.

INVERSION OF THE UTERUS.

Dr. MARK SHARMAN (Leicester) writes: Shortly after 12 A.M. on February 16th I was called to the assistance of a midwife. On arriving, I found the patient, aged 40, pulseless, collapsed, and dying. I gave two hypodermic injections of ether, and raised the foot of the bed. There had been considerable hæmorrhage, but not sufficient to account for her condition. On examination, the uterus was found completely inverted, protruding beyond the external genitals as far as it was possible to do, the placenta being firmly adherent over the fundus. I replaced the organ and removed the placenta. The patient died within five minutes of my arrival. The midwife said: "The child was delivered alive without difficulty, and"—pointing to the uterus and placenta—"this came ten minutes afterwards." Of course I was unable to verify my suspicion that the cord had been pulled upon and undue pressure applied to the fundus uteri.

I may add that the woman had been in a very destitute state during this winter, probably causing a relaxed state of her system. There was no history of any appreciable difficulty in her former labours.

BRITISH QUALIFICATIONS.

Mr. G. H. PINDER (Manchester) writes: I was asked the other day to sign a certificate for a patient who is a member of the Railway Guards' Universal Friendly Society. As I am only a College and Hall man, having been unfortunate enough to be an English student, I was unable to do so. Rule 34 of this society states: "In all cases this certificate must be signed by an M.D." And attention is specially called to the letters M.D., which in the certificate are underlined. Thus, a man with the qualification of F.R.C.S. Eng. and M.R.C.P. Lond. would be unable to sign this certificate, whereas one holding that of one of the numerous Scotch universities could settle the matter at once.

If Scotch degrees were thrown open to English students as English qualifications are to Scotch, we Englishmen should not have so much reason for complaint. For many years the passport to Manchester appointments has been "Scotch M.D.," and, as a rule, to have been a Manchester student was quite enough to damn any chance which a candidate might have, if a Scotch qualification was in the way. We have been inundated for years with Scotch qualifications, from the M.D. Edin. to the Licentiate of the refuge for the destitute. Many a man, after having been plucked in England, has wended his way North, and, to the surprise of his fellow-students, has reappeared as "Dr. Smith," or "John Jones, Physician and Surgeon."

Everything English now seems under a cloud, and until we get a good sound British qualification, which every man practising in Great Britain ought to be compelled to possess, the only consolation which most of us College of Surgeons men have is the satisfaction of knowing that "Mr. So-and-So, Surgeon," practically means "English student, London qualification; get your bread and cheese as best you can."

A POST-GRADUATE COURSE IN SKIN DISEASES.

Mr. W. STUART LOW, 300, Waterloo Road, S.E., writes: For two or three weeks past an advertisement has been inserted in the JOURNAL stating the desire of a number of medical men to get up a course of post-graduate lectures on skin diseases. As we have not yet got a sufficiently large number of names to form a good class, and as we know that this is a course that is much wanted by practitioners, perhaps you would be kind enough to give all an opportunity of joining by giving a prominent notice in the JOURNAL of our desire and intention.

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

Sir C. B. W. Soame, Dawley; Mr. J. Bunting, Torquay; W. H. Newnham, M.B., Bristol; Mr. W. Parker, Bath; Dr. J. A. Myrtle, Harrogate; Mr. J. T. Roberts, Rhondda Valley; W. G. Owen, M.B., Carnarvon; Mr. T. S. Lacey, Royton; J. Leitch, M.B., Sillioth; Messrs. F. Walters and Co., Lon-

don; Our Manchester Correspondent; Mr. J. V. Solomon, Birmingham; Miss Goff, London; Dr. W. Alexander, Streatham; Mr. J. B. Burton, Liverpool; Mr. G. Rendle, London; Mr. J. T. Clouston, Edinburgh; Dr. P. Tytler, Manchester; Dr. A. Kempe, Exeter; Dr. R. Wade Savage, London; Mr. C. Palmer, Burton-on-Trent; Mr. W. H. Maling, Sunderland; Dr. A. Ransome, Bowdon; Dr. E. Mapother, Dublin; Dr. Tatham, Salford; Mr. J. C. Culling, Colchester; Mr. W. R. Watson, Govan; Dr. W. G. Gimson, Exeter; Dr. J. E. Shaw, Clifton; The Honorary Secretary of the Hampden Club, London; Professor George Buchanan, Glasgow; Mr. J. J. Ideson, Colne; F. J. Wethered, M.B., London; Mr. H. F. C. Eagle, London; Mr. R. N. Day, Harlow; Messrs. Wm. Edwards and Son, Barnsley; Dr. C. Orton, Newcastle, Staffs.; Mr. R. W. Dillon, London; Mr. P. Forbes, Edinburgh; The Secretary of the National Sea Fisheries Protection Association, London; Mr. W. Smith, London; Dr. Mackay, Inverness; Dr. W. H. Walton, South Pertherton; Messrs. C. Green and Co., London; Dr. Louis Parkes, London; Mr. R. R. Weir, London; Dr. Rayner, London; Dr. T. W. Hime, Bradford; Mr. Lawson Tait, Birmingham; Mr. T. R. Humphreys, London; Mr. J. Gibson, Bromley; Dr. T. Clurton, Leeds; D. L. Ritchie, M.B., Saltburn; Dr. Park, Glasgow; Mr. Bland Sutton, London; Dr. W. M. Campbell, Liverpool; Dr. G. W. Richards, Old Swinford; Dr. Bristowe, London; Surgeon-Major R. N. Macpherson, Rawal Pindi; Mr. R. Mosse, London; Dr. Grant Bey, Cairo; Mr. S. Pattey, Paris; Mr. W. P. Morgan, Seaford; Mr. W. Donovan, Birmingham; Mr. R. H. A. Hunter, London; Mr. W. W. Pike, Curragh Camp; Mr. W. Brown, Salford; Mr. S. W. Foster, Chester; Mr. P. H. Harvey, St. Leonard's-on-Sea; Brigade-Surgeon F. R. Wilson, M.B., Perth; Mr. H. A. Lawton, Poole; Mr. Butler, Reading; Mr. H. E. Matthews, Levenshulme; Dr. Maurice Parry Jones, Alfreton; Deputy Surgeon-General Gardiner, Newton Abbot; Mr. G. H. Warren Thomas, Teignmouth; Dr. R. Paramore, London; Mr. J. S. Robertson, Shirley; Mr. W. O. Barré, Mossley, Manchester; Mr. G. Quarrie, Birmingham; The Secretary of the Parkes Museum, London; Dr. Illingworth, Clayton-le-Moors; Sir William Stokes, Dublin; Mr. E. B. Barnes, London; Herr G. Fischer, Jena; Dr. P. G. Unna, Hamburg; Dr. A. Emrys-Jones, Manchester; Dr. Maxwell, Woolwich; Messrs. Pratt and Co., London; Mr. A. Salter, Thursday Island, Queensland; Dr. J. B. Okell, Leicester; Dr. M. Coates, Streatham; Messrs. Savory and Moore, London; Miss Morris, Hereford; The Military Secretary, India Office, London; Mr. F. W. E. Kinneir, Horsham; Mr. A. H. Benson, Dublin; Medical Staff; Mr. Arthur Cooper, London; Mr. R. H. Coall, Loughborough; Dr. Crossman, Hambrook; Messrs. T. Christy, London; Mr. Adams Frost, London; Mr. C. Moxham, Stroud; Dr. Mickle, London; Mr. J. W. Hayward, Whitstable; Mr. J. Dickson, Dorking; Dr. Hewitt, Kersal; Dr. E. Drummond, Rome; Dr. E. Liveing, London; The Secretary of the National Hospital for Consumption, Ventnor; Surgeon-Major C. Churchill, Colchester; Messrs. Street and Co., London; The Board of Management, Chelsea Hospital for Women; Mr. J. B. Gate, Morriston; Messrs. Ledger, Smith, and Co., London; Mr. Shirley Murphy, London; Mr. Watson Cheyne, London; Mr. C. S. Kilner, Bury St. Edmunds; Mr. R. Browne, King's Lynn; Dr. Symes Thompson, London, etc.

BOOKS, ETC. RECEIVED.

A Practical Treatise on Diseases of the Skin. By J. V. Shoemaker, A.M., M.D. New York: D. Appleton and Co. 1888.

Birkenhead Literary and Scientific Society. Session 31, 1887 and 1888. Engravings and Engraving. By Francis Vacher, President.

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