

cination on the ground of injurious effects alleged to result therefrom, and the nature and extent of any injurious effects which do, in fact, so result; (4) whether any, and, if so what, means should be adopted for preventing or lessening the ill effects, if any, resulting from vaccination, and whether, and, if so, by what means, vaccination with animal vaccine should be further facilitated as a part of public vaccination; (5) whether any alteration should be made in the arrangements and proceedings for securing the performance of vaccination, and in particular in the provisions of the Vaccination Acts with respect to repeated prosecutions for non-compliance with the law.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 967.)

At a meeting of the Council held at the offices of the Association 429, Strand, W.C., on Wednesday, April 17th, 1889,

Present.

Dr. T. BRIDGWATER, President of the Council, in the chair.

Professor W. T. GAIRDNER, M.D., Glasgow (President).

Mr. C. G. WHEELHOUSE, Leeds, President-Elect.

Dr. HOLMAN, Reigate, Treasurer.

Dr. A. BAMPTON, Ilkley.
Dr. H. BARNES, Carlisle.
Dr. G. B. BARRON, Southport.
Dr. J. S. BRISTOWE, F.R.S., London.
Dr. A. CARPENTER, Croydon.
Surgeon-Gen. W. R. CORNISH, London.
Dr. J. WARD COUSINS, Portsmouth.
Mr. T. W. CROSSE, Norwich.
Dr. G. W. CROWE, Worcester.
Dr. A. DAVIDSON, Liverpool.
Dr. P. M. DEAS, Exeter.
Mr. JOHN DIX, Hull.
Dr. J. L. H. DOWN, London.
Dr. D. DRUMMOND, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Mr. GEORGE EASTES, London.
Sir B. WALTER FOSTER, M.D., M.P., Birmingham.
Dr. J. H. GALTON, London.
Dr. C. E. GLASCOTT, Manchester.
Dr. BRUCE GOFF, Bothwell.
Dr. W. C. GRIGG, London.
Dr. T. W. GRIMSHAW, Carrickmines.

Mr. JAMES HARDIE, Manchester.
Mr. G. F. HODGSON, Brighton.
Mr. T. V. JACKSON, Wolverhampton.
Mr. T. R. JESSOP, Leeds.
Dr. W. M. KELLY, Taunton.
Mr. H. R. KER, Halesowen.
Dr. W. G. V. LUSH, Weymouth.
Dr. J. MCINTYRE, Odiham.
Mr. C. MACNAMARA, London.
Mr. W. JONES MORRIS, Portmadoc.
Dr. F. NEEDHAM, Gloucester.
Dr. C. PARSONS, Dover.
Dr. R. SAUNDY, Birmingham.
Dr. A. SHEEN, Cardiff.
Mr. S. W. SIBLEY, London.
Dr. E. M. SKERRITT, Clifton.
Dr. W. STRANGE, Worcester.
Mr. T. SYMPSON, Lincoln.
Mr. J. TAYLOR, Chester.
Dr. T. W. TREND, Southampton.
Mr. F. WALLACE, London.
Dr. EDWARD WATERS, Chester.
Dr. W. WEBB, Wirksworth.
Mr. A. WINKFIELD, Oxford.

The minutes of the last meeting having been printed and circulated, and no objection taken, were signed as correct.

Read letters of apology for non-attendance from Dr. Mackenzie Booth, Mr. Evan Jones, and Dr. Withers Moore. Apology also received from Mr. Husband, who was absent from illness.

Mr. Taylor, of Chester, offered to the Council an engraving of a painting by the late Mr. Frank Holl of Dr. Edward Waters.

Resolved: That the engraving of the portrait by Mr. Holl of Dr. Waters, and presented by Mr. Taylor, be accepted by the Council, with the warm thanks of the Council to Mr. Taylor for his gift.

In reference to Minute 1554 of January 16th last, read letter from Dr. Von Bergmann (see JOURNAL, page 153).

The correspondence with certain signatories to a Memorial,

and Resolutions of Branches, all of which appeared on the Agenda, and which had been circulated amongst the members of the Council, were taken as read, and ordered to be entered upon the minutes (see JOURNAL, p. 619).

Resolutions passed by Branches after consideration of last memorial, namely, from the Thames Valley, Dublin, Worcestershire and Herefordshire, South-Eastern Council; East and West Kent, East and West Sussex, and East and West Surrey Districts of South-Eastern Branch; Yorkshire, East York and North Lincoln, South-Western, and Birmingham and Midland Counties Branches.

Read Report of Journal and Finance Committee, of which the following is a copy:

REPORT OF JOURNAL COMMITTEE.

Read correspondence between President of Council and Treasurer, and Dr. Allchin and others, relating to a circular of which a copy has been published in the JOURNAL of March 16th, 1889.

The Journal Committee report thereon that they desire to express their approval of the letters of the President and Treasurer, and that they forbear any further comment upon the attitude adopted towards the elected representatives of the Association in not first approaching the Council before issuing the circular in question. The Council and the Journal Committee have always been willing to listen to all suggestions; they regret, therefore, the more that the signatories of this document did not address themselves directly to them in the first instance. The questions at issue are questions of administration with which the Council and Journal Committee are especially charged, and as to which they exercise great care.

Many Branches have passed resolutions which are appended to this report, and which, by refusing to deal with the subject until it has been considered by the elected representative Council, sufficiently confirm the position assumed in this respect by the honorary executive officers. The Committee, however, dismiss this subject from further consideration, as they desire to approach the suggestions made wholly without prejudice.

They have to point out that the document has been drawn without due reference to, and apparently in ignorance of, the actual constitution of the Association and its relation to the JOURNAL. It sets out by stating that each member of the Association is individually responsible for all that appears in its pages. This statement, which furnishes the basis of the subsequent suggestions, is, however, entirely at variance with article 9 of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, which expressly states that the Editor shall be responsible for all that appears in its pages, except such matters as may be printed by direction of the Council. This has been the rule of the Association ever since the JOURNAL has been published. It is a responsibility subject to the control of the Council and Journal Committee. At the revision of the constitution of the Association, when incorporated, this principle was expressly declared and reaffirmed.

The circular makes two main proposals—1, that all articles in the JOURNAL should be signed; and, 2, that advertisements should be more rigidly supervised.

SIGNATURE OF ARTICLES.—As regards the suggestion in the circular that all articles contributed to the JOURNAL should be signed, the Journal Committee are of opinion that this cannot be done. There are upwards of 140 members of the editorial staff of the JOURNAL, and in each issue the editorial writers number between 30 and 40. Many of these contributors are of great standing in the profession; others hold high official positions in the various universities, corporations, and colleges, and in the hospitals and schools throughout Great Britain, in the several Government offices and in the public services. Their contributions to the JOURNAL, published under the protection of the editorial responsibility, are frequently of vital importance, especially to the members of the military, naval, public health, poor-law, and other official medical services, as well as to the profession at large. To compel signatures to be appended would be to cut off a large proportion of these communications and contributions, so important to the interests of the Association and the profession; it would

emasculate the JOURNAL, and would seriously injure the Associates.

It must be at once admitted that it is impossible to produce a journal equally acceptable in all its parts to each individual member of the Association; but it is the duty of the Editor to issue a publication which shall be useful and acceptable to the large majority of his constituents. The favour with which the JOURNAL has been regarded by the profession at large is evidenced by its constantly increasing circulation at home and abroad, and by the fact that that circulation is almost exclusively professional. It is necessary not only to produce a journal which shall bring before the Association the latest advances in science (and in this respect the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL will compare favourably with every other journal issued weekly), but it must be a medical newspaper discussing questions of interest to all the various sections of the profession, and carrying the latest news of the medical world to the remotest parts of the United Kingdom, to India, the Colonies, and the Continent.

The JOURNAL has also become an organ of defence for the naval, military, poor-law, sanitary, and other public services; watching jealously every proposal, and discussing every condition which affects any and all sections of the members of the profession. It has taken a leading part in every movement affecting the interests of the general practitioner, and of all other classes of the profession, as well as those by which the health of the community at large has been guarded and improved.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—The JOURNAL is produced at a cost considerably in excess of the total annual subscriptions of the members. It has always been necessary to accept advertisements, and these are carefully supervised by the General Manager, who is responsible to the Journal and Finance Committee. The object held in view has been to reject all advertisements of quack nostrums and secret remedies, or advertisements otherwise objectionable. Such advertisements are frequently rejected, and one advertisement was not long since refused at a loss to the Association of £250 a year.

Practitioners in the country, in the Colonies, and on the Continent look to the advertisements for information as regards books, drugs, new pharmaceutical combinations, new instruments, and many other objects of general use by members of the profession. Great care has been taken in respect to these advertisements. If at any time advertisements should creep in which are thought to be objectionable, the Manager is always prepared to consider such objections, and, if necessary, to bring them before the Journal and Finance Committee, who on their part also are always willing and desirous to receive any communication on that subject.

In respect to the general question of finance, it may be as well to observe, that an Association numerically so strong, so widely spread in its organisation, and having so many committees which require accommodation, needs to be possessed of premises of its own. To these have lately been added a Library, which is in course of organisation, and accommodation for reading and writing rooms for the use of the members, as well as Council and Committee Rooms. Under the same roof are accommodated the editorial and managerial staff, and the *employés* engaged in printing the JOURNAL. The funds are further employed in the endowment of Research Scholarships, and the making of grants in aid of scientific research, and more will readily be voted as opportunity offers. The administration of these grants is entrusted to leading men of science.

The Parliamentary Bills Committee, the Collective Investigation Committee, the Therapeutic, and other committees, have also had their expenses paid out of the profits made by advertisements; out of these profits have been paid outlay on the premises, and a reserve has been accumulated which is essential for the stability of the Association.

In conclusion, the necessity for unsigned contributions to the columns of the JOURNAL has been proved (the names of the contributors being known confidentially only to the Editor, to the Treasurer, and to the General Secretary). The necessity and utility of the advertisements have been shown, and also the arrangements for supervising their insertion; and now it only remains for the representatives of the Association to assure their constituents that their single aim is the advancement of their common profession, and the welfare and progress of their Association.

Resolved: That the report of the Journal and Finance Committee be received and entered on the minutes.

Read abstract of minutes of the General Medical Council, forwarded by the Registrar, of which the following is a copy:

7. Moved by Mr. Wheelhouse, seconded by Dr. Heron Watson, and agreed to:

"That the following communication from the British Medical Association be received and entered in the minutes":

"General Secretary's Office, 429, Strand, London, W.C.

"November 27th, 1888.

"SIR,—At the last annual general meeting of the members of the British Medical Association held at Glasgow, in the University of the City, Professor Gairdner, M.D., LL.D., etc., in the chair, a resolution was passed, a copy of which I herewith subjoin, together with copy of resolution referred to passed at the previous annual general meeting of members, held at Trinity College, Dublin, J. T. Banks, M.D., F.R.C.S., etc., in the chair.—I have the honour to be, your obedient servant, FRANCIS FOWKE,

"W. J. C. Miller, Esq., B.A., General Secretary.

"Registrar of the General Medical Council."

"At a numerously attended general meeting of members held in the University, Glasgow, Professor Gairdner, M.D., LL.D., President, in the chair, it was

"Resolved: That the Council of the Association be desired to place before the General Medical Council the resolution passed at the annual meeting held in Dublin in 1887, with a view of obtaining the opinion of the General Medical Council on the subject."

Copy of Resolution referred to:

"At a numerously attended general meeting of members, held at Trinity College, Dublin, J. T. Banks, M.D., LL.D., etc., President, in the chair, it was

"Resolved: That the Association is of opinion that the diplomates of the Irish Universities and Corporations should possess the same privileges in respect of public appointments that are enjoyed by diplomates of the other divisions of the kingdom."

8. Moved by Mr. Macnamara, and seconded by Dr. Banks

"That this Council cannot look with satisfaction upon the adoption of regulations by public institutions tending by their exclusive character to reflect injuriously upon qualifications granted by medical authorities, for the efficiency of whose examination this Council is responsible."

9. Moved by Dr. Heron Watson, seconded by Dr. Tuke, and agreed to:

"That the Council, instead of proceeding to vote on the question originally proposed, do pass to the next order of the day."

Resolved: That the application of Dr. Norman Kerr to have the minutes of the Inebriates Committee published in the JOURNAL be granted.

Read letter from the International Congress of Hygiene and Statistics.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF HYGIENE AND STATISTICS.

Temporary Office, Parkes Museum,

74A, Margaret Street, Regent Street, W.,

December, 1888.

To the Council, British Medical Association.

GENTLEMEN,—We, the undersigned, members of the International Congress of Hygiene and Statistics, held at Vienna last year, beg to inform you that it was then settled that the next meeting of the Congress should be held in London in the year 1891, and to express a hope that you will do all in your power to assist in making that meeting the success which an International Hygienic Congress held for the first time in this country ought to be, and that you will designate two members to serve on the General Committee which will be formed for organising the Congress.—We are, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,

English Members of the Permanent International Committees
and Hon. Secs. pro tem.:—

DOUGLAS GALTON,

W. H. CORFIELD,

SHIBLEY F. MURPHY.

T. SPENCER WELLS,
CHARLES CAMERON,
E. FRANKLAND,
G. M. HUMPHRY,
E. D. MAPOTHER.

Resolved: That Sir Walter Foster and Dr. Alfred Carpenter be appointed representatives of the Association to serve on the General Committee of the International Congress of Hygiene and Statistics for organising the Congress.

Read letter from the Honorary Secretary of the proposed Tasmanian Branch of the Association, together with by-laws.

Hobart Town, Tasmania, September 3rd, 1888.

The General Secretary, British Medical Association,
429, Strand, London, W.C.

DEAR SIR,—We have at length managed to get the preliminary work towards starting our Branch over, and I now forward a copy of our by-laws, with the request that our Branch may be formally recognised by the General Council.

At a meeting held on July 2nd, the necessary resolutions as to adoption of by-laws, subject to the approval of the General Council, were passed; a President, two Secretaries, and a Branch Council appointed; and a resolution, that a request be forwarded to the General Council that the Branch may be formally recognised, unanimously carried.

I have also great pleasure in informing you that a resolution was carried unanimously thanking the General Secretary, Mr. Fowke, for the great trouble he had taken in helping towards the formation of a Tasmanian Branch.

I hope our Branch may flourish—it will require a little nursing at first—our difficulty being to get members together to the meetings.

I also beg to enclose a form of application for membership from Mr. W. G. Weaver, a practitioner here.—Believe me, dear Sir, faithfully yours,

EDGAR WOLFHAGEN, M.B.,
Secretary Tasmanian Branch of B.M.A.

BY-LAWS OF

TASMANIAN BRANCH OF BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

1. 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 Branch Council, provided that the power of such Branch Council shall only extend to the election of male persons.

2. No person shall be elected a member unless he has the votes of not less than three-quarters of the members present at the meeting of the Branch Council at which he is proposed for election, and has agreed in writing to become a member and to pay his subscription for the current year.

3. Any member may be expelled from the Branch by a resolution of a general meeting of the Branch, if carried by three-fourths of the members present, subject to confirmation at the next meeting, and he shall thereupon cease to be a member. One month's notice of the intention to propose such resolution shall be given to any member affected thereby.

4. The subscription to the Branch shall be £1 10s. per annum, which shall entitle each member to the privileges of membership, and to receive the Journal of the Association for the current year. The subscription shall date and be considered due in advance on January 1st in each year, except in the case of a member admitted on or after July 1st, when the subscription for such part of a year shall be 15s. in advance.

5. The officers of the Branch shall be a President, a Financial Secretary, and a General Secretary. They shall be *ex-officio* members of the Branch Council and of all Committees and Subcommittees. Officers to be elected annually and to be eligible for re-election.

6. The Financial Secretary of the Branch shall receive subscriptions and other moneys payable to the Association and to the Branch (in accordance with By-law 5 of the British Medical Association), and shall discharge all accounts which have been ordered by the Branch Council to be paid. He shall conduct all correspondence relating to financial department of the Branch.

7. The General Secretary shall record minutes at meetings of the Branch, Branch Council, Committees, or Subcommittees; shall conduct the correspondence of the Branch other than financial, and shall act in general obedience to the directions of the Branch.

8. The Branch Council is to consist of six members of the Branch, and *ex-officio* members, five to form a quorum. Members of Council to be elected annually, and retiring members to be eligible for re-election.

9. The Branch Council is to meet at least twice in the year, but a special meeting may be called at the requisition of five members of the Branch.

10. Any vacancy occurring on the Council shall be filled up at the next meeting of the Branch.

11. The Branch Council shall decide on time and place of meeting of the Branch from time to time, and shall have power to call

a special meeting of the Branch should occasion require, seven days' notice of such meeting to be given.

12. The Branch Council shall have power to add by-laws as occasion may require; such by-laws to be brought before and approved by a general meeting of the Branch before coming into force.

13. Visitors, other than members of the Association, but who must be qualified medical practitioners, may be admitted to one meeting of the Branch, on the introduction of a member of the Branch.

Resolved: That the Council of the British Medical Association record with great pleasure their recognition of a Branch for Tasmania, and their approval of the proposed by-laws, and they tender their congratulations and thanks to those members who have been instrumental in the formation of the Branch.

In reference to minute 1502, read proposed By-laws of proposed Punjab Branch.

Rules and By-Laws of the Proposed Punjab Branch of the British Medical Association.

It will be understood that the rules of the British Medical Association shall also be the rules of this Branch, and the following by-laws are enacted.

BY-LAWS.

1. That this Society be called the "Punjab Branch" of the British Medical Association.

2. That the objects of this Society be the holding of periodical meetings for the purpose of reading papers and discussing questions either of scientific or ethical interest; and the promotion of fellowship and good feeling among members of the profession in Upper India.

3. That the officers of this Society be a President, two Vice-Presidents, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer.

4. That the business of this Society shall be conducted by a Council of seven members, three of whom shall form a quorum.

5. That the office-bearers and Council be appointed annually at the first meeting of the winter session at which a quorum is present. Outgoing officers to continue in office until their successors are elected.

6. That new members shall be elected by the Council in accordance with the by-laws of the British Medical Association.

7. That the meetings be held monthly during the academical sessions on the second Saturday and Monday in the month alternately.

8. That the subscription to the Society be one rupee monthly, exclusive of subscription to the British Medical Association.

9. That the order of business be as follows: (1) the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed; (2) general business; (3) reading of papers and discussion.

10. That after the reading of a paper or proposing a resolution, each member shall have the right to speak once only, except with leave from the chair; the reader or proposer shall have the right of final reply. Each speaker shall be limited to five minutes; the Minute Book shall be passed round, and the member in possession of the book for the time being shall have the right of speaking.

Resolved: That the Council of the British Medical Association have pleasure in recognising the proposed Punjab Branch, and approve the by-laws, and tender their thanks and congratulations to those members who have succeeded in the formation of the Branch.

Resolved: That the 152 candidates whose names appear on the circular convening the meeting be and they are hereby elected members of the British Medical Association.

Resolved: That the financial statement for the year ending December 31st, 1888, as certified by the auditors as correct, be approved and published in the JOURNAL in accordance with By-law 26. (See page 967.)

Resolved: That the minutes of the Journal and Finance Committee of to-day's date be approved, and the recommendations contained therein carried into effect.

The minutes of the Journal and Finance Committee contain the report of the examination of the quarterly accounts, amounting to £6,218 16s. 3d.; the financial statement for 1888; a recommendation that the extra postage on the JOURNAL to members residing in the colonies and abroad be remitted; and the auditors' report for the quarter ending March 31st last.

Resolved: That the minutes of the special meeting of the Journal and Finance Committee be received and approved, and the recommendations contained therein carried into effect.

The minutes of the special meeting of the Journal Committee contains report, of which the following is a copy:

"REPORT OF JOURNAL COMMITTEE.

"Read a memorandum from the Editor expressing the desire for more frequent opportunities for regular communication with the honorary executive officers and the representative members of the Council; and the desire that some further weekly aid should be accorded to him in the shape of a small Committee of Reference, who could be regularly consulted on matters connected with the policy of the JOURNAL and such other questions arising from week to week, which have now to be decided on his sole responsibility.

"Resolved thereupon: That the Journal Committee recommend that a Committee of Reference be appointed to act in consultation with the Editor; such Committee to consist of two persons to be appointed by the Council upon the recommendation of the Journal and Finance Committee, together with the President of Council and the Treasurer of the Association as *ex officio* members of such Committee. The Committee of Reference shall meet not less than once a week at the JOURNAL Office, as at present arranged, on each Thursday in the forenoon. The payment for each such attendance shall be £2 2s. for each metropolitan and £3 3s. for provincial members. The Sub-Editor shall attend the meetings and act as Secretary, keeping minutes of the proceedings, such minutes to be laid on the table of the Journal and Finance Committee. The matter set in type shall, from day to day, be forwarded to the members of the Committee, and by them returned, with any suggested corrections; and on the day of meeting any alterations standing over shall be discussed, and questions of policy settled for the ensuing week. Such Committee shall take charge of the department of New Inventions, New Remedies, etc. The Manager shall bring before such meetings any matters which he may desire to submit with reference to the conduct of the JOURNAL, and any advertisements as to which he has any doubt. It seems desirable that, when possible, of the two members of the Committee, one shall be resident in London, and one selected from the provinces. The Committee shall be appointed for one year, and be eligible for reappointment at the end of the year. When a member of the Committee is prevented from attending through illness or other unavoidable cause, it shall be in the power of the Committee, by common consent, temporarily to select someone to take the place of a member thus prevented from continuing his duties.

"That Donald MacAlister, M.D., B.Sc., Cambridge, and Robert Farquharson, M.D., F.R.C.P., M.P. be appointed members of the Committee for a period of twelve months."

Resolved: That in consequence of the assizes being held at Leeds in August in the week of the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th, the annual meeting be held the following week—namely, 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th August.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Premises Subcommittee of February 13th last, and the 16th instant, be approved, and the recommendations contained therein carried into effect.

Resolved: That the President of Council, the Treasurer, and the President-elect be a Subcommittee to draw up the annual report.

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1889.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

MEETINGS of the Council will be held on July 10th, and October 16th, 1889. 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, June 20th, and September 26th, 1889.

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 series of Maps forming the Report of the Collective Investigation Committee on the GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF RICKETS, ACUTE RHEUMATISM, CHOREA, CANCER, and URINARY CALCULUS are deposited in the Library of the Association, and are open to the inspection of members. A descriptive commentary appeared in the JOURNAL of January 19th, 1889.

An inquiry into the ORIGIN and MODE OF PROPAGATION OF EPIDEMICS OF DIPHTHERIA is in progress.

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

GRANTS FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

THE Scientific Grants Committee of the British Medical Association desire to remind members of the profession engaged in researches for the advancement of medicine and the allied sciences, that they are empowered to receive applications for grants in aid of such research. Applications for sums to be granted at the next annual meeting should be made without delay to the General Secretary, at the office of the Association, 429, Strand, W.C. Applications must include details of the precise character and objects of the research which is proposed.

Reports of work done by the assistance of Association grants belong to the Association.

Instruments purchased by means of grants must be returned to the General Secretary on the conclusion of the research in furtherance of which the grant was made.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT.—A meeting of the above District will be held at the Calverley Hotel, Tunbridge Wells, on Thursday, May 23rd. Dr. Johnson will preside. The Chairman will read a case of Myxœdema. Gentleman desirous of reading papers or showing cases should communicate with the Honorary Secretary, T. JENNER VERRALL, 97, Montpellier Road, Brighton.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SURREY DISTRICT.—The next meeting of this District will be held at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, on Thursday, May 9th, at 4 P.M., Walter Rosser, M.D., of Croydon, in the chair. Dinner, 6 P.M.; charge, 7s., exclusive of wine. The following papers, etc., are promised: Dr. Goodhart: On some cases of Transient Glycosuria of Neurotic Origin. Dr. William Duncan: On the Importance of Systematically Examining the Abdomen in Affections of the Female Pelvic Organs. Mr. W. H. Battle: On the Operative Treatment of Disease affecting more than One Joint. Dr. T. R. Adams: On a case of Suprapubic Lithotomy. Dr. Shadforth Morton: (1) A case of Thoracic Aneurysm; (2) a case of Meningocele and Tabes Dorsalis. Members desirous of exhibiting specimens or showing cases will please communicate with the Honorary Secretary, P. T. DUNCAN, M.D., Park House, Croydon.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.—The annual meeting of the above district will take place on Thursday, May 23rd, at Canterbury, at 3 P.M.; Dr. Gogarty in the chair. Members wishing to send papers, etc., should communicate at once with the Honorary Secretary, Dr. TYSON, 10, Langborne Gardens, Folkestone.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: WESTERN DISTRICT.—A meeting will be held (by kind permission of T. Sutton Townsend, Esq., J.P.), at 68, Queen's Gate, S.W., on Friday, May 17th. The chair will be taken at 8.30 P.M., by Dr. Brodie Sewell, President of the Branch. Business: 1. Minutes of preceding meeting. 2. A paper will be read by John H. Morgan, M.A., F.R.C.S. Eng., Surgeon to Charing Cross Hospital, and to the Hospital for Sick Children, on "Abdominal Surgery in Children."—C. A. PATTEN, Honorary Secretary, Marpool House, Ealing.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: WESTERN DISTRICT.—A meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 22nd, at the Royal India Asylum, Ealing, by kind permission of Dr. Christie, C.I.E. The chair will be taken, in the unavoidable absence of Dr. Brodie Sewell, by H. Charlton Bastian, M.D., F.R.S., Physician to University College Hospital, Vice-President of the district, at 8.30 P.M. Business:—1. Minutes of preceding meeting. 2. A discussion on Cremation will be opened by Sir Spencer Wells, Bart. J. Swinburne-Hanham, Esq., J.P., Honorary Secretary of the Cremation Society, and other gentlemen, are expected to attend and address the meeting. This meeting will be open to any lady or gentleman on presentation of visiting card.—C. A. PATTEN, Honorary Secretary, Marpool House, Ealing, W.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND HEREFORDSHIRE AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCHES.—A combined meeting of these Branches will be held at the Star Hotel, Worcester, on Tuesday, May 7th, at 3.15 P.M., Dr. Stanley Haynes, President. Dinner at 6 o'clock; tickets, exclusive of wine, 5s. 6d. each. Business:—1. Mr. W. Moore (Stourport): A short paper on Two Evils Seriously Affecting Medical Practitioners. 2. Dr. Stanley Haynes: The College of Surgeons and its Members. 3. Dr. Broadbent, of London, will give an address on the Circulation in Diseases of the Kidney.—Geo. W. Crowe, G. ARTHUR CARDEW, Honorary Secretaries.

NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH.

THIS Branch held its seventy-eighth general meeting in Sydney, on Friday, February 1st, under the presidency of Dr. THOMAS CHAMBERS.

Representative of Branch.—Dr. F. H. Kyngdon, of St. Leonard's, was appointed the representative of Branch to the Home Association.

Cumming Fund.—The Hon. Secretary (Dr. SCOT SKIRVING) stated that £115 ls. had been collected for the relief of Dr. Cumming.

Report of Anæsthetics Committee.—The following resolutions of the committee appointed to make suggestions as to the administration of anæsthetics were adopted:

1. That in the present state of medical knowledge no one anæsthetic is the best drug to use on all occasions. The choice in each case must be left to the discretion of those in charge.

2. With regard to the responsibility, this falls on both operator and anæsthetist, but varies in time and in degree. Both are responsible for the admissibility of anæsthesia and for the selection of the anæsthetic, but as soon as the actual administration is begun the anæsthetist is alone responsible until restoration of consciousness for misadventures occurring through the action of the anæsthetic; the operator for those due to surgical accidents.

3. With regard to heart diseases generally, it should be clearly understood that they are no bar to the administration of anæsthetics.

4. Our present knowledge does not allow us to diagnose with certainty the existence of a fatty heart; but its presence does not forbid the use of an anæsthetic.

5. It should be clearly understood that, in certain cases, shock from operation without an anæsthetic may be more dangerous than an operation with an anæsthetic.

6. We are of opinion that, in the event of collapse being induced by an anæsthetic, artificial respiration is the most reliable measure to be adopted. We also believe that the action of electricity is uncertain, and do not consider it necessary that the anæsthetist should be provided with an electrical apparatus.

THE annual meeting of the Branch was held at Sydney on Friday, March 1st, 1889, Dr. CHAMBERS, President, in the chair. There was a good attendance of members, and Dr. Kirtikar, of Bombay, was present as a visitor. Dr. Chambers read the annual address. A vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. Chambers for his address.

Balance Sheet.—Mr. G. T. Hankins read the balance sheet, which showed a credit balance of £124 14s. 9d.

Officers and Council.—The following gentlemen were elected office-bearers and councillors for the year: *President*, Dr. Fiaschi; *Vice-President*, Mr. G. T. Hankins, M.R.C.S.; *Honorary Treasurer*, Dr. W. Crago; *Honorary Secretary*, Dr. E. Scot Skirving; *Auditors*, Drs. Clubbe and Ellis; *Councillors*, Drs. Knaggs, Quaife, W. O'Reilly, Worrall, Sydney Jones, and Chambers.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH.

A SPECIAL meeting, followed by an ordinary one, was held at the General Infirmary, Gloucester, on Tuesday, April 16th, 1889, at 7.30 P.M., under the presidency of C. J. BENNETT, Esq.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Alteration of Rules.—Proposed by Mr. BENNETT, seconded by Dr. ROOKE, that the following alteration of the rules, as proposed by the Council, be adopted. Carried. Rule IV to read "consist of President, Ex-President, the President-elect, the Secretary, etc." Rule VI to read "from November to May (inclusive). The annual meeting to be on the third Tuesday in May. The President's address to be delivered on the third Tuesday in November," etc. In the last paragraph of this rule the word "Chairman" to be substituted for "President."

Annual Meeting.—Proposed by Dr. BATTEN, seconded by Mr. CARDEW, and carried, "That the annual meeting be held in May according to the new rule."

Communications.—Mr. FIRMIN-CUTHBERT read the notes and showed a living case of Malposition of the Testicle in an Infant,

the right testicle being in the perineum. He also showed a man, a fitter by trade, suffering from morphinomani. Four years ago he began by injecting one grain of morphine twice daily, from that time increasing the quantity until a year ago, when he constantly injected ten grains four or five times a day. He did not use as much now as he used to do. The cause of his becoming addicted to the habit, he stated, was great pain, more particularly in the abdomen and in the limbs. A long and interesting discussion took place.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH.

THE members of this Branch met in the Huddersfield Infirmary on Wednesday, April 24th, under the presidency of Dr. RAMSAY (York).

The Management of the Association.—Mr. WHEELHOUSE proposed, and Mr. SNELL seconded, the following resolution, which was carried *nem. con.*:

"That the members of the Yorkshire Branch have confidence in their Council of elected representatives; that they are satisfied with the management of the Association, the fruits of which are shown in its increasing popularity and prosperity; and they warmly deprecate any agitation likely to disturb the confidence of members in its recently reformed constitution."

Communications.—The following papers were read: Dr. JACOB: Note on the Use of Menthol in Affections of the Throat.—Mr. A. F. MCGILL: Two Cases of Papilloma of the Bladder, successfully removed by Suprapubic Cystotomy.—Mr. R. LAWFOED KNAGGS: A Case illustrating the Early Operative Treatment of Tubercular Joint Disease.—Dr. JAMES BRAITHWAITE: A Case of Cancer of the Uterus cured by Chian Turpentine.

Cases.—Mr. KNAGGS showed some interesting cases in the wards.

OXFORD AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

A MEETING of this Branch was held on Friday, April 26th, at 3 P.M., in the Radcliffe Infirmary; the President, A. WINKFIELD, Esq., F.R.C.S., in the chair. About twenty members were present.

Election of Candidate.—Mr. J. G. Barnes, of Wheatley, Oxon, was elected a member of the Branch. Three gentlemen were proposed for election at the next meeting.

Mead Testimonial.—The Mead testimonial was considered.

Papers and Demonstrations.—Dr. COLLIER read a paper on Constipation, which was well discussed by the members present.—Mr. W. LEWIS MORGAN read notes of, and showed, a Case of Molluscum Fibrosum, in which the whole body was absolutely covered with tumours. He also showed (for Mr. H. P. SYMONDS) Photographs of a similar case. The first patient was afterwards exhibited to the meeting.—Mr. H. P. SYMONDS showed a Chair which could at once be converted into a Couch by a most ingenious piece of mechanism.—Dr. BROOKS showed a most interesting Specimen of Aneurysm of the Aorta in a Woman; he afterwards read the notes of a Case of Pyæmia.—Mr. DOYNE showed his Instrument for Orthoptic Exercises, and the painting of a unique Case of Rupture of the Pigmentary Layer of the Retina.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE spring meeting was held at Galashiels on April 11th. In the unavoidable absence of the President, Dr. ROBERTSON, Penrith, the chair was taken by Dr. BARNES, Carlisle. Fourteen members and three visitors were present.

New Members.—The following were elected: Robert Bradshaw, L.A.H.Dub., West Allendale, Northumberland; Stewart Carson, M.B., C.M. Edin., Alston, Cumberland; Robert King Barbour, M.B., C.M. Glasg., Keswick; John Stothart Bell, M.B., C.M. Edin., Lockerbie.

The JOURNAL.—A resolution on the circular relating to the JOURNAL was passed by seven votes to five, which has been laid before the Council.

Papers.—Papers were read by Drs. SOMERVILLE, CALVERT, and CULLEN, which are published at p. 1003.

Dinner.—The members and their friends afterwards dined together in the hotel. Covers were laid for nineteen.

Next Meeting.—The next meeting (the annual one) of the Branch will be held at Dumfries early in July.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—The official returns show the total number of persons killed, during the year 1888, by railway injuries to have been 905, while 3,826 persons were injured. During 1887, the corresponding numbers were 919, and 3,590.

MEDICO-LEGAL AND MEDICO-ETHICAL.

REFUSAL TO CONSULT.

In now responding to "B.'s" letter, the reply to which has been unwittingly delayed, we may observe that, regrettable as was A.'s refusal to meet him in consultation on the case in question, the cause thereof is no doubt to be found in his antecedent remonstrance. Inasmuch as the question as to how far a medical man is morally justified in refusing consultative advice in cases of imminent danger to life has been lately discussed in the JOURNAL, further allusion thereto is unnecessary. It may, however, be a point for serious consideration as to whether in such cases some means should not be devised by which the superseding practitioner might be instructed as to the previous history and treatment—in the absence of which he would be placed in a more or less grave position, and possibly to the serious disadvantage of the patient.

FEES TO MEDICAL WITNESSES IN POLICE COURTS.

DR. GEORGE RYDING (Neath, South Wales) writes: Some time ago I was asked by messenger to attend and give evidence in a case of assault. I refused to attend, except upon a subpoena, knowing that it was only on the subsequent production of that document I could claim my fee. I was then subpoenaed, and gave evidence; the magistrates on the conclusion of the case, a conviction, allowed me a fee of five shillings only, fining me five shillings and sixpence for my refusal to attend without a subpoena. On remonstrating, I was informed by the magistrate's clerk that the magistrates have the power to award a medical witness any sum under 10s. 6d. As this is a matter affecting the whole profession, I should like to know whether such is the case.

* * The words of the order under which costs for attendance [before magistrates are allowed are, "there may be allowed to witnesses, being members of the profession of law or of medicine.....a sum, in the discretion of the magistrates, for each attendance not to exceed 10s. 6d." It seems, therefore, that the magistrates are technically within their power in awarding a sum less than 10s. 6d. They have, of course, no right to fine a witness for declining to come before them without a subpoena; but, if they choose to do so in this way, we do not see how their action can be called in question otherwise than through the press.

THE RED LAMP.

A. R.—A "lettered red lamp" is not a very dignified sign for a professional man, and its use is a practice far more honoured in the breach than in the observance; but we should certainly not like to say that it constitutes by itself an adequate ground for "refusing professional recognition."

PATIENTS' STATEMENTS.

ADMITTING, as we regretfully do, that the type of consultant and general practitioner individualised by our Canadian correspondent still obtains here and elsewhere; and, moreover, without in any way seeking to impugn the exactness of the statement made by the patient in question, we nevertheless feel constrained, from past experience, to withhold other than a guarded assent to a patient's descriptive report of his professional interview with a medical man. Be that, however, as it may, in view of the sheer possibility that our comments may meet the eye of the consultant in question, we may refer to the following note appended to rule 9 in the *Ethical Code*, chap. II, sect. 5, page 70; with the added remark that "S.D.'s" patient must have been more or less favourably impressed with the reputed skill of the consultant, otherwise he would not, we apprehend, have been induced to consult him at a later period.

"'Tis a 'golden rule,' which cannot be too deeply engraven on the heart, that a medical man should never in any case which may directly or indirectly come under his notice censure or disparage, much less condemn, the practice or diagnosis of another; for not only may he thereby most unjustly prejudice the reputation of, but possibly be the cause of a vindictive and costly action for malpractice against a professional brother, whose treatment has been judicious, and as successful as the nature of the case admitted. Do ye, therefore, as ye would be done by."

"A FRIENDLY PRESCRIPTION."

A GENERAL PRACTITIONER writes: On visiting one of my patients a few days ago, he showed me a prescription which a medical man had given him while making a friendly call. The doctor who gave the friendly prescription knew that I was in attendance.

* * As a simple admonition, suggestion, and guide to the practitioner of whose conduct, as above related, our colonial correspondent appears to have just cause to complain, we may quote the following rule (2) from the *Code of Medical Ethics*, page 67:

"When a practitioner, from motives of friendship or the necessities of business, is prompted to visit a patient under the professional care of another, he should observe the strictest caution, circumspection, and reserve. No meddling inquiries should be made, no disingenuous hints given relative to the nature and treatment of the disease, nor any line of conduct pursued that may directly or indirectly tend to diminish the confidence reposed in the family attendant. Indeed, such visits should be avoided, except under peculiar circumstances; and, when made, the topics of conversation should be as foreign to the case as possible."

ALLEGED MISREPRESENTATIONS AS TO VALUE OF PRACTICE.

A MEMBER FOR TWENTY YEARS.—If it can be shown that A., in order to induce B. to purchase the practice, made untrue statements as to the income derived by his testator from it, an action to recover the whole or part of the purchase money may undoubtedly be maintained. It is no answer to such an action to say that the purchaser ought not to have been misled by the statements made. The purchaser should submit a full statement of his evidence to counsel before he brings his action, so as to be sure that he has a good

case. On the facts submitted to us, it seems that he has, but we do not profess to advise as to chances of success.

MIDWIFERY ENGAGEMENTS.

A MEMBER writes: I am the only medical man in a village, and about a year ago Mr. X. and family came to reside here. I have once or twice attended him and family for trivial complaints. Lately Mr. X. informed me that his wife was going to be confined, and that she wished to be attended by A., a medical man in an adjoining village; at the same time, Mr. X. said he wished me to attend on all other occasions. Ought I to consent, or what is my proper conduct in the circumstances?

* * Such an arrangement is of not infrequent occurrence, and is entirely consistent with "A Member's" self respect. We would therefore counsel him at once to accede to it.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

CAMBRIDGE.

CRANE'S CHARITY.—The annual meeting of the distributors of Crane's Charity will be held in Pembroke College Lodge on May 21st, for the purpose of making grants "to poor scholars for their relief that are sick, for paying their physick diet, or other things necessary for them in their sickness." The applications of scholars must be made by their tutors, and must contain full particulars of the medical and other charges, and of the circumstances of the applicants. The funds are derived from a benefaction left in 1654 by John Crane, M.A., apothecary in Cambridge, and the charity has been the means of doing much good during the 235 years of its existence. It should be added that the distributors are prepared to pay the wages of trained nurses to attend poor scholars who fall sick in their rooms.

DEGREE OF M.B.—William Henry Lawrence Copeland, B.A., King's College (thesis: the Prophylaxis and Treatment of Scarlet Fever), and Richard Gerard Wilde, B.A., Clare College (thesis: On Rheumatoid Arthritis), have kept the Act as required for the degree of M.B., and were admitted thereto at the Congregation on Thursday, May 2nd.

THE Third Examination for the M.B. and B.C. degrees (surgery, midwifery, and medicine) begins on Tuesday, May 14th. The First and Second Examinations begin on Tuesday, June 4th.

LECTURES FOR THE EASTER TERM.—Work for the term began on April 26th. No fewer than fifty-six courses of lectures in the subjects of examinations for medical and surgical degrees have been announced as approved by the Special Board for Medicine. Professor Macalister gives a short course for advanced students on the History of Human Anatomy. The first lecture of the course on Elementary Biology, given by Mr. Sedgwick, was attended by over 160 students. The new Pathological Laboratory is ready, and promises to be very commodious.

LONDON.

THE following examiners for 1889-90 were elected at a meeting of the Senate held on April 24th:—

Chemistry: Professor H. E. Armstrong, Ph.D., F.R.S., and Professor W. A. Tilden, D.Sc., F.R.S. Botany and Vegetable Physiology: Professor F. Orpen Bower, D.Sc., and Professor H. M. Ward, M.A., F.R.S. Comparative Anatomy and Zoology: Sydney J. Hickson, Esq., D.Sc., and Adam Sedgwick, Esq., M.A., F.R.S. Practice of Medicine: William Cayley, Esq., M.D., and Professor F. T. Roberts, M.D., B.Sc. Surgery: W. Marrant Baker, Esq., and Professor Christopher Heath. Anatomy: Professor John Curnow, M.D., and Professor Alexander Macalister, M.D., M.A., F.R.S. Physiology: J. N. Langley, Esq., M.A., F.R.S. and Professor E. A. Schäfer, F.R.S. Obstetric Medicine: F. H. Champneys, Esq., M.D., M.A., and Alfred L. Galabin, Esq., M.D., M.A. Materia Medica and Pharmaceutical Chemistry: J. Mitchell Bruce, Esq., M.D., M.A., and Frederick Taylor, Esq., M.D. Forensic Medicine: Professor G. V. Poore, M.D., B.S., and Thomas Stevenson, Esq., M.D.

GLASGOW.

RECENT BENEFACCTIONS.—In his closing address after the graduation, Principal Caird mentioned that the following benefactions had been made to the university during the past year: 1. A sum of £2,500 has been bequeathed by the late Mr. William Baxter, Hillhead, Glasgow, to found a Demonstratorship in Geology, to be awarded for eminence in the examination for the degree of B.Sc. 2. The late Mr. James Alexander Paterson, Glasgow, has left a sum of about £4,000 to be applied in founding bursaries. 3. The late Mr. Robert Paterson, Glasgow, has left £2,000 to be employed

at the discretion of the Senate for the benefit of the university. 4. The trustees of the late Major Walkinshaw, Kirn, have offered £1,000 for bursaries in the Faculty of Law, in addition to a former gift of £500 for the same object. 5. A scholarship of £50 per annum, to be held by students of naval architecture, has been granted by Lloyd's Register of British and Foreign Shipping; Mrs. Elder, a lady to whom the university is largely indebted, gives for two years two bursaries of £25 a year for a similar object; and the Science and Art Department have agreed to double the value of these bursaries.

MEDICO-PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Tuesday, April 30th.

Deaths from Uncertified Causes.—Dr. CAMERON asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether his attention had been called to the fact that, according to the last report of the Registrar General, 17,465 deaths occurred in England and Wales during 1887 where the cause of death was not certified by any medical attendant or coroner's inquiry; and whether, taking that fact into consideration, the Government would consent to the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the efficiency of the existing law as to the disposal of the dead, for securing an accurate record of the causes of death in all cases, and especially for detecting them where death might have been due to poison, violence, or criminal neglect.—Mr. LONG replied that the proportion of deaths where the cause of death was not certified by any medical attendant or coroner's inquiry was steadily declining. In 1879 the proportion was 4.7 per cent., while in 1887 it was only 3.3 per cent. The proportion varied from 0.8 per cent. in Middlesex (extra metropolitan) to 5.7 in Durham, and 7.4 in Wales. The Registrar-General informed him that the uncertified causes of death (including a considerable majority of cases of infants and young children) might be generally subdivided into two classes: (1) the cases in which the deceased person had had no medical attendance during his last illness; and (2) the cases in which the attendance had been by an unqualified or unregistered practitioner. As regards the first class of cases, they were most numerous in the sparsely populated districts, where distance placed a natural obstacle in the way of procuring medical attendance. The second class of cases might be subdivided. In some instances an unregistered practitioner was working on his own account, in others he was acting (as the assistant or quasi-partner of a registered practitioner, and in others the practitioner might be duly qualified, but either he was unregistered or had been removed from the Register. The Registrar-General had good reason to know that a very large proportion of the cases of uncertified deaths were reported by registrars to coroners prior to their registration, although those officers, in the exercise of their discretion, decided that it was unnecessary to hold inquests. He did not think that the circumstances were such as to require the appointment of a Select Committee as suggested.

Mr. YERBURGH will, on Tuesday next, move for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the question of the meat supply of the metropolis.

INDIA AND THE COLONIES.

INDIA.

HOSPITALS FOR WOMEN.—At Lucknow, on April 10th, Lady Lansdowne laid the foundation stone of a new hospital for women. A native gentleman of Bombay has contributed 10,000 rupees towards the founding of a female dispensary in connection with the Grant Medical Hospital.

THE ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the Framjee Dinshaw Petit Laboratory of Scientific Medical Research was performed on April 8th by His Excellency the Governor of India, in the compound of the Grant Medical College, Bombay.

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY MANAGEMENT.

LONDON HOSPITALS AND THE WORKING CLASSES.

On Saturday, April 27th, the last of a series of meetings in aid of the Mansion House movement for raising half a million pence weekly, or £100,000 a year, towards the London hospitals, was held in Holloway Hall, where a large assembly had congregated. The Lord Mayor, who was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, attended in civic state, and a number of societies and public bodies were also represented. His lordship, in reply to a presentation of an address, expressed his belief that before the movement was carried out to its full extent the hospitals in London would have realised such an accession to the funds as would enable them to perform all the duties within their reach. Sir A. K. Rollet, M.P., moved a resolution pledging the meeting to further the proposal, which was carried unanimously.

PROPOSED NEW INFIRMARY AT HALIFAX.

It is proposed to obtain a more extensive site, and to build thereon a new infirmary, designed according to the most approved modern principles, and admitting of future extension as the wants of the district increase. The general feeling is said to be in favour of this suggestion.

PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE COMPULSORY NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SIR,—I hoped that my share in this long discussion had come to an end, but as Dr. Biddle has at last recognised the importance of comparing years of actual notification with years of non-notification upon equal terms, and has brought forward some new statistics, perhaps you will allow me to add a few remarks upon them by way of postscript. I willingly concede to him whatever advantage he may derive from having the last word upon the other points at issue between us.

In spite of his own protest, which I cordially endorse, he still retains Portsmouth as a notification town for the years 1881-86, although its Act was only obtained in 1883—indeed, only three out of his six notification towns obtained their Acts before 1882. This error is of less moment than his former classification of Portsmouth with Sunderland as notification towns for the years 1877-87; but it has a considerable influence upon some of the group-results in his new table.

The great drawback to all present consideration of notification statistics is the shortness of the term of years during which the system has been tried, yet Dr. Biddle elects to take only six years instead of the eight which are now equally available. Again, his new group of non-notification towns is unnecessarily small, and is arbitrarily selected. He takes Liverpool, Birmingham, Bristol, and Wolverhampton, to the exclusion of the three other large towns (Leeds, Sheffield, and Hull) for which the Registrar-General gives precisely the same information.

Adopting his own terms of years, however, and his own method of treatment, let us see what the scarlet fever results are in this discarded group.

	Population in 1881.	Difference between Average Scarlet Fever Death-rates in 1871-76 and 1881-86, respectively.
Six dual notification towns cited by Dr. Biddle...	1,028,440	+0.66
Four non-notification towns " " "	1,239,872	+0.64
The three other provincial non-notification towns given by the Registrar-General ...	751,224	+0.27
Namely, Leeds ...	310,483	+0.34
Sheffield ...	285,619	+0.49
Hull ...	155,122	-0.28

The result, therefore, upon Dr. Biddle's new method of comparison—unless I have misunderstood his account of it—is that the dual notification towns have fared, in regard to scarlet fever, slightly better than the selected non-notification towns, and much better than the rest of the non-notification towns for which it is possible to obtain the requisite figures.

But the method itself is, to say the least of it, open to criticism. I suppose Dr. Biddle is speaking seriously when he says it is unfair to regard a reduction from 40 to 20 as no more than equivalent to a reduction from 2 to 1, and proposes as an improvement to take the difference instead of the ratio. He would represent the gain in the one case as 20, and in the other as 1 only; or, to take another illustration, a reduction from 1,000 to 950 would be equivalent to a reduction from 100 to 50, or from 50 to 0. This adds one more to the many points upon which I venture to differ in opinion from Dr. Biddle.—I am, etc.,

Nottingham, April 29th.

ARTHUR WHITELEGGE.

HEALTH OF ENGLISH TOWNS.

In twenty-eight of the largest English towns, including London, which have an estimated population of 9,555,406 persons, 5,719 births and 3,567 deaths were registered during the week ending Saturday, April 27th. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had declined from 20.3 to 19.4 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, rose again to 19.5 during the week under notice. The rates in the several towns ranged from 12.4 in Brighton, 14.0 in Sunderland, 15.4 in Derby, and 15.8 in Nottingham to 27.2 in Leeds, 28.5 in Manchester, 30.0 in Plymouth, and 38.6 in Preston. In the twenty-seven provincial towns the mean death-rate was 21.1 per 1,000, and exceeded by

3.5 the rate recorded in London, which was only 17.6 per 1,000. The 3,567 deaths registered in the twenty-eight towns during the week under notice included 178 which were referred to measles, 142 to whooping-cough, 43 to diphtheria, 38 to scarlet fever, 36 to diarrhoea, 24 to "fever" (principally enteric), and not one to small-pox; in all, 461 deaths resulted from these principal zymotic diseases, against 436 and 440 in the two preceding weeks. These 461 deaths were equal to an annual rate of 2.5 per 1,000; in London the zymotic death-rate was 2.2, while it averaged 2.8 per 1,000 in the twenty-seven provincial towns, and ranged from 0.0 in Sunderland and in Derby, and 0.6 in Wolverhampton to 4.5 in Huddersfield, 6.1 Manchester, 9.3 in Plymouth, and 13.0 in Preston. Measles caused the highest proportional fatality in Norwich, Hull, Leeds, Halifax, Bolton, Preston, Manchester and Huddersfield; scarlet fever in Plymouth; whooping-cough in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Cardiff, Plymouth, Oldham, and Preston; and "fever" in Preston. Of the 43 deaths from diphtheria recorded during the week under notice in the twenty-eight towns, 29 occurred in London, 3 in Manchester, 3 in Birmingham, 2 in Plymouth, and 2 in Preston. No fatal case of small-pox was registered last week, either in London or in any of the twenty-seven provincial towns; and no small-pox patients were under treatment in any of the Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals on Saturday, April 27th. These hospitals contained 534 scarlet fever patients on the same date, against 529 and 527 at the end of the two preceding weeks; 42 cases were admitted during the week, against 52 and 48 in the two previous weeks. The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs in London was equal to 3.6 per 1,000, and was below the average.

HEALTH OF SCOTCH TOWNS.

DURING the week ending Saturday, April 27th, 871 births and 554 deaths were registered in the eight principal Scotch towns. The annual rate of mortality, which had increased from 21.8 to 23.7 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, declined again to 21.7 during the week under notice. Among these Scotch towns the lowest rates were recorded in Edinburgh and Leith, and the highest in Glasgow and Perth. The 554 deaths in these Scotch towns during the week under notice included 108 which were referred to the principal zymotic diseases, equal to an annual rate of 4.2 per 1,000, which exceeded by 1.7 the mean zymotic death-rate during the same period in the large English towns. The highest zymotic death-rates were recorded in Dundee and Glasgow. The 287 deaths registered in Glasgow included 40 from measles, 32 from whooping-cough, 6 from diarrhoea, and 4 from scarlet fever. Four fatal cases of whooping-cough were recorded in Dundee, and 2 of measles in Greenock. The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs in these Scotch towns was last week equal to 4.0 per 1,000, against 3.6 in London.

HEALTH OF IRISH TOWNS.

DURING the week ending Saturday, April 20th, the deaths registered in the sixteen principal town districts of Ireland were equal to an annual rate of 23.0 per 1,000. The lowest rates were recorded in Newry and Londonderry, and the highest in Drogheda and Wexford. The death-rate from the principal zymotic diseases in these towns averaged 1.4 per 1,000. The 159 deaths registered in Dublin during the week under notice were equal to an annual rate of 23.5 per 1,000 (against 25.7 in each of the two preceding weeks), the rate for the same period being 17.1 in London and 20.1 in Edinburgh. These 159 deaths included 8 from the principal zymotic diseases (equal to an annual rate of 1.2 per 1,000), of which 3 were referred to whooping-cough, 2 to measles, and 2 to "fever."

In the sixteen principal town districts of Ireland the deaths registered during the week ending Saturday, April 27th, were equal to an annual rate of 27.3 per 1,000. The lowest rates were recorded in Newry and Lurgan, and the highest in Armagh and Kilkenny. The death-rate from the principal zymotic diseases averaged 2.3 per 1,000. The 191 deaths registered in Dublin during last week were equal to an annual rate of 28.2 per 1,000 (against 25.1 and 23.5 in the two preceding weeks), the rate for the same diseases being only 17.6 in London and 12.9 in Edinburgh. These 191 deaths included 13 which were referred to the principal zymotic diseases (equal to an annual rate of 1.9 per 1,000), of which 6 resulted from "fever" and 2 from measles.

OBITUARY.

GEORGE WOODS, F.R.C.S., L.S.A.

MR. GEORGE WOODS died on April 15th, at his residence, Church Street, Southport, after a long illness. He was born in Liverpool on February 28th, 1817, and was the last surviving son of Mr. Peter Woods, solicitor, of Liverpool. He was educated in medicine at St. George's and Charing Cross Hospitals, London, and in the latter was a pupil of Professor Howship. His career as a student was distinguished, and in 1840 he became M.R.C.S.

Soon afterwards he commenced practice in Liverpool, and was elected medical officer of the Liverpool Fever Hospital, where such was his devotion to duty, that he contracted cholera and typhus fever. For some years he was actively engaged in *post-mortem* examinations, as assistant to his brother-in-law, Mr. Curry, then coroner of Liverpool.

He removed to Southport in 1853, and enjoyed a large practice. He became honorary surgeon to the Southport Convalescent Hospital, and subsequently its honorary consulting medical officer. He was elected F.R.C.S. in 1868, and later a president of the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch of the British Medical Association. He took an active interest in Masonry, being twice chosen W.M. of his lodge. He was an ex-president of the Union Club, Southport. He was a Conservative and a Churchman, but took no active part in political affairs, and always declined public offices.

He retired from practice seven years ago, and was succeeded by his son, Dr. G. A. Woods. He leaves another son; his wife died some years ago. He was very generous and highly respected.

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 on April 12th, 1889:

Stephen, George Caldwell, McGill University, Montreal.
Horton, Algernon John, Queen's College, Birmingham.

On April 17th:

Harris, Frederick, Oxford University and Royal Infirmary, Liverpool.
Edwards, Gerald Dundas, Cambridge University and Royal Infirmary, Bristol.

Gann, Thomas William Francis, Middlesex Hospital.

On April 18th:

Daniel, William Patrick Taylour, St. Mary's Hospital.
Squire, Frank Henry, London Hospital.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following Vacancies are announced:

BIRMINGHAM GENERAL DISPENSARY.—Resident Surgeon. Salary, £150 per annum, with extras, furnished rooms, etc. Applications by May 8th to the Secretary.

CAMBRIAN LODGE (ODDFELLOWS), Swansea.—Medical Officer. Applications by May 17th to Mr. John Lake, 21, Vernon Street, Swansea.

DERBYSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with apartments, board, etc. Applications by May 25th to the Secretary.

EAST SUFFOLK AND IPSWICH HOSPITAL.—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £20 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications by May 7th to the Secretary.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE INFIRMARY, Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments and board. Applications by May 22nd to the Secretary.

PUBLIC DISPENSARY, Stanhope Street, Clare Market.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £105 per annum, with furnished apartments, coals, and gas. Applications by May 8th to the Secretary.

ROTHERHAM HOSPITAL.—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications by May 15th to the Honorary Secretary.

ROYAL ASYLUM, Morningside, Edinburgh.—Junior Assistant-Physician. Applications to Dr. Clouston.

ROYAL ORTHOPÆDIC HOSPITAL, 297, Oxford Street.—Resident House-Surgeon and Apothecary. Salary, £100 per annum, with partial board. Applications by May 9th to the Secretary.

THE GUEST HOSPITAL, Dudley.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, residence, etc. Applications by May 15th to the Secretary.

TORBAY HOSPITAL AND PROVIDENT DISPENSARY, Torquay.—House-Surgeon and Dispenser. Salary, £80 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications by May 20th to W. H. Kitson, Esq., Honorary Secretary, Shipway, Torquay.

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY, Yorkshire College, Leeds.—Lecturer on the Diseases of Women and Children. Applications by May 13th to the Secretary.

WILLESDEN LOCAL BOARD.—Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by May 13th to S. Tilley, Esq., Clerk to the Board.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

CANNEY, H. E. L., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed House-Physician to the Hospital for Consumption, Brompton.

CLOWES, W. F. A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Assistant House-Surgeon to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, *vice* C. Lumley, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., resigned.

CRAWFORD, W. S., B.A.Cantab., L.R.C.S., L.M.Edin., appointed Honorary Assistant-Surgeon to the Liverpool Hospital for Cancer and Skin-Diseases.

DILL, J. F. G., M.D., M.R.C.S., appointed Assistant-Physician to the Sussex County Hospital, *vice* H. S. Branfoot, M.B.Lend., resigned.

DUNLOP, A. W., M.B.Glas., appointed Medical Officer to the Parish of Arrochar, N.B., *vice* Duncan Clark, L.R.C.P.Edin., resigned.

LARKAM, E. T., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., appointed Assistant House-Surgeon to the Cheltenham General Hospital, *vice* N. B. Robinson, resigned.

LUND, Herbert, M.B., B.S.Cantab., F.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Honorary Assistant-Surgeon to the Salford Royal Hospital.

MATTHEWS, C. G., appointed House-Physician to the Hospital for Consumption, Brompton.

NORRIS, E. J., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Medical Officer to the Portsmouth Dockyard Medical Benefit Society, *vice* S. Goss, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., resigned.

SHAHAN, D. A., M.D., M.Ch., appointed Medical Officer to the Portsmouth Dockyard Medical Benefit Society, *vice* J. G. Blackman, M.D., resigned.

VINCENT, J. F., L.R.C.P.L., M.R.C.S.E., appointed Medical Officer to the Leicester United Friendly Societies Medical Association, *vice* A. E. Hindle, L.R.C.P.E., resigned.

HER Royal Highness the Princess Louise has fixed Tuesday, May 28th, for opening the Leicester Children's Hospital.

THE Local Government Board have sanctioned the appointment of Dr. R. C. Daly as Medical Officer to Ringaskiddy Dispensary.

THE festival dinner of the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic will be held on Thursday, May 23rd, at the Whitehall rooms of the Hôtel Métropole, when His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury will take the chair.

THE distribution of prizes of the Faculty of Medicine at the University College, London, will take place on Thursday, May 16th, when Sir Robert Nicholas Fowler, Bart., M.A., M.P., the Treasurer of the College, will preside.

PRESENTATION.—Dr. Whish has been presented by the gentleman members of his St. Andrew Ambulance Association at Pollokshaws with a bag of surgical instruments, and Dr. Ritchie was the recipient of a coffee-pot from the ladies of his class.

DR. C. B. MESTERTON, Professor of Surgery and Midwifery in the University of Lund, died recently, at the age of 63. He was one of the leading surgeons in Sweden, and an ardent advocate of reform in medical education in the two Swedish Universities.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION.—The lady pupils of a nursing class held in connection with the above Association have presented Dr. T. W. Shortridge, of Honiton, with a handsome plated breakfast dish and stand, in recognition of his services as lecturer.

DR. HENRY BENNET, having quite recovered from the serious illness with which he was seized three years ago, has retired from active practice at Mentone, and assumed a purely consultant position. He has built for his retirement on his Grimaldi property a mediæval Florentine villa, situated on the Mentone frontier, but in Italy.

THE Chelmsford Rural Sanitary Authority, in accepting Dr. Downes's resignation of his appointment of medical officer of health, passed a unanimous vote of thanks, expressing their high appreciation of the value of his services, and congratulating him on his new appointment as a Poor-law Inspector of the Local Government Board.

ON April 26th Professor Billroth completed his 60th year. The Imperial-Royal Society of Physicians, of Vienna, and the Town Council, sent telegrams of congratulation to the eminent surgeon, who is now in Berlin. Great festivities are being prepared by the Viennese students for the reception of their distinguished teacher on his return.

SANITARY EXHIBITION AT HASTINGS.—A Domestic and Sanitary Exhibition and Health Congress was formally opened by the Mayor, Mr. Stubbs, on April 29th, when addresses were delivered by Sir E. Chadwick and Dr. Richardson (President of the Congress), the former speaking on the importance of good water supply, and the latter upon the strides made in sanitation, pointing out how the work of the modern sanitary reformer had been assisted by the health exhibitions held in different parts of the country. Previous to the opening ceremony, a large company were entertained at luncheon at the Brassey Institute. The exhibition buildings have been erected at a cost of about £1,500, and contain a total area of 31,500 superficial feet. The exhibition will remain open for several weeks, and prizes are to be awarded. The exhibits are numerous and varied.

DR. JOHN BREAKER, Royal Navy, Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets, prior to relinquishing the superintendence of Haslar Hospital, was entertained by the officers at a farewell dinner on Wednesday, April 24th. The *Army and Navy Gazette*, in notifying the above, observes: "Much regret is felt by everyone connected with the establishment at the termination of his period of office. After a distinguished professional career in all parts of the world and in all climates during an active service of nearly forty years, Dr. Breaker has been superseded on reaching the age for retirement. His firm and successful administration of the hospital has met with the fullest recognition at the Admiralty; and he and Mrs. Breaker, who have been conspicuous for hospitality and kindness, carry with them the very best wishes of their numerous naval and other friends."

DIARY FOR NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.

ODONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN, 8 P.M.—Mr. A. Kirby (Bedford): Electrical Progress and Dental Practice. Mr. David Hepburn: A Few Remarks on Suction Plates, Air-chambers, and Artificial Rugs.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.—Annual *Conversazione*. Oration at 8.30 P.M. by Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, F.R.S., on the Clinical Uses of Rare Diseases.

TUESDAY.

PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.—Dr. Robinson: Cysticercus Cellulose from Human Muscle. Mr. Doran: Sequel to case of Primary Cancer of Fallopian Tube, reported in vol. xxxix. Dr. Dickinson: The Kidney from a Patient in whom Albuminuria was Hereditary. Dr. Goodhart: Aneurysmal Varix of Splenic Artery and Vein. Dr. Ormerod: Ulcerative Colitis. Mr. D'Arcy Power: Adrenals in which the Tubercle Bacillus has been demonstrated from a case of Addison's disease. Dr. Taylor: Left Auricle pressing on Left Bronchus. Mr. Silcock: Vesiculation of Mucous Membrane of the Bladder. Mr. Hutchinson, jun.: Lumbar Hernia. Dr. Pitt: Thrombosis of Aorta. Mr. Battle: Ectopion of Cæcum, with Prolapse of Small Intestine. Mr. Shattock: Tubercle of the Breast. Card Specimens.—Mr. W. G. Spencer: Cast of Congenital Talipes Varus and Valgus from the same subject. Dr. Wethered: An Unusual case of Tuberculosis of the Liver. Mr. Shattock: Pedunculated Chondroma from Knee-joint; Actinomycosis of Jaw of Heifer.

WEDNESDAY.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., 8 P.M.—Dr. Phineas S. Abraham: Leprosy; a Review of some Facts and Figures.

ROYAL MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY, King's College, W.C., 8 P.M.—Messrs. C. D. Sherborn and F. Chapman: Additional Note on the Foraminifera of the London Clay. Mr. A. C. Stokes: New Peritrichous Infusoria from the Fresh Waters of the United States.

BRITISH GYNÆCOLOGICAL SOCIETY, 8.30 P.M.—Dr. Case: Tolerant of Morphine in Cases of Abdominal Operations. Dr. Mackenzie: Case of Prolonged Gestation. Specimens: Dr. J. Mansell-Moullin and Mr. Lawson Tait.

THURSDAY.

HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.—Dr. Buzzard: Cases of Peripheral Neuritis. Mr. Jacobson: Removal of Bronchocele; Radical Cure of Hernia and Excision and Erasion of the Knee. Mr. Watson Cheyne: Keloid Scars. Mr. Lockwood: Cases of Testicle in the Perineum; and others.

FRIDAY.

CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL, 3.30 P.M.—Mr. Henry Power: On Diseases of the Eye. Lecture II.

SOCIETY OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH, Scottish Corporation Hall, Crane Court, E.C., 7.30 P.M.—Dr. Sykes: On Registration and Certification of Death. Dr. Willoughby: On a New Public Health Act for Italy.

CLINICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.—Mr. W. H. Bennett: Case of Closure of the Jaws from Bilateral Ankylosis treated by Excision of both Angles of the Inferior Maxilla after the complete failure of other methods. Mr. Buckston Browne: Case of Suprapubic Prostatectomy. Mr. W. Anderson: Suprapubic Cystotomy for Removal of Tumour of Bladder; Sequel to a case reported previously to the Clinical Society. Mr. G. H. Makins: Case of Intussusception of Small Intestine.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 5s. 6d., which should be forwarded in stamps with the announcement.

BIRTHS.

EVANS.—On April 14th, at Castle Hill House, Shaftesbury, the wife of C. S. Evans, M.A., M.B., of a son.

WRIGHT.—On April 13th, at 253, Eccles New Road, Manchester, the wife of Gaskoin Wright, L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

DODD—THURPP.—On the 30th April, at Hove Parish Church, by the Rev. A. G. L. Bowling, Vicar of St. Barnabas, Hove, Arthur Herbert Dodd, L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng., of 98, Sackville Road, West Brighton, to Edith Frances Sibthorpe, youngest daughter of the late Robert Thrupp, Esq., of Brighton.

FARRER—SMITH.—On April 30th, at St. Stephen's, Burnley, by the Rev. James Cranbrooke, M.A., Vicar, George Albert Farrer, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.Lond., Spring Villa, Brighouse, second son of Robert Farrer, M.R.C.P.Ed., M.R.C.S., L.S.A.Lond., Esplanade Gardens, Scarborough, to Mary, youngest daughter of the late Joseph Smith, of Colne.

GABBETT—MALET.—April 30th, at St. Mark's, Wolverhampton, by the Rev. J. A. Cross, Vicar of Little Holbeck, Leeds, cousin of the bride, Henry Singer Gabbett, M.D., of Eastbourne, to Helen, daughter of the late Francis Hodder Malet, of Cork.

DEATHS.

BARRON.—On April 21th, at 73, Norroy Road, Putney, S.W., James Barron, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., late of Sunderland, aged 70.

GARGORY.—On April 23rd, at St. Cuthbert's, Bournemouth West, Caleb Gargory, Esq., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.S.A., late of Pembury, Kent, aged 48 years. For nineteen years Medical Officer to the Tonbridge Union. Deeply regretted. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.

GREWCOCK.—On the 26th April, 1889, after one year and ten months' illness, of general paralysis, John Bailly Grewcock, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.S.A., of Pershore, Worcestershire, eldest son of the late George Grewcock, L.R.C.P.Edin. M.R.C.S.Eng., L.S.A., of Folkeham, Lincolnshire, aged 48.

MACKERN.—On April 28th, at his residence, The Limes, Long Eaton, Derbyshire, Walter Mackern, M.D., in his 50th year.