

vious communication, transgressed the bounds of legitimate self-defence; and I feel sure that Dr. Barclay, in the second edition of his interesting book, which without doubt will soon be called for, will so modify his criticism of me as, to say the least, will render it less liable to be misunderstood.

I am, etc., GEORGE JOHNSON.

11, Savile Row, January 24th, 1865.

NEW INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

SIR,—Your correspondent “D. J. G.” obliges me, very much against my will, to reply to his remarks in the last JOURNAL; viz., “provided only he bases his advice on a fair representation of facts.” Your correspondent appears to be fond of indulging in personalities, if I may judge from his favouring me a second time; though to what purpose, in a matter of this kind, I am at a loss to know.

I am not aware of having misrepresented facts. I compared the old pensions *with* Medical Retiring Fund, *versus* new *without*; and I proved the former to be far superior. I admitted the new pay was slightly improved; and promotion to the rank of surgeon after twelve years I declared a boon. At the same time, I stated that neither pay nor pension were at all adequate for transportation to a climate like India; and I added, that it was impossible for a married man to make a provision for his wife and children, taking into account sickness, education, and the increased expense of living in India to what it was; and I believe I proved that, with all the advantages the new service offers, it is far inferior to that of the Company.

I stated that the late dispatch created a new service, and those entering under it have no claim to any privileges of the old service; and that I would not advise any one trusting the Indian Secretary. But your correspondent “D. J. G.” thinks I should inquire at the India Office. Nay, I have read the dispatch, and am not alone in my interpretation of it; but, as “D. J. G.” has taken up the gauntlet for the Indian Secretary, I would advise him to get Sir C. Wood to publish the rules and regulations for the new service, as an explanation of his dispatch; for that it is read differently from “D. J. G.’s” reading of it, I would refer him to a letter from an “Indian Surgeon” in the last *Medical Times and Gazette*, condemning it far more forcibly than I have done.

“D. J. G.” holds forth, as a lure to the unwary, the very exceptional case of Dr. Macpherson of the Madras army. He and all the deputy inspectors-general will be gainers by the new rules; and, in addition to all, will have £400 a year from the Medical Fund; but the case of Dr. Macpherson should not be quoted as an example in favour of the new rules, as he was most unfairly promoted over his seniors, some of whom had seen service in the field before he got his commission.

I never said a member of the Medical Board under the old rules could retire on a pension of £900 a year. “D. J. G.” should read more calmly what I did write about £900 a year. Under the old rules, the highest pension was £700 a year, with £400 from the Medical Fund; total, £1,100, *versus* £550 under the new rules. If Sir C. Wood cannot get the assistance of a better advocate than “D. J. G.”, he may well say, “Save me from my friends.”

As regards my ignorance “on the subject of pensions in the British army”, with which “D. J. G.” taunts me, I find, on referring to the Warrant of October 1858, that your correspondent, who professes to know from circumstances so much of both services, either errs in his statement, or there are new

regulations since the Warrant was issued. As paragraphs 10 and 12 refer to retirement, under the former only is a medical certificate required; but, under the latter, “every medical officer who shall have served upon full pay for twenty-five years and upwards shall have the right to retire upon half-pay at the rate of”, etc.; and I find the highest rate of half-pay (there is no such word as pension in the British service) is £736:7:6, not £600, as stated by “D. J. G.”

“D. J. G.” again introduces the subject of stoppages, and says he “alluded to another matter entirely”, and quotes the case of a surgeon landing at Calcutta, his regiment being six hundred miles up country. Under the old rules, he drew no staff-salary until he joined; under the new, he gets what is now termed “unemployed pay on a liberal scale”. But D. J. G. does not give us both sides of the story. Under the old rules, we were allowed thirty days at Madras, going to or coming from Europe; and time to join, according to distance, at the rate of ten miles a day. Thus, if my regiment was six hundred miles away when I landed, I had ninety days to join in; and many of us took the full time out at the Presidency. *Sed tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis*. The thirty days are reduced to fifteen, and “to join by the most expeditious available mode of travelling, and without unnecessary delay on the road.” I quote from a general order by the Governor-General of India.

I say again, once for all, the pensions are not sufficiently good to induce men to go to India, when they have no guarantee that faith will be kept with them; for Paragraph 20 of the dispatch reads very suspiciously as to services being dispensed with. It says: “You will, of course, take into account the several situations which may be properly filled up by uncovenanted members of the medical profession.” Now, to my reading, many of the presidency appointments (the prizes of the service) must, according to this order, in future be filled by outsiders.

I am, etc., A RETIRED SURGEON MAJOR.

January 1865.

Medical News.

APOTHECARIES’ HALL. On January 19th, 1865, the following Licentiates were admitted:—

Smith, Solomon Charles, Halifax
Turner, Frederick, Buxton
Woodcock, John Rostron, Ramsbottom

At the same Court, the following passed the first examination:—

Simpson, Thornton Gerald, Guy’s Hospital
Watson, George Samuel, St. George’s Hospital

APPOINTMENTS.

*COOKE, Wm. Harry, M.D., appointed Certifying Surgeon, under the Factory Acts, for the District of Aldridge and Walsall.
MAUNDER, C. F., Esq., elected Consulting-Surgeon to Queen Adelaide’s Dispensary, *vice* James Luke, Esq.

MARRIAGE.

ALLEN—BAKER. On the 19th instant, at St. Peter’s Kirkley, near Lowestoft, by the Rev. Henry Willmott, incumbent, assisted by the Rev. John Allen, brother of the bridegroom, Joseph ALLEN, Esq., of Tombland, Norwich, to Sophia Augusta, daughter of the late John BAKER, Esq., Bengal Medical Service, of Noakholly, Beugal.

SUPERANNUATION OF UNION MEDICAL OFFICERS. The Lord-Lieutenant has appointed a day to receive the memorial from the physicians and surgeons of Ireland on the Superannuation of Union Medical Officers.

THE MEDICAL ACT. In the paragraph in the last number of the JOURNAL describing the proceedings of the Scottish Branch of the Medical Council, some important words were omitted in one of the sentences. The proposed amendment of the penal clause is as follows. "It shall not be lawful for any person, unless registered under this Act, to practise any branch of the profession, taking or using the name or title of a Physician, Doctor of Medicine, Licentiate in Medicine or Surgery, Master in Surgery, Bachelor of Medicine, Doctor, Surgeon, Medical Practitioner, or General Practitioner or Surgeon Apothecary, or Licentiate or Practitioner in Midwifery, or Professor of Medicine, or Professor of Surgery, or any other medical or surgical title; and every unregistered person so offending shall, upon summary conviction for such offence, forfeit or pay a sum not exceeding twenty pounds."

SUICIDE AND "THE VIGOUR OF HEALTH" GENTRY. Last week, an inquest was held at Higham, Kent, on James Miles, who was found drowned in the canal. The deceased was 24 years of age. A few months ago, he was rather queer in his manner, and appeared very low-spirited. About a fortnight ago, he received something which made him worse, was very desponding, and complained of his head and stomach. The police-constable who was present at the finding of the body found several papers and printed bills in deceased's jacket-pocket. Two are from Dr. De Roos, of Tavistock Square, and one from a Dr. Smith, of Burton Crescent, London. They are what are called quack handbills. At the residence of deceased, he found a pamphlet on secret diseases. J. J. Ely deposed: I am a surgeon, practising at Chatham. From an inspection of the papers found upon the deceased, I have no doubt whatever they would cause a great depression of spirits, and tend to a person committing suicide. Persons suffering from disease are susceptible to depression of mind. The papers or bills are issued by quacks. It is not unusual for cases of suicide to arise from reading pamphlets similar to those produced. The Coroner then read several letters from Dr. De Roos, which stated that the deceased must still continue with the medicine, and impressing upon him the necessity for remitting money, as he did not make it a practice to give credit to his patients; and stating that, in consequence of having numerous correspondents in all parts of England, he hoped he would not neglect writing to him, as he (Dr. De Roos) might forget the case. About thirty letters had been sent to the deceased in the course of ten months. The Coroner summed up. He said: Gentlemen, you have heard the evidence which has been adduced. From this it would appear that the deceased had in all probability been reading the pamphlets which have been produced; and you will have remarked that, on opening one of these pamphlets, the word "suicide" appeared written prominently round the margin. The number of letters from Dr. De Roos, of Tavistock Square—letters which it is impossible to stigmatise too strongly, and which, when read by the weak-minded, would lead them to the commission of suicide—must be noted as a weighty fact, and they tend to prove that the mind of the deceased had been deeply harassed by them. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased had committed suicide whilst in an unsound mind. After the delivery of the verdict, a consultation between the coroner and the jury took place, which resulted in the foreman intimating that they considered deceased's insanity to have been brought on by the perusal of certain pamphlets issued by and letters received from Dr. De Roos, of Tavistock Square, London. The coroner ordered that the pamphlets and letters should be kept in safe custody.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY......Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.
TUESDAY..... Guy's, 1½ P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.
WEDNESDAY.... St. Mary's, 1 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.
THURSDAY..... St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—London Surgical Home, 2 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.
FRIDAY...... Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.
SATURDAY..... St. Thomas's, 1 P.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Lock, Clinical Demonstration and Operations, 1 P.M.—Royal Free, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

WEDNESDAY. Obstetrical Society of London, 8 P.M. Dr. Snow Beck, "On Puerperal Fever"; Mr. I. Baker Brown, "New Mode of Securing the Pedicle in Ovariectomy"; and other Papers.
THURSDAY. Harveian Society of London, 8 P.M. Dr. Drysdale, "On the Antecedents and Treatment of Phthisis."
FRIDAY. Western Medical and Surgical Society, 8 P.M. Mr. George Naylor, "On Syphilitic Diseases of the Skin following Vaccination."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * All letters and communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the EDITOR, 37, Great Queen St., Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

COMMUNICATIONS.—To prevent a not uncommon misconception, we beg to inform our correspondents that, as a rule, all communications which are not returned to their authors, are retained for publication.

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

K. R.—The little book entitled *A Few Words on the Choice of a Microscope*, is a reprint and revise from the *Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science*. It is a very useful and well written essay on the subject of which it treats.

DOCTORS FOR SCAPEGOATS.—SIR: We must all thank you for your leader on the poor scapegoat, the doctor. Of course, what else was he made for? You have, in your leader, omitted to notice one thing. There is not sufficient work for the doctor in "necessary" visits; but he must be forced, if the orders of the Poor-Law Board are carried out, to do a great amount of work wholly unnecessary.

For instance, we all know that many chronic cases do not require a weekly visit; but the sapient powers at head-quarters decide that, whether they require it or not, every case on the book is to be visited *once a week*!

Where a surgeon has only limited time (and how many are there of this class), these unnecessary duties must be taken out of the time intended for necessary work. Again, the absurdity of filling up some of the columns in the weekly reports, consumes a great amount of time, which might be devoted to saving life; but, as your facetious contemporary *Punch* some two or three years ago remarked, union surgeons were not appointed for that purpose, if they were so foolish as to spend valuable drugs in saving life, when they were intended to get rid of it quietly, more fools they.

Possibly, Timothy Daly's case may prove the necessity for the reform which Mr. Griffin has so long been labouring at—the placing all medical officers on a similar footing. How many union appointments are better paid than that which Mr. Norton holds?

I am, etc., A POOR-LAW VICTIM.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—The following advertisements appear in the *Lincoln Gazette*.

[A Card.]

Mr. Fred. T. Mason, Surgeon and Bone-setter, 123, High Street, Lincoln.

Medical Notice.

Mr. Thomas Elkanah Hoyle, Surgeon, etc., begs to inform the public that he attends midwifery cases for 10s. 6d. Mr. Hoyle has had great experience in diseases of women and children.

MR. D. BARKER is referred to the notice prefixed to the leading articles in the last two and the present numbers of the JOURNAL.

THE GRIFFIN TESTIMONIAL FUND.—SIR: The following subscriptions have been further received on behalf of the above Fund:—Chas. Aruison, Esq. (Alston), 10s. 6d.; J. Byerley, Esq. (Birkenhead), 10s. 6d.; Dr. Lambert (Birkenhead), per J. Byerley, Esq., 10s. 6d.; R. S. Daniel, Esq. (Birkenhead), per J. Byerley, Esq., 10s. 6d.; Dr. Downing (Birkenhead), per J. Byerley, Esq., 10s. 6d. Amount previously announced, £11:16:0. Received at the *Lancet* office, £6:16.

I am, etc.,

ROBERT FOWLER, M.D.,

*Treasurer and Hon. Sec.

145, Bishopsgate Street Without, January 26th, 1865.

PRYCE v. BOWEN.—SIR: I shall feel greatly obliged if you will kindly publish in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* the enclosed list of subscribers to the Bowen Fund.

I am, etc.,

J. H. HAMMOND.

Winckley Square, Preston, January 24th, 1865.

Dr. Altham (Preston), £1:1; Dr. Broughton (Preston), £1:1; Dr. Brown (Preston), £1:1; Dr. Gilbertson (Preston), £1:1; Dr. Hammond (Preston), £3:3; Dr. Heslop (Preston), £1:1; Dr. Moore (Preston), £1:1; J. Pilkington, Esq. (Preston), £1:1; —Richardson, Esq. (Preston), £1:1; Dr. Ridley (Preston), £1:1; Dr. Smith (Preston), £1:1; Dr. Stavert (Preston), £1:1; Dr. Walling (Preston), £1:1; R. Townley Parker, Esq. (Preston), £1; Ed. Houghton, Esq. (Latham), £1:1; Dr. Ashton (Walton-le-Dale), 10s.; J. Arminson, Esq. (Preston), 10s. 6d.; Dr. Barron (Southport), 10s. 6d.; Wm. Bradley, Esq. (Preston), 10s. 6d.; Dr. Bell (Preston), 10s. 6d.; Dr. Hodgson (Preston), 10s. 6d.; A Friend, 6s.

SIR: The following subscriptions have been received for the Bowen Fund since your last issue.

I am, etc.,

JOSEPH GODDEN, Hon. Secretary.

Sudley House, Birkenhead, January 24th, 1865.

John Harrison, Esq. (Chester), £5; Dr. W. Roberts (Manchester), £2:2; Dr. Eason Wilkinson (Manchester), £2:2; Dr. Parr (New Brighton), £1:1; Dr. Trull (New Brighton), £1:1; Dr. Bird (Egremont), £1:1; J. Byerley, Esq. (Egremont), £1:1; Dr. Nottingham (Liverpool), £10:10; Dr. Gee (Liverpool), £3:3; Dr. Holcombe (Liverpool), £1:1; Dr. Fenton (Liverpool), £1:1; Dr. Hill (Liverpool), £1:1; Dr. Vose (Liverpool), £3:5; Dr. Desmond (Liverpool), £1:1; Dr. Nevins (Liverpool), £1:1; Dr. Turnbull (Liverpool), £2:2; Dr. Fitzhenry (Liverpool), £1:1; Dr. Walker (Liverpool), 10s. 6d.; Dr. Stookes, (Liverpool), £2:2; W. H. Manifold, Esq. (Liverpool), £1:1; E. R. Bickersteth, Esq. (Liverpool), £5:5; S. Kisch, Esq. (Liverpool), £1:1; C. B. Wilson, Esq. (Liverpool), £1:1; A. M. Bligh, Esq. (Liverpool), 7s. 6d.; R. H. Taylor, Esq. (Liverpool), £1:1; H. Stubbs, Esq. (Liverpool), £2:2; J. Hakes, Esq. (Liverpool), £1:1; Ellis Jones, Esq. (Liverpool), £3:3; W. McCheane, Esq. (Liverpool), £1:1; H. Lowndes, Esq. (Liverpool), £1:1; *E. Lund, Esq. (Manchester), £52:10; John Stewart, Esq., Chemist (Birkenhead), £2:2.

* With Mr. Lund's cheque for £52:10, came the following note, which was received the morning after the Liverpool meeting, by the Treasurer, Dr. Schofield, Birkenhead.

"22, St. John's Street, Manchester, Jan. 23, 1865.

"SIR,—As the correspondence relating to the case of Pryce v. Bowen seems at length exhausted, I feel more at liberty to follow out my original impulse to subscribe towards the fund for defraying Dr. Bowen's expenses, and I now place fifty guineas at the disposal of the committee, to be applied to that purpose; merely remarking, that had I followed the suggestions of others, instead of acting on my first intention, I should, perhaps, have been content with forwarding the fee of fifteen guineas, which I received from the plaintiff's solicitor. I am, sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"EDWARD LUND."

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Dr. JAMES RUSSELL; Mr. C. F. MAUNDER; Dr. B. W. RICHARDSON; THE HONORARY SECRETARY OF THE WESTERN MEDICAL AND SURGICAL SOCIETY; Dr. W. H. O. SANKEY; Dr. DURRANT; Dr. THOMAS SKINNER; Mr. M. CHEANE; Dr. R. HARRISON; Dr. WM. HARRY COOKE; Mr. R. W. DUNN; Mr. J. POLLARD; Dr. J. H. HAMMOND; Mr. J. GODDEN; Dr. GIRD; Dr. BEIGEL; Dr. BEHREND; Dr. R. FOWLER; Dr. HARDIE; Dr. O'GRADY; Mr. J. HINTON; Mr. JAMES HROFES; Dr. GEORGE JOHNSON; THE HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE ONSTRETICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON; Mr. T. M. STONE; and Mr. J. B. CURGENVEN.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

1. Clinical Surgery on Tumours, and Tumours of the Breast, more particularly in reference to their Diagnosis. By Thomas Bryant, F.R.C.S. Part V. London: 1864.
2. Diseases of the Ovaries; their Diagnosis and Treatment. By T. Spencer Wells, F.R.C.S. Vol. I. London: 1865.
3. A General Index to the first Fifteen Volumes of the Transactions of the Pathological Society of London. Compiled by T. Holmes, M.A. London: 1864.
4. Hand-book of Skin-Diseases. By T. Hillier, M.D. London: 1865.
5. The Cause of the Respiratory Murmur. By A. T. H. Waters, M.D. London: 1865.

ESTABLISHED 1848.

Mr. J. Baxter Langley, M.R.C.S.
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quented Island on the coast. A Family Practice for sale. Receipts average about £300 a year. The town contains upwards of 10,000 inhabitants, and 70,000 visitors during last season. Premium, 250 guineas. Address, "S., 1010," Mr. Langley, as above.

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SHIP. £600 a year. Mr. Langley is authorised to negotiate for the Transfer of the above, or the introduction of a Partner. Apply at the Professional Agency, as above.

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well established Family Practice, realising upwards of £1000 a year. Appointments £70. Complete introduction. Good house, etc. The Successor should be a graduate of Edinburgh. Address, "1005A," Mr. Langley, as above.

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