

Association Intelligence.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
WEST SOMERSET. [Quarterly.]	Clarke's Castle Hotel, Taunton.	Wednesday, April 12, 7 P.M.
BATH AND BRISTOL. [Ordinary.]	Victoria Rooms, Clifton.	Thursday, April 13, 7 P.M.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.

A QUARTERLY Meeting of this Branch will be held at Clarke's Castle Hotel, Taunton, on Wednesday, April 12th, at 7 P.M.

Notice of papers or cases to be communicated should be sent to the Honorary Secretary previous to the meeting.

W. M. KELLY, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*

Taunton, March 11th, 1865.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT MEETING.

THE third meeting for the eighth session, 1864-65, was held at the Infirmary, Gravesend, on March 31; C. J. PINCHING, Esq., in the Chair. Seventeen members and visitors were present.

Communications. The following communications were read:—

I. Ophthalmic Cases. By M. A. Adams, Esq. 1. Diphtheritic Conjunctivitis. 2 and 3. Successful Extraction of Cataract in Diabetics. 4. Anophthalmos. (The patients were exhibited at the meeting, with the exception of one suffering from diabetes.)

II. Case of Embryotomy. By J. V. Bell, M.D.

III. Some interesting cases, inmates of the Infirmary, were brought before the meeting. 1. Railway injury in a young man; lower end of tibia removed; result satisfactory: viz., foot straight, with some degree of flexion and extension preserved. 2. Bullet lodged in lower jaw of a young man; sinus and some thickening, but no certain indication of the situation of the ball.

Next Meeting. Flaxman Spurrell, Esq., was elected chairman of the meeting to be held at Dartford in April.

Dinner. The members and visitors adjourned to dinner at the Yacht Club House.

HYDROPHOBIA. In connection with the bill for lessening the mischief occasioned to flocks in Ireland by vagrant dogs, Professor Gamgee publishes some interesting remarks on the spread of the hydrophobia and other evils from the number of dogs roaming about at will. He says: "It is impossible to estimate the serious amount of loss of life and property incurred by the people in Ireland from the dog nuisance. Swarms of parasites infest the bodies of cattle, sheep, and pigs, which they derive from dogs. Many animals are doubtlessly worried, and a very considerable number of men and animals are annually bitten and inoculated with the rabid virus." Hydrophobia in man is increasing in Ireland. For the ten years ending 1841 31 cases of death from this cause are reported. In 1851 the number had risen to 57, and in 1861 to 61. This is very different from what we find in England, where the deaths from hydrophobia have gone down year by year from 25 in 1851 to 3 in 1860. In Scotland, even allowing for the smaller population, the number is still smaller.

Special Correspondence.

DUBLIN.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Two cases of great interest have lately occurred here, which, I think, it will be worth your while to record. Therefore I send you brief notes of them.

The first is that of a Fracture of the Spine, in which the operation of Trephining was performed. The patient was a man named Joseph Collins, aged 38 years, who entered Jervis Street Hospital December 28th, 1864, suffering from an injury of the spine. Dr. Robert McDonnell, who saw him immediately after his admission, and under whose care he remained, at once diagnosed a fracture of the spine corresponding to the last dorsal or first lumbar vertebra. The symptoms were those of pressure on the spinal cord.

At a consultation held the same day, Dr. McDonnell advocated the immediate performance of trephining. His colleagues, however, not taking his view of the case, the proceeding was negatived.

The idea of trephining was then given up until January 30th, 1865, when Dr. Brown-Séquard, happening to be in Dublin, saw him with Dr. McDonnell. He supported his view, and advocated the operation as a *dernier ressort*. Accordingly, it was performed February 3rd, 1865.

Previously to the operation, sensation existed normally in the thigh and calf of each leg. In the feet, sensibility was much impaired, the sole being quite anæsthetic. Paralysis of motion was almost complete in both lower limbs; no reflex movements could be excited. The bladder and rectum were absolutely paralysed; the urine was alkaline. The penis and scrotum were swelled, and the prepuce ulcerated. Bed-sores existed over the sacrum; and the left foot and leg were œdematous.

After the operation, sensation became normal every where. There was a marked increase of motor power in the muscles of the thigh; the patient, however, did not regain the power of moving his toes. After some days, the reflex phenomena as regards movements of the muscles of the thigh reappeared. The most remarkable improvement, however, was in the penis and scrotum, etc. The ulcerations improved; the swelling diminished; and the œdema of the left leg disappeared.

A fortnight after the operation, the bladder had regained considerable power, and the urine could be expelled with some force. However, the patient sank on the seventeenth day after the operation, when it was found that inflammation had extended from the bladder to the kidneys, purulent depositions having been found in one of those organs.

On *post mortem* examination, a displacement was found to have taken place between the last dorsal and first lumbar vertebræ, with fracture of a portion of the body of the latter. The theca vertebralis was uninjured; the cord compressed, but not lacerated.

Medical News.

BIRTH.

COLLINS. On March 31st, at Chew Magna, Somerset, the wife of *Charles Howell Collins, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ALEXANDER—BORTHWICK. At Greenside, Leslie, by the Rev. John Logan, of the Free Church, James Alexander, Esq., Surgeon, Leslie, to Janet, second daughter of the late Hugh J. Borthwick, Esq., Kirkcaldy.

DAVIS—LOW. On March 29th, at the Parish Church, Wrexham, by the Rev. James Dixon, assisted by the Rev. T. J. Jones, Incumbent of Minera, Edward Davis, Esq., M.D., to Alison Paxton, eldest daughter of William Low, Esq., Lloftwen, near Wrexham. No cards.

ROYAL INSTITUTION. On Saturday, April 8th, at three o'clock, Professor Marshall will deliver a lecture On the Nervous System.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. SPENCE. The pupils of Mr. Spence, the successor of Professor Miller in the chair of Surgery in Edinburgh, have recently presented him with an album containing the photographic portraits of the gentlemen who had attended his class.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON. The election of examiners for degrees, etc., in the University of London, is fixed for Wednesday, the 26th inst. Amongst others, the following vacancies are announced:—One in experimental philosophy; one in chemistry; one in botany and vegetable physiology; two in geology and palæontology; one in physiology and comparative anatomy; two in midwifery; one in materia medica and pharmaceutical chemistry. The other examiners offer themselves for re-election.

THE HOLBORN UNION. The Committee of the Guardians of Holborn Union appointed to consider Mr. Farnall's recommendations have reported to the effect: That the salary of the medical officer should be raised from £100 to £135; that a paid nurse should be appointed by way of experiment; that the medicines and drugs are as good as need be; and that the Guardians should supply cod-liver oil. The report has been adopted with one exception—the salary of the medical officer being raised to £125, and not to £135.

MEDICINES FOR THE POOR. In the House of Commons lately, Sir J. Shelley asked the President of the Poor-Law Board whether the Poor-Law Board intended in this session to take any, and if any what, steps to carry out the recommendation of the Select Committee on Poor Relief, that in future cod-liver oil, quinine, and other expensive medicines should be provided at the expense of the guardians, and not as heretofore by the parochial medical officers. Mr. Villiers said the subject referred to was one to which the board had given much consideration, and on which they had communicated much with guardians in different parts of the country, and they did not despair of inducing them very generally to adopt the recommendation of the committee in question. There were difficulties in the way, however, owing to the existing contracts with the medical men, which were made on the other system. These contracts usually were made for life, and there had sometimes been an unwillingness to revise them; but in certain cases the doctors did not live in the union, and were then selected annually, and in all these cases there was reason to hope that the recommendation would be adopted. The Poor-Law Board in such cases would use all its authority to induce the guardians to adopt it.

MORTALITY IN EMNETH. On Friday week, Dr. Brady asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department if his attention had been directed to a statement made by the coroner at an inquest held at Emneth, in the county of Norfolk, and reported in the *Lynn Advertiser* on the 25th ultimo, directing attention to the extraordinary mortality among children in Emneth, amounting to 80 per cent. of the population, which the parish surgeon attributed to gross and culpable neglect, the children dying from starvation. Sir G. Grey said he had received a letter from the coroner, stating his belief that the great mortality among the children was attributable to the neglect of the mothers. The letter had been forwarded to the High Constable of the county, who would inquire into the facts.

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.

TUESDAY. Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society. 8 P.M., Ballot 8.30 P.M., Dr. Hermann Weber, "On Delirium during the Decline of Acute Diseases"; Mr. Henry Lee, "On Acute Inflammation of the Veins."—Ethnological.—Zoological.
WEDNESDAY. Microscopical.
THURSDAY. Royal Society.
SATURDAY. Association Medical Officers of Health.

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.

A. B.—Professor Robert Grant, who is a candidate for election into the Royal Society, is the Regius Professor of Astronomy in Glasgow. Dr. Robert Edmond Grant, the Professor of Comparative Anatomy and Zoology at University College, has been an F.R.S. for many years.

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Dr. FREDERICK J. BROWN; Dr. RADFORD; Dr. CRUISE; Dr. W. OGLE; Dr. JAMES RUSSELL; Mr. C. H. COLLINS; Dr. G. B. MEAD; PROFESSOR SIMPSON; Dr. DURRANT; Mr. H. HEMSTED; THE SECRETARY OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY; Mr. J. MORLEY; THE HONORARY SECRETARY OF THE ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY; Mr. J. M. EVANS; Mr. W. DATE; Mr. ALEXANDER; Mr. HENRY LEE; and Mr. H. HAILEY.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

1. Transactions of the Pathological Society of London. Vol. III. London: 1865.
2. A Manual of the Domestic Practice of Medicine. By W. B. Kesteven. London: 1865.