

week, spoke very strongly on the subject of the absence of medical men in the Parliament Houses ; and used the strongest argument for the necessity of their presence there. Sanitary and social measures, he said, are the orders of the day ; and who understands their details better than the doctor ? Every week we find the want of a high professional voice in Parliament. Such absurd and calumnious nonsense as that spoken by Lord Ellenborough ought to have been answered on the spot where it was spoken, and at the moment. It is no great credit to our legislating authorities that it was allowed to pass without explanation or rebuke. Surely some one might have told him, that all hospitals in India are under the superintendence of European practitioners.

WE are requested to state the manner in which the approaching ballot for members of Council of Royal College of Surgeons is conducted. The names of the six candidates are printed in a balloting-paper ; the names of the three old members at the top, and those of the three proposed new ones beneath them. Fellows, in balloting, must be careful not to leave *more* than three names on the list they put in the box. If only one or two names be erased from the list, leaving five or four names on it, such balloting paper will not be counted. Any Fellow, however, may, if he please, vote for only one or two names. He is not compelled to vote for three. The ballot takes place at 2 P.M. precisely, and is generally closed at or before 3.

WE have great pleasure in publishing, in another column, a letter from Mr. Samuel Lane, on the subject of professional intercourse with homœopaths. Mr. Lane therein says : " I have always refused to meet homœopathic practitioners, and shall continue to do so, believing as I do that those who adopt a contrary course of conduct are guilty of a dereliction of duty to the patients, to the public, and to the profession."

The students of the University of Liege have invited to a grand university fête the students of all the other Belgian universities, and for this purpose have despatched deputations to the different universities. Their enthusiasm received a temporary check at Louvain ; the Rector there had forbidden the students to take part in it.—M. Larrey has presented to the Academy of Medicine, in the name of Dr. Tholozan, a treatise on Auscultation, Percussion, and Palpation, written and printed in the Persian language.—The *Bulletin Thérapeutique* recommends, as the best vehicle of santonine, simple syrup. The santonine is first of all dissolved in a little alcohol, and then added to boiling syrup.

Association Intelligence.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION : ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Twenty-ninth Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be holden in Canterbury, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the 23rd, 24th, and 25th days of July.

President—C. RADCLIFFE HALL, M.D., F.R.C.P.L. and E., Torquay.

President-elect—ALFRED LOCHÉE, M.D., F.R.C.P.Lond., Canterbury.

The Meetings of the Association will take place at St. George's Hall.

TUESDAY, July 23rd.

1 P.M. Meeting of Committee of Council in the Reading Rooms, St. George's Hall.

2.30 P.M. Meeting of the General Council of the Association at the Reading Rooms, St. George's Hall.

7 P.M. First General Meeting of the Association at St. George's Hall. The retiring President will make a few remarks. The new President will deliver an Address. The Report of Council will be presented, and other business transacted.

WEDNESDAY, July 24th.

8.30 A.M. Public Breakfast at the Corn Exchange.

10 A.M. Meeting of the Members of the new Council.

11 A.M. Second General Meeting of Members. The Address in Medicine will be delivered by W. O. MARKHAM, M.D., of London. Papers and Cases will be read. The Meeting will adjourn at One, and reassemble at Two P.M., when the Report of the Benevolent Fund will be read.

8 P.M. *Soirée*. By the kind invitation of the Very Rev. the Dean of Canterbury, this Meeting will take place at the Deanery.

THURSDAY, July 25th.

11 A.M. Third General Meeting of Members. The Address in Surgery will be delivered by GEORGE HOFFMANN, Esq., of Margate. Papers and Cases will be read.

6 P.M. Dinner at the Corn Exchange. Tickets One Guinea each.

Gentlemen intending to be present at the Dinner, are requested to send notice, as early as possible, to ROBERT TASSELL, Esq., St. Margaret's Street, Canterbury.

Members are requested to enter, on arrival, their names and addresses in the Reception Room, St. George's Hall ; where cards will be supplied which will secure admission to all the Proceedings, and contain such information as may be useful to those who are strangers to the city.

Members who wish for previous information may communicate with ROBERT TASSELL, Esq., St. Margaret's, Canterbury.

It is particularly requested that all Members who propose to read Papers, will communicate with the General Secretary without delay. Papers are promised by Spencer Wells, Esq.; P. C. Price, Esq.; William Martin, Esq.; George Rigid, Esq.; Dr. B. W. Richardson; and Edward Lund, Esq.

Among the principal Hotels, are—the Fountain ; the Rose ; the Fleur-de-Lys ; and the Freemasons'.

PHILIP H. WILLIAMS, M.D., *General Secretary.*
Worcester, June 15th, 1861.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
METROPOL. COUNTIES. [Annual.]	Crystal Palace, Sydenham.	Tuesday, July 2nd, 3 p.m.
WEST SOMERSET. [Annual.]	Langport Arms Inn, Langport.	Wednesday, July 3.
CAMBRIDGE AND HUNTINGDON. [Annual.]	County Hospital, Huntingdon.	Wednesday, July 10, 2 p.m.
BATH AND BRISTOL. [Annual.]	Bristol Institution, Park Street.	Wedns. July 10, 3 p.m.

MEDICAL BENEVOLENT FUND.

THE Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 9th, 1861, at 3 o'clock p.m., at Mr. Churchill's, New Burlington Street, for the purpose of receiving the Annual Report and Financial Statement, electing the Committee, etc.

The South-Eastern Branch of the British Medical Association has recently forwarded a second donation of Ten Guineas to the Fund.

The North Wales Branch has just sent a donation of Five Guineas.

Correspondence.

IMAGINARY SPERMATORRHœA.

LETTER FROM R. DAWSON, Ext. L.R.C.P.

SIR,—I think if you had waited for my reply, published in the *Lancet* of last week, to the charge contained in Dr. Chambers's Clinical Lecture, you would not have given insertion to the letter of M.D., Univ. Edin., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., in your JOURNAL of 22nd of June.

I am totally unacquainted with the writer of that letter, unless it be a Mr. C.—, who consulted me ten years ago, and who at that time was in the legal, and not in the medical, profession. Assuming that this is the same person, I never received a farthing from him after he became a medical student, although he frequently consulted me. By his own statement, it appears he was under my care from Oct. 1851, to June 1855; and, during that time, the whole amount of the fees paid to me was not more than £28. It was I who recommended him to study medicine, in order that he might satisfy himself that the view I took of his case was the correct one. He went to Edinburgh at my recommendation, and also to Germany. I have letters from him during his residence at both these places, which would shew the case in a very different light from that in which he now wishes to represent it. It is now two years since the same person commenced an action against me for the repayment of the £28 fees, which he dared not continue. At that time I was seriously unwell; and, although ordered to leave in October for Nice, I remained in England, at considerable personal risk, until January of last year, and would admit of no compromise of the case. Since that time I have not heard anything more from him or his solicitor, except, when the latter was applied to for his client's address, he stated that he did not know where to find him. Why, let me ask, if this person had any charge to bring against me, did he allow so many years to elapse before I heard from him? and why, if he could substantiate his charge, did he not proceed with his action, and not abandon it when he was confident of success? The facts speak for themselves, and require no comment from me. Who can be safe if, after the lapse of so many years, such disgraceful charges are permitted to be circulated, reflecting discredit and dis honour upon professional character and reputation?

I must appeal to your sense of justice, to insert my reply in your next publication.

I am, etc.,
15, Finsbury Circus, June 25th, 1861.

R. DAWSON.

PROFESSIONAL INTERCOURSE WITH HOMEOPATHS.

LETTER FROM GEORGE MAY, JUN., Esq.

SIR,—In 1858, the Reading Branch of the British Medical Association resolved that its members would "discountenance and cease to recommend those medical practitioners who were known to consult with homeopaths." It having been reported to me that Mr. Samuel Lane had consulted with a homeopathic practitioner in Reading, I shall feel obliged by your publishing the enclosed letter.

I am, etc.,
GEORGE MAY, JUN.,
Hon. Sec. Reading Branch Brit. Med. Association.

Reading, June 25th, 1861.

"DEAR SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, informing me of the resolution come to by the Reading Pathological Society on the subject of physicians and surgeons meeting homeopathic practitioners in consultation, and stating that my name had been mentioned as a surgeon who had done so.

"In reply, I beg to inform you that, in the course of last year, I was consulted at my own house by a patient residing in Reading, who was suffering from stone in the bladder. I was afterwards introduced by him to Dr. Guinness, as his ordinary medical attendant. I had no previous knowledge whatever of the latter gentleman. I visited my patient at Reading several times, and performed the operation of lithotomy. The case was treated by me in conjunction with Dr. Guinness; and the remedies which I thought it necessary to suggest were supplied in the usual doses, without any comment or objection on the part of either Dr. Guinness or of the patient. Nothing was said by either the one or the other, which could lead me to suppose that Dr. Guinness was in the habit of treating this or any other patient on homeopathic principles; nor had I the slightest suspicion that such was the case.

"I have always refused to meet homeopathic practitioners, and shall continue to do so; believing as I do that those who adopt a contrary course of conduct are guilty of a dereliction of duty to the patient, to the public, and to the profession.

"May I request you to lay this letter before the Reading Pathological Society, and to give it any kind of publicity that may be thought desirable.

"I am, dear sir, faithfully yours,
"SAMUEL A. LANE.

"1, Grosvenor Place, S.W., June 21, 1861."

HOMEOPATHY IN VOLUNTEER COMPANIES.

LETTER FROM JOHN W. HAYWARD, M.D.

SIR,—In his letter in your JOURNAL of the 15th inst., Mr. Bickerton says of the homeopathic medical officers of Liverpool volunteer corps that "had they possessed the honesty to declare their belief and practice....they would never have had the honour of serving in Her Majesty's forces"; and he deeply regrets "that the lord-lieutenant of the county should have been so much misled as even to sanction the very questionable propriety of submitting the name" of such to Her Majesty (!)

By the former expression he, of course, insinuates that they had the dishonesty to hide the nature of their belief and practice. Now this is a charge which I call upon him to substantiate, if he has the honour of a professional man. There are, I believe, only two homeo-

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON. The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examination, were admitted members of the College:—

Hounsell, Henry Strangways, M.D., Torquay
Latham, Peter Wallwork, M.B., Downing College, Cambridge
Morgan, John Edward, M.B., 9, London Street, Norfolk Square
Nichols, James, 13, Savile Row

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN. Degrees in Medicine conferred at the Summer Commencements of Trinity College, Dublin, held on June 26th:—

Doctors in Medicine.

Beatty, Thomas Berkeley Dwyer, Henry L.
Cruise, Francis Richard Sinclair, Edward B.

Bachelors in Medicine.

Ashton, Gough McCready, Edward McCon-
Bolton, Abraham J. key
Churchill, Alexander F. Madden, John
Grimshaw, Thomas W. Truel, Henry P.

Masters in Surgery.

Griffith, Richard Montgomery, Howard B.
Grimshaw, Thomas W.

APPOINTMENTS.

ROYAL ARMY. The following appointments have been made:—

HUNGERFORD, Assistant-Surgeon R., 53rd Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, *vice* G. F. White.

LINDSAY, Assistant-Surgeon W., 30th Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, *vice* S. G. White.

MULOCK, Assistant-Surgeon J. J., 96th Foot, to be Assistant-Surgeon 1st Dragoons, *vice* Gibb.

The following appointments have been cancelled:—

BEALE, Assistant-Surgeon R. H., 53rd Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, *vice* G. F. White.

BICKNELL, Assistant-Surgeon H., 84th Foot, to the Staff, *vice* W. H. Jones, M.D.

LINDSAY, R. M. B., Assistant-Surgeon 39th Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, *vice* S. G. White, M.D.

ROYAL NAVY. The following appointments have been made:—

COLLINS, Alexander, M.D., Assist.-Surg., additional, to the *Hawke*. ELLIOT, John W., M.D., Staff-Surgeon, additional, to the *Hawke*.

TROUSDELL, John L., M.D., Assist.-Surg., additional, to the *Hawke*.

VOLUNTEER CORPS. The following appointments have been made (A.V.=Artillery Volunteers; R.V.=Rifle Volunteers):—

HIGGINS, C. H., M.D., to be Assist.-Surgeon 1st Cheshire Engineer Volunteers.

LIVINGSTONE, C. H., Esq., to be Surgeon City of Edinburgh Artillery Militia.

To be Honorary Assistant-Surgeons:—

FARR, S. B., Esq., 5th Hertfordshire R.V.

HEDGEMOOTHAM, E., M.D., 23rd Somersetshire R.V.

HUSSEY, J. T., Esq., 82nd Lancashire R.V.

ROBERTS, C., Esq., 3rd West Riding A.V.

BIRTH.

O'BRYEN. On June 25th, at 17, Thistle Grove, Brompton, the wife of J. R. O'Bryen, M.D., of a son.

DEATHS.

ABBOTT. On May 15, at St. George's, Bermuda, aged 21, Jeannie, wife of C. T. Abbott, Esq., Surgeon 39th Regiment.

*CULHANE, Daniel, M.D., at Dartford, aged 47, on June 20.

DE QUINCEY, Francis J., M.D., in Brazil, on April 12.

FINCH, Charles D., M.D., late of Tulse Hill, at Heidelberg, aged 43, on June 13.

HUE, Clement, M.D., F.R.C.P., at 9, Bedford Square, aged 82, on June 23.

NASH, Frederick, M.D., of New York, at Bonchurch, Isle of Wight, aged 34, on June 19.

PALMER. On June 17, at Greenwich, aged 1 month, Helen May, daughter of H. R. Palmer, Esq., Surgeon.

QUIGLEY, Thomas H., M.D., in Dublin, on June 14.

RICHARDS, Joseph, Esq., Surgeon, at Islington, aged 61, on June 20.

HEAVY RAIN-FALL. During a heavy thunderstorm in Birmingham on June 20th, it is stated by Mr. Platoff, that rain fell to the depth of 1.17 inches. This tremendous fall of rain is upwards of one-third of the average fall for the entire month of June for seven years, which is 3.06 inches. The storm began at 9 A.M., and lasted four hours.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON. The following bye-laws were finally enacted at the Comitia Majora held on Tuesday, June 25th.—1. "Any Candidate who has already obtained the degree of Doctor or Bachelor in Medicine at an University, after a course of Study and an Examination satisfactory to the Examiners appointed by the College, shall be exempt from all parts of the Examinations hereinbefore described, except such as relate to the Principles and Practice of Medicine and Midwifery."—2. "It shall be lawful for the Examiners to recommend to the College that any Candidate for the Licence shall, for reasons to be fully stated in such case to the College, be exempted from any of the Regulations hereinbefore prescribed for admission into the order of Licentiates."—At this Comitia the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—*Censors*: Dr. Copland, Dr. A. Farre, Dr. Chambers, and Dr. Monro; *Treasurer*: Dr. Alderson; *Registrar*: Dr. Pitman.

IRISH NEWS. The *Dublin Medical Press* of the 26th inst., has the following:—"BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. Sir Charles Hastings has retired from the Presidency of this body, and Dr. A. Inglis has been elected in his place."—The same journal also speaks of us in this way: "In the same way is the British Medical Association itself edified by its chosen schoolmaster, the same newspaper squib or hoax being used with the same view by that functionary, to cultivate amicable relations in matters medical between the two countries. Under the head of 'Examples of Ignorance', we have another version of the same story retailed to the readers of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL in the usual strain of flippant vulgarity which is found so agreeable in that quarter."

THE MESMERIC INFIRMARY has had its annual meeting of friends and supporters. Mr. Monckton Milnes, M.P., presided. The report was most voluminous, 175 patients had been treated during the year. Many, however, had absented themselves after a few Mesmerisations, not having the means to attend. There had been increased support given to the infirmary. One of the members of the Council, Mr. Adolphus Kiste, had died during the past year. He was a great Mesmeriser, and his death was considered a great loss. Owing to the smallness of the funds, it was impossible to receive fifteen applicants who were waiting. The report further contained a number of instances where a cure or relief had been made by means of Mesmerism, in cases of epilepsy, neuralgia, stammering, rheumatic gout, insanity, etc. (!!) The Chairman stated that he felt the greatest interest in the system of the infirmary, and he trusted that before long the prejudices which were still harboured against it would be removed. The infirmary did not have, as was believed, patients for the purpose, as was shamefully circulated, to practise upon, but, by practical use of Mesmerism, to relieve the sufferers by physical means, employed discreetly and properly. He made some allusion to the treatment which it was stated the late lamented Count Cavour had received.

ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF ASYLUMS AND HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE. The National Association for the Promotion of Social Science having fixed their annual meeting this year at Dublin, from the 14th to the 21st of August, the President and Committee of the Association of Medical Officers of Asylums and Hospitals for the Insane, have determined to hold their annual meeting on Thursday, August 15th, at Reynold's

Hotel, Dublin, at one o'clock. The retiring President, Dr. Bucknill, will resign the Chair to the President Elect, Dr. Lalor, of the Richmond District Lunatic Asylum, who will deliver an address. The following gentlemen will be proposed as Honorary Members, *viz.*—Dr. Nairne, Commissioner in Lunacy; Dr. Coxe, Commissioner in Lunacy (Scotland); Dr. Hatchell, Commissioner in Lunacy (Ireland); Prof. Laycock, University of Edinburgh. The dinner will take place at seven precisely, at Reynold's Hotel. Notice of communications, and of subjects for discussion at the annual meeting, may be made to Dr. Stewart, Belfast, Honorary Secretary for Ireland. The President and Committee invite the attendance of the Profession in Dublin. In accordance with the unanimously expressed opinion of the members, the President and Committee recommend that the annual meeting for 1862 (being the Great Exhibition year) be held in London in July.

INQUIRY INTO DEATHS FROM ANÆSTHETICS. Morton and his patented *letheon* seem to stand in the way of honest medical inquiry concerning the fatal effects of anæsthetics. Threatened on the one hand with legal prosecutions for using ether, and on the other hand being nervously anxious not to be again entrapped into an endorsement of the greatest of modern charlatans and impostors, the Chairman of the Boston Committee finds it necessary to promulgate the following notice and assurance. The practical importance of Dr. Hodges' inquiries should elicit faithful replies to his circular.—“Boston, May, 1861. The undersigned, Chairman of the Committee appointed by the Medical Improvement Society of this city, to investigate alleged deaths from the inhalation of sulphuric ether, desires to assure the profession that the investigations of that Committee are not of a partisan character, and have no relation whatsoever with the so-called ‘ether controversy.’ As an impression exists at a distance from here that the circulars which have been so largely distributed by them have some connexion, either antagonistic or friendly, with the measures at present being taken in favour of Dr. W. T. G. Morton, this denial will, it is hoped, suffice to convince those gentleman to whom they have been addressed, that no ulterior motive is concealed, and that no use, other than that stated in the circular, *viz.*, to prove or disprove the absolute safety of inhaling pure sulphuric ether, will be made of their replies. R. M. Hodges, M.D.” (*American Med. Times.*)

NEGRO LONGEVITY. The *New Orleans Medical and Surgical Journal* gives the following instances of longevity, gathered from the census returns of 1860: Cornelia Leslie, a negress, aged 125 years, was born in Georgia; has a distinct recollection of the war of the Revolution. The woman, although so far advanced in years, is remarkably healthy and strong, and walks half a mile every Sunday to attend church. She is the slave of her own son, who is a free negro. Boubacar Labarre, born in Africa, died in New Orleans, aged 112. Lizzy Gray died at the age of 127. Her physician, in the Edgefield *Advertiser*, says, that “she was imported from Africa during the Revolution, after having borne four children in that country. She was educated in her youth under the influence of Mohammedan tenets, and although she united herself many years ago to the Methodist Church, she ever said that Christ ‘built His first church in Mecca, and His grave was da.’” Gov. Blacksnake, the “old Indian,” died at the advanced age of 123 years. He was probably, before his death, the oldest Indian living. He was in the French war previous to the Revolution; also in the Revolutionary war, and sided with the Americans. In the list of interments recorded by the sexton for the last week, was that of a centenarian, a negress, Milly Lamar, who had reached the advanced age of 145 years. This negress had been the mother of thirteen children, three of whom were

born before the Revolutionary war. George, a negro of Virginia, died aged 120. A female slave of F. Hurtell, of Mobile, died aged 110.

DISREGARD OF THE LAWS OF HEALTH. Mr. Simon, the medical officer of the Privy Council, has made his annual report on the proceedings of the year 1860. One of the duties of the Council under the Public Health Act is to institute special inquiries in cases of local outbreak of disease, and give advice to the authorities on the spot with a view to remedial and preventive measures, and this course was adopted last year in several instances where leaky drains and cesspools infecting both water and air induced or fed typhoid fever, aggravated in some cases by defective ventilation in cottages with “windows made not to open.” As an instance of what is still going on we take the case of Bedford, a town which has doubled its population within the last thirty years, and whose large school foundations make its healthiness a matter of unusual importance. Unhappily it is the autumnal habit in this town to suffer from typhoid fever; every year there are about thirty deaths from fever and diarrhoeal diseases, implying that some hundreds of persons are attacked by them more or less severely. The cause was not found at all difficult to ascertain. In the valley of the Ouse, which flows through the town, there is a considerable deposit of porous alluvium, which contains soakage water—land water on its passage to the river; and it is this water that fills the wells of the town. But cesspools unfortunately are almost universal, and they are constructed so that the liquid may soak away from them rapidly into the surrounding soil, a local Act “forbidding the drainage of any cesspool matter into the sewers.” The wells from which the inhabitants drink, mostly shallow, are frequently in close proximity to these cesspools. The sewers and drains, also, are described as not properly constructed, and in some instances of sewers at little depth, foul liquid filters through them into the cellars of houses. In short, almost the entire system of sewers, drains, and cesspools is one of percolation and saturation of the subsoil; and it is almost impossible, with the liquid refuse of 13,000 people constantly passing into such a limited body of water as is in these few feet depth of gravel, that any portion of the supply could escape more or less pollution. When Bedford would be charitable “a cup of cold water” is certainly not the thing it should give away. Specimens taken from three different wells were examined by Professor Miller, and he reported that they must have been derived “from a source largely contaminated with decaying animal matter.” Mr. Simon remarks that, to any one conversant with medical science, it can only be matter of surprise that Bedford has not suffered more severely from the diseases which depend on excremental infection of air and water; but the importance of the case depends less upon the amount of illness that has been actually undergone than upon the danger still hanging over the population that, under not improbable circumstances, Bedford may suddenly become the seat of some very violent outbreak of disease. It is a striking example of the distance to which foul matter will travel through this porous subsoil, that the water in some wells 500 feet from the gasworks has been found so impregnated with soakage from gas-tar refuse as to be unusable; and it must be remembered that injurious matters in solution in the liquid of cesspools are not removed by filtration through gravel, however bright the water may become, and that typhoid fever, like malignant cholera, is one of the great group of diseases which infect the ground. Mr. Austin, the principal engineer of the Local Government Act Office, reports that nothing but a new and complete system of drainage and water supply will bring the town into a proper state, but that there would be no difficulty whatever in the execution of the works. Mr. Simon states that, at Christmas last, the Town Council had de-

terminated to appoint a committee of their body to report on the drainage of Bedford, but that no information had been received of the results of that measure.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....Royal Free, 2 p.m.—Metropolitan Free, 2 p.m.

TUESDAY. Guy's, 1½ p.m.—Westminster, 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY... St. Mary's, 1 p.m.—Middlesex, 1 p.m.—University College, 2 p.m.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 p.m.

THURSDAY.... St. George's, 1 p.m.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 p.m.—London, 1:30 p.m.—Great Northern, 2 p.m.—London Surgical Home, 2 p.m.

FRIDAY. Westminster Ophthalmic, 1:30 p.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.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY. Epidemiological, 8 p.m.: Dr. Archibald Smith, "On the Yellow Fever of the Peruvian Andes"; Dr. W. H. Duncan, "On the Fever on Board an Egyptian Frigate and on Shore at Liverpool";—Entomological.

WEDNESDAY. Obstetrical, 8 p.m.: Dr. R. Uvedale West, "Is the Ergot of Rye when administered to the Mother during Labour dangerous or not to the Life of the Child? A Practical Inquiry";—Dr. Tyler Smith, "Four Cases of Ovariotomy."

FRIDAY. Archaeological Institute.

POPULATION STATISTICS AND METEOROLOGY OF LONDON—JUNE 22, 1861.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

		Births.	Deaths.
During week.....	{ Boys.. 882 Girls.. 867 }	1749	1077
Average of corresponding weeks 1861-60	1632	1119	
Barometer:			
Highest (Tu.) 29.930; lowest (Sat.) 29.682; mean 29.832			
Thermometer:			
Highest in sun—extremes (Sun.) 136 degs.; (Fri.) 110 degs.			
In shade—highest (Wed.) 81.8 degrees; lowest (Tu.) 46.8 degs.			
Mean—62.9 degrees; difference from mean of 43 yrs.+3.8 degs.			
Range—during week, 35 degrees; mean daily, 23.8 degrees.			
Mean humidity of air (saturation=100), 83.			
Mean direction of wind, N.E. and S.E.—Rain in inches, 0.15.			

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.

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

In consequence of the space occupied by the Index, the reports of the North Wales Branch meeting and of the Obstetrical Society, with several other articles, are unavoidably deferred until next week.

MR. PAGET AND THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—SIR: Pray permit me, through your JOURNAL, to call upon all provincial Fellows of the College to support Mr. Paget of Leicester as a candidate for the Council of the College of Surgeons. He is a man in every respect admirably fitted to represent the interests of the Fellows.

I am, etc., F.R.C.S.

S. T.—The resolution referred to by our correspondent concerning non-professional intercourse with homeopaths, was (as we are informed) passed by the Reading and other Branches of the British Medical Association, on the occasion of a reported professional consultation between Mr. Fergusson and a notorious homeopath.

THE CÆSAREAN SECTION.—Dr. Radford of Manchester writes: "I have retired from practice; but still I take great interest in the profession. The Cæsarean operation, craniotomy, etc., as many former numbers of the JOURNAL can testify, have engaged my attention. I think that the life of the infant *in utero* is held of too low value by British obstetricians, not only in cases of death of a pregnant woman, but also during labour. I am very glad that you devote your leading articles to subjects of physiological and practical interest. There are debatable questions in all the departments of medicine, and to try to settle them is a most desirable object in journalist."

MR. FERGUSSON AND CONSULTATION WITH HOMEOPATHS.—A F.R.C.S. writes to us as follows, *apropos* of a letter which lately appeared in our pages. "I trust that Mr. Fergusson will be able to clear himself satisfactorily to the profession, or I fear he will stand a bad chance at the ensuing election; and I should be sorry to find such an ornament to our profession excluded from its Council by what may only have been a little indiscretion on his part."

H. G.—A correspondent, signed *Obstetricus*, makes an important mistake in the last number of the *Medical Times and Gazette*. It should, I think be pointed out. He has misunderstood Naegele. Instead of Naegele's telling us to subtract three months and eight days, he tells us to subtract three months and add seven days. The following are Naegele's words:—"Von der letzten Reinigung an lässt sich beiläufig die Zeit der Niederkunft auf folgende Weise ohne Kalender leicht Tage berechnen. Man rechnet von dem Tage an, wo die Reinigung zum letzten Male sich eingestellt hat, 8 ganze Monate zurück, und zählt dann 7 Tage hinzu; der so gefundene Tag ist alsdann derjenige, an welchem die Niederkunft zu erwarten ist." (Naegele, *Lehrbuch der Geburtshilfe für Hebammen*, p. 90.)

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BOOKS RECEIVED.

1. Graduation under the Medical and Scottish Universities Acts; with some Account of the Origin of Universities and Degrees. By Robert Christison, M.D. Edinburgh: 1861.
2. On the Time and Manner of Closure of the Auriculo-Ventricular Valve. By George B. Halford, M.D. London: 1861.
3. On the Relative Influence of Nature and Art in the Cure of Syphilis. By Thomas Weeden Cooke. London: 1861.
4. Notes Exemplifying the State of the Medical Profession, comprising some Account of the Mismanagement of St. George's Hospital. Third series. By Edwin Lee, M.D. London: 1861.

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