

Association Intelligence.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.

A MEETING of this Branch will be held at Clarke's Castle Hotel, Taunton, on Wednesday, March 28th. Dinner at 5 o'clock, after which papers or cases will be communicated.

Gentlemen intending to be present at the dinner, or to read papers after, are requested to give notice to the Honorary Secretary.

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

Taunton, March 6th, 1866.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT MEDICAL MEETINGS.

THE next meeting of this Branch will be held at the Saracen's Head, Ashford, on Thursday, March 29th, at 3 P.M.

Dinner will be provided at 5 P.M. Charge 5s., exclusive of wine.

R. L. BOWLES, L.R.C.P., *Honorary Secretary.*

Folkestone, March 14th, 1866.

SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT MEETINGS.

THE meeting that is usually held at Gravesend on the last Friday in March, will take place (D.V) on Friday, April 6th, because of Holy Week.

Due notice of the meeting will be given.

FREDERICK J. BROWN, M.D., *Hon. Sec.*

Rochester, March 12th, 1866.

Reports of Societies.

HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1st, 1866.

W. TYLER SMITH, M.D., President, in the Chair.

A Case of Syphilitic Iritis, treated without specifics, was exhibited by C. DRYSDALE, M.D. The patient, a young man aged 20, had come to the Farringdon Dispensary on January 1st, with a bad attack of iritis in the right eye. He was covered from head to foot with a papular syphilitic eruption. There was at that time circumorbital pain, a pink zone around the pupil, great effusion of lymph and irregularity of the pupil, with complete absence of vision. A drop of solution of sulphate of atropia (one grain to the ounce) was directed to be dropped into the eye twice a day, and he was told to take a purge in the morning. No shade for the eye, nor any other specific treatment was ordered. In about a week the lymph was absorbed, and at the end of the third week (although contrary to Dr. Drysdale's orders) the patient worked at his occupation as a printer. This case was one of several successfully treated in a similar manner.

Mr. DE MÉRIC said that many persons who treated syphilis without mercury had observed that the eye-disease bore a great resemblance to the skin-eruption, and was, therefore, they thought, likely to do as well as the latter without the mineral. He thought that the experience of the past as to the value of mercury in iritis ought not to be disregarded.

Mr. JAMES LANE thought that each particular case

of syphilitic iritis should be treated on its own merits. Thus in some cases mercury was not required, whilst in others it was a valuable agent.

ON SYPHILISATION. BY VICTOR DE MÉRIC.

The chief aim of the author was to show that the rationale of the numerous inoculations to cure syphilis was defective, and that this peculiar method of treatment was not superior to those already known, and was fraught with extreme inconvenience. He attempted a historical sketch of the rise and progress of the practice, dwelling especially on Auzias Turenne, the originator, and Sperino and Boeck, the warm promoters. He then contended that the term syphilisation was erroneous, as the patients were already syphilised by the constitutional complaint, and endeavoured to show that the improvement noticed was quite independent of the inoculations, which latter he considered cruel and useless. After alluding to the unfavourable effects of the practice upon the moral tone of the girls experimented upon, he agreed that the trials lately made at the Lock Hospital were quite in the spirit of fair play, and regretted that Auzias Turenne had met with denial at Paris when he wished to try his method in the hospital for female delinquents. Mr. de Méric concluded by complimenting all those concerned on the tone of moderation and forbearance that had hitherto marked the discussions on the subject.

Mr. GASKOIN said that the intention of the paper was an attack on syphilisation. Although the time since its introduction into this country was too short for an opinion as to the success of the method, yet an opinion might be formed as to the amount of reliance to be accorded to the teaching of the French school on syphilis, and especially syphilisation. It was fifteen years and more since the latter subject had been mooted in Paris, and the most recent productions of the French press still contained a repetition of misstatements and caricature. It was asserted that matter from soft chancres was inoculable *ad infinitum*. At the Lock Hospital, the soft chancre was very commonly carried through a series of eight to twelve generations, more rarely as many as twenty, and only once had a series of thirty been obtained. At Christiania, Dr. Boeck once got eighty-three from matter of an uncommon character and quality. Opposed to this experience, every modern French treatise on syphilis repeated the fabulous tale of a German physician who inoculated himself with two thousand two hundred chancres, and went on inoculating: his body was seamed with scars, and his syphilis was unrelieved. There was good reason for believing that, when Ricord framed this dogma of the perpetual inoculability of the soft chancre, he only knew of a series of eight having been obtained; but subsequently, as he affirmed, he inoculated one thousand chancres on the body of one of his students, without witnessing any change in the character of the inoculations or condition of the patient. This story was only possible if, as was stated to have been the case, Ricord blotted out the inoculations with caustic soon or immediately after they had been made. In discussing Dr. Boeck's practice, M. Rollet, restricting the practice of Boeck to the use of matter from soft chancre, said that such treatment was not isopathic, but in a high degree antagonistic. If it were really antagonistic, there was a rationale of treatment; but no advocate of syphilisation ever ventured on so bold an explanation. There was no more disgraceful page in the history of science or of society, than the treatment of Messrs. Auzias Turenne and Sperino by the Academies of Paris and Turin. In both instances, the most violent persecution was brought to bear against the pursuit and development

Correspondence.

LOCAL ANÆSTHESIA BY ETHER-SPRAY.

LETTER FROM T. HECKSTALL SMITH, Esq.

SIR,—There is no doubt that, at all events, many minor operations may be performed without pain by the employment of Dr. Richardson's valuable apparatus.

A boy, from an accident at the paper mill, required to-day the removal of the first phalanx of two fingers. The white leathery appearance and numbness were speedily produced by the spray in one finger. The first incision (disarticulating the joint) gave no pain; but, on bringing out the knife to make the under flap, pain was felt.

In the other finger, the first part of the operation was, as before, without pain; then, resting for an instant, the jet was passed into the incised part, and the operation was finished with very trifling pain. A little more patience with the spray, and there would have been no pain whatever. I am, etc.,

T. HECKSTALL SMITH, F.R.C.S.

Rowlands, St. Mary Cray, March 13th, 1866.

LETTER FROM JOHN ST. S. WILDERS, Esq.

SIR,—Having seen in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL an account of Dr. Richardson's method of producing anæsthesia by means of the vapour of ether, I at once procured one of his spray-producers from Messrs. Krohne and Sesemann; and its use has proved so efficient and valuable, that I feel bound to record a few cases in which it has been employed.

Whatever may be the result of its employment in major operations, the following cases to my mind clearly prove that, in minor operations, such as removing small tumours, opening abscesses, applying escharotics, and tooth-drawing, it is most valuable. Among its advantages, I may specially mention the rapidity of its action, and the safety with which it may be used.

W. R., aged 26, suffered from serpiginous ulcer in the groin, the result of syphilis. The vapour of ether was used, and the part frozen in thirty seconds. Nitric acid was applied freely without any pain. This patient had had nitric acid used about a fortnight before this; and the application caused him so much pain, that he refused to have it applied again unless some anæsthetic were used.

I. B., aged 44, was suffering from abscesses in the hand, the result of a crush. I opened a large abscess in the back of the hand without any pain. The vapour was applied for forty seconds, and the part thoroughly frozen.

In the case of M. S., aged 18, I removed a small sebaceous tumour from the head. The vapour was applied for fifty-five seconds. The incision across the tumour was about an inch and a quarter in length; this, and the subsequent pulling out of the cyst, were accomplished without any pain. The patient, a nervous, sensitive, young lady, expressed herself as much pleased with the process, having a great dread of inhaling chloroform.

E. G., aged 18, had a very painful whitlow on the left index finger. It was opened by Dr. Jolly, the house-surgeon, without pain. Anæsthesia in this case was produced in about sixty seconds.

S. M., aged 50, had a deep abscess external to the knee-joint. Anæsthesia was produced in forty seconds; and the abscess was opened without pain.

Mr. S. A. Parker removed a right lower molar

tooth from a lady, after I had applied the anæsthetic for thirty-five seconds, without any pain.

I have also applied it in many instances at the hospital, with a like success.

That its use will supersede that of chloroform in large operations, I do not for one moment imagine; nevertheless, I think few surgeons will for the future subject their patients to the dangers contingent on its administration in such cases as those which I have just related. I am, etc.,

J. ST. S. WILDERS,

Assistant-Surgeon to the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham.

Medical News.

APOTHECARIES' HALL. On March 8th, 1866, the following Licentiates were admitted:—

Bush, Richard Hake, York Terrace, Regent's Park
Pugh, Richard, Llandoverly, South Wales
Rickard, Frederick Martyn, Stoke, Devonport
Rugg, Robert, Dispensary, Stepney
Wadd, Frederick John, Priory Road, Kilburn

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

Duke, Benjamin, Guy's Hospital

APPOINTMENTS.

ALTHAUS, Julius, M.D., M.R.C.P., appointed Physician to the London Infirmary for Epilepsy and Paralysis.
WOODHOUSE, Thomas J., M.D., appointed Physician to the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Wandsworth.

ARMY.

DOCKER, Staff-Surgeon-Major E. S., retiring on half-pay, to have the honorary rank of Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals.
HATCHELL, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon E. J., to be Assistant-Surgeon 21st Hussars, *vice* W. Haward.
HAWARD, Assistant-Surgeon W., 21st Hussars, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* Staff-Surgeon-Major E. S. Docker.
MACKENZIE, Staff-Surgeon W. O., retiring on half-pay, to have the honorary rank of Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals.

INDIAN ARMY. To be Assistant-Surgeons, Bengal Army:—

CENTER, W., M.B.	MATHEW, R. G.
DEACON, R.	MILNE, R. M., M.B.
DUNCAN, W.	ORTON, T.
HEFFERNAN, P. J.	POWER, R.
JAMESON, R., M.D.	PURVES, H. B.
KING, G., M.B.	ROSS, G. C.
KNOX, J.	THOMSON, G., M.B.
MASSY, D. G.	WALSH, D. J.
MASSY, G.	WILSON, H. O.

To be Assistant-Surgeon, Madras Army:—

THOMAS, J. D.

ROYAL NAVY.

CREIGHTON, Robert, Esq., Surgeon, to the *Pallas*.
LEET, Edward W., Esq., Acting Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Pallas*.
ROBERTSON, Adam, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Cambridge*.

BIRTHS.

CARTER. On February 27th, at Budleigh Salterton, Devon, the wife of H. J. Carter, Esq., Surgeon-Major (retired), H.M.'s Bombay Army, of a daughter.
CHAMPNEYS. On March 8th, at Battle, Sussex, the wife of Montagu Champneys, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.
DATE. On March 8th, at Ilkeston, the wife of William Date, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.
MACKINNON. At Campbellpore, East Indies, the wife of Assistant-Surgeon Charles Mackinnon, 20th Hussars, of a daughter.
MOXON. On March 8th, at Northampton, the wife of *William Moxon, Esq., of a daughter.
PRALL. On March 11th, at West Malling, the wife of Samuel Prall, M.D., of a daughter.
RANDELL. On February 7th, at St. Thomas's Mount, Madras, the wife of Assistant-Surgeon Henry L. Randall, Royal Artillery, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

COVEY, Charles E., Esq., Surgeon, Basingstoke, to Harriet, second daughter of *T. R. HEMSTED, Esq., of Whitchurch, on March 8.

PEACOCKE, George, M.A., M.D., Army Medical Department, to Rose Emily Wilkinson, only daughter of George Smith, Esq., of Cambridge Terrace, at All Souls' Church, Langham Place, on March 7.

DEATHS.

BOTTOMLEY. On March 8th, at Croydon, aged 74, Catherine Mary, wife of George Bottomley, Esq.

DEMPEY. On February 27th, at Charterhouse Square, aged 44, Augusta Maria, wife of Joseph Meldon Dempsey, M.D.

DURN. On March 6th, at Doncaster, Gertrude, daughter of George Dunn, M.D.

HALL, Stephen, M.D., late of Exeter, and formerly of Dulwich, aged 63, on March 5.

JACKSON. On March 8th, at Southsea, aged 10, Alice Ellen, only child of A. Jackson, Esq., Surgeon.

JONES. On March 8th, at Surbiton, aged 15 months, Louisa, daughter of W. Price Jones, M.D.

PAUL, James J., M.D., at Putney, on March 11.

PEARSON, Henry W., Esq., Surgeon, at Hastings, aged 29, on March 6.

TABURN, Wm., M.D., at Upminster, Essex, aged 81, on March 12.

THWAITES. On March 11th, at Bishop Auckland, aged 9, Ada Mary, only daughter of Thomas B. Thwaites, Esq.

PARLIAMENTARY VOTE. The following vote has been agreed to in the House of Commons: £246,500 for the army hospital establishment.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES. In the House of Commons, on Monday last, Lord C. Paget gave notice that he would ask leave to bring in a bill for the better prevention of infectious diseases in certain military and naval stations.

THE CHOLERA still hangs about the coast district of France. We also read that the disease has broken out with great virulence in some swampy villages of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the adjacent district of Rhineland.

INFIRMARIES IN IRELAND. In the House of Commons on Wednesday last Mr. P. Urquhart moved the second reading of the County Infirmaries (Ireland) Bill, but, after some discussion, the motion was negatived without a division.

A NEW AMERICAN MEDICAL JOURNAL. January 1st, 1866 produces No. 1 of the *Richmond Medical Journal*, printed in Richmond. A happy change, this conflict of science in the place of the late bloody struggle!

ODONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY. At the ordinary monthly meeting held at 32, Soho Square, on the 5th inst. Mr. Mummy read a paper on Certain Forms of Irregularity of the Teeth, exhibiting models of cases where great success had followed his efforts to reduce the deformity.

A NEW DECORATION. The *Gazette* announces that the Queen has been pleased to institute a new decoration, to be styled the Albert Medal, to be awarded to persons who shall have endangered their own lives in endeavouring to save persons from shipwreck or other perils of the sea.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE. Mr. Edmund Carver of St. John's College, M.A., F.R.C.S., has been appointed by Professor Humphry to the recently created office of Demonstrator of Anatomy. Mr. Carver has shewn himself well qualified for it by his diligent and efficient superintendence of the students in the dissecting room during the present winter.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH. The mortality last week rose to an extraordinary height, the deaths almost equalling the births, or 4155 of the former against 4586 of the latter. This is at the rate of thirty-five in the 1000. London is four below the average, but the lowest of all is Hull, with twenty-six; the highest Liverpool, with fifty-five. The deaths for London were 1829, which is 331 above the average. The births were 2272, which was also above the average.

VACCINATION AND CATTLE-PLAGUE. M. Bouley states that all the vaccinated cows which had been sent to England, in order to be placed in contact with diseased cattle, so as to test the amount of immunity acquired by vaccination, had taken the complaint.

MR. WEBBER. At the Maidstone Assizes on Wednesday there came on an action brought by Mr. William Webber against some tradesmen of Tunbridge Wells for trespass. The case arose out of some proceedings which have been previously before the public with respect to the drainage of Tunbridge Wells. At length an arrangement was come to at the suggestion of the Chief Justice, and a verdict was entered for the plaintiff in one case, and for the defendants in others.

THE SMOKE NUISANCE. In the House of Commons, on Friday week, Sir R. Peel drew attention to the nuisance arising from the smoke of furnaces in towns and country districts, and animadverted upon the great waste of coal, and the destructive effects arising therefrom to human life and health and to the vegetation in the neighbourhoods of large centres of manufacturing industry. Sir G. Grey said he had directed an inquiry to be made in the principal towns as to the means taken to enforce the law, and he had no doubt that the result would throw light upon the defects in the law and point the way to improvements, in which case he should be prepared to bring in a measure embodying such amendments as might seem to be advisable.

CLARE COUNTY ASYLUM. This building, in common with the majority of those in Ireland the purpose of which is similar, has been erected on a site selected for its salubrity. The site consists of about forty acres of land within a mile of Ennis, at the northern side of the town. The building faces the south, towards which the ground slopes gently. The whole number of patients for which accommodation is provided is 260; and twenty-five feet superficial are provided in the day-rooms for each patient, and fifty feet superficial in the dormitories, the ceilings being twelve feet in height. The amount of the present contract, exclusive of boundary-wall, gate and other lodges, farm offices, baths, water-closets, and engineering works, is about £29,000; but it is estimated that when these additional works are completed, the total cost will amount to £35,000. It is expected that the whole will be completed within a year from the present date. (*Builder.*)

EFFECT OF COLD. The sudden accession of cold weather is proving fatal to the aged. The obituary of the *Times* of Friday and Saturday last gives illustrations of this fact, as on the first-named day the deaths of five ladies and four gentlemen were recorded whose united ages amounted to 757 years, giving an average of eighty-four and one month to each. The oldest lady was ninety-two, and the youngest eighty. The oldest gentleman was ninety, and the youngest eighty-three. The illustrations of prolonged existence were still more remarkable on the following day, when the average of each of the deceased amounted to eighty-four years and exactly ten months; the united ages of three ladies and the same number of gentlemen amounting to 509 years; in this case the gentlemen took the lead, the oldest having reached ninety-five years, and the youngest eighty-four; the oldest lady was eighty-five, and the youngest eighty years of age.

THE BUXTON BATH HOSPITAL. The annual report for 1865 states, that two of the medical officers of the hospital, one, Dr. Robertson, who had been its physician from 1836 to 1865; the other, Mr. Shipton,

who had been its surgeon from 1852 to 1865, have withdrawn during the year from the number of its acting medical staff; and been duly appointed to the honourable but less arduous positions of consulting physician and consulting surgeon. Testimonials to their long and meritorious services to the institution, in the form of documents on vellum, duly signed on behalf of the trustees, are in preparation for presentation to these gentlemen respectively. The vacancies thus occasioned, and also a vacancy caused by the resignation of E. Duke Moore, Esq., L.R.C.P. Edin., after three years' service, owing to failing health, which was duly responded to by thanks for his services, and the offer of an honorary seat at the board of management, have been satisfactorily filled by the appointment of F. Turner, Esq., F. K. Dickson, Esq., and M. M. Moore, Esq.

THE DONCASTER WORKHOUSE. Dr. Smith, one of the medical officers of the Poor-Law Board, lately visited the Doncaster Workhouse at ten o'clock at night, went through the various wards, and made a most minute inspection, as well as ascertained the ventilation of the various buildings. Dr. Smith, we are glad to hear, expressed an opinion that the wards, as well as the ventilation, were most satisfactory; but he pointed out that the dormitories, in two or three instances, might be improved by perforated ventilators. The vagrant ward was empty. Dr. Smith attended the meeting of the Board of Guardians at the Town-hall on Saturday last. We understand that he has made a report as to the state of the house, but that it contains no material recommendations, nor proposes any important changes. Dr. Smith, who has had great experience in dietary, and is the author of a very excellent work on that subject, has suggested a slight alteration in this respect, which will probably be agreed to by the visiting committee.

UNQUALIFIED MIDWIVES. Mr. Humphreys, coroner for East Middlesex, lately held an inquest on a poor woman who had lost her life through the incompetence of two midwives. The evidence showed that the women had engaged to attend the deceased in her confinement for six shillings; that they regularly practised as midwives, but had gone through no course of instruction. They left the deceased in the midst of her trouble, though she called out to them pitifully that "she knew she was going to die." Finding the deceased was getting low, one of them gave her a powder, though she confessed she did not know what was in it. The husband considered both his wife and newborn child had been sacrificed through the neglect of the midwives, and medical evidence showed that with proper skill and attendance both might have lived. The Coroner severely commented on the case, and said the stupidity of the midwives had caused the deceased to lose her life. He wished he had the power to send them to the treadmill for their conduct. The jury returned a special verdict, echoing this opinion, and regretting that the law did not allow them to send the women to trial for manslaughter. (*Globe*.)

THE CHOLERA CONFERENCE AT CONSTANTINOPLE. At a second meeting of this conference considerable discussion took place on the proposal of the French delegates to suspend communication by sea between Egypt and the shores of Hedjaz in the event of another epidemic outbreak during the sittings of the conference. The Porte, it appears, is not disposed to accede to this suggestion, and by several of the other delegates it has also been regarded as an undue anticipation by one of the governments represented of the general judgment of the conference, and is opposed accordingly. At a third meeting the report of

the committee named to consider the proposal in its details was received and somewhat warmly discussed. No result, however, was arrived at, and the debate, as it may be called, was adjourned till yesterday, when both advocates and opponents of the suggestion made some good speaking in favour of and against its adoption. The sitting, however, broke up without any result, to be resumed to-morrow, when it is to be hoped a decision will be come to, and the proper business of the conference will be proceeded with without further loss of time. (*Levant Herald*, Feb. 28.) A proposal made by the French representative at the Cholera Conference to stop the sea-communication between Hedjaz and Egypt in the event of another epidemic has been adopted. The Porte, however, will not accept or enforce the measure, fearing an insurrection among the pilgrims.

CATTLE-PLAGUE AMONG SHEEP. In the House of Commons, on the 12th inst., Mr. W. Bruce said that credible information had been received which left no doubt of the existence of the disease in Forfarshire and county of Fife. As to England he regretted to say that there was no doubt from an inspection of sheep said to have died from the rinderpest, made by Professors Simonds and Brown, on the part of the Veterinary Department, the result of the examination was to establish in their minds beyond all doubt that the rinderpest had existed in ten different cases, and had been accompanied by very serious loss. Professor Simonds also stated that in every case where he had traced the loss of sheep to its source, the sheep had been in contact with diseased cattle.—On Tuesday, in reply to a question from Mr. Long, Mr. Bruce said that during the last six months the attention of the veterinary department of the Privy Council had been especially directed to the subject; twenty-six different cases of outbreak of supposed rinderpest in sheep had occurred in eleven different counties, and as many as nine in Norfolk alone. The conclusion at which the veterinary surgeons had arrived was, that the disease was identical with the rinderpest in cattle. He knew that very grave doubts existed in Scotland as to the identity of the two diseases, and perhaps the house would like to hear the grounds on which the surgeons had arrived at the conclusion. The first experiment was confined to sheep in a pen in which a cow had died of rinderpest; the sheep that were admitted died. The next experiment was more conclusive. Several sheep were inoculated in the Veterinary College with the rinderpest virus. They were invariably attacked, and all but two of them died; these two were immediately afterwards inoculated with the small-pox virus. They took it, and it was clear therefore that the disease with which they were previously attacked was not small-pox. The appearance of the stomach was singularly similar to that which was presented in the case of cattle. The local inspectors in consequence gave strict directions to deal with suspected sheep in the same way as suspected cattle. The disease did not appear to spread from sheep to sheep so rapidly as from cattle to cattle. In some cases where the experiment was tried of putting sound sheep with diseased ones, they had not taken it, and in many cases tried in Scotland the disease had not been communicated, and hence the strong impression prevailing in Scotland was, that the disease was not the rinderpest. But in his opinion, the statements made by the surgeons afforded strong reasons for supposing that it was the identical disease. The steps taken by the government to check the spread of the disease were identical with those which had been taken with regard to cattle.

THE ICE-BAG TREATMENT OF CHOLERA. Dr. Maclean, in a lecture at Netley, thus speaks of the ice treatment of Cholera. "I had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Chapman in Southampton when he came down to put his ice treatment to the test of experience, and I had the advantage of hearing him expound his views at a meeting of one of the Southampton Medical Societies. I took the liberty on that occasion to say that, although I differed materially from Dr. Chapman as to the mode in which the disease is propagated, I would gladly give his method a fair trial; and had the disease appeared in the Royal Victoria Hospital, I was prepared to do so. I do not think that the result of the trials of this method at Southampton were sufficiently extensive to warrant any confident opinion one way or the other. I have had too much to do with cholera to rush into large conclusions as to the effects of remedies in ten or a dozen cases. Every person smitten with cholera does not, as a matter of course, die; but judging from recent cholera literature, in every case where death does not occur, the fortunate issue is, without hesitation, put down to the remedies used; and if we have regard to the variety and number of these remedies, to say nothing of their opposite qualities, the result is very puzzling to those who do not reflect on the fact, that a certain number of people recover under every variety of treatment not positively hurtful, and, I may add, quite as many where no 'treatment' in the shape of drugs has been used at all. Dr. Chapman has since, I understand, had an opportunity of trying his method on a larger scale in Paris. I am quite prepared to hear that this more full experience has tended to lessen the confidence with which Dr. Chapman was inspired when I had the pleasure of meeting him here. The powerful action of ice to the spine on the uterus has been pointed out by Dr. Chapman. It was well illustrated in one of the cases of cholera at Southampton. The application of ice to the spine of a woman profoundly collapsed brought on the menstrual discharge, which had ceased for ten or twelve days. This, as Dr. Chapman has himself shown, should be kept in mind, as otherwise in pregnant women unpleasant consequences might result from the application of the ice-bag low down on the spine."

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Mr. JONATHAN HUTCHINSON; Dr. ALTHAUS; Mr. F. EDMONDS; Dr. FREDERICK J. BROWN; Dr. F. W. GIBSON; Dr. GAMGEE; Dr. SIBSON; THE HONORARY SECRETARY OF THE ONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY; Mr. J. WINDSOR; Mr. W. F. MORGAN; Mr. W. DATE; Mr. RICHARD GRIFFIN; Dr. J. H. JACKSON; Dr. G. H. PHILIPSON; Dr. GEORGE JOHNSON; Dr. A. SAMELSON; Dr. B. W. FOSTER; Dr. JAMES RUSSELL; Dr. SIEVEKING; Dr. MACKINDER; Mr. T. HECKSTALL SMITH; Mr. NOOTT; Mr. DAYMAN; Dr. TUBBS; FORTIS EST VERITAS; Mr. J. ST. S. WILDERS; and Mr. M. A. ADAMS.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

1. On Diseases of the Veins, Hemorrhoidal Tumours, and other Affections of the Rectum. Entirely re-written. By Henry Lee. Second Edition. London: 1866.
2. Hints on House Drainage. By Alfred Carpenter, M.D. Croydon: 1866.
3. The Active Principles of Cod-Liver Oil. By C. C. J. Guffroy. London: 1866.
4. The Year-Book of Pharmacy. Edited by C. H. Wood, and C. Sharp. London: 1866.
5. Report of the Richmond District Lunatic Asylum, Dublin. 1866.
6. Explanatory Statement of Defendant in Millett *versus* Edmonds. 1866.
7. On Inhalation. By H. Beigel, M.D. London: 1866.
8. Successful Removal of the Uterus and Both Ovaries by Abdominal Section. By H. R. Storer, M.D. Boston: 1866.
9. A Few Comments on the Remarks on Homeopathy made by Dr. C. Handfield Jones. By David Scott-Smith. London: 1866.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 9 A.M. and 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.—St. Thomas'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, 9.30 A.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.

MONDAY. Royal College of Surgeons of England, 4 P.M. Professor Huxley, "On the Classification and Structure of the Mammalia."—Medical Society of London, 8 P.M. Clinical Discussion. Cases by the President and others. Paper by Mr. De Mérie, "On the Use of Mercury in Syphilis."

TUESDAY. Pathological Society of London, 8 P.M.—Anthropological Society, 8 P.M.

WEDNESDAY. Royal College of Surgeons of England, 4 P.M. Professor Huxley, "On the Classification and Structure of the Mammalia."

FRIDAY. Royal College of Surgeons of England, 4 P.M. Professor Huxley, "On the Classification and Structure of the Mammalia."

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.

We cannot insert Mr. F. Edmonds' letter.

RESTORATION OF BONE.—In volume I of *St. Bartholomew's Hospital Reports*, Mr. T. Smith relates a case of restoration of the lower jaw after its entire removal.

THE DEMAND FOR GARLIC.—If Mr. Worms has been of little use as a curer of rinderpest, he has, nevertheless, done the garlic-merchants of Covent Garden a useful turn. We are informed that—thanks to his specific cure—there has been such a run on the garlic market, as to send up the price of that article from 3d. to 2s. per pound.

SOCIAL SCIENCE.—We now possess a *Journal of Social Science* as well as a *Social Science Review*—both monthly periodicals, and both edited by well known members of our Association. Surely we might be allowed to suggest the idea of an amalgamation. The objects of the two publications must be very similar; and their concentration would, we should think, necessarily tend to the improvement of both. "Union is force."

THE DICTIONARY OF SCIENCE, LITERATURE, AND ART, has reached its eighth part, bringing the work as far as the word Poles. It would be well if the authors were to appoint a special editor for matters medical and surgical, for we see here and there a few slips which are worse than blunders. For example, it is inexcusable, indeed to be regretted, that in so excellent a work as this we should read that [pharyngotomy is the "making of an opening into the windpipe."

THE LATE MR. FEATHERSTONE.—This gentleman (a correspondent writes) was once a distinguished pupil at the Bristol Royal Infirmary; and he was also, what I rejoice to know is not an unusual occurrence in the present day, a Christian student. What he was then, so he remained; and, as a practitioner, he won the confidence and esteem of all around him. He was, in truth, one who united the graces of an earnest Christian with the zeal and industry of an accomplished surgeon. In speaking of death, he had often remarked, that if it were God's will, he would prefer being taken suddenly; and, not many minutes before he was killed, he was conversing with his servant on the blessedness of feeling prepared, in the midst of health, for sudden death. That such was the case with himself, and that he speedily realised that blessedness in all its fulness, there cannot be a doubt. May we be likewise ready.

THE VENEREAL COMMISSION.—SIR: From the tenour of your remarks on the Venereal Diseases Commission, your readers may anticipate that the result of the evidence of the high authorities which they have taken, will lead them to the same conclusion as that contained in the following sentence, from the pen of a living member of our profession. I am, etc.,
January 28th, 1866. OBSERVER.

AD ADOLESCENTES.

Quà morbus ille, tot malorum auctor malus,
Valde timendus, arte sit vitabilis,
Sermone juvenem in hoc brevi senex docet.

Loquuntur Pamphilus juvenis et Chremes senex.

P.—Salvere Chremetem plurimum jubeo.

C.—Salve Pamphile: quid tu? rectén? atque ut vis vales? Cœnastin? age; poculum exple: ecce Falernum præstantissimum: sume: me ipse quidem sentio jam viro benevolentiaque abundantem. Quid vis amicissime? dic quomodo bene de te mereri possim.

P.—Gratias ago: de valetudine meâ magnopere cupio tecum confabulari.

C.—Ædepol! Tu florentis ætatis juvenis, tanquam heri modo togate, virtute et viribus prædite; ten' de valetudine tuâ mecum consulare!

P.—Imo, amice. Ita Dii te ament, ut mihi exponas quâ ratione ille morbus, quo tot amicorum affectos video (quod ad nos viros pertineat), evitandus sit.

C.—Hem! rogas? Sum animi dubius: nescio an arcanum tanti pretii liceat mihi enunciatum facere.

P.—Cur hoc? an lucri causâ vulgatum nonvis? Verere ne aera perdas? nonne ita est? Vah!

C.—Certissime: satis video te, licet adhuc adolescens sis, et Themas et Forum frequentare. Ita Dii me adjuvent, si is modus, quem equidem mihi cognitum habeo, omnibus divulgatus fiat, morbus ipse perpaucos afficiat.

P.—Amice, amicissime, validissimum rationem mihi protulisti, quare id, quod ad salutem publicam tantopere pertineat, universè cognitum esse debeat, nec tantum medicis sed etiam omnibus. Nonne officii tui est hoc vulgare?

C.—Certè quidem officii est; sed meâ interest potius celatum habere. De aera suprà dixisti: mehercule, si mali origo abscondatur, lucri fons abundans exsiccus erit.

P.—Absconde, absconde. Video te nobis tam ex animo factum velle, ut hodie nihil mihi rectusatur sis.

C.—Hem! sentio me vino plenum. Ain' tu "absconde" an "circumscinde"? Heus! iam caput meum vertigine agitur; cor palpitat.—Ægrotante Passerculus tuus?

P.—Bene habet, ut fit; vercor tamen ne, nidum petens, morbo afficiatur. Pater, si me amas, mihi aperi rationes, si qua sint, per quas malum tantopere timendum evitare possim. Oro, obsecro, ut hoc mihi pandas, optime hominum.

C.—Hei mihi! vitam longam egi, et plurima vidi quæ referre plegat, vel etiam animadvertere; quæ mala, quæ pauciora in hoc ævo fiunt; et propter amicitiam quæ erga patrem tuum et te ipsum, et amicos nostros habeo; et liberorum etiam qui futuri sint, causâ, id quod tu prudenter rogavisti, predicabo. Tu te dictis præbeas volo—atque imprimis te præmoneo perfacile esse ple-risque illum morbum evitare.

P.—Ab ore tuo totus pendeo: dic tandem.

C.—Inter Judæos et omnes alios, quibus abscisum præputium, hoc malum rarissime invenies: nempe illis, cutis adeo indurata, ut abrasio non facile fiat, quapropter morbus raro concipitur; ergo illis ætas integra permanet: contra, cutis tenera Christianis multorum malorum causâ est.

P.—Hei mihi! vi'n omnes "Curtos Judæos"* imitemur?

C.—Forsitan paucos, verum non omnes circumcisionem pati debere puto. Altera est et multò facillior ratio, quæ penè parem immunitatem præbet. Vin' tibi explicem?

P.—Ne—perge, queso.

C.—Et simplex et secura est: quotidie matutino tempore quum e lecto surrexeris, præputium retrahere, ac glandem nudare: itaque indurata cutis morbum rejicit. Hoc munditie perinde ac valetudinis causâ facere oportet. Permagis refert Pupillos, Milites, denique omnes adolescentes hoc scire et continuò exequi; neque amplius celari rem tantas utilitatis. Abi: fac certos omnes familiares tuos, ut tibi pro tanto beneficio gratias habeant.

P.—Tu, quantus, quantus, nihil nisi sapientia es. Dii me perant, si tibi ex imo corde gratias habeo ob tantum meritum: et ipse utar, et amicos uti admonebo; quæ res bene vortat nobis! Vale.

[Exit Pamphilus exultans: dormit Chremes.]

* Vide Horatium, Sat., lib. i, ix, 70.

SUCTION-CURETTES.—The letters of Mr. Adams and Mr. Greenway shall appear next week.

HOSPITAL STATISTICS.—SIR: I am obliged to your reviewer for pointing out an omission in my work *On the Climate of Italy*. He says, with respect to the conclusions I have drawn from hospital statistics, that I do not record "to what extent selection has been carried out in the admission of cases." Such a notice would have strengthened—it is impossible to calculate exactly how much—more or less the conclusions; so hasten to supply it. At St. Mary's, acute cases are admitted at all hours without tickets of admission; chronic cases are postponed till Fridays, have to obtain a letter from a subscriber, and then are often rejected from want of room. The Ospedale Maggiore at Milan, being a Government institution, admits all equally free. Yet still the chronic cases are in excess in the former, the acute in the latter. This, of course, can only arise from the causes to which I have assigned it.
I am, etc., THOMAS KING CHAMBERS.

22b, Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, March 5th, 1866.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL REFORM AND VACCINATION.—Mr. Griffin begs us to inform the Poor-law medical officers that the following subscriptions have been received by him towards the funds of the association:—R. Fendick, Bristol, 5s.; C. Wotton, Hemel Hempstead, 2s.; A. Thom, Brampton, 5s.; G. M. Phillips, Hitchin, 10s. 6d.; H. Stear, Saffron Walden, 5s.; A. N. Jones, Saffron Walden, 5s.; F. F. Walsh, Saffron Walden, 5s.; B. Rake, Fording-bridge, 5s.; C. Mott, Chertsey, 10s.—By Mr. Prowse: E. Davies, Wrexham, 5s.; J. Foster, Chorlton, 10s. 6d.; J. S. Waller, Flegg Burgh, 5s.; S. T. Huke, Tunstead and Happening, 5s.; A. Ingham, Haworth, 10s.; P. N., 5s.; N. P. Lisle, Cardiff, 10s. 6d.; J. Wardlesworth, Bury, 10s. 6d.

Mr. Griffin also sends us a letter, which he has sent to each member of the House of Commons, recommending alterations in the Vaccination Bill. This Bill was read a second time on the 8th of this month; therefore, those medical men who wish the Bill to be amended in Committee, should lose no time in writing to their members.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ESTABLISHED 1848.

Mr. J. Baxter Langley, M.R.C.S.
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