

Association Intelligence.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

| NAME OF BRANCH. | PLACE OF MEETING. | DATE. |
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| SOUTH MIDLAND. [Annual.] | Bedford. | Thursday, June 7, 2 P.M. |
| LANCASH. & CHESHIRE. [Annual.] | Medical Institution, Liverpool. | Wednesday, June 13. |
| BIRMINGHAM AND MID- LAND COUNTIES. [Annual.] | Hen and Chickens Hotel, Birmingham. | Friday, June 15th, 3.30 P.M. |
| NORTHERN. [Annual.] | County Hospital, Durham. | Friday, June 22, 2.30 P.M. |
| CAMBRIDGE AND HUNTINGDON. [Annual.] | Committee Room of the Corn Exchange, St. Neots. | Tuesday, June 26th, 2.30 P.M. |
| EAST ANGLIAN. [Annual.] | Museum Room of Hospital, Norwich. | Friday, June 29th, 2 P.M. |

SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.

THE tenth annual meeting of this Branch will be held at Bedford, on Thursday, June 7th, at 2 P.M.; EDWARD LAWFORD, M.D., President, in the chair.

Dinner will be provided at 5 P.M.

Gentlemen intending to read papers or cases, are requested to forward the titles without delay to Dr. Bryan, Northampton.

JOHN M. BRYAN, M.D., *Hon.*
G. P. GOLDSMITH. *Secs.*

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch will be held in the Medical Institution, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool, on Wednesday, June 13th; A. T. H. WATERS, M.D., President, in the chair. The meeting will commence at half-past Twelve. The members will dine together at the Adelphi at half-past Four. Tickets Eight Shillings each, including dessert, but not including wine.

Gentlemen intending to read papers or cases are requested to forward the titles of the same to the Honorary Secretary, without delay.

HENRY SIMPSON, M.D., *Hon. Sec.*
10, Chatham Street, Piccadilly, Manchester.

NORTHERN BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the Northern Branch will be held in the County Hospital, Durham, on Friday, June 22nd, at 2.30 P.M.; SIR JOHN FIFE, F.R.C.S., President, in the chair.

Dinner at the County Hotel, at 5 P.M.

Gentlemen intending to read papers or cases, are requested to forward the titles of the same to the Honorary Secretary without delay.

G. H. PHILIPSON, M.D., *Hon. Sec.*
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, May 19th, 1866.

CAMBRIDGE AND HUNTINGDON BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the Cambridge and Huntingdon Branch will be held at St. Neots, in the Committee Room of the Corn Exchange, on Tuesday, June 26th, at 2.30 P.M.; J. J. EVANS, Esq., President, in the chair.

Gentlemen intending to read papers or cases are requested to forward the titles of the same to the Honorary Secretary, without delay.

P. W. LATHAM, M.D., *Hon. Secretary.*
15, Sidney Street, Cambridge.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the Birmingham and Midland Counties Branch will be held at the Hen and Chickens Hotel, Birmingham, on Friday, June 15th, at 3.30 P.M.; Dr. CARTER, President, in the chair.

The members will afterwards dine together. Dinner on the table at 5 o'clock P.M. precisely.

T. H. BARTLETT, *Hon. Secretary.*

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the East Anglian Branch will be held at Norwich, in the Museum Room of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, on Friday, June 29th, at 2 P.M.; T. W. CROSSE, Esq., President, in the chair. The members will afterwards dine together at 5.30 P.M.

Gentlemen intending to read papers or cases are requested to forward the titles of the same to the Honorary Secretary, without delay.

J. B. PITTS, *Hon. Secretary.*

St. Stephen's Street, Norwich.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE fifth and last ordinary meeting of the session was held at the Victoria Rooms, Clifton, on Thursday evening, May 17th; R. W. FALCONER, M.D., in the Chair. There were also present thirty-six members and two visitors.

New Members. The following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Association and of this Branch:—R. Tibbits, M.B. (proposed by Mr. Prichard and seconded by Mr. Ludlow); J. T. Maule, M.D. (proposed by Dr. Falconer and seconded by Mr. Fowler); R. Bartley, M.D. (proposed by Dr. E. L. Fox and seconded by Mr. Morgan)..

Amendment of Sanitary Laws. Dr. FALCONER brought before the notice of the meeting a resolution of the Committee of Council, to the effect "that communications be made to all the Secretaries of the Branches of the Association, as to the necessity of pressing on the Legislature, by petition or otherwise from their respective Branches, the importance of improvement in the Sanitary Laws." Observations were made by Mr. Bartrum, Mr. Bush, Dr. Davey, Dr. Falconer, and Mr. Davies. Dr. Falconer suggested that a Committee be appointed to act for the Branch in the matter.

Mr. BARTRUM proposed and Dr. SWAYNE seconded—"That a Committee, consisting of Dr. Brittan, Mr. Davies, Dr. Martyn, Dr. Herapath, Dr. Davey, and the Bristol Secretary, be appointed."

This was unanimously agreed upon, and the Committee appointed to meet on Tuesday, May 22nd.

The Case of Rudman v. Armstrong. Dr. FALCONER drew attention to the case of Dr. Armstrong and son, suggesting an expression from the Branch to these gentlemen of sympathy under their trial and admiration of their conduct, and a promise of assistance.

Dr. DAVEY strongly urged a vote of sympathy and pecuniary aid, promising a subscription of two guineas; and proposed the following resolution, which was seconded by Dr. HERAPATH, and unanimously adopted—

"That this meeting desires to express their sincere and cordial sympathy with Dr. Armstrong and his son Mr. J. C. Armstrong, under the frivolous and vexatious prosecution to which they have been subjected, and to assure those gentlemen of their earnest desire to assist and relieve them of their per-

cuniary liability incurred by successfully defending the integrity of the profession assailed in their persons."

Nearly every gentleman present put down his name as a subscriber, and almost all the subscriptions were paid at the close of the meeting.

Papers. The following papers were read.

1. A Case of Poisoning by Opium; Recovery. By E. Ludlow, M.B.

Dr. HERAPATH asked how the galvanic current had been used. (A current from the wheel-apparatus passed chiefly through the diaphragm.)

Mr. DAVIES related a case which occurred before the Marshall Hall method, or the wet towel plan, were invented; in which a man, who had taken four ounces of laudanum, was found apparently dead, and with no beating of the heart; by pressing the abdomen and chest for a quarter of an hour, respiration was established; the man was kept walking all night, and he recovered.

Mr. STONE said that, in fenny districts, laudanum was taken in much larger quantities than four ounces at a time.

Dr. BUDD had recovered many by the wet towel, and considered no means equal to it.

Dr. DAVEY supported Dr. Marshall Hall's views, that the most powerful stimulus to respiration is the alternate application of heat and cold.

[This paper will be published in the JOURNAL.]

2. The Late Fever in Bristol. By David Davies, Esq.

Dr. HERAPATH supported the idea of pregnant women in typhus fever aborting and recovering, and disapproved of stimulants until convalescence.

3. Dr. J. G. SWAYNE exhibited a specimen of Double Monstrosity, which was born alive, but died in an hour. The chief peculiarity lay in the head; there being a large central orbit containing two eyes, with two outer orbits each containing one eye; the tongue was bifid. Mr. Talbott, who had confined the mother, described the appearance of the child when alive, rolling its four eyes and moving its bifid tongue, as extremely hideous.

Dr. FALCONER said that many gentlemen present had expressed a wish that Mr. Davies's most excellent paper should be published.

Dr. BUDD warmly eulogised it, considering it one of the most important contributions to practical science; also, that the profession and the citizens generally should congratulate themselves upon having Mr. Davies as their Medical Officer for Health.

Amendment of Sanitary Laws. The Committee appointed by the Bath and Bristol Branch to consider the resolution of the Committee of Council with reference to the Sanitary Laws, met on the 22nd and again on the 24th May.

The following memorial to the Privy Council has been agreed on.

"May it please your Lordships.

"We, the undersigned, on behalf of the members of the Bath and Bristol Branch of the British Medical Association, beg to convey to your lordships the feeling entertained by the said Branch with regard to the state of the sanitary laws; and respectfully to express to your lordships their strong conviction that these laws are inefficient; and, also, to submit to the attention of your lordships the annexed recommendations for their improvement.

[Here follow the recommendations (i.e., 1 to 7) already adopted by the Metropolitan Counties Branch, and published in the JOURNAL for April 14. The following are added by the Bath and Bristol Branch.]

"8. That power should be vested in the Medical

Officer of Health to order the immediate burial of a corpse dead of infectious disease.

"9. That the early removal of persons labouring under infectious diseases should be rendered compulsory by an order of the magistrates, on proof of defective isolation or overcrowding by the Medical Officer of Health.

"We earnestly pray for your lordships' influence to carry the above propositions into practical effect.

"F. BRITTON, M.D., President.

"J. G. DAVEY, M.D.

"S. MARTYN, M.D.

"W. BIRK HERAPATH, M.D.

"DAVID DAVIES, M.R.C.S.

"CHARLES STEELE, Secretary.

"To the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council."

Correspondence.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL REFORM, AND VACCINATION.

LETTER FROM RICHARD GRIFFIN, Esq.

SIR,—I shall feel obliged by your giving insertion to the annexed letter, addressed to the Poor-law Board, but to which I have not as yet received a reply.

I have been in correspondence with members of the Select Committee on Vaccination, and have forwarded my opinion on the Government Bill to the Committee. Mr. Bruce, the Chairman, has written to a member of Parliament as follows: "Should the Committee on the Vaccination Bill decide upon taking evidence, I will not fail to bear in mind your desire that Mr. Griffin should be examined."

Since the last list of subscriptions was published, I have received the following:—F. Eaton (Grantham), 10s.; J. D. Hulme (Blaby), 5s.; F. S. Garlick (Halifax), 20s.; T. Crowther (Halifax), 10s.; W. Nowell (Halifax), 10s.; D. Mackinder (Gainsborough), 5s.

I am, etc., RICHARD GRIFFIN.

12, Royal Terrace, Weymouth, May 21st, 1866.

Mr. Griffin to the Poor-Law Board.

12, Royal Terrace, Weymouth, May 17th, 1866.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—On the 3rd of February last, I forwarded to your honourable Board the draft of a proposed Bill "for the better Regulation of Medical Relief to the Poor Classes in England and Wales", which was acknowledged in these words: "I am to inform you that the provisions contained in the Bill shall receive the consideration of this Board." My object in now writing is to ask you to do the Poor-law medical officers the favour to receive a deputation from them, in order that they may urge upon your honourable Board the desirability of sanctioning some at least of the propositions named by them in their proposed Bill; and that you will recommend them to Parliament for adoption, either as a distinct Bill, or as part of the intended Poor-law Continuance Bill. Any day, after next Saturday week, that the Board may fix to receive a deputation, will give time for me to communicate the fact to the Poor-law medical officers, through the medium of the medical journals, provided the reply be received on or before next Tuesday; otherwise I must ask for the postponement of the deputation until the following week.

I have the honour to be, my lords and gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
RICHARD GRIFFIN,
Chairman of the Poor-law Medical Reform Association.
The Poor-law Board.

Medical News.

APOTHECARIES' HALL. On May 24th, 1866, the following Licentiates were admitted:—

Aveling, Charles, St. Thomas's Hospital
Hills, Rowland, Conisborough, Yorkshire
Phillips, Edward England, Norfolk Crescent, Bath
Williams, John, Fishguard, Pembrokeshire

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

Hickman, Thomas Henry, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Salzmann, Frederick William, Guy's Hospital
Smith, Frederick, Westminster Hospital

BIRTHS.

BOWMAN. On May 25th, at Sunderland, the wife of Henry O. Bowman, M.D., of a son.

BURKE. On May 18th, at Bighi, Malta, the wife of John Page Burke, M.D., Staff-Surgeon, Royal Naval Hospital, of a daughter.

FORESTER. On May 25th, at Claremont Square, the wife of H. Forester, M.D., of a son.

LONGMORE. On May 20th, at Hamble, near Netley, the wife of Deputy Inspector-General *T. Longmore, of a daughter.

MIDDLETON. On May 23rd, at Brussels, the wife of J. W. Middleton, M.D., of a daughter.

MOULD. On May 24th, at Cheadle, Cheshire, the wife of *G. W. Mould, Esq., of a son.

PHELAN. On May 19th, at Kilmoganny, County Kilkenny, the wife of William Bernard Phelan, M.D., of a daughter.

PHILLIPS. On May 22nd, at Manchester, the wife of Charles D. F. Phillips, M.D., of a son.

POTTER. On May 24th, at Cullompton, Devon, the wife of S. Reginald Potter, M.D., of a son.

SMITH. On May 22nd, at 9, Finsbury Pavement, the wife of *W. Abbotts Smith, M.D., of a daughter.

SPENDER. On May 21st, at Bath, the wife of *John K. Spender, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

***EBBAGE.** Thomas, Esq., of Leamington, to Amelia, elder daughter of the Rev. C. JEAFFRESON, M.A., retired Chaplain H.E.I.C.S., at Edmonton, on May 24.

HALL. Marriott, Esq., Surgeon, Sheffield, to Sarah, elder daughter of Mark FIRTH, Esq., of Oak Brook, Sheffield, on May 24.

***HARRIS.** William John, Esq., of Worthing, to Florentia Caroline, younger daughter of the Rev. C. JEAFFRESON, M.A., retired Chaplain H.E.I.C.S., at Edmonton, on May 24.

***ORMEROD.** Henry, Esq., of Westbury-on-Trym, to Mary Anne Burk, second daughter of *J. J. EVANS, Esq., of St. Neots, on May 23.

***WALTER.** Walter W., Esq., of Stoke-under-Ham, to Mary Drury Grace, eldest daughter of the Rev. — GREENSLADE, Incumbent of the same parish, on May 26.

WATSON. A. M., M.D., of Little Huthwaite, Sheffield, to Fanny Elizabeth, younger daughter of F. EATON, Esq., of Ancoaster, Grantham, on May 24.

DEATHS.

BEATSON. On May 18th, at Castletown, Isle of Man, Mary Jane, wife of *W. B. Beatson, M.D., Inspector-General of Hospitals in India.

BROUGHAM. Stephen, Esq., Surgeon, at Falmouth, aged 72, on May 20.

CANNON. Eneas, M.D., at Cheltenham, aged 79, on May 15.

GILLILAND. William L., M.D., at Hereford, aged 81, on May 21.

***NESBITT.** Francis A., Esq., of Wolverhampton, at Norwood, aged 34, on May 27.

NOYES. On May 19th, at Lee, Kent, Louisa, wife of Henry G. Noyes, M.D.

SISSENS. On February 21st, at Brisbane, Queensland, Cordelia Matilda, wife of Richard Sissons, Esq., Surgeon, late of Huddersfield.

TATUM. On May 21st, at 3, George Street, Hanover Square, aged 50, Fanny Maria, wife of T. Tatum, Esq., Surgeon.

SIR DOMINIC CORRIGAN, it is reported, will come forward as a candidate to represent the Queen's University in Ireland, should Mr. Gladstone's Bill pass the Houses of Parliament.

THE CHARTERHOUSE. Dr. F. Farre has been appointed Consulting Physician to the Charterhouse. He was himself a distinguished Carthusian. Mr. Nicholl, late of the Guards, is Resident Medical Officer, succeeding Mr. Miles, who retires.

THE WILL OF SIR JOHN M'GREGOR, M.D., K.C.B., Inspector-General of Hospitals, late of Ryde, Isle of Wight, has been proved in London under £14,000 personality.

THE AUSTRIAN MEDICAL SERVICE. It is said that there is such a dearth of physicians and surgeons in the Austrian navy, that the Government offers to engage young men who have not yet completed their medical studies.

MISS ISA CRAIG, on resigning her post as Assistant-Secretary of the Social Science Association, on the occasion of her marriage, has received a silver tea-service and salver, the latter bearing the inscription, "To Isa Craig, from her grateful and attached friends of the National Social Science Association, 17th May, 1866."

CHOLERA. The *Philadelphia Medical Reporter* records two cases of cholera in New York. The first case occurred on the 1st of May. The patient was attacked with diarrhoea at 10 P.M., and died about twelve hours afterwards. The cholera has ceased at Guadalupe, after carrying off 10,856 out of 149,107 inhabitants—14 per cent.

VETERINARY SURGEONS. A deputation from the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, consisting of the President, Mr. Holland, M.P., Mr. Newdegate, M.P., Mr. J. Lawson, Professor Varnell, Professor Simonds, Professor Gamee, Mr. E. Harrison, and the Secretary of the College, have had an interview with the Right Hon. H. A. Bruce, at the Privy Council Office, with reference to the bill now before parliament relative to the veterinary profession.

QUADRUPLE BIRTH. Mr. J. Wilson gives in the *Lancet* a case of quadruple birth. Three of the children were born alive; the fourth showed some signs of vitality, but could not be resuscitated. Out of 140,000 deliveries in the Dublin Lying-in Hospital, only one such case is recorded. Four cases only are given by Dr. Fleetwood Churchill as occurring in 666,000 deliveries (*Theory and Practice of Midwifery*, 4th edition).

OUR SOCIAL BEES, by Dr. Wynter, is a collection of charming essays and chapters on various branches of industry. There are few of the contributors to periodical literature who possess in so high a degree as Dr. Wynter, the industry to collect information respecting comparatively common things, or the art to make those details interesting to the general reader. Things which are perfectly familiar to all of us are seen in a new light under the magic of his pen, and things of which we may know very little are by the same power made quite familiar to us.

INFANTICIDE. At the meeting of the Harveian Society held on May 17th, it was proposed by Mr. Curgenven, and seconded by Dr. Hare, "That a Committee be formed, consisting of the following members—Dr. Tyler Smith, the President; Mr. J. Brendon Curgenven and Dr. Charles Drysdale, the Honorary Secretaries; Dr. Hardwicke, Deputy Coroner; Mr. Ernest Hart; Dr. Sanderson, Medical Officer of Health for Paddington; Mr. Benson Baker; and Mr. Sedgwick; with whom will be associated Dr. Lankester, the Coroner for Central Middlesex; to draw up a Report on Infanticide, with the object of suggesting the best means of checking the crime; and to report on the causes of death of young children, the best means for preventing excessive infant mortality, and to suggest some plan for the care and rearing of illegitimate children other than the present workhouse system." Communications on these subjects are solicited by the Committee, and should be addressed to Mr. Curgenven, 11, Craven Hill Gardens, W.

BEQUESTS. Mrs. Waddell, of the Regent's Park, has bequeathed £200 to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and £50 each to the Charing Cross, and King's College Hospitals.

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM. The following examiners for *Licenses and Degrees in Medicine*, have been appointed: the Reader in Medicine; the Lecturer in Chemistry; W. C. Arnison, M.D.; A. S. Donkin, M.D.; G. Y. Heath, M.D.; T. C. Nesham, M.D.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. The annual election of Fellows into the Council of the College will take place on Thursday, July 5th. The retiring members, who, however, offer themselves for re-election, are Messrs. Hilton and Luke. Ten days is the time allowed for sending in the names of candidates.

ACTION FOR RECOVERY OF FEES: *Ladd v. Fennimore.* This was an action to recover £21, charged by Dr. Ladd for attendance on the defendant's mother who broke both bones of her leg and dislocated her ankle. The plaintiff's case was that he declined to undertake the case on the mother's responsibility because she could not pay him; that the defendant was told that the charge would be twenty or twenty-five guineas, and that he undertook to be responsible for it. The defendant, on the other hand, denied that he had undertaken to be responsible for twenty guineas, and thought the charge was excessive. The sum of £7:7 was paid into court. The jury found that there had been a special agreement for twenty guineas, and they found for the plaintiff for the balance £13:13.

SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT OF HYDROPHOBIA. We (*Wolverhampton Chronicle*) regret to have to record a case of hydrophobia in this neighbourhood. In our last we mentioned that a dog, which showed signs of rabies, had escaped from Mr. Higgs's, of Trescott, communicating the disorder to other dogs, and doing other mischief. We learn that about a month ago a servant girl in Mr. Higgs's service was tying up the dog in question, when the animal bit her on the right thumb. She experienced no serious results until Tuesday week, when her thumb, arm, and chest became considerably swollen, accompanied with great heat, pain, redness, stiffness and numbness, the arm being so stiff that she was almost unable to move it. Mr. Higgs sent for Mr. Pope, surgeon, of Cleobury Mortimer, who saw the girl on Thursday, and found her evidently suffering from hydrophobia, the result of the bite of the dog. On Friday night she became very ill, biting and tearing at almost everything near her, and suffering much from convulsions. She repeatedly declared that she heard the dog growling at her, indeed, she displayed all the symptoms of this dreaded disease. As surgical writers on the subject do not lay down any specific mode of treatment in cases of this kind, Mr. Pope determined to cause profuse salivation in the patient with the view of neutralising the poisonous character of the saliva of hydrophobia. This is a course of procedure not often pursued, but its beneficial effects were soon apparent. On Sunday the convulsions and the spasms from which the poor girl also suffered had ceased, and there now appears to be every prospect of her ultimate recovery.

Varieties.

QUARANTINE AT NEW YORK. Nothing in heartlessness, laziness, indifference, and want of contrivance, in the history of Turkish and Oriental quarantines ever surpassed this. Here, as Dr. Stone remarks, comes into port, "a poor devil of a captain,

with a pest-house under his command, and he dare not move here or there lest he should violate some law, and nobody is there to tell him what course to pursue. So, a thousand human beings are imprisoned many hours longer than they need be, in the midst of death in its most fearful forms." For thirty-six hours this floating pest-house (*the Virginia*) lay without succour or message from the shore; the steerage crowded with the sick and the dying, and the dead towed in boats at the stern. These hundred poor men and women constantly on the verge of riot and mutiny. The first supplies that came from the shore, we are assured by a passenger, were three barrels of sawdust! When at length the sick are to be removed, there is no steam-tug or proper means of transference. The poor dying emigrants are tied into a rude seat made of a hogshead, and lowered from the yardarm, under the hot sun, after much difficulty, into one row-boat, and then again hoisted in the *Falcon*. Three persons on an average are thus transferred in three-quarters of an hour. One poor woman died during the process, and no doubt the majority of the others died afterwards. It forcibly occurs to the quarantine officials that this is a very slow and cruel process, and on the urgent representation of the sanitary superintendent of the city, they condescended to request the captain to assist them with the ship's boats. We cannot wonder that after this performance the cholera raged fearfully in the hospital ship. There ought to be some place where, after the weary voyage, the quarantine patient can step on shore, and where the poor steerage passengers can escape the effluvia and poison generated in those close holds after a long crowding of human beings together. (*New York Times*.)

PRECAUTION. The United States Treasurer, at Washington, recently burned one hundred and ninety-nine dollars in greenbacks, which had been forwarded by the surgeon from a small-pox hospital in Kentucky. The money was supposed to be infected.

SMOKE IN TOWNS. A letter was recently sent from the Home Office to local authorities in several of the principal towns, making inquiries in relation to the prevention of the nuisance arising from smoke. From Stoke-on-Trent we learn that the law is a dead letter throughout the pottery districts. At Derby the law is not so generally observed as it ought to be; at Sheffield the nuisance has been to some extent diminished; at Sunderland the nuisance has diminished. The Liverpool return states that the smoke nuisance has considerably diminished. The Birmingham return is, that the quantity of smoke issuing from the various furnaces has been greatly diminished. At Huddersfield the average amount of reduction of dense smoke is from 10 to 6. At Leicester the small amount of smoke, considering the number of long chimneys, is the subject of observation to all strangers. At Newcastle-upon-Tyne a considerable reduction of the nuisance has been effected; and so also at Leeds. From Manchester the result is stated to be "a marked improvement." But there is another return from Manchester, just published by the Registrar-General, and here is what is said by Mr. Leigh, the registrar of the district of Deansgate, in that city: "Coal smoke forms a continual dark and dense canopy over the town. On the finest day the air is darkened by haze, through whose wide extent the prospect seems bounded as by an impenetrable wall. 'Blacks' settle on the streets and footpaths, find their way into the houses, soil and damage furniture and wearing apparel, and other things, till it is generally recognised that light-coloured clothes cannot be worn in Manchester,

nor the hands remain clean, if ungloved. The constant inhalation of these black particles (of which an analysis is given) must be highly irritating to the lungs, and productive in many instances of an amount of inflammation sufficient to induce incipient phthisis or bronchitis, or to determine the recurrence of these where a predisposition exists. There is, besides these black particles issuing from our factory chimneys, a more finely precipitated matter, which in the country curls among the trees from the roof of a cottage, and in Manchester forms the constant haze of our streets. I do not think any scientific investigation has yet been made of it. It is not gaseous, for it does not diffuse; it is not simply vaporous. When it saturates or charges a November fog it is sticky and excessively irritating to the eyes and throat. It must in a less degree be a constant source of irritation, under the ordinary conditions of a smoky atmosphere. It proceeds from the imperfect combustion of bituminous matter, and partially from the distillation of the least volatile products of coal. From experiments I have made on it, I am satisfied that it is in some degree bituminous.....A smoky town atmosphere must contain an abnormal amount of carbonic acid, and a distinct amount of sulphuretted hydrogen and of sulphurous acid; and I know of no circumstance more likely to predispose a population for the reception of fever or cholera, than the constant inhalation of an atmosphere vivified by the presence of sulphuretted hydrogen. This gas does exist in the atmosphere of Manchester. From the chimney of a perfect furnace nothing ought to be evolved but invisible carbonic acid, sulphurous acid, and watery vapour; all else means waste of coal and injury to health.....Manchester must be regarded in many respects as a model town; but it is one of the least healthy in the kingdom. Children under five years of age contribute half of the total mortality, while in the agricultural districts one third of the deaths is their proportion. The artisan's wife dies in middle age; and his own career is cut short long before he has reached the 70 years' term allotted to man."

THE LONDON SICK POOR. The guardians of St. George's, Hanover Square, have called a conference of all the London guardians, "with a view to procure the fullest information necessary to determine the proper action to be taken in relation to the resolutions submitted to the Right Hon. C. P. Villiers, the President of the Poor-Law Board, by Lord Carnarvon and others, members of an Association for the Improvement of Workhouse Infirmaries." The resolution submitted to this meeting was as follows: "That the removal of paupers from the control of parochial management, and placing them under a central or imperial authority, would be subversive of the principles of local self-government, and that the collecting together of the sick paupers in large hospitals containing 1,000 beds each, would not be conducive either to the cure or the well-being of the inmates." The St. Pancras guardians approved both the meeting and the resolution. They spoke vehemently against centralisation, and strongly urged the rights of local self-government. It was acknowledged that the workhouses were not faultless, but St. Pancras workhouse infirmary was upheld, on the authority of Mr. Farnall, as superior to any other in London, and the guardians expressed their determination to make a stand, with the St. George's guardians, for the right of keeping the sick poor under their governance. The late "laying out" case cropped up again, through a letter of Mr. Hillocks, who was the means of bringing the case to light.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

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| 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, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 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.

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| MONDAY. | Epidemiological Society, 8 P.M. Election of Officers. Dr. Dickson, R.N., "On Scurvy in the Merchant Navy."—Odontological. |
| TUESDAY. | Anthropological Society, 8 P.M. |

REGISTRATION OF DISEASE.

RETURN of new cases of disease coming under treatment in public practice. (A.) Manchester and Salford (Sanitary Association). (B.) Preston (R. C. Brown, Esq.). (C.) St. Marylebone, London (Dr. Whitmore). (D.) Birmingham (Dr. Alfred Hill).

| Diseases. | In the 4 weeks ending Feb. 24th, 1866. | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--------|---------|------|
| | A. | B. | C. | D. |
| Small-Pox | 20 .. | 81 .. | 7 .. | 6 |
| Chicken-Pox | 1 .. | 1 .. | 7 .. | 4 |
| Measles | 10 .. | 2 .. | 37 .. | 105 |
| Scarlatina | 28 .. | 3 .. | 20 .. | 22 |
| Diphtheria | — .. | — .. | 5 .. | — |
| Hooping-Cough | 113 .. | 20 .. | 59 .. | 162 |
| Croup | 2 .. | 1 .. | 1 .. | 2 |
| Diarrhoea | 111 .. | 16 .. | 226 .. | 122 |
| Dysentery | 8 .. | 8 .. | 2 .. | 16 |
| Cholera | — .. | — .. | 1 .. | — |
| Erysipelas | 32 .. | 1 .. | 18 .. | 7 |
| Insanity | 26 .. | 2 .. | 18 .. | — |
| Bronchitis and Catarrh | 866 .. | 137 .. | 949 .. | 705 |
| Pleurisy and Pneumonia | 54 .. | 15 .. | 36 .. | 22 |
| Carbuncle | — .. | — .. | 5 .. | 1 |
| All other diseases and accidents | 4340 .. | 571 .. | 3668 .. | 2504 |
| Totals | 5611 .. | 808 .. | 5059 .. | 3678 |

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 are again compelled to delay the publication of some of our correspondence.

STATISTICS OF CANCER.—Mr. Moore has the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of returned Registers for Cases of Cancer from John H. James, Esq., F.R.C.S., Exeter; Thomas Pope, Esq., Cleobury Mortimer; Clement S. Barter, Esq., F.R.C.S., Bath; Benjamin Blower, Esq., Liverpool; T. W. Nunn, Esq., F.R.C.S., 8, Stratford Place, London; and J. H. Cassou, Esq., Alfreton, North Derbyshire.

CLITORIDOTOMY.—**SIR:** So long as letters with reference to me and the operation of clitoridotomy were anonymous, I did not think them worth answering. The letter, however, of Mr. Littleton, in your issue of May 19th, is of a different class; and, in reply to it, I beg leave to make a few remarks.

I have first to thank Mr. Littleton for having answered those who have said that I was the originator of this operation. It was my knowledge of the works of Aëtius and others, that led me to the opposite conclusion.

The operation is mentioned as early as the time of Paulus Aeginet. Aëtius speaks of it at some length. Dionis, the celebrated French surgeon, in 1788, not only minutely describes the mode of performing it, but gives illustrations of the instruments to be used. These instruments were copied and exhibited at the *conversazione* of the Obstetrical Society, held on March 28th, for the exhibition of obstetrical instruments. Finally, in 1827, Nagrodska, a German, wrote a most elaborate Latin essay, *De Nymphomania et ejusdem Curatione*. Not only is this essay a most complete account of the disease, but it gives a full history of the literature of the subject. It is in the Library of the Royal College of Surgeons; and to it I would refer your reviewer of my work, and all others who believe me to have been the originator of this operation.

I find, by reference to the *Medical Directory*, that Mr. Littleton has taken high honours at the London University in nearly every branch of medical study. I am, therefore, rather surprised that he should have quoted, as believing them, the words of Aëtius, "*Hinc vero sape sterilitas exoritur*." If Mr. Littleton will do me the honour of reading my book, he will find that this and other fallacious objections to the operation are fully answered by Cases III., IX., XI., XIX., XLVIII., etc. I conclude my book with these words: "A careful perusal of the cases related in the foregoing pages, will show that all the theoretical objections mentioned in the introductory chapter, as having been raised against my treatment, have been fully contradicted by facts."

I think I have just reason to complain that my critics have been too ready to reiterate these objections, and have not been so willing to notice the facts which contradict them. I could, if it were necessary, give the names of the medical attendants on all the cases of pregnancies recorded in my book. This, however, I may, for many reasons, be excused from doing publicly. One instance only I would except—that of a lady, brought to me in 1863 by Dr. Willshire. From long continued injurious excitement, her health was thoroughly broken down, and there was complete retroversion of the uterus. I operated for the latter condition, and also excised the clitoris. She made a good recovery, and three months later became pregnant. She is now the mother of a healthy son, and herself in robust health. So grateful is she, that she has expressed her willingness to see, privately, any gentleman who may doubt this statement. This case I have quoted, not only because Dr. Willshire's name is one of very high professional standing, but also because the facts can be verified by reference to that gentleman. I have ever courted publicity; and there are thousands of my professional brethren, from all parts of the world, ready to bear testimony to the truth of my cases.

I shall be happy to give any additional information to any gentleman actuated by an honest desire to know the truth; but I do not feel disposed to enter into a wordy warfare with those who, professedly seeking for light, hide themselves under the mantle of an anonymous contribution.

I am, etc.,
I. BAKER BROWN.

17, Connaught Square, Hyde Park, W., May 19th, 1866.

CLITORIDOTOMY.—**SIR:** In reference to Mr. I. B. Brown's operation—viz., the removal of the clitoris as a remedy for masturbation and its effects, including hysteria, mania, etc.—will you allow me to remark, for the information of those of your readers interested in this matter, that at pages 582 and 588 of Thomas's *Practice of Physic*, article "Nymphomania," are to be found these words:—"As the clitoris is the seat of pleasure during the act of coitus, nymphomania might possibly be cured by extirpating the organ. The following case, recorded by a French writer (Richeraud), is much to the purpose. A young woman was so addicted to masturbation, that she was nearly exhausted by marasmus. Sensible of the danger of her situation, yet not possessed of sufficient fortitude, or else irresistibly impelled by the pleasurable sensations to which she yielded, she could not command herself, and excited profuse emissions. Her parents took her to Professor Dubois, and, upon the authority of Leoret, he thought it advisable to propose amputation of the clitoris, which the patient and her parents agreed to. The organ was removed with one stroke of the bistoury, and the bleeding prevented by an application of the cautery. The operation completely succeeded, and the patient was cured of her fatal habit, quickly recovering her health and strength." I may add, that Thomas treats of the effects of "masturbation" as involving "a high degree of hysteria, or a species of madness".

That the starting point of "habitual onanism" is cerebral, there can be, I think, no doubt. Nevertheless, it may be that the removal of the clitoris, as practised first by Aëtius,* and after him by Dubois, then by Brown and "Braun of Vienna", can do much good, and prove of eminent service, in certain and exceptional cases.

I am, etc.,
JAMES G. DAVEY, M.D., M.R.C.P.London.

Northwoods, Bristol, May 21st, 1866.

We have received a letter from Mr. Clowes, referring to a paragraph in the JOURNAL of May 19th, and have no hesitation in saying that we regret admitting the paragraph into the JOURNAL. It was undoubtedly written under a misconception of the facts.

INOCULATION OF INDURATED CHANCRES.—Mr. James Lane says, that there have been no less than five successful cases of inoculation from indurated sores at the Lock Hospital during the last six months—one by Dr. Boeck, one by Mr. Gascoyne, one by himself, and two by Mr. W. J. Coulson.

TREATMENT OF ASCARIDES.—A correspondent writes: "I would feel obliged if your correspondent, Dr. J. L. Green, would inform me what dose of the *chloride of potassium* combined with perchloride of iron he administers in the treatment of ascarides. These parasites occasionally resist all treatment for their permanent removal. This is very discouraging, both to the medical man and his patient."

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Dr. GEORGE JOHNSON; MR. A. B. STEELE; THE HONORARY SECRETARY OF THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY; MR. G. GREENSLADE; MR. THOMAS POPE; DR. BEIGEL; DR. J. B. PITTS; DR. NOBLE; DR. BARCLAY; MR. M'KEAND; DR. WALTERS; MR. C. STEELE; SIR HENRY COOPER; MR. WM. PARKER; MR. P. N. ROBERTS; MR. WILLIAM COPNEY; MR. F. CLOWES; MR. T. M. STONE; DR. H. SIMPSON; DR. DESMOND; DR. W. DOBIE; DR. FOSTER; MR. C. H. MOORE; SIR HENRY COOPER; and MR. J. F. HOLDEN.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

1. The Chemistry of Common Things. By Stevenson Macadam, Ph.D. London and Edinburgh: 1866.
2. The Poor-Law Surgeon's Vade Mecum. By N. C. Walsh. London: 1866.
3. On Dropsy. By W. R. Basham, M.D. Third Edition. London: 1866.
4. On the Application of Sulphurous Acid Gas to the Prevention, Limitation, and Cure of Contagious Diseases. By James Dewar, M.D. Edinburgh and London: 1866.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ESTABLISHED 1848.

Mr. J. Baxter Langley, M.R.C.S.
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* See the note of Dr. T. Littleton, in the JOURNAL of May 19th.