

HELEN FORESTER, a midwife, was tried on Saturday in the Central Criminal Court, charged with the wilful murder of Helen Venables by making use of an instrument to procure abortion. The deceased, who was a married woman and the mother of several children, went to the prisoner in April last, and gave her £3 to procure a miscarriage of the child of which she was then five months pregnant. The miscarriage was caused; but the operation performed upon her by the prisoner was alleged to have produced her death in about a fortnight afterwards. Dr. A. Brown said that, about ten o'clock on the night of the 26th of April, he was called to attend the deceased. She died on the 6th of May. He made a *post mortem* examination, and found that the uterus had been lacerated and punctured through, by which inflammation was caused, and eventually death. From the evidence given, it did not appear that the deceased knew she was dying when she made the statement implicating the prisoner. Mr. Justice Byles, therefore, told the jury that, assuming upon the evidence that the unfortunate deceased died from the criminal attempt made upon her to procure abortion, there was no testimony to prove who made that attempt, and the prisoner must be acquitted.

DEATHS from hydrophobia have been sadly numerous of late. The present week's bills of mortality in London tell of no less than three deaths from this frightful disorder. A letter from a medical man, Mr. Avent of Fulham, in the *Times*, well explains how the disease may be widely spread.

"The patient (a child) was bitten about five weeks ago; the disease showed itself on Tuesday, and death took place on Thursday. The dog is stated to be still at large, and is reported to have bitten another child on Friday. It is impossible to calculate the amount of mischief he may have caused during the past five weeks. A suggestion made by one of your correspondents—that all stray dogs should be dealt with as though they were wolves—seems to be worthy of consideration."

ON Tuesday last, the Committee and several of the subscribers and others interested in the cause of "Rudman *versus* Armstrong and another", dined together at the Rosherville Hotel, Gravesend—Dr. Richardson in the chair—to commemorate the success of the fund, and to offer to the Messrs. Armstrong, who were invited to the dinner, some further demonstration of the sympathy of their friends and neighbours. Nearly forty gentlemen were present, among whom were the Mayor of Gravesend, the Rev. Mr. Scarth, Mr. Southgate (Dr. Armstrong's solicitor), Dr. Adam Martin of Rochester, and several other medical practitioners from the town and neighbourhood of Gravesend; together with ten or twelve from London, among whom were Dr. Braxton Hicks, Dr. Camps, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Gay, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Hunt (treasurer to the fund), and

others. The eloquent speech of the President in proposing the health of Dr. and Mr. Armstrong, and their warm and affecting response, together with several speeches of great interest and warmth, all tended to show the conviction of every one present that the great protection of the profession from these vexatious actions, to which every member is exposed, is to be found in unity and fidelity towards each other. We are pleased to hear that there is a small surplus of the fund (after paying the legal expenses and those of the Committee), which it was unanimously agreed to present to the Gravesend Infirmary.

## Association Intelligence.

### BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Thirty-fourth Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held at Chester, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th days of August next.

President—S. J. JEAFFRESON, M.D.Cantab.

President-elect—EDWARD WATERS, M.D.Edin.

The Address in Medicine will be delivered by J. HUGHES BENNETT, M.D., F.R.S.Edin., Professor of the Institutes of Medicine and Clinical Medicine in the University of Edinburgh.

The Address in Surgery will be delivered by WILLIAM BOWMAN, Esq., F.R.S., etc.

The following special subjects will be introduced for discussion:—

Dr. SIBSON, F.R.S., and Mr. HOLMES: What is the influence of Hospitals on Health and Mortality,

Dr. STEWART: Is the Expectant Method to be relied upon in the Treatment of any form of Acute Disease?

Mr. ALFRED BAKER (Birmingham): Are there any trustworthy facts as to the Origin of Pyæmia?

PROFESSOR CHRISTISON, F.R.S. (Edinburgh): Observations on the Register of Deaths in Scotland.

Gentlemen intending to read papers, cases, or any other communications, are requested to give notice of the same to the General Secretary at their earliest convenience.

T. WATKIN WILLIAMS, *General Secretary.*  
18, Newhall Street, Birmingham, June 5th, 1866.

### BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
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.
NORTH WALES. [Annual.]	George Hotel, near Bangor.	Tuesday, July 3, 12 noon.
WEST SOMERSET. [Annual.]	George Hotel, Ilminster.	Wednesday, July 11, 2.30 p.m.
METROPOL. COUNTIES. [Annual.]	Crystal Palace, Sydenham.	Wednesday, July 18, 3.15 p.m.
BATH AND BRISTOL. [Annual.]	Mineral Water Hospital, Bath.	Thursday, July 19th, 4.30 p.m.

## 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.

## 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.

The members are invited to attend, in order to take into consideration the proposed amalgamation with the Cambridge and Huntingdon Branch.

J. B. PITTS, Hon. Secretary.

St. Stephen's Street, Norwich.

## NORTH WALES BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the North Wales Branch will be held at Westbury Mount, Menai Bridge, the residence of R. Thomas, Esq., on Tuesday, July 3rd, at 12 o'clock noon; J. C. DAVIES, M.D., of Holywell, President, in the chair. Luncheon will be provided by Mr. Thomas. After the meeting, the members and their friends will dine together at the George Hotel, near Bangor, at 3 P.M.

Gentlemen having papers or cases to read, are requested to make an early intimation of the same to the Secretary; and also to state whether they intend to stay for dinner.

D. KENT JONES, Hon. Secretary.

Beaumaris, June 5th, 1866.

## WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the West Somerset Branch will be held at the George Hotel, Ilminster, on Wednesday, July 11th, at 2.30 P.M.; G. R. BUETT, Esq., will take the chair. Dinner 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.

W. M. KELLY, M.D., Hon. Sec.

Taunton, June 11th, 1866.

## METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE fourteenth annual meeting of the Metropolitan Counties Branch will be held at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, on Wednesday, July 18th, at 3.15 P.M. President for 1865-66, EDWARD H. SIEVEKING, M.D.; President-elect for 1866-67, HENRY LEE, Esq., F.R.C.S. At 5.30 P.M., the members will dine together; HENRY LEE, Esq., in the chair.

\*\* It has been found necessary to alter the day of meeting from that originally fixed.

A. P. STEWART, M.D. } Hon. Secs.  
ALEXANDER HENRY, M.D. }

London, June 4th, 1866.

## BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Bath and Bristol Branch will be held at the Mineral Water Hospital, Bath, on Thursday, July 19th, at 4.30 P.M. Dinner at the York House, at 6.30 P.M.

R. S. FOWLER, Hon. Secretary.

## LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Thirtieth Annual Meeting of this Branch was held in the Medical Institution, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool, on Wednesday, June 13th, A. T. H. WATERS, M.D., of Liverpool, in the Chair. About fifty members were present.

In the unavoidable absence of Mr. TURNER of Manchester, the retiring president, Mr. Mellor, one of the retiring vice-presidents, took the chair, and called on Dr. A. T. H. Waters to preside over the meeting.

Dr. A. T. H. WATERS then delivered the President's Address, which at the request of the meeting has been forwarded to the JOURNAL for publication.

*Report of Council.*—Dr. HENRY SIMPSON, the Honorary Secretary, read the following Report.

"In presenting their Annual Report, the Council congratulate the members of the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch on once more meeting together in the town of Liverpool.

"Your Council have viewed with pleasure the appointment of a committee by the Lords of the Admiralty, the Secretary of State for War, and His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, to inquire into the alleged abuses connected with the medical services of the army and navy. Much credit is due to the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons for the appointment of this committee. Your Council consider that they may safely congratulate the members of the Association on the fact of the Editor of the JOURNAL having been chosen to represent the College of Physicians on the government committee; not only on account of the eminent qualifications he would bring to bear on the question, but also as a graceful recognition of the labours of the Association in the cause of our oppressed brethren of the two services. The Council trust that the recommendations of this report may lead to the redress of the grievances under which military and naval medical officers have so long laboured.

"Your Council have to regret that the efforts made to induce the College of Surgeons to allow voting on the part of their Fellows by means of voting papers, instead of requiring personal attendance, have been hitherto unsuccessful.

"But, on the other hand, they are glad to record the satisfaction they feel, in consequence of the invidious distinctions between the metropolitan and provincial schools, as regards the Fellowship, having been done away by the new regulations.

"Another source of congratulation arises from the inquiry into the conditions of metropolitan workhouse management recently set on foot by Mr. Ernest Hart, a member of the parent Association. It is to be hoped that benefit to the sick poor, and an improved position to the poor-law medical officers throughout the country, will ultimately result from public attention having been aroused by these inquiries. And your Council augur well from the appointment of Dr. Edward Smith as one of Her Majesty's Poor-Law Commissioners, thus supplying the medical element so much wanted to ensure efficient treatment for the sick poor and consideration for the poor-law medical officers.

"The General Medical Council having announced their intention of applying to Parliament for an amend-

ment of the Medical Act of 1858, your Council recommend that some steps be taken for obtaining a more efficient and independent representation of the profession on the General Council, all the members but four being now appointed by the medical corporations.

In November last your Council received the resignation of your Honorary Secretary, Dr. William Roberts, who was compelled by other engagements to relinquish the office; and, at a special meeting, appointed Dr. Henry Simpson of Manchester as Honorary Secretary *ad interim*. Your Council beg to record their high appreciation of the services of Dr. Roberts, and their regret at losing him as Secretary.

As is customary, the five gentlemen who have served longest on your Council retire in rotation. All are eligible for re-election with the exception of our lamented associate Dr. Dickinson, whose death we have to deplore. The names are as follows:—Dr. Desmond, Dr. Dickinson, Mr. Ellis Jones, Mr. Mallett, and Mr. Sharp of Warrington. We have also the painful task of announcing another vacancy in the Council, caused by the death of our valued friend Dr. McIntyre, whose loss renders it necessary to elect *six* members of Council instead of *five*.

**Financial Statement.**—From this statement it appears that at the date of the last annual meeting the balance in hand was £17:4:6; subscriptions received since, £22:2; making a total of £39:6:6. The ordinary expenses of the Branch during the past year have been £14:0:4; leaving in the hands of the Secretary a balance of £25:6:2."

**Resolutions.**—The following resolutions were passed:

1. Moved by Mr. BICKERTON (Liverpool), and seconded by Mr. HIGGINSON (Liverpool)—

"That the report of the Council now read, be adopted and printed, together with the proceedings of this meeting."

2. Moved by Mr. R. HARRISON (Liverpool), and seconded by Dr. TURNBULL (Liverpool)—

"That the best thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Turner, the retiring President; to Mr. Mellor and Dr. Stookey, the retiring Vice-Presidents; to the Honorary Secretaries; and to the other members of the Council, for their services during the past year."

3. Moved by Dr. VOSE (Liverpool), and seconded by Dr. EASON WILKINSON (Manchester)—

"That the next meeting of the Branch be held in the city of Chester; that John Harrison, Esq., be appointed President-elect; and that T. Brittain, Esq. and Wm. Roberts, M.D., be appointed Vice-Presidents-elect."

4. Moved by Mr. A. B. STEELE (Liverpool), and seconded by Dr. BIRKBECK NEVINS (Liverpool)—

"That Henry Simpson, M.D., of Manchester, be appointed Honorary Secretary in the place of Dr. W. Roberts, resigned."

5. Moved by Dr. E. WATERS (Chester), and seconded by Mr. LANGSHAW (Lancaster)—

"That the following gentlemen be appointed Honorary Local Secretaries for the ensuing year:—W. H. Manifold, Esq. (Liverpool), C. Johnson, jun., Esq. (Lancaster), and J. Sharp, Esq. (Warrington)."

Six gentlemen, whose names are distinguished in the following list by asterisks, were then elected by ballot to fill up the vacancies in the Council, which is now composed of the following twenty members:—W. T. Callon, M.D., Liverpool; S. Crompton, M.D., Manchester; T. Davies-Colley, M.D., Chester; \*L. E. Desmond, M.D., Liverpool; E. D. de Vitre, M.D., Lancaster; R. Flint, Esq., Stockport; John Harrison, Esq., Chester; \*Ellis Jones, Esq., Liverpool; C. Johnson, jun., Esq., Lancaster; J. P. Langshaw, Esq., Lancaster; \*G. Mallett, Esq., Bolton; W. McCheane, Esq., Liverpool; J. McNaught, M.D., Liverpool; D. H. McNicoll, M.D., Southport; \*J. E. Morgan, M.D., Manchester; \*J. Birkbeck Nevins, M.D., Liverpool; A. Ransome, M.B.,

Bowdon; \*J. Sharp, Esq., Warrington; L. Spencer, M.D., Preston; A. B. Steele, Esq., Liverpool.

6. Moved by Mr. LOWNDES (Liverpool), and seconded by Mr. MCHEANE (Liverpool)—

"That the following gentlemen be appointed representatives of the Branch in the General Council: L. E. Desmond, M.D. (Liverpool); T. Mellor, Esq. (Manchester); W. Roberts, M.D. (Manchester); G. Southam, Esq. (Manchester); A. B. Steele, Esq. (Liverpool); Thomas Turner, Esq. (Manchester); J. Vose, M.D. (Liverpool); A. T. H. Waters, M.D. (Liverpool); Edward Waters, M.D. (Chester); M. A. E. Wilkinson, M.D. (Manchester); and H. Simpson, M.D. (Manchester) *ex officio*."

7. Moved by Mr. SOUTHAM (Manchester), and seconded by Mr. STEELE (Liverpool)—

"That the Medical Act of 1858 having failed to satisfy the just requirements of the profession, and its faulty representative institution to promote the interests of the general body of the practitioners, Resolved, that the Committee of Council of this Association be requested to obtain an interview with the Secretary of State for the Home Department, and urge on him the desirability of introducing into the amended Act additional securities for a more efficient representation of all registered practitioners on the medical council."

**Communications.**—1. Mr. W. H. MANIFOLD brought under the notice of the meeting a negro, who had been severely frost-bitten, and had in consequence been obliged to undergo Amputation of both Legs and both Hands.

2. Mr. A. B. STEELE related a case of Tubal Gestation.

3. Dr. BIRKBECK NEVINS described the treatment of Hooping Cough by the Application of a Solution of Nitrate of Silver to the Larynx.

4. Dr. J. F. ROBERTS related A Case of Cirrhosis of the Liver cured by repeated Tappings.

5. Mr. R. HARRISON showed a specimen of Rupture of the Liver from a railway accident, in which there was also Rupture of the Right Kidney without any marks of external violence.

**Votes of Thanks** were unanimously given to the readers of papers, and to the Council of the Medical Institution for the use of their rooms.

**The Dinner.**—The members, to the number of fifty, dined at half-past four at the Adelphi Hotel. The president, Dr. A. T. H. Waters, occupied the chair, and Mr. W. H. Manifold the vice-chair. After the usual loyal and patriotic toasts had been eloquently given by the President, Mr. Watkin Williams, of Birmingham, proposed, "Success to the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch of the British Medical Association." Dr. Waters, of Chester, responded. Dr. Vose proposed "The health of the President, Dr. Waters of Liverpool," which was received with enthusiasm. The Chairman having responded, other toasts followed, and the proceedings terminated at an early hour; leaving the impression that, agreeable and successful as so many of the annual meetings of this Branch have been, this, the thirtieth anniversary, was at least inferior to none of them.

#### BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

The twelfth annual meeting of this Branch was held at the Hen and Chickens Hotel, Birmingham, on the 15th instant; THOMAS CARTER, M.D., President, in the chair. There were also present: A. Baker, Esq.; T. H. Bartleet, M.B.; S. Berry, Esq.; J. Bassett, Esq.; F. W. Brown, Esq. (Uppingham); C. J. Bracey, Esq.; T. W. Bullock, Esq. (Warwick); E. H. Coleman, Esq. (Wolverhampton); W. Downes, Esq.; G. P. Dunn, Esq.; T. Ebbage, Esq. (Leamington); A. Fleming, M.D.; B.

W. Foster, M.D.; J. Garner, Esq.; J. S. Gaunt, Esq. (Alvechurch); J. J. Hadley, Esq.; A. J. Harrison, M.B. (Walsall); J. Hickenbotham, Esq.; G. E. Hyde, Esq. (Worcester); C. Jeaffreson, Esq.; S. J. Jeaffreson, M.D. (Leamington); F. Jordan, Esq.; W. J. Kite, Esq.; E. S. Machin, Esq.; J. Manley, Esq.; H. C. P. Masser, Esq. (Longford); J. Russell, M.D.; J. D. Scurrall, M.D.; H. E. F. Shab, Esq. (Sutton Coldfield); J. V. Solomon, Esq.; F. Steel, M.D.; T. Swain, Esq.; T. Thomson, M.D. (Leamington); W. F. Wade, M.B.; J. Williams, M.D. (Malvern); T. Watkin Williams, Esq.; G. Yates, Esq.; etc.

*Officers and Council.* The following gentlemen were elected Officers and Council for the ensuing year: *President-elect*—S. Berry, Esq. *Treasurer*—T. Watkin Williams, Esq. *Secretary*—T. H. Bartleet, M.B. *Country Members of Council*—E. H. Coleman, Esq. (Wolverhampton); T. Ebbage, Esq. (Leamington); D. Everett, Esq. (Worcester); T. S. Fletcher, Esq. (Bromsgrove); A. J. Harrison, M.B. (Walsall); J. H. Houghton, Esq. (Dudley); W. J. Kite, Esq. (West Bromwich); H. E. F. Shaw, Esq. (Sutton Coldfield). *Town Members of Council*—A. Baker, Esq.; M. H. Clayton, Esq.; J. J. Hadley, Esq.; A. Hill, M.D.; Bell Fletcher, M.D.; F. Jordan, Esq.; J. Russell, M.D.; W. F. Wade, M.D. *Representatives in the General Council*—A. Baker, Esq. (Birmingham); E. Bartleet, Esq. (Campden); H. D. Carden, Esq. (Worcester); M. H. Clayton, Esq. (Birmingham); D. Everett, Esq. (Worcester); G. Fayer, M.D., (Henley-in-Arden); O. Pemberton, Esq. (Birmingham); J. Russell, M.D. (Birmingham); and T. H. Bartleet, M.B. (*Secretary ex-officio*). *Directors of the Medical Provident Society*—G. Fayer, M.D.; S. J. Jeaffreson, M.D.; C. Warden, M.D.

*Report of Council.* The HONORARY SECRETARY read the following report.

"The Council of the Birmingham and Midland Counties Branch of the British Medical Association has much pleasure in again congratulating its members on the continued success of their Branch. The meetings have been well attended; and the interest of the papers read, and of the discussions which have followed them, has been at least equal to that of former years.

"The number of members has slightly increased. The Council regrets to record the death of Mr. Nesbitt, of Wolverhampton, who, though not very long residing in our neighbourhood, had gained for himself no ordinary reputation.

"The following is the list of papers read at the meetings of the Branch, and of cases, specimens, instruments, etc., brought before it.

"1. On Trichiniasis. By W. F. Wade, M.B.

"2. Exhibition of a new Pulveriser for Inhalation of Medicated Fluids. By W. F. Wade, M.B.

"3. A Case of Retroversion of the Bladder; and on some Physiological Experiments upon the Urine in that case. By T. Carter, M.D.

"4. Excision of the Ankle. By J. F. West, Esq.

"5. On Paraplegia. By James Russell, M.D.

"6. On a new Modification of the Russian Vapour Bath; with Cases successfully treated thereby. By J. Williams, M.D., Malvern.

"7. Observations, with Cases, upon the following Operations: Operation for Prolapse of Uterus; a Simplified Extraperitoneal Operation in Strangulated Hernia; Holt's Operation for Stricture of the Urethra. By Furneaux Jordan, Esq.

"8. Specimen of Fibrous Tumour of the Uterus. By T. W. Swain, Esq.

"9. Dissection of a Recent Dislocation of the Shoulder-Joint. By F. Steel, M.D.

"10. Specimen of a Heart presenting the Results of very recent Endocarditis. By F. Steel, M.D.

"11. Traction-operations for Cataract. By G. E. Hyde, Esq., Worcester.

"12. The Treatment of Secondary Syphilis without mercury. By J. St. S. Wilders, Esq.

"13. Exhibition of Dr. Richardson's Instrument for causing Local Anæsthesia; with Cases. By J. St. S. Wilders, Esq.

"14. Specimen of Extensive Disease of the Suprarenal Capsules, unaccompanied by Bronzing of the Skin. By J. Russell, M.D.

"15. Syphilitic Disease of the Nervous Centres. By James Russell, M.D.

"Your Council would wish to notice the introduction of a pathological element at the meeting of the Branch, which has brought before the members many interesting cases and specimens, which active professional engagements might have prevented the gentlemen describing them elaborating into papers.

"Your Council regrets that the increased demand upon his time has necessitated Dr. Wade's resignation of the office of honorary secretary to the Branch. He has been succeeded in that office by Mr. T. H. Bartleet.

"The difficulties of the medical officers in the army and navy still continue, notwithstanding the efforts made by this Association, and by the profession in general, for their removal. Your committee trusts that the report of the Royal Commission, in which our Association was most ably represented by Dr. Markham, may improve their position.

"The College of Surgeons continues to refuse the privilege of voting by voting-papers in the election of its council, and thus virtually deprives the provincial fellows of their share in the election of this body. The inherent justice of the claims brought forward, both in this instance and that of the army medical officers, must eventually ensure their success.

"The Council of the Association has called the attention of its various Branches to the necessity of impressing upon the legislature the importance of the improvement of the sanitary laws. The prevalence of the disease amongst cattle, which has been so elaborately investigated by members of our profession, and especially by our distinguished associates, Dr. Budd of Bristol, Dr. Murchison, and Dr. Sanderson, cannot fail to ensure your attention to zymotic disease, more especially since cattle-murrains have, in former instances, so frequently been closely followed by pestilence among the human race. The prevalence of cholera upon the continent, and its recent outbreak upon our own shores, lend additional importance to this subject. The Council of the Association suggests the formation of a committee for the investigation of sanitary matters; and has arranged for a discussion upon Hygiene at its annual meeting at Chester.

"The Council notice with pleasure the recognition of our profession by the Government, in the conferring by the Queen of the dignity of a baronetcy on a leading member of it in each metropolis. Two of the three gentlemen thus honoured are members of our Association.

"In conclusion, your Council has great pleasure in anticipating a most successful ensuing session, since already promises of active support have been received from many of the most able members of our Branch."

*The Treasurer's Report* was then read. It shewed receipts amounting to £53 : 16 : 4, and an expenditure of £21 : 14; leaving a balance in hand of £32 : 2 : 4.

*President's Address.* The President (Dr. Carter) delivered an eloquent address, which he was requested to allow to be published.

*Dinner.* The members of the Branch dined together, at the Hen and Chickens Hotel; Dr. Carter presiding, and Mr. Berry occupying the vice-chair.

\* Since this Report was read, Dr. Watson, who is also a member of the Association, has been made a Baronet.

# Medical News.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.** At a general meeting of the Fellows, held on Friday, June 15th, 1866, the following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examination, and satisfied the College of their proficiency in the science and practice of medicine, surgery, and midwifery, were duly admitted to practise physic as Licentiates of the College:—

Hallett, Thomas George Palmer, 69, Queen's Crescent, Haverstock Hill  
 Humphreys, Frederick William, 19, Trinity Square  
 May, Henry, Birmingham  
 Nankivell, Arthur Wolcott, Torquay  
 Oppert, Francis, M.D. Berlin, 31, Great Russell Street  
 Parsons, Daniel Walter, Liverpool  
 Power, Richard Eaton, Portsea  
 Webster, Thomas, Redland, near Bristol

At the same meeting, the following were reported by the examiners to have passed their primary examination:—

Smith, Frederick Walter, St. Thomas's Hospital  
 Toulmin, William, Guy's Hospital

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.** The following members of the College, having undergone the necessary examinations for the Fellowship, on May 29th and 30th, were reported to have acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of the Court of Examiners, and at a meeting of the Council, on June 14th, were enrolled Fellows of the College.

Archer, Edmond, Cape of Good Hope; diploma of membership dated December 29, 1846  
 Bruce, Alexander, Albert Terrace; April 26, 1864  
 Darling, William, New York; November 21, 1856  
 Duka, Theodore, Her Majesty's Indian Army; October 7, 1853  
 Falwasser, Francis, Army; March 26, 1858  
 Jordan, Thomas Furneaux, Birmingham; May 2, 1854  
 Little, Louis Stromeyer, Brook Street, Grosvenor Square; April 22, 1862  
 Lush, Wm. George Vawdrey, Wilton; April 27, 1864  
 Marsh, Fred. Howard, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; June 3, 1861

It is stated that only one candidate failed to acquit himself to the satisfaction of the Court.

**UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.** Degree of Doctor in Medicine and Master in Surgery, conferred June 16.

Welch, Thomas Davies, Caius College

**APOTHECARIES' HALL.** On June 14th, 1866, the following Licentiates were admitted:—

Harrison, J. A., Wirksworth  
 Harvey, Thomas, Waterloo Road  
 Sargent, J. Forbes, Bentinck Terrace, Regent's Park  
 Schott, F. Julius, Frankfort-on-the-Main  
 Spearman, George, Plymouth  
 Stevens, G. J. B., Strood  
 Thurston, W. F., South Bank, Notting Hill  
 Watthen, J. H., Fishguard

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

Codrington, J. F., Guy's Hospital  
 Fiddian, A. Pauli, King's College Hospital  
 Stothard, W. J., Guy's Hospital

## APPOINTMENTS.

POLLOCK, Julius, appointed Assistant-Physician to Charing Cross Hospital.

## ROYAL NAVY.

COMERFORD, John T., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Griffon*.  
 FLYNN, Frederick F., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Nimble*.  
 MANGLE, Robert, Esq., Surgeon, to the *Cumberland*.  
 PATTERSON, James, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Flora*.  
 ROBERTSON, Angus, M.D., Surgeon, to the *Flora*.

**VOLUNTEERS.** (A.V. = Artillery Volunteers; R.V. = Rifle Volunteers):—

FISHER, F., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 27th Kent R.V.  
 MARSACK, B., Esq., to be Hon. Assistant-Surgeon 17th Kent R.V.  
 MOURITZ, R. H., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 7th Cheshire R.V.

## BIRTHS.

DAVIDSON. On June 19th, at Erith, the wife of James Davidson, M.D., R.N., of a son.  
 GEERE. On June 7th, at Brighton, the wife of George Geere, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

## MARRIAGES.

CALT, William, Esq., of Ringmer, to Elizabeth, fourth daughter of Alexander Towne, Esq., Surgeon, of Kingsland Crescent, at St. John's, Hackney, on June 19.  
 KING, John Bishop, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon H.M. Indian Army, to Joanna, second daughter of the late Henry W. Smith, Esq., of Island Hall, at St. George's, Prince of Wales's Island, on April 21.  
 RAYNER, Thomas Vernon, Esq., Surgeon, to Eliza, third surviving daughter of the late Richard Hickman, Esq., of Grove End Place, St. John's Wood, at Christchurch, St. Marylebone, on June 14.  
 STRANGE, William H., M.D., of The Avenue, Belsize Park, London, to Anna Jane, third daughter of William Strange, M.D., Professor of Surgery in the University of Aberdeen, on May 24.

## DEATHS.

BOYCOTT. On June 15th, at 23, Stanley Gardens, Notting Hill, aged 1 year and 8 months, Annie, youngest daughter of Thomas Boycott, M.D.  
 MACDONOGH. On June 11th, aged 46, Anne Dean, wife of John Macdonogh, Esq., Surgeon, Clapham.  
 SCOTT. On June 13th, Catharine, wife of David Scott, M.D., of Murray Street, Camden Square.  
 SMITH. On June 4th, at Tiverton, aged 64, Sarah Frances, widow of Josiah Smith, M.D., of Staines.  
 URE, Alexander, Esq., Surgeon, at 18, Upper Seymour Street, on June 13.

MR. ALEXANDER URE, late surgeon of St. Mary's Hospital, died on the 15th inst. He appears never to have recovered from a serious fall which he had from a horse, about three years ago. Mr. Haynes Walton will succeed him as surgeon to St. Mary's Hospital.

**WESTERN MEDICAL AND SURGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.** At the annual meeting, held June 1st, the following officers were elected for the next session: President—Dr. Fuller; Vice-Presidents—Mr. P. Hewett, Dr. Marct, Mr. T. Dickinson, Dr. Anstie; Council—Dr. Way, Mr. Vasey, Dr. D. Davies, Mr. Traer, Mr. Knight, Dr. Daniell, Dr. Blandford, Mr. T. Holmes, Mr. J. R. Lane, Dr. Morell Mackenzie, Mr. Nayler, Dr. Fye; Treasurer—Dr. Baines; Honorary Librarian—Dr. Godwin; Honorary Secretaries—Mr. Milner, and Mr. C. Hunter; Auditors—Mr. T. Taylor, and Mr. Hall.

**SCARLET FEVER.** On Monday last, Sir J. C. Jervoise asked the Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education whether his attention had been directed to the statement of the medical officer of the Privy Council (First Report Cattle-Plague Commission, p. 46) "We constantly see in our practice that the physician carries home scarlet fever to his children, without taking it himself, carrying the infection in his dress, or about his person," and what measures were contemplated to arrest this source of danger to the public health. Mr. Bruce replied that the attention of her Majesty's Government had been called to the subject, but they did not see their way to any effectual legislation upon it.

**BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.** The British Pharmaceutical Conference will meet at Nottingham, on August 21st, being the time of the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. Professor Bentley, F.L.S. etc., is the President. The proceedings usually extend over portions of three days, consisting in the reading and discussion of papers, containing the results of the investigations of professional subjects. From experience of the two annual meetings that have been held, in Bath and Birmingham respectively, in 1864 and 1865, it is confidently anticipated that a large number of chemists will assemble from most parts of the country.

OPHTHALMIA is raging among the women and children with the troops stationed at Meerut.

THE AUSTRIAN ARMY. Professors Dummreicher and Pitha have closed their lectures at the University of Vienna, and have joined the army. Dummreicher goes to Olmütz, the head-quarters of the Northern army; and Pitha to Verona, the head-quarters of the Southern army. Both of them are accompanied by "several young operators".

A VILLANOUS COMPOUND. At the Dewsbury Police-court, a few days ago, six tradesmen were charged with selling methylated spirits without licence. The spirits were sold under the name of "Concentrated Essence of Indian Brandee", a deleterious mixture of naphtha and brandy of the worst quality. In defence, it was urged that the offence had been committed in ignorance of the pernicious nature of the article, the defendants having been given to understand that it was a capital remedy for coughs and other ailments. In each case, the mitigated penalty of £12 : 10 was imposed.

MINERAL WATERS OF VALS. In a memoir concerning the acidulous, gaseous, bicarbonated, sodaic waters of Vals (Ardèche), Dr. Tourelle winds up as follows: "It evidently follows from this treatise that the waters of Vals ought to give, and give without any doubt, more favourable results than all the other known alkaline waters, on account of the variety of their mineral parts, and of the large quantity of gas which they contain. It has been observed that with those waters there is not to be feared that hyposthenisation so dreadful in the employment of alkaline waters not very ferruginous nor carbonic."

Spread of the CHOLERA. The cholera has broken out at Angers and St. Nazaire. At Nantes four persons died from the epidemic on the 12th inst., and eight fresh cases occurred. The cholera is on the increase at Amiens, and in the surrounding country; medical assistance has been sent from Paris. An outbreak of cholera has taken place in the Prussian army. On the 4th and 5th inst., thirty cases, six of which proved fatal, occurred in the 3rd regiment of the guard. Cholera is also raging at Swinemunde, Frankfort-on-the-Oder, Neustadt-Eberwald, Cammin, Arnswalde, and Stettin. In the latter town one hundred and eighty-seven cases occurred from the 2nd, to the 9th of June, one hundred and three of which were fatal.

TREATMENT OF THE SICK POOR. The following evidence has been given at the inquiry into the treatment of the sick at the Rotherhithe Workhouse, by Mr. T. F. Firth, the medical officer during the last two years: he had £35 a year, and found the drugs. He did not know what the drugs cost, but thought they cost from £12 to £15 annually. He visited the workhouse generally at least once a day, and sometimes three or four times a day besides. He had never complained to the guardians of any mismanagement, or anything else about the infirmary. He had made suggestions as to the requirements, and they had always been carried out. Had never applied for bed-rests or night-stools. Never heard of any case of cruelty in the infirmary on the part of the nurse Brittan. Believed the stimulants were properly given to the sick, otherwise he should have held Miss Beeton responsible. Miss Beeton had told him that the wine was bad, and the spirits not so strong as they should be. He thought he had had reason to complain of some of the sick not getting the beer ordered for them. There was no paid night nurse. Some of the sick were in a very helpless state at times in the infirmary. Did not believe it possible that one paid nurse could look after these helpless patients by day and night.

NITRO-GLYCERINE, which has lately attracted the public attention by such terrific explosions, is formed when glycerine is gradually added, at low temperature, to a cooled mixture of nitric and sulphuric acids. The pure nitro-glycerine is a heavy oily liquid, of nearly 1.60 specific gravity; clear, slightly straw-coloured; explodes by concussion, not by being ignited; ceases to burn when the light is removed, and decomposes with explosion at a temperature of 350° Fahr. Under the name of glonoin, it had been used in medicine.

TRICHINÆ. The Academy of Sciences, at Chicago, lately appointed a committee to examine into the subject of trichinæ. The main objects of the committee were, first, to ascertain whether trichinæ actually existed in the hogs of this country, and in those of the north-west in particular; and, secondly, should they exist, to determine the extent of the danger thereby incurred. Portions of muscle of one thousand three hundred and ninety-four were examined, and the results were that, out of the one thousand three hundred and ninety-four hogs examined, twenty-eight were found trichinous, or about one in fifty. In the city of Brunswick, of nineteen thousand seven hundred and forty-seven hogs examined in the years 1864-5, only two were found with trichinæ in their muscles; a proportion of one in ten thousand.

AN USEFUL LIFE. With the utmost regret we announce the death from diphtheria of Miss Lucy Nevile, head nurse at the Lincoln County Hospital. She was the daughter of the Rev. C. Nevile, of Thorney, a descendant of one of the oldest county families; but, though brought up amid all the accustomed refinements of her position in society, she preferred to devote herself to the employment of nursing the sick. Accordingly, she became a member of the society at King's College Hospital, London, and while there obtained the highest commendations and certificates of ability as a nurse. Shortly Miss Nevile was appointed head nurse to our hospital. We have many ladies in the county of Lincoln of whose names we are justly proud, but few will be remembered with more affectionate regret than the name of Lucy Nevile, the hospital nurse. (*Lincolnshire Chronicle.*)

OZONE, AND THE SPLITTING UP OF CARBONIC ACID, UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ELECTRICITY. In a note to the Academy of Sciences, M. G. Jean stated that he employed an induction coil, provided with a peculiar condenser, for dividing the spark into an infinite number of very feeble sparks. By this apparatus, he said, he proved that carbonic acid, under the influence of the sparks, split up into carbonic oxide and oxygen; and the odour and other tests showed that the oxygen was strongly ozonised. Atmospheric air exposed to the same influence becomes ozonised, and forms nitric acid (?), which suddenly decomposes into nitrous acid when the air is heated. Ozonised oxygen, the author says, has the property of giving rise to vapours when mixed with sulphurous or nitrous acids, and these vapours are very persistent in the presence of ammonia and iodine. Crystals of iodine dropped into a vessel of ozonised oxygen also give rise to a very thick vapour, which gradually precipitates in the form of iodic acid. A coating of linseed oil on glass exposed to ozonised oxygen became dry in an hour, and its weight was found to have increased by 20 per cent. The quantity actually absorbed, the author stated, must have been much more considerable, for it was disengaged in the form of strongly smelling acid vapours. (*Chemical News.*)

**THE TESTIMONIAL TO MR. GRIFFIN.** The presentation of the testimonial will take place at a public meeting, to be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, on Thursday, July 5th, at 3 p.m. The Treasurer, Dr. Fowler, has issued a circular to the Poor-law medical officers, asking those who have not forwarded their subscriptions to the fund to do so without delay, in order that each and all may show some slight appreciation of, and some gratitude for, those untiring energies which, during the last ten or eleven years, Mr. Griffin has bestowed on the cause of Poor-law medical reform. The subscribers and friends of Mr. Griffin are also requested to send their *cartes de visite* for the photographic album which it is decided additionally to present to Mr. Griffin. The testimonial is now on view at the manufacturers', Messrs. Mappin and Webb, 71 and 72, Cornhill.

**HARROGATE.** Dr. Kennion has lately published "Observations on the Medicinal Springs of Harrogate." "Two reasons," he says, "induce me to offer a short account of Harrogate and its medicinal springs. One reason is, that so little is generally known about the place, and the vast resources which it presents to invalids; the other that, to the large and valuable *répertoire* which Nature has already so bountifully given us, we have lately had a very important addition, in the discovery, by Professor Sheridan Muspratt, of the existence of protochloride of iron in considerable quantity in one of our springs, thus constituting it a chalybeate water of, in all probability, very great therapeutic value, and one which, in respect of this constituent, is without a prototype."

**PUBLIC HEALTH.** The Bill now before the House of Commons contains some useful clauses. Among nuisances to be abated by the authorities are to be included: a house or room so overcrowded as to be dangerous or prejudicial to health; a factory or workplace not already under the operation of the factories or bakehouse Acts, not kept in a cleanly state, or not ventilated in such a manner as to render harmless, as far as practicable, any gases, dust, or other impurities generated in the course of the work, that are injurious or dangerous to health; a fireplace or furnace for working engines by steam, or in any mill, factory, etc., which does not, so far as is practicable, consume its own smoke. But this last part of the clause is not to come into operation for a year, in places where at present there is no law compelling such consumption of smoke. A penalty not exceeding £5 is imposed for exposure in any public place, or public conveyance, of any person suffering from a dangerous infectious disorder, without proper precaution against spreading it; and there is a like penalty on the owner or driver of a public conveyance who does not immediately provide for its disinfection, after it has with his knowledge conveyed any such sufferer. Carriages for the conveyance of such persons may be provided by the local authorities. The sewer authorities may compel the owner of any house in their district, which is without effectual drainage, to remedy that defect. Various other powers are given by the Bill to the sanitary authorities for the sake of the public health.

**OXIDATION OF FATTY VEGETABLE OILS.** M. Cloe sums up the results of his investigations as follows: 1. All fatty oils, without exception, absorb oxygen from the air, and increase in weight. 2. Elevation of temperature facilitates the operation. 3. Intensity of light also has a marked influence on the progress of the phenomenon. 4. Light transmitted through coloured glass retards the oxidation. Starting from colourless glass, the retardation is increased by coloured glass in the following order:

Blue, violet, red, green, yellow—that is, oil covered with yellow glass, oxidises most slowly. 5. In the dark the oxidation progresses very slowly. 6. The presence of various matters accelerate oxidation. 7. In the resinification there is a loss of carbon and hydrogen and an assimilation of oxygen. 8. The various oils in oxidising furnish the same products; gaseous and volatile compound acids, unchanged solid and liquid fatty acids, and a solid, insoluble matter, which appears to be a definite immediate principle. Oils oxidised in the air no longer contain glycerine. 9. Lastly, drying oils do not differ chemically from the non-siccative oils. (*Chem. News.*)

**THERAPEUTIC EFFECTS OF THE LIGATION OF LARGE ARTERIES.** Dr. D. F. Wright communicates, in the *Richmond Medical Journal*, an article on the therapeutic effects of the ligation of large arteries. In this paper it is claimed, "that the ligation of the principal artery of a member, which is ordinarily supposed to occasion danger of gangrene and necrosis in the parts supplied by the occluded artery, has, on the contrary, a marked therapeutic influence, not only upon tumefaction and unhealthy discharges, and indolence in the healing process, but especially upon gangrene itself, which repulsive and dangerous disease it has uniformly and promptly arrested, in every instance in which it has been applied." In the five cases witnessed and described by the author, and in the six cases reported by Dr. Campbell, this uniform result was observed, that immediately from the date of ligation, large tumefaction has been superseded by recovery of the original contour, fetid ichorous discharges by laudable suppuration, and phagedenic gangrene by vigorous granulations, resulting in rapid separation of the eroded tissues. In all these instances the ligation was resorted to for the arrest of hemorrhage; but so marked was its effect upon the gangrenous condition, that the question arises seriously, whether it may not be resorted to expressly for this therapeutical purpose. Dr. Wright considers these cases as offering sufficient ground for further observation, and suggests that every instance in which, for any purpose whatever, the artery is tied which supplies a gangrenous limb, the results ought to be carefully noted, recorded, and published, in order that it may be seen whether future experience is in harmony with what has been stated. (*Philadelphia Medical Reporter.*)

**ARMY AND NAVY MEDICAL OFFICERS.** In the House of Commons on the 14th inst., Colonel North asked the Secretary to the Treasury whether the recommendations of the committee presided over by Admiral Sir Alexander Milne, relative to the medical officers of the navy and army and upon which the authorities both of the navy and army had been for some time in communication with the Treasury, were likely to be decided upon shortly. He begged to remind the House that the committee reported early in February. Mr. Childers said, that in July last the College of Physicians wrote to the War Office, complaining that the status of army surgeons was unsatisfactory, and to the Admiralty, that navy surgeons were, both as to pay and rank, not on a par with army surgeons. In consequence, the War Office and the Admiralty appointed a department committee, consisting of military and naval officers, and of medical men recommended by the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, to inquire into the rank, pay, and position of the surgeons of the two services. The Treasury were not parties to the inquiry, and they had as yet only been officially in communication with the Admiralty on the subject. When the Government were in possession of the definite views of both the departments, they would be in a condition to deal with the cases

of both the army and navy surgeons at the same time. The question was a very important one, involved a large amount of money, and required careful consideration. Colonel North asked whether no communication had been received from the War Office. Mr. Childers said the War Department had not yet made their recommendations upon the report of the committee; but he personally had been in communication with his noble friend.

**METROPOLITAN POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.** At a preliminary meeting of metropolitan Poor-law medical officers, held on June 20th, 1866; Dr. Rogers, of the Strand Union, in the chair. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously resolved—“1. That an Association be formed, to be called ‘The Metropolitan Poor-law Medical Officers’ Association.’ 2. That the enclosed form of address be printed, and sent to every parochial medical officer within the metropolitan district. 3. That the following gentlemen be appointed officers of the Association *pro tem.* Joseph Rodgers, M.D., President; F. Godrich, Esq., Treasurer; T. O. Dudfield, M.D., Hon. Secretary.” The following is a copy of this address. “London, June 20th, 1866. Dear Sir,—An Association of metropolitan union and district Poor-law officers has been formed, with the object of mutual assistance in difficulties arising out of our duties; and also for the purposes of urging upon our respective local boards, the Poor-law Board, and the public, such revision of our position as public servants as our status as members of a learned and scientific profession demands. The present moment is peculiarly opportune for the formation of such an Association; inasmuch as recent revelations have clearly demonstrated the absolute necessity of some change in the system of metropolitan Poor-law medical relief; and the public are prepared to urge some alteration on the legislature. Under these circumstances, for us to remain quiescent is to allow those who would aid us to form the conclusion that we are indifferent to the just claims of the sick poor, and careless of our position as state servants. We consider that a small annual subscription will be sufficient to cover our working expenses. Should you feel disposed to join us, you will kindly signify the same to one of the undersigned at your earliest convenience. We are, etc.” Another meeting will be shortly held, of which due notice will be given.

#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

1. Cholera Non-Contagious. By E. Hearne, M.B. London: 1866.
2. Brief Remarks on Cholera. By Robert J. Spitta, M.D. London: 1866.
3. Homeopathy. Two Letters. By David Scott-Smith. 1866.
4. On the Function of Articulate Speech, and on its Connection with the Mind and the Bodily Organs. By W. T. Gairdner, M.D. Glasgow: 1866.
5. The Common Nature of Epidemics. By Southwood Smith, M.D. London: 1866.
6. Defects in Sight and Hearing. By T. Wharton Jones, F.R.S. London: 1866.
7. A Manual of Medical Jurisprudence. By A. S. Taylor, M.D., F.R.S. Eighth Edition. London: 1866.
8. Statistical Tables of In-Patients of St. Bartholomew's Hospital during 1865. London: 1866.
9. Right Foods for Infants and Children. By the late T. Herbert Barker, M.D. London: 1866.
10. On the Effects of Elevation and Floods on Health. By G. A. Rowell. London: 1866.
11. An Inquiry into the Reasons, etc., of the Prescription of Intoxicating Liquors in the Practice of Medicine. By Dr. F. R. Lee. 1866.
12. The Physiological Anatomy and Physiology of Man. By R. B. Todd, W. Bowman, and Lionel Beale, F.F.R.S. A New Edition by the last named Author. London: 1866.
13. Note-Book of Materia Medica, Pharmacology, and Therapeutics. By R. E. Scoresby-Jackson, M.D. Edinburgh: 1866.
14. The True and the False Sciences: A Letter on Homœopathy. London: 1866.
15. The Principal Baths of France. By Edwin Lee, M.D. Fourth Edition. 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, 1 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.

TUESDAY. Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 P.M. Papers on “Stricture of the Urethra”, by Mr. Callender and Mr. Nunn; on “Elephantiasis”, by Mr. Meade and Mr. T. Bryant; and other papers by Mr. Hulke, Dr. Down, Dr. S. Ringer, Dr. H. Weber, Dr. Fenwick, and Dr. Pavy.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

\* \* \* All letters and communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the EDITOR, 87, 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 regret that we are compelled to defer the publication of several communications; which, however, shall appear with as little delay as possible.

MR. LUKE has been twice President of the Council of the College of Surgeons; and twenty years has been a Councillor. He was elected an Examiner in 1851. Clearly, therefore, he has had his share of College management, and much more than his share. The only grounds upon which he can ask for re-election are—that these College appointments are life-holdings.

STATISTICS OF CANCER.—Mr. Moore has the pleasure to acknowledge the return of “Registers for Cases of Cancer”, from Marten Perry, M.D., Evesham; Samuel Rutherford, Esq., Pulborough.

ERRATUM writes:—“There is a mistake in your last number. Mr. South, Mr. Cesar Hawkins, and Mr. Luke, are not subject to the quinquennial reselections, to which the other examiners (with the exception of Mr. Lawrence) are. They were appointed examiners before the last (the supplemental) Charter was granted, and do not come under its operation. They can be only removed by vote of the Council. The fact is, as you truly say, that under the present system—once an examiner, always an examiner. Mr. Lawrence cannot be removed at all.”

CLITORIDOTOMY.—SIR: A relative and patient of mine, not wishing to consult me upon a particular occasion, went to another surgeon. She was told that she had “an ulcer” in the bowel; subsequently, that she had “polypus” and “fissure”. Ultimately, she was very strongly urged to have the clitoris removed.

June 9th, 1866. I am, etc., F.R.C.S.

WORKHOUSE INFIRMARIES.—SIR: If eventually the Workhouse Infirmaries of London are improved and conducted upon the principle of the large Metropolitan Hospitals, is it intended that the appointments of medical officer, etc., be honorary or paid, upon the plan adopted by the Guardians at present?

Gratuitous services are always a great let-down to our profession; and, as I have not seen this question fully discussed in your JOURNAL, I shall, for one, be glad to hear your opinion upon the matter.

I am, etc., JOSEPH C. B. SMALLMAN, M.D., etc.

Willingham-by-Ston, Gainsborough, June 12th, 1866.

F. C.—The article in the *Saturday Review* of the 2nd instant, on Cholera, was by the pen of one of our most distinguished physicians. As a model of what medical writing should be, we recommend it as worthy of all consideration.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL REFORM.—SIR: Permit me again to trespass on your valuable space to inform the Poor-Law medical officers that I have to-day received from the Poor-Law Board a reply to my letters of May 17th and June 7th, which is as follows:—

"I am directed to state that your observations on the proposed Bill on Poor-Law Medical Relief, will receive the consideration of the Board. They are, however, unable to appoint a time for the attendance of a deputation on the subject. ENFIELD, Secretary."

From the foregoing reply, and from what we read in the journals, I think it more than probable that some general measure for the amendment of the medical relief of the poor is in contemplation by the Poor-Law Board.

I have applied to several Members of Parliament to bring in the Bill proposed by the Association, copies of which were sent to the subscribers in March last; but the general opinion appears to be, that situated as Parliament now is, with the Reform Bill before it, no private member would have a chance of carrying a Bill of the kind this session, unless it have the support of the Poor-Law Board, or be brought in by that body as a Government measure. Under these circumstances, we must wait and carefully watch the movements of the Poor-Law Board in Parliament; and it is just possible we may, whilst united and with money in hand, find ourselves sufficiently powerful to amend any Bill brought in by them, should it not meet our views. This course was eminently successful with the Vaccination Bill; and, although we have not been able to make it all we could wish, still we have been the means of inducing the Select Committee to make improvements in it which will benefit the public vaccinators of England and Wales to the extent of some thousands *per annum*, and amply repay the Association for the labour of the last ten years, even should no other reform be accomplished; but I feel confident other beneficial measures are in store for us. I am, etc.,

RICHARD GRIFFIN.

12, Royal Terrace, Weymouth, June 13th, 1866.

ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—SIR: It would appear, from a paragraph in the JOURNAL of the 2nd instant, that you still believe the authorities will carry out the recommendations of the Committee which recently assembled at the Admiralty. I would wish to suggest for your consideration the probability of such a statement attracting candidates for the approaching examination (in August), and the almost certain result which may be expected to follow a good supply of candidates.

It is believed, with much reason, that if a moderate number of assistant-surgeons can be obtained at the forthcoming examination, the recommendations of the Committee—moderate as they are—will be consigned to the "waste-paper basket". "Hopes and promises" have recruited the Army Medical Department sufficiently to keep it alive up to the present time; and so long as it can be maintained in the same manner, however indifferently, it is vain to hope for the realisation of the one, or the fulfilment of the other. As matters at present stand, the service has been damaged by the appointment and result of the Committee, for it attracted a supply of candidates.

It is therefore to be hoped that all who have it in their power to influence *probable* candidates for the service, will advise them to wait for the *official promulgation* of a new warrant, embodying the recommendations of the said Committee, before they commit an act which in after years they will have to lament (when too late) as "suicidal" and ruinous to the prospects of those of their own profession, with whom they will be associated for life.

I have very recently had an opportunity of conversing with a young medical officer on the subject, and found him "well up" in the empty promises which have been so liberally scattered in the medical and military journals, but only gradually becoming acquainted with the disadvantages which have been "ventilated" of late years in the medical journals.

I trust I may be pardoned if I offend, but I certainly fear greatly that the leading men of the profession are inclined to place too much faith in the disposition of the authorities to act honestly by the medical department. We know that benefits conferred in consequence of necessity, have been withdrawn as soon as the necessity has passed away; how, then, can we suppose that the same "powers" will willingly remedy existing grievances so long as they can obtain the necessary numbers without?

I am, etc., OBSERVER.

[The Army Medical Department was well supplied with candidates before the Committee was appointed. The candidates are mainly our Irish brethren; and the supply of them from Ireland is, we believe, on the increase rather than otherwise. We do not agree with our correspondent about the Colleges' resolutions. By giving their assent to the recommendations, they have thereby morally pledged themselves, so far as in them lies, to the carrying out of the recommendations. If the Horse Guards should refuse to accept the Committee's Report, we may be sure that the Colleges will say their mind to the profession. We quite agree that the profession would do well to distrust Horse Guards' promises or possible intentions. EDITOR.]

T. K.—Adam Smith, we believe, was the writer of the words—"The great success of quacks in England has been altogether owing to the real quackery of the regular physicians."

THE NITROGEN TREATMENT OF CHOLERA.—SIR: I give you a brief statement of my treatment of cholera in 1849, and am now thoroughly convinced that a decided principle was established by the universal cure of every case (111 cases) that came under my attention; and, as the disease was very fatal under others' treatment, a fair conclusion is drawn, that some specific was undoubtedly obtained. It should be observed, that the premonitory diarrhoea of cholera was always checked, and decided benefit was felt by the patient within five or twenty-five minutes from the commencement of the medicine. The assumption, that all were cholera in its different stages, arises from such form of fatal disease not having been experienced in the locality of Barnstaple before that period.

My treatment consisted in administering every ten minutes a drachm of the following mixture:—Saturated solution of chloride of ammonia, saturated solution of alum, dull water, and strong infusion of coffee, of each one fluid-ounce; camphor mixture, four fluid-ounces. A teaspoonful of strong infusion of coffee should be taken to allay thirst, and a tablespoonful of beef-tea, made with plenty of common salt and pepper, frequently, when the symptoms have abated. A saucer, containing solution of chloride of lime, common vinegar, and camphor mixture, should be placed in the room. Abstinence from wine, spirits, beer, sago, and gruel, were observed.

Bath, May 29th, 1866.

WILLIAM PARKER, M.R.C.S.

TRANSFUSION OF BLOOD.—SIR: In your number of June 9th, page 623, the question of priority as to the suggestion of the transfusion of blood in cattle-plague is alluded to. You will perhaps allow me to quote a passage from my second letter to the Lords of the Privy Council, September 30th, 1863, in which I recommend the establishment of one experimental hospital by the Government on a large scale, and in a suitable locality.

"Again, the effect of the injection of certain substances into the veins, and the transfusion of two or three quarts of healthy blood into the veins, should be tried; and, if found of any efficacy, should be employed in the treatment of *valuable animalia*."

My letters were sent in manuscript to the Privy Council, and then published in the *Mark Lane Express*; my object being to give them publicity among agriculturists and cattle owners.

At the time I wrote this letter, treatment of all kinds was adopted, as the disease by the generality of English writers was thought to be curable. I think at the present time that no treatment of any kind should be allowed; but if the hospital I suggested had been formed by the Government, the supposed efficacy of the transfusion of blood, and of many other supposed remedies, might have been tested.

I have long been of opinion, as many of my friends are aware, that transfusion of blood should be practised in some human diseases, such as fevers of a low type; and I am waiting for a favourable case to try the experiment.

I am, etc., 42, Beaufort Street, Chelsea, June 12th, 1866.

EDWARDS CRISP, M.D.

LIME-INHALATIONS.—SIR: The notice contained in the JOURNAL for May 26th, concerning the application of lime in diphtheritic affections, must not be passed over with silence, for two reasons.

1. It is true, that lime possesses a great dissolving power on diphtheritic membranes. But to learn that, I assure you, you need not go to Ohio; for the fact is well known in this country, as well as on the continent. See, for instance, my book *On Inhalations* (pages 57 and 117), or Lewin's work on the same subject, and you will find that lime has been used for years in the affections mentioned above. 2. Dr. Geiger in Ohio has only *imagined* to have used lime; but, as everyone who is acquainted with the first rudiments of chemistry will easily see, has not done so in reality. "He obtained some unslacked lime, placed it in a vessel, and poured upon it first cold water; and upon inhaling it, could discover no effects. He then poured over another portion hot water, and inhaled the steam arising from it. After inhaling it for a few moments, he could distinctly feel in the air-passages the smarting action of the lime, and determined to try the effect," etc. Now there is no chemist required; every mason's labourer will tell you that there is no difference whether you pour cold or hot water on unslacked lime, either of them very soon assume a very high temperature, whereby the volume of the lime increases, while the water is turned into steam, and escapes as such. It is self-evident that, if you inhale that steam, you inhale nothing but the steam of common water. The only way to inhale chemical bodies which are not volatile—as lime, for instance—is by means of an atomiser.

I am, etc., H. BEIGEL, M.D.

3, Finsbury Square, May 28th, 1866.

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Dr. C. HANFIELD JONES; Mr. T. M. STONE; Dr. THOMAS SHAPTER; Mr. RICHARD GRIFFIN; Mr. MCKEAND; Mr. C. HOLTHOUSE; THE HONORARY SECRETARY OF THE WESTERN MEDICAL AND SURGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON; Dr. C. HOLMAN; Dr. H. SIMPSON; Dr. MERRIMAN; Dr. HEYGATE; Dr. SAMELSON; Mr. W. PARKER; Dr. DANIEL NOBLE; MEDICUS; Mr. F. WHITWELL; MILES; Mr. SOUTHAM; Dr. A. T. H. WATERS; Mr. SEARLE; Mr. T. H. BARTLETT; THE HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY; Dr. B. FOSTER; Dr. SKINNER; Mr. DOLBY; Dr. BEIGEL; A VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT-SURGEON; HONORARY ASSISTANT-SURGEON; Mr. HUNT; Dr. FOWLER; and Dr. DUDFIELD.