

Association Intelligence.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

THE next ordinary meeting will be held at the York House, Bath, on Thursday, March 7th, at 7 P.M.

R. S. FOWLER, *Hon. Secretary.*

Reports of Societies.

HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON.

JANUARY 17TH, 1867.

J. E. POLLOCK, M.D., President, in the Chair.

ON THE TREATMENT OF HIP-JOINT DISEASE. BY W. ADAMS, F.R.C.S.

THE author divided hip-joint disease in its ordinary form, as it usually occurs in children from four to fourteen years of age, into three stages.

The *first stage*, extending from the commencement of the symptoms, to the formation of abscess.

The *second stage*, extending from the formation of abscess, to the bursting, or opening of the same.

The *third stage*: the complete destruction of the joint, after the bursting, or opening of the abscess; more or less extensive disease of the bone; dislocation, etc.

After adverting to the symptoms and progress of the disease, the author referred to the different views entertained of the pathology of this disease, with respect to its commencement as a primary affection in the cancellous tissue of the bone, according to the late Sir Benjamin Brodie, or in the articular cartilage; and alluded to the difficulty of determining this point, from the absence of *post mortem* examinations at this period, as such examinations could only be made when death occurred from some other cause.

One such opportunity had occurred to Mr. Adams, and the details are recorded by Mr. South in the first volume of his translation of Chelius's *Surgery*. The appearances corresponded with those observed by the late Mr. Aston Key, and proved that in these cases the disease commenced, as Mr. Aston Key observed, in the round ligament, which in both instances was proved to be the seat of chronic inflammatory changes, extending to the adjacent synovial membrane, and, in Mr. Adams's case, to the commencement of ulceration of cartilage in the neighbourhood of the ligament. Essentially, however, the articular cartilages and bones were healthy in both cases.

From the clinical history of these cases, supported by the *post mortem* examinations referred to, Mr. Adams believed that hip-joint disease usually commences in the round ligament, as the result of an accident in which this ligament is violently strained or partly torn, and that from this spot, as a centre, the disease extends to the rest of the synovial membranes, the articular cartilage, and, at a later period, to the bone. This, Mr. Adams believed to be the ordinary course of events, although in some cases other structures might be primarily involved.

As to *treatment*, Mr. Adams's observations referred principally to the first stage of the disease. Regarding this disease as a low form of inflammation, essentially chronic, and associated with constitutional debility, and generally a strumous diathesis,

Mr. Adams was opposed to the application of leeches, and all severe counter-irritation, such as blisters, moxas, issues, the actual canter, etc., as tending to exhaust the powers of the patient, rather than benefit the disease. He relied upon rest to the joint, with warmth and moisture constantly applied. Mr. Adams also opposed antiphlogistic treatment internally, especially the use of calomel, or what is called the alterative treatment, as tending to lower the constitutional powers of the patient, and relied upon the exhibition of tonics, with cod-liver oil, hypophosphite of lime, and iron.

With regard to the means of securing rest to the joint—a paramount necessity—Mr. Adams was opposed to long continued recumbency, by confining the patient to the bed, or couch. Complete recumbency he thought necessary, only for a short time, during the more acute symptoms, with severe pain, when he used either the straight splint, or the more modern plan of extension by weights attached to the leg. Of the latter treatment, Mr. Adams gave several examples, and alluded to an able paper by Mr. Marsh, in the *St. Bartholomew's Hospital Reports*. The apparatus was exhibited to the Society.

Generally, Mr. Adams employed a leather or gutta-percha splint, of larger size than ordinarily used, and moulded to the side of the body and limb, whilst the latter was held in the straight position, so as to overcome all muscular contraction; chloroform being administered in some instances, while this was being done. The first effect of such a splint, when properly made, was generally to relieve the pain, and this it did completely, in most instances. The patient was then enabled to move about with the assistance of crutches, and this, Mr. Adams considered, materially improved the general health, and, by so doing, benefited the disease. He never employed long continued recumbency.

In the *second* and *third* stages of the disease, Mr. Adams relied essentially upon the same principles of treatment, and preferred to open the abscesses, rather than allow them to attain a large size.

LIVERPOOL MEDICAL INSTITUTION.

JANUARY 10TH, 1867.

J. TURNBULL, M.D., in the Chair.

Specimens, etc. 1. Dr. CARTER and Dr. SHEARER shewed specimens of Heart-Disease.

2. Mr. HIGGINSON shewed a Larva (*astrus hominis*) that had been discharged from an Abscess in a Man's Thigh. The patient, a ship's officer, first noticed it commencing as a small boil two months previously, when in Mexico. The larva is described in the Sydenham Society's work on *Parasites*.

3. Dr. NOTTINGHAM shewed a specimen of Pulpy Degeneration of the Ankle-joint requiring Amputation.

4. Dr. RAWDON shewed the Intestines in a case of Strangulated Internal Hernia. Dr. Turnbull, under whose care the patient had been in the Royal Infirmary, gave a brief history of the case. A woman, aged 54, two days before admission, was seized whilst at stool with sudden pain about the navel, passing on into general symptoms of intestinal obstruction. On admission, she was vomiting frequently, the belly being tympanitic. The vomiting, though increasing, never became stercoraceous; and she rapidly sank. At a *post mortem* examination, about one yard of small intestine was found in an almost gangrenous condition, having passed through an opening in the mesentery.

Dr. SKINNER made some remarks on a case of

SCURVY IN MERCHANT SHIPS.

Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE gave notice that on Thursday, February 21, he would move for a copy of correspondence between the Board of Trade and the Local Marine Boards, or other bodies or persons, on the subject of Scurvy in Merchant Ships, together with the results of any inquiries ordered by the Board of Trade in cases where scurvy has been known to exist on board ship (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper No. 404, of Session 1865).

Medical News.

COUNCIL OF THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

We understand that, on Thursday evening, Mr. Charles Hawkins's motion in the Council of the College of Surgeons was rejected by 16 to 7.

PHARMACEUTICAL BENEVOLENT FUND.

A DINNER was held on Wednesday evening, at Willis's Rooms, to assist in raising funds for the Pharmaceutical Society's Benevolent Fund; Mr. Sandford, the President, in the chair. Mr. Morson, Mr. T. H. Hills, Professor Redwood, Professor Bentley, Dr. Attfeld, Mr. Charles Savory, Mr. Deans, Mr. Williams, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Haselden, and a very numerous company, were present. Among the visitors were Mr. Vanderbyl, M.P., Dr. Quain, Dr. Frankland, Rev. Mr. Mitchell, Dr. Sanders, Dr. Down, Dr. Silver, Dr. Leared, Dr. Tilbury Fox, and many other members of the medical profession. Upwards of £1500 were, we believe, subscribed to this valuable fund. The objects of the Pharmaceutical Society, and the admirable efforts which it has successfully made for the elevation of the education, ethical and professional code of the chemists and druggists, have won the sympathy of our profession. The Benevolent Fund which it is now sought to develop and extend, is a legitimate and valuable addition to the Society, and confers already a great benefit upon the most worthy objects of assistance.

ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE. The Director-General presents his compliments to the Editor of the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, and begs to enclose a list of the candidates for Commissions in Her Majesty's British Medical Service who were successful at the Competitive Examination in August last, and who have passed through a course at the Army Medical School; shewing the combined results of the examination.

Names.	Studied at.	No. Marks.
Collins, W.	Cork	4980
Harman, W. M.	Dublin	4753
Fernandes, A. H.	Edinburgh	4508
Moore, S.	Dublin	4410
Gibson, G. J.	Cork	4315
Nugent, H.	Dublin	3963
Williamson, J.	Aberdeen	3892
Steele, W. H.	Dublin	3758
Archdall, T. G.	Dublin	3637
Major, A. B.	London	3545
Ratigan, A. H.	Dublin	3530
Richards, C. F.	Dublin	3475
Clifton, G. H.	London	3376
Cornish, H.	Edinburgh	3363
Fitzmaurice, J.	Dublin	3155
Armstrong, C.	Dublin	3137
O'Neill, C. J.	Dublin	3106
Macartney, J.	Galway	3031
Longhead, W.	Dublin	2945
Dunn, G. C.	Edinburgh	2840
Gamble, L. B.	Dublin	2768

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 9 A.M. and 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

TUESDAY....Guy's, 1½ P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

WEDNESDAY...St. Mary's, 2 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.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.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. Mr. T. P. Teale, Jun., "On Enucleation of Nævus"; Mr. T. Bryant, "On Internal Strangulation of the Bowel, with Hernia."

FRIDAY. Western Medical and Surgical Society of London, 8 P.M. For the Narration of Cases.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MEMBERS are reminded that it is a matter of great convenience and economy to the Association, and conduces to the efficiency of its working and to their comfort and advantage, that their subscriptions, which are now due, should be paid promptly to the Secretary, Mr. T. WATKIN WILLIAMS, Newhall Street, Birmingham.

All Letters and Communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the EDITOR, 37, Great Queen St., Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

AUTHORS OF PAPERS are respectfully requested to make all necessary alterations in their copy before sending it to the JOURNAL. Proofs are furnished to authors, not for further changes, but that the writer may correct the printer when he has misread the manuscript.

Communications as to the transmission of the JOURNAL, should be sent to Mr. RICHARDS, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.

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

Mr. A. RANSOME, Manchester.—The request shall be attended to.

Dr. J. T. VALE, Cloughton, Birkenhead, will find information as to the weekly cost of patients in hospitals in the "Vital and Economic Statistics of the Hospitals and Infirmarys, etc., of England and Wales for the year 1863," by Fleetwood Buckle, M.D. Churchill and Sons, London, 1865.

SEA-WATER FOR LONDON INVALIDS.

A COMPANY, called the London and Dover Sea-Water Company, has been specially formed for the purpose of supplying the hospitals, baths, public and private establishments, and the inhabitants of London and its suburbs, with pure fresh sea-water, which is brought daily from Dover to London by rail, and can be delivered (within a radius of four miles from Charing Cross), in any quantity exceeding twelve gallons, at 3d. per gallon. A less quantity may be obtained at the Company's Office, 7, Great Scotland Yard, Whitehall. Our readers will thank us for drawing attention to this Company, which offers unusual facilities to those invalids and others who either cannot be removed to the seaside or are too nervous to bathe in the sea, as they can now enjoy the use of sea-water in their private residences.

Mr. A. B. STEELE shall receive a private letter.

ARGUS.—No award has yet been made by the Jacksonian Committee.

HOSPITAL BUILDING ESTIMATES, LONDON.

SIR.—Mr. Hart, in his criticisms of Mr. Hardy's Metropolitan Poor Bill, refers to the estimate of Mr. Farnall: viz, that the scheme of six metropolitan hospitals, to contain 1000 beds each, would cost £250,000; and compares this sum with the proposed expenditure in Mr. Hardy's Bill; viz, £400,000. Mr. Hart then remarks on Mr. Hardy's estimate: "No saving here." But is this remark just? Can any one believe that at this present time a hospital, with the large space now required for the sick, can be built in London, or in any part of the country, at £40 per patient? Why the very ground which six such hospitals would occupy in London would cost something like half the £250,000! Can any one produce a builder who could, at this time of high wages and trades' unions, undertake to find the land and build a hospital, with all its modern required appliances, in the metropolis, for less than about £100 per bed? On such calculation, Mr. Farnall's estimate should be £800,000 instead of £250,000.

I am, etc.,

AN ASSOCIATE.

INQUIRER. Llanidloes, Montgomeryshire.—Mr. C. P. Price's work, published by Churchill and Sons.

PROFESSIONAL ETIQUETTE.

SIR.—Will you be so good as to inform me, in your "Answers to Correspondents," whether it is the duty of a resident medical practitioner to call first on a surgeon who comes to practise in the same neighbourhood, or *vice versa*? I am, etc.,

February 13th, 1867.

CHIRURGUS.

*** In all cases, the rules of social intercourse require that the new comer should leave a card with the earlier residents, who have otherwise no positive intimation of the advent of the stranger.

OWING to pressure on our space, we are compelled to postpone various letters and articles, and numerous answers to correspondents.

GRATUITOUS MEDICAL SERVICE.

SIR.—Our JOURNAL has always advocated the suppression of the above monstrous injustice to the profession. I therefore hand you a copy of what appears an unwarrantable demand on my time and labour.

As Medical Officer of Health for a poor portion of the metropolis, I devoted the whole of my time and energies to superintend the treatment and prevention of cholera for some six months without the addition of a shilling to a very moderate salary. Now, although I sent a weekly return of all cases of diarrhoea and cholera to the Medical Department of the Privy Council, I am requested to supply *gratuitously*, chapter and verse, facts and figures, in short, all the materials for the well paid sanitary officer of that department and his nominees, to concoct a report on the late cholera epidemic. Am I justified in doing so?

The country, I believe, pays very handsomely for these annual reports, about £15,000 a volume; so that the question will probably be as to the equitable division of the fund.

I am, etc.,

AN ASSOCIATE.

London, February 14th, 1867.

M. A. B.—We have complied with the request; but cannot undertake to do the same on any future occasion.

COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, ETC., have been received from:—

Mr. T. Smith (with enclosure); Mr. W. P. Nimmo, Edinburgh (with enclosure); Mr. Steele, Liverpool (with enclosure); Dr. George Buchanan, Glasgow (with enclosure); Dr. George Johnson (with enclosure); Dr. Lombe; Messrs. John Churchill and Sons; An Inquirer; Mr. Trotter; Mr. Weeden Cooke; Dr. 'Ede; Mr. A. Mortimer; Dr. Morgan, Manchester; Mr. Franklyn; Mr. Furneaux Jordan, Birmingham (with enclosure); Mr. E. Bellamy; Staff-Surgeon R.N.; The Secretary of the Health Section of the Social Science Association; Dr. Hardwicke; The Secretaries of the Pall Mall Gazette Testimonial Fund; The Secretary of the Poor-Law Medical Officers' Association; Mr. Benson Baker; Mr. M'Cloy, Liverpool; Mr. T. M. Stone; Mr. W. Fairlie Clarke; Mr. George Sankey, Maidstone; Dr. John Ogle; Dr. John B. Potter; The Secretary of the Western Medical and Surgical Society; Mr. George Moss; Dr. Beigel; Mr. Edward Meyrick, Manchester; Dr. Francis C. Howard, Linton; Mr. Berkeley Hill (with enclosure); The Hon. Sec. of Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society; Mr. Arthur Ransome, Manchester (with enclosure); Mr. De Tatham; Dr. Cobbold; Mr. R. I. Nisbett, Gravesend; Mr. W. Copney; Dr. Thomas Shapter, Exeter (with enclosure); Dr. Dean Fairless; The Registrar-General; Mr. Couper; Dr. Maudsley; Dr. T. J. Woodhouse; Dr. J. Vale, Birkenhead; Dr. E. T. Hughes, Mold (with enclosure); Mr. R. A. Jones, Carnarvon; The Director-General of the Army Medical Department; Mr. J. B. Franklin, Manchester.

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According to a recent Parliamentary Return, the number of Stamps issued to the principal London Weekly Newspapers during the year ending 30th June 1866, was as follows:

British Medical Journal 114,400

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