

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

NORTH WALES BRANCH.

THE next intermediate general meeting of this Branch will be held on Tuesday, March 3rd, at 1 P.M., at the Lion Hotel, Ruthin, under the presidency of T. Eyton Jones, Esq.

Gentlemen who intend to read papers or cases, and to dine at the close of the meeting, are requested to communicate at their earliest convenience with the Honorary Secretary.

Dinner at 4 P.M. Tickets 5s. each, exclusive of wine.

Baumaris, February 1868.

D. KENT JONES, *Hon. Sec.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND.

SIR,—Our illustrious President impugns the statement italicised in the following extract from my letter of the 1st instant. "Intense interest has been created by the Rev. Professor Haughton's pamphlet on *University Education*. With all the vigour, terseness, and caustic wit with which he is endowed, he strives to show that the University of Dublin was, is, and should be, a Church of England institution, and not the great national seat of intellectual learning. To save any invasion whatever of his own College, he advocates the giving of a charter to the Catholic University. *The medical profession universally, and the enlightened of every creed very generally, ardently wish that his views may not be adopted by Government, but that there shall be created a great national University*, which shall examine the alumni of the Trinity, Catholic, and provincial Queen's Colleges, and such other medical colleges as shall be recognised, in common."

The beginning of the paragraph indicates that the opinion of those only who had discussed Dr. Haughton's pamphlet is referred to. However, to have been literally exact, I should have inserted between the words, "generally" and "ardently," the words "with whom I have conversed." During the week which elapsed between the issue of the pamphlet and the writing of my letter, I happened to converse with over twenty leading members of the medical and legal professions, including many Catholics, professors of one of the institutions most deeply concerned, and one distinguished exponent of Irish opinion in the House of Commons, and they *universally* desired such a national university, and condemned Professor Haughton's view. During the same period most independent journals, Conservative and Liberal, severely censured his pamphlet, while only one, the *Irish Times*, commended it, and that journal had previously advocated similar views in a remarkable series of articles.

Professor Stokes' loyalty to the great University of which he is so distinguished an ornament, leads him to the conviction that the medical profession would endorse Professor Haughton's view "without reference to the question of a chartered Catholic University;" but it seems to me, that without such a question, there is nothing to be discussed at all. That the provisions for university education of Catholics are eminently unsatisfactory was affirmed by half the members present, when the subject was considered in the House of Commons last July, and the best remedy will have to be decided on during the ensuing session.

Professor Haughton's sole objection to the formation of a National University is, that it would "lower the standard and degrade the character of Irish University degrees." That so lamentable a result would not ensue, at least with respect to medical degrees, is, I think, shown by the success of the following bodies of very similar construction to that proposed. 1. The London University degree is the most highly prized medical qualification in these kingdoms, because each step towards it is gained after searching examinations by men chosen for pre-eminent ability. No degree conferred after an examination conducted exclusively by those who have taught the graduate, can have equal weight. This examining body has much raised—not lowered—the standard; and University and King's Colleges, its chief dependencies, are the first schools in London. Vast improvements in medical education have been made since 1836, when the London University was founded, and to it most of them owe their origin. 2. The University of France is purely an examining board, before whom the *alumni* of several colleges are tested. The effect of the system may be judged of by the fact that the standard of medical education and examination is immeasurably higher than in these countries. 3. The German Universities usually consist of a single college, but the state examination, which must be passed before leave to practise is granted, constitutes a standard such as

a single National University would do in Ireland. At Bonn, even theological colleges of the Catholic and Protestant persuasions have a common university. 4. The Colleges of Surgeons and other licensing bodies, which are pure examining boards, raise medical education much more by testing in common the pupils of various schools than if each of these schools could directly qualify its students. Such a practice is the cause of the low state of medical education in America, and her greatest physicians are at present striving to raise it, establishing uniform examinations for the *alumni* of various colleges.

A National University, having no rival, could maintain a high standard and raise up all the affiliated colleges to it, and if any should lag behind, it would be soon deserted by an intelligent public. On the other hand, when there are a number of universities or licensing bodies, the competition is to gain graduates by offering cheap diplomas and easy examinations for obtaining them. Dr. Haughton asserts that, if a National University were formed, those trained in each of the colleges would make known by initials which they came from, and that a competition downwards would result; but such is already established, and the lamentably disorganised state of the medical profession is mainly owing to the multiplicity of licensing bodies in the United Kingdom, which issue 54 different qualifications. If the Catholic University be chartered, and follows the Dublin University in the number of medical qualifications, we will have 59 kinds of licenses to practise inserted on the *Register*. This will be increased accordingly as the Presbyterians, Wesleyans, and other sects obtain charters, which can be scarcely refused. The Medical Council will be also enlarged, and the chance of useful work or independent and unanimous action further postponed.

If Parliament grants a charter to the Catholic University it will not be, for many years, of great value; for an university does not acquire reputation at once, and its degrees will not be weighty recommendations if presented, in seeking appointments, to boards composed of persons of every creed. This is the age for removing religious disabilities; the highest legal office in the state has been opened to lawyers irrespective of creed; but in the medical profession bigotry has been always absent. After intimate intercourse with nearly 2000 pupils and practitioners, I cannot call to mind an instance of it. The difficulties of constructing a mixed senate have been exaggerated. Let the Colleges in fair proportion send up representatives, and let at least one-third be elected by Convocation of Graduates. State nomination would be most injurious. Sectarian dissensions do not run so high as to render the measure impracticable, and if it gives an opportunity of subduing those that exist, it should be promoted by every lover of his country. Mr. Monsell's scheme contemplates the erection of a new university building, but there are many reasons why the noble halls of the Dublin University, adorned with portraits of the greatest men the land ever produced, and with the greatest library in the kingdom adjoining, should be the scene of intellectual competition between the students of all the affiliated colleges.

Those who desire a National University do not covet the revenues of Trinity College, which have been always judiciously expended for the noblest of purposes, the advancement of learning. Catholics, whose theological seminary is so highly endowed, can least of all feel jealous on this score. Every true-hearted and loyal Irishman must feel more proud of Trinity College than of any other institution in the land, and it is therefore lamentable to find Professor Haughton, whose words are more respected than those of any other man in Ireland, asserting that "Trinity College has never been and never was intended to be a national institution." "Trinity College has been well described by her enemies as a 'handful of Protestant clergymen.'" The construction of the University is peculiar, one college only being attached to it. Others were contemplated, but the attempt to found another, King's College, failed. Lest it might be thought that I was wanting in respect for the heads of Trinity College, I beg to say that I am a humble admirer of their wisdom and liberal spirit, as advanced as Elizabethan Statutes would allow. Professing the faith which alone qualifies for the competition, they have earned by their talents alone the most valuable intellectual prizes in the world. It would be fortunate if other high places were filled in the same unexceptionable way. In conclusion, I will repeat, what is ardently desired by many medical men and enlightened liberals. An "University of Ireland," to examine in common those trained in Trinity, Catholic, Queen's, and some other recognised Colleges, the character of each being undisturbed, the two former combining religion with secular teaching, the others being purely secular. Maynooth would form no part, although Dr. Haughton complicates the question by introducing her. If the University of Dublin must remain undisturbed, let the supplemental charter of the late government be re-enacted, as has just been forcibly urged by the Dean of Ferns, ex F.T.C.D., who truly says that the mode of introduction of that measure rather than its merits have been hitherto discussed. Professor

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, EDINBURGH.—The following gentlemen were admitted Fellows of the College at a meeting held on February 3rd.

Cooper, Alfred, London
Hamilton, Thomas, M.D., London

Maclaren, Peter H., M.D., Laswade
Marsden, Alexander E., M.D., London

The following gentlemen passed their final examinations, and were admitted Licentiates of the College during threecent sittings of the examiners.

Campbell, John, Glasgow
Core, Wm. Scott, co. Tyrone

Roberts, Henry Prescott, Manchester

ROYAL COLLEGES OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, EDINBURGH: DOUBLE QUALIFICATION.—The following gentlemen passed their first professional examinations during the recent sittings of the examiners.

Alphents, J. Wybrants, Downpatrick
Dutt, Bessin Behary, Calcutta

Galloway, Walter, Dalry
Walshe, Denis, Kilkenny

The following gentlemen passed their final examinations, and were admitted L.R.C.P. Edinburgh and L.R.C.S. Edinburgh.

Affleck, John, Dumfriesshire
Alexander, Peter, Dudley
Campbell, Archibald, Argyllshire
Corry, George, Northampton
Gass, James Barton, Dumfriesshire

Horner, Thomas Lyle, Dungiven, Ireland
Innes, Robert, Aberlour
Page, Joseph, Cork
Ryder, Peter, Liverpool

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—Names of gentlemen who passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, February 6th, 1868.

Cole, Richard Mount, Rochester
Lewis, Charles, Woodland Terrace, Blackheath

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

Cringle, William Henry, London Hospital
Laxton, Matthew Henry, Guy's Hospital
Nunn, George Richard, Guy's Hospital

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are declared:—

ABERDEEN—Medical Officer under Public Health Act.
BAILLEBOROUGH UNION, co. Cavan—Medical Officer for the Shercock Dispensary District.
BARTON-UPON-IRWELL UNION, Lancashire—Medical Officer for the Swinton District; also for the Walkden Moor District.
BIRMINGHAM LYING-IN HOSPITAL—Resident Surgeon.
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY, Aylesbury—Resident Surgeon and Apothecary.
CASTLEBAR UNION, co. Mayo—Medical Officer for the Castlebar Dispensary District.
CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL—Assistant-Physician.
DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON—Dental Surgeon.
HENDON UNION, Middlesex—Medical Officer for the Hendon District; also Medical Officer for the Schools near Edgeware.
HULL GENERAL INFIRMARY—Resident House-Surgeon.
KANTURK UNION, co. Cork—Medical Officer for the Milford Dispensary District.
LIVERPOOL DISPENSARY FOR DISEASES OF THE SKIN—Physician.
NORTHAMPTON GENERAL LUNATIC ASYLUM—Assistant Medical Officer.
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL—Assistant-Physician; also Four Physicians' Assistants.
SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL, Wolverhampton—Physician's Assistant.
WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL—Assistant-Physician.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

MOORE, Charles Frederick, M.D., appointed Medical Inspector of Seamen for the Port and District of Dublin.
TUCKER, James, M.D., appointed Medical Inspector of Seamen at Sligo.

ARMY.

BARTLEY, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon A. G., M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon Royal Artillery, *vice* A. R. Smith.
EVANS, Surgeon-Major U. W., M.D., 61st Foot, to be Staff-Surgeon-Major, *vice* J. P. Street, M.D.
HEPWORTH, Staff-Surgeon A. J. L., M.D., to be Surgeon 3rd Hussars, *vice* Surgeon-Major H. Huish, M.D.
MURRAY, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon J., M.B., to be Assistant-Surgeon 93rd Foot, *vice* P. C. Baxter, M.B.
SMITH, Assistant-Surgeon A. R., Royal Artillery, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* A. J. L. Hepworth, M.D.
STREET, Staff-Surgeon J. P., M.D., to be Surgeon 61st Foot, *vice* Surgeon-Major U. W. Evans, M.D.

BIRTHS.

CHALDECOTT.—On January 21st, at Chertsey, the wife of T. A. Chaldecott, M.D., of a son.
DIVERS.—On January 31st, at Lansdowne Road, the wife of Edward Divers, M.D., of a daughter.
ROBSON.—On February 10th, at Great Marlborough Street, the wife of Hope F. A. Robson, M.D., of a daughter.

ROOKE.—On February 3rd, at Cheltenham, the wife of T. Morley Rook, M.D., of a daughter.
SALTER.—On January 30th, at Mahesbury, the wife of George Salter, L.R.C.P. Ed., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CLARKE, Spencer, Esq., to Charlotte Elizabeth, fourth daughter of T. R. Hemsted, Esq., Surgeon, at Whitechurch, Hants, on February 6th.
COLB, Thomas, M.B., of Bath, to Fanny, second daughter of R. G. Davey, Esq., Surgeon, Walmer, on January 30th.
CRICHTON, Alexander, L.R.C.P. Ed., of Mortlake, to Sarah Anne, second daughter of the late Joseph Pilkington, Esq., of Bury, on February 6th.
GRACE, Edward M., Esq., L.R.C.P., of Thornbury, to Annie White, youngest daughter of the late Joseph S. Stutchbury, Esq., of Georgetown, Demerara, at Almondsbury, Gloucestershire, on February 5th.
HARRIS, Alfred, jun., Esq., of Ashfield, Bingley, to Annie, second daughter of Edward Mervyn, M.D., of Clarges Street, at St. George's, Hanover Square, on February 5th.
TURNER, Sharon G., Esq., of Clapham, to Marion Ramsden, eldest daughter of William Wood, M.D., of Harley Street, at Brighton, on February 4th.

DEATHS.

BALMAN, Thomas, M.D., at Liverpool, aged 50, on February 5th.
BARLOW.—On January 31st, at Sydenham, aged 18, Cecilia Arabella, fourth daughter of the late G. H. Barlow, M.D., Physician to Guy's Hospital.
CHARLTON.—On January 29th, at Albion Place, Hyde Park, aged 3 years and 7 months, Herbert Arthur, son of Egbert Charlton, Esq., Surgeon.
HENDERSON, William Patrick, M.D., Resident Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, aged 23, on January 31st.
SEARLE, Charles, F.R.C.S.E., late Madras Medical Service, at Osnaburgh Street, Regent's Park, aged 74, on February 3rd.
SINCLAIR.—On January 25th, at Camberwell, aged 5 months, Ronald McDonald, son of Donald Sinclair, M.D.
SHINE.—On January 31st, at Lee, Kent, Eliza, wife of W. Shine, Esq., Surgeon.

THE TOAD'S "PLACE IN NATURE."—The trade in toads in Paris is now considerable. Following the example of our English horticulturists, the French market-gardeners have learnt (*Bulletin de la Société protectrice des Animaux*) to consider toads as their indispensable allies. These animals wage a war of annihilation against the slugs and snails which may, in a single night, destroy by a sudden invasion all the commercial value of lettuces, carrots, asparagus, and even the choice and early fruits of the season.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE REV. DR. JELF.—At a meeting at King's College, on January 31, resolutions were passed providing that a testimonial should be subscribed for and presented to the Rev. Dr. Jelf, on the occasion of his imminent retirement from the principalship of the college, a post which he has occupied during the past twenty-four years. The Bishop of London presided, and there were present—Sir Thomas Watson, Sir William Fergusson, the Rev. Henry White, Her Majesty's chaplain of the Savoy, and censor of King's College; Professor Beasley, Professor Brewer, Professor Leathes, Professor Plumtree, Dr. Miller, the Rev. A. D'Orsey, Professor Hall, the Dean of Westminster, and other gentlemen. A large number of the students also attended.

STATISTICS OF INTemperance.—Of the number of deaths which occur in England and Wales from excessive drinking only an imperfect conception can be formed, but it appears according to the returns of the registrar-general that in the ten years 1856-65, no less than 4,922 deaths were directly ascribed to delirium tremens, and 3,238 to intemperance; the deaths from the two forms of alcoholism being 8,160, or on an average 816 *per annum*. High temperature probably increases thirst, and at the same time renders the action of alcoholic liquors more dangerous; for delirium tremens is much more fatal in the hot than in the cold months of the year. The results, extending over a period of twenty years, show that while the deaths ascribed to intemperance were equally distributed, the deaths by delirium tremens were distributed over the four quarters unequally; the smallest number occurring in winter, the greatest in summer. The effect of the alcohol and the heat in producing delirium tremens is greatest at the age from 40 to 60; but it is also apparent at the earlier age of 20 to 40. In the tropics the combined action of spirits and sun-heat often apparently produce what is called sun-stroke or apoplexy. The number of deaths directly ascribed to excessive drinking in each of the years 1856-65, in England and Wales, to 100,000 of population, was 3.7, 4.0, 3.7, 4.6, 3.9, 3.3, 3.5, 4.1, 5.2, and 5.0 respectively. In 1865 alcoholism was the cause of 216 out of every 100,000 of the total deaths. The proportional number of deaths from this cause to 100,000 of population was 4.6 *per annum* in the five years 1850-54; 4.1 *per annum* in the five years 1855-59; and 4.0 *per annum* in the five years 1860-64. In London, the number of deaths in the ten years 1854-63 was 2,181—viz., 1,292 from delirium tremens and 889 from intemperance. In each of the three years 1864-6 the deaths in London were 242, 243, and 215.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 9 A.M. and 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.
TUESDAY..... Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—National Orthopaedic Hospital, 2 P.M.
WEDNESDAY.. St. Mary's, 1.15 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.—Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, 2.30 P.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.
THURSDAY.... St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic 1 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 Demonstrations and Operations), 1 P.M.—Royal Free, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

EXPECTED OPERATIONS AT THE HOSPITALS.

CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL, Saturday, February 15th, at 1.30 P.M. Enucleation of the Eye-ball.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY—Royal College of Surgeons, 4 P.M. Professor Huxley, "On the Anatomy and Physiology of Invertebrate Animals."—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. George Buchanan, Third and last Lettsomian Lecture, "On Pneumonia and Pleurisy in Children."
WEDNESDAY—Royal College of Surgeons, 4 P.M. Professor Huxley, "On the Anatomy and Physiology of Invertebrate Animals."
THURSDAY—Harveian Society of London, 8 P.M. Mr. W. Adams, "In what Cases is Lateral Curvature of the Spine Curable? and what are the directly Curative Means?"—South London Medico-Chirurgical Society, 8 P.M. Dr. Gervis, Remarks on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Uterine Cancer. Mr. Zachariah Laurence, On Watery Eye. Dr. Kempthorne, Notes of Cases and Experiments illustrating the Action of Certain Drugs.
FRIDAY—Royal College of Surgeons, 4 P.M. Professor Huxley, "On the Anatomy and Physiology of Invertebrate Animals."

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

CORRESPONDENTS not answered are requested to look to the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

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

AUTHORS OF PAPERS, desirous of having extra copies printed for their own use, are requested to communicate with the printer, Mr. Richards, 37, Great Queen Street.

THE publication of communications from Dr. Septimus Gibbon (London), Dr. Macpherson (Birmingham), Dr. Anderson (Richmond), Dr. Heslop (Birmingham), Dr. Semple (London), and Miss Firth, is necessarily postponed from the great pressure on our space. We take this opportunity of calling attention to the great desirability of brevity in letters intended for publication in the JOURNAL, and the inconvenience caused by length.

SMALL-POX AT CHARLTON.

SIR,—The report in the *Times* of the prevalence of small-pox in Charlton, is, I am happy to state, entirely without foundation. The six hundred cases existed only in the imagination of the police who reported them. On inquiry of the Registrar of the district, I cannot hear of a single case in Charlton; and no fatal case has occurred throughout the whole parish since the autumn of 1863.

I am, etc., ROBERT FINCH, M.D.

Blackheath, Feb. 10, 1868. Medical Officer of Health for Charlton.

* * * Another correspondent writes that, "with the exception of a few sporadic cases, chiefly of a modified character, small-pox does not prevail in Woolwich. At the Herbert Hospital, which we visited this morning, there has been only one fresh case within the past ten days, and that of the mildest character."

We are much indebted to Dr. Belgrave (Hendon), Dr. C. J. Aldis, and Mr. Hands (Hornsey), for their communications on the subject of Baby-farming.

ABSOLON versus STATHAM.

FURTHER contributions have been received from:—Dr. T. King Chambers, £1:1; J. J. Cunningham, Esq. (Edinburgh), £1:1; D. Campbell, Esq. (Liverpool), 10s. 6d.; W. J. Newman, Esq. (Liverpool), 10s. 6d.; R. F. W. (Newport, Monmouthshire), 10s. 6d.; R. H. Osborne, Esq. (Newport, Monmouthshire), 10s. 6d.; R. W. Bellamy, Esq. (Nottingham), 10s. 6d.; H. R. Rowe, Esq. (Preston), £1:1; R. J. Ryan, Esq. (Preston), £1:1; J. Wilson, Esq. (Hull), 10s. 6d.; Gavin Martin, Esq. (Bradford), 10s.; Charles Sims, Esq. (Birmingham), per D. W. C., £1; W. J. S., 10s. 6d.; Charles Sims, Esq., 10s. 6d.; Robert Sims, Esq., 10s. 6d.; E. P. Warren, Esq., 10s.; J. O. C. Phillips, Esq., 10s. 6d.;—Hopkins, Esq., 10s. 6d.; W. G. S. Gentlemen are requested to send their contributions to E. Saunders, Esq., Honorary Treasurer, 13A, George Street, Hanover Square, London, W., or to Dr. Cholmeley, Honorary Secretary, 40, Russell Square, London, W.C., on or before February 20th, as the subscription-list will be then closed.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.—Advertisements should be forwarded direct to the Printing-Office, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C., addressed to Mr. Richards, not later than *Thursday*, twelve o'clock.

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news reports and other matters of medical interest:—The Lincolnshire Chronicle, February 8th; The Dublin Evening Post.

"ARE THE TYPES OF FEVER LIMITED?"

SIR,—I should like to ask Dr. Kennedy if he thinks the age of a patient may account for the difference of type in some cases. For, during an epidemic of well-marked typhoid last summer in this neighbourhood, two of the cases were old people, upwards of 65, and in both cases the attack commenced with the characteristic rose rash and diarrhoea; but, immediately the diarrhoea ceased, true petechiae appeared, and the cases had all the appearance of typhus. Out of fifteen under my care at that time, these two were the only old people, and they were the only ones in which this peculiar change occurred.

I am, etc.,
 Islip, Oxon, January 1868. FRED. WM. PARSONS, L.R.C.P. Lond., etc.

DR. T. T. PYLE.—The project is in embryo, and we have no further information.

MEDICUS.—Dr. Joseph Rogers, Dean Street, Soho, W.C.

ARMY MEDICAL PROMOTIONS.

SIR,—I am pleased to congratulate Dr. Emil Becher on his promotion to staff-surgeon, which appeared in the *Gazette* of the 31st of January; but I cannot avoid feeling that such an appointment is most unjust to the rest of the assistant-surgeons of the army. If I am not misinformed, Dr. Becher only entered the ranks of the army as lately as 1862; and although he was employed, during the Crimean war, in Turkey and Asia Minor, it was not a military but a civil position that he held. If such be the case, on what grounds has he been permitted to count such period and the intervening time as service towards promotion? On what employment has Dr. Becher been engaged since he was lost sight of in 1862, and reappeared as a candidate at Netley, and passed his examination in 1862? We still recollect the case of the assistant-surgeon who retired from the service, and reentering, was permitted to tack on his former period to his new adventure, thus obtaining an enormous advantage; and I am sure the Department will again feel that this second instance of favouritism will do much to dispel the idea of promotion by seniority. Let us hope it is the last spark of the unpleasant arrangements that formerly characterised the Department; and that, having fulfilled promises made by others, the Director-General will from henceforth, except under peculiar circumstances plainly and publicly stated, never place a junior over

February 1868. ONE OF HIS SENIORS.

MR. JACKSON (Birmingham).—By letter to R. Dunn, Esq., Norfolk Street, Strand.

DR. GRIFFITH (London).—1. Many thanks. 2. Dr. Alexander Henry, 15, George Street, Portman Square.

NEW AND OLD ATOMIC WEIGHTS.

A **STUDENT** (Manchester) writes to us for an exposition of this subject; stating that he understands why in chemistry the old atomic weights of the dyad elements have to be doubled, but cannot see why the monad elements should not also have their atomic weights doubled. We hardly see how this can be; atomic numbers have only a relative value, and only express the ratios of the atomic weights of bodies to each other. If, therefore, all the atomic numbers were doubled, surely a student must see that the relations and ratios of these numbers remain unchanged. For example, in the new system the atomic weight of hydrogen is considered to be the one-sixteenth of the atomic weight of oxygen instead of the one-eighth. This is always expressed by doubling the old atomic weight of oxygen and leaving that of hydrogen still as unity; but it might evidently be expressed by halving the atomic weight of hydrogen and leaving that of oxygen unchanged from the old system. But if both hydrogen and oxygen were to have their atomic weights doubled, that of hydrogen would still be two-sixteenths or one-eighth of that of oxygen. The atomic weights of sodium and a few other metals are left unchanged, while those of the majority of the metals are doubled, because of their chemical properties, but principally because of their physical properties, such as their specific heats, volume-weights of the vapours of certain of their combinations, and isomorphism of certain others. The new system differs essentially from the old in expressing more fully and accurately the chemical relations and so-called constitution of bodies. This it does principally by recognising the law that the atoms of elementary bodies have specific properties of combining with a definite number of other atoms. Hence the introduction of the terms "monad", "dyad", etc.

DR. A. SAMELSON (Manchester).—Thanks. We have already forwarded the name.

MR. TERRY (Frome).—Covers are supplied as usual, and may be obtained, as before, at the office of the JOURNAL, from Mr. Richards, 37, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

REPRESENTATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

SIR,—Surely the coming representation of the University of London in Parliament is an honour to which a public man may aspire, and even himself seek, without derogation or prejudice. It is equally true that this—its virgin honour—should be scrupulously approached and chasteily awarded. It cannot be hawked about after any fashion, apparent or actual, without loss of prestige in the pretensions and character of the University. For these simple reasons, I am much concerned, although favourably disposed towards Mr. Lowe, to find that a requisition has been got up, signed numerously, I believe, and presented to that gentleman. I venture, through your columns, to impugn this objectionable piece of zealous partisanship, and to call into question the propriety of advances being thus unseemingly made to any gentleman, however desirable he may be, as a candidate for our representation. I do not think that a procedure by way of requisition is a justly devised adaptation to our case, or a right precedent to introduce into the electoral behaviour of our University, nor do I know that such a course of action is consistent either with the practice of other Universities or with the dignity and interests of our own. Are the Graduates as a constituency, and the University as an institution, in so humble and sore a plight, as to require a common-place electioneering expedient, which implies in no inconsiderable sense an admission of some supposed strait and necessity? The Committee for promoting Mr. Lowe's candidature cannot be of this mind; and yet they have happened, I trust unwittingly, upon a line of conduct which lends some colour to the imputation, and is calculated to impair the dignity of the University, as well as to shackle the freedom of the requisitionists in the exercise of their maiden privilege.

February 1868.

I am, etc.,
 VOLENS.

THE BRITISH LYING-IN HOSPITAL.—Mr. Charles William Browne (Kew Green), writing to us concerning the proceedings at the Endell Street Lying-in Hospital, says: "It is something new to me, having had the pleasure of Dr. Eastlake's acquaintance for some years, to hear that his resignation is necessary to promote good harmony. I will not speak of his well known professional merits; but, having worked in the same dispensary with him, I can say that I know no man of kindlier instincts, more unlikely to disturb good harmony, or a more thorough gentleman. I hope the profession will rally round Dr. Eastlake, and enable him to defeat this very underhand attempt at injustice, and offer him their sympathy, as I do mine."

PROFESSOR F. C. CALVERT (Manchester), in evidence at Sandbach in a case where abortion is charged, states: "If the medicine analysed by him were used according to the directions given, it would be certain to produce abortion, and probably death. It would act violently on the system: it was highly purgative, and would produce vomiting." Is it correct, asks a correspondent in Liverpool, to say that any medicine is certain to produce abortion? and ought not this statement of the professor's to be taken with a considerable margin?

MATERNAL IMPRESSIONS.

SIR,—If the subject of "Maternal Impressions" is not worn threadbare, you may think the following instance, which has occurred to me since my last communication, worthy of note.

A woman, three months pregnant, saw a man striking a favourite dog with a stick in the eye. She screamed out, "Oh, he has blinded the dog"; when her husband led her away much agitated. She described the eye as looking "all white." Six months after, her child was born with the crystalline lens of one eye opaque. To make the story complete, it was the child's left eye that had cataract, and it was the left eye of the dog that was destroyed.

The *fœtus in utero*, doubtless, is very rarely influenced by shocks and impressions made upon the mother, or we should meet with hundreds of instances, such as I have quoted, where we now meet with but one; and yet I cannot help feeling that the infant is, more frequently than we imagine, influenced for good or for evil by the maternal surroundings.

An experienced matron said to a friend of mine, as she passed a graceful group of statuary in his hall: "That's right, sir, always surround your wife with as many pretty things as you can while she is breeding, if you wish to have pretty children." My friend acted upon the hint, and a series of babies, now numbering eight, more beautiful in form and feature was never produced, although neither he nor his wife had any very great pretensions to beauty. An incident connected with the last child is worth noting. During the last few months of gestation, the mother frequently looked at and admired a statuette which she possessed, of a sleeping infant. Its attitude was peculiar, the cheek resting on the back of the hand. For some weeks after the baby was born, it spontaneously assumed the attitude described, pillowing its cheek on the back of the hand whenever it went to sleep. The features, too, of the sculptor's art were strikingly reproduced. I am, etc.,

Faversham, December 1867.

EDWARD GARRAWAY.

GEBÜRTSHÜLFE.—There are at least two cases in the Museum of the College of Surgeons, including Mr. Highmore's; and in the *London Medical and Surgical Journal*, vol. vii, p. 255, you will find a case of fœtus vomited by a child three years old. M. Geoffroy St. Hilaire also published the particulars.

H. J.—The results of re-vaccination in the Prussian army in 1841, were published in *Medicinische Zeitung*, No. xix; and an English abstract in Forbes's *British and Foreign Review*, No. xxvii, p. 237.

L.R.C.P. LOND.—The lectures bearing his name were founded by Lord Lumley in 1584; and in 1632, Dr. Goulston left £200 to endow a Pathological Lecture at the Royal College of Physicians.

USE OF THE CHLORATE OF POTASH IN PREVENTING PREMATURE LABOUR.

SIR,—I am induced to call attention to the above subject, because I have had reason to be highly gratified with its success. In three well marked cases where the women have been in the habit of repeatedly miscarrying about the fourth or fifth month, I have persuaded them to take the chlorate of potash for a considerable time; and the result has been in each case the birth of a healthy child at the full time. I have often used it in similar cases with the same satisfactory result. I usually follow the instructions given to us by Professor Simpson in his Lectures; and would be glad to know whether other surgeons have noticed the same effects from the drug. It seems to act directly on the child, as the mothers always tell me they feel its movements much stronger.

I would like to take the opportunity, with your permission, of recording an interesting case of "maternal impressions" I have just met with. Mrs. B. states that, about the time of "quickening" of her third child, her husband offered her two strawberries. Upon her refusing to take them, he threw them at her. One hit her on the cheek; the other grazed the side of her neck. The child just born has a well developed strawberry on its cheek, and a small one on the side of the neck, corresponding (the mother tells me) with the exact situation where the fruit hit her. I am, etc.,

PARKER CROSSBY, L.R.C.P.

DR. MELDON (Dublin).—With great pleasure.

CANNES AND LLANDUDNO AS WINTER RESORTS.—Dr. James Nicol wrote recently to the *Times*. "It may be interesting to many of your readers to compare the winter climate of a fashionable and much frequented watering-place (Cannes) in the South of France with that of a watering-place (Llandudno) in North Wales. The latter, though now well known and much patronised as a summer place, is now only just coming into notice as a winter resort; but an experience of ten years of its climate, coupled with a series of meteorological observations extending over that time, convinces me that it only requires to be known to be as much appreciated in winter as it now is in summer. . . . The mean temperature of the month of December last at Cannes was 39.6 deg., the range for the month 23 deg., and the greatest range between any two consecutive days 18 deg.; while at Llandudno the mean temperature of the same month was 43.1 deg., the range for the month 18.2 deg., and the greatest range between any two consecutive days 16 deg. At Cannes, the highest temperature observed was 51 deg., and the lowest 28 deg.; at Llandudno these temperatures were respectively 57.7 deg. and 33.5 deg. While, therefore, at Cannes there was noted on one occasion four degrees of frost, the temperature at Llandudno never reached the freezing point by a degree and a half. It thus appears that for the month of December last, Llandudno was warmer than Cannes by 3.5 deg., and that it also enjoyed a temperature more equable and of smaller range. Owing to the imperfection of the Cannes table, I am precluded from carrying the comparison further. But enough has, I think, been shewn to prove that Llandudno, though hitherto comparatively neglected as a winter resort for invalids, has claims of no inconsiderable strength, and such as must, I feel assured, eventually meet with a much larger share of public attention than they have hitherto received."

SUPPLY OF THE JOURNAL TO NEW MEMBERS.—The Secretaries of the Branches, and other members who take an interest in the increase of the Association, will greatly aid the economical working of the financial department if they will kindly send at once to the General Secretary the names of intending new members.

F.R.S.—Your communication is too strongly worded and requires signature. Nevertheless, we may say with Bolingbroke, that "Folly and knavery have prevailed most where they should be tolerated the least, and presumption has been excused most where diffidence and candour are on many accounts the most necessary."

MR. HARCOURT (Dublin) will find a good account of the writings of Albinus in the *Medical Bibliography*, by the late Mr. Atkinson, which, unfortunately for all bibliopoles, stopped at a.

DE CANDOLLE.—There was a large quantity of Woorara in the last French Exhibition. Humboldt states that it is obtained from the bark of a tree called *Vejuco de Mavacure*, it is inspissated over a slow fire, and then mixed with a gum drawn from the *Kiracaguero*. It occasions rapid death and decomposition of the lungs.

Z. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—The name is added to the list of members, and the back numbers will be forwarded. We shall be glad to receive for consideration the paper on Diseases Peculiar to Colliers.

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

Dr. E. Balman, Liverpool; Dr. D. Dyce Brown, Aberdeen (with enclosure); Mr. James R. Lane, London (with enclosure); A Member of Many Years Standing (with enclosure); Dr. Laycock, Edinburgh (with enclosure); Dr. W. T. Greene, Moira, Ireland (with enclosure); Dr. Samelson, Manchester; Mr. J. T. Muriel, Hadleigh; Dr. Heath Strange, Hampstead; Mr. G. Terry, Mells, Frome; Dr. J. Rose Cornack, Orleans; Inspector-General C. J. Smith, Bath (with enclosure); Dr. S. Gibbon, London (with enclosure); Mr. H. E. Norris, Charmouth; Dr. Semple, London (with enclosure); Dr. G. Hill, Hooton (with enclosure); Mr. H. Wilson, Dublin; Dr. J. E. Gray, British Museum; Dr. A. Meldon, Dublin; Dr. Milner Barry, Tunbridge Wells; Mr. Arthur Jackson, Sheffield; Dr. W. V. Bird, Bootle (with enclosure); Mr. Holmes Coote, London (with enclosure); Mr. R. Richardson; Dr. Hillier, London (with enclosure); Dr. Saunders, London (with enclosure); Dr. Symonds, Clifton (with enclosure); Dr. Sieveking, London (with enclosure); Mr. Berkeley Hill, London (with enclosure); Dr. Rudderforth, London; Dr. Dyce Duckworth, London (with enclosure); Dr. Lankester, London (with enclosure); Mr. J. G. Foster, London; Dr. Eastlake, London; Mr. J. Jackson, Birmingham; Mr. Roots, Kingston (with enclosure); Dr. Mapother, Dublin (with enclosure); Dr. Sandwith, Beaconsfield (with enclosure); Dr. Jas. Ellis, St. Luke's Hospital (with enclosure); Dr. W. Griffith, London; Mr. B. Wills Richardson, Dublin; Mr. Barnard Holt, London; Dr. E. Parkes, Netley; Dr. David Nelson, Birmingham; Dr. Macnamara, Dublin; Mr. Joseph Hinton, Hinton, near Bath (with enclosure); J. B. G.; Dr. Heslop, Birmingham (with enclosure); Mr. Hickman, London (with enclosure); Mr. Baker, Brentwood; Dr. Hubbard, London (with enclosure); The Registrar of the Medical Society of London (with enclosure); Dr. Belgrave, Hendon; Mr. Hands, Hornsey; Mr. Henry J. Mathews, Horsham; Dr. Tucker, Sligo (with enclosure); Dr. T. T. Pyle, Sunderland; Dr. Hooper, London; Mr. W. T. Iliff, London; Dr. T. Radford, Manchester; Dr. C. F. Moore, Dublin; Mr. J. B. Curgenven, London (with enclosure); Dr. Cholmeley, London; Dr. John Murray, London (with enclosure); Dr. Roberts, Liverpool (with enclosure); The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall (with enclosure); Mr. T. M. Stone, London (with enclosure); The Registrar-General of England (with enclosure); The Registrar-General of Ireland (with enclosure); Dr. T. M. Rooke, Cheltenham; Dr. Smart, Greenwich; Mr. R. S. Cross, Petersfield; Drs. Gream and Wagner, Berlin; Mr. F. Austin, Liverpool Medical Institution; Dr. Gorreger Griffith, London; The Secretaries of the South London Medico-Chirurgical Society; Dr. Macpherson, Birmingham (with enclosure); Dr. J. Warburton Begbie, Edinburgh; Dr. T. Fox, London (with enclosure); Dr. Parkes, Southampton; Mr. Hollis, Edinburgh; and Mr. Thorncliffe, London.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Observations on the Phenomena of Life and Mind. By R. Dunn, Esq., F.R.C.S. London: 1868.
Manchester and Salford Sanitary Association.—Report upon the Health of Manchester and Salford during the last fifteen years. By A. Ransome, M.A., M.B. Cantab. Manchester: 1867.
On Aphasia or Loss of Speech in Cerebral Disease. By F. Bateman, M.D., M.R.C.P. London: 1868.
Thirteenth Annual Report of the Suffolk Lunatic Asylum: 1868.
An Epitome of the Venereal Diseases. By A. Bruce, M.S., B.Sc. London: 1868.
An Address to the Governors and Subscribers of the Richmond Infirmary. By Scrutator.
Proposal to Stamp out Small-pox and other Contagious Diseases. By Sir J. Y. Simpson, Bart., M.D., D.C.L. Edinburgh: 1868.
Lectures on the Study of Fever. By Alfred Hudson, M.D. Second edition. Dublin: 1868.
Guinea Worm, or Dracunculus; its Symptoms and Progress, Causes, Pathological Anatomy, Results, and Radical Cure. By James Africanus B. Horton, M.D. Edin. London: 1868.
Emanuel Swedenborg; his Life and Writings. By William White. Vols. I and II. London: 1867.
Chemical Notes for the Lecture-Room. By T. Wood, Ph.D., F.C.S. Second edition. London: 1868.
Clinical Cases illustrative of Moral Imbecility and Insanity. By Stanley Haynes, M.D. Edin., M.R.C.S. Eng. Salisbury: 1868.