

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL: NOTICE OF MEETING.

THE Committee of Council will meet at the Queen's Hotel, Birmingham, on Thursday, the 23rd day of April, 1868, at 3 o'clock precisely.

T. WATKIN WILLIAMS, *General Secretary*.

13, Newhall Street, Birmingham, April 1st, 1868.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT MEETINGS.

THE next meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Union House, Dartford, on Friday, April 24th, at 3.45 P.M. Chairman, W. P. HOARE, Esq., F.R.C.S.

Dinner at the Bull Hotel at 5.45 P.M.

Papers.—Surgical Therapeutics of Chloride of Zinc. By W. P. Hoare, Esq.—Clinical Cases and Models. By Dr. Cockburn, R.E.

FREDERICK JAMES BROWN, M.D., *Hon. Secretary*.

Rochester, April, 1868.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

AN ordinary meeting of this Branch was held at Clarke's Castle Hotel, Taunton, on Wednesday, April 8th, 1868, at 5 P.M.; CHARLES HENRY CORNISH, Esq., President, in the chair. There were present ten members, and Dr. Pope of Glastonbury, visitor.

After dinner, and the usual toasts, the following cases were communicated.

1. A very extraordinary case of Diseased Urethra and Bladder, in which a large scrotal pouch supplemented the bladder, and had existed for a long time, as the principal receptacle of urine, being evacuated at will *per urethram* by manual compression. The preparation was shewn. By W. L. Winterbotham, M.B.

2. A case of Stricture (Scirrhus) of the Transverse Colon, in which for three months before death nothing passed through the bowels. Preparation shewn. By H. Alford, Esq.

3. A case of Strangulated Hernia in an infant only ten weeks old, relieved by operation. By W. Liddon, M.B.

4. A puzzling case of Pregnancy and Miscarriage. By C. H. Cornish, Esq.

5. A case of Anomalous Abdominal Disease. By J. Cornwall, Esq. Mr. Winterbotham was specially thanked for his interesting paper. The other cases led to animated discussions.

REPORTS OF SOCIETIES.

OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1ST, 1868.

JOHN HALL DAVIS, M.D., President, in the Chair.

THREE gentlemen were elected Fellows.

Specimens, etc.—Dr. PHILLIPS exhibited a specimen of Retro-uterine Hæmatocele.

Dr. GREENHALGH exhibited a specimen of Hypertrophied Nympha removed by the ecraseur.

Dr. PLAYFAIR related the particulars of a case, in which a woman suffering from Carcinoma Uteri, attended with much induration and rigidity of the cervix, had aborted of a dead fœtus at the fifth month. The fœtus, which had been extruded piecemeal, was exhibited.

THE PRESIDENT exhibited the Membranes of a Twin Ovum of a supposed ten weeks' gestation, which he had removed from a patient the subject of exhausting hæmorrhage. The fœtuses had been expelled eight days before, but their envelopes were retained and were adherent to the anterior and posterior walls of the uterus. They were extracted entire by the ovum-forceps, and the hæmorrhage had not recurred.

Dr. PROTHEROE SMITH exhibited an instrument which he had devised to facilitate the Extraction of Hair-pins from the female Bladder, and which, in a recent case, he had used with complete success.

Some of the Difficulties encountered in determining the existence of Pregnancy. By EDWARD COPEMAN, M.D.—Five cases were given in detail, in all of which considerable difficulty had been at first felt in deciding on the question of pregnancy, owing to the presence of some one or more abnormal conditions, but in all of which the author had been

enabled to form a correct diagnosis, mainly by detecting the "placental souffle" by auscultation. This sound, Dr. Copeman said, had never deceived him; and he expressed his surprise that in a recent work Dr. Hewitt had stated that no dependance whatever was to be placed upon it as a sign of pregnancy.—Dr. GRAILY HEWITT thought the uterine souffle one of the signs of pregnancy which were not absolutely "reliable," and in this sense he had deprecated attention to it. In some of the cases now related other observers had failed to hear it when it was evident to Dr. Copeman's more practised ear. He still believed it to be capable of simulation by other sounds, and in that sense of the word "non-reliable."

On Puerperal Fever in the British Lying-in-Hospital, with remarks on Treatment. By GRAILY HEWITT, M.D.—The mortality in the Hospital from all causes was in the first place alluded to. The statistics adduced extended from 1849 to 1866 inclusive. Married women only were admitted. The Hospital now in existence was first used for patients in 1849. Of the four principal wards, two had a cubic capacity of 6552 feet each; the other two of 5616 feet each. These wards were tolerably isolated, and ventilated by fireplaces and open windows. During the time the author held office there, the practice was to allot four patients, unless under extra pressure, to each ward. The in-patients were attended alternately by Dr. Murray and the author for periods of three months. During the seventeen years, 1849-1866, the total deliveries were 2438; the total maternal deaths 25. The percentage of deaths was therefore 1.02 from all causes. The causes of death were set down as follows: puerperal fever, or diseases closely allied to it, 16; hæmorrhage, instrumental labours, chest-affections complicating labour, and other diseases, 9. Of late years, 1863-1866, the number of deliveries had much increased, being nearly double those of previous years. In one year, 1864, there were 199 deliveries without one death; in 1865 there were 5 deaths and 232 deliveries. On taking charge of the Hospital in 1862, the author, in conjunction with Dr. Murray, reduced the number of patients in each ward from 6 to 4. In the next place, the author adduced particulars of all the cases of puerperal disease in which there appeared to him reason for designating the case as puerperal fever or closely allied to it, during a period of nine months, including three periods of three months each. Some of these attacks were slight, some more severe. Particular attention was directed to three patients in the same ward, attacked on December 28th, 1864, with almost identical symptoms. A fourth in the same ward had severe sweatings. In three of these cases the attack gave way rapidly to treatment. The fourth was dangerously ill for many days, but ultimately recovered. In all there were, during these nine months, 23 cases in which, in the author's opinion, the illness could only be regarded as of the nature of puerperal fever. The identity of the symptoms in the slight and in the grave cases was the basis of this conclusion. For the most part, as initial symptoms, were noticed, pain and tenderness in the uterine region, quick pulse, prostration of vital power, in almost all cases rigor generally well marked; subsequently, if the attack did not give way, abdominal swelling, great prostration, hurried respiration, threatening of death. Herpes labialis occurred in several cases. One only of the 23 cases died; this patient was admitted previously to the setting in of labour, for great prostration from chest-disease. She died of exhaustion two days after labour; the contents of the uterus being in a putrescent state. As to the nature of puerperal fever, the opinion was expressed that it is a form of pyæmia, the result of the introduction of a poisonous material into the circulation, the point of entrance being generally the inner surface of the uterus, or the vaginal surface. The poison may be introduced from without, or be the result of changes occurring within the uterus itself. Enlargement of the uterus had been noticed in many cases of the disease. On the question of the treatment of the disease, Dr. Graily Hewitt stated that the plan pursued by him was to enforce great cleanliness, and to give a liberal diet from the first in all cases as preventive measures; and, when labour was at all protracted, brandy was given during as well as after the labour. Beef-tea, eggs, and milk were allowed at once, meat on the second day. When any symptom of a suspicious character appeared, the case was at once treated as one of puerperal fever, as follows. The binder was directed to be closely and accurately applied, to prevent collection of lochia in the uterus and to facilitate its contraction; hot turpentine stupes were applied to the abdomen to relieve the pain, for which purpose the light binder also gave universally good results. Every four hours the patient had 30 minims each of tincture of lavender, chloric ether, aromatic spirit of ammonia, and compound tincture of camphor. Brandy, with water or egg, was given at once in varying quantities; in a mild case six or eight ounces *per diem*; but as much as two ounces every two hours was given when initial symptoms were very severe. Nourishment was given in good quantities, very frequently chiefly liquid; milk and eggs and beef-tea being most relied on. Something was given every half-hour in the

tinuing the anæsthetic, averaged about thirty seconds. None of the patients suffered from any unpleasant symptoms afterwards, and all expressed themselves very grateful for having been saved pain.

The want of success in the one case arose from the patient becoming frightened after inhaling a short time, and succeeding in getting the inhaling-tube out of his mouth, a circumstance which could not have occurred with a proper face-piece such as is now being constructed for me.

I am, etc.,
ALFRED COLEMAN,
Dental Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's and the Dental Hospital.

SIR,—At the experiments with nitrous oxide gas at the Dental Hospital last Thursday, the number of pulsations in each period of five seconds was registered by Mr. Bartlett as follows.

CASE I.—A woman, aged 21, very nervous—13, 12, 12, 13, 14, 12, 13, 12, 14, 10, 11, 12, 12, 12.

CASE II.—A man, aged 15—11, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12, 13, 13, 13, 10, 11, 12, 12, 11, 12.

CASE III.—A woman, aged 23—8, 7, 8, 8, 7, 8, 6, 7, 7, 8, 9, 9, 9, 8, 8 (gas removed), 8, 9, 10, 8, 9, 8, 8.

CASE IV.—Same woman, five minutes later—6, 6, 8, 8, 8, 8, 9, 11, 10, 9 (gas removed), 9, 9, 9, 8, 8.

CASE V.—A healthy muscular man, aged 39—10, 10, 10, 11, 11, 11, 12, 13, 13, 12, 12, 12, 13 irregular (gas removed), 10, 12, 12 (pulse very small), 11, 12, 10, 10; said he felt everything.

CASE VI.—Man, aged 21. Registration lost.

CASE VII.—A man, aged 20—10, 10, 12, 10, 8, 9, 10, 11, 10, 11, 12, 11 (gas removed), 12, 10, 11, 10, 6, 6, 7, 7.

CASE VIII.—A man, aged 45—6, 7, 7, 6, 7, 8, 9, 9, 10, 11, 10, 12 (gas removed), 10, 12, 10, 10, 9, 8, 9, 10, 11; seemed to feel acute pain in the extraction, which was a difficult one.

CASE IX.—A girl, aged 13—9, 5, 9, 10, 10, 9, 11, 9, 10 (gas removed), 10 (struggled), and so the pulse could not be felt for fifteen seconds, 8, 8; said she felt pain in the operation.

The depression in force of the pulse, when the greatest effect of nitrous oxide was produced, was more striking than the increase of frequency which, in Cases I and 2, was very slight in consequence of the pulse being very rapid from the state of nervous excitement of the patient before inhaling.

I am, etc.,
3, Cavendish Place, April 8th, 1868. J. T. CLOVER.

. We have been favoured by Mr. C. J. Fox with a further account of cases operated on under the protoxide of nitrogen by Mr. Hepburn, jun., with the aid of Mr. Coleman, in which the results were of a similarly satisfactory character.

THERAPEUTICAL COMMITTEE OF THE HARVEIAN SOCIETY.

SIR,—Will you allow us to intimate to the profession, through the medium of your valuable JOURNAL, that we should be glad to communicate with any gentlemen who would be willing to undertake the duties of local honorary secretaries to this Committee for the districts in which they reside. We have already received offers from Dublin, Leeds, Birmingham, and Torquay.

We are, etc.,
J. B. CURGENVEN, 11, Craven Hill Gardens.
WILLIAM HICKMAN, M.B., 1, Dorset Square,
Hon. Secs. to the Therapeutical Committee of the Harveian Society.
April 1868.

OBITUARY.

FREDERICK STEELL, M.D.

WE (*Birmingham Post*) regret to have to announce the death of Frederick Steell, M.D., late house-surgeon at the General Hospital, at the early age of 28. Dr. Steell graduated at the University of Edinburgh, and was shortly afterwards appointed house-surgeon at the Royal Infirmary in that city, which appointment he held for about a year. He then studied for some months at different continental schools. On his return to England he was elected house-surgeon at the Carlisle Infirmary, but shortly afterwards resigned and came to Birmingham. It was during the first six months of his residence at the General Hospital in this town that the council of the College of Surgeons of Edinburgh testified their appreciation of his thorough knowledge of the science of surgery by electing him a fellow of their body. His failing health, however, compelled him to resign his appointment after a residence of two years, and few men have left behind them such deep regrets at their premature decease.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen passed their primary examinations in anatomy and physiology, at a meeting of the Court of Examiners, on April 8th; and, when eligible, will be admitted to the pass examination:—

C. H. W. Parkinson, A. C. Roberts, John Jolliffe, John Maffey, J. P. Grover, Walter Waller, Francis Coomber, George Abbott, and J. E. B. Burroughs (Students of Guy's Hospital); A. E. Cumberbatch, H. A. Smith, P. B. Stoney, H. E. Symons, William Nettle, and Frederick Grant (of St. Bartholomew's Hospital); William Cox, W. J. Butler, H. J. K. Vines, Richard Hickman, and Arthur Lattey (of St. Mary's Hospital); G. D. Jones, G. J. Gray, Andrew Clarke, and A. H. Carter (of the University College Hospital); W. A. Kibbler and Stephen Mackenzie (of the London Hospital); Walter Weame and S. F. Solly (of the Westminster Hospital); Ralph Fleyer (of the Middlesex Hospital); Joseph Matthews (of Liverpool); and St. J. W. Lucas (of Dublin).

The following gentlemen passed on April 9th:—

C. F. Gray, H. E. Haynes, S. G. Sloman, E. H. Cooke, C. P. Skrimshire, Arthur Andrews, Andrew Jukes, and A. H. Sandiland (Students of St. Bartholomew's Hospital); Thomas Allen, J. R. Baumgartner, Charles Clay, E. B. Roche, F. E. Taylor, H. Ede Merri, R. W. Lyell, and William McCulloch (of King's College Hospital); Wallis McDonald, J. E. C. Ferris, John North, Frederick Prigg, T. H. Byam, J. M. Lang, and G. D. N. Leake (of St. George's Hospital); W. F. R. Burgess and Samuel Walker (of Guy's Hospital); W. H. Box and H. Beaufoy Wilder (of the Westminster Hospital); G. E. Hyman (of the London Hospital); W. A. Maybury (of St. Thomas's Hospital); T. E. Parsons (of St. Mary's Hospital); W. H. Lambert (of Birmingham); R. B. Gilland (of Glasgow); and J. L. Williams (of Edinburgh).—It is stated that out of the 266 candidates, only 10 failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Court; and were consequently referred to their anatomical and physiological studies for the period of three months.

The following gentleman passed on April 14th:—

T. S. Townsend, W. A. Nicoll, R. J. Pye-Smith, C. E. S. Perkins, T. W. Lacey, R. H. Pritchard, and H. G. Peacock (Students of Guy's Hospital); Alfred Cotterill, W. R. Trezise, R. W. White, M. A. De B. C. Stevens, and Henry Parmiter (of King's College); F. H. Turner, C. J. Davis, W. H. Kesteven, and F. H. Bodman (of St. Bartholomew's Hospital); Charles Gosse, W. H. Pearce, and G. F. E. Towt (of the Charing Cross Hospital); H. W. Saunders, G. C. Franklin, and Henry Meadows (of St. Thomas's Hospital); Innes Griffin, W. H. Davies, and Walter Ridden (of University College); Roger Pendlebury and W. G. Luff (of Liverpool); T. H. Hunt and Charles Evans (of Manchester); A. G. R. Harris and E. W. Barton (of St. Mary's Hospital); and P. R. D. Gabbett (of the Quebec, Montreal, and St. Mary's Hospitals).

The following gentlemen passed on April 15th:—

David Davies, Joseph Lawton, R. B. Bradley, W. A. Patchell, Harold Crompton, Edward Kennedy, and S. H. Ower (Students of Manchester); W. F. Lill, W. P. Yates, T. J. Dixon, R. F. Grant, and John Morris (of Guy's Hospital); T. B. Archer, W. G. Lowe, G. S. Payne, and R. S. Davenhill (of St. Bartholomew's Hospital); G. C. Day, F. J. Laws, and R. A. Morrish (of St. Mary's Hospital); F. W. Skrimshire, H. J. Rope, and R. W. Fitt (of King's College); J. F. Palmer, W. W. Bowles, and F. O. Lovell (of St. George's Hospital); H. A. Leapingwell and J. W. Ley (of the London Hospital); A. J. Atkinson (of University College); and T. L. Webb (of Birmingham).

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—Names of gentlemen who passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, April 9th, 1868.

Akermann, William, Notting Hill
Evans, John, High Street, Cardiff
Harrison, George William, Birkenhead
Jones, John Thomas, Llanfyllin
Murphy, Thomas Charles, Ealing
Naish, Frederick James, East India Road, Poplar
Saunders, Thomas Dudley, Bath
Stockler, James Reginald, Guy's Hospital

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are declared:—

BIRMINGHAM GENERAL DISPENSARY—Resident Physician and Secretary.
BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY—Surgeon.
BRITISH LYING-IN HOSPITAL, Endell Street—Two Physicians.
CAVAN UNION—Medical Officer for the Ballyhaise Dispensary District.
DOVER HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY—Surgeon.
DUBLIN, TRINITY COLLEGE—King's Professor of the Practice of Medicine.
DUDLEY DISPENSARY—Resident Medical Officer.
GLASGOW, BARNHILL POORHOUSE, Barony Parish—Assistant Medical Officer.
GLOUCESTER GENERAL INFIRMARY—Assistant-Physician and Assistant-Surgeon.
HORNCASTLE UNION, Lincolnshire—Medical Officer for the Hemingby District.
ISLINGTON DISPENSARY—Surgeon.
KILMAURS, Ayrshire—Parochial Medical Officer.
LOCHBROOM—Parochial Medical Officer.
LEEK UNION, Staffordshire—Medical Officer for the Longnor District.
NEWTOWNLIMRADY UNION, co. Londonderry—Medical Officer for the Bellarena Dispensary District.
NORFOLK COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM, Thorpe—Assistant Medical Officer.
NORTHAMPTON GENERAL INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon.
NORTH DUBLIN UNION—Medical Officer for the Coolock and Drumcondra Dispensary District.
NORTHERN INFIRMARY, Inverness—House-Surgeon and Apothecary.
NORTHLEACH UNION, Gloucestershire—Medical Officer for District No. 1, and the Workhouse.

PLYMOUTH PUBLIC DISPENSARY—Physician.
FORTPATRICK, Wiltshire—Parochial Medical Officer.
ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS—Professor of Anatomy.
ROYAL GENERAL DISPENSARY, Bartholomew Close—Assistant-Physician.
ROYAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY, Margate—Resident Surgeon.
ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL, Manchester—Surgeon.
WARRINGTON DISPENSARY—Resident Surgeon Apothecary.
WEST NORFOLK AND LYNN HOSPITAL—Physician.
WOLVERHAMPTON UNION—Medical Officer for District No. 3.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

BROWN, George Arthur, Esq., Surgeon, appointed Chief Surgeon to the Tredegar Ironworks, Monmouthshire.
CASE, Henry, Esq., appointed Senior House-Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital, *vice* Thomas Pinner, Esq.
CLAPHAM, E., M.D., appointed Surgeon to the County Prison, Devizes, *vice* R. Monigomerie, Esq., deceased.
NORTON, G. Henry, Esq., appointed Junior House-Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital, *vice* Henry Case, Esq.
***PHILLIPS, G. H., M.A., M.D.**, elected one of the Physicians to the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Infirmary, *vice* D. B. White, M.D., deceased.
THOMTLIN, W. J., M.R.C.S., M.D., appointed Surgeon to the Royal Gardens, Kew, and to the Kew District, Richmond Union, *vice* C. W. Browne, Esq., resigned.
***WALKER, J. West, M.B.**, appointed Surgeon to the County Prison, Spilsby, in the place of George Walker, Esq., resigned.

ARMY.

CREED, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon J., to be Assistant-Surgeon 20th Foot, *vice* W. Hensman.
CRERAR, Surgeon J., 106th Foot, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* Staff-Surgeon-Major H. C. Walke, M.D.
CUTHBERTSON, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon R. A., to be Assistant-Surgeon 65th Foot, *vice* J. S. Johnston, M.D.
DUNBAR, Assistant-Surgeon F. H., M.D., 23rd Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, *vice* G. B. West.
FERGUSON, Staff-Surgeon W., to be Surgeon 106th Foot, *vice* J. Crerar.
HENSMAN, Assistant-Surgeon W., 20th Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, *vice* J. Creed.
HERBERT, Assistant-Surgeon H. C., M.D., 67th Foot, to be Assistant-Surgeon 40th Foot, *vice* B. Stiles.
HOLLOWAY, Surgeon J. L., 37th Foot, to be Surgeon-Major, having completed twenty years' full-pay service.
JOHNSTON, Assistant-Surgeon J. S., M.D., 65th Foot, to be Assistant-Surgeon 1st Dragoon Guards, *vice* J. Watts.
MACKINNON, Assistant-Surgeon H. W. A., 101st Foot, to be Assistant-Surgeon Royal Artillery, *vice* A. R. Kilroy.
STILES, Assistant-Surgeon B., 40th Foot, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* W. Ferguson.
WATTS, Assistant-Surgeon J., 1st Dragoon Guards, to be Staff-Surgeon.
WEST, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon G. B., to be Assistant-Surgeon 23rd Foot, *vice* F. H. Dunbar, M.D.

ROYAL NAVY.

BURNETT, T., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the Plymouth Division of Royal Marines.
COOPER, Astley, Esq., Surgeon, to the *Mecene*.
MURRAY, Andrew, Esq., Staff-Surgeon, to the *Eagle*.
PURVES, Robert, Esq., Surgeon, to the *Adventure*.

BIRTHS.

CLENDINNEN.—On April 9th, at Cheswardine, the wife of W. E. Clendinnen, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.
BLACKSTONE.—On April 8th, at Gloucester Road, Regent's Park, the wife of *Joseph Blackstone, jun., Esq., of a son.
DUNCAN.—On April 5th, at Lee, the wife of P. Martin Duncan, M.B., of a son.
HICKS.—On April 4th, at Old Street Road, Finsbury, the wife of G. Borlase Hicks, L.R.C.P. Ed., of a daughter.
LEADAM.—On April 4th, at Iver, the wife of W. W. Leadam, M.D., of a son.
MACKENZIE.—On April 12th, at Sidmouth, the wife of *J. Ingleby Mackenzie, M.B., of a son.
MAURICE.—On April 6th, at Reading, the wife of Oliver C. Maurice, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.
PEACOCK.—On April 9th, at Churchinford, Devon, the wife of *Albert L. Peacock, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.
WELSH.—On April 4th, at Saffron Walden, the wife of *Francis F. Welsh, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

***COOKE, George R., Esq.**, Surgeon, of Greenhithe, to Lucy Mary, daughter of the late Smith WHILCOCK, Esq., of Birmingham, at Greenhithe, on April 4th.
FITZGERALD, Edmund M. D., M.D., Assistant-Surgeon Army Medical Staff, to Belinda Mary, second daughter of Jonas LEAKE, M.D., of Twickenham, at Isleworth, on April 2nd.

DEATHS.

BAKER.—On April 6th, at Wellclose Square, Helen Harriett, wife of Benjamin Baker, Esq., Surgeon.
DAVIES.—On April 1st, at Chester, aged 93, Mary, widow of John Davies, Esq., Surgeon.
JONES.—On April 5th, at Dalston, aged 7, Mary Dalgleish, youngest daughter of J. D. Jones, M.D.
STRELL, Frederick, M.D., at Broughty Ferry, aged 28, on April 8th.

BEQUEST.—Mr. Arthur Anderson, M.P., has bequeathed £1000 to the Merchant Seamen's Hospital and legacies to other non-medical charities.

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, April 18th, at 1.30 P.M. Amputation of Thigh; Operation for Hare-Lip; Operation for Fistula in Ano; Removal of Necrosis from Frontal Bone; Removal of Diseased Bone from Hip; Removal of Cystic Tumour from Labia.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Davy will exhibit an improved Legative and Aneurismal Needle; Mr. Browning, a new Electro-Magnetic Machine; Mr. Peter Marshall, "On Bichloride of Methylene as a General Anæsthetic"; Dr. Oppert, "On Existing Hospitals".
TUESDAY.—The Ethnological Society of London, 8 P.M. "On the Natives of the Alaska Province of Russian America," by Frederick Wymer, Esq.; "On the Wild Tribes of Southern India," from the Records of the India Office.—Pathological Society of London, 8 P.M.
WEDNESDAY.—Geological Society.—Hunterian Society.
THURSDAY.—Royal Society.
FRIDAY.—Clinical Society. Congenital Heart-Disease; Tracheotomy in Chronic Laryngitis; Calomel Vapour-Baths for Syphilitic Albuminuria.—Royal Institution.

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.

PRIVATE FORMULÆ.—Messrs. Waite and Kite, dispensing druggists, Cheltenham, forward to us copies of prescriptions issued by Dr. Edwards of that town, by which he orders "Mist. Gent. Co. 4 iijss; Tinct. Chirayitia, Quassia, sing. cub. centum. v"; heading the prescription, "Metrical Weights and Measures, P.B. 1867". It is obvious, however, that these are French metrical weights and measures, and not those adopted in, or which ought to be used in prescribing from, the *British Pharmacopœia*. In other prescriptions, we find unknown compounds, such as "Pil. Leptand. Co. 4", "Mist. Taraxaci Co. 3viii"; "Baum Tranquil 3ij; chloroform 3j". It is highly unprofessional to employ in prescriptions private formula, which are only comprehensible to any one or more druggists to whom they are privately explained. It is contrary to the welfare of the patient and the safety of the public, which are likely to be compromised by blunders and bad guesses at the riddles thus insidiously propounded to chemists not in the secret; and it is contrary to the dignity and character of the profession, which abhors any secret understandings or concealed dealings in the practice of our art.

We are much indebted to Dr. Hermann Weber, London, for his kindness in correcting a foreign manuscript forwarded by Dr. von Luschka, Tubingen.

THE USE OF PROFESSIONAL TITLES.

SIR,—A difference of opinion having arisen on the following points, may I ask if you will kindly state your view of them, if possible, through the medium of your columns. I should premise that by the term "right" is meant fairness and equity, not legal right. I enclose my card; and am, etc., D. Z.

1. An M.D. of the University of London, originally intending pure physician's practice, has ultimately decided on general practice. Ought he, on entering upon the latter, to abandon the use of his title of doctor—(a) as a matter of right? (b) as a matter of good taste? [Certainly not.]

2. A medical man has been for some years in general practice, and intends so continuing. (a) Has he a right to take the degree of M.D.; or, at any rate, having taken it, to adopt the title of doctor? [Unquestionably.] (b) Granted the right, would such adoption be agreeable or be offensive to good taste? [He should unquestionably use his title. No degree is too good for "general practice", which is at least as honourable as any other kind of practice. There are certain by-laws which restrict the use of some titles; but many M.D.s of London are in general practice.]

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.

THOMAS GUY.—Of the ninety-six candidates who passed their full examination last week at the College of Surgeons, twenty-one were students of Guy's Hospital.

DR. ELLIS.—Many thanks. We shall be much obliged.

DR. JUKES STYRAP's letter shall receive attention.

A LATE HOUSE-SURGEON OF THE ROYAL FREE must remember that we take no notice of anonymous communications.

AN EXTRAORDINARY SCENE.

SIR.—I was paying a professional visit at the house of a respectable blacksmith, at a village two miles distant from home, leaving my carriage with some members of my family in it outside the door, when noisy voices were heard in the passage, and two men forced themselves into the room—one armed with an open lancet in one hand, and a large riding-whip in the other; the other was supplied with some books in a canvas-bag, and a small blue-coloured pamphlet, which he frequently referred to, "This is Hack-o-parlyment". He inquired whether the child was vaccinated; and on being answered in the affirmative, and told that I had done so, informed me he should get me fined 40s.; and, pointing to his companion, stated "This is the proper gentleman to vaccinate your child, and this is the Hack-o-parlyment."

Finding very little information was to be obtained from the registrar, I calmly inquired of his companion the object of his visit to a family who were my private patients. He informed me he was the assistant of a gentleman some miles off who was the public vaccinator for this district; that vaccination had been neglected by his predecessor, but that he was working it up; and "that it was such fun to see the women, as soon as they saw him, catch up their children and cut into the flesh."

Having convinced him by ocular demonstration that the child had been successfully vaccinated, I told his companion (the registrar) that I would give him the certificate, if he would supply me with one of the printed forms on which to write it. This he could not be induced to do, declaring he had already supplied the mother; which he had not done, as the child was born previously to the new Act taking effect, and prior to the form for the certificate being given to the parent on registering the child. After a consultation as to whether a neighbour was at home, these worthies left. I supplied my patient with a certificate on an ordinary sheet of paper, notifying that it was through the discourtesy of the registrar I had to do so.

In conclusion, I would like to ask if such are the usual proceedings of public vaccinators? and is it professional etiquette to visit another practitioner's patients for the purpose of obtaining the vaccination (done for nothing, of course, but paid for by the parish), and so trying to obtain the patient? I am, etc.,
Sidmouth, April 1868.

JOHN INGLEBY MACKENZIE, M.B.

No doubt Dr. McNeile will agree with us, that more than enough has been already written concerning the commercial travellers' tongue.

MR. FLEISCHMANN (Cheltenham).—Thanks. We have attended to this subject.

DR. FOX (Broughton) is entirely mistaken. The two gentlemen mentioned are not meant or referred to; but several others, some of whose papers are now in the office, and in behalf of these the Editor of the JOURNAL is exerting his influence.

THE PUBLIC MEDICAL SERVICE.

SIR.—In your JOURNAL of January 4th, you state your opinion, "that you think the time has now come when you can advise the young men of our London schools to regard the public services as a fair field." Your opinion will necessarily carry much weight with young professional men about to select a career in life; and I feel sure that, had you been correctly informed as to the position and prospects of a medical officer joining the army, you would not have felt justified in offering this advice. Will you, therefore, allow me to explain what these prospects really are? A man who joins the Medical Department must expect—1, to spend eighteen out of a total of twenty-five years serving in foreign, and usually in tropical, countries; 2, to occupy during his whole life an inferior and very anomalous military position that must often prove intensely humiliating and galling even to the least sensitive; 3, to serve for at least twenty-one years in the lowest grade, that of assistant-surgeon, and only to earn the right of retirement after twenty-five years' full-pay service. I say nothing on the first two points, as these conditions are perhaps inseparable from the position of a medical officer in an army constituted as ours is; but surely, when you advise highly trained professional gentlemen to submit to such terms, you should be prepared to point out to them higher inducements than those I have named. I believe that my assertion, that a man joining the department will be obliged to serve twenty-one years as an assistant-surgeon, will appear almost incredible to your readers. I must, therefore, explain my authority for making it. In the *Army List* for the current month appear the names of 670 assistant-surgeons. There are also 83 candidates accepted, but not yet gazetted; so that the fortunate and accomplished young surgeon who wins the first place at the next competitive examination, will find himself the junior of 753 assistant-surgeons. The average of promotion to the rank of surgeon for the last ten years has been about 25 *per annum*, and the deaths, resignations, &c., among assistant-surgeons come to about 30 *per thousand per annum*. This rate continued for twenty-one years would leave this then mature assistant-surgeon still junior to six.

I believe the present rate of pay is considered by the department to be satisfactory; and, if the authorities would give us the certainty of promotion after ten or twelve years' service, and the right to retire after twenty years' full-pay service on seven-tenths of our pay, we should all of us be reasonably contented with our condition, and you might justly recommend young professional men to join the department; but I am sure that nothing will ever reconcile a man who is worth his salt to continue serving in the very subordinate position of an assistant-surgeon for twenty-one years; and till these points are conceded, I submit that the time has not arrived when the public services offer a fair field to men of high social and professional merit. I am, etc.,
A JUNIOR ASSISTANT-SURGEON.

DR. RADFORD (Manchester).—With pleasure.

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news reports and other matters of medical interest:—The Birmingham Daily Post, April 4th, 6th, 9th, and 13th; The Newcastle Daily Journal, April 3rd; The Dublin Express, April 9th; The Edinburgh Evening Courant, April 11th; Aberdeen Journal; The Liverpool Daily Courier, April 14th; Tottenham and Edmonton Weekly Herald, April 11th.

J. C. M.'s letter has been sent on to the Editor of the *Medical Directory*.

NOTICES of Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Appointments, intended for insertion in the JOURNAL should arrive at the Office not later than 10 A.M. on Thursday.

SUBCUTANEOUS INJECTIONS.

SIR.—In your impression of March 21st, a letter appears from a gentleman, which may cause some misgivings in the minds of those of your readers who have not had much experience in the subcutaneous injection of morphia. I feel myself, to some extent, capable of answering this letter, having performed the operation some hundreds of times in my late capacity of house-surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital.

The precautionary measures which Mr. Fleischmann appends, appear to me not only unnecessary, but prejudicial, and probably frightened the patient in the case described, inducing his symptoms of faintness. The use of the ether-spray seems to me absurd, in that the sharp point of the syringe passing through the skin must be a far less unpleasant sensation than freezing it; and why leave the needle in the skin for ten minutes? If the fluid has been well injected into the subcutaneous tissue, it is pretty sure not to come out again.

Generally, I am led to imagine from Mr. Fleischmann's remarks, that he has been in the habit of using a very blunt and ill-constructed syringe. I would recommend the adoption of an instrument (most simple in construction), such as is used at the Middlesex Hospital, and which may be bought of Coxeter or Mayer of Great Portland Street, from ten to fifteen shillings. At the Middlesex, we have been in the habit of using a stronger solution (ten grains to the fluid-ounce), rendering the bulk of fluid to be injected much less.

I think it a pity that so simple and useful an operation should have unnecessary difficulties thrown in its way.

Dorking, March 1868.

I am, etc.,
HORACE CHALDECOTT.

SIR.—In the JOURNAL of March 21st, is a letter from Mr. Fleischmann, of Cheltenham, giving a very interesting and accurate account of alarming symptoms resulting from the hypodermic injection of morphia, which he writes of as "an endemic danger", and alluding to a case of a similar kind recently recorded in one of the medical journals—I presume, the case described by Mr. Woodhouse Braine, in the *Medical Times and Gazette* of January 4th. I have myself encountered one case of a similarly alarming character, and only one, out of at least one thousand five hundred operations performed by my partner (Mr. Waller) and myself; and it appears to me that Mr. Fleischmann in the P.S. of his letter, has unnecessarily surrounded the little operation with complicated details. In my opinion, the real danger consists in making the operation "endemic" instead of "hypodermic", as I have seen inconveniences arise from hastily inserting the needle, and passing it along the substance of the true skin, or allowing the point of the instrument to re-enter the skin after passing through the cellular tissue, instead of passing it into the loose subcutaneous tissue only, as recommended by Mr. Charles Hunter, in his very suggestive pamphlet on the subject.

In my experience, there is not the slightest necessity for the use of ether-spray, as the pain is scarcely worth roficing, if the operation is carefully done; (I speak from some considerable personal experience during a long illness); and I have rarely met with the slightest objection, even by timid patients. The method I have adopted is to raise a pinch of the integument (of the forearm usually) on the dorsal aspect, and insert the point of the needle quickly through the skin into the raised subcutaneous space, the instrument can then be passed along the cellular tissue for about half an inch, without pain, and the solution injected; this at the moment produces a slight smarting pain, and the needle is gradually withdrawn, without detaching it from the syringe. Immediately on the withdrawal of the instrument, it is perhaps advisable to place the tip of the finger on the orifice in the skin, to prevent any escape of the solution; of course, great care should be taken in performing this apparently trifling operation, and especially that the syringe is perfect in its action, and the solution concentrated and pure.

Sydenham, March 1868.

I am, etc., FRANCIS CORBOULD, M.D.

COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, &c., have been received from:—

Dr. W. M. Kelly, Taunton (with enclosure); Dr. G. H. Philipson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (with enclosure); Mr. J. Campbell Maclean, Greenock (with enclosure); The Honorary Secretary of the Harveian Society; Dr. Sanderson, London (with enclosure); Dr. Wardell, Tunbridge Wells (with enclosure); Dr. Farquharson, Windsor (with enclosure); Dr. Herapath, Bristol; Dr. R. J. Halton, Moynalty, co. Meath; Dr. J. McGibbon, Balfour; Mr. W. J. Treutler, Kew; Mr. Lowndes, Liverpool (with enclosure); Mr. J. E. Burton, Liverpool; Mr. C. Steele, Clifton (with enclosure); Mr. C. E. Lyster, Liverpool; Dr. Dickson, London (with enclosure); Mr. Campbell de Morgan, London; Dr. J. Marion Sims, Paris; Dr. Heywood Smith, Hyères; Mr. R. Barwell, London; Dr. Odling, London; Mr. J. T. Clover, London; Mr. B. Baker, Brentwood (with enclosure); Dr. Hermann Weber, London (with enclosure); Mr. Stump, London; Mr. Bartley, Clifton; Mr. Robinson, London; Dr. H. Dick, London (with enclosure); Dr. Sedgwick, London (with enclosure); The Honorary Secretary of the Obstetrical Society of London (with enclosure); Mr. G. W. Brown, Sheffield; Dr. J. W. Walker, Spilby; Dr. George Johnson, London (with enclosure); Dr. Dyce, Aberdeen (with enclosure); The Honorary Secretaries of the Ethnological Society of London (with enclosure); The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall (with enclosure); Dr. John Murray, London (with enclosure); The Registrar-General of England (with enclosure); Mr. T. M. Stone, London (with enclosure); The Registrar-General of Ireland (with enclosure); Dr. Fredk. J. Brown, Rochester (with enclosure); Mr. St. George Mivart, London (with enclosure); Mr. Langston Parker, Birmingham; The Registrar of the Medical Society of London (with enclosure); Mr. Syme, Edinburgh (with enclosure); Dr. Foster, London (with enclosure); Mr. Teevan, London (with enclosure); Dr. Rumsey, Cheltenham; Dr. Hugh McNeile; Mr. H. E. Norris, Charnmouth; Mr. Coleman, London (with enclosure); Mr. T. Bryant, London (with enclosure); Mr. Baxter Langley, London (with enclosure); Dr. Fincham, London (with enclosure); Mr. Finlaison, London (with enclosure); Mr. Norton, London (with enclosure); Mr. Case, London (with enclosure); Dr. Radford, Manchester; Mr. Berkeley Hill, London (with enclosure); Dr. Fox, Broughton; Dr. Wades, Hanley (with enclosure); Mr. J. Slevin, Longford; Mr. J. B. Curgenvin, London; Dr. Philip H. Williams, Worcester (with enclosure); Dr. Stephens, Brighton (with enclosure); and Dr. Tyndall Watson, Tottenham.