

be owing to its quick passage through the moist pulmonary tissue, in accordance with its well known solubility in water.

If we now turn our attention to the physiological action of protoxide of nitrogen, from a consideration of the above remarks, its presence in the pulmonary vesicles cannot in any way be opposed to the elimination of carbonic acid from the blood circulating through the lungs; it will become dissolved by the moisture adhering to the air-vesicles, and carried by liquid diffusion into the blood. The solubility of nitrous oxide in water is much higher than that of oxygen; consequently it will find its way into the blood much more rapidly than oxygen would. Water at 68 deg. Fahr. (a temperature inferior to that of animal heat), for one volume of oxygen supplied to it in air, will absorb no less than thirty-seven volumes of oxygen supplied to it as nitrous oxide; this will give an idea of the relative degree of absorption of oxygen by a moist membrane, such as that of the lung, from air, and in the form of nitrous oxide. These considerations appear to me to show that the action of protoxide of nitrogen on the human body is due, first, to an increased supply of oxygen to the blood, causing the well known early exhilarating effects; and, later, when a larger quantity of the gas has been absorbed, anæsthesia is produced by the excessive formation of carbonic acid in the blood owing to the large supply of oxygen. When the gas is exhibited diluted with air to a certain point, the exhilarating effects do not pass off into insensibility, because the carbonic acid is eliminated as fast as it is formed; but, when given undiluted with air, its anæsthetic influence becomes quickly developed. The rapid disappearance of the blue stage, and return of sensibility, appears due to the fact that, according as the excess of carbonic acid in the blood is withdrawn from it by the respiration of pure air, the oxygen of the nitrous oxide absorbed becoming present in the blood in excess of the carbonic acid, causes an immediate renewal of the vital functions, allowing time for the absorption of oxygen from the air inspired. If this view should be correct, it would follow that nitrous oxide is a safe anæsthetic agent when required only for a short time, and even when administered for a protracted operation, care being taken to allow the occasional respiration of pure air, so as to get rid of the excess of carbonic acid formed, supposing, of course, that nitrous oxide is not possessed of any special anæsthetic property.

We are much indebted to Dr. Thomas Evans of Paris for his efforts to introduce protoxide of nitrogen as an anæsthetic agent in this country; and to Dr. Richardson for having taken up the subject and showing his endeavours in promoting this object.

I am, etc., W. MARCET, M.D., F.R.S.,

Assistant-Physician to the Brompton Hospital for Consumption.
London, May 1868.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE next Ordinary Meeting of this Branch will be held at the rooms of the Medical Society of London, 32A, George Street, Hanover Square, on Friday, May 15th, at 8 P.M., when Dr. HENRY will read a paper on "The Education of the General Practitioner of Medicine."

A. P. STEWART, M.D., } *Honorary*
ALEXANDER HENRY, M.D., } *Secretaries.*

London, April 23rd, 1868.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT MEDICAL MEETINGS.

THE next meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Rose Hotel, Canterbury, on Thursday, May 21st, at 3 P.M.

The Secretary will feel obliged by gentlemen wishing to read papers communicating with him without delay.

ROBERT L. BOWLES, *Hon. Secretary.*

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: COMMITTEE ON STATE MEDICINE.

OUR readers are aware that, after the luminous and comprehensive address of Dr. Rumsey at Dublin, a Committee of the British Medical Association was appointed for the purpose of obtaining information on the operation of the laws relating to registration, medico-legal inquiries, and sanitary organisation, while the Committee of Council was instructed to consider, in concert with the Council of the Social Science Association, the propriety of applying to Her Majesty's ministers for a Commission of Inquiry. The publication in a separate form of Dr. Rumsey's address, led to the proposal being warmly taken up by several members of the House of Commons, and especially by Mr. George

Clive, the member for Hereford, who requested a brief for his guidance. Dr. Rumsey accordingly drew up, and, after much correspondence, succeeded in bringing to its present nearly perfect state, a "memorandum" for presentation to Her Majesty's Government and members of both Houses of the Legislature. We have had this document in our hands for several weeks, but have not considered ourselves at liberty to publish a document which is as yet only in proof, and cannot be said to be complete until it has received the sanction, and possibly the amendments, of the Social Science Committee, which is now engaged upon it. It was adopted, with two important alterations, by the State-Medicine Committee of the British Medical Association, which met at Birmingham on the 23rd April, as also a memorial drawn up by Dr. Stewart, which sets forth, in general terms, the necessity and the strong reasons for such inquiry. Remembering the old saying about half-done work, we refrain from furnishing this statement, which, along with the memorandum, is under the consideration of the joint committees, until we can present it to our readers in its complete form. The time for waiting upon the Lord President of the Council and the Home Secretary has not yet been fixed; but we understand that it will probably be in about ten days, and that the deputation will be a highly representative and influential one. The following resolutions were adopted by the State-Medicine Committee, in reference to the fifth clause of Mr. Torrens's Bill, at the meeting in Birmingham:—

"That the Chairman and Secretary of this Committee be instructed, without delay, to call the attention of Her Majesty's ministers to the fifth clause of the 'Artizans' and Labourers' Dwelling Bill'; and to urge them to withhold their assent to that clause, on the following grounds:—

"1. That it would increase the confusion already existing, by creating, under the title of Officers of Health, an inferior, unqualified, and inefficient class of agents, whom it would be difficult to supersede.

"2. That it would leave the appointment, remuneration, and dismissal of the proposed Officers of Health, unconditionally in the hands of the local Authorities.

"3. That an inquiry is about to be asked for into the appointment and action of medical men in the Public Service, and that, until the results of such inquiry, if granted by Government, shall be known, it is highly inexpedient to legislate on the question of Health Officers.

"4. That a better agency than that proposed in the said clause already exists; namely, the District Medical Officers under the Poor-Law, who, pending the appointment of Medical Officers of Health, duly qualified and properly protected in the exercise of their functions, might be employed in that capacity, and should receive additional remuneration for such services."

H. W. ACLAND, *Chairman.*

A. P. STEWART, *Honorary Secretary.*

REPORT OF MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL,

Held at Birmingham, April 23rd, 1868.

PRESENT:—Dr. Sibson, F.R.S. (in the Chair); Professor Acland, M.D., F.R.S.; Mr. Bartleet; Mr. T. H. Bartleet; Dr. Bryan; Mr. Cordy Burrows; Mr. Clayton; Dr. Falconer; Dr. Holman; Dr. Paget; Dr. Philipson; Dr. Simpson; Mr. Heckstall Smith; Mr. Southam; Dr. Stewart; Dr. A. T. H. Waters; Dr. E. Waters; Dr. Wilkinson; Mr. Chapman and Dr. Tuckwell (Oxford Local Secretaries); and Mr. T. Watkin Williams (General Secretary).

Resolved:

1. That the cordial thanks of the Committee be given to Mrs. Black and Surgeon-Major Black for a copy of the JOURNAL of the Association.

2. That it is desirable a meeting of the Branch Secretaries should be held at Oxford at the time of the Annual Meeting, to consider the best means to be adopted in the collection of the annual subscriptions.

3. That the Treasurer's Report be adopted, and published in the JOURNAL.

4. That the Report of the Arrangement Subcommittee be adopted.

5. That the Report of the Committee appointed to consider the Representation of the Profession in the Medical Council, be adopted; and that the members of the Subcommittee, with the President of the Council, be a deputation to wait upon the Medical Council.

6. That Dr. Paget and Mr. Heckstall Smith be appointed members of the State Medicine Committee.

7. That the Treasurer be authorised to pay to Dr. Stewart the sum of £25 towards the expenses of the State Medicine Committee.

8. That the subject for competition for the Hastings Medal for 1869 be "Resection of Joints".

T. WATKIN WILLIAMS, *General Secretary.*

Birmingham, April 29th, 1868.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1867.

The Treasurer of the British Medical Association in account with the Association for 1867.

Receipts.

Subscriptions.....	2722	11	0
Subscriptions, arrears	183	17	0
	2906	8	0
Advertisements and sales	1282	16	10
Sundry other receipts.....	16	12	6
	4205	17	4
Balance due to Treasurer.....	41	10	7
	£4247	7	11

Payments.

JOURNAL EXPENSES:			
Mr. Richards, printing and stamps	1621	11	6
Mr. Richards, stamps, postages, etc.	166	5	9
Mr. Richards, sundry printing, etc.....	83	11	3
Mr. Davidson, commission on advertisements	226	2	0
Mr. Butcher, commission on advertisements	104	19	8
Mr. Orrin Smith, engraver	12	18	6
Editor of JOURNAL	250	0	0
Sub-editor	50	0	0
Contributors	598	0	7
Dr. Henry, salary for office-work	50	0	0
	3163	9	3
EXECUTIVE EXPENSES:			
Secretary	313	0	0
Secretary's petty cash.....	41	7	6
Branch secretaries and collectors	21	14	8
Reporting proceedings at Dublin.....	25	13	6
Anniversary expenses.....	15	12	0
Stationery	8	16	6
Sundry other expenses	13	10	6
	439	14	8
SCIENTIFIC AND OTHER GRANTS:			
Dr. Hughes Bennett—Inquiries into Action of Mercury	50	0	0
Dr. A. P. Stewart—Medical and Legal Aspects of Sanitary Reform	5	0	0
Dr. A. Ransome—Registration of Disease...	10	0	0
	65	0	0
	3668	3	11
Balance due to Treasurer last year	503	9	1½
Add amount directed to be written off as a doubtful account	75	14	10½
	579	4	0
	£4247	7	11
April 1868. R. WILBRAHAM FALCONER, Treasurer.			
Assets estimated 31st Dec. 1867	1215	18	8
Liabilities	1105	5	7
Excess of estimated assets beyond amount of liabilities ...	£110	13	1

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT MEETINGS.

THE fourth meeting of the eleventh session, 1868, was held at Dartford, on April 24th; W. P. HOARE, Esq., F.R.C.S., in the Chair. Nineteen members were present.

Dr. Burns was appointed Chairman of the meeting to be held at Rochester in September.

Notice was given that a resolution will be brought forward at Rochester by Mr. Wheeler, supported by Drs. Armstrong and Martin, to the effect that meetings shall be held at Blackheath.

Communications. The following were read.

1. Three Cases of Fracture of the Olecranon; also the Model of a Tent suitable for a Post Mortem Room on Shipboard. By J. B. Cockburn, M.D., R.E.
2. Surgical Therapeutics of Chloride of Zinc. By W. P. Hoare, Esq.
3. Paper with Drawings showing (a) a Rent of the Choroid arising

from a Blow on the Eye; (b) also a Case of Coloboma of the Iris and Choroid of both Eyes. By J. Z. Laurence, Esq.

4. Case of Neuralgia of the Brachial Plexus. By W. Carr, M.D.
Fifteen members and visitors dined at the Bull Hotel.

REPORTS OF SOCIETIES.

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14TH, 1868.

SAMUEL SOLLY, Esq., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

ON AN EPIDEMIC TYPH-FEVER IN TRINIDAD. BY R. H. BAKEWELL, M.D.

DURING the year 1867, an epidemic of fever occurred in Port of Spain, Trinidad, which differed in many respects from any other fever which in the experience of the oldest medical practitioners had ever before visited the island, but which in all essential points was the typh-fever of Europe.

Port of Spain is a badly built, ill-drained or undrained, overcrowded town, containing upwards of 18,000, for the most part persons of the very dirtiest habits, many of them living very poorly, and all, except the educated classes, firmly convinced that night air is deadly, and therefore closing every nook and cranny in their houses at night.

Among this population a fever appeared, which for the first few days was in almost all cases distinctly intermittent, or remittent, which then became continued, and which gradually subsided into an intermittent again. With the ordinary symptoms of fever there was in nearly every case at the commencement vomiting of bile or worms, sometimes of both. In a few cases there was also a diarrhoea of pure bile. As the fever became continued one of two sets of symptoms occurred; either there was tenderness in the right iliac fossa, gurgling, and general abdominal uneasiness, mostly with the usual pea-soup diarrhoea, or the head was attacked, and the bowels were constipated, sometimes obstinately so. In some cases the delirium and insomnia were very severe. The delirium was occasionally maniacal, and in two cases took the form of a resolute refusal of all food and medicine with clenched teeth. In the other, the so-called typhoid cases, the diarrhoea was often very severe. In nearly every case lumbrici were passed, often abundantly. No rash could be distinguished in the majority of cases on account of the colour of the patients, but in no case was a true lenticular rose-coloured spot seen. In a few cases there were the small purple spots of typhus. In one fatal case in which these were seen there were no abdominal symptoms or lesion; in the same house there were three cases of typhoid. Ulceration of Peyer's patches, etc., was found after death.

The author stated that, having for several years adopted Dr. King Chambers' plan of treatment for fever in England, he determined to adopt it in the West Indies, and give it a fair trial. Out of 103 cases, of which a table was given by Dr. Bakewell, 90 were treated by Dr. Chambers' plan, modified slightly to meet the exigencies of the climate. Of these 90 only 3 died, and one of the three was under treatment only two days, having been under the care of another practitioner. The remaining 13 were, for various reasons fully given in the paper, not treated by Dr. Chambers' plan. Several of them were *in extremis* when first seen; one refused all medicine; two were attended before the disease was actually diagnosed.

The slight modifications of Dr. Chambers' treatment were that in every case of insomnia opiates were freely given. No patient, if it could be prevented, was allowed to pass two consecutive sleepless nights. Astringents were given when the diarrhoea was very severe, but not otherwise. Small doses of tincture of aconite were given to children, combined with the acid, the author having by eight or nine years' experience satisfied himself that aconite possesses a peculiar power of allaying febrile excitement in children.

The treatment was pursued under every disadvantage. Probably in not six of the cases was the beef-tea given regularly. Wine was only given, as a rule, after the fever had begun to intermit for the second time; no form of alcoholic stimulant was given at the commencement of the fever.

The paper was accompanied by a table of 103 cases with remarks, and some of the important cases were given more at length in the paper itself.

Dr. STEWART would have desired to know something of the climatic conditions at the time of the epidemic; for the conditions described had probably been prevalent for generations. In this country, there had been attacks of typhoid fever after great heat followed by much rainfall. From the description of the *post mortem* appearances, the epidemic seemed to have been one of typhoid fever. An interesting point was

THE POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICE OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

BRECON UNION: IMPROVED SCALE OF VACCINATION FEES.

At the meeting of the guardians last week, we are happy to find that it was agreed, on the motion of Mr. Thomas Evans, Deputy Chairman, to rescind a previous resolution of the board, fixing the payment at three shillings for each successful case of vaccination at any station six miles or upwards from the residence of the vaccinator, and the same for domiciliary visits. On the motion of Mr. Evans, seconded by the Rev. Garmons Williams, the board unanimously resolved to accede to the request of the medical officers, and fix the payment at five shillings per case in the above circumstances. This is a fair remuneration; and acknowledgments are due to these gentlemen and to the Chairman (Mr. Perrott), for the candid and courteous recognition of the claims of their medical officers. The Brecon Union appears to be one of the blue patches in the clouded sky of the Poor-law medical service. The four medical officers have held office each, we are informed, for more than a quarter of a century without complaint on either side. The guardians treat the poor, it is said, well; and have recently erected a very creditable new infirmary at the workhouse. They pay great respect, on all occasions, to their medical officers. When, recently, Dr. Jas. Williams, of Brecon, one of the officers of the district, received a grant of £10 from Mr. Simon's department for successful vaccination, the guardians noticed it in most complimentary terms, and it was ordered to be recorded on the minutes. These are among the gleams of sunshine which deserve notice; and we trust that the fair rate of remuneration established may become a standard elsewhere.

DONAGHMORE UNION: MEDICAL OFFICER'S SALARY.

On the motion of Mr. M'Key, seconded by Mr. Butler, it was unanimously resolved, at a recent meeting of the guardians, "That, in consideration of the reasons stated in Dr. Smith's communication of the 18th ult., and as a mark of our high appreciation of his valuable services as our medical officer, and the zeal and skill he has invariably shown since his appointment—often in the performance of difficult surgical operations—we consider him fairly entitled to an increase of salary. Be it therefore resolved that, from and after the commencement of the present quarter, the salary of Dr. Smith, as medical officer of this workhouse, be increased from £60 to £80 *per annum*; and that the Poor-law Commissioners be requested to sanction the same." This is a move in the right direction, and may serve as a precedent for other medical officers.

THE REMUNERATION AND RETIREMENT OF MEDICAL OFFICERS.

The *Journal of the Irish Medical Association* (supplement to the *Medical Press and Circular*) has an excellent article on the theme which we treated on March 18th—the Dispensary Medical Officer, his Work and his Pay—a subject which it had previously ably discussed. Taking as its heading the words with which we concluded—*Fortior unitate*—our contemporary shows that there is not really that excess of supply over demand which precludes the probability of united action in claiming a higher rate of remuneration and a fair retiring allowance for the officers of the Poor-law service. It says:

"We hope, therefore, to see a proper organisation formed amongst all our professional brethren for the purpose of placing the medical profession in Ireland in that position to which it is entitled, and for maintaining it there; and when the Poor-law medical officers have their pay increased, as no doubt they will, if they only bestir themselves, they should not rest satisfied with an addition of £10 a year here and £20 a year there; their salaries should be uniformly increased, at the very least, by one-half. Indeed, we do not see how any person could expect to get an educated man holding the position of a gentleman to perform the onerous and dangerous duties that a Poor-law medical officer must do under, at the least, £150 a year. And we think we may add, without fear of denial, that it is probably the most important and onerous and the most cheaply performed of any in the public service."

We are glad to see the *Lancet* recognising the fact that the powerful and rapidly widening branch organisation of our great British Medical Association in England, Scotland, and Ireland, is peculiarly adapted for bringing about a common understanding on the subject. Other

organisations may well assist, and other journals may afford powerful aid. This Association and this JOURNAL need certainly not be jealous of any, and will warmly cooperate with all. On this common ground of professional rights and general public interests, all may unite in a generous effort for the common good. To the watchword we have given, let us add a countersign—*Perseverando*.

A METROPOLITAN POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICER.—Many thanks. Public interests are rarely served by a personal controversy. There is an excellent motto, "Facta non verba." Let deeds answer words.

T. H. S.—We hear with regret of the circumstances; but the supersession will probably soon be put an end to.

We are compelled to hold over the letter of Mr. Garland of Yeovil till our next impression.

MR. G. WILLIAMS will find the full particulars relating to grants in Mr. Hutchins's (of the Privy Council Office) version of the Vaccination Act (Knight and Sons, London).

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE.—Mr. Edward Higgs, of the Science College, Chester, was, on April 30th, elected to the vacant scholarship in Natural Science. This scholarship is tenable for five years, and of the yearly value of £75.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

NATURAL SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP.—A scholarship, of the value of £60 *per annum*, is offered by St. Peter's College for Natural Science. The examination (in Botany, Chemistry, and Comparative Anatomy) will be open to all students who are not members of the University, or who have not commenced residence. It will take place on Tuesday, June 9th. Candidates must send their names before that day to Rev. J. Porter, St. Peter's College, Cambridge, from whom any further information may be obtained. Four Natural Science scholarships have lately been given in Cambridge: one by Trinity College, of the value of £80 a-year, to M. Tryon; two, of £50 a-year each, by St. John's College, to A. Garrod and Edmunds; and one, £40 a-year, by Downing College, to J. C. Saunders.

TANCRED'S CHARITIES.—STUDENTSIPS IN PHYSIC AND LAW.—There will be one vacancy in the studentships in Physic at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, and one in Law at Lincoln's Inn at Whitsuntide next. Each student in Physic will receive an annual stipend of £100, and may hold his studentship until the degree of Bachelor of Physic, and for three years afterwards. Each student in Law will receive an annual stipend of about £95 16s. 8d., and may hold his studentship until he become a barrister-at-law of Lincoln's Inn, and for three years afterwards. The Tancred students must be natives or Great Britain (*i.e.*, actually born in Great Britain), members of the Church of England, and unmarried. No person is capable of being elected a student in Physic who is below the age of 16 years, or above that of 22 years. No person is capable of being elected a student in Law who is below the age of 19 years or above the age of 23 years. Forms of petition and all necessary information may be had from Mr. Bartle J. L. Frere, 28, Lincoln's Inn-fields, Clerk to the Governors and Trustees of Tancred's Charities. The election will take place on Wednesday the 3rd day of June next. All petitions must be sent in to the Clerk on or before Saturday, the 16th of May next. Due notice of the day of examination, which will be held at Cambridge, will be given to the candidates.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

MATRICULATION EXAMINATION.—It is stated that at the matriculation examination in January last, one-eighth of the candidates were between the ages of 25 and 30; and that of these fifty-nine per cent. were rejected. The smallest per-centage of rejections occurred amongst those between the ages of 16 and 17. Natural philosophy and chemistry were fatal to the largest number. More than a quarter of those rejected failed in at least six subjects.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF CONVOCATION will take place at five o'clock P.M. on May 12th. The principal business will be the consideration of resolutions relative to the representation of the University; the voting for members of the Annual Committee; and resolutions recommending the dissociation of the Preliminary Scientific Examination from the first B. Sc. Examination; and the passing of the preliminary scientific examination by students before commencing their regular medical studies. These resolutions, with others, will be moved by Dr. Hilton Fagge, Dr. Broadbent, and will be likely to receive large support from the medical graduates.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—At a general meeting of the Fellows, held on Thursday, April 30th, 1868, the following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examination, were duly admitted members of the College:—

Fitzpatrick, Thomas, M.D. Dublin and Cambridge, 30, Sussex Gardens
Maclure, Duncan Maclachlan, M.B. Lond., 34, Harley Street
Orange, William, Broadmoor, Wokingham
Roberts, David Lloyd, M.D. St. Andrew's, Manchester
Wiltshire, Alfred, M.D. St. Andrew's, 19, Queen Anne Street

At this meeting, the following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examination, and satisfied the College of their proficiency in the science and practice of medicine, surgery, and midwifery, were duly admitted to practise physic as Licentiates of the College:—

Brownfield, Matthew, 171, East India Road
Cant, William Edmund, 2, Vale Place, Hammersmith
Costerton, Horatio, 15, Victoria Cottages, Archway Road, Highgate
Grier, Charles, 5, St. Mary's Place, Westbourne Park
Hill, James Robert, Earl's Court House, Old Brompton
Hunt, William Alfred, Yeovil
Lloyd, John, 30, Alfred Street, Bedford Square
Mackenzie, George Welland, London Hospital
Moore, Richard Bond, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Murphy, Thomas Charles, Consumptive Hospital, Brompton
Ridge, John James, Horsleydown
Robertson, Dalrymple Kinloch, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Saunders, Laurence, M.D. Queen's Coll., Kingston, Canada
Shopee, Edward Collett, 16, Clarence Road, Kentish Town
Smith, Eldred Noble, Hertford
Sykes, John, Leeds
Toulmin, William Calvert, Lower Clapton
Welby, Erasmus, Newark-on-Trent

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 30th; and, when eligible, will be admitted to the pass examination:—

William Beaton, O. S. Shaw, and H. E. Dixon (Students of Guy's Hospital); C. W. Sayer, G. E. F. Etheredge, and Charles Butler (of St. Bartholomew's Hospital); J. W. Paton, O. R. Pranker, and A. R. Law (of the Edinburgh School); H. M. Briggs and E. W. Orton (of the Birmingham School); W. H. Stewart and J. L. Crisp (of the Newcastle School); William Hodges and L. W. Marshall (of the Bristol School); H. C. Fox and H. F. C. Eagle (of the London Hospital); T. B. O'Connor (of St. George's Hospital); and John Sherratt (of the Leeds and St. Bartholomew's Hospitals).

The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted members of the College at a meeting of the Court of Examiners, on May 5th:—

Adams, W. P., Rochester (Charing Cross)
Anderton, J. P., Manchester (Manchester School)
Banks, J. A. P., Acton (Dublin and Middlesex)
Beach, Fletcher, Bridport (King's College)
Blandford, J. W., Corbridge, Northumberland (Newcastle School)
Boddy, H. W., Manchester (Manchester School)
Boutflower, Andrew, Manchester (Manchester School)
Bridges, W. P., Cirencester (Guy's)
Cartwright, J. A. T., Spalding, Lincolnshire (King's College)
Fay, T. W. W., Liverpool (Liverpool School)
Ferté, C. H., Joubert de la, Porchester Terrace (St. Mary's)
Fletcher, Richard, Bury, near Manchester (Manchester School)
Gay, J. H., Wisbeach (Guy's)
Hart, Walter, Lupus Street, Pimlico (King's College)
Jones, R. M., Groes, Denbigh (Dublin School)
Morgan, J. R., Merthyr Tydfil (Guy's)
Noake, S. J., Leeds (Leeds School)
Paton, J. W. M. B. and M. C. Edin., Ayr (Edinburgh and Paris Schools)
Roberts, W. L., Spilsby, Lincolnshire (King's College)
Rouch, J. R., Bristol (St. Bartholomew's)
Shore, Pharez, Walsall (Birmingham School)
Tuck, John, L.S.A. Ilford (Guy's)
Ward, W. J. C., L.R.C.P. Edin., Edinburgh (Edinburgh School)
Williams, J. L., M.B. and M.C. Edin. and L.S.A., Wrexham (Edinburgh School)

Admitted members on May 6th:—

Adams, John, Shelton, Staffordshire (Middlesex)
Bale, H. A., Exeter (Middlesex)
Barnish, W. C., Wigan (Manchester School)
Bately, John, Great Yarmouth (Birmingham School)
Bishop, William, Chipping Norton (University College)
Brookhouse, C. T., Nottingham (Guy's)
Clarke, T. E., Kirkby Lonsdale (Middlesex)
Forte, J. H., Barbadoes (Guy's)
Giddings, J. A., Old Trafford, near Manchester (Manchester School)
Morgan, Frederick, Taunton (Westminster)
Page, Frederick, Milton, near Southsea, Hants (Edinburgh School)
Payne, George, Wallingford (Middlesex and St. Thomas's)
Provis, Wilton, Bath (King's College and Bristol)
Rix, C. J., Manchester (King's College and Manchester)
Roberts, Owen, Pwllheli, North Wales (St. Mary's)
Robertson, Robert, Fowey, Cornwall (Middlesex and St. Mary's)
Sleightholme, J. P., Whitby (Manchester School)
Somerville, T. A., Wilmslow, near Manchester (Manchester School)

Sutcliffe, A. E., Scarborough (Manchester School)
Thompson, J. A., Delamere Street, Westbourne Terrace (Guy's)
Ward, J. E., New Kent Road (Guy's)
Williams, Owen, Anglesea (St. Mary's)

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—Names of gentlemen who passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, April 30th, 1868.

Field, Albert Frederick, Canterbury
McMahon, John James, Carrickmacross
Marshall, Andrew, Preston

At the same Court, the following passed the first examination:—
Beardshaw, Charles Henry, Leeds School of Medicine

As an Assistant:—

Ford, Robert Giles, Cannon Street Road, E.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are declared:—

BANDON UNION, co. Cork—Medical Officer for the Bandon Dispensary District.
BARRA, Inverness-shire—Parochial Medical Officer.

BELFAST UNION—Medical Officer for the Infirmary, etc., of the Workhouse.
BIRMINGHAM GENERAL DISPENSARY—Resident-Physician, Consulting-Physician, and Consulting-Surgeon.

BRIDGE UNION, Kent—Medical Officer for District No. 5.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE DISPENSARY—Two Resident House-Surgeons.

BRITISH LYING-IN HOSPITAL, Endell Street—Two Physicians.

CAMBRIDGE UNION—Medical Officer for the Workhouse.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY—Tancred Student in Physic at Gonville and Caius College.

CHELSEA, BROMPTON, and BELGRAVE DISPENSARY—Physician.

CHESTER GENERAL INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon and Visiting-Surgeon.

CLAREMORRIS UNION, co. Mayo—Medical Officer for the Ballindine Dispensary District.

COOMBE LYING-IN HOSPITAL, Dublin—Resident Apothecary.

DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON—Assistant Dental Surgeon.

DUBLIN, TRINITY COLLEGE—King's Professor of the Practice of Medicine.

EARLSWOOD ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS, Redhill—Medical Superintendent.

EASTRY UNION, Kent—Medical Officer for the Wingham District.

HORNCASTLE UNION, Lincolnshire—Medical Officer for the Hemingby District.

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Great Ormond Street—House-Surgeon.

INFIRMARY FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST, Margaret Street, Cavendish Square—Visiting Physician.

KENT & CANTERBURY HOSPITAL—Assistant House-Surgeon and Dispenser.

KING AND QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS IN IRELAND—King's Professor of the Practice of Medicine.

KNOCKBAIN and KILLEARNAN, Ross and Cromarty—Medical Officer for Parishes of.

LITTLEMORE PAUPER LUNATIC ASYLUM, near Oxford—Assistant Medical Officer.

LOCHBROOM—Parochial Medical Officer.

MUIRKIRK, Ayrshire—Parochial Medical Officer.

NAAS UNION, co. Kildare—Medical Officer for the Kilmeague Dispensary District.

NOTTINGHAM UNION—Medical Officer for the Workhouse.

ROYAL GENERAL DISPENSARY, Bartholomew Close—Physician and Assistant-Physician.

ROYAL SURREY COUNTY HOSPITAL, Guildford—House-Surgeon.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL, Manchester—Surgeon.

SHEFFIELD GENERAL INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon.

SOMERSET COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM, Wells—Assistant Medical Officer.

SOUTH SHIELDS and WESTOE DISPENSARY—House-Surgeon.

TORRINGTON UNION, Devon—Medical Officer for the Shebbear District.

WANDSWORTH and CLAPHAM UNION—Medical Officer for the Streatham District.

WEST HAM UNION, Essex—Medical Officer for the West Ham No. 2 District.

WEST LONDON UNION—Medical Officer for the Workhouse.

WESTMINSTER UNION—Medical Officer for the Eastern District.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

BARR, J. C., M.D., appointed to be Visiting Surgeon at Aldershot under the Contagious Diseases Act.

HEYWOOD-THOMSON, Thomas R., M.D., R.N., of Rhencullen, Kirk Michael, appointed a Justice of the Peace for the Isle of Man.

*LAING, John, M.D., appointed Honorary Medical Officer of the Southport Convalescent Hospital and Sea-Bathing Infirmary.

*LOCK, J. G., Esq., M.A. Cantab., L.R.C.P. Ed., appointed a House-Physician of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

ARMY.

BARRY, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon J., M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon Ceylon Rifle Regiment, *vice* H. T. Brown, M.D.

BROWN, Assistant-Surgeon H. T., M.D., Ceylon Rifle Regiment, to be Assistant-Surgeon 59th Foot.

BIRTHS.

BLACKETT.—On May 4th, at Southwold, Suffolk, the wife of *Edward R. Blackett, M.D., of a son.

FRASER.—On May 1st, at Edinburgh, the wife of John Fraser, M.D., C.B., Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, of a daughter.

SHAW.—On May 1st, at Sutton Coldfield, the wife of *H. E. F. Shaw, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

SMITH.—On May 1st, at Warrington, the wife of *T. Starkey Smith, M.B. Lond., of a son.

STOKOE.—On April 30th, at East Farleigh, Kent, the wife of Paul H. Stokoe, B.A., M.D. Lond., of a daughter.

WILLIAMSON.—On May 1st, at Mildmay Park, the wife of *James Williamson, M.D., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ANDREWS, Frederick Vigne, Esq., to Mary Jane, eldest daughter of R. Gosset Brown, M.R.C.P., of Hampstead, on April 16th.
 BALLARD, Edward, M.D., of Islington, to Emmeline, youngest daughter of John Halse, Esq., of Acton, on May 2nd.
 BARNES, Captain Christopher H., Royal Horse Artillery, to Lucy Caroline, second daughter of A. H. BARTLET, M.D., of Ipswich, on April 23rd.
 CULLEN, David, M.D., Staff-Surgeon 11th Depot Battalion, Gosport, to Janet Wilson, second daughter of the Rev. Thomas JOHNSTONE, Ancroth, Kirkcudbrightshire, on April 21st.
 CUFF, James H., Esq., of Manchester, to Katherine Elizabeth, second daughter of John GREENE, Esq., Surgeon, of Hammersmith, on April 21st.
 HIDE, John, Esq., Surgeon, of Eastbourne, to Isabel, only daughter of J. M. CUNNINGHAM, M.D., of Hailsham, on April 22nd.
 LONGHURST, Arthur E. T., Staff-Surgeon, to Sophia Harriet, eldest daughter of Major Septimus Lyster, 94th Regiment, at Dover, on April 22nd.
 LYON, James Tennent, Esq., to Mary Anne Elizabeth, only surviving child of Charles COLLIER, M.D., F.R.S., of Fitzroy Square, on April 23rd.
 MOORE, Edward Howard, L.R.C.P.Ed., of Cambridge Heath, London, to Rachel, third daughter of Richard E. BATON, Esq., of Farmingham, on April 29th.
 *PARSONS, Francis Henry, M.D., of Nottingham, to Eliza, only surviving daughter of William CLIFFORDSMITH, Esq., of Exeter Place, Knightsbridge, at St. Saviour's, Chelsea, on May 2nd.

DEATHS.

BIRCH, George, L.R.C.P., at St. Helier's, Jersey, aged 82, on April 26th.
 BROWN.—On April 26th, at Belfast, Jeanie, wife of H. Brown, L.R.C.P.Ed.
 BURKE.—On April 16th, at Malta, the wife of John Page Burke, M.D.
 CANSTATT.—On May 2nd, at South Place, Finsbury, aged 60, Hannah, wife of N. J. Canstatt, Esq., Surgeon.
 DUNCAN.—On April 27th, at Hyères, Frances Adela Mary, infant daughter of P. Charles Duncan, M.D.
 NICHOLAS, E., Esq., Surgeon, at Red Cross Street, City, aged 36, on April 2nd.
 SMILES.—On May 4th, aged 20, Edward, eldest son of William Smiles, M.D., of Bedford Square.

A PHILANTHROPIST APPROPRIATELY NAMED.—Mr. C. J. Ready-money of Bombay has offered the Indian Government the sum of 50,000 *rupees* for the erection of a lunatic asylum at Hyderabad, in Sindh.

THE GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL.—The Marquis of Westminster has presented the handsome sum of £300 to the hospital, this being his second donation of a like amount. The Holloway Volunteer Fire Brigade has kindly sent £65 as the proceeds of a recent dramatic *fête* in aid of the new hospital building.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—At the last primary or anatomical and physiological examination at the Royal College of Surgeons when 101 candidates underwent the ordeal; 25 were referred to their studies for three months. Of those who passed, a considerable number were from the provincial schools: from Birmingham, 7; Edinburgh, 6; Newcastle, 4; Manchester, 4; Sheffield, 2; Leeds, 1; Bristol, 4; Liverpool, 2; Dublin, 1; Leeds and St. Bartholomew's, 1; Birmingham and King's College, 1; Edinburgh and King's College, 1; Bombay and University College, 1; King's College, 3; St. Thomas's, 2; Toronto and St. Thomas's, 1; Guy's, 16; University College, 4; St. Mary's, 2; Middlesex, 4; London, 3; Guy's and Charing Cross, 1; St. George's, 2; and St. Bartholomew's, 3.

ULSTER MEDICAL SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of the Ulster Medical Society, for receiving the report and for the election of office-bearers, was held on Friday evening last, in the Society's room, at the General Hospital. The following are the office-bearers elected for the present year:—*President*, Professor Cuming, A.M., M.D. *Vice-Presidents (for town)*, Henry Whitaker, M.D., and John M'Crea, A.M., M.D.; *(for country)*, Archibald Dunlop, M.D., Holywood; and John Kelso, M.D., Lisburn. *Treasurer*, William MacCormac, A.M., M.D. *Secretaries*, John Moore, M.D.; and James Hill, M.D. *Other members of Council*, Robert Stewart, M.D.; James Patterson, M.D.; James Moore, M.D., M.R.I.A.; Angus M. Porter, M.D.; Hugh P. Rea, M.D.; and John Fagan, L.K. Q.C.P.I.

A FEMALE DOCTOR IN RUSSIA.—Miss Sousloff, a young woman who recently obtained a doctor's diploma at Zurich for surgery and midwifery, has just passed an examination in St. Petersburg with the intention of practising in Russia. According to the law, in order to have the right of so doing, a doctor who has taken his degree at any foreign university is compelled to submit to an examination before the medical board. It was before this council that Miss Sousloff was examined *vis à vis* in physiology, therapeutics, midwifery, and surgery, besides writing a satisfactory essay on the lady-like subject of the lymphatic glands. As there is no instance of a woman taking the degree of D.M. in Russia, the board takes refuge behind the law which authorises foreign doctors to practise in the country, on condition they abide by certain regulations, and accordingly proposes to grant this privilege to Miss Sousloff, but the authorisation must be previously sanctioned and confirmed by the Emperor.

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.—Royal Free, 9 A.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.—Royal Free, 1.30 P.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 London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.—Medical Society of London, 8 P.M. 1. Dr. Sansom will introduce a Practical Demonstration of the New Norwegian Cooking Apparatus as applied to Hygiene and Medicine; 2. The President will reply to Dr. Broadbent's exceptions on Animal Force; 3. Mr. Haviland, on the Effects of the Morbid Secretion of Milk, illustrated by a Case; 4. Dr. Sedgwick will read a communication on the Recent Epidemic of Laryngeal Cold; 5. Dr. Andrew Clark and Mr. Peter Marshall will read a paper on a Case of Disease of the Base of the Right Lung simulating Phthisis, and on a Case of Hæmorrhagic Phthisis.
 TUESDAY.—The Ethnological Society of London, 8 P.M. Mr. C. B. Wade, C.B., "On the Chinese Notation of Time"; Mr. John Crawford, "On the Migration and History of Coffee, Tea, Cocoa, etc."—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Cooper Rose, "Case of Cystic Disease of Kidney, simulating Ovarian Disease"; Dr. Broadbent, "On the Chemical Action of Remedies."—Statistical Society.
 WEDNESDAY.—Royal Microscopical Society, 8 P.M. Mr. H. Slack and Mr. W. C. Roberts, "On Organic Growths in Hydrate of Silica Solution and their appearance in Artificial Minerals."—Hunterian Society.
 THURSDAY.—Royal Society.
 FRIDAY.—Royal Institution.
 SATURDAY.—Association Medical Officers of Health.

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.

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

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.

WORKERS IN DUST.

DR. JOHN CHARLES HALL, Senior Physician to the Sheffield Public Hospital, writes concerning the last report in the JOURNAL on the Workers among Dust. Dr. Hall, Dr. Favell, and others, have written much and ably concerning the injurious effect of the grinding trades in producing lung-disease of the most dangerous character. Dr. Hall is anxious that his opinion, as given by him in his able pamphlet on *The Trades of Sheffield as Influencing Life and Health*, that the common notion that drunkards live the longest, is a very great mistake, should be recorded. The intention of the writer of the fourth paper on Preventable Diseases of the Industrial Classes was not to show that drunkards were less likely to get lung-disease than temperate men, but that a very large number of workers among dust become drunkards of necessity through the disease-producing character of their work. The coarse dust alluded to is that produced by French millstone makers and engineers. Dr. Hall's papers on the Prevention and Treatment of the Sheffield Grinders' Diseases were published in the earlier volumes of the JOURNAL. His recent paper on the *Trades of Sheffield*, 1865, was read before the Social Science Association, and is published by Longman. The highest credit is due to Dr. Hall for his persistent efforts to compel public attention to this important subject.

DR. DUDFIELD informs us that at the last meeting of the Metropolitan Poor-Law Medical Officers there were fifty persons present.

DISEASES OF PHOTOGRAPHERS.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—If these affections are caused by the handling of cyanide of potassium, might not the internal exhibition of permanganate of potash, the inhalation of aqueous spray impregnated with the same substance, and the use of permanganate baths, have considerable antidotal efficacy? Condry of Batteuse has brought out a permanganate preparation, called the "oxygen bath" which is specially calculated for the latter purpose.

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.

INQUIRER.—The Archbishop of Canterbury has no longer the power of conferring medical degrees.

NEWCASTLE INFIRMARY.—A correspondent, in reply to the statements on this subject, from Dr. Gibb and Dr. Charlton, Physicians of the Infirmary, and our comments thereon, writes us that the statement of there being fifty-nine beds in the surgical ward, and three beds where there should be only one, bears some explanation. The surgical ward referred to consists, according to our correspondent, of two large wards, viz., the Victoria and Percy (after the Middlesex type of ward), and similarly ventilated. The former has twenty-four beds, the latter twenty-five, the cubic space, being per bed 158½ (without calculating air-spaces, such as doorways, window recesses, and side walls, and semi-circular archways). The surgical ward happens to include four other wards; namely, No. 1, 8 beds and 1006 cubic feet; No. 2, 4 beds, cubic feet 993; No. 3, 4 beds (eye-ward), 1007 cubic feet; No. 4, 4 beds, 1156 cubic feet.

MORTALITY OF INFANTS.

MRS. M. A. BAINES writes to us respecting a recent inquiry in which she has been concerned. "Some strange facts and opinions came out during the inquiry; but the strangest of all related to a family in which three infants had died successively, at the ages of three weeks, two months, and five weeks, respectively. In reply to my inquiry as to the causes of death in the cases of these three children, the paper was returned with the following statement, which I copy *verbatim*, with the exception of names:—

E. P., 3 weeks
A. P., 2 months
G. P., 5 weeks

The natural death of babies!

This return was made, not by an ignorant woman who, when she talks of 'its pleasing God' to take her poor babes, may persuade herself that it is 'natural' for them to die, but the statement was given by a clergyman."

MR. KENT (Stradbroke).—The sulphate of iron is inferior both to carbolic acid and to Condy's fluid as a disinfectant. Apply to the Privy Council Office for the Memorandum on Disinfection.

S. M.—Professor Huxley was not admitted a member of the College until 1862.

A STUDENT.—There will be a meeting of the Midwifery Board on May 27th.

SUBCUTANEOUS INJECTIONS.

SIR.—The last thing I desire is an useless controversy. In reply, therefore, to the gentlemen who have done me the honour to notice my brief remarks, let me say:

1. My instrument bears the name of Weiss, and is not blunt.

2. My experience—both objective and subjective—is, that a needle, however sharp, passed for an inch through the skin, does give very considerable pain; and that the ether-spray skilfully applied is an useful adjunct.

3. I have found upon injecting a small dose (*e.g.*, five drops), that the act of immediately withdrawing the nozzle, added to the natural contractility of the skin, does cause the loss of a material portion of the injection.

4. Though I have not had the misfortune to use the injection one thousand five hundred times, I have found certain methods and certain precautions of practical use. I have mentioned them, and shall continue to use them.

Cheltenham, April 1868.

I am, etc.,

ALFRED FLEISCHMANN.

AN OLD MEMBER.—You must be recommended by six Fellows, not being members of the Council of the College. You are too late for the next meeting.

ELECTION AT HOSPITALS BY COMPETITION.

SIR.—Many excellent suggestions have recently been made by several of your correspondents as to the best means for securing the ablest man, as medical officer to hospitals or medical charities. After many years of observation of the system which prevails in London, I cannot imagine a worse system than that of appealing to a number of governors, as at present is the fashion in this metropolis. It is a system which has much degraded the medical profession here, and which has made us, as a body, have so little belief in the abilities of the various members of our hospital staffs. On the other hand, when we visit our more scientific and spiritual neighbours, the French, in Paris, we are at once struck with the ready acknowledgments of the skill and accomplishments of the various officers of the hospitals there. In fact, Velpeau and Trousseau were as much beloved in America, in Germany, and in England, as they were in France; and so with Ricord and many others. There must be some reason for the difference of standing of the medical profession in France and England; and I am persuaded that it lies entirely in the fact, that the system of open competition for all hospital appointments is in force in France. For my own part, I confess, I am stupid enough not to be able to see in what other way than by open competition the world at large, or the medical profession, can possibly discover who is the fittest person to fill one of the highest functions which any one can have to discharge, that of medical adviser to a large public hospital. It will be many years, perhaps, before these truths are realised by the profession or the public; but every independent observer, and every lover of progress, must earnestly desire that the system of open competition should ere long be set in operation.

It is not in the matter of stage-plays alone that we are in the habit of stealing from the French. There are whole classes of medical subjects, which are only capable of being discussed in Paris, and of which we simply make a translation and dish up the article as a national one. And I cannot believe that this will be achieved until the medical man of this country shall no longer be compelled to spend the greater part of his thoughts in scheming how he is to get into the good graces of some person in power, instead of, as in Paris, filling his mind with scientific ideas, without which his chance at the public competition would be *nil*. Is it not possible that, out of your Medical Teachers' Association, some such result as the Parisian *concours* may arise? If so the Association will have done great service to science, and it would add to this benefit if it could secure to the whole of the unfortunate British practitioners of medicine *one degree*, granted by public examiners in all parts of the kingdom, say for £10, and without which none of the universities or colleges should be allowed to grant a degree. Of course, all the hospitals of London ought, in so far as the competition system goes, to be grouped together under one medical government, as in Paris.

Southampton Row, April 1868.

I am, etc.,

C. R. DRYSDALE.

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.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—The person named is not a Fellow of the College.

TREATMENT OF SPINAL CURVATURE.

SIR.—After Mr. Barwell's letter of April 11th, I must leave the profession to judge on which side is sophistry, on which logic and truth. However, in justice to M. Jules Guérin, there is one point which I must explain. It is true that the report of the Commission of the Academy of Medicine was not favourable to the section of spinal muscles; but that Commission included the late M. Malgaigne, who was so prejudiced against M. Guérin as to assert that there exists no difference between the healing of open and subcutaneous wounds; M. Guérin being one of the originators of the subcutaneous method in France. On the other hand, there exists a report to the Délégué du Gouvernement Provisoire de 1848, signed by Orfila, Blandin, Paul Dubois, Jobert de Lamballe, Luis, Rayer, and Serres, men, as everyone knows, of the highest standing in the profession, in which is the following passage (p. 197), on the subcutaneous section of the muscles of the spine. "Chez tous, les moyens mécaniques avaient été insuffisants. Chez tous, la section sous-cutanée des muscles du dos a produit immédiatement une somme de redressement, qui n'a pas permis de méconnaître les effets primitifs de cette opération," etc. With all due respect for Mr. Richard Barwell, he must allow me to prefer the opinion of the above-mentioned gentlemen, who had seen cases thus treated, to Mr. Barwell's opinion, he having seen none.

In answer to Dr. Sedgwick, I beg to state that the case he relates is one of weak spine, and not of fixed curve; and it is only in the extreme cases of fixed curve that I have had recourse to the section of muscles. One essential feature of the pathological anatomy in cases of fixed curve is the wedge-shaped form of the bodies of the vertebrae; and two months is, as every surgeon knows, too short a time to repair materially the absorbed portion of the vertebrae.

I still maintain that no elastic band, movement, or position of the body can make any impression on a fixed curve; and this I am ready to demonstrate at the National Orthopaedic Hospital to Dr. Sedgwick whenever he will honour me with a visit.

I am, etc.,

HENRY DICK.

Wimpole Street, April 11th, 1868.

DR. CAMERON'S letter on the Treatment of Cholera in India shall be published in an early number.

A PROVINCIAL SPECIAL HOSPITAL.—The sort of interest excited in London by Dr. Seaton Smyth's report, which we lately criticised with severity, was not of the kind of which a medical man has reason to be proud. We find the following piece of bravado in a Liverpool paper. "On account of the extraordinary interest produced in London and Liverpool by Dr. Smyth's Report of the Cancer and Skin Hospital, Islington, Messrs. Lee and Nightingale have republished 2000 copies. To be had at their office, 16, Castle Street. Price 2d. each."

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing new reports and other matters of medical interest:—The Brecon County Times, May 2nd; The Essex Weekly News, May 1st; The Belfast News-Letter, April 30th; The Merthyr Telegraph; Saunders's Dublin News-Letter, May 4th; The Northern Whig, May 4th; The Northern Star, May 5th.

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

Dr. Braxton Hicks, London; Dr. Marcet, London; Mr. Oliver Pemberton, Birmingham; Mr. G. Kent, Stradbroke; Mr. Carttar, London; Mr. John Peppard, Pilltown; Dr. Dick, London; Mr. Holloway, London; Dr. H. N. Cameron; Dr. Robert McDonnell, Dublin; Dr. Simpson, Manchester; Mr. H. E. Shaw, Sutton Coldfield; Mr. G. Barham, London; Dr. Hickman, London; Dr. James B. Mitchell, London; Mr. Hawksley, London; Dr. Maddox, Southampton; Mr. R. L. Bowles, Folkestone; The Secretary of the Royal Medical Benevolent College; Dr. Copeman, Norwich; Mr. D. H. Dyte, London; Mr. Garland, Yeovil; Dr. Henry MacCormac, Belfast; Mr. John Wilson, Aberdeen; Dr. H. Brown, Belfast; Dr. Habershon, London; Dr. Hyde Salter, London; and Mr. J. S. Smith, Warrington.

LETTERS, ETC. (with enclosures) from:—

Dr. H. Bence Jones, London; Dr. Symonds, Clifton, Bristol; Dr. Humphry, Cambridge; Mr. James Paget, London; Mr. J. G. Locke, London; Mr. T. A. Stephenson, Nottingham; Dr. Dudfield, London; Dr. Sharpey, London; The Honorary Secretaries of the Ethnological Society of London; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; Dr. John Murray, London; The Registrar-General of England; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Mr. St. George Mivart; Dr. F. J. Brown, Rochester; Mr. William Copney, London; The Honorary Secretary of the Harveian Society; The Honorary Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society; Dr. Parsons, Liverpool; The Secretary of the Great Northern Hospital; The Secretary of the Medical Society of London; Dr. Cockle, London; Dr. Macalister, Dublin; Dr. Faleoner, Bath; Mr. W. Ahern; Dr. F. Farre, London; and Dr. Basham, London.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Thirty-First Annual Report of the Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire Infirmary and Dispensary. Cardiff: 1868.

The First Annual Report of the Committee of Visitors of the Surrey County Lunatic Asylum at Brookwood.

Visceral and Hereditary Syphilis. By F. Oppert, M.D. London: 1868.

Cancer of the Uterus and other Parts. By A. Wynn Williams, M.D. London: 1868.

Transactions of the Obstetrical Society of London. Vol. ix. London: 1868.

Materialism in Relation to the Study of Medicine: an Address to Medical Students By James Hutchison Stirling. Edinburgh and London: 1868.

The St. Louis Medical Reporter for April 1868.

A Handbook of Vaccination. By Edward C. Seaton, M.D. London: 1868.