

# BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

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THE following new members have joined the Association from the commencement of the present year.

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Lamb, Joseph, Esq. Birkenhead  
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 Wolfe, J. R. M.D. Ophthalmic Surgeon to  
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 Mackenzie, John, M.D. Staff Assistant-  
 Surgeon, Aldershot  
 Murray, John, M.D. Inspector-General of  
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## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

## EDINBURGH.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

ON Monday last, a very influential meeting of Mr. Gladstone's supporters took place, to arrange the preliminary details in connexion with the contest for the chancellorship. The chair was occupied by Sir James Y. Simpson, Bart.; and amongst others present were Professor Lyon Playfair, C.B., Professor Wilson, Dr. Alexander Wood, Dr. John Muir, and a considerable number of members of the legal profession. Although no personal canvass had yet been made, it was announced that a considerable number of letters had been received from men of influence, expressing their willingness to act as members of Mr. Gladstone's committee. After the Chairman had explained the objects of the meeting, and stated what steps had already been taken by Mr. Gladstone's committee, Dr. Alexander Wood pointed out the great claims which Mr. Gladstone possessed to fill the vacant office, and drew attention to the fact that it was only after mature consideration that Mr. Gladstone had been chosen as the most suitable candidate to be proposed. Dr. Alexander Wood stated that a meeting was to be held on Tuesday, to urge the claims of the Lord Justice-General Inglis against those of Mr. Gladstone. Dr. Wood contrasted the merits of the two rival candidates; and he endeavoured to show that the principles of the Lord Justice-General were not of such a nature as to commend themselves to the mind of liberal men. He alluded to the Scotch Universities Act, which had been passed under his auspices; and he contended that the Lord Justice-General was not entitled to as much credit as he had received for it, seeing that he had to a great extent followed up the plan and made use of the materials which had been arranged by his predecessor in office, Mr. Moncrieff. Professor Playfair stated that, having been in communication with Mr. Gladstone on the subject, he could contradict a rumour which had become prevalent, to the effect that Mr. Gladstone was opposed to giving the Scotch Universities two members. Mr. Gladstone was, on the contrary, desirous to see the Scotch Universities represented by two members. When, however, it was stated that a majority of the Scotch Liberal members were opposed to giving two members to the Universities, Mr. Gladstone felt that, if such really were the case, he could not personally, as Liberal leader, put himself in opposition to the wishes of the majority of the Scotch members. Professor Playfair stated that the opposition of the members to giving two representatives to the Universities had been much exaggerated, and that he himself knew of eighteen Scotch members who were favourable to the proposal. Sheriff Hector made a brilliant speech in support of Mr. Gladstone. He admitted that the Lord Justice-General would be a formidable opponent; still he ventured to predict that Mr. Gladstone would be carried by as good a majority as they obtained when Lord Brougham was elected. The meeting was subsequently addressed by several other speakers. It was determined to have as large a general committee as possible, and to organise a small executive committee to carry on the canvass as energetically as possible.

ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—At the anniversary of the Ethnological Society, held May 26th, at 4, St. Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square, Professor Busk in the chair, the following were elected:—*President*—Professor Huxley. *Vice-Presidents*—Robert Dunn, Esq.; Sir John Lubbock, Bart.; Dr. Harrington Tuke; Major-General Balfour. *Hon. Treasurer*—F. Hindmarsh, Esq. *Hon. Secretaries*—Thomas Wright, Esq.; D. W. Nash, Esq. *Hon. Librarian*—L. J. Beale, Esq. *Council*—Capt. Sherard Osborn; W. Blackmore, Esq.; Henry G. Bohn, Esq.; Dr. A. Campbell; Sir A. W. Clavering, Bart.; T. F. D. Croker, Esq.; E. B. Tylor, Esq.; J. Dickinson, Esq.; G. Dalhousie Ramsay, Esq.; Professor Busk; Hyde Clarke, Esq.; Dr. Richard King; Sir R. I. Murchison, Bart.; Sir C. Nicholson, Bart.; Colonel Lane Fox; Major-General Sir J. Shiel; Lord Strangford; John Thrupp, Esq.; H. H. Howorth, Esq.

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

### NEW BRANCH OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

WE learn with great pleasure from Dr. Henry Barnes of Carlisle that, at a meeting of the profession held there on May 20th, it was resolved to form a Branch of the British Medical Association for the counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland. Nineteen gentlemen at once signified their intention of becoming members of the Association, which counts already a large sprinkling of members in these counties; and will now, doubtless, soon take firm root there, and bring the members of the profession in other counties into more constant and habitual communication on professional subjects with our brethren in these two northern provinces.

### METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH.

A SPECIAL general meeting of the above Branch will be held at the rooms of the Medical Society of London, 32A, George Street, Hanover Square, on Monday, June 1st, at 8 P.M., to receive the Report of the Committee appointed to investigate the case of Dr. Eastlake.

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

### SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH.

THE Annual meeting of the above Branch will be held on Thursday, June 4th, at the Town Hall, Hastings, at half-past One o'Clock; FREDERICK TICEHURST, Esq., in the Chair. Visitors will be admitted on the introduction of a member of the Branch.

The Dinner will be provided at half-past Four o'Clock precisely. Tickets for Dinner, Dessert, Coffee, and attendance, not including Wine, 7s. 6d. each, to be obtained at the Swan Hotel.

Gentlemen desiring to bring forward communications will be pleased to give notice to the Secretary one week previous to the meeting.

C. HOLMAN, M.D., *Secretary.*

### SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Swan Hotel, Bedford, on Thursday, June 18th, at 1 P.M.; C. E. PRIOR, M.D., President-elect, in the Chair.

Gentlemen intending to read papers or cases, are requested to send the names or titles of the same forthwith to Dr. Bryan, Northampton, one of the Honorary Secretaries.

J. M. BRYAN, M.D. } *Hon. Secretaries.*  
G. P. GOLDSMITH, Esq. }

### BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Hen and Chickens Hotel, New Street, Birmingham, on Friday, June 19th, at 3 o'clock, when an address will be delivered by C. E. NEWNHAM, Esq., the President of the Branch.

The members and their friends will dine together afterwards, at 5 o'clock punctually.—Dinner tickets, inclusive of waiters and dessert, seven shillings and sixpence.

T. H. BARTLETT, *Hon. Secretary.*

### LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held on Friday, June 19th, at half-past twelve, at the Royal Institution, Mosley Street, Manchester. Dinner will be provided at a quarter to five.

Gentlemen intending to read papers are requested to communicate with the Secretary as early as possible.

HENRY SIMPSON, M.D., *Hon. Secretary.*

### CAMBRIDGE AND HUNTINGDON BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held, in conjunction with the East Anglian Branch, at Yarmouth, on Friday, June 26th, W. VORES, M.D., President.

Members intending to read papers or cases are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary at their earliest convenience.

P. W. LATHAM, M.D., *Hon. Secretary.*

Cambridge, May 27th, 1868.

### EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held, in conjunction with the Cambridge and Huntingdon Branch, at the Town Hall, Great Yarmouth, on Friday, June 26th, at 2 P.M., WM. VORES, M.D., President-elect in the chair.

Gentlemen intending to read papers or cases will be pleased to give timely notice to one of the Local Secretaries, viz.: Dr. P. W. Latham, Cambridge; Dr. Chevallier, Ipswich; or Dr. Pitt, Norwich.

The dinner will take place at 5.30 P.M., at the Royal Hotel. Tickets 12s. 6d. each, to be obtained of either of the Honorary Secretaries; and it is hoped that those gentlemen intending to dine will give a few days' notice, in order that proper arrangements can be made.

J. B. PITT, *Hon. Secretary for Norfolk.*

### NORTHERN BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at Darlington, on Tuesday, June 30th. President for 1867-68—EDWARD CHARLTON, M.D.; President-elect for 1868-69—JOHN JOHNSON, F.R.C.S.

Gentlemen intending to read papers or cases, or describe pathological specimens, are requested to communicate with the Secretary, without delay.

G. H. PHILIPSON, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, May 1868.

### EAST YORK AND NORTH LINCOLN BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE twelfth annual meeting of the East York and North Lincoln Branch of the British Medical Association was held at the Hull Infirmary, on Wednesday, May 20th, 1868, at 2 P.M., under the presidency of HENRY GIBSON, Esq. Twenty-one members were present, and two visitors.

*Officers.*—The following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year. *President:* Sir H. Cooper, M.D. *Honorary Treasurer:* Mr. J. A. Locking. *Honorary Secretary:* Mr. R. H. B. Nicholson. *Committee:* Messrs. Craven, Daly, Lunn, J. H. Gibson, King, Holden, and Dix.

*Meetings.*—It was decided to hold a second meeting in the autumn of this year at Great Grimsby. The Committee were also recommended to make arrangements for the holding of more frequent meetings for the discussion of professional subjects.

*New Members.*—Dr. G. F. Elliot of Hull, Mr. S. R. Henson of Hull, and Mr. W. H. Sissons of Barton, were elected members of the Branch.

*Addresses, Papers, etc.*—The President read a highly instructive introductory address, in which he particularly alluded to the improvement in the conduction of the JOURNAL of the Association.

MR. MORLEY of Barton gave the particulars of a case of Hydatid Abscess of the Liver.

MR. DIX related a case of lingering Labour from Inertia, which presented some singular features.

DR. LUNN, and MR. LEPPINGTON of Grimsby, each related cases.

DR. KELBURNE KING directed the attention of the members to the Treatment of Injuries, etc., by Carbolic Acid, and exhibited cases which had been most successfully treated by this agent.

A Dinner was held at Bainton's Victoria Hotel at 6 o'clock in the evening.

## UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

NATURAL SCIENCES TRIPOS.—The following gentlemen have been appointed examiners for the Natural Science Tripos in the University of Cambridge during the present year: Rev. George Henslow, M.A., Christ's College; P. T. Main, M.A., St. John's College; Rev. O. Fisher, M.A., Jesus College; and J. B. Bradbury, M.B., Downing College.

### UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

THE candidature of the Lord Justice-General Inglis for the Chancellorship of the University is, we are informed, supported by Professors Christison, Syme, Douglas Maclagan, Balfour, Laycock, Muirhead, Macpherson, Kelland, Tytler, Spence, and Turner; Drs. Andrew Wood, Alexander Wood, Smith, Adam, Hunter, Malcolm, Annandale, Eaton, Orphoot, Somerville, Graham, R. N. Muirhead, Reid, Ritchie, Murray, Bruce, G. Bremner, Archibald Dickson, Joseph Bell, Myrtie, etc.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—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 7th:—

Beadles, Ferdinand, Broadway, Worcestershire (Westminster)  
Drew, W. H., Gower Street, Bedford Square (University College)  
French, Jacob, Deptford (Guy's)  
Gilland, R. B., M.D. Glasgow and L.S.A., Brentwood (Glasgow School)  
Nunn, G. R., Lyndhurst, Hants (Guy's)  
Pratt, J. W., L.S.A., Bradford, Yorkshire (St. Mary's)

Only five out of the fifty-seven candidates failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Court of Examiners, and were consequently referred to their hospital studies for a period of six months.

Admitted members on May 19th:—

Besly, F. B., St. Martin's Court, Leicester Square (Charing Cross)  
Goodsall, D. H., Gravesend (St. Bartholomew's)  
Gould, Henry, L.S.A., Gravesend (Guy's)  
Grigson, R. E., Watton, near Thetford, Norfolk (Guy's)  
Harrison, J. W., Barnsley, Yorkshire (Middlesex)  
Jamieson, B. A., Pekin, China (Cork School)  
Langworthy, F. W., Plympton, Devon (St. Bartholomew's)  
Lee, W. P., Sydney, New South Wales (Middlesex)  
Le Tall, F. T., Woodhouse, near Sheffield (Sheffield School)  
Mason, W. J., Sudbury, Suffolk (Guy's)  
Owen, E. B., Cleveland Square, Hyde Park (St. Mary's)  
Peirce, J. E., L.S.A., Gilwern, near Abergavenny (St. Bartholomew's)  
Rayner, J. A., Highbury New Park (King's College)  
Robertson, D. K., L.R.C.P. and L.S.A., Westbourne Park Villas (St. Barthol.)  
Spencer, T. C. H., L.R.C.P. and L.S.A., Wokingham, Berkshire (Guy's)  
Spragge, E. W., Toronto, Canada (University College and Toronto Schools)  
Spratt, H. H., Wairarapa, New Zealand (Middlesex)

Admitted members on May 20th:—

Cuffe, A. G., Woburn Place (University College)  
Glanville, John, Wedmore, Somerset (St. Bartholomew's)  
Johnson, John, L.S.A., Darlaston (Birmingham School)  
Leslie, Armand, Battersea Park (Middlesex)  
Nuttall, Ratcliff, Bury, Lancashire (Manchester School)  
Phillips, E. A., Eling, Hants (University College)  
Rice, M. W., M.B. and C.M. Edin., Sloane Street (Edinburgh, St. George's, and Middlesex)  
Stephens, Edward, Ilminster (Liverpool School)  
Thornicroft, T. C., Clapham (Charing Cross)  
Vines, F. C., L.S.A., Vasse, West Australia (Dublin School)  
Waterhouse, Frederick, Bolton, Lancashire (Leeds School)  
Young, Edward, Hawkhurst, Kent (King's College)

It appears that nine out of the thirty-seven candidates failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Court, and were therefore referred for six months.

*Licentiate in Midwifery.*—The following members of the College, having undergone the necessary examinations, were admitted Licentiate in Midwifery at a meeting of the Board, on May 27th.

Cremen, P. J., M.D. Queen's University, Ireland, Cork; diploma of membership dated April 22, 1868  
Desvignes, P. H., L.S.A., Lewisham; April 28, 1866  
Dickson, J. R., M.D. Queen's University, Ireland, Belfast; not a member  
Glanville, John, Wedmore, Somerset; May 20, 1868  
Groves, Edward, Portsmouth; April 22, 1868  
Levy, J. L., L.R.C.P. Ed. and L.S.A., Westbourne Terrace; May 22, 1866  
Naish, F. J., L.R.C.P. Ed. and L.S.A., East India Road; April 23, 1868  
Rowling, C. E., Parramatta, New South Wales; April 21, 1868  
Smith, Walter, East Moulsey; April 25, 1867  
Thompson, J. A., Delamere Street; May 6, 1868

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—Names of gentlemen who passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, May 21st, 1868.

Alford, Samuel, The Mount, Taunton  
Edwards, Edward Parry, Maentwrog, Merionethshire  
Kirkshaw, John, Royton, near Manchester  
Rawson, William Fell, Low Moor, near Bradford  
Rees, William, Aberystwyth  
Spencer, Walter William, Newcastle-upon-Tyne  
Townsend, Meredith, Thurlow House, Clapham Rise

## MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are declared:—

BRIGHTON and HOVE DISPENSARY—Two Resident House-Surgeons.  
CATHERTON UNION—Medical Officer for District No. 2.  
CHESTER GENERAL INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon and Visiting-Surgeon.  
CHONTALES GOLD and SILVER MINES, Nicaragua, Central America—Resident Medical Officer.  
CLAREMORRIS UNION, co. Mayo—Medical Officer for the Ballindine Dispensary District.  
DOLGELLY UNION, Merionethshire—Medical Officer for the Workhouse.  
DUBLIN, TRINITY COLLEGE—King's Professor of the Practice of Medicine.  
INFIRMARY FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST, 26, Margaret Street—Visiting Physician.  
LITTLEMORE PAUPER LUNATIC ASYLUM, near Oxford—Assistant Medical Officer.

LURGAN UNION, co. Armagh—Medical Officer for the Tartaraghan Dispensary District.  
MILFORD UNION, co. Donegal—Medical Officer for the Rosguill Dispensary District.  
NORTH DUBLIN UNION—Resident Medical Officer, No. 2, North City Dispensary.  
NORTH WALES COUNTIES LUNATIC ASYLUM, Denbigh—Assistant Medical Officer.  
OLDCASTLE UNION, co. Meath—Medical Officer for the Crossakeel Dispensary District.  
ROYAL GENERAL DISPENSARY, Bartholomew Close—Two Physicians and Assistant-Physician.  
ROYAL ISLE OF WIGHT INFIRMARY, Ryde—Surgeon and Secretary.  
ROYAL KENT DISPENSARY—Two Medical Officers for Greenwich.  
ST. PANCRAS, Middlesex—Medical Officer for District No. 1.  
SALFORD, Borough of—Medical Officer of Health.  
SHEFFIELD GENERAL INFIRMARY—Assistant House-Surgeon.  
SOMERSET COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM, Wells—Assistant Medical Officer.  
SOUTH LAMBETH, STOCKWELL, and NORTH BRIXTON DISPENSARY—Honorary Medical Officer.  
SURREY LUNATIC ASYLUM, Wandsworth—Assistant Medical Officer.  
UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW—Professor of Midwifery.  
WESTERN GENERAL DISPENSARY, Marylebone Road—Physician-in-Ordinary and Surgeon.

## MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

BROWNIDGE, T., Esq., elected Public Vaccinator for the West District of the Kingston-upon-Hull Incorporation for the Poor.  
LOWTHER, George, Esq., elected Public Vaccinator for the East District of the Kingston-upon-Hull Incorporation for the Poor.

## BIRTHS.

ALDERSON.—On May 17th, at Avenue Terrace, Hammersmith, the wife of Frederick H. Alderson, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.  
BLACK.—On May 18th, at Marquess Road, Canonbury, the wife of Robert J. Black, M.D., of a daughter.  
CLARK.—On May 16th, at Holborn Hill, the wife of Thomas Clark, L.R.C.P. Ed., of a daughter.  
HAMILTON.—On May 21st, at Oakthorpe, Windermere, the wife of Archibald Hamilton, M.D., of a daughter.  
LITHGOW.—On May 15th, at Weymouth, the wife of Jas. Lithgow, M.D., of a son.  
THOROWGOOD.—On May 16th, at Welbeck Street, the wife of John C. Thorowgood, M.D., of a daughter.

## DEATHS.

BANNISTER.—On May 17th, at Addison Terrace, Notting Hill, aged 1 year, Hugh, son of Alfred J. Bannister, M.D.  
BARTLEET.—On May 26th, at Edgbaston, Henrietta, the beloved wife of \*Edwin Bartleet, Esq., of Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire.  
GRIFFITH.—On May 21st, at Belgrave Road, Louisa, wife of \*Wm. Griffith, M.D.  
\*GUY, Tom, M.D., of Doncaster, at Walthamstow, Essex, aged 48, on May 21st.  
HATFIELD, William Martin, Esq., Surgeon, late of Chelsea, at Sunningdale, Berks, aged 39, on May 16th.  
MACLAREN.—On May 15th, at 60, Harley Street, Robert A. J., infant son of \*Alexander C. MacLaren, Esq., Surgeon.  
OGILVIE, Alexander, M.D., Deputy Inspector-General Royal Artillery, at Shooter's Hill, aged 79, on May 16th.  
RENNIE, David F., M.D., Surgeon 20th Hussars, at Campbellpore, Upper Bengal, on April 4th.

WE are informed that Dr. Aldis has resigned the Lectureship on Preventive Medicine at the Female Medical Society.

A HINT FOR TRAVELLERS.—A well-known German traveller, F. Jager, in his *Sketches of Travels in Singapore, Malacca, Java* (Berlin, 1866), describes the powder of the *Pyrethrum roseum* as a specific against all noxious insects, including the troublesome mosquitoes and those which attack collections. He says: "A tincture prepared by macerating one part of the *Pyrethrum roseum* in four parts of dilute alcohol, and, when diluted with ten times its bulk of water, applied to any part of the body, gives perfect security against all vermin. I often passed the night in my boat on the ill-reputed rivers of Siam without any other cover, even without the netting, and experienced not the slightest inconvenience. The 'buzzing', at other times so great a disturber of sleep, becomes a harmless tune, and, in the feeling of security, a real cradle-song. In the chase, moistening the beard and hands protects the hunter against flies for at least twelve hours, even in spite of the largely increased transpiration due to the climate. Especially interesting is its action on that plague of all tropical countries, the countless ants. Before the windows, and surrounding the whole house where I lived at Albany, on Luzon, was fastened a board six inches in width, on which long caravans of ants were constantly moving in all directions, making it appear an almost uniformly black surface. A track of the powder several inches in width, strewed across the board, or some tincture sprinkled over it, proved an insurmountable barrier to these processions. The first who halted before it were pushed on by the crowds behind them; but, immediately on passing over, showed symptoms of narcosis, and died in a minute or two; and within a short time the rest left the house altogether."

## 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.—Epidemiological Society, 8 P.M. Assistant-Surgeon Sutherland, 5th Lancers, "Epidemic Cholera in the Punjab, N.W., and Central Bengal, in 1867." (Communicated by the Director-General A.M.D.)—Entomological Society.  
 TUESDAY.—Anthropological Society of London.  
 WEDNESDAY.—Obstetrical Society of London, 8 P.M. 7 P.M., Council Meeting. 8 P.M., Dr. Robert Barnes, "On Chorea in Pregnancy"; Dr. Ernest Sansom, "On the Pain of Parturition and Anæsthesia in Obstetrics."—Geological Society.  
 THURSDAY.—Linnæan Society.—Chemical Society.—Royal Society.  
 FRIDAY.—Western Medical and Surgical Society of London, 8 P.M. Annual Meeting; Election of Officers for the ensuing Session; Report of the Council and the Financial Account will be read; Practical Evening for the Narration of Cases and Exhibition of Specimens.—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.

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.

MR. JOHN MANLEY.—Write to Lord Lichfield.

SIR DOMINIC CORRIGAN ON INSURANCE CERTIFICATES.

SIR,—Since reading Sir Dominic Corrigan's paper on the above subject, I have waited during the issue of several numbers of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, in the hope of seeing the article mentioned by abler persons than myself.

With regard to the two first heads, into which he divides the subject—the first of which notices the relations between the medical referee of a company and the insurer; the second, the relations between life offices and medical men "in reference to lives insured without the knowledge of those whose lives are proposed for insurance"—nothing more need be said. I should think there can be no difference of opinion with regard to them. With the third head, however, the case is different; he himself expresses his doubts as to whether his views will obtain the assent of all. This head includes those cases "in which an insurance office, with the full consent of the person proposing to have his life insured, sends a series of questions to the medical attendant of the insurer, requiring to be furnished with all particulars as to past or present ailments, hereditary predisposition, habits of living, etc.," of the person proposing. His opinion is, that the questions under this head as well as those under number 2 should not be answered; and the reason for this opinion is, that to answer them would be a breach of confidence. It is evident that it is no breach of confidence for the medical attendant to reveal that which the proposer knows and wishes him to reveal. The only question is, as to whether the attendant may with propriety reveal facts which have come to his knowledge through attendance on the insurer, and of which the insurer himself is ignorant.

In looking at the relations between a proposer and an insurance company, we see that they are entirely of a pecuniary character. Both parties are desirous of making an equitable contract. On the side of the company, everything is open and straightforward. It says to the proposer: "If yours is a good life, we shall be willing to take you on such and such terms." The proposer, being an honest and straightforward man, wishes to give the office every opportunity of knowing all it is the company's interest to know, and with this view not only submits to an examination made by the company's medical referee, but also gives the name of his ordinary medical attendant, in order that the company may have every means of estimating the insurance value of his life. Under these circumstances, the medical attendant gives his information in order to make the contract as equitable as possible, and to remove it as far as can be done from the region of speculation.

We will suppose that a person insuring has some time before had an attack of acute rheumatism, and that the attack was complicated with pericarditis; suppose further that the insurer so far recovered that the adherent pericardium could not

be detected, and that the proposer was ignorant of ever having had disease of the heart; if the medical attendant in this case was called upon to give what information he could, would he be justified in withholding it? in silently looking on while such an one-sided contract was being made? Would he be doing his client an injustice by giving the information, and would it be a breach of confidence? I think he would be doing exactly what his client wishes him to do—doing an act of justice, assisting the office to make a fair and equal contract. By withholding information under such circumstances, it appears to me that he is wilfully injuring the office, or rather the whole body of policy-holders—for the directors will probably look to their interests first, and the bonuses of the policy-holders afterwards—and compelling his client against his will to take undue and unjust advantage of the company.

With regard to the "fond mother concealing from her child that she was dying of cancer, and laying it as an obligation on the medical man that he should never reveal the nature of her disease, in order that her child should not have the fear of hereditary taint before her," the instance is not of much moment here. If the mother died at a not very advanced age, and the cause of death were unknown, the office would very likely make an addition to the premium, and the addition would probably be no greater if the cause of death were known; while the breach of confidence would be *nil*, as the company would not be very likely to make known the cause of death to the daughter, so that the sole object of the obligation would be attained just as well as if the attendant had kept silent. It would be interesting to know how the cause of death was certified in this case to the registrar; whether the medical attendant considered it a breach of confidence to give the information to this office?

Sir Dominic seems to ignore the fact, that medical referees are sometimes the medical attendants of proposed insurers. I suppose that in this class of cases (which he does not mention) he would say that a medical referee ought not to examine his own patients, for he cannot do it consistently. If he is honest, he commits a breach of confidence; if he does not commit a breach of confidence, he is not honest. How must he act? Why clearly he cannot act at all. The interests of his office and of his patient are so much opposed, that he cannot come in as arbitrator. This is what Sir Dominic's views, if followed out, would lead to; but I think Sir Dominic's views are different from those of the great body of medical men. I for one think that I could reconcile to my conscience the duties I should owe to both office and insurer; and I also think that I am not alone in this respect.

Liverpool, May 1868.

I am, etc., MEM. B. M. A.

AN UNFORTUNATE.—You will come under the operations of the new regulation requiring an examination in medicine, as the six months will not expire until November next. The L.S.A. will exempt you from the examination to which you refer.

EDWARD's question is improper to be asked; and we are not surprised that he should be ashamed to put his name.

## MEDICAL CLUB.

SIR,—As I have recently received a large number of letters of inquiry respecting the Medical Club, and lest any should inadvertently have remained unanswered, I hope you will allow me a short space in your columns to announce that the Club has removed from the temporary rooms hitherto occupied in Pall Mall, to more central and convenient premises situated at No. 9, Spring Gardens, overlooking Trafalgar Square. The new Club-house will afford increased and improved accommodation for the members, and has been placed under the management of Mr. Webb, jun., late of the Carlton Club, who will reside on the premises. I have every confidence that the comfort and convenience of the members will receive Mr. Webb's constant and careful attention, and that all will have good reason to be satisfied with the changes that have been made.

May 20th, 1868.

I am, etc., LORY MARSH, Hon. Sec.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news reports and other matters of medical interest:—The Dublin General Advertiser, May 16th; The Indian Medical Gazette, January 1st, March 2nd, and April 1st; The Marylebone Mercury, May 23rd; The Christian Times, May 22nd;

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

Professor Laycock, Edinburgh; Mr. F. Clarke, London; Dr. Daldy, London; Dr. Gavin Milroy, London; Mr. J. T. Vale, Cloughton, Birkenhead; Mr. Bartleet, Birmingham; Mr. Baker, Brentwood; Mr. Mathews, Horsham; Dr. H. Jones, London; Mr. G. H. Snape, Liverpool; The Secretary of the Western Medical and Surgical Society of London; Dr. Drysdale, London; Mr. Holloway, London; The Secretary of the Epidemiological Society; Dr. Henry Barnes, Carlisle; Mr. E. W. Foster, Chester-le-Street; Dr. Roberts, Manchester; Mr. George Callender, London; Mr. H. Greenway, Plymouth; Dr. Lockhart Robertson, Hayward's Heath; Dr. Davey, Northwoods, Bristol; Mr. W. Reeves, Carlisle; Mr. Beveridge, Aberdeen; Mr. Garraway, Faversham; Mr. A. Ransome, Bowden; Mr. Lund, Manchester; Mr. Curgiven, London; Dr. Aldis, London; Dr. Rogers, London; Dr. Maddox, Southampton; Dr. Bence Jones, London; Dr. Moore, Dublin; Dr. MacLagan, Edinburgh; Dr. Holman, Reigate; Mr. Joshua Parsons, Frome; Dr. Partridge, Birmingham; Mr. J. B. Pitt, Norfolk; Mr. Herbert Morgan, Lichfield; and Dr. Sammut, Naples.

LETTERS, ETC. (with enclosures) from:—

Dr. C. Handfield Jones, London; Dr. Wilson Fox, London; Dr. F. J. Brown, Rochester; Dr. S. Martyn, Clifton, Bristol; Mr. Wm. Parker, Bath; Mr. Weeden Cooke, London; Dr. Thompson Dickson, London; Mr. Ibbotson, London; Mr. Colton, Paris; Sir Duncan Gibb, London; Mr. J. Vose Solomon, Birmingham; Mr. Carttar, London; Dr. Rumsey, Cheltenham; Dr. Mackey, Birmingham; Mr. Augustin Prichard, Clifton, Bristol; Dr. Horace Jeaffreson, Wandswoth; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; Dr. John Murray, London; Dr. Lomas, London; The Registrar-General of England; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Mr. St. George Mivart, London; Dr. Stephen H. Ward, London; The Honorary Secretary of the Obstetrical Society of London; Mr. J. Morley, Barton; Dr. Stephen Ward, London; Professor Syme, Edinburgh; Mr. C. J. Fox, London; Dr. A. P. Stewart, London; Mr. T. Holmes, London; Dr. Mackey, Birmingham; Mr. F. C. Champneys; Dr. Lory Marsh, Nottingham; Mr. Francis Mason; and Mr. J. F. Holden, Hull.