

of its extreme value as an injection in cases of vesical catarrh or atony of the bladder, accompanied by an offensive state of the urine.\*

Simple fractures of the leg, in Professor Billroth's wards, are, whenever there is no contraindication, put up at once, on their admission, in a plaster of Paris bandage. Directly it has set—which it does in a few minutes—it is cut up, and thus is obtained a splint as firm as a rock, exactly fitted to the leg, and capable of being padded as required with cotton-wool. This plan has the charm of extreme simplicity, and with it there is no danger (as there is with starch, when used as a primary application to fractures) of too tight compression of a swelling limb, since twenty minutes is the utmost period which need elapse before relief is given. Plaster of Paris is a very favourite appliance here in all cases which require mechanical support; and an use is made of the extreme firmness with which it sets, which, as far as I am aware, is not generally appreciated. I will illustrate this by taking as examples three cases now in Professor Billroth's wards. First, in a case of morbus coxae in a lad, with great rotation of the thigh inwards, and some contraction of the knee-joint as well, the knee was forcibly straightened and put up in plaster of Paris, and to the outer-side of the plaster was cemented a small wooden rod, about six inches long and half an inch in diameter, which, as the patient lay in bed, projected about three inches above the level of the patella, but did not project at all behind the knee-joint. To the summit of this rod (which, by the firm setting of the plaster, had become part and parcel of the bandage round the knee) a cord was attached, and carried over a pulley at the side of the bed, and to the end of this cord a weight of two or three pounds was fastened. Thus the tendency of the thigh to rotate inwards was counteracted by the power applied to the small lever attached to the knee-joint, which constantly tended to rotate the limb outwards. The second case is one of double hip-joint disease in a boy, in which there is considerable abduction of the right thigh, and as much adduction of the left, so that both knees are swayed over, and point towards the right side of the body. An attempt has been made to counteract this tendency in the following manner. Both hips and the pelvis have been enveloped in a strong plaster of Paris splint, and to the left side of this apparatus has been cemented, by means of the plaster, a wooden rod, which projects downwards from the trochanter to the level of the left knee-joint. The lower end of this rod (which is parallel to the normal direction of the thigh) is, owing to the distortion of the hips, four or five inches away from the lower end of the left femur, and presents a fixed point, towards which both knee-joints are continually drawn by the agency of an elastic band passing round the rod and both knee-joints. The third case is one of simple fracture of both legs, in which it was deemed advisable to elevate the legs somewhat above the level of the body. This was accomplished as follows. A back splint was provided for each leg, having a foot-piece about twice as long as the foot of the patient. The patient's feet were then held in apposition with the foot-pieces of the splints, the toes of the patient being on a level with the summits of the foot-pieces. In this way an interval of five or six inches was allowed to intervene between the heel of the patient and the heel of the splint; and the patient's leg formed an angle with the back part of the splint, so that, when the splint lay horizontally upon the bed, the patient's feet were considerably elevated. Plaster of Paris was next applied to the fractured leg, and several turns of the bandage were taken round the foot-pieces and back parts of the splint. When the plaster had set, the legs remained in an immovable apparatus of wood and plaster, which permitted not the least movement of the fractured bones, and by which the necessary elevation of the limbs was constantly maintained.

I offer no opinion as to the value or otherwise of this treatment in the particular cases which I have chosen as illustrations. These cases are still under treatment, and, therefore, I am unable to speak as to results. I give them merely as illustrations of what is, at least, an uncommon use of plaster of Paris—a use by which, in suitable cases, a few pence spent with the plasterer may be made to take the place of as many pounds, which would otherwise find their way into the pocket of the instrument-maker.

While on the subject of plaster of Paris, I may mention that it is Professor Billroth's practice to put all cases of resection of the elbow-joint, immediately after the operation, in a plaster of Paris splint—the arm at a right angle, with the wound and parts adjacent, of course, uncovered by the plaster. In this way the arm is kept immovably fixed for the first three or four weeks after the operation. The after-treatment of these cases is rather a matter of dispute. I hear that Professor Billroth's treatment usually leaves his patient with a freely moveable and useful arm.

\* A full notice of a paper by Dr. Gieseler, published in the *Archiv für Klinische Chirurgie*, on Quinine as a Local Antiseptic, appeared in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of January 22nd, 1864.

The water-glass bandage is in great favour here. It certainly has the advantage of being applied with great ease and rapidity, and with an entire absence of the mess that attends the application of a starched or plaster bandage. It is certainly, however, by no means so firm as either of these latter. The water-glass (silicate of potash) is used in very strong solution, nearly of the consistence of syrup, and is painted on to an ordinary calico-bandage, by means of a paste-brush. It requires about twenty-nine hours to set. I have seen a very light form of water-glass bandage applied in a case of synovitis, in which it was merely desired to keep the knee extended and at rest. An ordinary calico-bandage was applied from the ankle to six or seven inches above the knee. As an extra support, a few strips of thin wood, such as is used for veneering or for the manufacture of bandboxes, were placed around the joint, running in the direction of the axis of the limb. The water-glass was then painted on *in lines* running both circularly and in the axis of the limb. When these waterglass bands had set firmly, the intervening parts were cut out, and the limb was thus left in a lattice-work splint, which was quite firm enough for the purpose required, and allowed at all times a free view of the injured joint.

The starched bandage has been quite discarded here. It is regarded as cumbersome, troublesome, and expensive, and has been entirely superseded by plaster of Paris and water-glass.

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

### BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

THE fifth ordinary meeting of the Session will be held at the Royal Hotel, College Green, Bristol, on Thursday evening, April 15th, at 7 P.M.; R. N. Stone, Esq., President, in the Chair.

CHARLES STEELE, }  
R. S. FOWLER, } *Honorary Secretaries.*

Clifton, April 1869.

### SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT MEETINGS.

THE next meeting of the above Branch is appointed to be held at the Union House, Dartford, on Tuesday, April 20th, at 4 P.M. Flaxman Spurrell, Esq., F.R.C.S., will take the Chair.

Dinner will be provided at the Bull Hotel, at 6 P.M.

FREDERICK JAMES BROWN, M.D., *Hon. Secretary.*  
Rochester, April 6th, 1869.

### CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND BRANCH.

THE spring meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Crown and Mitre Hotel, Carlisle, on Wednesday, April 21st, at 12.45 P.M. President—Thomas Barnes, M.D., Carlisle; President-elect—M. W. Taylor, M.D., Penrith.

Gentlemen intending to read papers or cases, are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary.

The dinner will take place at 4 o'clock. Members can introduce friends.

HENRY BARNES, M.D.,  
Carlisle, April 1st, 1869. *Honorary Secretary.*

### WEST SOMERSET BRANCH: GENERAL MEETING.

A GENERAL meeting of this Branch was held on Thursday, April 1st, at the Clarence Hotel, Bridgewater, at 5 P.M. W. L. WINTERBOTHAM, M.B., President, occupied the chair. Ten members were present.

*New Members.*—It was announced that, at a Council meeting held before the general meeting, the following gentlemen had been admitted members of the Association and of the Branch:—G. M. Evans, Esq., Bridport, Dorset; Alfred Howse, Esq., Stogursey, Bridgewater; B. R. Morris, M.D., Burnham; R. B. Robinson, Esq., Dulverton.

*Communications.*—After dinner, the following communications were made:—1. Case of Plastic Bronchitis; preparation of casts shewn. By W. M. Kelly, M.D.—2. A Specimen of Monstrosity, which had occurred in his practice, was shewn. By J. Cornwall, Esq.—3. A Preparation of the Sac, in a case of Hernia, was shewn, and a short history of the case given. By W. Liddon, M.B.—4. Notes of a case of Lithotomy in a small Child; and the large Calculus extracted shewn. By H. J. Alford, M.B.—5. Notes on Therapeutics. By H. J. Alford, M.B.

A very pleasant evening was passed in the discussion of the above and other professional subjects.

## DIRECT REPRESENTATION OF THE PROFESSION IN THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL.

THE Committee, appointed at the meeting of the British Medical Association, held at Oxford in August 1868, to obtain Direct Representation of the profession in the General Medical Council, held another meeting at Birmingham on the 25th of March last, and resolved:—

*First.*—To reprint the Address to the members of the British Medical Association, and to the profession generally, agreed to at the previous meeting of the Committee, sanctioned by the Committee of Council of the Association, and published in the JOURNAL of the Association, in the *Lancet*, and in the *Medical Times*.

*Second.*—To prefix to the Address an Explanatory Preface for the information of members of the Legislature, and of the public unconnected with the profession.

*Third.*—To publish the Address and Preface conjointly in the medical journals, and to have copies of the same struck off for general distribution.

*Fourth.*—To request the Committee of the Council of the British Medical Association to join the Committee in petitions to the Legislature to grant the prayer of the Association.

*Fifth.*—To issue similar petitions to the Legislature for signature by the members of the profession generally.

*Sixth.*—To urge on all the Branches of the Association the advisableness of independent action by petition and otherwise.

*Seventh.*—To recommend that a Deputation, composed of the Committee, of the President of the Council of the Association, and of all interested in, or friendly to, the movement, wait on the Government at the earliest possible opportunity, with the view of obtaining its support for the Petition.

*Eighth.*—To recommend that a subscription, to defray the expenses incidental to the movement, be sanctioned by the Committee of Council of the Association, a subscription for that purpose having been commenced by the Committee at its last meeting; and that Dr. Falconer, the Treasurer of the Association, be requested to act as treasurer of the fund to be so raised.

The Committee cannot close this report without an expression of thanks to the President of Council for his kindness in attending the meeting, and for the valuable aid he afforded.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### PURGATIVES AFTER THE OPERATION FOR STRANGULATED HERNIA.

SIR,—In your last impression appears a letter from Mr. Bryant, in which he comments in terms of some indignation on an observation attributed to me, in reference to the practice of London surgeons in the after-treatment of cases of strangulated hernia. He states, with unseemly sarcasm, that "it would be an interesting piece of information to the London surgeons if Mr. Stokes would kindly give his grounds for such an astounding assertion." The information which, in all kindness, I would give Mr. Bryant and his surgical friends is that, in the paper which I had the honour of reading before the Surgical Society of Ireland, and which appears *in extenso* in the *Medical Press and Circular* for March 17th, no allusion whatever was made either to his mode of practice in such cases, or to that of any other "London surgeon." It is to be regretted that Mr. Bryant did not follow the simple, and, at the same time, more becoming, course usually adopted among members of our profession, of first ascertaining whether refuted statements were actually made, before having recourse to a public refutation of them.

Mr. Bryant takes the trouble of assuring me that "no London surgeon would ever dream of asking the opinion of a learned society upon a point of practice that has been abandoned for many years." This, however, I must take leave to doubt. I have too great a respect for the scientific attainments of the London surgeons to believe that they would, unanimously, endorse so unphilosophical and unsurgical a doctrine as that held by Mr. Bryant, that in *no case* of strangulated hernia, after operation, should purgatives be administered.

With a more extended experience, however, than he at present possesses, I feel little doubt that Mr. Bryant will modify his views on this point, and become convinced eventually, that in certain cases persistently withholding purgatives is fraught with as much peril to the patient as the systematic administration of them is to others, and these the great majority of cases. I am, etc.,

WILLIAM STOKES, JUN.  
Clare Street, Merriem Square, April 1869.

## DEBATING COLUMN FOR DISCUSSION OF PAPERS, ETC., PUBLISHED IN THE "JOURNAL".

### VESICAL ABSORPTION.

SIR,—I was surprised to see that Dr. Black could think that Sir H. Thompson would perform a physiological experiment to disprove a pathological statement. The bladder used by Sir Henry was a diseased one; and, in all cases where he has used anodynes, this organ was always in a more or less morbid condition. I am, etc.,

University College Hospital, April 1869.

JOHN BOLTON.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

### THE MARSHALL HALL MEMORIAL.

A GENERAL appeal to the profession, in favour of the memorial of Dr. Marshall Hall, is, we hear, about to be issued. Dr. Waters, of Liverpool, intends to bring the subject before the Medical Institution of that town. Abroad, the movement meets with favour from several distinguished men—among whom may be specially mentioned Louis and Virchow.

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 6th; and, when eligible, will be admitted to the pass examination:—

Messrs. John Tunley, R. W. Edginton, J. P. Smith, J. P. Oates, Thomas Bailey, W. M. Yeates, A. S. Newman, H. W. L. Browne, and E. A. Elkington (Students of the Birmingham School); W. R. Smith, T. H. F. Tothill, C. P. S. Wayman, W. J. Walsham, and G. T. Langridge (St. Bartholomew's); A. H. Hughes and D. G. Fleming (Toronto and St. Thomas's); J. S. Slater and Samuel Osborn (St. Thomas's); L. C. Miall and W. J. Lorraine (Leeds School); H. E. Southee and J. L. Shaw (Guy's); C. W. Vickers and Hildrith Kay (London); Christopher Harvey and T. P. Lucas (Westminster); Richard Lowther (Edinburgh); W. T. Kay (Newcastle); M. C. Soutler (King's College); W. M. Johnson (Cambridge and King's College); John Scully (Middlesex); and L. L. Powell (University College).

It is stated that four candidates out of the thirty-six examined failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Court of Examiners, and were consequently referred to their anatomical and physiological studies for three months.

The following gentleman passed on April 7th:—

Messrs. H. A. Latimer, John Marshall, A. K. Newman, Richard Paramore, H. J. Nicholls, F. E. Newington, Whitford Perkins, E. C. R. Rose, D. W. Duke, and G. D. Deeping (Students of Guy's Hospital); W. A. Moseley, C. J. Newton, G. A. Phillips, and A. H. G. Doran (St. Bartholomew's); George Millson, E. W. Moore, J. F. Parsons, and E. J. Parrott (St. Mary's); J. T. Leigh, S. S. Noakes, and Cecil Drake (Charing Cross); R. E. Wilmot and A. C. Mayo (King's College); A. J. Moore and J. B. Edis (London); J. E. Morris and W. R. Pike (St. Thomas's); Henry Duxton and F. H. Edmonds (University College); J. B. James and B. B. Floyer (Middlesex); G. O. Risdon (St. George's); and W. T. P. Douglas (Cambridge and Guy's).

It is stated that only three out of the thirty-six candidates examined failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Court.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—Names of gentlemen who passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, April 1st, 1869.

Dalry, Frederick Samuel, 41, Finsbury Square, E.C.  
Etheredge, George Ernest Frederick, St. Bartholomew's Hospital  
Farnfield, Walter Edmund, 8, Lambeth Terrace, S.E.  
Griffin, Innes, Banbury, Oxfordshire  
Hopkins, John, Llantrissant, Glamorganshire  
Jones, Watkin Williams, Dolgellau, Cardiganshire  
Lacey, Thomas Warner, Cotes, Loughborough  
Marsh, Walter Alfred, 23, New Kent Road, S.E.

### MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are declared:—

ABERDEEN ROYAL INFIRMARY—Professor of Pathology.  
BRADFORD (Yorkshire) INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY—Two Physicians.  
ELY UNION, Cambridgeshire—Medical Officer for the Purls Bridge District.  
GAINSBOROUGH UNION, Lincolnshire—Medical Officer for the Haxey District (£26 per annum).  
GENERAL HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY FOR SICK CHILDREN, Manchester—Assistant Medical Officer to the Dispensary.  
GENERAL INFIRMARY, Leeds—Four Assistant Resident Medical Officers.  
GRAY'S HOSPITAL, Elgin—House-Surgeon (£40 per annum, with board, etc.).  
HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Great Ormond Street—Assistant-Physician.  
LINCOLN COUNTY HOSPITAL—Physician; House-Surgeon and Apothecary (£100 per annum, with board and lodging).  
LINCOLN GENERAL DISPENSARY—House-Surgeon and Apothecary.  
LIVERPOOL INFIRMARY FOR CHILDREN—Surgeon.  
MANORHAMILTON UNION, co. Leitrim—Medical Officer for the Dromahair Dispensary District (£90 per annum, exclusive of Registration and Vaccination Fees).

MEATH HOSPITAL AND COUNTY DUBLIN INFIRMARY—Surgeon.  
NORTHERN INFIRMARY, Inverness—House-Surgeon and Apothecary.  
NORTH RIDING INFIRMARY, Middlesbrough-on-Tees—House-Surgeon.  
NOTTINGHAM BOROUGH AND COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM—Assistant Medical Officer (£75 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing).  
ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND—Examiner.  
ROYAL HANTS COUNTY HOSPITAL, Winchester—Dispenser and Clerk (£52 per annum).  
ST. GEORGE AND ST. JAMES DISPENSARY, King Street, Regent Street—Physician; Accoucheur.  
SEVENOAKS UNION—Medical Officer for District No. 5 (£80 per annum, and extras).  
SLIGO UNION—Medical Officer to the Workhouse (£80 per annum).  
STRABANE UNION—Medical Officer for the Newtown-Stewart Dispensary District (£100 per annum, and Registration and Vaccination Fees).  
SUNDERLAND GENERAL INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY—Physician; House-Surgeon (£100 per annum, with board and residence).  
TENDING UNION, Essex—Medical Officer for District No. 9 (£50 per annum); Medical Officer for the Parish of Ardleigh (£29 : 5 per annum).  
WINDSOR ROYAL INFIRMARY—Dispenser (£35 per annum, with board and residence).  
WISBEACH UNION, Cambridgeshire—Medical Officer for District No. 10 (b).

### MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

*Names marked with an asterisk are those of Members of the Association.*

CUMMING, James, M.B. and C.M. Edin., appointed Assistant Extra Physician to the Royal Sick Children's Hospital, Edinburgh.  
GALTON, J. C., M.A. (Oxon.), appointed Lecturer on Comparative Anatomy at Charing Cross Hospital.  
PERKINS, J. R., Esq., appointed Surgeon to the Hendon, Finchley Road, and Mill Hill districts of the Midland Railway.  
PHILLIPS, John J., M.D., appointed Assistant-Physician to the Hospital for Sick Children.  
ROSS, Geo., M.D., appointed Medical Officer of Health to the St. Giles's District.  
\*WILLIAMS, G. Harvey, M.D., elected Honorary Physician to the Rhyl Convalescent Institution.  
\*WOLFE, J. R., M.D., appointed Lecturer on Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery in Anderson's University, Glasgow.  
WOODS, George A., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.E., appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Southport Convalescent Hospital.

### BIRTHS.

M'Coy.—On February 19th, at Madeira, the wife of R. W. M'Coy, Esq., F.R.C.S., Colonial Surgeon, Sierra Leone, of a daughter.  
SMITH.—On March 30th, 1869, at Monksheath Hall, near Congleton, Cheshire, the wife of S. H. Smith, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.

### MARRIAGES.

\*EASTWOOD, J. William, M.D., of Dinsdale Park Retreat, Darlington, to Anna Maria, only daughter of the late J. ROBINSON, Esq., of Stoke Bruerne, Northamptonshire, at Alfreton, Derbyshire, on April 7th.  
MACLAGAN, James M'Grigor, M.D. Edin., Moxborough, Yorkshire, youngest son of the late David MacLagan, M.D. (Physician to the Forces, and Surgeon to the Queen for Scotland), to Catherine, youngest daughter of the late P. LAMOND, M.D., Surgeon H.M.'s 60th (Royal Rifle) Regiment, at Glasgow, on April 6th.

### DEATHS.

BIRD.—On April 2nd, at Liverpool, aged 76, Mrs. Mary Bird, mother of \*W. V. Bird, M.D., Bootle, Liverpool.  
LOE.—On March 24th, aged 4 years, Gertrude Eliza, fifth daughter of \*J. S. Loe, Esq., Surgeon, Leeds.  
TILT.—On March 17th, at 60, Grosvenor Street, of stricture of the œsophagus, Dorothy Emma, wife of \*Edward John Tilt, M.D.

ODONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—At the Ordinary Monthly Meeting, April 5th, 1869, J. H. Barrett, Esq., in the chair, Mr. Vasey read a paper on Gold-filling. The discussion was adjourned to the following meeting.

METROPOLITAN ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.—The usual monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, the 17th inst., at 7.30 P.M., at the Scottish Corporation Hall, Crane Court, Fleet Street, when a paper will be read by Dr. Letheby, "On the Methods of Estimating the Nitrogenous Matters in Potable Waters; and on the value of the expression '*Previous Sewage Contamination*,' as used by the Registrar-General in his monthly reports of the Metropolitan Waters."

TESTIMONIAL.—An elegantly engrossed and framed testimonial was presented to Mrs. Osborn on Friday, April 9th, by the Brixton Medical Book Society, testifying in eulogistic terms the great esteem and gratitude of the members for the late Dr. Samuel Osborn's valuable services as Honorary Secretary for the last twenty years. The late Dr. Osborn was greatly beloved and respected by all; and at his funeral, the medical men of the district, to show their esteem, followed him to the grave. It will be seen in another page that a son of the deceased gentleman has just passed his anatomical and physiological examination at the Royal College of Surgeons.

### 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 Orthopædic 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 Orthopædic, 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.—Central London Ophthalmic, 2 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.—Royal Free, 1.30 P.M.

### MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.—Medical Society of London, 8 P.M., Casual Communications. 8.30 P.M., Dr. Morell Mackenzie, "Syphilitic Diseases of the Throat."  
TUESDAY.—Ethnological Society of London, 8 P.M. Professor Huxley, F.R.S., "Opening Address"; Mr. William Blackmore, "Notes on some of the Principal Tribes of the Indians of the United States, with a brief account of the late Indian War"; Dr. Bell, "On the Aztec Tribes of New Mexico."—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8 P.M., Ballot. 8.30 P.M., Dr. Barnes, "On the Operations for Relief of Chronic Inversion of the Uterus"; Dr. Kelly, "On the Spontaneous Cure of Hydatid Cysts."  
WEDNESDAY.—Royal Microscopical Society, 8 P.M. Dr. Lionel Beale, "On Protoplasm and Living Matter"; Mr. W. T. Suffolk, F.R.M.S., "On the Proboscis of the Blowfly."—Hunterian Society, 7.30 P.M., Council Meeting. 8 P.M., Dr. Beigel will read a paper on Chorea, and will show a case of Ruptured Vocal Chords by the Laryngoscope.—Epidemiological Society, 8 P.M. Dr. E. D. Dickson (of Constantinople), "On Cholera in Persia, 1866-67-68"; Dr. Milroy, "On the Analogy between Epiphytics and Epidemics."  
THURSDAY.—Harveian Society of London, 8 P.M. Mr. Gascoyen, "On Variocoele."—Linnæan Society.—Chemical Society.—Royal Society.  
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.

TO PURCHASERS.—To insure attention, it is requested that all orders sent to the Office for extra copies of the JOURNAL, be accompanied with stamps for the amount.

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

MEDICAL OBSTETRIC ETHICS.—Dr. Wallace (Liverpool) is unquestionably right in the statement, that a medical man called to a labour in the temporary absence of a professional brother, should immediately retire on the return of the medical man to whom the case belongs. If Dr. Cregeen failed to do so, he failed to do what was usual and right; but he says that he did not fail. Under the circumstances, and looking to the very strong language which some of the letters contain, we are loth to publish the correspondence. Dr. Wallace might properly solicit the opinion of the Branch on the subject, if he thinks it worth further investigation.

#### AN ADDER-BITE IN WINTER.

SIR,—On Sunday afternoon, February 21st, a sailor was picking violets on a sunny bank about three miles from this town, when he was bitten on the left hand by an adder, which clung to him. The arm swelled much, and continued so for some days; lastly, becoming mottled with blood; the patient feeling prostrate up to the present time (March 3rd).

The interesting part is, that the adder (*Vipera vulgaris*) hibernates and lies in a torpid state all the winter, seldom appearing before April. The viper in question was seventeen inches and a half long, in full colour and vigour. I am, etc., Castle House, Chepstow, March 3rd, 1869. FREDERICK G. WHITE.

#### POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICE.

SIR,—The subjoined paragraph deserves publicity, as evincing the value set on our services by the Poor-Law Board and Boards of Guardians. I am, etc., March 1869. A POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICER.

"The Berwick Guardians have just put forth a characteristic advertisement. They happen to be in want of a medical officer and a workhouse porter. To the former they offer £25 a year; out of which he will be required to pay for all the medicines, except cod-liver oil. Candidates are expected to attend before the Guardians on the day of election at their own cost. The porter is to have £20 a year, with board and lodging."

#### A DEPILOYATORY.

SIR,—Could any of your readers tell me of a satisfactory depilatory? I have used one, composed of lime, arsenic, etc., but it has not been effectual. April 1869. I am, etc., AN ASSOCIATE.

**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.

#### VACCINATION.

**SIR,**—Allow me to call the attention of your readers to the manner in which I find the Vaccination Acts are complied with here. A few weeks ago I met a woman, whom I had attended in confinement about three months before, I asked her if her baby were vaccinated. She said, "No" and that she did not intend having it done, and that her other child, aged two years, had not yet been vaccinated. This led me to inquire at several places where I was calling, if the children were vaccinated; and I find that many children over six months old have not yet been vaccinated. On the list before me, I find: one, aged three years and ten months; four, aged three years; one, aged two years; and several of one year and under, still unvaccinated. Who is responsible for this non-vaccination of healthy children? And how is it to be remedied? I am etc.,  
JOHN WILSON PATON, M.B.  
Burton-on-Trent, March 1869.

#### MADRAS MEDICAL FUND.

**SIR,**—In the JOURNAL of February 13th, I observe, under the heading "Bombay Medical Fund", the names of certain medical men as having obtained large and small annuities. Your heading should have been "Madras Medical Fund." I would bring to the notice of young medical men desirous of entering the army, the fact that no such annuities await their retirement, and that they must not be misled by these announcements. The fund belongs to men of the East India Company's *regime*, and made that service to be much desired; but these annuities were abolished for all entering the service since it came under Imperial rule. The Indian Medical Service has now nothing but pensions similar to the British Service. There is one redeeming feature; namely, promotion to the rank of surgeon in twelve years; but there is no European practice for the Indian medical man, save that of the few European officers, with their wives and children, attached to Native Regiments. The glory of the old service is departed. I am, etc.,  
A MADRAS ANNUITY.

**WE** are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news reports and other matters of medical interest:—The Wiltshire County Mirror, March 31st; The Lincoln Journal, March 30th; The Western Daily Press, March 29th; The Supplement to the Yorkshire Post, March 27th; The Daily Review, March 29th; The Sussex Advertiser, March 30th; The New York Medical Record; The Tottenham and Edmonton Advertiser, April 1st; The Nottingham and Midland Counties Daily Express, March 23rd; The Merthyr Express, April 3rd; The Carmarthen Weekly Reporter, April 3rd; The New York Medical Gazette, March 20th; The Daily Bristol Times and Mirror, March 20th; The Colonial Mail, April 1st; The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, March 25th; The Japan Times' Overland Mail, Feb. 12th. The Aberdeen Free Press, March 31st.

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

Dr. L. Aitken, Edinburgh; Dr. W. Kelly, Taunton; Dr. G. Taylor, Derby; Mr. G. Grewcock, Nottingham; Mr. Fennell, Dublin; Dr. W. A. Richards, Winchester; Dr. J. W. Hill, Liverpool; Mr. F. J. Wilson, London; Mr. C. J. Thompson, Bristol; Mr. S. Smith, Weaverham Dr. T. Dalton, Llandudno; M. De

Laviege, London; The Physicians and Surgeons of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Infirmary; Mr. Macgowan, Bristol; Dr. Phillips, London; Dr. Woakes, Luton; Mr. Reeves, London; Dr. Barnes, London; Mr. J. T. Parkinson, Brompton; Mr. J. S. Johnson, Croydon; The Honorary Secretary of the South Midland Branch, Northampton; Mr. C. J. Fox, London; An Associate, Kells; Dr. G. H. Philipson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Mr. D. Thompson, Launceston; Mr. J. B. Curgiven, London.

#### LETTERS, &c. (with enclosures) from:—

Dr. W. T. Watson, Tottenham; Mr. E. Crossman, Bristol; Mr. Oliver Penfold, London; Dr. Stephens, Brighton; The Secretary of the Medical Society of London; Mr. P. D. Hopgood, London; Dr. Percy Leslie, Birmingham; Dr. Blanc, Brussels; Mr. Harry Leach, London; Dr. C. Drysdale, London; Mr. J. Sampson Gamgee, Birmingham; The Honorary Secretary of the West Somerset Branch; The Directors of Liebig's Extract of Meat Company, London; Dr. J. Cumming, Edinburgh; Dr. J. Williams, Penygroes; Dr. Taaffe, Brighton; Dr. W. Whitelaw, Glasgow; Observer, Newquay; The Honorary Secretaries of the Ethnological Society of London; Dr. Basham, London; Dr. Frederick J. Brown, Rochester; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; The Registrar-General of Ireland; The Registrar-General of England; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; Dr. Treutler, Kew; Dr. John Murray, London; The Registrar of the Medical Society of London; Mr. St. George Mivart, London; The Secretary of the Hunterian Society; The Assistant Secretary of the Royal Microscopical Society; Mr. T. Watkin Williams, Birmingham; Dr. H. T. Lancaster, Croydon; Mr. J. S. Loe, Leeds; Dr. Felce, London; Dr. J. C. Reid, Newbiggin-by-Sea; Dr. W. Stokes, jun., Dublin; The Honorary Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society; The Honorary Secretary of the Odontological Society; The Honorary Secretary of the Harveian Society of London; Dr. Ross, London; Dr. Eastwood, Alfreton; Dr. Bird, Liverpool; Mr. Woods, Southport; Mr. Galton, London; The Honorary Secretary of the Bath and Bristol Branch; Mr. Shorto, Southampton; Dr. Roberts, Liverpool; Dr. J. J. Phillips, London; Dr. Vinen, London; Mr. J. Bolton, London; Dr. Beigel, London; and Mr. W. Leigh, London.

#### BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

The Second Course of Lectures on Ventilation. By Lewis W. Leeds. New York: 1869.  
Observations on some of the Fundamental Principles and Existing Defects in National Education. By Neil Arnott, M.D., F.R.S., etc. London: 1869.  
The Laws of Vital Force, in Health and Disease; or, the True Basis of Medical Science. By E. Houghton, A.B., M.D., M.R.C.S.E. Second Edition. London: 1869.  
The Fourth Annual Report of the Glamorgan County Lunatic Asylum for the year 1868. Bridgend: 1869.

### Results of Meteorological Observations, for the week ending Saturday, April 3rd, 1869.

NAMES OF STATIONS AND OBSERVERS.	BAROMETER. Reduced to 32 deg. F. & mean sea lev.		MEAN TEMPERA- TURE.			Mean degree of Humidity (sat. -100)	SELF-REGISTERING THERMOMETERS.							WIND. Number of days it blew in certain directions.		RAIN. Mean Force 0-12. Number of days it fell. Amount in inches.											
	Mean.	Range.	Of Air in Shade.	Of Evaporation.	Of Dew-point.		Maximum.	Minimum.	Range.	Mean of all Maxima.	Mean of all Minima.	Black bulb Maxim. in Sun.	Minimum ex- posed on grass.					Mean amount of Clouds (0-10).	Mean amount of Ozone (0-10).								
BATH Dr. Barter, F.M.S.	29.782	0.410	42.2	38.6	34.8	74	53.0	33.2	19.8	45.6	35.4	92.0	..	8.0	6.0	..	4	1	..	..	1	0.7	..	0.3	5.4	3	0.23
BOURNEMOUTH Dr. Compton, F.M.S.	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
DUBLIN Dr. J. W. Moore.	29.944	0.701	42.2	39.7	36.6	81	56.4	35.3	21.1	47.7	38.8	..	29.9	6.0	..	0.5	3.2	0.3	..	..	1.3	0.7	1.0	..	3.6	4	0.28
KEW Dr. Treutler, F.L.S., etc.	29.777	0.562	41.9	39.1	35.6	79	51.6	27.8	23.8	46.6	33.9	116.7	21.5	6.8	5.0	..	4	0.3	..	..	1	0.7	0.3	0.7	3.4	4	0.31
LLANDUDNO Drs. Nicol and Dalton.	29.835	0.751	43.0	39.5	35.3	75	52.0	32.0	20.0	46.4	36.7	..	..	6.6	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	1.5	0.5	..	3.0	3	0.45
MALVERN Messrs. W. and J. Burrow.	29.792	0.543	40.0	36.9	32.9	75	48.0	30.0	18.0	43.9	32.9	80.0	29.5	8.2	4.0	..	5.3	..	..	..	1.3	..	..	0.3	1	3	0.23
SCARBOROUGH Dr. Fox, M.R.C.P., etc.	29.804	0.843	40.8	37.9	34.3	78	48.3	33.8	14.5	45.0	36.0	..	..	6.3	1.4	..	3	0.7	1	..	1	0.7	0.3	0.3	4.6	5	0.80
SIDMOUTH Dr. Mackenzie, F.M.S.	29.772	0.536	41.5	35.9	29.0	61	51.0	33.5	18.5	46.5	34.9	..	..	4.0	2.0	5	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1.5	4	0.24
WORTHING W. J. Harris, Esq., M.R.C.S.E.	29.736	0.568	41.6	38.7	35.1	79	50.2	30.2	20.0	47.0	35.0	..	21.9	6.6	5.9	1.3	3	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.3	0	0.3	3.7	5	0.55

\* Not received.

**REMARKS.**—There has been a general decrease of pressure during the week, and the range has also been more limited. Temperatures have been generally higher than last week and their range less, except in Dublin, where the range has been greater by 5 degrees. Winds have been generally north-easterly, but have been rather more variable than last week. The amount of cloud has diminished at most stations, while an increase has been observed at Bath and Malvern. The rainfall has been greater at all stations; the greatest amount was again collected at Scarborough. Hail or snow fell at most stations on the 28th and 29th March, as also on 2nd April. The weather, which was cold and unsettled in the beginning of the week, improved towards its end, while, at the same time, the temperature increased. Thunder was heard at Scarborough on the night of the 3rd instant. An Aurora Borealis was observed in Dublin on the 2nd, and a fine solar halo at Kew on the 2nd. The cuckoo was heard at Sidmouth for the first time on the 4th. Measles are reported as prevalent at Llandudno, and influenza and bronchitis in Dublin; otherwise, the general health is reported as excellent. At Bath bronchitis and pneumonia are less prevalent.

Plants first observed in flower at Kew during the week.—*Nepeta Glechoma* and *Veronica Chamaedrys*.

Kew, April 7th, 1869.

W. J. TREUTLER.