should be dissociated from each other more than they had hitherto been.

Dr. Fox's amendment was lost, eight only voting for it.

In reply to a question from Dr. WYNN WILLIAMS,

Mr. HOLMES said that the payment for sections would be here-

after provided for.

Mr. C. HEATH proposed, as a further amendment, "That the Fellows or Members of the Pathological, the Epidemiological, the Obstetrical, the Clinical Societies, and the Medico-Psychological Association, be invited to cooperate with the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society in the formation of a Royal Society of Medicine."

Dr. Graily Hewitt seconded the amendment.

After a few remarks from Mr. Holmes, Dr. Barnes, Mr. Heath, Mr. SAVORY, and Mr. SPENCER SMITH, the amendment was with-

Mr. SAVORY then proposed as an amendment to add to Section I the words, "including Clinical Medicine and Clinical Surgery."

Mr. GANT seconded the amendment.

After a short discussion, this amendment was allowed, by a majority

of 33 against 23.

An amendment proposed by Mr. BAKER and seconded by Dr. HILTON FAGGE, for the substitution of "Therapeutics" in place of "Clinical Medicine and Surgery" in Section 4; and one proposed by Dr. HARE, and seconded by Dr. WARING, for the addition of the word "Therapeutics" in Section 4, were also lost.

The original motion was then carried; 46 voting for and 3 against it. Mr. HOLMES proposed the adoption of the next resolution—"That, on the formation of the new Society, power be taken which shall enable the Society to modify existing sections or to add new ones."

Dr. MERYON seconded the motion, which was carried.

Dr. Stewart proposed the adoption of the following resolutions en masse:- "That the general management of the Royal Academy of Medicine be under the control of a General Council, consisting of a President, two Treasurers, two Librarians, two Secretaries, the Presidents of the various Sections, and additional Members to be nominated one by each Section.—That the Presidents of the several Sections be ex officio Vice-Presidents of the Academy.—That the President, Treasurers, Librarians, and Secretaries, of the Academy be nominated by the General Council.—That all the Members of the General Council, with the exception of the Vice-Presidents, who are ex officio Members, be elected annually by the Academy at a General Meeting.—That the President of the Academy be chosen annually from amongst the past or present Presidents of Sections, and be ineligible for re-election; and that the President of the Academy cease, on his election, to be President of a Section.—That the Treasurers, Librarians, and Secretaries, be elected annually from the general body of the Fellows; and that they be not allowed to hold other offices in the Academy, or in any of the Sections."

Dr. WYNN WILLIAMS seconded the motion.

Mr. CURLING inquired as to the functions of President and Council

of the new Society.

Mr. Holmes said that at first the Presidency would doubtless be an office of dignity rather than of labour; but it would be provided that every President of the Society must have had his share of work as President of a section. As the business of the Society increased, and if it should obtain important relations with the Government, the office would become one of much labour. It was hoped that the new Society would take in hand the consultation business, which was now referred by Government sometimes to private members of the profession, sometimes to the Royal College of Physicians, etc.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Dr. Meryon moved, and Mr. Brodhurst seconded. "That the moneys, books, premises, and other properties, belonging to any of the societies, which shall join in the proposed amalgamation, become the property of the Royal Society of Medicine; and that the entire management of the funds of the Society be in the hands of the General Council."

After a brief discussion the resolution was carried nem. con.; 53

voting in its favour.

The next resolution, concerning Trustees, was, after discussion, carried in the following form:—"That there be at least three Trustees, in whom the property of the Academy shall be vested; that they be nominated by the General Council, and elected by the Academy at a general meeting; and that they hold their appointments during the pleasure of the Society.'

The following resolutions were also carried:—
Proposed by Mr. GANT, and seconded by Dr. MERYON—"That all Fellows or members of the following societies; viz., the Royal Medical and Chirurgical, the Pathological, the Epidemiological, the Obstetrical,

the Clinical, and the Medico-Psychological Association, be original Fellows of the Royal Society of Medicine without further nomination or election, provided they make the payments hereafter to be arranged.

Proposed by Mr. Holmes, and seconded by Mr. Moore,—"That power be taken by the Charter to incorporate additional Medical Societies after the proposed Society shall have been formed."

The further consideration of the subject was then, on the motion of Mr. Holmes, adjourned to Thursday next, the 27th instant.

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL: NOTICE OF MEETING.

THE Committee of Council will meet in LONDON, on Wednesday, the 9th day of June, 1869, at 3 o'clock P.M., precisely.

T. WATKIN WILLIAMS, F.R.C.S., General Secretary. 13, Newhall Street, Birmingham, May 11th, 1869.

#### BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

THE sixth ordinary meeting of the Session will be held at the York House, Bath, on Thursday evening, May 27th, at 8.15 P.M.; R. N. STONE, Esq., President, in the Chair.

CHARLES STEELE, Honorary Secretaries.

Bath, May 11th, 1869.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT MEDICAL MEETINGS.

THE next meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Fountain Hotel, Canterbury, on Thursday, May 27th, at 3 P.M.

ROBERT L. BOWLES, Honorary Secretary.

Folkestone, May 9th, 1869.

## EAST YORK AND NORTH LINCOLN BRANCH.

THE thirteenth annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Hull Infirmary, on Friday, May 28th, 1869. Sir H. COOPER, M.D., President, in the Chair.

A dinner will be held at Glover's Hotel, at 4 P.M. punctually. Tickets 5s. 6d. each.

ROBERT H. B. NICHOLSON, Honorary Secretary. 21, Albion Street, Hull, May 17th, 1869.

#### CAMBRIDGE AND HUNTINGDON BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held, in conjunction with the East Anglian Branch, at Cambridge, on Friday, June 18th, at 2 P.M.; W. W. FISHER, M.D., Downing Professor of Medicine, President. By the permission of the Masters and Fellows, the meeting will be held in the Hall of Gonville and Caius College.

Gentlemen intending to read papers or cases, are requested to communicate with the secretaries of these respective Branches, at their

earliest convenience.

With the permission of the Master, Professors, and Fellows, the dinner will be served in the Hall of Downing College.

P. W. LATHAM, M.D., Honorary Secretary.

17, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, May 5th, 1869.

### BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Hen and Chickens Hotel, Birmingham, on Friday, June 18th, at 3 P.M.; J. Vose Solomon, Esq., President, in the Chair.

Dinner will be on the table at 5 P.M. punctually. Tickets, including waiters and dessert, 7s. 6d. each.

T. H. BARTLEET, Honorary Secretary.

## EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held, in conjunction with the Cambridge and Huntingdon Branch, at Cambridge, on Friday, June 18th, at 2 P.M.; W. W. FISHER, M.D., Downing Professor of Medicine, President.

The meeting of the Council will take place at 1.45 P.M.

Dinner tickets may be had of the Secretaries.

B. CHEVALLIER, M.D., Ipswich.

Ipswich, May 18th, 1869.

#### SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH.

A MEETING of the Executive Council will be held at Laker's Hotel, Redhill, on Thursday, June 3rd, at 3.30 P.M.

The annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at Reigate, on Thursday, June 17th; C. HOLMAN, M.D., President, in the Chair. G. F. HODGSON, Honorary Secretary.

Brighton, May 18th, 1869.

### SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.

THE thirteenth annual meeting of the above Branch will take place at the Northampton General Infirmary, on Tuesday, June 29th, at 1.30 P.M.: WILLIAM NEWMAN, M.D. (Stamford), President, 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.

J. M. BRYAN, M.D., Northampton Hon. Secs. G. P. GOLDSMITH, Esq., Bedford Northampton, May 1869.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

#### THE REPORT ON THE ACTION OF MERCURY.

SIR,—In the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for May 8th, there appears a "Report of the Edinburgh Committee on the Action of Mercury, Podophylline, and Taraxacum, on the Biliary Secretion. By J. H. Bennett, M.D., etc., Convener and Reporter.

As I am a member of the Committee, and may thus be thought committed to the opinions and sentiments of that report, I beg it may be made known through the same JOURNAL, that I did not see the report, and had no other opportunity of considering its conclusions, until its publication. In these circumstances, I must disclaim any responsibility for the report. I bear willing testimony to the zeal, patience, ingenuity, and success of Drs. Rutherford and Gamgee in carrying on the experimental investigations; and I place thorough reliance in the fidelity and accuracy with which they have recorded them. But I cannot concur entirely in the conclusions drawn by the reporter, who has given to the experimental facts a force which, in my opinion, the facts themselves do not sustain.

Further, I could by no means have concurred in the censure, at the close of the report, upon my colleagues of the Senatus Academicus of the University of Edinburgh, who passed a resolution putting an end to the experimental inquiries of the Committee. I may have regretted the result. But reasons, which appeared to me very valid, were assigned for a resolution against such experiments within the University walls; and therefore I should have considered myself inexcusable had I, as member of the Committee of Investigation, sanctioned the censure on my colleagues with which the report concludes.—I am, etc.,

Edinburgh, May 1869. R. CHRISTISON.

SIR,—Dr. Christison has shown me the letter which he has addressed to you on the subject of the Report of the Committee on the Action of Mercury. I am merely relieved from the necessity of occupying space in your columns, by expressing in detail my objections to the conclusions embodied in the report, and content myself with stating that I entirely concur in what has been expressed by Dr. Christison.—I am, etc.,

Douglas Maclagan. University of Edinburgh, May 1869.

SIR,—I observe in the number of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for May 8th, 1869, an elaborate paper having the title: "Report of the Edinburgh Committee on the Action of Mercury, Podophylline, and Taraxacum, on the Biliary Secretion. By John Hughes Bennett, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., Convener and Reporter." I am justified in supposing that this is published as the Report of the Committee of the British Medical Association, and my supposition is confirmed by statements in your editorial article; but, although a member of that Committee, I have never had an opportunity of seeing this report until its publication in your columns. It contains a number of statements and conclusions which I am confident would have been objected to, and probably modified, had the report been submitted to the Committee.

As, however, I doubt if any benefit can be gained, or if the solution of the important questions at issue can be advanced, by a discussion in the columns of a journal, I content myself with protesting against the extraordinary course that has been adopted by Dr. Bennett of publishing in the name of a committee a report which has never been submitted to it, and which cannot, therefore, have received the sanction of its members. I am, etc. THOMAS R. FRASER.

Edinburgh, May 1869.

SIR,—In reference to the article which appeared in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for May 8th, 1869, purporting to be the Report of the Edinburgh Committee on the Action of Mercury, and signed by John Hughes Bennett, M.D., F.R.S.E., Convener and Reporter, I have to state that the report was not submitted to me, as an individual member of the Committee, and that I therefore am in no way responsible for the conclusions and observations of the reporter. - I am, etc.,

Edinburgh, May 1869. ARTHUR GAMGEE.

\*\* We must, in justice to all concerned, explain briefly the circumstances in which the report appeared in the JOURNAL. It was sent to us by Dr. Hughes Bennett in a printed form—part of the Transactions of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. As it appeared to have been carefully corrected, and as we supposed-rightly or wrongly—that the report had been submitted to all the members of the Committee before its appearance in print, we did not think it a matter of urgent necessity to send a proof to Dr. Bennett. If there had been the least reason for supposing that the report had not had the benefit of revision by Dr. Christison and Dr. Maclagan, its publication would have been delayed until they had seen it. The copy sent was, as we stated when the report appeared, accompanied by numerous highly elaborate tables, containing the results of the laborious investigations carried on by Drs. Fraser, Gamgee, and Rutherford. We omitted these tables, believing that an abstract of their contents would answer every useful purpose, and that in such form the facts contained in them would be more readily comprehended; moreover, the cost of producing them would be saved. As, however, it has been represented to us that publication of the report without the tables does not fully place before our readers all the scientific facts which have to be taken into consideration. and that it does imperfect justice to the immense amount of time and trouble which their preparation must have cost Drs. Gamgee, Rutherford, and Fraser, we intend to have them printed in an early number of the Journal.

# THE POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICE

## GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

#### POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICE.

WEST LONDON UNION .- The Poor-law Board have sanctioned the guardians' appointment of Dr. Wilson as medical officer of the local work house.

SOUTHWARK .- A case of neglecting to have a child vaccinated within three months after birth was lately tried at the police-court. Mr. Burcham decided that to show that the child was not in a fit state, now nine months after birth, was no proof that the child was not in a fit state to be vaccinated during the three months after birth. He therefore fined the defendant twenty shillings and costs.

MARYLEBONE.—Finding, by the Registrar-General's returns, that there were 1,320 cases of neglect of vaccination, the guardians have at length determined to appoint a vaccination clerk, at a salary of £100 a year. The guardians adhere to their opinion that one of the six relieving-officers would have been a suitable person; but, the Poor-law Board refusing to sanction such an appointment, they give in.

ST. PANCRAS.—Dr. Saul declining to act as medical officer of the infirmary longer than the fortnight for which he was appointed, Dr. Hardy was appointed medical officer during the absence of Dr.

Gibson.

#### CHESTERTON UNION.

CHESTERTON UNION.

SIR,—I was appointed, on March 11th last, to the newly formed Seventh District in the Chesterton Union, as Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator. The Board of Guardians have been urged to alter the districts for the past five years. Last year, all the medical officers combined in asking for an increase of salary. The guardians have chosen rather to re-arrange the districts, making seven instead of six, and giving the same amount as previously to each medical officer. As per year, exclusive of extras. The population of the newly formed district, the Seventh, is 3,960; acreage, 11,891, including the parishes of Histon, Impington, Cottenham, and Rampton.

Cottenham, Cambridgeshire.

John Bridger.

THE MIDDLESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL, at their quarterly meeting last week, placed £30 at the disposal of their Sanitary Committee for the purchase of a conveyance for persons suffering from infectious diseases. The Town Clerk asked permission to memorialise Parliament to pass a Bill giving power to boroughs like Middlesborough to appoint a public analyst. The matter was referred to the General Purposes Committee.

## 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

were admitted members of the College at a meeting of the Cou Examiners, on May 18th:—

Cotterill, Alfred, L.S.A., Brigg, Lincolnshire (King's College)
Elmes, William Henry, Limerick (Dublin School)
Evans, William Henry, Kensington (St. Bartholomew's)
Fiske, John Frederic, Lavenham, Suffolk (King's College)
Harle, Ezra, Highbury (St. Bartholomew's)
Hughes, John Rigby, Runcorn, Lancashire (Guy's)
Kidger, Alfred Armitage, L.S.A., Ashby-de-la-Zouch (King's College)
Lloyd, William Howell, L.S.A., Llangathen, Carmarthenshire (Guy's)
M'Brien, William Frederick, M.D., Toronto (Toronto and St. Thomas's)
Peacan, Luke, Dublin (Dublin School)
Terry, William Frederick, M.D., Exeter (New York)
Trezise, William Richards, St. Just, Cornwall (King's College)
Willis, Julian, Kilburn (King's College)
Four out of the twenty-four candidates examined failed to acquit to

Four out of the twenty-four candidates examined failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Court, and were referred for a period of six months further professional study.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.-Names of gentlemen who passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certifi-

amination in the science and practice of medicine, and receive cates to practise, on Thursday, May 13th, 1869.

Barringer, Thomas Stevens Wright, St. John Street, E.C. Brooks, Samuel Brewer, Tillingham, Essex Jukes, Andrew, Tiverton, Devon Langford, Phineas Pitts, St. Mark's Square, W. Nelham, Ambrose, Chrisp Street, Poplar At the same Court, the following passed the first examination. Kelsey William London Hospital

At the same Court, the following passed the first examina Kelsev, William, London Hospital Kite, Alfred John, University College Mills, Daniel Ernest, Birmingham Williams, Henry, St. Thomas's Hospital As Assistants in compounding and dispensing medicines. Kite, John Cazenenne, Bedford Whitby, John, Stratford-on-Avon

#### MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are declared:—
BELLINGHAM UNION, Northumberland—Medical Officer for District No. 3

BELLINGHAM UNION, Northumberland—Medical Officer for District No. 3 (£15 per annum).

BRIXTON, STREATHAM HILL, AND HERNE HILL DISPENSARY—Medical Officer.

CLAREMORRIS UNION, co. Mayo—Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Registrar of Births, etc., for the Ballindine Dispensary District (£100 per annum, and Registration and Vaccination Fees'.

DENTAL HOSPITAL, 32, Soho Square—Dental Surgeon.

DURHAM UNION—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Southern District £20 per annum, and Vaccination Fees and extras'.

GREAT WESTERN AND BRISTOL AND EXETTER RAILWAYS PROVIDENT SOCIETY—Medical Officer for the Yeovil District.

HARTLEPOOL UNION, Durham—Medical Officer for the Stranton District £250 per annum).

L50 per annum.

HAY UNION. Brecknockshire—Medical Officer for the Radnorshire District

HAY UNION, Brecknockshire—aredical officer for the Kaladachi (Δ45 per annum).
 LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLANDSHIRE LUNATIC ASYLUM, Leicester—Assistant Medical Officer.
 LONDON FEVER HOSPITAL—Assistant-Physician.
 MANCHESTER—Medical Officer for the Workhouse Infirmary, New Bridge Street, and for the Workhouse at Crumpsall (Δ200 per annum).
 MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL—Surgeon and Lecturer on Surgery; and Physician's Accierant.

Assistant.
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE INFIRMARY—Physician; House-Surgeon; Junior

NORTH RIDING INFIRMARY, Middlesborough-on-Tees-House-Surgeon (£70

per annum, with board and apartments).

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE INFIRMARY, Stoke-upon-Trent—Resident Medical Officer (Δ80 per annum, increasing £10 a year, with board, lodging, and

READING MEDICAL DISPENSARY-Resident Surgeon (£120 per annum,

READING MEDICAL DISPENSARY—Resident Surgeon (£120 per annum, furnished residence, coal, and candles).

ST. PANCRAS AND NORTHERN DISPENSARY—Physician.
SOUTH SALOP AND BRIDGNORTH INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon.
SUNDERLAND GENERAL INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY—Physician.
WEST LONDON HOSPITAL, Hammersmith—Dispenser.
WESTMORELAND SCHOOLS, Tulse Hill—Physician.
WEST SUSSEX, EAST HANTS, AND CHICHESTER INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY, Chichester—House-Surgeon (£80 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing).
WHITEHAVEN, Cumberland—Admiralty Surgeon and Agent; Certifying Factory Surgeon.

Surgeon.
WHITE HAVEN AND WEST CUMBERLAND INFIRMARY—Surgeon.
WHITE HAVEN AND WEST CUMBERLAND INFIRMARY—Surgeon.
WORCESTER GENERAL INFIRMARY—Resident House-Surgeon's Assistant and Dispenser (Lso per annum, board and washing).
YORK DISPENSARY—Resident Medical Officer (Lico per annum, with furnished

apartments, coal, gas, and allowance for servant).

### MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Names marked with an asterisk are those of Members of the Association. \*Broadbent, W. H., M.D., appointed Physician to the London Fever Hospital, in the place of George Buchanan, M.D., resigned.

#### BIRTHS.

HICKINBOTHAM.—On May 19th, at Nechells, Park Road, Birmingham, the wife of \*James Hickinbotham, L.R.C.P.Ed., of a daughter .

SCURRAIL—On May 18th, at 114, Broad Street, Birmingham, the wife of \*J. D. Scurrah, M.D., of a son.

#### DEATHS.

Brown.—At Uppingham, on May 11th, Sydney Morton, infant son of \*Frederick Warren Brown, Esq., Surgeon.
\*BULLAR, Joseph, M.D., at Bassett Wood, near Southampton, aged 60, on May 18th.

THE WORCESTER TRAINING SHIP has been removed from Erith to Gravesend, and is to be finally moored near the pier at Southend, in consequence of the outfalls of the metropolitan sewers being detrimental to health.

BEQUESTS.-Mrs. Celia Maria Boulters has bequeathed to the Westminster, St. George's, St. Mary's, Middlesex, Charing Cross, Cancer, and Consumption Hospitals, and the Royal Hospital for Incurables, each £200, and to the Idiot Asylum £100—all free of duty.

TESTIMONIAL TO DR. A. C. CHALMERS.—Dr. Chalmers, who has been during the last seventeen years engaged in practice at Thornhill in Dumfriesshire, being about to remove from that locality to Sheffield, his friends determined on presenting him with a testimony of their gratitude and esteem. The presentation was made on April 28th; Dr. Russell in the chair. The Rev. Dr. Murray, minister of the parish, referred to the career of Dr. Chalmers as having realised the expectations formed from the high recommendations with which he had come into the locality seventeen years ago. Dr. Chalmers had proved himself in all respects a master in his profession, and worthy of all trust and confidence. Mr. Murray then presented the testimonial-a valuable chronometer; observing that a large sum of subscriptions still remained in hand unappropriated. Dr. Chalmers, in returning thanks for the testimonial, acknowledged the kindness and courtesy which he had received during his residence in Thornhill.

### 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.

Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—National Orthopædic Hospital, 2 P.M. TUESDAY.....

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, I P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, I P.M.—Roya.
Orthopædic, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, II 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.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.

### MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY .- Linnæan Society.

TUESDAY.—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 P.M. Mr. G. G. Gascoyen, "On a Case of Iritis occurring in Syphilis treated without Mercury." WEDNESDAY.—Hunterian Society, 8 P.M.—Geological Society.

THURSDAY .- Royal Society.

## 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.

MR. C. Holmes (Slough) is thanked for his suggestions; which are received in the spirit in which they have been offered.

THE FEVER AT ACKWORTH. - In the abstract of Dr. Clifford Allbutt's report of the fever at Ackworth, which we published last week, it was not sufficiently pointed out that the Ackworth people had long been drinking contaminated water, but were not seized with fever until a time when Dr. Allbutt was able to prove the introduction of typhoid stools into the wells. Dr. Allbutt has also lately been called to investigate a like outbreak in a large Yorkshire school, where enteric fever broke out only at a time when he traced specific fæcal matter into the well.

THE PROPOSED AMALGAMATION OF SOCIETIES.

THE PROPOSED AMALGAMATION OF SOCIETIES.

IR,—In the report of the special meeting of the Fellows of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society in the British Medical Journal of May 8th, it is stated that, in seconding the amendment proposed by Dr. Murchison, I suggested the addition of the words "and Ireland". Permit me to state that I did not do so; nor was the suggestion made by any speaker. Dr. Balfour asked Dr. Murchison why he omitted Ireland from the amendment; and, at Dr. Murchison's request, I said a few words in explanation of "the reason why". I am in favour of calling the new Society The Royal Society of Medicine of London or of England; because I am of opinion that, unless it is so designated in the Draft Charter, when submitted to the law officers of the Crown, it must be so amended before the draft receives the approval of those functionaries.

I am, etc.,

WILLIAM O'CONNOR. I am, etc., WILLIAM O'CONNOR. Upper Montagu Square, May 1869.

#### DUTIES OF ARMY MEDICAL OFFICERS.

SIR,—Your remarks in your Article III, "Our system of Army Hospitals," upon a case of an assistant surgeon being unable to get leave of absence because the regimental surgeon declined to do "subaltern duties" are calculated to mislead

your readers generally.

Regimental duties are two-fold—professional and military. The latter refer to parades of all kinds, such as ball-firing, field days, flogging, bathing, marking the letters D and B.C., and attendance on boards in barracks. That a surgeon nowletters D and B.C., and attendance on boards in barracks. That a surgeon nowa-adays should decline to do his junior's duty is perhaps a unique fact. In olden times it was the rule, now it is most certainly the exception, but fact in was to the above enumerated military and not to the professional duties of the assistant, and the former have no comparison with any in civil medical life. Unification of the department is expected, if it ever be so organised, to remedy these evils, but the great opponents to this plan are two. The military authorities—who think that such a plan would lessen their hold upon the dep-truent—and a majority of medical officers, who would rather bear the ills they know, than fly to others they know not of. Some of these men hold good regimental home appointments, and they naturally like the present system. Others would rather be under military than medical authority. "There is no bully," said an officer to me, "so great as a medical bully." This is partially true I must confess, but still this class of medical officer is dying out, although there must always be some narrow minded, self-suffiofficer is dying out, although there must always be some narrow minded, self-suffi-cient men, who rejoice in a grandiloquent departmental order as a proof of their own importance, among so large a body of officers; yet, if the courteous example of our present Director General can only get time to spread among our ranks time will modify if not eradicate this nuisance.

I am, etc., May 1869. M.B., M.A.

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

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news reports and other matters of medical interest:—The Wiltshire County Mirror, May 19th; The Western Daily Press, May 11th; The Lincoln Journal, May 18th; The Liverpool Porcupine, May 18t and 19th; The Brighton Gazette, May 18th; The Lancaster Guardian, May 18th; The Derbyshire Times, May 12th; Le Mondel Illustré, May 8th; Le Nouveau Monde, May 6th; The New York Medical Gazette, March 24th; The Glasgow Herald, May 12th; The Parochial Critic, May 12th; The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, April 29th; and The Aberdeen Herald, May 18th; May Aberdeen Herald, May 15th.

## COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, etc., have been received from:-

Mr. F. Le Gros Clarke, London; Dr. T. Clifford Allbutt, Leeds; Dr. H. Gervis, London; Medicus, London; Mr. H. J. Fennell, Dublin; Dr. J. Waring-Curran, Downpatrick; Mr. C. Holmes, Slough; A Member, London; Dr. F. J. Lilley, London; Mr. Moy Thomas, London; Mr. Tomlinson, London; Mr. R. H. W. Nicholson, Hull; F., Portishead, Somerset; Dr. B. Chevallier, Ipswich; Mr. G. F. Hodgson, Brighton; Dr. A. Gamgee, Edinburgh; Dr. T. R. Fraser, Edinburgh; Dr. R. Christison, Edinburgh; Dr. Douglas Maclagan, Edinburgh; Dr. Paul, London; Mr. T. Watkin Williams, Birmingham; Dr. Hermann Weber, London; Dr. Baiimler, London; Dr. Prosser James, London; Dr. J. Hughes Bennett, Edinburgh; Dr. C. H. Allfrey, Chislehurst,

LETTERS, ETC. (with enclosures) from:-

Dr. H. Charlton Bastian, London; Mr. Holmes Coote, London; Mr. H. Garraway, Faversham; Mr. F. W. Brown, Uppingham; The Secretary of the Society of Arts; 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; Mr. T. H. Bartleet, Birmingham; The Honorary Secretary of the Obstetrical Society of London; Dr. W. H. Broadbent, London; The Honorary Secretary of the East York and North Lincoln Branch; The Honorary Secretary of the South-Eastern Branch; Dr. Duckworth, London; Mr. Langston Parker, Birmingham; Mr. R. P. Oglesby, Leeds; Mr. E. Martin, Weston-super-Mare; A Physician of Twenty-five Years' Standing; The Honorary Secretaries of the East Anglian Branch; The Honorary Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society; Dr. H. Simpson, Manchester; Mr. H. Sargeant, London; Mr. A. Roper, London; Mr. Fairlie Carke, London.

## Results of Meteorological Observations, for the week ending Saturday, May 15th, 1869.

	BAROMETER. Reduced to 32 deg. F. & mean sea lev.				i A-	of 100)	Self-Registering Thermometers,							<b>y</b> .	Jo	Wind.								RAIN.			
ì						degree y (sat			=  =		=	Sun.		amount Is (o-10)	e (o-ro)	N	Number of days it blew in certain directions.							e 0-12.	f days	ë ,	
	Mean.	Range.	Of Air ir Shade.	Of Evaporation.	Of Dew-poir	Mean Humidit	Maximum	Minimum.	Range.	Mean of Maxima	Mean of a	Black bı Maxm. in	Minimum posed on g	Minimum posed on g Mean a Cloud	Mean a	Ŋ.	N.E.	ы́	S.E.	S.	S.W.	w.	N.W.	Calm, etc.	Mean Ford	Number of or it fell.	Amoun
BATH	29.875	0.766	53-7	49.3	45.8	72	67.0	38.4	28,6	59-4	44.2	110,2		6.5	7	0.6	0.7	4			0.3	0.4	···	ı	4	3	0.47
BOURNEMOUTH	29.904	0.710	53-7	48.9	44.2	70	61.4	41.5	19.9	59.2	46.2	144.0	37.8	3.4	6	2	2.3	I	0.3		0.7			0.7	2.4	1	0.46
DUBLIN	ļ	1	i		l i	i	1	1	1	ł	1	••		1 -	l .	1	1 :		-			!	1.7		1.9	1	0.80
Dr. Treutler, F.L.S., etc.	29.930	0.738	54.7	50.2	45.9	72	67.3	42.0	24.3	61.6	46.6	140.8	35.2	6.5	3.7		1.7	1.7	0.3		1		1.3	x	3	2	0.31
Drs. Nicol and Dalton.	29.941	!	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	,	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1 -	1	ı			1	1.8	I	0.24
Malvern	29.936	0.818	52.0	47.5	42.9	71	67.3	37.2	30.1	60.8	41.5	115.8	34.6	5-3	4.3	1.3	1.7	I	1.3		1.7				1	2	0.97
Scarborough	1																										
SIDMOUTH	29.876	0.649	53.5	49-7	46.0	76	63.6	43.1	19.9	60.3	47.9		37.8	7.2	5.3		3	0.3	0.7	0.3	1	0.3	0.3	0.7	3.8	2	0.36

No Reports have been received from Scarborough and Sidmouth, -in the latter case, owing to Dr. Mackenzie's absence.

REMARKS.—There has been a general and uniform rise in atmospheric pressure during the week, while the range has been more limited. The temperature has also risen at all stations about one degree or a little more, and the range has varied but little. Winds have been chiefly E. and N.E., and of very moderate force. Rain fell at all stations, but in much less quantities than in the previous week; the largest amount was collected at Malvern. The amount of cloud has diminished, and ozone has been more abundant. On the 13th instant, about 9 p.m., a brilliant Autora borealis was observed at Bath, Kew, and Dublin, which is described as consisting of a luminous arch from which rays of light of crimson, orange, and green tints shot towards the zenith. It occupied a considerable extent of horizon, extending, at Kew and Dublin, from W.S.W. to E.N.E. At the same time, also, a bright Autora was observed at Trieste on the Adriatic. Simultaneously with it occurred considerable magnetic perturbations throughout the country, which appear to have extended over the whole, at least, of Western Europe; for they were reported as very marked at Leghorn and Rome. Generally speaking, the weather of the week has been somewhat cool, with moderate or sometimes fresh N.E. winds and a dry atmosphere. A thunderstorm, with hall and heavy rain, passed over Malvern on the 10th, at 4.45 p.m. The state of the general health is good. REMARKS.—There has been a general and uniform rise in atmospheric pressure during the week, while

Kew, W., May 19th, 1869.

W. J. Tabyylen.

Plants sirst seen	in	flower	during	the	Week.
Fumaria officinalis	-	-	-		At Ke
Pyrus Aucuparia	-	-	-		At Ba
Lychnis flos-cuculi	-	•	-	-	,,,

Aethusa Cynapium Ophrys apifera Borago officinalis Campanula rotundifolia Fragaria vesca Myosotis palustris At Bath and Kew. Anthriscus vulgaris Potentilla anserina Barbarea vulgaris

" "

Chrysanthemum leucanthemum Sagina procumbens - -