

come does not exceed £200. A fair charge would be 3 per cent: thus a gentleman on £100 a year would be called upon to pay more than £3 annually, exclusive of midwifery and surgery.

I do not advocate contracts; it is better for both parties to be free. But patients would do well to have an understanding as to the mode of charging. I submit to the profession the following scheme of charges.

(a) Working classes under £1 weekly: Bill for medical attendance and medicines (exclusive of midwifery and surgery) not to exceed one week's wages annually.

(b) Working classes under £2 weekly: Bill as above not to exceed two weeks' wages annually.

(c) Middle classes under £200 *per annum*: Bill as above not to exceed 3 per cent. of income annually.

(d) A fee of 5s. a visit, with or without supply of medicines, according to agreement with patients.

My counsel is, that medical practitioners should be moderate in their bills. I am, etc.,

FREDERICK J. BROWN.

St. Margaret's Banks, Rochester, March 7th, 1862.

TREATMENT OF HYDROCELE.

LETTER FROM JAMES G. DAVEY, M.R.C.P.

SIR,—In the "Hospital Reports", as contained in your last number of the JOURNAL, there is recorded a "Case of Hydrocele cured after Injections had failed". The patient was treated by Mr. E. Parker Young, house-surgeon to St. Mary's Hospital.

During my residence in Ceylon, from 1844 to 1849, I treated a very large number of patients with hydrocele—in fact, I was scarcely ever without the care of such cases. The fact is to some extent accounted for thus. A native medical practitioner, educated at the government expense at Calcutta, had hydrocele. He had been under the care of several British surgeons; and, although the sac had been injected, yet were their efforts unavailing; the fluid re-collected. Mr. — applied to me, as probably I was the last medical arrival from home. Finding a difficulty or delay in procuring an elastic bottle, I proceeded at once to draw off the fluid. Having allowed the whole of it to escape with the aid of a small common pewter syringe, I conveyed through the cannula into the tunica vaginalis a few drachms (four or five) of a solution of zinci sulph. (2 grs. to 3i). Having done so, and covered the cannula with my finger to prevent the escape of the injection, I grasped the scrotum with my disengaged hand, and, kneading it for a minute or two, brought with some force the sol. zinci sulph. in contact with the whole of the interior of the sac of the hydrocele. The finger was now removed, and the fluid injected allowed to escape through the cannula. A moderate amount of inflammation succeeded to the manipulation; my patient was cured.

I think I must have had to treat some scores of cases of hydrocele during my residence in Ceylon, and I know but of one case of the kind in which the foregoing treatment was else than eminently successful. I have had three or four men (natives) of a morning walk into the General Dispensary at Colombo, who, having been operated on as above described, have gone a distance of miles, and that not only with impunity, but with positive advantage.

If you think the foregoing remarks, etc., worthy of note in connexion with the case forwarded you by Mr. Young, you will perhaps allow them space in an early number of the JOURNAL. I am, etc.,

JAMES G. DAVEY.

Northwoods, near Bristol, March 4th, 1862.

THE TITLE OF DOCTOR.

SIR,—I have read in your columns to-day Dr. Pitman's reply to the inquirer regarding the "rank and title" of physicians. It appears that Dr. Pitman roundly asserts that Licentiates of the Dublin and Edinburgh, equally with those of the London College of Physicians, have no right whatever to the rank and title of Doctor. As Dr. Pitman is the Registrar of the London College of Physicians, he must be allowed to be an authority upon such points connected with that institution; but I cannot admit that he is at least a *correct* authority upon subjects connected with all other learned bodies.

May I beg to call Dr. Pitman's attention to the wording of the diploma granted to Licentiates who have been examined and approved of by the President and Fellows of the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland, wherein it is stated that such Licentiates are "entitled to the *degree, title, and qualification* of Doctor of Medicine"? I think that this sufficiently proves that the Dublin College of Physician is an exception to the general statement which Dr. Pitman has made.

As I believe that some members of the medical profession may not be aware of the fact I have just stated, may I venture to ask you to insert this letter, if you can find room, in your valuable JOURNAL, as I think it but right that the erroneous impression conveyed by the letter to which I have alluded should be corrected?

I am, etc., VERITAS.

March 1862.

Medical News.

APOTHECARIES' HALL. On March 3rd and 6th, the following licentiates were admitted:—

Davies, William, Froodvale, Carmarthenshire
Dustan, John, Jersey
Elias, Daniel, jun., Chorley, Lancashire
Gale, Henry Stanley, Hampstead
Howell, Thomas, Bristol
Long, Charles Frederic, Barham, Kent
Milburne, Thomas Dodd, Dents Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne
Milsome, John Ruddle, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Summers, Llewellyn John, Ramsey, Isle of Man
Todd, Joseph, Selby, Yorkshire

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN: TRINITY COLLEGE. Examinations for the Degree of M.B. and M.D.

Bachelors in Medicine.

Curran, Frederick A. Martley, William Henry
Irwin, Chamney Graves Rutherford, Joseph
Jacob, Archibald Hamilton

Doctors in Medicine.

Fitzpatrick, Thomas Quinlan, Francis Boxwell
Jacob, Archibald Hamilton Wright, Edward Percival

APPOINTMENTS.

WIEHE, G. C., M.D., appointed Inspector-General of Prisons in the Bombay Presidency, in the room of Dr. Ogilvie, deceased.

ROYAL NAVY. The following appointments have been made:—

JORNSTON, William, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon (confirmed), to the *Desperate*.
RICHARDSON, Henry, M.D., Surgeon, to the *Boscawen*.
SWEETNAM, Stephen, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Forté*.
THOMAS, David B., Esq., Acting Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Dart*.
WILSON, P. G., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon (additional), to the *Victory*.

VOLUNTEER CORPS. The following appointments have been made (A.V.—Artillery Volunteers; R.V.—Rifle Volunteers):—

DRY, W. H., Esq., to be Surgeon 48th Middlesex R.V.
SPYERS, T. C., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 2nd Kent A.V.
TURNBULL, G. W., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 2nd Northumberland A.V.
WILLIAMS, J., Esq., to be Assist.-Surgeon 1st Brecknockshire R.V.

DEATHS.

BROWN. On March 8th, at 38, Hill Street, Berkeley Square, Mary, wife of *C. Blakely Brown, M.D.

LOYD, Eusebius A., Esq., Surgeon, late of John Street, Bedford Row, at Ventnor, aged 68, on March 4.

MORGAN. On March 7th, at Downshire Hill, Hampstead, Janet, widow of George Morgan, Esq., Surgeon.

*ROWLAND, William, Esq., Surgeon, at Wrexham, aged 54, on February 24.

STRINGER, James, Esq., Surgeon, at 22, Dobson's Terrace, Kensington Road, aged 61, on March 6.

THE LATE MR. ROWLAND OF WREXHAM. The following resolution, referring to the death of this gentleman, has been entered on the minutes of the Council of the Borough of Wrexham: "That this Council have heard with deep regret of the death of Wm. Rowland, Esq., F.R.C.S., one of the Trustees of the Borough of Wrexham, who was also a member of the first Town Council of Wrexham, and for some time an Alderman of the Borough; we have the melancholy satisfaction of recording upon our minutes this testimony of our respect for his memory; and we beg to tender to his surviving relatives our condolence for the loss which they, in common with his friends and the public, have sustained by his death." The deceased was a consulting surgeon of the Wrexham Infirmary, and a Lieutenant of the Denbighshire Yeomanry Cavalry.

MELANCHOLY SUICIDE OF A SURGEON. An inquest was held on the 7th inst. in Sunderland on the body of Dr. Henry Hodgson Ogle Hay, who was found dead in his surgery on Wednesday last. The evidence went to show that the deceased had of late been much troubled in his mind, and that whilst in this state he took a large dose of prussic acid, from the effects of which he died. The jury returned a verdict "That the deceased had taken away his life while in a state of temporary mental derangement." Dr. Hay was a native of Newcastle, but had resided the last fifteen years in Sunderland. He had a good practice, and was very much esteemed by his professional brethren. He was only 43 years of age, and has left a widow, to whom he was married about two years ago, and four children by a former wife.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. The eighty-ninth anniversary meeting of this society was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, on Saturday last; W. Coulson, Esq., President, in the chair. The following were declared to be elected officers and members of council for the ensuing year:—*President*, F. Sibson, M.D., F.R.S. *Vice-Presidents*, James Bird, M.D.; T. Bryant, Esq.; H. Lee, Esq.; F. W. Mackenzie, M.D. *Treasurer*, C. H. Rogers-Harrison, Esq. *Librarian*, J. Cockle, M.D. *Secretaries in Ordinary*, G. D. Gibb, M.D., and G. Lawson, Esq. *Secretary for Foreign Correspondence*, T. Davidson, M.D. *Councillors*, J. Althaus, M.D.; J. Birkett, Esq.; W. Coulson, Esq.; A. Fisher, Esq.; R. Greenhalgh, M.D.; H. Hardinge, M.D.; T. Hawksley, M.D.; F. W. Headland, M.D.; A. Henry, M.D.; J. H. Jephson, M.D.; J. Love, Esq.; V. de Méric, Esq.; W. R. Rogers, M.D.; C. H. F. Routh, M.D.; Hyde Salter, M.D., F.R.S.; S. J. A. Salter, M.B.; H. Smith, Esq.; J. S. Stocker, M.D.; H. Thompson, Esq.; J. Townley, Esq. *Orator for 1863*, S. O. Habershon, M.D. The silver medal was awarded to Dr. Cockle, the librarian. There was no award of the Fothergillian gold medal.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL PAYMENTS.—Mr. Griffin writes: "Propositions have been made for paying the medical officers on plans differing from the one proposed by the Association, and laid by me before the Select Committee. These I have carefully considered, and find that although they may work well in individual cases, they cannot be adopted throughout England and Wales. The mode of payment advocated by me on behalf of the Association is that of a fixed salary founded on the number of cases attended on an average of the last three years, at not less

than 5s. per case for the first 300 cases, and 2s. per case for all above that number, with mileage in addition, and an allowance of extra medical fees: which is the only equitable mode of payment that can be adopted, as it is remuneration for work actually performed. I am happy to add that the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science have admitted the question of Poor-Law Medical Relief amongst the subjects deserving their consideration."

PRESENTATION. On the 21st February a highly respectable company assembled at Eskbank for the purpose of presenting to Æneas Macaulay, M.D., a testimonial of the respect and esteem in which he is held by his friends in and around Canonbie. The chairman stated to Dr. Macaulay their object in waiting upon him, and begged his acceptance of a handsome carriage, which it was his pleasing duty, in the name of the committee, to present to him. Mr. Whitelaw congratulated Dr. Macaulay, and said, that, concurring in everything advanced in Dr. Macaulay's favour, he was now called upon to offer "The Doctor" an additional and equally valuable and substantial proof of the manner in which he was esteemed, and his professional services appreciated, by the inhabitants of Canonbie and the surrounding neighbourhood. This testimonial consisted of a gold watch and appendages, a silver tea-service, and a set of silver spoons. The inscription on the watch and tea-service was—"Presented to Æneas Macaulay, Esq., M.D., as a mark of esteem for him, and in appreciation of his valuable services, by his friends in and around Canonbie. 21st Feb., 1862." (*Dumfries Herald*.)

VITAL STATISTICS OF 1861. In the year 1861 the births in Great Britain were 802,598, and the deaths 497,624, so that the natural increase was 304,974. This is the largest number of births that ever occurred in any year in Great Britain, but happily not the largest number of deaths. Upon an average 2,200 children were born every day, 91 an hour; and 1,363 persons died daily, or almost one every minute. It is impossible to say how far the natural increase of the population was reduced by migration, because there is no record of the immigration; all that we know is that 91,770 emigrants left the shores of the United Kingdom last year, of whom about 89,000 were of English or Scottish origin. There is in Scotland a rather higher birth-rate, and a lower death-rate than in England, and yet a much lower rate of increase in the population, showing that a much larger proportion of the people emigrate either beyond seas or to other parts of the United Kingdom. The influence of season in the proportion of births was, as usual, quite marked in 1861. The greatest number of births always takes place in the first half of the year; last year the number was greatest of all in the spring quarter—April to June. The return of marriages is not yet complete for England; the largest number are always in the last quarter; in Scotland June and December are the favourite months for matrimony. The returns show, as ever, how much the inhabitant of the town has to contend against agencies hurtful to life, from which his country neighbour is comparatively free; the difference is especially striking in Scotland, where in the town districts 24 persons in every 1,000 died in the year, and only 16 in the country districts—two in the country to three in the town. In Glasgow and Dundee very nearly half the deaths were of children under five; and the children in those towns were literally decimated in the year, for, as nearly as can be ascertained without the detailed census returns, out of all the children under five years of age about one in every ten died. At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean temperature of the year was 49·4 deg; at the Ordnance Survey Office, Edinburgh, 49 deg. In Scotland the average of 55 stations of the Meteorological Society showed 1,674

hours of sunshine in the year, which would have given for four days in every week eleven hours of sunshine in the summer half of the year, and five in the other half. The highest temperature in England was 89.5 in August, in Scotland 85.5 in June; the lowest in England —1 deg., in Scotland —3.7, both in January. England rather suffered in many parts from want of rain, and the total amount collected at the Royal Observatory was only 20.8 inches; in Scotland generally the average was 45.07 inches, and in some parts the fall was very excessive; at Tyndrum, in Perthshire (with the returns for April deficient), it was of the enormous depth of 134 inches, more than 11 feet—a very deluge. 1861 had its faults, but with the births above the average, and the deaths below it, it ought not to be counted a bad year.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....Royal Free, 2 P.M.—Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 1.15 P.M.
TUESDAY. Guy's, 1½ P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.
WEDNESDAY... St. Mary's, 1 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.
THURSDAY.... St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—London, 1.30 P.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—London Surgical Home, 2 P.M.
FRIDAY. Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.
SATURDAY.... St. Thomas's, 1 P.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY. Medical, 8.30 P.M.: Mr. Gay, "Intestinal Obstruction by Invagination."—British Architects, 8 P.M.
TUESDAY. Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.—Statistical, 8 P.M.—Pathological, 8 P.M.—Ethnological, 8 P.M.
WEDNESDAY. Meteorological, 7 P.M.—Society of Arts, 8 P.M.—Geological, 8 P.M.—London Institution, 7 P.M.
THURSDAY. Harveian Society of London, 8 P.M.: Dr. Levison, "On Two Cases of Incipient Moral Insanity."—Zoological, 4 P.M.—Royal, 8.30 P.M.—Antiquaries, 8.30 P.M.—Linnean, 8 P.M.—Chemical, 8 P.M.—Numismatic, 8 P.M.
FRIDAY. Western Medical and Surgical, 8 P.M.—Royal Institution, 8 P.M.
SATURDAY. Asiatic, 3 P.M.—Royal Botanic, 3.45 P.M.

POPULATION STATISTICS AND METEOROLOGY OF LONDON—MARCH 8, 1862.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

		Births.	Deaths.
During week.....	{ Boys ..1016 Girls ..1011 }	2027	1505
Average of corresponding weeks 1852-61		2033	1426

Barometer:
Highest (Wed.) 29.654; lowest (Mon.) 29.134; mean, 29.404

Thermometer:
Highest in sun—extremes (Sat.) 99 degs.; (Sun. & Mon.) 46 degs.
In shade—highest (Sat.) 60.5 degrees; lowest (Tu.) 22.5 degs.
Mean—40.1 degrees; difference from mean of 43 yrs. +0.1 deg.
Range—during week, 38 degrees; mean daily, 14.4 degrees.
Mean humidity of air (saturation=100), 81.
Mean direction of wind, S.W.—Rain in inches, 0.26.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * All letters and communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the EDITOR, 37, Great Queen St., Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

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

F. C.—The Frenchman is forbidden by law to destroy rats by arsenic or phosphorus. M. Causse therefore recommends tartar emetic for the business; and, to prevent mistakes, he has his poison made into the shape of candles. Of the following materials, he makes thirty-two candles—one of which will kill a rat (if he eats it):—Suet, 786; tartar emetic, 153; euphorbium, 51; and cotton, 10 grammes; with a pinch of aventurine.

DEATHS AFTER ETHER INHALATION.—Dr. Kidd has forwarded us a list of deaths *after*, we cannot say *from*, the inhalation of ether. We do not publish it, because we really think that statistics of this kind, in which there is no distinct relation between the cause and the effect, beyond that of antecedence and sequence, rather tend to complicate than throw light on the subject.

A CAUTION.—SIR: Through the kindness of some professional friends in the country, I have recently ascertained that a person, signing himself "Alfred Needes, of 59, Wilson Street, Finsbury Square, Medical Agent," has been undertaking to guarantee them invalid patients, paying £400 a year, on their forwarding him a registration fee of half-a-guinea, and a percentage on the yearly stipend. In justice to myself, as well as to the profession, I have thought it my duty to make inquiries in Wilson Street, and find there is no such person as Alfred Needes residing there; the house, in fact, being occupied by a small tradesman, who permits letters and parcels to be addressed there on payment of one penny. As I am the only medical agent of the surname which this person has assumed, my professional reputation may possibly suffer, unless some public notice be immediately taken of his conduct.

Will you, therefore, oblige me by inserting this communication in your next number; not only for the purpose of placing myself right with those gentlemen who have been the subjects of the attempts of Mr. Alfred Needes, but as a caution to others who may yet be favoured with his future communications.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN WILLIS NEEDES, Medical Agent.

Medical Transfer and Agency Office, 17, Belgrave Street, Euston Road, W.C., London, March 12th, 1862.

ERRATUM.—In the notice of the names of the Committee of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society on Suspended Animation, at p. 261 of last week's JOURNAL, the name of Dr. Harviey was erroneously printed *Henley*.

JOURNALS WANTED.—Several members, who have joined the Association during the past year, are desirous of having their volumes complete for the year 1861; but this has been prevented by many of the earlier numbers being out of print. The publisher will therefore be greatly obliged, if gentlemen who do not bind their Journal, or desire to keep it, will kindly forward him the numbers contained in the first volume for 1861 (January to June).

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

THE following Laws of the Association will be strictly enforced:—

15. The subscription to the Association shall be One Guinea annually; and each member on paying his subscription shall be entitled to receive the publications of the Association of the current year. The subscriptions shall date from the 1st of January in each year, and shall be considered as due unless notice of withdrawal be given in writing to the Secretary on or before the 25th of December previous. If any member's subscription remain unpaid twelve months after it shall have become due, the publications of the Society shall be withheld from such member until his arrears be paid.

16. The name of no member shall remain on the books of the Association, whose arrears extend over three years; but the omission of the name from the list of members shall not be deemed, either in honour or equity, to relieve any member from his liability for the subscriptions due for the period during which he has availed himself of the privileges of membership.

PHILIP H. WILLIAMS, M.D., General Secretary.

Worcester, March 1862.

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Mr. PRESCOTT HEWETT; Dr. W. WADHAM; Dr. G. M. HUMPHRY; Dr. HOUTH; Dr. HOOPER; Mr. F. TROUP; Mr. W. W. MORRIS; Mr. AUGUSTIN FRICHARD; Dr. J. G. DAVEY; Dr. EASTLAKE; Dr. HARLEY; Mr. R. GRIFFIN; Dr. R. H. TAYLOR; Mr. F. S. GARLICK; Dr. THOMAS WILLIAMS; Mr. W. BURTON; Dr. C. TAYLOR; Mr. W. SMITH; Dr. FRED. J. BROWN; Mr. C. J. EVANS; Mr. J. W. NEEDES; A MEMBER; Dr. TANNER; Dr. J. W. GOODWIN; Mr. J. C. OWEN; and Mr. W. GOODMAN.