

Chairman took the opinion of the conference by a show of hands, when there were 18 for and 18 against it. At an urgent request a second show was taken, when there were 20 for and 18 against the amendment. The conference then adjourned until February 15th.

WEST DERBY LOCAL BOARD.

AN extraordinary proceeding lately took place at a special meeting of the West Derby Local Board. On January 7th the Board proceeded to the election of a Medical Officer of Health for the district. There were seven candidates, two of whom were members of the board, but the appointment was, by a majority of two, conferred upon Dr. William Carter, of Liverpool. On the 16th instant a special meeting of the board was held, when Mr. Cotton proposed, and Mr. Miller seconded, the rescinding of the resolution appointing Mr. Carter, on the ground that the election was conducted by ballot, and that the whole proceeding of the board was invalid. The motion was vigorously supported by Dr. Fitzpatrick, one of the rejected candidates, and, after a warm discussion, was carried by ten to eight. Mr. Cotton then moved that Mr. Glazebrook, who received three votes at the election, and was previously a member of the board, should be appointed to the office; but the chairman declined to put the resolution to the board, stating that there was no vacancy, inasmuch as Dr. Carter was appointed for twelve months. Upon this, Dr. Fitzpatrick threatened the chairman with a *mandamus*, and warned the board that they would be responsible for any act Dr. Carter might do as Medical Officer of Health. The meeting was then adjourned.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ALBUMINURIA.

SIR,—In common with many others, I have read with great interest the double discussions which have during the past months been conducted in your columns. Dr. George Johnson *versus* Sir William Gull and Dr. Sutton, Dr. Dickinson *versus* Dr. Roberts and others, have given to the subject of Bright's disease that prominence which it demands. Albuminuria is a word which has been frequently used, during the last two months especially. Would not, may I ask, the present be a good time to invite from one or more of these deservedly reputed authorities his opinion as to the diagnostic value of albuminuria?

1. What is the diagnostic value of albumen in the urine?

2. What is the diagnostic value of non-albuminous urine? To include tube-casts would be superfluous, as ordinarily they are not sought for, and the search for them is not, apparently, likely to be general for some time to come.

3. Will the presence of albumen warrant the supposition that organic change is going on in the kidneys, or has gone on? Will its absence justify us in concluding that no disease exists?

I would be personally grateful if one of these well known writers would give his opinion; or, even better, if each would give his opinion, and they could be inserted side by side. I trust no one of them will think this suggestion improper, for cases are known where albuminuria existed and no longer exists. In my own case, after scarlatina (five years ago) there was albuminuria for six months; but because there is no albuminuria now, does it follow that no damage has been done? Personally I think there has, if gout be any evidence. On the other hand, kidneys have been found most extensively diseased where no albumen has been detected during life. In short, can we rely upon the test-tube for the diagnosis of Bright's disease?

I am, etc., J. MILNER FOTHERGILL, M.D.

16, Bentinck Street, Manchester Square, January 6th, 1873.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF CHLOROFORM.

SIR,—It has occurred to me that the circumstances of the demise of His Majesty the Emperor Napoleon have, in some degree, a melancholy interest, with regard to one of the great practical questions of the present time—the administration of anæsthetics.

From what we learn by the last bulletin issued, it appears that the sudden invasion of symptoms, pointing to asphyxia or *true pulselessness*, followed a period of such refreshing sleep and comfort to the illustrious patient, that a lithotritic manipulation was appointed to take place a couple of hours later.

Now, it is reasonable to consider what might have been the gravity of the case, if these symptoms had but been delayed during this slender interval. Had they been suddenly ushered in during the operation,

under the influence of chloroform, it is certain that no question would have arisen, at such a moment, as to the cause; the failing pulse would have been accepted as a positive indication—a premonitory signal of danger from chloroform—the administration of which would have been suspended; and, after all reanimating attempts had failed, as they must have done, another instance, but this time a classical and an historical one, of unforeseen calamity and death, would have been cited to the discredit of chloroform. Who can aver the doom that in haste and injustice would then have overtaken it? How many medical men would have forthwith expunged chloroform from the list of anæsthetics, and consigned it to oblivion?

Viewed as they stand, however, I think that the facts are acceptable to many who, like myself, support the argument advanced by Sir James Simpson, as an additional proof of the probability that many of the deaths attributed to chloroform, by reason of their occurrence under its influence (*post hoc ergo propter hoc*), might, in reality, have had place altogether apart from it, and these, too, without any assignable cause, such as shock from operation. (Works of Sir J. Y. Simpson, Bart., vol. ii, p. 151.)

Just now, while the dangers and coincident mortality of chloroform inhalation, are actively discussed and brought prominently before the profession, thanks to the advocacy of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, the question of the comparative safety of other anæsthetics, and notably of sulphuric ether, has been energetically opened.

It will be some time, however, before any decision can be pronounced in a matter which must embrace statistics of greater magnitude than perhaps any other in the domain of medicine; for, let it be borne in mind, statistics of limited extent, which frequently exhibit an encouraging succession of fortunate cases, are often ultimately followed by a levelling run of bad luck, so that at least one fallacious factor may be eliminated from others of no less value.

I am, etc., DAVID PAGE, M.B.Ed.

Kirkby Lonsdale, Westmorland, Jan. 11th, 1873.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND. —The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted members of the College at a meeting of the Court of Examiners, on January 21st.

Butler, Francis William, L.S.A., Camberwell
Bartlett, William, Connaught Square
Corbin, Edward K., Guernsey
Dyer, Henry Geary, L.R.C.P. and L.M.Edin., Ringwood, Hants
Emmerson, William Lindsay, Leicester
Fairbank, William, L.S.A., Highbury Hill
Farmer, Cottenham, Anerly, Surrey
Ferguson, George B., M.B., Cheltenham
Groves, Henry Joseph Firth, L.S.A., Dorchester
Hatfield, William Henry, Old Burlington Street
Heane, William Crawshaw, L.S.A., Cinderford, Gloucestershire
Hope, Samuel Wilson, L.R.C.P. Lond., Dulwich
Jones, Edgar Averay, Leicester
Lawrence, George Edgar, Bath
Power, George Edward, Lewisham
Shaw, Walter, L.S.A., Athelston Hill, Hereford
Smith, James Ouston, L.R.C.P. and L.M.Edin., Weaverham, Cheshire
Spear, John, Folkestone
Taylor, John William, Lewes, Sussex
Tunley, John, West Bromwich
Whitshed, James L., Myddelton Square
Widdas, George David, York
Williams, Richard, Bala, North Wales

The following gentlemen were admitted members on January 22nd.

Barnes, Arthur B., Faversham, Kent
Boulger, Isaac, Gravesend
Clague, John, L.S.A., Castletown, Isle of Man
Dove, Harry, L.S.A., Norwich
Durant, Edmund, L.R.C.P. Edin., Delamere Crescent, Westbourne Terrace
Elliott, Charles Boulton, Moreton Place, Belgrave Road
Lewtas, John, Liverpool
Newby, Charles Henry, Mecklenburgh Square
Powell, Evan, Bridgend, Glamorganshire
Powell, James, Bedford Terrace, Plumstead
Ransford, Thomas Davis, St. Thomas's Terrace
Roehel, Joseph Waldemar, Bath
Saunders, Everard Home, Devonport
Stowers, James Herbert, Kennington Park Road
Sunderland, William, Birmingham
Thomas, George Tucker, Everett Street, Russell Square
Webber, William Littleton, Modbury, Devon
Welch, Samuel, L.S.A., Hackney Road
Williams, William, M.D., Barmouth, North Wales

The following gentlemen were admitted members on January 23rd.

Barnard, Charles Edward, Hobart Town, Tasmania
Brigham, Henry George, Stanley Street, Pimlico
Clyma, Handsford Hosking, L.S.A., Red Hill, Surrey

Coke, William Harriott, Tottenham
 Copeland, William Lowry, M.D., Ontario, Canada
 Dodd, Alexander Russell, Westbourne Terrace Road
 Gibbs, Robert, Brompton, S.W.
 Mitcheson, Joseph Hopkins, Edmonton
 Murray, William, M.B. Dublin, Limerick
 Padman, John, Notting Hill, W.
 Payne, Henry Peter, Southampton
 Reckitt, William B., Birmingham
 Rogers, Edward Coulton, Modbury, Devon
 Wallis, William, L.S.A., Hartfield, near East Grinstead, Sussex
 West, Rowland Hill, Chippenham, Wilts
 Wilkinson, Auburn, L.M. Durham, Tynemouth
 Williams, William Henry, Tavistock, Devon
 Wood, Henry Thorold, Onslow Square, Brompton

The following gentlemen were admitted members on January 24th.

Barrow, Albert Boyce, Newmarket, Cambridgeshire
 Bateman, Lewis Philip, Dudley, Worcestershire
 Chinery, Charles Warner, Lympington, Hants
 Clark, Frederick Cheeseman, L.S.A., Croydon, Surrey
 Elliot, Norman Bruce, L.S.A., Denmark Hill, S.E.
 Gibson, Henry C. Mends, Truro, Cornwall
 Griffin, Charles Thomas, Ledbury, Gloucestershire
 Kingcombe, Alfred Partridge, L.S.A., Ivy Bridge, Devon
 Lewis, Frederick William, L.S.A., Llandoverly, Carmarthenshire
 Moss, Robert Campbell, Stifford, near Grays, Essex
 Nicholson, Arthur, Newark, Notts
 Palmer, Montague Henry Campbell, L.S.A., Newbury, Berks
 Parkhouse, Henry, L.S.A., Braintree, Essex
 Peregrine, Hugh Ley, Half-moon Street, Piccadilly
 Richards, George Pickering, L.R.C.P. and L.M. Edin., Bury Street, St. James's Square
 Skinner, Robert Alexander, Camden Road, Camden Town
 Spurgin, William Henry, Thrapstone, Northamptonshire
 Wilson, William Wright, Acoc's Green, near Birmingham
 Yeates, William Michaelson, Birmingham

Of the 110 candidates admitted to their final examination during last week, 26 failed to satisfy the Court of Examiners, and were referred for six months' further professional study.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentleman passed his examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received a certificate to practise, on Thursday, January 23rd, 1873.

Jordan, John, Birmingham

As Assistants in compounding and dispensing medicines.

Andrews, William Leatham, Aldborough
 Worthington, William, Preston, Lancashire

At the Preliminary Examination in Arts, held at the Hall of the Society, on the 24th and 25th of January, 1873, 29 candidates presented themselves; of whom 12 were rejected, and the following 17 passed, and received certificates of proficiency in general education. In the First Class, in the order of merit.

1. Daniel Philip Meadows.
2. John Poland.
3. Leonard Charles Wooldridge.
4. Millice Culpin.

In the Second Class, in alphabetical order.

E. A. Aldridge, F. G. Baker, E. S. Dyer, N. S. Foster, W. Haydon, S. A. Hayman, F. M. Heygate, C. G. Hutchinson, Thomas James, G. Leigh Lye, A. W. Pearson, A. P. Powell, and Gregory Stock.

KING AND QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS IN IRELAND.—At monthly examination meetings of the College, held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the 14th, 15th, and 16th of January, the following candidates obtained the License to practise Medicine.

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| Bowers, Edward | Shaw, James |
| Brady, Andrew John | Smith, Charles Catterson |
| Piers, Charles Edward | Sutton, John Richard Henry |
| Redmond, Gabriel O'Connell F. | Webb, Samuel Henry |

The following candidates obtained the Midwifery Diploma.

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| Brady, Andrew John | Smith, Charles Catterson |
| Redmond, Gabriel O'Connell F. | Sutton, John Richard Henry |
| Shaw, James | Webb, Samuel Henry |

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

ANDOVER UNION—Medical Officer for the Fyfield District: £65 per annum, and extra fees.
BOURN RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT—Medical Officer of Health: £150 per annum.
BRADFORD (Yorkshire) URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT—Medical Officer of Health: £500 per annum.
BRECKNOCK UNION—Medical Officer for the Defynnock District: £90 per ann.
DUNFANAGHY UNION, co. Donegal—Second Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Registrar of Births, etc., for the Crossroads Dispensary District: £100 per annum, and fees.
GENERAL HOSPITAL, Nottingham—Resident Surgeon Apothecary: £150 per annum, furnished apartments, board, and washing.
HALIFAX INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon: £80 per annum, increasing to £100, with board, lodgings, and attendance.
HOXTON HOUSE LUNATIC ASYLUM—Assistant Medical Officer: £120 per annum, board, lodging, and washing.
INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE—Sixteen Assistant-Surgeons.

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

INFIRMARY FOR EPILEPSY AND PARALYSIS, Portland Terrace, Regent's Park—Medical Superintendent: £50 per annum.

KILRUSH UNION, co. Clare—Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Registrar of Births, etc., for the Cragaknooh Dispensary District: £100 per annum, and fees.

MANCHESTER, City of—Public Analyst: £150 per annum.

MANCHESTER ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL—Honorary Medical Officer.

NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICE—Assistant-Surgeons.

NEWPORT UNION, Monmouthshire—Medical Officer for the St. Woollos District and the Workhouse: £172 per annum.

NORTHALLERTON UNION, Yorkshire—Medical Officer for the Borrowby District: £10 per annum.

NORTH UIST—Parochial Medical Officer.

NORTH WALES COUNTIES LUNATIC ASYLUM, Denbigh—Assistant Medical Officer: £100 per annum, rooms, board, and washing.

PARSONSTOWN UNION, King's County—Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Registrar of Births, etc., for the Frankford Dispensary District: £100 per annum, and fees.

RATHDOWN UNION, co. Dublin—Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Registrar of Births, etc., for the Stillorgan Division of the Blackrock and Stillorgan Dispensary District: £110 per annum, and fees.

SURREY DISPENSARY, Great Dover Street—Dispenser.

TAUNTON URBAN AND RURAL SANITARY DISTRICTS—Joint Medical Officer of Health: £600 per annum.

THIRSK UNION, Yorkshire—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Knapton District: £21 per annum, and fees.

UNITED LAW CLERKS SOCIETY—Medical Officer.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL—Surgical Registrar.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON—Assistant Registrar: £500 per annum.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL—Medical Officer of Health: £30 per annum.

WARWICKSHIRE—Medical Visitor of Lunatic Asylums.

WIDNES URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT—Medical Officer of Health: £40 per annum.

WORCESTER DISPENSARY—Surgeon.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

YATES, W. P., Esq., appointed Honorary Medical Officer to the Jersey General Dispensary and Infirmary.

GODSON, Clement, M.B., appointed Physician to the Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, *vice* A. Wiltshire, M.D., resigned.

ROBERTSON, R., M.D., appointed Physician to the Liverpool Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, *vice* R. Gee, M.D., appointed Consulting Physician.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, is 3s. 6d., which should be forwarded in stamps with the communication.

MARRIAGE.

BROWN, David Dyce, M.A., M.D., Aberdeen, to Eliza, eldest daughter of Sir William Coote SETON of Pitmedden, Bart., at Pitmedden, Udry, on January 23rd, by the Rev. David Brown, D.D., Professor of Theology, Aberdeen, father of the bridegroom. No cards.

DEATHS.

BISHOP, William Henry, Esq., Surgeon, at North Malvern, aged 60, on January 21.
BODKIN, Thomas, Esq., Surgeon, at Park Villas, Selhurst Road, South Norwood, aged 62, on January 23rd.

HALL,—On January 22, at Surrey House, Sheffield, Susan, wife of John Charles Hall, F.R.C.P. Ed.

LYNCH, Daniel, Esq., Surgeon, at Higher Broughton, Manchester, aged 68, on January 15.

NUTTALL, Francis, Esq., Surgeon to the Bury Dispensary, at Bury, Lancashire, on January 17.

***RISDON**, William, Esq., Surgeon, at Dolton, North Devon, aged 61, on January 17.

MR. JOSEPH WELSH, of Clun, Salop, was elected a Fellow of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, on the 16th ultimo.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Operative Surgery. By C. F. Maunder. Second Edition. London: 1873.
Fistula, Hemorrhoids, Painful Ulcer, Stricture, Prolapsus, and other Diseases of the Rectum. By W. Allingham. Second Edition. London: 1873.
The Eighth Annual Report of the Sanitary Commissioners with the Government of India for 1871. Calcutta: 1872.
Tweedie's Temperance Year-Book for 1873. London: 1873.
Punishments in Education. By Wm. Fredk. Collier. London: 1872.
The Pathology and Treatment of Small pox. By Robert H. Bakewell, M.D. London: 1872.
Researches on the Action and Sounds of the Heart. By G. Paton, M.D. London: 1873.
Epidemiology; or the Remote Cause of Epidemic Diseases. Part 1. By John Parkin, M.D. London: 1873.
Lectures on the Philosophy of Law. By James Hutchinson Stirling, F.R.C.S. London: 1873.
A Digest of the Statutes relating to the Public Health. By George F. Chambers, F.R.A.S. London: 1872.
A Treatise on Gout, Rheumatism, and Rheumatic Gout. By Austin Meldon. London: 1872.
A Treatise on Diseases of the Skin. By Austin Meldon. London: 1872.
Catechism of Zoology. By Rev. J. F. Blake, M.A., F.G.S. London: 1873.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.

TUESDAY Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—West London, 3 P.M.—National Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.

WEDNESDAY .. St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Mary's, 1.30 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, 2.30 P.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 3 P.M.—King's College, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.

THURSDAY ... St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.

FRIDAY Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Royal South London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.

SATURDAY ... 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, 2 P.M.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.—Hospital for Women, 0.30 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 0.30 A.M.—Royal Free, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.—Medical Society of London, 8 P.M. Mr. Henry Lee, Lettsomian Lectures on Urethral Discharges. No. III: Different, non-Syphilitic, Discharges.

TUESDAY.—Pathological Society of London, 8 P.M. Dr. John Murray: Extensive Hairy Moles—a living subject. Mr. Lawson: Drawings of a Hairy Mole which covered the whole of the Back. Dr. Moxon: Simple Stricture of Hepatic Ducts associated with Vitiligoidea. Dr. Moxon: Cancer of the Ileum, causing Dilatation. Dr. Theodore Williams: Aneurism of the Arch of the Aorta partly cured. Mr. Butlin: Aneurism of Subclavian Artery, showing the Process of Natural Cure. Dr. Vandyke Carter: Urinary Calculi from India. Dr. Vandyke Carter: Drawings of Elephantiasis Arabum. Dr. Douglas Powell: Secondary Sarcoma of the Lung and Mediastinum. Mr. Coupland: Simple Ulcer of the Duodenum, causing Obliteration of the Gall-Bladder and Hepatic Duct.

WEDNESDAY.—Obstetrical Society of London, 8 P.M. President's Address: Professor Lazarewicz, "On a Case of Puerperal Convulsions"; Dr. Braxton Hicks, "On two Cases of Cephalotripsy"; Dr. Heywood Smith, "On the Injection of Perchloride of Iron in *Post Partum* Hemorrhage"; Dr. Bantock, "On the Pathology of certain so-called Unilocular Ovarian Cysts."—Royal Microscopical Society, 8 P.M. Anniversary.

THURSDAY.—Hunterian Society, 8 P.M. Dr. Westmacott, "Case of Skin-Disease produced by Coloured Gloves"; Mr. T. Carr Jackson, "Case of Excision of Hip-joint"; Mr. de Méric, "On Gonorrhœal Abscess."

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CORRESPONDENTS not answered, are requested to look to the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED

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

COMMUNICATIONS respecting editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor; those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the JOURNAL, etc., should be addressed to the General Manager, at the Office, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.

INQUIRER (Dublin).—We see no objection to the arrangement proposed.

DR. FUSSELL.—With great pleasure.

A COMPLAINANT, if unable to obtain redress otherwise, should apply to the county justices, who are the paymasters.

THE LATE EMPEROR NAPOLEON.

SIR,—I have read the description of the *post mortem* appearances in the case of the late Emperor, at Chislehurst. I do not quite agree with Sir William Gull, who appears to differ from the six medical gentlemen who were also present at the necropsy.

A patient received, two years ago, a blow in the region of the false ribs, on the right side. For about a week thereafter he passed a little blood in his urine. Eighteen months ago he complained of a constant weariness in the right lumbar region, increased by violent exertion or exposure to cold, and accompanied by a desire to micturate frequently, passing at times pale blood in the urine. About six months ago he was confined to bed for a week with intense pain, commencing in the right testicle, accompanied with fever, restlessness, and vomiting. He has had several attacks of pain which, however, somewhat suddenly subsided three weeks ago. In its stead, he now complains of urinary irritability, the pain being worst after micturition. The pain is referred to the orifice of the urethra. After rough exercise he passes blood. What would be the diagnosis in this case? and where did this case commence? I think the late Emperor's disease began in the kidney, and I quite agree with Dr. Horace Dobell, in his remarks at p. 79 of the JOURNAL of January 18th.

Redruth, January 20, 1873

HENRY HARRIS, M.D.

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

DR. KIDD.—It would surely occupy less of Dr. Charles Kidd's time to furnish the references to the deaths which he alleges to have occurred from ether, than to pen the voluminous and discursive manuscripts with which he has for some weeks past favoured us. When he sends his list, it shall be published.

ACTION OF THE CALABAR BEAN ON THE IRIS.
SIR,—Can any of your readers enlighten me as to the action of the Calabar bean as a myotic? Belladonna is, I suppose, generally considered to act by temporarily paralysing the circular fibres of the iris, though by some, I believe it is thought to act on the retina, dilatation of the pupil taking place as a secondary result. I am anxious to know whether the Calabar bean paralyses the radiating, or irritates the circular fibres of the iris, in either of which cases, I imagine, contraction of the pupil would be the result. I am, etc.,
Matlock, Somerset, January 1873. GEORGE GREENSLADE.

FRACTURE OF ILIUM FROM MUSCULAR ACTION.
SIR,—In answer to your correspondent, Mr. W. E. Hyde, in the JOURNAL of Nov. 2, I beg to inform him that two years ago I had a very similar case to the one he mentions; viz., fracture of the ilium from muscular action.

A young midshipman was running a race with a friend of his in the Crystal Palace grounds, and, being behind his friend, he "put on a spurt", and the severe muscular action detached a piece of the anterior superior spine of the ilium, about the size of a walnut. He did not fall at the time, but stopped as soon as he was able, got on his friend's back, and sought advice. He was about nineteen years of age, perfectly healthy, and of good muscular development. I strapped and bandaged the pelvis and sent him home. The case afterwards came under the notice of Mr. Le Gros Clark, who very courteously wrote to me on the subject, and confirmed my diagnosis. I am, etc., J. SIDNEY TURNER.

Woodside, Anerley Road, Upper Norwood, S.

GUARANA.
SIR,—As I observe that, in your issue of December 21st, a desire is expressed that those who have made use of guarana will state whether benefit has ensued, I beg to state that I have administered it to two patients, one a young man, the other an elderly lady, both of whom frequently suffer from migraine. The dose taken by the young man was ten grains; and the headache from which he was then suffering was removed in less than an hour, apparently by this means. The lady has on two occasions taken twelve grains of the powder, and on each occasion her headache, which is frequently most severe and accompanied by distressing retching, etc., has subsided very soon afterwards, and disappeared entirely, without any retching or vomiting having occurred, much before its usual time had elapsed. I am, etc., T. WEMYSS BOGG.

HOSPITALS AND GENERAL PRACTITIONERS.
SIR,—From the necessary curtailment in the report of our meeting at the London Tavern, you will perhaps allow me to correct one or two misapprehensions that may have arisen in consequence. Though I advocated the poor-law and the voluntary hospitals being administered from a common centre, I am not aware that I insisted on the Poor-Law Board being that centre; but rather such a board as the Charity Commissioners might appoint, with representatives from both centres, to insure their harmonious action. The indirect loss of patients, I attributed to the *délat* of hospital officers attracting to their private residences patients well able to pay general practitioners, but unable to afford the fancy fees of consultants. These patients, instead of being referred back to the medical men in their own neighbourhood, are often sent with the consultant's card into the hospital—a rather dog in the manger action, he not being willing to take the lower fee himself, does not allow others to enjoy it. The moribund children and old people constantly thrown on the hands of general practitioners, after being hospitalised to extremes, were referred to as bringing more than a fair share of discredit on the general practitioner in his own neighbourhood, by obliging him to account for numerous deaths, when with the treatment of the patient, and any possible emolument, he has had nothing to do. I am, etc., PERCY LESLIE, M.D.

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Liverpool Weekly Albion, Jan. 25th; The Manchester Guardian, Jan. 29th; The Aberdeen Daily Free Press, Jan. 24th; The Bath Express, Jan. 25th; The Birmingham Daily Post, Jan. 27th; The Glasgow Herald, Jan. 29th; The Aberdeen Daily Free Press, Jan. 28th; The Scotsman, Jan. 28th; The Exeter and Plymouth Gazette; The North Wales Chronicle; etc.

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

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