

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Committee of Council, held on Friday, the 30th of May last, at the Office of the Association, 37, Great Queen Street, London—Mr. G. Southam (President of the Council), in the Chair; Mr. Alfred Baker (President of the Association); Sir William Ferguson (President-elect); Dr. Falconer (Treasurer); Mr. Board; Dr. Chadwick; Dr. Chevallier; Mr. Cresswell; Mr. Fowler; Mr. Husband; Mr. Hodgson; Mr. Nicholson; Dr. Roberts; Dr. Shettle; Dr. Sibson; Dr. Stewart; Mr. Heckstall Smith; Dr. Steele; Dr. Underhill; Dr. E. Waters; and Mr. Wheelhouse.

The Report of the Subcommittee on the Constitution of the Council and Committee of Council, was read.

Resolved—That Readers of Addresses and Presidents of Sections shall be Life Members of the Council.

Resolved—That the elected members be increased from ten to twenty.

Resolved—That those five members who shall have attended the fewest meetings in the previous twelvemonths shall be ineligible for re-election.

Resolved—That the method of election, as suggested by the Subcommittee, be adopted as follows:—

MODE OF ELECTION.—The Committee of Council shall nominate twenty persons. A list of these, together with a list of the new Council, shall be sent to each member thereof at least three weeks before the annual meeting. Any two members of the Council shall also have the power to nominate one or more persons, on giving notice to the Secretary at least a fortnight before the annual meeting. The election shall take place at the first meeting of the new Council by voting-papers containing a list of all the nominated persons.

Resolved—That the President of the Council be requested to give notice of the changes in the laws which are required to carry out the decision of the Committee of Council.

Resolved—That the Accountants' Report, as ordered by the Finance and Journal Committee, be printed and circulated amongst the members of the Committee of Council.

NOTICES OF MOTION FOR ALTERATIONS OF LAWS.

1. The President of the Council will move the following alterations in the Laws.

Rule 7. To omit the word "and" in the second line, and insert after "treasurer" the words "the readers of addresses and presidents of sections for the current and past years after 1872".

Rule 8. To omit the word "fortnight", and insert instead the words "five weeks"; also in the same rule, to insert the word "twenty" instead of "ten".

Rule 13. To insert the following new rule before Rule 13. "The Committee of Council shall consist of—1. The President, President-elect, President of Council, Treasurer, the Vice-Presidents, and one Secretary from each Branch. 2. Twenty members chosen annually by the Council. Of these, the five who shall have attended the fewest meetings of the Committee of Council in the preceding twelve months shall be ineligible for re-election for one year. In case of equality of attendances, the ineligibility shall be decided by lot.

"*Mode of Election.*—The Committee of Council shall nominate twenty persons. A list of these, together with a list of the new Council, shall be sent to each member thereof at least three weeks before the annual meeting. Any two members of the Council shall also have the power to nominate one or more persons, on giving notice to the General Secretary at least ten days before the annual meeting. A list of the nominated persons shall be sent to each member of the Council before the annual meeting; and the election shall take place at the first meeting of the new Council by voting papers containing a list of all the nominated persons."

2. Mr. R. H. B. Nicholson, of Hull, gives notice that he will move, at the annual meeting in August next, that Law 23 be omitted; viz., "The Committee of Council shall annually prepare a statement of accounts up to the last day of each year, and a report upon the financial condition of the Association, which shall be published in the JOURNAL within the first three months of the year. The accounts shall be previously audited every year by two auditors, appointed at the preceding annual meeting, and not holding any other office in the general Association." And that the following new Law be substituted for it:—"The Committee of Council shall annually appoint a public accountant to audit the accounts up to the 31st day of December of each year, and

such account shall include a statement of assets and liabilities, and a report upon the financial condition of the Association, which shall be published in the JOURNAL within the first three months of the year."

EAST ANGLIAN AND CAMBRIDGE AND HUNTINGDON BRANCHES.

THE combined annual meeting of the above Branches will be held at the Town Hall, Great Yarmouth, on Friday, June 20th, at 2 P.M.; J. C. SMITH, Esq., President, in the Chair.

Dinner at the Royal Hotel, Great Yarmouth, at 5.30 P.M. Tickets, 12s. 6d. each.

Members wishing to read papers, or to join the dinner, are requested to communicate, as early as possible, with one of the Honorary Secretaries.

B. CHEVALLIER, M.D., Ipswich.

J. B. BRADBURY, M.D., Cambridge. } *Honorary Secretaries.*

J. B. PITT, M.D., Norwich.

May 19th, 1873.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held in the Museum, Warrington, on Tuesday, June 24th, at One o'clock; CHARLES WHITE, Esq., President-elect.

The dinner will be provided at the "Mess House", at Five precisely. Tickets 7s. 6d., exclusive of wine.

The following communications are promised:—Dr. Noble: Some Particulars of Treatment in a Case of Pneumothorax. Dr. Lyster: A Case of Intermenstrual Uterine Pain. Dr. Steele: Note on the Interuterine Injection of Perchloride of Iron in *Post Partum* Hæmorrhage.

Notice of communications should be sent to the undersigned at once.

A. B. STEELE, *Honorary Secretary.*

54, Rodney Street, Liverpool, May 1873.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Great Western Hotel, Birmingham, on Tuesday, June 24th, at 3 P.M.

An address will be delivered by the President, FURNEAUX JORDAN, Esq., F.R.C.S.

The annual dinner will be held at 5 P.M., for the convenience of country members.

Dinner tickets, including waiters and dessert, 7s. 6d. each.

Members intending to be present at the dinner, are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretaries on or before June 20th, in order that suitable arrangements may be made.

T. H. BARTLEET, F.R.C.S.

BALTHAZAR W. FOSTER, M.D. } *Honorary Secretaries.*

Birmingham, May 20th, 1873.

NORTHERN BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held in the Library of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Infirmary, on Thursday, July 3rd, at 2 P.M.; G. Y. HEATH, M.D., President, in the Chair.

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

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, June 4th, 1873.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH: SPECIAL MEETING.

ON Friday, May 23rd, a meeting of the medical practitioners of Blackburn and East Lancashire was held in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Blackburn, at which eighteen members were present. Mr. SKAIFE was voted to the chair. Dr. A. B. Steele, of Liverpool, Honorary Secretary of the Branch, was also present.

Mr. MARTLAND explained that the meeting had been called in consequence of a letter received from the Honorary Secretary of the Branch, suggesting that Blackburn would be a desirable place of meeting for the Branch in 1874. He (Mr. Martland) put himself in communication with the medical practitioners of Blackburn and East Lancashire by means of a circular, to which he had received an almost unanimous expression of cordial approval of the proposal to invite the Branch to meet in Blackburn next year. The whole of the profession of Blackburn, with two exceptions, had agreed to become members of the Association and the Branch. He had received letters from several gentlemen of the town and district, who were unable to attend this meeting, but who cordially approved of its object.

Dr. STEELE expressed his great satisfaction with the hearty and en-

thusiastic response which the profession of Blackburn and East Lancashire had made to his appeal. Having observed that amongst the large number of practitioners in this district, but very few indeed were members of either the Association or the Branch, he was induced to write to his friend, Mr. Martland, to suggest this movement; and it appeared, just as he had anticipated, that the medical men of East Lancashire were quite ready and anxious to support the Association. Not a few old members had in past times left the Association with a grievance; and he thought the Branch and the Parent Association must share the blame of having caused this disaffection from a want of sound business management in reference to the supply of the JOURNAL, collection of subscriptions, and other matters. He thought, however, that the Parent Association were mainly responsible, for it was their duty, if the Branches got into disorder, to put them right. However, this was now a matter of the past, and he might assure them that these old grievances, both here and in other parts of the Branch (for he had heard of them elsewhere as well as in Blackburn), would not occur again, a better system of management having been established. He hoped, and, indeed, confidently anticipated, a large accession of new members from this district, and he trusted that as many as possible would attend the annual meeting of the Branch in Warrington, and that of the Parent Association in London in the month of August. Dr. Steele then gave a brief sketch of the history and progress of the Branch, and explained its objects. He said that the Council were most anxious to extend the influence of the Branch throughout the entire counties of Lancashire and Cheshire, and by no means to encourage the limitation of its operations to the two large towns of Manchester and Liverpool. This object was to be effected by meeting successively in every large town in the two counties, and thus securing the sympathy and support of the remotest districts of the Branch. He was confident the invitation sent from Blackburn would be cordially accepted by the Branch.

It was then proposed and carried unanimously that the Branch be invited to hold the annual meeting of 1874 in Blackburn, a deputation was appointed to attend the meeting at Warrington for the purpose of presenting the invitation. Mr. John Skaife was nominated as President elect, and Dr. Coultate, of Burnley, as Vice-President elect for the year 1874.

Votes of thanks were accorded to Dr. Steele, for his attendance; to the Mayor and Town Council of Blackburn, for the use of the room for the meeting; and to the Chairman, John Skaife, Esq., for presiding.

*** We hear that in connection with this movement upwards of five-and-twenty new members have already been added to the Association, and it is expected that many more will eventually join our ranks.

CAMBRIDGE AND HUNTINGDON BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch was held at the Town Hall, Royston, on Friday, May 23rd, under the presidency of D. B. BALDING, Esq. There were twenty members present, and several visitors, including Dr. Stewart and Dr. Henry, the Honorary Secretaries of the Metropolitan Counties Branch.

THE PRESIDENT gave a short but very interesting introductory address.

New Members.—The following new members were elected:—W. Thomson, M.D., Peterborough (of the Branch only); H. F. Banham, Esq., M.A., Cambridge; C. Mayo, Esq., Mildenhall; Hill Smith, Esq., Stevenage; H. R. Archer, M.B., Royston; Eustace J. Carver, Esq., Melbourne.

Next Place of Meeting.—Dr. MEAD proposed, and Mr. FOSTER seconded, the following resolution: "That the next annual meeting be held at Cambridge, in conjunction with the East Anglian and South Midland Branches, provided those Branches approve of such conjoined meeting."

On the proposition of Mr. PYNE, seconded by Dr. PINCHARD, Dr. Humphry was elected President of the proposed Cambridge meeting.

Representatives in the General Council.—The following gentlemen were elected: D. B. Balding, Esq.; W. R. Grove, M.D.; and G. M. Humphry, M.D., F.R.S.

The British Medical Journal.—It was proposed by Mr. FOSTER, seconded by Dr. GROVE, and carried unanimously—"That this meeting expresses its satisfaction with the manner in which the JOURNAL is conducted."

Papers.—The following papers were read.

1. By J. T. Beck, Esq.: Notes of a Case of Poisoning by Ammonia.
2. By J. T. Beck, Esq.: On the Relief of Vomiting in Pregnancy. This paper elicited considerable discussion, in which Dr. Grove, Dr.

Mead, Mr. Hemming, Mr. Hill Smith, Mr. Carver, Dr. Latham, and Dr. Bradbury, took part.

3. By H. R. Archer, M.B.: The Type of Disease.

4. By G. M. Humphry, M.D., F.R.S.: On the Treatment of Ulcers of the Leg. This paper also provoked much discussion, in which Dr. Latham, Mr. Hemming, Dr. Grove, and others, took part.

5. By J. B. Bradbury, M.D.: Notes of a Case of Extensive Pleuritic Effusion, in which a Portion of the Fluid (sanguinolent) was withdrawn by Dieulafoy's Aspirator. Dr. Humphry, Dr. Latham, and Mr. Carver, took part in the discussion.

6. Mr. Edmund Carver exhibited a case of Traumatic Aneurism of the Carotid Artery cured by Pressure; and the President a case of Multiple Fatty Tumour of the Thigh, and a case of Exostosis.

The Dinner took place at the Bull Hotel; the President in the Chair, and Dr. Bradbury acting as Vice-Chairman. Among the visitors were—Fordham, Esq., Chairman of the Quarter Sessions, who returned thanks for the "Lord Lieutenat and Magistrates of the County"; Rev. — Malaher, who replied to the toast of the "Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese"; and Dr. Stewart, whose name was coupled with the toast of the "British Medical Association".

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH: MICROSCOPICAL SECTION.

A MEETING of the Section took place in Queen's College, Birmingham, on May 20th; Dr. WADE in the Chair.

Tumour of Dura Mater.—Dr. RUSSELL read a paper on cerebral tumours, illustrating his subject by mounted specimens carefully prepared by Dr. Rickards and Mr. Priestley Smith. A specimen was shown of a sarcomatous tumour growing from the dura mater. Dr. Russell remarked on intracranial tumours in general, referring especially to the collection of cases of foreign formation within the cranium made by Dr. Ogle in the *Medico-Chirurgical Review* for 1864-5; and, in this connexion, referred especially to the distinction lately established between the different forms of malignant growth. The tumour weighed six ounces and a half. It sprang from the temporal dura mater, and was composed of cells having all the characters of the round-celled sarcoma; but, in addition, its tissue exhibited an abundance of fibrous bands, giving much the aspect of the loculi of carcinoma. These bands were evidently outgrowths from the dura mater.

Cirrhosis of Liver.—Dr. RICKARDS contributed some notes explanatory of microscopical sections of liver affected with cirrhosis in various degrees of severity. The morbid change was made very evident by the sections having been stained by carmine.

Stricture-Tissue from Rectum.—Mr. LAWSON TAIT showed two preparations of non-malignant stricture of the rectum—an affection of extreme frequency in women. Hitherto it had been regarded, in the majority of cases, as of syphilitic origin; but in none of his cases had Mr. Tait been able to trace a history of syphilis. In one case, the tissue of the stricture was seen, on microscopical section, to be merely a hypertrophy of the submucous coat of the gut. In a second, the condition was quite different, being due to a proliferation of the epithelial layer; the elements being normal epithelial cells in extraordinary numbers and in thick layers, without any evidence of fibrous stroma.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT MEETING.

THE May meeting of this district was held at the County Asylum, Hayward's Heath, on Friday, May 16th; Dr. S. W. D. WILLIAMS in the Chair.

On this occasion, after an elegant luncheon provided by the worthy chairman, the time of the meeting, which was a very full one, was most profitably occupied in a thorough inspection of the building, the whole of which was visited under the guidance of the able and courteous superintendent, Dr. Williams, who, in the course of the tour of the wards, made some most interesting clinical remarks on various well marked cases of general paralysis which presented themselves; deferring the reading of his promised paper on that disease amongst the insane until the next meeting of the district. An ample and most interesting account of this County Asylum, as drawn up by the Branch Secretary, Mr. G. F. Hodgson, appeared in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for October 1st, 1870.

Dinner.—Twenty-three members and friends subsequently dined at the Station Hotel; Dr. S. W. D. Williams presiding.

New Member.—B. D. Smithers, Esq., of Hayward's Heath, was nominated as a member of the Association and of the Branch.

The Next Meeting was appointed to be held in September at Eastbourne; Robert Colgate, Esq., to be invited to take the chair.

the usual outlay in a regiment—all sacrificed, not to add the loss of the sum usually obtained by an exchange from cavalry to the staff.

These are but two instances out of many within my own knowledge of the immediate and direct hardship inflicted by the new Warrant on regimental officers. *Ex duobus disce omnes.* But the conditions imposed upon the department generally are so obnoxious, inconsiderate, and ill-advised, that we look to the press to exert its powerful influence in obtaining such a modification of the new Warrant as will at least restore to medical officers the privileges conferred upon them by the Royal Warrant of 1858, of which they have now been so surreptitiously and dishonourably deprived. And, in the event of the removal of the late assistant-surgeons from regiments being adhered to, a suitable pecuniary compensation should be granted to them for their forfeited band and mess donations, compulsory change of uniform, and the sums which they paid or could have received on exchanging to the staff.

I am, etc.,

SENEX JUNIOR.

April 23rd, 1873.

OBITUARY.

ALEXANDER J. M'GREGOR, L.R.C.P. & S. Ed.

MR. M'GREGOR was born in Rannoch, Perthshire, in 1839. He was gazetted ensign in the Royal East Middlesex Militia, in which his father was lieutenant, at the early age of sixteen; and three years afterwards was promoted to the rank of lieutenant. He continued with the regiment until the end of the Crimean war. He afterwards studied medicine in Edinburgh, and received the double qualification of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of that city in 1863. He then became assistant, and soon afterwards partner, to Dr. Wilkinson of Tranent, whom he ultimately succeeded. He very soon gained an extensive practice; but, finding his health was not sufficiently robust for country practice, he obtained the appointment of Medical Superintendent to the Barony Workhouse and Lunatic Asylum at Glasgow. About Christmas, he had several attacks of pulmonary hæmoptysis, and died of consumption on March 19th, at the early age of thirty-four. Mr. M'Gregor has left a widow and four children. It is pleasing to mention that the managers of the Barony Parochial Board have given his widow a gift of £50, as an acknowledgment of her late husband's services.

MEDICAL NEWS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentleman passed his examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received a certificate to practise, on Thursday, May 22nd, 1873.

Johnson, Cottingham Greaves, Clapham

The following gentleman passed his examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received a certificate to practise, on Thursday, May 29th, 1873.

Webb, William Edward, Wimborne Minster

As Assistants in compounding and dispensing medicines.

Brouard, Edward James, Guernsey

Herd, Henry Wilson, Sedburgh

Higginson, Alfred, Bolton

Lomas, Charles Benjamin, Leicester

Matcham, Edward, Lowestoft

Wheatley, Arthur William, Stratford-on-Avon

Wrigglesworth, George, Hull

Moorhouse, William, Wakefield

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

ABERGAVENNY UNION—Medical Officer for the Blaenavon District: £30 per annum.

BECKETT INFIRMARY, Barnsley—House-Surgeon.

BILERICAY UNION—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Mountnessing District: £30 per annum, and fees.

BLOOMSBURY DISPENSARY, Great Russell Street—Resident Medical Officer.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE—Public Analyst. Applications to Acton Tindal, Esq., Aylesbury.

BUCKS COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM—Assistant Medical Officer: £80 first year, £100 per annum afterwards, board, and furnished apartments. Applications to Acton Tindal, Esq., Aylesbury.

CAISTOR RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT—Medical Officer of Health: £400 per annum.

COUNTY DOWN INFIRMARY—Resident Registrar and Assistant-Surgeon: 50 guineas per annum, board, apartments, and washing.

COUNTY OF CARMARTHEN INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon: £100 per annum, lodging, coal, and candles.

GLENEG, Parish of—Medical Officer: £90 per annum, and residence. Applications to Rev. John Macrae.

GREAT YARMOUTH HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon: £100 per annum, furnished apartments, coal, gas, and attendance.

GUILDFORD UNION, Surrey—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Horsley District: £45 per annum, and fees.

H.M.'s INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE—Eleven Surgeons.

HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE THROAT, Golden Square—Dispenser: £100 per annum, rooms, coal, gas, and attendance.

HUDDERSFIELD UNION—Medical Officers and Public Vaccinators for the Golcar and Paddock Districts: £20 and £12 per annum and fees, respectively.

HUNSLLET UNION, Yorkshire—Medical Officer for the Workhouse: £40 p. ann.

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

LITTLE LEVER URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT—Medical Officer of Health: £15 per annum.

NEWBURY UNION, Berks—Medical Officer for District No. 1: £170 per ann.

RAINFORD URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT—Medical Officer of Health: £10 per annum.

ROSS RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT—Medical Officer of Health: £60 p. ann.

ROYAL UNITED HOSPITAL, Bath—House-Surgeon: £60 per annum, board, and residence.

ST. MARYLEBONE—District Medical Officer: £120 per annum.

SHEFFIELD GENERAL INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon: £140 per annum, board, lodging, and washing.

SLIGO UNION—Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Registrar of Births, etc., for the Riverstown Dispensary District: £100 per annum, and fees. Applications to Henry McLoughry, Esq., Riverstown.

STOCKTON UNION—Medical Officer for the Norton District: £50 per annum, and fees.

TORRINGTON UNION, Devon—Medical Officers for the Great Torrington and Winkleigh Districts: £70:11 and £17:18 per annum, and fees, respectively; also, a Public Vaccinator for the Winkleigh District.

TRAINING HOSPITAL, Tottenham—Physician.

VICTORIA HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Queen's Road, Chelsea—Assistant-Physician.

WEST BROMWICH DISTRICT HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon.

WILTON RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT—Medical Officer of Health: £120 per annum.

WORCESTER INFIRMARY—Resident Surgeon, Dispenser and Secretary: £150 per annum, furnished apartments, coal, gas, and attendance.

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.

DEATHS.

MOORE, Edward, Esq., Surgeon, of Halesowen, aged 70, on May 6th.

VISE, E. B., Esq., Surgeon, of Holbeach, aged 84, on May 17th.

MR. JOHN SHANNON has been presented with a handsome gold watch, as an acknowledgment of the energy displayed by him during the prevalence of small-pox last year. It bears the following inscription: "Presented to Mr. John Shannon, Whitehaven, by a few friends, as a mark of respect. May 1873."

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Liverpool Weekly Albion, May 31st; The Manchester Guardian, June 4th; The Aberdeen Daily Free Press, May 31st; The Bath Express, May 31st; The Birmingham Daily Post, June 4th; The Melbourne Argus; The Roscommon Journal; The Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer; The Herts and Essex Observer; The Birmingham Daily Mail; The Sussex Daily News; The Kendal Mercury; The Hull Packet; The City Press; etc.

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

Dr. G. M. Humphry, Cambridge; Mr. Erichsen, London; Dr. D. Embleton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Mr. S. M. Bradley, Manchester; Mr. Richard Davy, London; Dr. Dyce Duckworth, London; Mr. T. H. Bartlett, Birmingham; The Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society; Mr. J. F. Streatfeild, London; Mr. J. Dewar, Edinburgh; Dr. T. L. Brunton, London; Dr. George Johnson, London; Dr. C. Handfield Jones, London; Dr. Phillips, London; Our Dublin Correspondent; Dr. Cunningham, Campbelltown; Dr. Sawyer, Birmingham; Dr. Ballard, London; Mr. Dalby, London; Dr. A. B. Steele, Liverpool; Our Paris Correspondent; Mr. Joseph Bell, Edinburgh; Mr. Hackney, Dallington; Mr. Maunder, London; Mr. Walford, Reading; Mr. A. B. Vise, Holbeach; The Registrar-General of England; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Mr. Wanklyn, London; The Registrar of the Medical Society of London; Mr. J. W. Langmore, London; The Secretary of the Clinical Society; Dr. Falconer, Bath; Dr. Roberts, Manchester; Mr. Balmanno Squire, London; Dr. G. H. Philipson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Mr. G. Southam, Manchester; Dr. Reeves, Carlisle; Mr. G. Gaskoin, London; The Secretary of the Social Science Association; Dr. Hollis, London; Messrs. Mayer and Meltzer, London; Dr. Hinds, Birmingham; Dr. Waters, Chester; Dr. Waters, Liverpool; Dr. Clifford Allbutt, Leeds; Mr. T. Eytton Jones, Wrexham; The Secretary of the Pathological Society; Mr. H. J. Rope, Shrewsbury; Dr. Syson, Hartford; Mr. Roberts, Golcar; Mr. Joseph Smith, St. Heliers; Mr. Nelson Dobson, Bristol; Dr. Jelly, Madrid; Mr. J. Birchenall, Macclesfield; Mr. R. E. Jones, Long Melford; Dr. Hammond, New York; Mr. Clegg, Epping; Dr. Walker, Hertford; Dr. Donkin, London; Mr. Royes Bell, London; Dr. Silver, London; Dr. Rumsey, Cheltenham; Dr. Corfield, London; etc.

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.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Free, 2 P.M.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.—Hospital for Women, 9.30 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 9.30 A.M.—Royal Free, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.—Social Science Association (Adam Street, Adelphi), 8 P.M. Mr. F. W. Lowndes, "On Infanticide."

EXPECTED OPERATIONS AT THE HOSPITALS.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL, Saturday, June 7th, 2 P.M. Removal of Scapula for Tumour of that Bone, by Mr. Henry Smith.

WEDNESDAY.—Epidemiological Society, 8 P.M. Dr. Macpherson, "Notes on the Seasonal Prevalence of some Epidemic Diseases in the Tropics."

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.

DR. SYSON'S letter has been handed to the General Secretary, Mr Fowke, to whom all communications respecting change of address, non-receipt of JOURNALS, and all other business matters, should be addressed.

SPECIALISM IN MEDICINE.

SIR,—My attention has been drawn, by a friend who at once recognised the circumstances, to a passage in the first Lumen Lecture, in which the lecturer refers to a lady of "typical modern intelligence," by whom he had been consulted, as an instance of the extent to which special discrimination in medicine is carried by the public. I express no opinion as to the felicity of the illustration; nor do I desire to question its fitness on the occasion of an address delivered within the walls of the College of Physicians, where it was likely to aggravate no one. The pages of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, however, are read with interest by the public at large; and, putting aside the question how far the general dissemination of professional matters in—shall I say?—a spirit of caricature may be deemed consistent with good taste on our part, I cannot but think that the lecturer, on fuller consideration, would have hesitated before committing to the press the case of his patient in detail so readily susceptible of identification.

I say this in no unfriendly spirit to the lecturer, who, I feel assured, would be among the last to be accused of any intentional discourtesy, but simply in justice to the lady herself. That her high estimation of the profession is not limited to special eminence, however worthy of respect, her munificent contributions to medical charity of the most comprehensive character, may well attest. And for the rest, I will venture to quote the assurance which, in virtue of my own small official capacity with relation to the charity alluded to, is now before me, that "the cause of medical distress should not want support so long as she had means to give": believing, as I do, that a "modern typical intelligence" working by such fruits as these, will vindicate its own claims to appreciation.

April 1873.

I am, etc.,

C. S. W.

METHYLENE ETHER AS AN ANÆSTHETIC.

SIR,—I was present yesterday at an operation with Mr. Lawson Tait, in which the new anæsthetic, methylene ether, was used. It was administered in the manner described by him in last week's JOURNAL. It acted perfectly, and only three and a half drachms were required to render the patient completely unconscious, and this in the short space of six minutes. During its administration, there was no alteration in the colour of the face or lips, and there was not the slightest struggling or excitement. The patient speedily recovered, and was not sick in the slightest degree. At no operation have I seen an anæsthetic act so quickly and so perfectly.

I am, etc.,

JOHN CASKIE, M.B.

Stourbridge, April 3rd, 1873.

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.

"NOW READY."—Messrs. Churchill and Sons do not appear to be in fault; but no doubt they would be willing to represent to the author of the book that the advertisement in question is misleading. We agree that to advertise "now ready" a book published in 1868, is misleading.

PHYSIOLOGICAL RESEARCH ON THE LOWER ANIMALS.

It is evident that, unless the doings within the walls of the Edinburgh University Physiological Laboratory are kept publicly quiet, it is very probable that the whole question of experiments on living animals will be once more brought before the public in the usual sensational style, to the injury of harmless physiological research. We should not be surprised to find that the following foolish advertisement from the *Scottsman* may yet cause some stir. It has already produced some mental anxiety amongst the lower animals, if may trust the complaint of a dog named "Bob," in the correspondence column of that paper: "Dogs and cats (few useless) wanted. Any kind of breed will suit. Apply at the Physiological Laboratory, University, between 10 and 11 A.M." The officials of the Laboratory appear to have satisfied Mr. Brown, the Secretary of the Scottish Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in the meantime, but the public are not all so sensible as that gentleman.

MEDICAL INTERESTS IN PARLIAMENT.

SIR,—*A propos* of your correspondent's letter on the subject of death certificates, I venture to suggest the great desirability of some legislation by which medical men may be empowered in all cases to demand a *post mortem* examination should they deem this desirable, before granting the certificate of death. It is hardly necessary for me to point out the vast influence of such a measure in promoting medical science, and I think that, in the present imperfect state of that science, the above ought to claim precedence over the pecuniary question.

I am, etc., S.

USE FOR OLD STOCKINGS.

MR. H. J. ROPE, of the Salop Infirmary, writes to us:—The new use for old stockings, alluded to in your impression of May 17th, had previously been adopted at the Salop Infirmary, and it was believed the plan was novel; but I have since been told that it was in vogue years ago at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. It is found very efficient and simple applied at once in the treatment of fracture of either bone of the leg, without displacement, or later on in the treatment of cases where displacement has occurred, and has been rectified by the use of suitable appliances. One woollen stocking is capable of absorbing sufficient of a mixture of gum and chalk to be firm enough for any purpose.

SELF-DECEPTION AS TO PREGNANCY—IGNORANCE OF A MIDWIFE.

THERE came under my notice about three weeks ago, a case, which although it is not altogether unique, yet presents some points worthy of being noted in these days when the education of midwives is engaging the attention of the profession.

Mrs. —, aged about 36, has been married for seven years and never has had any children. About six or seven months ago she came to me, stating that her abdomen was enlarging, and that she thought she was pregnant. The only thing that made her question the existence of her pregnancy was the fact that she was regularly "unwell." I could find no evidences to lead me to give her hope of being pregnant; but I stated at the same time that it was not unknown for pregnant women to menstruate regularly. I met her subsequently in the street. She was certain of being with child, as her abdomen was enlarging, and the movements of the child were distinctly felt. Her appearance did not belie her statement. As the full period of gestation (as she thought) had arrived, a midwife of some repute and considerable experience was sent for. She sat up with Mrs. — the whole night, pressing her back when the pains came on, and otherwise ministering to her demands. Progress not being so rapid as the "quasi" mother wished, I was sent for about 11 A.M. the next day. Everything was in readiness for the arrival of the "young stranger." The midwife said that Mrs. — was getting on as well as could be expected. I waited until a pain came on, and to my astonishment found the cervix uteri as large as in a virgin. The abdomen was considerably enlarged, but there were no evidences of a gravid uterus or of any abnormal tumour. I stated my opinion that she was menstruating, and that she was not pregnant; but the "mother" asserted that she felt the movements of the child immediately before I entered the room, and the midwife was certain that the baby would soon be born. The sequel, however, is that in the short space of three weeks, the enlargement of the abdomen has entirely subsided, the phantom baby is undelivered, and Mrs. — and her attendant are wiser women.

Campbeltown, May 26th, 1873.

J. CUNNINGHAM, M.B.

WE are requested by Mr. Balmano Squire to state that he is about to give a course of demonstrations of skin-diseases at the British Hospital for Diseases of the Skin.

REGISTRATION OF DEATHS.

SIR,—It is my desire to call the attention of the medical profession in England and Wales to a clause in the Bill to amend the Acts relating to the Registration of Births and Deaths, which is now before the House of Lords, and which affects the interests of medical men very seriously. It enacts that the medical attendant shall sign and give a certificate stating *truly* the cause of death to the informant of the registrar. If there were no other reason, it is sufficient cause of objection to see an enactment relating to the medical profession brought into a Registration Act, instead of being brought fairly and openly before us in a Medical Amendment Act; but to make it *compulsory* upon us to state *truly* the cause of death for state purposes, without giving us any acknowledgment whatever, and then to sell our information to the friends and public, in a certificate for a shilling, is most unjust. The duty of giving our information to the registrar is already sufficiently responsible, and exposing medical men to criminal prosecution for slight errors—as in the case of Mr. Croft—without making it more stringent still. To have to give the cause *truly*, would frequently involve a *post mortem* examination, and always be a source of anxious consideration, and inflicting a great amount of extra labour upon hospital officials and such-like officers, in verifying the statements of relatives.

It surely is quite sufficient for all purposes that we continue to give our information as at present, to the best of our knowledge and belief, without being exposed to persecution for a wrong or incomplete diagnosis, as will occasionally happen, even with the utmost care, in returns furnished by us without fee or reward.

I am, etc.,

HENRY MAY, L.R.C.P. Lond.

Fairfield House, Lichfield Road, Aston, April 24th, 1873.