

always, under such circumstances, give an opinion in favour of amputation, from an impression that the experience I have already had of the possibility of complete recovery, will be still further strengthened and confirmed.

The subject is extremely interesting and practical, and worthy, I think, of being placed before your readers as a theme for discussion in the JOURNAL.

Association Intelligence.

MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL.

THE Committee of Council will meet at the Queen's Hotel, Birmingham, on Tuesday, the 1st of April, at One o'clock.

Agenda.—Financial Report for 1861; Poor-Law Medical Legislation; Annual Meeting in London; and other business.

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

Worcester, March 19th, 1862.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT MEDICAL MEETINGS.

THE third meeting was held at the Saracen's Head, Ashford, on March 13th; H. WHITEFIELD, Esq., in the chair. Eighteen members were present, and one visitor. Mr. Bottomley, the President of the Branch, sent a letter saying that he much regretted his professional engagements prevented him from joining the meeting. Several other members were unable to attend from the same cause.

Papers. 1. Mr. RIGDEN read a paper, On the Advantages of Early Turning in Cases of Labour, when the Head presents in an Unusual Way. He first adverted to a series of papers published by Mr. Figg in the *Medical Times and Gazette* of 1860, advocating turning in all cases of labour, and giving statistics of practice, proving that labours were thereby expedited, and unattended by any bad consequences either to the mother or to the child. Mr. Rigden thought such meddlesome practice not likely to be followed by the profession generally. He had had, however, a number of face and frontal presentations lately, in which he had adopted early turning with advantage. As soon as the presenting part, he said, has been detected, and it is evident, from its position above the brim of the pelvis, that there will be great difficulty in propelling it into and through the passages; in such cases, I have lately effected delivery by version. Although this procedure is not, I believe, generally adopted, and it certainly is not taught in our more modern books on midwifery, yet it is by no means new. Smellie, Granville, Boivin, Lachapelle, and several other distinguished authorities, have occasionally followed this practice. It is true that occasionally the head, while above the brim of the pelvis, may be controlled by the hand of the operator, and placed in a more favourable position; and I have in a few cases been able to make the change; but much more frequently I have failed, and thus, probably, time has been lost. The liquor amnii has escaped; and version, which may have been at first an easy operation, has become a very difficult one, and dangerous to the patients. After referring to Dr. Churchill's statistics on face and forehead presentations, Mr. Rigden went on to state the result of his own practice. In the ten cases in which I have thought it proper to adopt this procedure, no ill effects have resulted to the mother. Delivery has been accomplished quickly, and with comparatively little suffering. Eight children

were born alive; one had apparently died during or shortly before the commencement of labour: and one was in a state of decomposition. In thirteen other cases of face and forehead presentation, which were left to the unaided powers of nature, four children died, and two of the living ones were delivered by forceps. I have still very great confidence in the powers of nature in completing these cases; but, seeing that instrumental assistance is often ultimately required, and that the whole process, under favourable circumstances, is attended by prolonged anxiety and suffering, it seems advisable to have recourse to version early, particularly when it may be done without danger to the mother or child.

In answer to Mr. GARRAWAY, the author of the paper said he would advise turning in all face-presentations, and that he had used chloroform in some of his cases. Mr. REID considered the operation of turning a serious one. Statistics showed that one case in three was fatal to the children. He thought cephalic version may be adopted in forehead presentations, and related a case which was thought to require forceps. On finding, however, an ample pelvis, he attempted cephalic version, and was astonished to find the head slip round into a vertex presentation. If the pelvis was large, he thought cephalic version may be as easily accomplished as turning. Mr. Rigden, in reply to Mr. WHITEFIELD, said one out of the number of his cases was a first child.

2. Mr. WHITEFIELD read a paper on the Hereditary Transmission of Mental and Physical Impressions. [This paper has been received for publication.]

3. Mr. SANKEY of Dover mentioned that he had continued the use of Belladonna in the very obstinate case of Epilepsy given at the last meeting, with the effect of lessening the fits, but only during the time of employing the medicine.

Nineteen members dined together after the meeting; Mr. Whitfield in the chair.

Reports of Societies.

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11TH, 1862.

B. G. BABINGTON, M.D., President, in the Chair.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE TACTILE SENSIBILITY OF THE HAND.
BY EDWARD BALLARD, M.D. LOND.

THE author, not being acquainted with any very extended researches into the tactile sensibility of the surface of the body, submitted this paper as the first of a series upon the subject. The method he employed for ascertaining the sensibility of the parts examined was that known as Weber's; but inasmuch as the results of this method vary according as the points of the compasses are laid in the direction of the long axis of a part or transversely to it, he employed the sum of the numbers, in English inches and decimals, obtained by an observation in each direction as representing the true sensibility of any part. He considered that the hand, being *par excellence* the organ of touch, and possessing on the whole the highest amount of sensibility, and giving thus readily a standard for comparison of subjective impressions made elsewhere, should be the organ first examined. The paper was based upon the results of observations made upon 142 points upon the surfaces and borders of the author's own hand and fingers—in all, therefore, of 284 separate observations. The author deduced in order the general sensibility of the hand and its surfaces and borders; and, separately, of the metacarpal portion, fingers and thumb. He compared these

Medical News.

APOTHECARIES' HALL. On March 20th, the following licentiates were admitted:—

Barnes, Edward Charles, Stradbrook, Suffolk
Brown, John, Oldbury, Worcestershire
Hicks, Henry, St. David's, Pembrokeshire
Hodgkinson, Edward Rodolphus, Calcutta
Kerby, William Holman, London Hospital
Leigh, George Frederick, Hyde, Manchester

APPOINTMENTS.

CARTWRIGHT, John E., Esq., elected Surgeon to the Seamen's Infirmary, Ramsgate.
LOE, James S., Esq., appointed Surgeon to the House of Recovery, Leeds.

ROYAL ARMY. The following appointments have been made:—

CARR, Staff-Surgeon-Major G., retiring on half-pay, to have the honorary rank of Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals.
GIRAUD, Assistant-Surgeon C. H., 31st Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, *vice* A. Hoyle.
BOYLE, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon A., to be Assistant-Surgeon 44th Foot, *vice* Baker.
SCOTT, Deputy Inspector-General C. M.D., C.B., to have the honorary rank of Inspector-General of Hospitals.

ROYAL NAVY. The following appointments have been made:—

SCOTT, Alexander, Esq., Acting Assistant-Surg., to the *Mullet*.
WILSON, Henry, Esq., Assistant-Surg. (additional), to the *Victory*.

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

BRANFELD, H. E., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 2nd West Riding Engineer Volunteers.
GOODWIN, R. D., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 8th Derbyshire R.V.
SMITH, S., Esq., to be Surg. 2nd West Riding Engineer Volunteers.
TERRY, J. N., Esq., to be Surgeon 2nd West Riding A.V.
WILLIAMS, J., Esq., to be Assistant-Surg. 1st Brecknockshire R.V.

To be Honorary Assistant-Surgeon:—

ELLIS, J., Esq., 2nd West Riding A.V.

DEATHS.

BEAVAN, Thos. P., L.R.C.P. Ed., at Rochester, aged 54, on March 17.
BUTLER. On March 21st, at Winchester, Sarah Catherine, wife of *Frederick J. Butler, Esq.

CAPPUR. On March 19th, Margaret, widow of the late Ralph T. Cappur, Esq., Surgeon, of Brook Street.

CRADDOCK. On March 22nd, at Chesham, aged 15, Mary Bessie, eldest daughter of William Craddock, M.D., Bengal Army.

CULLEN, Robert F., M.D., Surgeon Royal Navy, at Loch Lomond House, N.B., aged 42, on March 17.

EVERETT, George, M.D., at Portsmouth, near Southampton, aged 59, on March 6.

GRANT, William B. L., M.D., at Aberdeen, aged 30, on March 20.

HUMFREY. On March 19th, at Bristol, aged 77, Lucy, widow of the late R. Humfrey, Esq., formerly Surgeon 9th Light Dragoons.

RUSHER, William, Esq., Surgeon, at Oxford, aged 70, on March 24.

WALKER. On March 18th, at Marske, Yorkshire, aged 27, Jane, wife of William Walker, Esq., Surgeon.

WORTHINGTON, Richard J., Esq., Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, at sea, in his passage home from Sydney, aged 30, on February 2.

NORTH LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY. The following are the officers for the session 1862-3. *President*: Edward Cousins, Esq. *Vice-Presidents*: Dr. Cholmeley; Dr. Copland, F.R.S.; Dr. Hare; Dr. Croft. *Trustees*: Dr. Part; W. Clifton, Esq.; W. A. N. Cattlin, Esq. *Treasurer*: W. Adams, Esq. *Secretary*: Dr. Westley. *Councillors*: Dr. Reynolds; J. Hainworth, Esq.; T. C. Jackson, Esq.; J. S. Baly, Esq.; G. Tate, Esq.; R. Quain, Esq.; Dr. Hillier; Dr. Mageniss; C. F. J. Lord, Esq.; Dr. Collins.

CARBOLIC ACID. Dr. Crace Calvert calls this substance the most powerful preventative of putrefaction with which he is acquainted. By its aid, he succeeds in preserving gelatine solutions, and preparations of starch, flour, etc. It prevents the conversion of tannin into carbonic acid and sugar, and arrests lactic fermentation. Diluted with from two to seven parts of water, it is found

useful in putrid ulcers and sloughing wounds. The non-chemical readers may be reminded that carbolic acid is very similar to creosote, and obtained from coal-tar.

A NEW BAROMETER. M. Sauvageon, of Valence, has studied the different phenomena which are produced in a cup of coffee when the sugar is put into it, and the result of those observations transforms the *demi-tasse* into a barometer. "If, in sweetening your coffee," says M. Sauvageon, "you allow the sugar to dissolve without stirring the liquid, the globules of air contained in the sugar will rise to the surface of the liquid. If these globules form a frothy mass, remaining in the centre of the cup, it is an indication of duration of fine weather; if, on the contrary, the froth forms a ring round the sides of the cup, it is a sign of heavy rain; variable weather is implied by the froth remaining stationary, but not exactly in the centre."

A GOVERNMENTAL VIVARIUM. A small steamer, the *Favari*, constructed for the surveillance of the oyster beds of the Mediterranean, has just arrived at Toulon. This vessel contains a reservoir for receiving fish and molluscs, the reproduction of which, from the efforts of M. Coste, has given such brilliant results. That savant is now organising on the sea coast at Concarneau (Finisterre) an immense basin for facilitating the study of different species of fish, with an aquarium and a building for microscopic researches and dissections. The works were commenced at the expense of the Department of the Marine, but the Minister of Public Works has now lent his assistance by a grant of 15,000 *francs* towards the cost of their completion.

CHEMISTRY AT THE EXHIBITION. Three classes are devoted respectively to chemistry, food, and raw materials. The chemico-pharmaceutical section of the Exhibition can boast of a collection which, for variety and excellence, has never yet been equalled. The exhibitors include more than two hundred of the greatest manufacturers in the country. Hardly a name of eminence is missing in any branch of chemical manufacture, from magenta and borax down to matches and blacking. A complete series of drugs, systematically arranged by a committee of the most eminent members of the Pharmaceutical Society, assisted by Professor Redwood, has been prepared. Fine collections of cinchona and alkaloids are shown by Messrs. Howards and others; and a trophy is in course of formation, consisting of large crystals of copper, alum, etc., arranged artistically together so as to form splendid masses of colour. One single block of alum, which is said to weigh no less than seven tons, is coming from the Metropolitan Alum Works. Dr. Stenhouse, F.R.S., and Professor Brodie, each exhibit collections of rare chemical substances discovered by themselves.

SUICIDE OF A PHYSICIAN BY TAKING PRUSSIC ACID. An inquest was lately held at Wolverhampton, on the body of a physician, named John Norman, a young man who had been in that town about a year, and had gone there from the University of Edinburgh with high testimonials. He does not seem to have been successful in his efforts to establish a practice; and having to write frequently to his father in Carlisle for money appeared so much to affect him, that for the past two months he has appeared greatly distressed—wishing that he were in another world, and saying that to sit day after day at home with nothing to do was "enough to drive him mad." This depression induced him to give way to occasional intemperance. After being out all the previous night, he returned to his lodgings on Sunday evening, and on retiring to bed took some prussic acid that had before been lying on the table of his surgery. Within five minutes of his swallowing the fatal draught he was a corpse. A *post mortem* examination showed that the deceased had taken enough poison to kill six men. He

had nearly £8 in his possession, and left a letter addressed to his father in Carlisle, saying that he was unworthy of such a father, alleging that he was about to commit suicide from the cause mentioned, and desiring that there might not be a *post mortem* examination. The jury returned a verdict of "Suicide whilst under the influence of a fit of temporary insanity."

SALE OF DISEASED MEAT. In the City markets, in the course of the last fortnight, the officers had seized 4,763 lbs. of meat and 111 head of poultry and wild fowl as unfit for human food. The practice of sending diseased meat to the City markets was again on the increase. It was a common practice with farmers and cow-keepers at the present time to slaughter animals affected with hopeless disease, in order that their carcases might be saved for the shambles. There was hardly a cow-house in the metropolis which was not continually furnishing diseased animals to the butcher. Very recently these houses had been inspected by Mr. Gamgee, the Principal of the Veterinary College of Edinburgh; and he stated publicly in the last number of the *Edinburgh Veterinary Review*, and elsewhere, that the diseased cows of the London cow-houses were invariably sent to the City slaughter-houses to be killed for food. One of the cowkeepers of the City told him that in July last, out of an average stock of thirty cows, he sent upwards of a score to the butcher.

JUNIOR MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. The annual general meeting of this society was held at King's College, on March 11th; W. Fairlie Clarke, Esq., in the chair. The Report of the Council for the past year was read by Mr. F. W. Cooper (Charing Cross). It displayed a very prosperous condition of the society, and was unanimously received and adopted. Certain additions to the laws and bye-laws were submitted by the council for the consideration of the meeting; the majority were carried *nem. con.* It was also resolved—"That the expenses of the society, including those of all ordinary and general meetings, be defrayed by a contingent furnished by each Hospital Medical Society in union *pro rata*—the rate to be levied according to the number of new members admitted during the preceding year, and that refreshments be discontinued." The laws and bye-laws were ordered to be printed and circulated; and a vote of thanks to the president terminated the meeting.

THE EFFECTS OF DISEASED FOOD ON MAN. Dr. Letheby writes: "In 1860, a quantity of cow-beef was bought in Newgate Market by a sausage-maker at Kingsland, and made up into sausages in the usual way. The meat was not of first quality; for, as the sausage-maker observed, such meat never was. It was part of a cow that had been sent to the butcher from a London cow-house. Epizootic diseases were prevalent at that time in the cow-houses of London, and it was probable that the animal was affected with one of them. Of sixty-six persons who partook of the sausages made from it, sixty-four were attacked with symptoms of poisoning; and the severity of the symptoms was in direct proportion to the quantity eaten. In several cases, where one or two members of a family did not partake of the sausages, they alone escaped; and people far away from Kingsland, who had bought the sausages of a second dealer, suffered likewise. The effects were those of an animal poison; they were sickness, purging, giddiness, great prostration of the vital powers, intense irritation of the bowels, and in one case death. It was not an uncommon practice for butchers to dress for the market the bodies of animals that had not been slaughtered, but had died from accident or disease. The rules which he had laid down for the guidance of inspectors of the commission required them to seize the meat of animals which had not been slaughtered by the butcher, but had died from accident or disease; also of

animals which had been killed while in a state of acute disease, or which had wasted from lingering illness; and to seize it when it was unsound from putrefaction or decay. These were the wholesome rules which had been acted on from very early times; and they were most religiously observed in the present day by the Jews, who had brought them down from the remotest antiquity. They were the rules of almost every continental state, and strictly followed by the *Ædiles* of ancient Rome. Finally, they were indicated as well as sanctioned by the laws of the City, and had been more or less observed in every town of England in all time."

COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS (IRELAND) BILL. The following are the provisions of the bill to define the powers of the President and Fellows of the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland with respect to the election of its Fellows. The preamble recites that by the 40 Geo. III., ch. 84, sec. 42, no person is now capable of being elected a Fellow of the College of Physicians who has not taken the degree of bachelor or master in arts or doctor in physic in one of the universities in Dublin, Oxford, or Cambridge, unless the number of Fellows shall at any time be reduced to six. And that, as such restriction is unjust to universities and colleges other than those of Dublin, it is deemed expedient to alter the law by this act as follows:—1. This act shall commence and take effect from and after the 1st day of September, 1862. 2. From and after the commencement of this act, so much of the said recited act as provides that no person shall be capable of being elected a Fellow of the said College of Physicians in Ireland who shall not have taken the degree of bachelor or master in arts or doctor in physic in one of the universities of Dublin, Oxford, or Cambridge, unless the number of Fellows shall at any time be reduced to six, in which case only, whenever it may happen, such qualification of the degree of bachelor or master in arts or doctor in physic may be dispensed with respectively, shall be repealed. 3. From and after the commencement of this act it shall be lawful for the President and Fellows of the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland to elect to the Fellowship of the said College, under such limitations as may to them seem fit, such of its licentiates as are graduates in arts or doctors in physic of any university or college of the Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or of any foreign university or college; and also such of its licentiates, not being such graduates in arts or doctors in physic, as may appear to the President and Fellows to merit such distinction.

Varieties.

A DRUGGIST'S ERROR. The daily papers announce the death of one of our most eminent statesmen, the Hon. Wm. Pennington, of Newark, New Jersey, by accidental poisoning. It seems that he was suffering from fever, and was attended by Dr. Parker, of New York, and Dr. Pennington, of Newark. He was ordered eight grains of quinine; the apothecary, by mistake, put up eight grains of morphine, which the patient took at a dose, and which quickly proved fatal. We are not surprised at this accident; indeed, it is more surprising, considering the want of system among druggists in the arrangement of poisons on their shelves, and the gross ignorance of their assistants, that these casualties are not of every-day occurrence. (*American Medical Times.*)

DOCTORS' BILLS. The present system of doctors' bills is unjust to the medical man and to the patient. When a doctor devotes his time to visiting at a distance, he deserves an equivalent determined by his position, a remuneration

neration according to his rank; the patient sends for him with his eyes open, and he should know the exact expense he incurs by so doing. . . . We are sure that much of the unmerited dread of "the doctor" would vanish were the items of his annual account rendered more satisfactory by their implying the amount of his professional attention, and not simply setting forth a formidable array of "mixtures as before." It would make no difference in his receipts, and would add a dignity to his professional position which the purveying of pills and unguents is assuredly calculated to destroy. (*Daily Telegraph.*)

THE SCIENCE OF MEDICINE does not consist in one idea nor a single remedy, the offspring often of a dis-tempered imagination, "a maggot in the brain." The satire of Le Sage upon Sangrado and his apt pupil, Gil Blas, is as true in its application to our day as it was to his. Profuse bleeding and plentiful draughts of warm water, nor any other exclusive plan of treatment, is rational; nor does science consist in treating all throat ailments by excising the tonsils, clipping the palate, or cauterising the upper air passages with nitrate of silver, or probing so deeply with an imperfectly guarded instrument as to penetrate the gullet, and let out the life of the patient suddenly. Neither is statistical medicine entirely scientific. We cannot bring mankind, diversified as he is in character, both moral and physical, and changed from his original nature by modifying circumstances of sex, climate, culture, situation in life and occupation, wholly under the tyranny of figures. Figures may be made to as often falsify as tell the truth, and fiction is more readily stated than fact. (*Dr. McPhail's Address.*)

THE VOICE OF FISH. Dr. Dufossé has addressed a paper to the Academy of Sciences, in which he lays down the following propositions: 1. The sounds of fish, resulting from the vibration of the intrinsic muscles of the pneumatic bladder, are distinguishable from the others by their purity, their duration, and the variety of their tone. 2. In those kinds of fish which emit such sounds, the mullet, for instance, the pneumatic bladder constitutes a distinct apparatus for the generation of sound. 3. The intrinsic muscles of this apparatus are different from the others, and the nerves which animate them are peculiar to it. 4. It is these muscles which produce the sounds in question. 5. The pneumatic bladder has a very perceptible motion, frequently repeated when the sounds are heard. 6. The intensity of the sounds produced by a large mullet or other fish of the *Trigla* or *Zeus* genus, may be heard from a distance of about twenty feet. 7. The fish that are most perfectly endowed with the property of emitting sound can vary it to the extent of an octave. 8. These sounds can either be instantaneous, or last for several minutes. 9. The pitch of the sound varies not only according to the individuals, species, and genera, but also during the same emission. 10. The *Trigla lucerna* possesses the gift of sound in the highest degree. (*Galignani.*)

THE MILITARY STOCK. I would next, at once, entirely and for ever, abolish that infinitely worse than useless instrument of torture—the leathern stock. It is true that of late years the stock has been somewhat modified both as to material and size, but why should it be worn at all? Would any man, not a maniac, wear such a thing willingly at any time, more especially when about to undergo as much physical exertion as a soldier has even on a common field-day? Why should our troops be the only men in England or the colonies whose windpipes must be compressed before they are considered fit for duty? Have we not the written testimony of the best writers on military surgery, and the verbal opinion of nearly every medical man who has done duty with soldiers, that the stock has caused or aggravated innumerable diseases, and is answerable for a

number of deaths in the ranks? What is the last article of dress every soldier puts on when getting ready for parade, and the first he takes off when parade is over? The stock. When a man falls out of the ranks sick or faint, what is the first—the only—part of his dress of which his comrades relieve him? The stock. Or, when too ill to speak, to what does his hand move mechanically, if it be still gripping his neck? Always the stock! I have seen again and again, both in England and India, men fall out from the ranks during the manœuvres, looking deadly pale, and almost as if about to die; but when their stocks were removed they at once revived. Yet to this abominable relic of stiff Prussian dress, which Frederick the Great considered soldierlike, our military authorities adhere with a tenacity that would be absolutely incredible if it were not within our positive knowledge. (*All the Year Round.*)

PARAFFIN, OR COAL OILS. Paraffin has been for some years past largely used as an illuminating agent. The cleanliness and the economy of the paraffin lamps, with the brilliancy of the light produced, have led to their very general adoption. Paraffin, and all the oils sold under this name, are compounds of carbon and hydrogen. They are produced by the distillation of coal, of certain carbonaceous shales, and the different varieties of petroleum which are now so largely obtained in America and Asia. These oils, according to the temperature at which the distillation is effected, are heavy or light oils, as they are termed by the manufacturers. Their boiling points also range from 46 deg. to 600 deg. Fahr. Hence it is that explosions have arisen from the improper admixture of the lighter with the heavier oils. In some cases this has arisen from insufficient purification of the oil for burning and in others (by far the larger number of cases), by the mixture of volatile oils obtained from other sources with the less inflammable oils distilled from coal. In the early stages of this manufacture Cannel coal was almost exclusively used as the oil-yielding material, but since the discovery of the oil wells of Pennsylvania and other places, petroleum has in a great measure supplanted the use of coal, some establishments using the natural oil alone. The object of this is readily appreciated. The petroleum being naturally in a liquid state, there is no necessity for a preliminary distillation, as in the case when coal is used, in which event the crude oil must be first produced by exposing the coal to distillation at a low heat, and the resulting product be treated in the same manner as the oil already formed in the wells. By the use of petroleum the retorts for the first distillation are dispensed with, and thus a saving is effected in apparatus as well as in time and labour. When petroleum alone is used in the manufacture of kerosene oil the product contains a much larger proportion of volatile hydrocarbons than when coal is wholly or partially employed, and, therefore, more precautions are necessary, and greater labour is requisite, to effectually get rid of these dangerous substances. Some manufacturers not only neglect to remove these volatile compounds from the oils, but actually purchase the light oils from more conscientious refiners, in order to mix them with heavy oils to make them burn. This is an exceedingly reprehensible practice, and deserving severe punishment, for the heat generated by the heavy oils in burning vaporises the volatile portion, and renders it liable at any time to explode. The oils distilled wholly from coal, or those with which but a small proportion of petroleum has been mingled, are much more easily freed from dangerous portions. By a careful refining, and after distillation, steaming, and a large surface of atmospheric exposure, every dangerous compound can be removed, and no fear need be apprehended from oils which are known to be subjected to a rigid and conscientious refining.

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 Society of London, 8.30 P.M.: Clinical Discussion. Dr. Thudichum, "On Crystallised Deposits of Xanthine: Azoturia"; Dr. Cockle, "Practical Observations on Valvular Disease of the Right Orifices of the Heart";—British Architects, 8 P.M.—Chemical (Anniversary), 8 P.M.
 TUESDAY. Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.—Pathological, 8 P.M.—Photographic, 8 P.M.—Ethnological, 8 P.M.
 WEDNESDAY. Society of Arts, 8 P.M.—Geological, 8 P.M.—Obstetrical, 8 P.M.—Pharmaceutical, 8 P.M.—Obstetrical Society of London, 8 P.M.: Mr. Spencer Wells, "Case of Ovariectomy, and reply to Mr. Brown's statement respecting it made at the last meeting"; Dr. Barnes, "Ovum in Ovo"; Mr. Mitchell, "On the Nature and Treatment of Puerperal Peritonitis."
 THURSDAY. Royal, 8.30 P.M.—Harveian Society of London, 8 P.M.: Mr. Ernest Hart, "On Secondary Syphilis as a Cause of Paralysis, Epilepsy, and other Diseases of the Nervous System."—Antiquaries, 8.30 P.M.—Linnæan, 8 P.M.—Chemical, 8 P.M.
 FRIDAY. Western Medical and Surgical, 8 P.M.—Royal Institution, 8 P.M.—Archæological Institute, 4 P.M.
 SATURDAY. Army Medical, 7.30 P.M.

POPULATION STATISTICS AND METEOROLOGY OF LONDON—MARCH 22, 1862.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

	Births.	Deaths.
During week.....	{ Boys .. 884	1805
	{ Girls.. 921	1271
Average of corresponding weeks 1852-61		1959 1410

Barometer:
 Highest (Sat.) 29.863; lowest (Th.) 29.212; mean, 29.559.
 Thermometer:
 Highest in sun—extremes (Wed.) 102 degs.; (Fri.) 48 degs.
 In shade—highest (Wed.) 51.4 degrees; lowest (Fri.) 32.8 degs.
 Mean—39.2 degrees; difference from mean of 43 yrs.—2.6 degs.
 Range—during week, 19.1 degrees; mean daily, 9.3 degrees.
 Mean humidity of air (saturation=100), 91.
 Mean direction of wind, N.E.—Rain in inches, 1.87.

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.

A PROVINCIAL PHYSICIAN writes:—"For my part, I would never accept any office that did not pay me for my services. I should wish for all hospital medical men to be paid for their services. I have no idea of working for the public for nothing. Humanity in our case is all humbug. If I were to die to-morrow, I believe one-half of my patients would not subscribe a shilling each to bury me if they thought the parish would be obliged to do it. Did you ever know a case in which a church clergyman made a present of his burial fees to the surviving relatives? Did you ever know a lawyer give up a fee, or give any advice to the public gratuitously? I have seen it recorded, that a lawyer was summoned before the Law Society for taking one guinea in full settlement of five from a client; and for such conduct he would have been expelled; but, in his reply, he said: 'that, although he has only charged a fifth of the accounts, yet he got all his client had.' Of course, he was excused."

UNQUALIFIED PRACTICE.—SIR: As I presume your correspondent of the 15th ult., "Member", has not the advantage of living in the vicinity of a Medico-Ethical Society, I would refer him for answers to his questions respecting the prosecution of unqualified practitioners, to Mr. Styrap, Secretary of the Shropshire Ethical Branch of the British Medical Association; who, I have no doubt, will be happy, from his great experience in such cases, to furnish "Member" with all particulars requisite to obtain the end he desires.

I am, etc., M.R.C.S.

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:—Dr. GRAILY HEWITT; Mr. P. H. BIRD; Dr. WATTS; Mr. G. GIDLEY; Dr. T. R. MITCHELL; Dr. HITCHMAN; Dr. ALTHAUS; Dr. WILLIAM WADHAM; Dr. E. COPEMAN; Dr. R. HIBBERT TAYLOR; Dr. HYDE SALTER; Mr. T. P. PICK; Mr. THOMAS TAYLOR; Mr. HAYNES WALTON; Dr. PITMAN; Dr. THORP; Dr. C. R. HALL; THE REGISTRAR OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON; and Dr. WESTLEY.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Diseases of the Breast, and their TREATMENT. By JOHN BIRKETT, F.R.C.S.E., F.L.S., Surgeon to Guy's Hospital. 8vo, 12 plain and coloured Plates, 12s. 6d.

London: LONGMAN & Co.

Just published, 13 Litographic Plates, 10s. bound,

The Diseases of the Prostate, comprising the Second Edition of "The Enlarged Prostate," and the Jacksonian Prize Essay of the Royal College of Surgeons for 1860. By HENRY THOMPSON, F.R.C.S., Assistant Surgeon to University College Hospital, etc.

"Will no doubt be for years a standard book of reference on the subject."—*The Lancet*.

"Contains the fullest, the most suggestive, and best description of these important diseases which exists in our language."—*Brit Med Jour.*
 JOHN CHURCHILL, New Burlington Street.

COLDS, COUGHS, CATARRHS, AND CONSUMPTION. SIROP & PATE de CODÉINE Of Berthé, of Paris.

These preparations, inscribed in the French Codex, are recommended by the principal doctors of Paris for colds, the stubborn and fatiguing cough of the grippe, catarrhs, whooping-cough, bronchitis, and consumption.

The experiments made by MAGENDIE, BARBIER D'AMIENS, AFAN, VIGLA, G. DUMONT, etc., doctors of the hospitals in Paris, professors of the Faculty of Medicine, etc., have really proved the remarkable calming virtues of these preparations.

WHOLESALE DÉPÔT IN LONDON,

PEREAU, 11, Moorgate St., E.C. Apply by letter.

RETAIL { M. DINNEFORD and Co., 172, New Bond Street.
 { M. LEMAOUT, 57, Princes Street, Leicester Square.
 { M. BROWN, 2, Lower Street, Islington.