

the more modern aids to diagnosis. The chapters on the special examination of the various systems are mostly drawn up with great care. The loose vocabulary of percussion and auscultation sounds is deservedly found fault with, and some pointed remarks of the author are aptly inserted, which will do much to open the eyes of the student whose mind may be obscured by the nomenclature of some recent works on chest-diseases. It appears to us, however, that Dr. Sturges would have done well to be occasionally a little more ample in his details. It is, no doubt, beyond the aim of his book to offer an exhaustive treatise on the examination of the urine; but as an example of what we mean, we think the following is hardly sufficient direction to the student for the examination of urine supposed to contain albumen; indeed, it becomes incorrect from its brevity. "Albumen is most surely tested by boiling the urine in a test-tube, and, while still hot, adding a single drop of nitric acid. If heat cause a precipitate, it is either albumen or phosphates. If it be albumen, a small quantity of nitric acid will not dissolve it; if it be phosphate, the minutest portion of this acid will cause its instant solution. Heat alone may not cause precipitation of albumen in alkaline urine; the acid, however, when added, will at once determine it." It is true that the minutest quantity of nitric acid will dissolve ordinary phosphates, but not phosphatic earths. These salts are generally held in solution by the free carbonic acid, and are precipitated in a flocculent form on the expulsion of the gas on boiling, forming a deposit singularly like that of albumen, and thus presenting a common source of fallacy; they are, however, soluble in hydrochloric and acetic acids, but not in nitric. Then, again, when the urine contains free hydrochloric or nitric acid in such quantity as to form a compound with albumen, boiling does not necessarily precipitate the albumen: moreover, Heller's concentrated nitric acid test, one of the very best for albumen, is altogether omitted.

The concluding chapter on treatment, although not the best, and in its facts sometimes open to question, fitly concludes a volume which we have had great pleasure in perusing, and from which we have derived much instruction. It is essentially systematic, while there is an absence of dogmatism and a fair representation of the difficulties of physical examination which recommend the work to the experienced teacher. The mischievous tendencies of hasty and imperfect examination are constantly impressed on the reader. The student is put on his guard against the numerous fallacies surrounding the ordinary methods of investigating disease, while he is at the same time taught to recognise and estimate the proper value of physical signs as they exist.

The tone of the whole book is most healthy; it is thoughtful and philosophical throughout, and ought to be carefully studied by every student of clinical medicine. We may add that the publisher has fulfilled his part of the task well, and has presented a neat and handy volume. The marginal references to the contents of the paragraphs form a convenient feature of the book.

## ANÆSTHETICS.

### ETHER AS AN ANÆSTHETIC.

MR. VINCENT JACKSON, Senior Surgeon to the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire Hospital, writes as follows:—In the JOURNAL for May 24th, the report on some operations at a metropolitan hospital concludes with the statement, that "though ether and bichloride of methylene have been tried experimentally, the registrar and chloroformist has returned to the use of chloroform," etc. I was sorry to read this announcement, for I have become practically convinced that no anæsthetic known to use can, for some purposes, take the place of ether. About nine months ago, when the administration of ether for operative purposes was revived at the Wolverhampton Hospital, a spectator, who had known the practice of the institution when ether was used, prior to its displacement by chloroform, shook his head, and foretold for it as short a career as after its primary introduction. This same spectator now says its action is admirable. Ether is not used by us regularly, but exceptionally, as when the operation is likely to be prolonged, or the patient is much depressed, or the heart's action feeble. It has lately been given for me for the performance of the following operations: Three ovariectomies, one gastrotomy, and an abdominal section for the relief of an internal hernia. Dr. Carter, the hospital administrator, has now abandoned inhalers. A folded towel, saturated with ether, is firmly maintained over the nose and mouth of the patient until complete insensibility is accomplished, and we now look for it under eight minutes. The two points which I consider make ether so exceptionally valuable to the operating surgeon are its markedly continued stimulating effect upon the action of the heart, and the rapidity with which the anæsthesia, or etherisation, passes away.

## SELECTIONS FROM JOURNALS.

### MEDICINE.

CHLOROFORM IN HEART-DISEASE.—Dr. J. H. Poole (*Archives of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology*, vol. iii, part i.) discusses, *à propos* of a case of mitral regurgitation, with hypertrophy and over-action of the heart, in which he was called upon to operate, whether the presence of heart-disease, even when strongly marked, is necessarily a contra-indication to the administration of an anæsthetic. He believes that it is not. He has searched all the authorities at his disposal on this point, but does not find anything very definite on the subject. Without citing any of them, however, he says that most of those who take notice of it at all agree with the opinions he had expressed. If any anæsthetic be administered, which should it be, chloroform or ether? He answers, chloroform, for the following reasons. It is more quickly administered, and more manageable; it requires less to be given; it produces a less violent and protracted stage of excitement. He has seen chloroform administered for the dyspnoea of heart-disease, both by the stomach and by inhalation, with decided benefit, and without the least bad effect.

### SURGERY.

OPERATING IN EXTREMIS.—Dr. Philo E. Jones (*The American Practitioner*, June, 1873), relates the case of a patient in an advanced stage of phthisis, suffering very acutely from cystitis and incessant micturition, which resisted narcotic treatment. Guided by an article of Dr. Parvin (*Ohio Clinic*, November 4th, 1871), and Dr. Emmett (*American Practitioner*, February, 1872), he decided to produce artificially a vesico-vaginal fistula, believing, that although the patient must soon die of consumption, relief would be afforded meantime. He accordingly operated on the 4th April, in the following manner: The patient being under the influence of chloroform, and lying upon the back, the knees drawn up, and a bivalve speculum in the vagina, a female catheter, somewhat abruptly curved, was introduced through the urethra. This was now held by an assistant, with its point firmly pressing in the median line against the base of the bladder, just beyond the vesical meatus. Dr. Jones then, with a scalpel, divided the parts directly on the joint of the catheter, until it could be passed through into the vagina. With the catheter remaining in the opening as a guide, the blunt blade of a pair of scissors was passed alongside into the bladder, and an incision, nearly an inch in length, was made directly backward, in the median line. The walls of the bladder were now found to be greatly thickened and contracted, and the finger passed into the cavity could very readily detect the ulcerated condition of the inner surface. The bladder was now to be washed out once or twice daily, with a large amount of warm water injected through the vesico-vaginal opening, the finger also to be introduced through the opening every day, to prevent its closure. The patient, Dr. Jones says, was now entirely free from pain, without the use of anodynes, in which condition she remained one week, when she died by asphyxia. With the results of this operation he is abundantly satisfied, it having relieved the poor woman of one week's suffering, which could not be obtained from the largest doses of morphine.

### DISEASES OF CHILDREN.

DIARRHŒA IN TEETHING.—In a clinical lecture on the primary dentition of children, Dr. Francis Minot (*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, January 2nd, 1873), in speaking of the diarrhœa complicating teething during hot weather, recommends the common chalk mixture, with the addition of one-fourth part of tincture of kino, which increases its astringency, and also keeps it from turning sour in hot weather. If the diarrhœa be not stopped by this mixture, one drop of laudanum may be added to a dose, but not oftener than three times a day, in children under two years old. Diarrhœa is most apt to attack children who are brought up on the bottle, hence, if the case be urgent, and does not yield to treatment, a wet nurse should be procured, if possible. When this cannot be done, he would strongly recommend the method of preparing the milk with arrow-root and gelatine, found in the treatise on *Diseases of Children*, by Dr. Meigs and Pepper. Brandy is very useful to a teething child exhausted by diarrhœa, which should be given once in three or four hours, or oftener in urgent cases. The dose is ordinarily from five to twenty-five drops, given in milk; but if there be much prostration the physician need not fear to increase the amount.

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION:  
FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held in King's College, London, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, August 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th, 1873.

*President*—ALFRED BAKER, Esq., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the General Hospital, Birmingham.

*President-elect*—Sir WILLIAM FERGUSSON, Bart., F.R.S., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to King's College Hospital, London.

The business of the Annual Meeting will be transacted in six Sections, viz.:—

SECTION A. MEDICINE.—*President*: Dr. Sibson, F.R.S., London. *Vice-Presidents*: Dr. Habershon, London; Dr. Eason Wilkinson, Manchester. *Secretaries*: Dr. John Murray, 42, Harley Street, London, W.; Dr. Silver, 2, Stafford Street, Bond Street, W.

SECTION B. SURGERY.—*President*: John Hilton, Esq., F.R.S., London. *Vice-Presidents*: W. S. Savory, Esq., F.R.S., London; Dr. George Buchanan, Glasgow. *Secretaries*: Henry Arnott, Esq., 6, Nottingham Place, London, W.; Dr. Alexander Ogston, Aberdeen.

SECTION C. OBSTETRIC MEDICINE.—*President*: Dr. Braxton Hicks, F.R.S., London. *Vice-Presidents*: Dr. G. H. Kidd, Dublin; Dr. Leishman, Glasgow. *Secretaries*: Dr. J. H. Aveling, 1, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.; Dr. A. B. Steele, Liverpool.

SECTION D. PUBLIC MEDICINE.—*President*: Dr. Lyon Playfair, C.B., M.P., F.R.S., London. *Vice-Presidents*: G. W. Hastings, Esq.; T. J. Dyke, Esq., Merthyr Tydfil. *Secretaries*: Dr. Corfield, 10, Bolton Row, Mayfair, W.; Dr. Baylis, Birkenhead.

SECTION E. PSYCHOLOGY.—*President*: Dr. Harrington Tuke, London. *Vice-Presidents*: Dr. Radcliffe, London; Dr. Thurnam, Devizes. *Secretaries*: Dr. Blandford, 71, Grosvenor Street, London, W.; Dr. S. W. D. Williams, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

SECTION F. PHYSIOLOGY.—*President*: Professor Humphry, M.D., F.R.S., Cambridge. *Vice-Presidents*: Dr. Rutherford, London; Dr. Ransom, F.R.S., Nottingham. *Secretaries*: Dr. W. M. Ord, 11, Brook Street, London; Dr. McKendrick, Edinburgh.

TUESDAY, August 5th.

10 A.M.—SERVICE AT ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

3 P.M.—GENERAL MEETING—President's Address, Report of Council, and other Business.

9 P.M.—RECEPTION BY THE LORD MAYOR at the Mansion House.

WEDNESDAY, August 6th.

10 A.M.—SECOND GENERAL MEETING.

11 A.M.—ADDRESS IN MEDICINE, by E. A. PARKES, M.D., F.R.S., Professor of Hygiene in the Army Medical School, Netley.

12.30 P.M.—MEETINGS OF SECTIONS. Adjourn at 3.30 P.M.

1 to 2.30 P.M.—PUBLIC LUNCHEON.\*

9 P.M.—RECEPTION BY PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

THURSDAY, August 7th.

10 A.M.—THIRD GENERAL MEETING—Reports of Committees.

11 A.M.—ADDRESS IN SURGERY, by JOHN WOOD, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College, London.

12.30 P.M.—MEETINGS OF SECTIONS. Adjourn at 3.30 P.M.

1 to 2.30 P.M.—PUBLIC LUNCHEON.\*

6.30 P.M.—PUBLIC DINNER OF THE ASSOCIATION.

FRIDAY, August 8th.

10 A.M.—MEETINGS OF SECTIONS.

11 A.M.—ADDRESS IN PHYSIOLOGY, by J. BURDON SANDERSON, M.D., F.R.S., Professor of Practical Physiology in University College.

1 to 2.30 P.M.—PUBLIC LUNCHEON.\*

2 P.M.—CONCLUDING GENERAL MEETING.

9 P.M.—SOIRÉE AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

SATURDAY, August 9th.

EXCURSIONS.—By permission, the following among other Excursions will be arranged:—

Excursions to Cliefden, near Maidenhead, the seat of the Marquis of Westminster; and to Windsor Castle.

Excursion to Brighton, and visit to Brighton Aquarium.

Visit to Woolwich Arsenal and the Forts.

Arrangements will be made, of which further details will be published, for facilitating visits during the week to the Print and MSS. Rooms of

\* By invitation of the Metropolitan Members.

the British Museum, the Mint, the General Post Office, the Private Collections at Grosvenor House, Stafford House, etc., and to some leading Factories.

\*\*\* Communications as to the Meeting may be addressed to Mr. FRANCIS FOWKE, General Secretary, 37, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.

The Honorary Local Secretaries are—

Dr. A. P. STEWART, 75, Grosvenor Street, W.

Dr. A. HENRY, 16, Brunswick Square, W.C.

Dr. S. WILKS, F.R.S., 77, Grosvenor Street, W.

GEORGE W. CALLENDER, Esq., F.R.S., 47, Queen Anne Street, W.

ERNEST HART, Esq., 59, Queen Anne Street, W.

## ANNUAL MUSEUM.

The sixth annual exhibition of objects of interest, in connection with medicine, surgery, and their allied sciences, will take place in the rooms of King's College, during the first week of August 1873.

The Committee appointed to take charge of the arrangements for this museum will be glad to receive—1. Pathological specimens (wet or dry); 2. Drawings or diagrams illustrating disease; 3. Casts or models; 4. Surgical instruments and appliances; 5. Microscopic preparations; 6. Microscopes, thermometers, and other instruments of investigation; 7. Preparations, diagrams, etc., relating to investigations in anatomy and physiology; 8. New medical books.

It is intended that the surgical instruments, etc., shall be *bona fide* novelties, or improvements on those in common use. The Committee will be greatly obliged to exhibitors if they will send in their contributions as early as practicable.

*Pathological Department*.—The pathological part of the Museum will be arranged in the following departments—*a*. Diseases of brain, injuries to head, etc.; *b*. Diseases of heart and blood-vessels; *c*. Diseases of lungs; *d*. Diseases of abdominal and pelvic viscera; *e*. Malignant diseases; *f*. Diseases of eye and ear; *g*. Diseases of skin; *h*. Syphilis; *j*. Fractures and dislocations; *k*. Congenital deformities; *l*. Diseases of the lower animals; *m*. Miscellaneous.

*Exhibition of Patients*.—It is intended to arrange for the exhibition of living subjects of disease at special hours. Those intending to bring forward such, must give notice at least a fortnight before the meeting, and state the time at which it will be most convenient to them to attend. A written description of the case must also be sent. Notice of the hours fixed for each demonstration of this kind will be printed in the catalogue.

*Exhibition of Instruments and Apparatus*.—It is intended to arrange for the exhibitions of complete series of instruments, as electro-therapeutic apparatus, and instruments for physical diagnosis. Facilities will also be afforded, when requested, for the display of instruments in action, or for special explanation by the exhibitors of apparatus, etc. A department will be provided for the exchange or sale of duplicate photographs, casts, etc.

*Catalogue*.—It is intended to print a catalogue, which will be as complete as circumstances may permit. The Committee earnestly request those who intend to exhibit to bear in mind that it is impossible that descriptions, etc., can be included in the catalogue *unless sent in early*. They should be received at least a fortnight before the meeting, that is, not later than July 16th.

Communications, objects intended for exhibition, etc., may for the present be addressed to the private care of any of the members of the Museum Committee, or to Mr. FRANCIS FOWKE, at the office of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL. During the week preceding the meeting, all articles should be sent direct to the Library, King's College, and addressed to the care of the Curator of the Museum of the British Medical Association.

The following is a list of the Museum Committee; to any member of which communications, etc., may be addressed—Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, *Chairman*, 4, Finsbury Circus, E.C.; Dr. George Buchanan, 193, Bath Street, Glasgow; Dr. Cayley, 58, Welbeck Street, W.; Mr. Richard Davy, 33, Welbeck Street, W.; Dr. Dickinson, 11, Chesterfield Street, Mayfair, W.; Dr. C. Hilton Fagge, 11, St. Thomas Street, E.C.; Dr. Gordon, 1, Howard Street, Belfast; Dr. Green, 74, Wimpole Street, W.; Mr. Furneaux Jordan, 22, Colmore Row, Birmingham; Dr. Charles Kelly, 94, Wimpole Street, Cavendish Square, W.; Dr. Moxon, 6, Finsbury Circus, E.C.; Dr. John William Moore, Dublin; Dr. Payne, 6, Savile Row, W.; Dr. A. Silver, 2, Stafford Street, Old Bond Street, W.; Dr. Heywood Smith, 2, Portugal Street, Grosvenor Square, W.; Mr. George Southam, 10, Lever Street, Manchester; Dr. Grainger Stewart, 19, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh; Dr. H. G. Sutton, 9, Finsbury Square, E.C.; Mr. C. G. Wheelhouse, Hilary Place, Leeds; Dr. Wilks, 77, Grosvenor Street, W.; Dr. C. Theodore Williams, 78, Park Street, Grosvenor Square,

W. The *Honorary Secretaries* are Mr. Waren Tay, 10, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., and Mr. Francis Fowke, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.

*Papers.*—The following papers have been promised.

Francis E. Anstie, M.D. Alcohol in Pyrexia.

T. Clifford Allbutt, M.D. The After-history of Cases of Railway Accident.

H. Charlton Bastian, M.D., F.R.S. On the Modes of Causation of Epilepsy and allied Convulsive Affections at different Periods of Life.

James Koss, M.D. The Theory of Counterirritation.

Thomas J. MacLagan, M.D. The Germ-theory of Disease applied to the Explanation of the Phenomena of Idiopathic Fever.

William Sedgwick, Esq. The Absence of Purging in Cholera.

T. Grainger Stewart, M.D. On Chronic Bright's Disease.

Christopher Heath, Esq. On Colotomy.

G. W. Callender, Esq., F.R.S. On the Isolation and Treatment of Wounds.

Jonathan Hutchinson, Esq. Some Notes on the Effects of Iodide of Potassium.

William S. Savory, Esq., F.R.S. On the Treatment of Strictures of the Urethra.

Arthur E. Durham, Esq. The Removal of Bronchoceles by Operation.

Berkeley Hill, Esq. A New Urethrotome for incising very Narrow Strictures.

T. Holmes, Esq. On the Diseases which simulate Aneurism.

George Critchett, Esq. The Treatment of some of the Superficial Affections of the Eye.

T. Pridgin Teale, Esq. On the Restoration of Perinæum and Sphincter Ani ruptured during Labour.

J. T. Clover, Esq. The Induction of Sleep during Surgical Operations.

William Mac Cormac, Esq. Some Remarks on Onychia Maligna.

Spencer Wells, Esq. On the Excision of the Enlarged Spleen.

C. E. FitzGerald, M.B. A Series of Ophthalmoscopic Drawings with Explanatory Notes.

Lawson Tait, Esq. 1. On the Anatomy and Treatment of Dermoid Cysts of the Ovary and Peritoneum. 2. On Methylene Ether as an Anæsthetic.

John C. Murray, M.D. Urinary Calculi: their Preventive and Solvent Treatment.

Thomas W. Hime, M.B. Intrauterine Therapeutics.

Ewing Whittle, M.D. The Anticipation of Post Partum Hæmorrhage.

John Bassett, Esq. Note on the Prevention of Uterine Hæmorrhage.

A. B. Steele, L.K.Q.C.P. Case of Apoplexy and Hemiplegia in the Puerperal Period, terminating in Recovery.

J. A. Wanklyn, Esq. 1. The Action and Relative Value of Disinfectants. 2. The Chemical History of Excreted Urea. 3. The Ammonia process of Water-analysis for Medical Officers of Health.

T. W. Grimshaw, M.D., and D. Toler Maunsell, M.B. State Medicine and Public Health in Ireland.

J. W. Moore, M.D. The Influence of Mean Temperature on the Prevalence of Small-Pox.

J. W. Moore, M.D. Crystallisation of Nitrate of Urea from Urine.

Charles Elam, M.D. On Disturbed Mental Phenomena falling short of Insanity.

J. G. Davey, M.D. The Delusions of the Insane: their real value as a Means of Diagnosis.

J. Langdon Down, M.D. On some of the Causes of Imbecility and Idiocy.

Francis E. Anstie, M.D. Some of the Relations of Nerve-pain with Mental Derangement.

T. Buzzard, M.D. On Co-ordinated Convulsions from Mental Shock.

David Nicolson, M.B. On the Occurrence of Insanity among Criminals.

W. H. O. Sankey, M.D. Is there such a Disease as Acute Primary Mania?

H. Sutherland, M.D. Climacteric Insanity in the Male.

David Yellowlees, M.D. Insanity and Intemperance.

#### SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH.

THE twenty-ninth annual meeting of this Branch will be held at three o'clock on Wednesday, July 2nd, at the Assembly Rooms, Ashford; EDWARD GARRAWAY, Esq., of Faversham, President-elect.

Dinner will be provided at five o'clock, at the Saracen's Head Hotel; tickets, 7s. 6d. each.

Previously to the business meeting, a trip to Eastwell Park will be arranged, for which carriages will leave the railway station at one o'clock.

The Works of the South-Eastern Railway Company, the Parish Church and its ancient Tombs, the Cemetery, the Cottage Hospital, and the Open-air Swimming Bath, may also prove interesting.

Members are privileged to introduce friends to the day's proceedings.

G. F. HODGSON, *Honorary Secretary*.

Brighton, June 17th, 1873.

#### COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL: NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the Committee of Council will be held at the Queen's Hotel, Birmingham, on Friday, the 11th day of July next, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

37, Great Queen Street, June 26th, 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.

Dinner at the Turk's Head Hotel, at 5 P.M. precisely. Tickets, 12s. 6d. each.

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

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, June 16th, 1873.

#### SOUTH WESTERN BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at Callington, on July 3rd, at 12 noon; J. KEMPTHORNE, F.R.C.S., President-elect.

The dinner will take place at Golding's Hotel, at 6 P.M. precisely. Tickets, 7s. 6d. each, exclusive of wine.

An excursion will be made to King Dungarth's grave and Trevethy Cromlech, thence to the Hurlers (Druidical remains) and the Cheeswring.

Members wishing to read papers or to join the dinner, are requested to communicate, on or before June 25th, to the Honorary Secretaries.

The South Devon, Cornwall, and West Cornwall Railway Companies, will grant members return tickets to or from any of their stations to Liskeard or Plymouth, available from July 2nd to 4th inclusive, at single fares, on production of ticket of membership.

JOHN WOODMAN, F.R.C.S. } *Acting Honorary*  
LOUIS TOSSWILL, M.B. } *Secretaries*.

2, Chichester Place, Southernhay, Exeter, June 9th, 1873.

#### NORTH WALES BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Belvoir Hotel, Rhyl, on Tuesday, July 8th, at 1 P.M.; R. DAVIES, Esq., of Llanfair-talhaiarn, President.

The dinner will be at 4 P.M. Tickets, including waiters and dessert, 7s. 6d. each.

Members who have cases to report or papers to read, and those who intend dining, will please to communicate, as soon as possible, with the undersigned.

D. KENT JONES, *Honorary Secretary*.

Beaumaris, June 9th, 1873.

#### MIDLAND BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held in the Board Room of the Leicester Infirmary, on Tuesday, July 8th, at 2 P.M.; H. LANKESTER, Esq., President-elect.

Dinner at the Bell Hotel at 5 P.M. Tickets, 7s. 6d. each.

Members wishing to read papers, or to be present at the dinner, are requested to give immediate notice to the undersigned.

THOMAS BLUNT, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.

St. Martin's, Leicester, June 17th, 1873.

#### WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Railway Hotel, Taunton, on Thursday, July 24th, at 2 P.M., under the presidency of GEORGE GILLET, Esq.

Dinner at 5 o'clock.

Gentlemen are requested to send to the Secretary the titles of communications they wish to make at the meeting.

W. M. KELLY, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.

Taunton, June 24th, 1873.

## BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Bristol Library and Institution, on Thursday, July 10th, at 3.30 P.M.; EDWARD LONG FOX, M.D., President, in the Chair.

The business of the meeting will be to receive the Report of the Council; to elect the officers of the Branch, and nine representatives to the General Council for the ensuing year; to transact the necessary business and to discuss such subjects connected with the interest of the Branch and of the profession as may be brought before it.

Members who have not paid their subscriptions, are requested to do so to the Local Secretaries, at or before the annual meeting, in order that the accounts may be made up before the anniversary meeting of the Association.

The dinner will be held at the Royal Hotel, College Green, Bristol, at 6.30 P.M. Tickets, including ice and dessert, 7s. 6d. each.

The Bristol Secretary particularly requests that those members who intend to be present at the dinner will send in their names before Monday, July 7, in order that the necessary arrangements may be completed.

E. C. BOARD, Bristol. } *Honorary Secretaries.*  
R. S. FOWLER, Bath. }

Bristol, June 16th, 1873.

## METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE twenty-first annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the banqueting-hall, Alexandra Park, on Tuesday, July 15th, at 3 P.M. President for 1872-73, Sir WILLIAM FERGUSSON, Bart., F.R.S.; President-elect for 1873-4, RICHARD QUAIN, M.D., F.R.S.

At half-past 5 P.M. *precisely*, the members will dine together; RICHARD QUAIN, M.D., F.R.S., in the Chair. Tickets, fifteen shillings each (including ices, tea, coffee, and attendance, and exclusive of wine).

A. P. STEWART, M.D. } *Honorary Secretaries.*  
ALEXANDER HENRY, M.D. }

London, June 18th, 1873.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH:  
PATHOLOGICAL AND CLINICAL SECTION.

THE seventh and last ordinary meeting was held on April 25th, 1873. Present: FURNEAUX JORDAN, Esq., in the Chair, and thirty-seven members.

1. *Removal of Myeloid Growth from Lower Jaw.*—Mr. FURNEAUX JORDAN showed a young lady from whom he had removed the larger portion of the lower jaw, the seat of a large myeloid tumour, which produced great deformity and affected both speech and swallowing. Thirteen years ago, a portion of the base of the bone was removed for similar disease; it quickly returned and steadily grew. There was no glandular enlargement, and the patient's health was good.

2. *Excision of the Ankle-Joint.*—Dr. JOLLY showed the bones removed in excision of the ankle-joint for disease. The operation was performed in his usual way, by lateral incisions behind the malleoli. No tendons or blood-vessels of any importance were divided.

3. *Multilocular Ovarian Cyst.*—Mr. MANN showed a multilocular ovarian cyst successfully removed from a lady, aged 30, by Mr. West. The patient became pregnant last August of her third child. The ovarian disease grew concurrently with the pregnancy. Premature labour was induced last January, and she was delivered of twins at about five and a half months. Two months afterwards, ovariectomy was performed. An extensive adhesion to the omentum was divided by the actual cautery, and a lesser one was ligatured, the ends being cut short; two or three bleeding points were touched with the hot iron. The pedicle was clamped, the instrument coming away on the tenth day.

4. *Successful Ovariectomy.*—Mr. VINCENT JACKSON read notes of a recent case of successful ovariectomy. A married woman, aged 42, was admitted into the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire Hospital with a large multilocular ovarian tumour of twelve months' duration. The woman was thin, and suffered much distress from the weight and pressure of the cyst, which consisted mainly of fluid contents. There were anasarca of the lower extremities, oedema of the vulva and of the anterior abdominal walls, and much erythema. On March 6th, ovariectomy was performed. There were very extensive and strong adhesions to the front of the abdominal wall, to the omentum, the cæcum, and the right brim of the pelvis. The pedicle was clamped. She was discharged on April 15th.

5. *Anatomical Apparatus.*—Mr. W. J. FOSTER exhibited an apparatus for producing fine pathological or anatomical injections.

6. *Diseased Kidneys and Vesical Calculi.*—Dr. JAMES THOMPSON showed the urinary organs of a patient, aged 73, who had passed large

numbers of lithic acid calculi up to the last three years of life. Since then he had had good health. After death, nineteen calculi as large as rifle-bullets were found in the bladder; the ureters were greatly enlarged, and both kidneys much diseased.

7. *Diagnosis of Laryngoscopic Appearances.*—Dr. SAWYER exhibited diagrams illustrating the laryngoscopic appearance in the following four cases. 1. Pressure on the left recurrent laryngeal nerve from aortic aneurism; 2. Unilateral paralysis of the adductors of the cords (inflammatory); 3. Bilateral paralysis of the adductors (hysterical); 4. Paralysis of the arytenoideus proprius.

8. *Specimens of Heart-Disease.*—Dr. BALTHAZAR FOSTER showed two specimens of heart-disease—one to illustrate hypertrophy with dilatation, the other to illustrate atrophy of the heart.

9. *Uterine Fibroid Polypus in Situ.*—Dr. MALINS exhibited the uterus and appendages of a patient, showing a fibroid polypus attached to the summit of the anterior wall of the uterus, measuring one and a half inches in length, and of conical form. The cavity of the body was distended by it, but it did not affect the cervical cavity. *Ante mortem*, for diagnostic purposes, a single laminaria tent was introduced for twelve hours, the uterus was brought down, and the forefinger of the left hand, passed into the cavity, felt the polypus. A febrile condition previously existing was aggravated, the tongue became brown, and death ensued at the end of three weeks.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## MEDICAL ADVERTISING AND MEDICAL FEES.

SIR—I have often thought of sending a few lines to you on these heads, and am now the more urged to do so by the letter of "Juvenis Senior," in your issue of to-day. Like your correspondent, I have sold my books outright to a very eminent publisher, but not with the effect of seeing them constantly paraded in the daily journals. I have always been shocked and disgusted to see this bidding for the public by men who should themselves know better, and whose example is followed by their inferiors. But until the time of my own experience, I had no reply to those who contended that the matter was one wholly in the hands of their publishers. Now, in answer to "Juvenis Senior," I can say, from the experience of two books which have been published some time, which have sold very well, and which have brought me good practice through the profession, that the publisher does not, of his own cost and wishes, display the advertisements in question. Very delicately he wrote to tell me that he intended to devote such and such a sum to advertisements, in order to sell the book, and that these would appear a few times in the leading daily journals, but chiefly in the medical journals. The sum he named was a liberal one, but he added, "if you wish the book, for other than a publisher's reasons, to appear more freely in the general and special press, it is customary to place a certain further amount in the publisher's hands for that purpose." This, he said, was commonly done, and I now knew how far "the author was not responsible" for the trade advertisements in the daily journals. My publisher, in order to serve his own ends, inserted such notices very sparingly. I am thankful to say, that I requested him not to insert any further notices in the *Times*, or other non-professional papers, but to add about thirty per cent. to the advertisements in the medical papers. This, I think, is fair enough.

Now as to the fees. I feel strongly with "Juvenis Senior," that the leaders of the profession are missing their way, both as regards us and themselves, by their chamber practice. I practise, as a consultant, in the country, and have therefore no rivalry with them; but when I hear of the crowds who beset their chambers, I am reminded of the outpatient practices of the hospitals, or of the doors of a fashionable quack. I charge one guinea, as a rule, and two guineas for long consultations. The leading physicians and surgeons in London do no more. I give my patients all the time their case requires; our leaders give them fifteen minutes. Leaving all else, I would ask, if men who do this have a right to complain that medicine is less of a career than law? When I send a patient to the eminent surgeon, Sir Diggory Sharpe, or to the eminent obstetrician, in the same street, my patient is rapidly questioned by a polite gentleman, who all the while has one eye on the clock, and if I receive any letter at all concerning him, it is too often to show that he has gone to town for a worse opinion than my own. Hence we in the country beg people not to go to the leaders, but to pay a liberal fee to "Juvenis Senior," who will probably give us the full benefit of his ability and knowledge. It would never do, however, to pass a rule that certain physicians should make higher charges than the rest; but why can they not see the enormous benefit of making such a scale for themselves. I wish to send my patients to the best man I can hear of,

## MEDICAL NEWS.

### THE CONJOINT EXAMINATION SCHEME FOR ENGLAND.

WE learn without surprise, that the feature in this scheme, which was passed over so lightly at the College of Physicians, and on which we commented as being the really objectionable element in it, has attracted attention, and has met with successful opposition in the Council of the College of Surgeons. The Council object to the withdrawal of one half of the fees received from their control, and propose to disallow that part of the scheme which authorises the Committee of Reference to appoint a treasurer who will intercept the funds. For this we have already pointed out what we think sufficient reasons.

**APOTHECARIES' HALL.**—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, June 19th, 1873.

Bingham, Samuel, Kirton-in-Lindsey  
Burchell, Edward, Meadow Lane, Leeds  
Garrett, John, London Hospital  
James, William Dale, Yonge Park, Upper Holloway  
Lewtas, John, Greenwich  
Medcalf, Ernest Sexton, Ware  
Penny, George Toun, Bridgefield, Lancashire  
Saberton, Frederick William, Ely

**KING AND QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS IN IRELAND.**—At examination meetings of the College, held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the 10th, 11th, and 12th of June, the following candidates obtained the License to practise Medicine.

Daniel Robert Alcock, John Henry Boswell, Henry Eccles Evans, Arthur Benjamin Finny, William Greer, William McEnery, John Richard Palmer, Luke Peacan, and William Henry Warren.

The following candidates obtained the Midwifery Diploma.

Daniel Robert Alcock, Henry Eccles Evans, Arthur Benjamin Finny, William McEnery, Robert Spence, and William Henry Warren.

### MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

**BRADFORD (Yorkshire) INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY**—Physician.  
**BROMLEY**, Kent, Rural, combined with several other Rural and Urban Sanitary Districts—Medical Officer of Health: £800 per annum. Applications to Joseph Snelling, Esq., Tonbridge.  
**COLERAINE UNION**, co. Londonderry—Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Registrar of Births, etc., for the Articlave Dispensary District: £90 per annum, and fees. Applications to Hugh Heylett, Esq., Liffock, Castlerock, Coleraire.  
**DERBYSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY**—Assistant House-Surgeon. Applications to Samuel Whitaker, Esq., 4, Victoria Street, Derby.  
**DONEGAL LUNATIC ASYLUM**, Letterkenny—Resident Medical Superintendent.  
**GENERAL HOSPITAL**, Birmingham—Resident Medical Officer: £100 per annum, board, and residence. Applications to W. T. Grant, Esq.  
**HARRIS**—Parochial Medical Officer. Applications to John Cunningham, Esq., Rodel, Harris, by Stornoway.  
**H.M.'s INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE**—Eleven Surgeons.  
**HEXHAM RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT**—Medical Officer of Health: £300 per annum for three years. Applications to John Stokoe, Esq.  
**INFIRMARY FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST**, Margaret Street, Cavendish Square—Visiting Physician.  
**KNIGHTON UNION**, Radnorshire—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Llanbister District: £70 per annum, and fees.  
**LEEDS GENERAL INFIRMARY**—House-Physician: £100 per annum, board, furnished apartments, and washing.  
**LEEDS URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT**—Medical Officer of Health: £400 per annum. Applications to Capel A. Curwood, Esq.  
**LICHFIELD UNION**—Medical Officer for the Yoxall District: £20 per annum, and fees.  
**LIVERPOOL EYE AND EAR INFIRMARY**—House-Surgeon: £80 per annum, residence and maintenance.  
**LIVERPOOL INFIRMARY FOR CHILDREN**—House-Surgeon: £80 per annum, board and lodging.  
**LIVERPOOL**, Parish of—Assistant Medical Officer to the Workhouse, Brownlow Hill: £80 per annum, apartments, and rations, and £20 per annum for examining applicants for out-door relief. Applications to H. J. Hagger, Esq.  
**LONDON TEMPERANCE HOSPITAL**—Physician.—Surgeon.  
**MOUNTMELLICK UNION**, Queen's County—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Maryborough Dispensary District: £100 per annum and fees. Applications to John Gaze, Esq., Maryborough.  
**PENRITH RURAL AND URBAN SANITARY DISTRICTS**—Medical Officer of Health: £300 per annum.  
**ROTHERHAM HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY**—Resident House-Surgeon: £120 per annum, board, and furnished apartments.  
**ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL**—Demonstrator of Anatomy.  
**SHEFFIELD PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY**—Physician.  
**STAMFORD AND RUTLAND GENERAL INFIRMARY**—House-Surgeon, Apothecary, and Secretary: £100 per annum, board, lodging, and washing.  
**STOCKPORT UNION**—Medical Officer for the Stockport District and the Workhouse.

**STRATFORD-ON-AVON**, etc.—Medical Officer of Health: £600 per annum.  
**SUDBURY RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT**—Medical Officer of Health: £100 per annum. Applications to H. C. Canham, Esq.  
**TORMOHAM AND ST. MARY-CHURCH URBAN SANITARY DISTRICTS**—Medical Officer of Health: £400 per annum for three years.  
**TORRINGTON UNION**—Medical Officer: £100 per annum and midwifery fees.  
**TRAINING HOSPITAL**, Tottenham—Physician.  
**WEST DERBY UNION**—Assistant Medical Officer to the Workhouse: £120 per annum, apartments, board, etc. Applications to W. Cleaver, Esq., 14, Clayton Square, Liverpool.  
**WEST HERTFORDSHIRE INFIRMARY**, Hemel Hempstead—House-Surgeon and Assistant-Secretary: £100 per annum, furnished rooms, etc.  
**WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL**—House-Physician.  
**WHITEHAVEN UNION**—Medical Officer for the Lamplugh and Harrington Districts. Applications to John McKelvie, Esq.  
**WOLVERHAMPTON AND STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL**—House Governor and Secretary: £150 per annum, to commence, board and residence.  
**WOOLWICH UNION**—Medical Officer for the New Infirmary and the Workhouse: £225 per annum, rations, etc., and residence. Applications to E. Brough Sargeant, Esq., Plumstead.  
**WORKSOP UNION**—Medical Officer for the Harthill District: £35 per annum.

### 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.*

#### MARRIAGES.

**MAHOMED—CHALK.**—On June 14th, at the Parish Church of St. Nicholas, Brighton, by the Rev. R. Ingham Salmon, M.A., Frederick A. MAHOMED, Esq., of the London Fever Hospital, to Ellen, eldest daughter of the late Charles CHALK, Esq., Solicitor, of Brighton.

### 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.

**WEDNESDAY.**—Obstetrical Society of London. 7.30 P.M.: Meeting of Council. 8 P.M.: Papers by Dr. George Roper, Dr. Eardley-Wilmot, and Dr. Wiltshire; and Specimens by Dr. Squire, Dr. Heywood Smith, and others.

### 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.

**W. A. S.**—It is rare, but not by no means unprecedented to find scabies without itching. The alkaline sulphur lotion is a very good one.

**INFLUENCE OF THE DERBY ON THE DRUG MARKET.**—In Messrs. Morgan's trade report in the *Chemist and Druggist* on the drug market, it is mentioned that the one exception to universal flatness is in the case of quicksilver, and it is added that "there is a humorous idea 'on 'Change' that the result of the Derby may, and sometimes does, affect the price of mercury. If there be any truth in this notion, it would seem that Doncaster was not the animal on which 'the Baron's' hopes were fixed, as it is since that gentleman's victory that the price of metal has stiffened. Baron Rothschild regards the quicksilver profits as his 'pocket-money'; and as he nets about a hundred per cent. on all he sells, on the average, the little extra is supposed to be worth some two hundred thousands per annum. As we said, the price is very firm just now, and a buyer of five hundred bottles, who offered £13 15s. the other day, was not accommodated."

CORRESPONDENTS are particularly requested by the Editor to observe that communications relating to Advertisements, changes of address, and other business matters, should be addressed to Mr. Francis Fowke, General Secretary and Manager, at the Journal Office, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C., and not to the Editor.

#### THE BIRMINGHAM PICTURE GROUP.

SIR,—The further explanation seems required that all the names you mention were instances of copies from *cartes*, some of them very bad ones. If you will look again at the picture, you will see that I do not occupy "a very prominent place in the foreground," but that I am quite in the background—in my proper place as joint-secretary of the Midwifery Section.

I am, etc.,  
7, Great Charles Street, Birmingham.

LAWSON TAIT.

\*\* We do not quite concur with Mr. Tait as to the value of his explanation; but we hope that this correspondence may excite sufficient curiosity to ensure a large sale of the picture-group, which is, on the whole, as we have said, a very interesting *souvenir*, and one which indicates meritorious enterprise on the part of the publishers, Messrs. Thrupp, of Birmingham.

MEDICUS (Barnmouth).—Article 206 of the Consolidated orders of the Local Government Board states that the following are the duties of a district medical officer:

1. "To attend duly and punctually upon all poor persons requiring medical attendance within the district of the union assigned to him, and according to his agreement to supply medicines to such persons whenever he may be lawfully required to furnish such attendance or medicines by a written or printed order of the guardians or of a relieving officer of the union, or of an overseer."

A medical officer is not bound to attend any case without a regular order, but if he be sent for and attend the case without an order, or treat the patient as being under his care, he will be held responsible for any neglect which may occur, and will not be permitted to plead in justification the want of an order. It would appear that, strictly speaking, a district medical officer is not bound to attend a *pauper* without an order from some constituted authority; but a *pauper* in the district of the medical officer who applies for medical relief without a distinct written order, in a case of sudden illness or emergency, should certainly not be refused, on the grounds of humanity.

With respect to claiming payment in a court of law, it must be remembered that the patient is a *pauper*, and it may be the proverb, "sue a beggar and catch a louse," would be here practically exemplified. It is evident that the authorities could not be held responsible for the attendance on a *pauper* in the district of a medical officer which is included in the contract entered into between the guardians and the medical officers.

#### THE SURGEONS OF THE CANCER HOSPITAL.

SIR,—Entirely concurring in your strictures on the report of the Cancer Hospital, and on the responsibility of its surgeons to their profession for the statements put forward, I will take this opportunity of calling the attention of the authorities to the annexed advertisement, which may be commonly found in the "miscellaneous" corners of various daily papers, and often in unsavoury company. Now, sir, the title of this pamphlet is in singular contrast to the extracts which you quoted from the report of Mr. Marsden and Mr. John Foster, in which "cancer-cures" are so flourishingly reported in terms which startled Mr. D. Mocatta into the expression of the opinion that such good news for sufferers should be trumpeted throughout the world. Mr. Marsden is the senior surgeon, and I have no means of knowing his estimate of professional opinion. Mr. John Foster is, however, very well known in professional circles as a trusty and accomplished *aide-de-camp* of an eminent metropolitan surgeon. I am sure that he cannot meet his fellows without a blush, while the statements made in his name, if not by him, remain unexplained. The proceedings of his colleagues implicate himself, and the report of the medical officers is his report. The College of Surgeons might very wisely imitate the College of Physicians in forwarding a copy of their resolution against "excessive advertising" in the daily papers to all their fellows and members.

I am, etc.,

M. H. C.

\*\* We called attention in a leader of June 14th, to the report of the preceding year. The report of the present year is only known to us through the newspapers. The *Times* report had the following statement:—

"Of the in-patients it is most gratifying to find that fifty-four were discharged with disease arrested or relieved; eighty-nine were successfully operated upon and discharged well; thirty-eight were discharged cured without operation. On the other hand, of seventy-two who were admitted in a hopeless state, forty-two died, and there remained in the institution at the end of the year fifty-three. The power of arresting cancer, and in some instances of curing it, by a combination of local and constitutional remedies, the surgeons now believe to be established, and with far less suffering and annoyance to the patient than was formerly the case. Both these reports were adopted, the chairman saying that the report of the surgeon deserved not merely circulation in the British Isles, but throughout the world. The services of the various officers of the institution having been suitably acknowledged, and a vote of thanks was passed to the chairman, and it was responded to in an earnest speech in behalf of the now sufferers from the dreadful disease of cancer. The meeting, which was of the most enthusiastic character, then terminated."

If the surgeons of the Cancer Hospital really possess the power of curing cancer by local and constitutional means, and if, besides a large number "cured" by operation, they had the pleasure of discharging thirty-eight cases of cancer "cured without operation," it is certain that their fame cannot be too widely spread; but if it be not true, and they allow it to be believed and encourage the belief—they at least owe to the profession and the public some explanation of the unfortunate circumstances.

#### THE POCKET CLINICAL THERMOMETER.

SIR,—I observed in the *JOURNAL* of the 7th instant, your report of Arnold and Son's Pocket Clinical Thermometer (patented). I have this week seen the instrument, and my examination of it fails to verify the account I had read. The diagram in the *JOURNAL* does not represent the actual size of the instrument. When closed for the pocket case, it measures 4 inches—opened ready for use 3½ inches. It is not engraved with the centigrade scale in addition to that of Fahrenheit.

11th June, 1873.

I am, etc.,

M. B.

\*\* The thermometer sent for our inspection was marked with both centigrade and Fahrenheit scales. The measurements of the instrument given in the descriptive text in the *JOURNAL* are about the same as those given by our correspondent, and are considerably more than are represented by the engravings.

NOTICES of Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Appointments, intended for insertion in the *JOURNAL*, should arrive at the Office not later than 10 A.M. on Thursday.

MR. SMITH (St. Helier's).—The subject is one of great difficulty; but we shall be glad to receive further information, and will take care that it is placed before the proper authorities.

WE entirely agree with Miss Firth, that, considering the imperfect education which midwives receive compared with medical men, "it is wonderful that a midwife should ever be right when a doctor is wrong." That being so, it is unnecessary to publish the rest of her letter. It is desirable that the education of midwives should be more suited to the nature of their duties, and that they should learn to know their positions and fill it well.

F.R.C.P. (Aldershot).—The communication was an eccentric one; but, as the circumstances which our correspondent deprecates are in no way threatened among us at present, it will be better to let the subject drop.

#### POSITION OF TWINS.

SIR,—In your impression of May 31st, there is a letter from Mr. Ashworth referring to the position of the *fœtus in utero* in cases of twins. On looking through my case-books from 1867 to the present date, the following points bearing on the subject are found.

	No. of Case.
Both children with head-presentation ..	6
Both children with breech-presentation ..	2
First child head, second child breech, presentation ..	2
First child breech, second child head, presentation ..	1
First child head, second child foot, presentation ..	1
First child foot, second child head, presentation ..	1
Total number of cases of twins attended ..	13

Total number of cases of labour attended .. 923

I am sorry I can give no further particulars of the presentations. I find I have only noted head or breech, etc., as case might be, without stating how the child was placed with regard to the pelvis of the mother. It should be observed that, in one case which I have placed amongst the first class, I had to rely on the statement of a woman who was present at the birth, as unfortunately both children were premature and born before I arrived; but the observer was competent and fit to be relied on. Perhaps it is worth noting that the woman above alluded to had been delivered of twins about two and a half years previously.

Trowbridge, Wilts, June 5th, 1873.

I am, etc.,

G. C. TAYLER, M.D.

#### LACRYMAL CANALICULUS KNIFE.

SIR,—Permit us to correct an error in your impression of the 14th inst. relative to Mr. Greenslade's instrument for slitting the punctum lacrymale and canaliculus. In the short notice of this instrument it is stated as being made by Messrs. Arnold and Son. But the facts are as follows. The instrument was first made by us from a verbal description of Mr. Greenslade's, and so well was he pleased with it that he forwarded us a paragraph relative to it, to be inserted in yours or some other weekly medical journal. Judge of our surprise when we heard that Messrs. Arnold had taken the identical instrument with our name on to a workman to have some made like it; and the statement in your *Journal* of the above date makes it appear that it is their carrying out from Mr. Greenslade's suggestion, instead of which we have no hesitation in saying that it is copied from ours; in fact, Mr. Greenslade has shown our instrument at Charing Cross and several other hospitals.

We also beg to forward you the paragraph from Mr. Greenslade for your inspection and insertion, if you think fit.

We are, etc.,

MAYER & MELTZER.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The *Liverpool Weekly Advertiser* June 21st; The *Manchester Guardian*, June 25th; The *Aberdeen Daily Free Press*, June 21st; The *Bath Express*, June 21st; The *Birmingham Daily Post*, June 25th; The *Hull Packet*; The *Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer*; The *Melbourne Argus*; The *Kendal Mercury*; The *Roscommon Journal*; The *Herts and Essex Observer*; The *Sussex Daily News*; The *City Press*; The *Birmingham Daily Mail*; The *Bacup Times*; The *Inquirer*; The *Lincoln Gazette*; The *Wrexham Guardian*; The *Western Mail*; The *Lincolnshire Chronicle*; The *Daily Review*; etc.

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

Dr. Rolleston, Oxford; Dr. Rumsey, Cheltenham; Dr. Bradbury, Cambridge; Mr. W. Sedgwick, London; Mr. V. Jackson, Wolverhampton; Dr. George Johnson, London; Dr. John Williams, Swinton; Mr. H. Smith, London; Our Paris Correspondent; Mr. Stokes, London; Mr. Griffith, Wrexham; Dr. Murray Lindsay, Mickleover; Mr. Ward Jackson, Clifton; Dr. Priestley Smith, Birmingham; Mr. G. F. Hodgson, Brighton; Dr. Bathurst Woodman, London; An Associate; Mr. W. M. Clarke, Bristol; Mr. A. Stradling, London; Dr. Clifford Allbutt, Leeds; Mr. Erichsen, London; Mr. P. Squire, London; Messrs. Mayer and Meltzer, London; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; Miss Frith, London; M. Smith, St. Helier's; Mr. Shirley Brooks, London; Mr. McPherson, Brighton; 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. North, York; Mr. Purves, London; The Secretary of the Obstetrical Society; Dr. Steele, London; Mr. J. W. Langmore, London; Dr. G. M. Humphry, Cambridge; Mr. Blainey, Leeds; Dr. Spencer, Clifton; Mr. White Cooper, London; Dr. Burdon Sanderson, London; Dr. Keith, Edinburgh; Mr. John Marshall, London; Mr. Callender, London; Mr. Cowan, London; Mr. L. Blaise, London; Mr. M. Matthews, London; Medical Officer, Malta; Mr. Trotter, London; Dr. Farquharson, London; Dr. T. K. Chambers, London; Dr. Steele, Liverpool; Mr. Curling, London; Dr. Phillips, London; Dr. B. H. Paul, London; Dr. Chevallier, Ipswich; Dr. J. W. Moore Dublin; Dr. Tucker, Sligo; Dr. Tweedie, London; Dr. W. M. Kelly, Taunton; Dr. Fraser, London; Dr. Lyon Playfair, M.P., London; Dr. Jaccoud, Paris; Dr. Binz, Bonn; Dr. Pettenkofer, Munich; Dr. Gueneau de Mussy, Paris; Dr. T. L. Brunton, London; Dr. Cheadle, London; etc.