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STATE MEDICINE QUALIFICATION.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

THE Committee on Examinations in Medicine has, we understand, presented a report to the Senate on the subject of proposed certificates of Proficiency in Public Health, of which the following is an outline.

1. That a Special Examination be instituted in the subjects which relate to Public Health; and that a Certificate of Proficiency in these subjects be granted to Candidates who shall have passed this Examination.

2. That any Bachelor of Medicine of this University be admissible to this Examination, after an interval of a year from his passing the Second M.B. Examination.

3. That the subjects of Examination shall be as follows:—(a) *Chemistry and Microscopy*, in relation to the examination of Air, Water, and Food. (b) *Meteorology and Geology*, as far as they bear on the duties of Health Officers. (c) *Vital Statistics*, in reference to the methods employed for determining the Health of a Community. (d) *Hygiene*—general principles of Hygiene. (e) *Medicine*, in reference to the origin, spread, and method of prevention of Diseases generally, but especially those of the Epidemic class. (f) *Sanitary Engineering*, as far as regards the arrangements connected with Water-supply, Sewerage, and Ventilation. (g) *Sanitary Law*, as far as it relates to the duties of Officer of Health.

4. That the Examination shall extend over Four days, and shall be both written and practical.

6. That if in the opinion of the Examiners sufficient merit be evinced, the Candidate who shall distinguish himself the most shall receive a Gold Medal of the value of Five Pounds.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the Committee of Council will be held at the Office of the Association, 36, Great Queen Street, London, on Thursday, the 14th day of January next, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANCIS FOWKE,
General Secretary.

36, Great Queen Street, London, December 23rd, 1874.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

THE third ordinary meeting of this Branch will be held at the Royal Hotel, College Green, Bristol, on Thursday, January 14th, at 7.30 P.M.; FREDERICK MASON, Esq., President, in the Chair.

E. C. BOARD, *Honorary Secretary.*

Clifton, December 29th, 1874.

SOUTH OF IRELAND BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE second meeting of the session 1874-75 was held in the Theatre of the Royal Cork Institution, on December 9th; Dr. THOMAS GREGG, President, in the Chair. There was a large attendance of members and students.

The HONORARY SECRETARY read the minutes of the previous meeting, at which two interesting cases were brought forward: one of Spontaneous Cure of Ovarian Cyst, by Dr. W. J. Cummins; the other of Exophthalmic Goitre, by Dr. H. M. Jones.

New Members.—The following new members were elected: R. Barrett, M.D., Macroom; J. M'Donough, L.K.Q.C.P., Killarney; T. Sandiford, M.D., Castlemartyr; G. Hickson, L.R.C.P.Ed., Killarney; L. T. Griffin, L.R.C.P.Lond., Killarney; and Dr. Jennings, Queen's College, Cork.

Rules of Debate.—THE SECRETARY read the rules of debate. No communication is to occupy a longer period than a quarter of an hour in reading; and any speaker is limited to ten minutes in discussion. Members from the country are to get priority in their communications, to enable them to return early, if required.

Excision of the Eye.—Dr. JONES exhibited an eye he had excised, in which there had been a bright red reflection from the pupil, the same as that noticed in glioma. The history of the case also was similar, but the age of the patient excluded the idea, as he was a man about forty. On examination with the ophthalmoscope, no tumour was discernible;

nothing save a dark red fundus. There was very little pain; the tension of the eye was greatly diminished. The patient presented himself after some months with a collapsed ball, which was painful, and the fellow eye was commencing to water. He now consented to enucleation. The lens was cretaceous; the iris adherent to the cornea; the choroid atrophied; the vitreous humour gone; a thick and tough membrane supported the lens posteriorly; and in the posterior chamber was some cheesy matter. The optic nerve was healthy. The man is doing well.

Case of Exophthalmos.—Dr. JONES exhibited a remarkable case of exophthalmos in a child, which followed a fall on the temple. The protrusion took place about twenty-four hours after the injury; and on the seventh day, when he saw the child, the eye was completely protruded from the orbit. There was still some slight depression and protrusion, but the vision was completely restored. The treatment consisted of a compress kept constantly on the ball, and the use of atropine.

Death from Haemorrhage during Typhoid Fever.—Dr. JONES exhibited the viscera and temperature chart of a woman, who had died of severe hæmorrhage during the third week of typhoid fever, in the Cork Fever Hospital. This was an interesting case, inasmuch as the patient was admitted with all the characteristic symptoms and rash of typhus, and was heavily mottled; nor did the ochry stools appear until she was five days in hospital. There was a well marked enlargement of Peyer's patches with deposit, and the usual pathological appearances present in typhoid. The spleen was enlarged and soft, and a large hæmorrhagic infarction was present in its substance.

Cardiac Embolism occurring twice.—Dr. DAY contributed the notes of a case (he believed the only one on record) of cardiac embolism occurring twice in the same subject, at an interval of eighteen months. On both occasions, amputation was resorted to successfully for gangrene of the extremities. The young gentleman now rolls himself about in a little carriage, and is in perfect health.

Removal of Cranial Bones.—Dr. HAYES of Tralee exhibited the entire parietal and half the frontal bone of a woman, who had in a drunken state fallen into a turf fire in last May, and who is now alive and doing her business. The bones separated at the sutures in October, and came away, leaving a raw granular surface underneath. The bones were apparently forced out and loosened at the sutures by the formation of purulent matter underneath. The interior of the bones and the grooves for the meningeal arteries and frontal sinuses were almost obliterated. The frontal bone had separated completely at the original line of junction. Very lately the woman, for the first time since her immediate recovery from the accident, appeared to be threatened with head symptoms.

Arterio-Capillary Fibrosis.—Dr. ATKINS exhibited some drawings of arterio-capillary fibrosis, and also had several microscopical preparations of the same pathological condition; but time did not permit their examination. The description of them was, therefore, adjourned.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE second ordinary meeting of the session was held at the York House, Bath, on Thursday evening, December 3rd; F. MASON, Esq., President, in the chair. There were present forty members and three visitors.

New Members.—The following gentlemen were elected members of the Association and of the Branch:—F. G. Stevens, Esq., Bristol; G. B. Butter, Esq., Pill; and Thomas C. Parsons, Esq., Bristol.

Papers.—The following papers were read:

1. Midwifery Notes. By J. S. BARTRUM, Esq. Dr. Swayne and Mr. R. N. Stone made remarks.

2. A Case of Acute Rheumatism with Pericarditis. By W. H. SPENCER, M.D. This led to remarks from Drs. Goodridge, E. L. Fox, and Thompson.

3. On Urohæmaturia. By J. K. SPENDER, M.D. He related how a perfectly pale, almost colourless, urine might be the unsuspected vehicle of blood, robbing the body to a not less certain and damaging extent than if it displayed itself as ordinary blood in the usual way. Exhibiting no danger-signals to either doctor or patient, this treacherous and seemingly innocent urine might contain every element of destruction, and might represent wear and waste of a most fatal kind. The knowledge of this clinical condition was due to the sagacity of Dr. George Harley, who described it more than ten years ago. It frequently accompanied chlorosis, and could be demonstrated in the following way. The specific gravity was seldom below the standard, but if to a sample of the urine (which might contain no sugar or albumen) strong hydro-

chloric acid were added, a port-wine tint would be rapidly assumed, showing that there was an excess of combined urohematine, which was liberated by the acid. Consequently, there might be an immense destruction of blood-corpuscles in the body, and their *débris* be so eliminated as to be invisible until the application of an acid set it free. In these cases, the urine never contained blood-corpuscles. It was always alarming when the liberal administration of iron did not alter the urine, or hinder the excretion of metamorphosed blood; but Dr. Spender had found Dr. Harley's description literally true in so many cases during the last ten years, that he thought it might be an advantage to bring the matter under the notice of his medical friends.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.

THE fifty-fourth meeting was held at the Library of the County Hospital, Canterbury, on November 10th; JOHN BOWES, Esq., in the chair. Twenty members were present.

FRANCIS BARTON, Esq., of Dover, was unanimously chosen as Chairman of the next meeting at Dover on March 18th.

Papers.—Mr. LONG read a case of Congenital Scrotal Hernia in a labourer, aged 30, becoming strangulated. At the operation, the hernia was found to consist entirely of omentum, which was tied and removed. The symptoms were unrelieved; and, after further explorations, the man died eighty hours after the operation. A *post mortem* examination revealed an internal strangulation of small intestines by the band of omentum which formed the hernia passing over it. In this piece of intestine there was a deep sulcus reducing its calibre by one-half, caused by omentum always lying across it; this was now found tightly constricted, and purplish black in colour.

2. Mr. LEWIS read a case of Facial Paralysis from Syphilitic Disease of the Temporal Bone. On *post mortem* examination, a tumour of the dura mater was found, being on the inner surface of the temporal bone.

3. Dr. WALLICH read a communication on some of the Properties and Effects of Chloral Hydrate. The author drew attention to the fact that the conflicting results which had, from time to time, been attributed to chloral hydrate, and had induced some persons to condemn it as a drug both uncertain and unsafe in its action, were due in all probability to the marked diversities to be met with in the external characters, and even in the chemical constitution of the substance, as shown by the different formulæ which have been published for it. Chloral hydrate occurred either in massive tablets of varying thickness, or in small detached crystals. The latter of these two forms gave off no pungent or acrid fumes; was always more or less deliquescent; and was very largely soluble in plain water. The former gave off pungent fumes, which were in some samples acrid and acid, resembling those of hydrochloric acid, and like them visible to the eye, and was less readily soluble in water. According to the author's experience, the first named of these two forms never produced any of the deleterious effects complained of, even in cases where large doses had been persistently given, and the use of the drug continued for a protracted period. Regarding chloral hydrate as an unequalled sedative and hypnotic, and indirectly as an anodyne and anæsthetic, Dr. Wallich maintained that, by due care in the selection of the drug, by never administering it on an empty stomach, by diluting it to a sufficient extent, and not merely covering the taste by syrups or other media, and, lastly, by giving it in moderate doses—from fifteen to thirty grains—repeated as circumstances demand, rather than in larger single doses, all its normal and beneficial effects might with certainty be secured. Where increased heart's action was the primary effect produced on the system, the author contended that either the drug itself or the mode of administration had been faulty.

Dinner.—The members afterwards dined together at the Fleur-de-Lis Hotel.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE second ordinary general meeting of the Session was held on Nov. 12th, at the Midland Institute, Birmingham, W. C. GARMAN, Esq., President, in the chair, when there were present fifty-nine members and visitors.

New Members.—Mr. T. J. Hawthorn, Oaken, Wolverhampton; Mr. Thomas Evans, M.B., Edinburgh; Dr. Ingleby McKenzie, Rugby; Mr. W. H. Meredith, Netterton; and Mr. Messter and Dr. Wilson of Birmingham, were elected members of the Branch.

Testimonial to the late Honorary Secretary.—Mr. J. MANLEY proposed, and Dr. J. RUSSELL seconded, the following resolution: "That, in consideration of the services rendered to the Branch by the late Secretary, Mr. Bartleet, during a period of nine years, a testimonial be

presented to him; subscriptions not to exceed half-a-guinea." Mr. OLIVER PEMBERTON moved, and Mr. J. F. WEST seconded, the following amendment: "That, inasmuch as the position of Secretary to this Branch is an appointment of great professional advantage and distinction, it is undesirable to mark the retirement of such an officer by a testimonial solicited from its members." After some discussion, the amendment was put, and declared by the President to be lost. The original resolution was then carried. It was resolved, on the motion of Mr. MANLEY, seconded by Dr. RUSSELL: "That the following members of the Branch do form a Committee, with power to add to their number, for the purpose of carrying out the foregoing resolution—viz., Mr. Manley, Dr. Russell, Mr. Alfred Baker, Dr. Harrison, Mr. J. C. Gusman, Dr. Malins, and Dr. Bodington."

Communications.—Mr. LAWSON TAIT showed a specimen of Interstitial Tumour of the Uterus, which was provided with a very distinct and easily separated capsule, so that it would have been a very good case for the operation recommended by Dr. Marion Sims. The naked eye appearances were those of ordinary fibromyoma; but, on microscopic examination, it presented some curious cell-territories which were the subject of doubt. They might be an indication of commencing malignant proliferation, but Mr. Tait having seen the same characters exhibited by his new staining process in many other tumours which did not present any clinical evidence of cancerous change, he was inclined to regard these appearances as explanatory of the method of growth of these tumours, the more as they occurred in the neighbourhood of the blood-vessels. He had been able to inject the tumour very successfully, and to obtain evidence that the blood-vessels were very sparse; a fact which no doubt explained the readiness with which these tumours separate after injury to their capsules.

2. Dr. A. UNDERHILL narrated a case of Naso-Pharyngeal Polypus, with hypertrophy of the mucous membrane, for which tracheotomy and removal of the superior maxillary bone had been performed.

3. Mr. WEST read a paper entitled Recent Surgical Experience of the Hospitals of Germany, France, and Belgium. He passed in review the treatment of wounds, and the method of dealing with fractures, as seen in these hospitals; and also called attention to the existence or otherwise of pyæmia or erysipelas in relation to their size, age, and sanitary condition. Mr. West then brought forward various new instruments and pharmaceutical preparations which he had seen in use on the continent, and which seemed worthy of trial, and, in some instances of adoption, in the surgical practice of this country.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST SUSSEX DISTRICT.

THE second meeting of the year was held at the board-room of the Infirmary, Chichester, on Tuesday, October 27th; Dr. TYACKE in the Chair; eleven other members being present.

Next Meeting.—It was unanimously resolved that the next meeting should be held at Horsham; and that Mr. Greenwood, of Two Mile Ash, be requested to act as Chairman.

Communications.—The following communications were then brought before the notice of the members present.

1. Dr. BUCKELL related the particulars of a case of Pharyngeal Fistula, and exhibited the patient.

2. Dr. ROBINSON related the particulars of a somewhat similar case.

3. Dr. WITHERS MOORE, at the request of the Chairman, related his experience of, and gave his opinion upon, the treatment of Hydrophobia.

All these communications gave rise to considerable discussion.

New Members.—Two gentlemen were proposed as members of the Association and the Branch.

The Dinner took place at the Dolphin Hotel, where fourteen gentlemen, including four visitors, assembled, under the presidency of Dr. Tyacke.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT.

THE second meeting of the eighteenth session, 1874-5, was held at Maidstone, on November 20th; H. CECIL SMITH, Esq., in the Chair.

The next meeting was appointed to be held at Gravesend in March or April, and Dr. Gramshaw was chosen Chairman.

New Members.—James Stewart, L.R.C.P., Barming Heath Asylum, a member of the Association, was elected a member of the Branch; Egbert Charlton, M.D., 17, Norfolk Street, London, and Doyle M. Shaw, L.R.C.S. Edin., Staff-Surgeon R.N., H.M.S. Pembroke, Chatham, were elected members of the Association; and W. Phillips Kirkman, M.D., of Barming Asylum, Maidstone, and William Fear, M.R.C.S.E., Brenchley, were elected members of the Association and Branch.

Papers, etc.—1. A clinical lecture was given by M. A. ADAMS, Esq., on a case of Astigmatism.

2. A paper was read by Dr. STEPHEN MONCKTON, on Acute Rheumatism changing into Pyæmia. The object of the paper was to show, chiefly by the citation of two well marked cases, that pyæmia occasionally proceeds directly out of rheumatic fever, the progress of the latter assuming a perverted and malignant course. That a case pyæmia from the first may for a time put on the semblance of rheumatism, and that rheumatic fever in a feeble subject may, though very rarely, lead to a fatal issue with typhoid symptoms, was admitted at once. But more than this was affirmed; the contention being, that genuine rheumatic fever in a subject of average power, and without pernicious surroundings, may, and in these two cases did, abruptly alter its course in such wise that the development of lactic acid ceases, and blood-poisoning with collapse, hæmorrhages, gland-swelling, icteric hue, and almost certain death, succeed. A case, therefore, may die pyæmic, and yet have been correctly diagnosed as rheumatic at the outset; just as a patient may succumb to purpura and universal hæmorrhages, who had been seized with small-pox to begin with; except that, in the former case, the primary disease will have been replaced by the secondary, instead of aggravated by it. Dr. Monckton suggested that too active saturation with alkalis might have mischievous tendencies in this direction; as also the undue exclusion of oxygen from anxiety to keep the patient warm. In neither of the cases quoted was there any evidence of erysipelas, purulent or septic contamination from without, fibrinous concretion, or ulcerative endocarditis. The mischief seemed to arise from a perversion of the chemical blood-change; the production, effects, and elimination of lactic acid ceasing, and toxæmia of a more disintegrating and deadly character replacing it. It may be remembered, that pyæmia has been produced by the artificial introduction of lactic acid into the blood.

3. Dr. ALLFREY related a case of Typhoid Fever succeeded by Rheumatic Fever with Pleurisy.

Dinner.—The members and visitors dined at the Mitre Hotel.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH: AUTUMNAL MEETING.

THE autumnal meeting of this Branch was held at the Black Lion Hotel, Aberdare, on November 26th, at 1 P.M.; present, W. T. EDWARDS, M.D. (Cardiff), President, in the Chair, and about thirty members.

New Members.—H. T. Pringle, M.D., County Asylum, Bridgend; L. G. Leslie, Esq., Saundersfoot; and T. G. Jones, Esq., Hirwain, were elected members of the Association and Branch.

Papers, etc.—1. Mr. T. J. DYKE (Merthyr) explained and demonstrated Mr. Horsley's ready methods of detecting (1) Nitrates and Nitrites in Water, (2) Alum in Bread and Flour, (3) Water added to Milk and Cream abstracted, (4) Lard or Meat Fat in Butter.

2. Mr. EVAN JONES (Aberdare) read a few notes on Some of the Causes of Infant Mortality.

Public Health.—A Committee, formed for the purpose of "watching matters relating to public health" (Mr. E. R. Morgan, Neath, Honorary Secretary), considered the subject of statistical returns; and it was decided that the mode of returns used by the Registrar-General be adopted in the forthcoming annual report. Several officers of health complained of the lax and imperfect manner in which certificates of death were often filled up. The meeting was of opinion that these certificates should be sent direct by the medical man to the registrar, and not be given into the hands of a third party.

Next Meeting.—It was decided that the spring meeting should be held at Britonferry.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: HONOURS TO THE PUBLIC SERVICES.

SIR,—I read with much pleasure the obituary notice on the late Sir Ranald Martin in your JOURNAL of the 19th December. It is far from my purpose to attempt to detract anything from the well merited eulogies accorded to him therein; but a sense of justice leads me to put you in possession of certain facts with reference to the grant of military honours to the medical officers of the army and navy. I do this in order that the zeal and important services of Mr. W. P. Brookes of Wenlock, and of the British Medical Association, in this matter, should not be overlooked. Sometime since I had an opportunity of reading the correspondence of

that gentleman with the Duke of Richmond, Lord Gough, Sir Howard Douglas, Sir De Lacy Evans, Gen. Sir Herbert Edwardes, Mr. G. J. Guthrie, Sir James MacGrigor, Sir W. Burnett, and Sir Ranald Martin himself, on the right of army and navy surgeons to military honours; from which it is evident that the advocacy of Sir Howard Douglas and Sir De Lacy Evans in Parliament, at the instance of Sir Ranald Martin, was not successful in obtaining the boon solicited from Her Majesty's Government. Indeed, in one of his letters to Mr. Brookes, Sir De Lacy Evans states that he regrets that his advocacy had not been successful.

It was thus intimated to certain medical officers of the Army and Navy that it was the intention of Her Majesty's Government to confer upon them certain decorations of the civil order of the Bath. Amongst others, such an intimation was conveyed to the late Mr. Guthrie, who declined the proffered honour.

At this stage of the proceedings, Mr. Brookes, who was then President of the Shropshire Branch of the British Medical Association, called the attention of the Branch to the subject; and forwarded, first, a memorial from himself to Sir George Grey (then Home Secretary), and afterwards one from the above-named Branch; he was also instrumental in obtaining similar memorials from Bath, Manchester, Liverpool, and other Branches of the Association. He was afterwards appointed to deliver an address on the services of the Army and Navy surgeons of the Queen's and Honourable East India Company's services, and to draw up a memorial to Lord John Russell on the subject, at the General Meeting of the Association held at Hull in 1850. The prayer of the memorial was soon after granted by Lord John Russell.

I think that it will be evident from the above brief summary of facts that the much-coveted and well-deserved honour was not granted until Sir Howard Douglas and Sir De Lacy Evans had failed; and that the ultimate success of the application was in great measure due to the efforts of Mr. W. P. Brookes, then President of the Shropshire Branch of the British Medical Association.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,
ERNEST TYLER SMITH, B.A., L.R.C.P.

BODY-FORCE AND STIMULANTS.

SIR,—I have read with much satisfaction your article upon "Body-force and Stimulation". I believe its teaching to be essentially sound. In my student days, I had the advantage of seeing the stimulant plan of treatment carried out to extremes by that excellent clinical teacher the late Dr. Todd and his disciples; and I saw it practised with more judicious moderation at Edinburgh under Dr. Hughes Bennett. I have since for eleven years been actively engaged in club, parish, and private practice, and have formed a very distinct opinion that the practice of indiscriminate feeding and stimulation now so much in vogue is injurious. Much of the success which I have had in the treatment of acute disease may have been the result of good fortune; but, to a large extent, I am convinced that it has been due to a recognition of the error in question. I have depended mainly upon milk, supplemented only by beef-tea; and, although I have had but few cases in which alcohol has not appeared to have been of service, I have given it in very moderate doses. I have generally found a teaspoonful, or at most a tablespoonful, of wine, given in a state of dilution and at regular intervals, more beneficial than larger quantities of wine or brandy. In the case of delicate children, when stimulants have appeared to me to be indicated, I have generally found claret sufficient.

But is not only to say this that I write, but to express an opinion I have long held, that such articles as those to which I refer—all in fact which treat dogmatically purely medical subjects—should bear the writer's name. The article in question bears great intrinsic evidence of merit, but I cannot help thinking that it would carry more weight, and be more generally useful to the profession, if we knew who was responsible for the opinions expressed. My remarks are of course not intended to apply to leading articles upon subjects of general professional polity.—I am, etc., C. H. ALLFREY, M.D., F.R.C.S. (exam.)

St. Mary Cray, December 14th, 1874.

MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

It is confidently rumoured that the appellation of Staff-Surgeons of the Second Class will very shortly disappear from the *Navy List*.

MOVEMENTS OF ARMY MEDICAL OFFICERS.—Surgeon-Major A. W. Beveridge, 78th Highlanders, has been directed to take medical charge of the 1st Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers, at Aldershot, until further orders.—Surgeon Duke Park has been taken on the strength of the

leading members of the profession, and a band of students from the school of the College of Surgeons walked in procession for a considerable distance.

MEDICAL NEWS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, December 17th, 1874.

Cassan, Theodore, County Asylum, Gloucester
Spark, Sidney Walter, 31, Myddelton Square, N.
Watts, Fred, Plymouth

The following gentleman also on the same day passed his primary professional examination.

Taylor, Henry Edward, Leeds School of Medicine

The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, December 24th, 1874.

Bailey, Samuel Henry, Nottingham
Favell, Richard, Sheffield
Homan, George William, King's College Hospital
Lewis, David Howell, Brechfa, near Carmarthen
Theed, William Caswood, Barkham, Wokingham, Berks

The following gentlemen also on the same day passed their primary professional examination.

Bevan, Richard, Guy's Hospital
Bruce, Robert, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Cambridge, Thomas Arthur, Middlesex Hospital
Clements, William George, Middlesex Hospital
Collingridge, William, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Fell, Thomas Kennedy, Guy's Hospital
Knight, John Tomlinson, Guy's Hospital
Manders, Horace, St. Mary's Hospital
Townsend, Charles Percy G., Queen's Hospital, Birmingham

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN: SCHOOL OF PHYSIC IN IRELAND.—At the Michaelmas Term examinations in Medicine and Surgery, the following candidates passed, their names being arranged in the order of merit.—For the Degree of M.B.:

Hunter, William L.	Taaffe, Robert
Kellett, Leonard H.	Mason, Samuel R.
Hearn, Richard Thomas	Nickson, George M.
Farrell, Peter J.	Bleakley, Alexander S.
Drummond, David	Blood, Matthew S.

For the Degree of M.Ch.:

Eaton, James B.	Murphy, George W.
Murray, Charles F.	Johnston, William
Drummond, David	

The examination for the Diploma in State Medicine took place on December 10th, 11th, and 12th, 1874. The following gentlemen were successful:

Boileau, J. P. H., M.D.	Twcedy, Henry J., M.D.
Woodhouse, Stewart, M.D.	

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

ABERYSTWYTH INFIRMARY—Surgeon.
ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT—Surgeons. Applications to be made to the Director-General of the Army Medical Department.
ATHY UNION, co. Kildare—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator. Salary, £120 and fees.
BALLACHULISH SLATE QUARRIES—Medical Officer. Salary, £200 per annum. Testimonials to be sent in to J. Gardner, Ballachulish, N.B., on or before the 14th instant.
BLACKBURN UNION—Medical Officer for the Harwood District. Salary, £25 per annum.
BLYTHING UNION—Medical Officer for No. 9 District. Salary, £39 per ann.
BRADFORD UNION—Medical Officer for the Workhouse. Salary, £225 per annum.
BRIDGWATER UNION—Medical Officer for No. 2 District. Salary, £70 per annum.
CASTLE WARD UNION—Medical Officer for the Ponteland District. Salary, £20 per annum. Also, the Workhouse. Salary, £30 per annum.
CITY ORTHOPEDIC HOSPITAL, Hatton Garden—Assistant-Surgeon. Applicants must be F. or M.R.C.S. Applications on or before January 2nd, 1875.
DERBYSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY—Assistant House-Surgeon. Board, lodging, and washing, but no salary. Applications to Secretary.
EAST SUSSEX, HASTINGS, and ST. LEONARD'S INFIRMARY—Assistant-Surgeon.
ESSEX LUNATIC ASYLUM—Second Assistant Medical Officer and Dispenser. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing.
FIFE AND KINROSS DISTRICT ASYLUM—Assistant Physicianship. Salary, £80, with board, etc. Apply to Dr. Fraser, Medical Superintendent, Cupar-Fife.
GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, Caledonian Road—One Physician and one Surgeon. Applications to be sent in on or before January 12th, 1875.
GREENWICH UNION—Workhouse Medical Officer. Salary, £300 per annum. Applications on or before January 7th, 1875.

HARRIS, Parochial Board of—Surgeon. Salary, £66 per annum, including vaccination and medicine for the poor. The gentleman elected will get £90 per annum for attending the ratepayers and cottars within South Harris. Applications to be made to the Chairman of the Parochial Board of Harris.

HEADINGTON UNION—Medical Officer for the Wheatley District. Salary, £70 per annum.

HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Soho Square—Surgeon and Assistant-Physician. Applications on or before January 4th, 1875.

HUDDERSFIELD INFIRMARY—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £40 per annum, with board and washing. Applications on or before the 4th instant.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE—Twenty appointments as Surgeon. Examination in February 1875.

LEEK UNION—Medical Officer for the Workhouse. Salary, £85 per annum.

LICHFIELD UNION—Medical Officer for the Alrewas District. Salary, £35 per annum.

LLANELLY UNION—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Kidwelly District. Salary, £20 per annum, and fees. Applications to be sent in on or before January 6th, 1875.

LOCHMABEN, Parsh of, Dumfriesshire—Medical Officer. Salary, £50 per annum, and fees. Testimonials to be lodged with the Inspector of Poor on or before the 16th instant.

METROPOLITAN ASYLUM DISTRICT—Medical Superintendent of a temporary Asylum for Imbecile Children. Salary, £400 per annum, with furnished house, cals, and gas. Applications on or before the 13th instant.

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL—Surgical Registrar. Applications on or before January 8th, 1875.

MIDDLESEX LUNATIC ASYLUM, Hanwell—Assistant Medical Officer.

MITFORD and LAUNDITCH UNION—Medical Officer for the Workhouse. Salary, £45 per annum.

NORTH BRIERLEY UNION—Medical Officer for the Seventh District.

NORTH-EASTERN HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Hackney Road, E.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with attendance, rooms, coals and light.

NORTH WALES COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to be sent in on or before the 13th instant.

PLYMOUTH UNION—Medical Officer for No. 3 District.

QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S LYING-IN HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Applications to be sent in on or before the 9th instant.

REDDITCH and DISTRICT MEDICAL ASSOCIATION—Medical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum, with fees and unfurnished house.

RICHMOND (Surrey) UNION—Medical Officer for the Richmond District. £100 per annum.

RISBRIDGE UNION—Medical Officer for the Fourth District.

RYDE DISPENSARY—Physician.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL—Assistant Physician.

ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL FOR LUNATICS—Second Clinical Assistant. Board and furnished apartments.

SHEFFIELD PUBLIC HOSPITAL and DISPENSARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, gas, and washing.

SLEAFORD UNION—Medical Officer for the Sleaford District and the Workhouse. Salary, £50 and £30 per annum respectively.

SMALLBURGH UNION—Medical Officer for the Ludham District. Salary, £52 14 per annum.

STRATHKINNESS, Village and District of—Medical Officer. Salary, £10 from Parochial Board, with £110 from a workmen's club, exclusive of midwifery fees. Apply to Mr. A. Cowper, Kincapple, Cupar Fife.

SWANSEA URBAN and PORT SANITARY DISTRICT—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £200 per annum, and fees.

TENDRING UNION—Medical Officer for the First and Second Districts. Salary, £97 per annum.

TORPHINS in the Parish of Kincardine O'Neil, Aberdeenshire—Parochial Medical Officer: £45 per annum. Applications to Chairman of Parochial Board.

TOWN'S HOSPITAL and ASYLUM, Glasgow—Medical Assistant. Salary, £80 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications on or before the 2nd instant.

TRINITY COLLEGE, Dublin—Professor of Chemistry: £500 per annum, and fees. Applications to the Rev. Dr. Haughton, Trinity College.

TYNEMOUTH UNION—Vaccination Officer.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH—Additional Examiner in Medicine.

WESTBOURNE PROVIDENT DISPENSARY and MATERNITY, Queen's Road, Bayswater—Surgeon. Applications on or before the 6th instant.

WHITBY DISTRICT LOCAL BOARD—Medical Officer of Health. Applications to be sent in on or before the 14th instant.

WOOLWICH UNION, Kent—Assistant Medical Officer to the new Infirmary at Plumstead. Salary, £60 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. An additional salary of £20 per annum will be given for dispensing for the poor of the Plumstead District.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

BAKER, Benjamin R., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Second Clinical Assistant at St. Luke's Hospital for Lunatics.

HERKATH, Charles K. C., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Surgeon to the Bristol Dispensary, Sixth District.

PLUMER, Charles J., M.D., appointed Assistant-Physician to the Western Infirmary, Glasgow.

STELL, Graham, M.B., appointed Medical Registrar to the London Fever Hospital.
STURGE, Wm. A., M.B., appointed Medical Registrar to the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic.

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.

BIRTH.

GALTON.—On December 25th, 1874, at Woodside, Anerley Road, Upper Norwood, the wife of *John H. Galton, M.D., of a daughter.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAYMetropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.

TUESDAYGuy'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.

THURSDAYSt. 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.

FRIDAYRoyal 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.

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

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. C. F. Maunders: Lettsomian Lectures, "The Surgery of the Arteries (illustrated by twenty-seven Operations of Ligature by the author), and other Cases of Disease and Injury".

TUESDAY.—Pathological Society of London, 8 P.M. Annual Meeting for the election of Officers; Report; Address; etc. The following Preparations will also be exhibited. Mr. Lawson: Sarcoma of the sclerotic. Dr. Wickham Legg: Aneurism of Mitral Valve. Mr. Alex. Morison: Specimens of Urinary and Biliary Calculi. Mr. Sydney Jones: Congenital Dislocation of both Hips (a living subject); Large Lymphangioma secreting Chyle (a living subject); Hypertrophy of Limb from Disease of Knee-joint (a living subject). Mr. Nunn: Hypertrophied Bursa Patellæ removed by Operation; Epithelioma of the Colon. Mr. Bryant: Complete Cancerous Occlusion of the Rectum in a girl aged 18 years—Colotomy; Extreme Ulceration of the Rectum cured after Colotomy. Dr. Hoggan: Microscopical Specimen of Melanoid Sarcoma in a Cod-fish; Microscopical Specimens of Cancer prepared by a new Process. Dr. Way: Internal Stricture, with Rupture of Cæcum.

WEDNESDAY.—Obstetrical Society of London, 8 P.M. Annual Meeting; Election of Officers; President's Address. Dr. Bathurst Woodman, "On the Treatment of Mammary Abscess by Rest"; Dr. Madge, "On a Case of Labour complicated by Pelvic Tumour and by Convulsions"; Mr. Ashburton Thompson, "On Zinc Phosphate in Cases of Amenorrhœa".

THURSDAY.—Harveian Society of London, 8 P.M. Annual Meeting; Election of Officers; President's Address; Conversation.

FRIDAY.—Clinical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Teevan, "A Case of Subcutaneous Urethrotomy"; Dr. Farquharson, "A Case of Hæmoptysis in a Syphilitic Patient"; Mr. T. Holmes, "A Case of Naso-pharyngeal Polypus".

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.—We shall be much obliged to Medical Officers of Health if they will, in forwarding their Annual and other Reports, favour us with *Duplicate Copies*.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the JOURNAL, are requested to communicate beforehand with the printer, Mr. T. Richards, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.

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

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

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, 36, Great Queen Street, W.C.

VISITING LISTS.

WE have received copies of Letts's Diaries. No. 45 is a very valuable table-diary for persons requiring space for a good deal of writing, for additional pages of writing paper are supplied. Letts's *Medical Diary* is a very excellent and complete pocket-book, especially suitable for the daily purposes of medical practice, having space for the entry of daily visits, accouchements, vaccinations, etc., and supplying a good deal of useful information.

Dr. SHEEN of Cardiff has made his little pocket visiting-lists more complete than they were last year, and still more handy.

Dr. T. H. BARTLEY (Baillière, Tindall, and Co.) has published an useful little *Posological Table of Medicine of the British Pharmacopœia*, which can be carried with visiting lists or medical diary by gentlemen of short memories.

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, 36, Great Queen Street, W.C., and not to the Editor.

DISINFECTANT.—Our correspondent should apply to Dr. Fox, Cockermouth, for the information required.

MASTURBATION IN CHILDREN.

SIR,—I can thoroughly endorse the advice given by "M.R.C.S. Eng.," in last week's JOURNAL, on the above subject. He says, "Look after the child's nurse." I had a very shocking and distressing case a year or so ago, when a bright, intelligent little boy, about six years old, was taken into the bed of his nurse-girl every night, placed between her legs, and kept there more or less all night. After awhile, it came to the knowledge of his mother, and of course the nurse was instantly dismissed. But imagine her horror on finding that he afterwards got into the bed of a little sister about a year younger than himself, and did the same thing as with the nurse; and still later, when they were separated and carefully watched at night, he would seek an opportunity in the day-time and throw her down on the floor for the same purpose. His health of course suffered much, and at first his condition was a puzzle. He was sent away to school, in judicious hands, and he is now hearty and healthy, and seems to have entirely forgotten his former propensity. Therefore, I say, "Look after the nurse" in such cases, but especially the *nurse-girl*. I am, etc.,

WILLIAM HOAR

Maidstone, December 17th, 1874.

AN OLD MEMBER.—We have looked through the paper of Chemistry Questions at the preliminary examination of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. We are of opinion that they are correctly described as "elementary," and we can see no ground for complaint in respect to them.

THE WORTHING INFIRMARY.

SIR,—As you have brought my name forward in the JOURNAL in connection with the differences said to exist between the members of the staff of the Worthing Infirmary, I feel bound to ask you to allow me to state my views of the case, in order that I may stand in a proper light before my medical confrères.

Let me first of all say that I have no *personal* feeling whatever against Dr. Goldsmith in the matter: my wish is, that no change should take place in the number or respective positions of the present members of the staff of this infirmary, and the course I have pursued, although one of apparent opposition, is in reality dictated by a desire to retain Dr. Goldsmith's services in his present capacity.

Some few weeks back, Dr. Goldsmith requested his two colleagues to undertake the care of surgical in-patients during his month of office, to which proposition they agreed, upon the understanding that such agreement was a private and provisional one, and referred simply to in- and not to out-patients; but, in the course of a subsequent conversation, they understood from him, that he wished to give up the care of surgical out-patients as well, and he also made the following statement in writing. "It is my intention to give up the surgical part of the duties of the infirmary. If I can retain the medical part as physician, I shall be happy to do so, but if the committee decline to make such change, I shall place my resignation in the hands of the Governors, with the request that such an arrangement may be made."

The compact thus made, would have remained in force but for two reasons. 1st. Dr. Goldsmith, feeling that it might be said that he occupied a false position towards the Governors by undertaking duties which he did not intend for the future to perform, brought the subject before the Committee of Management; the affair thus ceased to be a purely private matter between the members of the staff. 2nd. Dr. Goldsmith made no secret of the fact that he aspired to become physician to the Infirmary, and that this was but the stepping-stone to his being appointed to that office, which at present does not exist.

The staff consists of three members, who take priority from the date of their appointment, but are otherwise upon the same footing, and perform similar duties, which are as follows: viz., to attend two days in the week to see out-patients, and to receive "in-patients" under their care month by month in rotation.

Without entering into the question, whether a member of the profession, who is a "general practitioner," can occupy the position of physician to a hospital or an Infirmary, it seems to me, in the present instance, that this proceeding on the part of Dr. Goldsmith is, to say the least of it, rather an arbitrary one. His proposition, had it been carried, would have completely altered the constitution and working of the institution, which the members of the Committee of Management, by their vote, do not consider at present desirable, or required in the interests of the institution.

My amendment, viz., "That no change be made in the present (not personal) status or position of the medical staff of this institution," was made purely from a view of ascertaining the wishes of the Committee, and, as I have said before, from no animus against Dr. Goldsmith; but I feel that he, being a "general practitioner," is *not* qualified to occupy the post of physician to any institution; and that, not only is such an appointment, as far as regards the Worthing Infirmary, unnecessary, but that any change whatever in the staff is at present undesirable.

During the time, now upwards of ten years, that I have been officially connected with the institution, no differences, as far as I am aware of, have existed between the members of the staff; and I am assured by the Honorary Secretary that, in spite of various changes, which of necessity have occurred from deaths and resignations, this harmonious state of things has always prevailed; and I consider it would be a great pity to disturb that good feeling and confidence between us which has hitherto existed, and which, in spite of this *contretemps*, might continue.

I must apologise for the length of this communication, but some reply was absolutely necessary, and nothing less than what I have stated would have explained the other side of the question.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

WM. J. HARRIS, M.R.C.S.E., L.S.A.,
Senior Medical Officer to the Worthing Infirmary.

13, Marine Parade, Worthing, December 26th, 1874.

* * * We very willingly publish Mr. Harris's letter. He does not impugn the facts contained in our article; for, he not only admits differences to exist, but points out where and how they exist. He even strengthens the case we made out in our last issue; for he plainly states that, if these differences are not amicably settled, Dr. Goldsmith will resign. We would further point out to Mr. Harris, the strong probability that the Committee of Management decided against the election of an honorary physician, because they naturally felt anxious to rally

round their senior medical officer and to support his views. We assure Mr. Harris he is in error in supposing that "a general practitioner is not qualified to occupy the post of physician to any institution". It is the rule at most of the small institutions, and at even some of the large provincial hospitals (the General Infirmary at Leeds, for instance), that a general practitioner is eligible to fill the office of honorary physician, provided he be a graduate of a British University and undertakes not to practise pharmacy. Under all the circumstances of the case, in the interests of the profession and the institution in question, we appeal to Mr. Harris to follow the course we suggested last week, and to recommend the Committee to pass a resolution to the effect, that the seniority of Mr. Harris be secured, and that Dr. Goldsmith be elected honorary physician. We confidently urge Mr. Harris to take this course, because the election of an honorary physician will insure that the six beds now available for medical cases are made to do all the work that they possibly can.

SIR,—I think your remarks concerning the Worthing Infirmary, in your last number, demand some observations from me.

You appear to have arrived at a very clear conception of the state of affairs; but, at the same time, some little explanation of my position may remove any erroneous impression that might be formed. I begin, therefore, by saying that some time since I mentioned to my colleagues, Messrs. Harris and Collet, that it had long been my wish to retire gradually from surgical work. As the Committee had determined to recommend the admission of medical in-patients, it struck me that a suitable opportunity presented itself to enable me to carry my purpose into effect. Finding that any alteration in the status of the staff was likely to be unacceptable to my colleagues, we mutually agreed that I should refrain from resignation on the condition that they would, between them, undertake the surgical in-cases occurring during the months allotted to me. Upon consideration, I felt myself in a false position with the Governors who had appointed me to fulfil certain duties, which I had just arranged not to carry out. I, therefore, proposed that the Committee of Management should sanction the private arrangement entered into between us, and wrote to this effect to my colleagues. Before putting any notice on the agenda, I showed it to Mr. Harris at the Infirmary, and explained what course I meant to pursue, adding "I presume you will support this". The only remark he made was, "Well, it may lead to some discussion". I then handed my notice to the assistant secretary. I took no steps to secure the attendance of any members of the Committee, as I expected no opposition. But, the moment I entered the committee room and saw who were there, I knew mischief was brewing; but I did not expect that, without any warning, I was to meet with unqualified opposition on the part of my colleagues. I stated at this meeting, that I merely wished the private agreement to be sanctioned by the Committee; but that my ulterior object and wish was, at some future time, to become physician to the institution. One of the members suggested that the medical staff should retire to see whether some mutual arrangement could not be arrived at. Then, and not until then, the real truth came out. Mr. Harris said, "As long as I am on the staff, whoever is appointed physician to this Infirmary, shall practise as a pure physician". I remarked, "That such restrictions were not usual in provincial infirmaries". He repeated, with the strongest emphasis, "He shall". Now, sir, I will leave you to judge of the propriety of these words from one member of the staff to another. In this particular case there are reasons why *three* is an inconvenient and undesirable number of medical officers; and, therefore, I think your suggestions offer the only satisfactory solution. At the present time, although the number of out-patients and the amount of work are greater than they have ever been, the medical staff was never so numerically weak since the institution was established. There is ample scope for a physician and three surgeons. I have not the slightest wish to dictate to the Committee, nor indeed have I the right to do so; but it strikes me that, unless some such course as you suggest is adopted, no other alternative is left to me but to resign my appointment as surgeon, a step which would cause me much regret.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, JOHN GOLDSMITH, M.D.

G. S. M.—We should think that the coroner's conduct was decidedly illegal. He was bound to allow the fee, having summoned the witness; and we think the fee could be recovered.

MEDICAL DEGREES AND TITLES.

SIR,—Let me thank you very sincerely for your article in Saturday's JOURNAL on "Medical Titles". I feel the present position of our Universities to be a disgrace to our age, and I think it is doing a real injury to the profession. A reform which would place a good M.D. degree open to men who could pass a good sound examination would prevent the present rage for sham or shabby substitutes, and save the profession the degradation of more "years of grace".

My hearty thanks for your outspoken and able article. I hope it will begin the destruction of the present monopoly system. I am, etc.,

December 1874. M.D., BIRMINGHAM.

SIR,—In continuation of the controversy regarding medical degrees and titles, I should very much like to put a few general questions to some of our M.D. adversaries. I say some advisedly, as I am pretty sure that the number of those gentlemen who are agitating themselves on the subject represents but a small minority of their *confrères* similarly ennobled by that particular degree of M.D. As a licentiate of the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland, I not only lay claim to the prefix of Dr., but I assert that I am a Doctor legally and morally. If I am not, what am I? True, I have not taken the University degree of M.D.; but what of that? It is not necessary to have that particular degree to be a doctor. The College of Physicians have, after an examination equal in severity and conducted by equally qualified men in every way to that for the University degree, legally declared me and my brother Licentiates to be physicians; and if physicians be not doctors, I do not know what doctors are. As Licentiates, we are entitled to write after our names the initials of our degree, as M.D. men do; but we do not generally do so, for the simple reason of the inconvenient number of letters. I am also a Fellow of the College of Surgeons, and with any one challenge my right to the prefix "Surgeon"? I think not; and I submit with every consideration that the two cases are entirely synonymus. I grant that, speaking generally, men with the M.D. degree are, if anything, entitled to more consideration by reason of the longer time necessary, greater expense, and, if possible, higher curriculum to be passed before obtaining their degree; but I think they are amply rewarded by being enabled to sign after their names the two much coveted letters, which ought to be, and I think is, quite sufficient to distinguish them from their less honoured but otherwise equal brother practitioners. I trust that the number of those University men is few who, as such, consider them-

selves infinitely superior, professionally, to us simple Licentiates. Any Licentiate wrongly assuming the title of M.D., or any M.D. wrongly assuming the title of a Licentiate of a College of Physicians, ought to be proceeded against, for such symbols are the sole distinction between us; the broad fact remaining that, both being physicians, both are also doctors; and that has been on one notable occasion, at least, legally determined by an eminent judge, for the benefit of the King and Queen's College. I repeat, that the said College do not only profess, but are, moreover, legally and morally fully justified in endowing their members with such distinction.

I should like to know in what single way an M.D. man is more a Dr. than a Licentiate of a College of Physicians. I am not bigoted towards my own class; but I confess I cannot see, and, moreover, I should say there are very few M.D. men who do so either. If any change is to be made in the existing rules or customs in these matters, I think it should be to exclude University men from using the prefix "Dr.", reserving that for those who cannot use the initials M.D., as both together are manifestly unnecessary. Military or naval men do not require to go through an University to be entitled "Lieutenants"; and are such who do not any the less lieutenants than those who have passed from an University? I think not. If a gentleman serve an apprenticeship to, and obtain a certificate of competency from, an engineer, is he not an engineer? and, because he has not taken his C.E. from an University, is he not entitled to the prefix "Engineer"? I should think he was. Exactly so in our case; and how or why University men profess to deny such, I am at a loss to conceive. Perhaps some energetic M.D. may enlighten me on the subject, and prove to my satisfaction that I am not a doctor at all; if so, I will at once and for ever forego the title; and if I am not a doctor, neither am I a surgeon, and it will devolve upon him to tell me what I really am. Perhaps I am only a baker or a tinker after all. I should not be surprised if I were told so.

With every respect, I consider that the suggestion of your correspondent "Country Practitioner", with regard to praying some foreign University to send over examiners to examine and pronounce us M.D.s, would indeed be a disreputable proceeding, and ought to be summarily scouted. Any Licentiates who are so very much enamoured of the initials M.D., ought to be prepared to spend a certain time—at Edinburgh, for instance—and duly pass the required examination, and thus obtain the coveted honour in a respectable way.

Middlesex, Dec. 8th, 1874.

I am, etc.,

L.K.Q.C.P.I.

LEX (Lincoln's Inn).—We are afraid not. Something of the sort appeared in *The Daily Post* Boy of December 29th, 1731, which published some proposals for castrating criminals, extracted from a pamphlet published in Ireland, showing that, if this plan were adopted and five hundred examples made, it would have such an influence upon the wicked, that our judges and juries would have much less business on their hands. The castration would cool the heat of those guilty of rape and sodomy; and, as theft and rapine often run in the blood, such a law would disable a set of vile people from leaving their pernicious breed behind them. Hector Boece affirms that the ancient Scots gelded such as labour'd under madness or infectious distempers, which they thought might be communicated to their offspring.

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Birmingham Daily Gazette. The Western Daily Press; The Manchester Guardian; The Ulster Advertiser; The Sussex Coast Mercury; The Broad Arrow; The Surrey Advertiser; The Bedale and Northallerton Times; The Hackney Express; The Liverpool Porcupine; The Scotsman; The Liverpool Mercury; The Glasgow Herald; The Stroud News and Gloucestershire Advertiser; The Bradford Observer; The Morpeth Herald; The Portsmouth Times; The Western Daily Press; The York Herald; The Sheffield Evening Star; The Brighton Guardian; The Sussex Daily News; The Wrexham Advertiser; The Glasgow Herald; The Sussex Coast News; The Finsbury Conservative; The Berkshire Chronicle; The Hull News; etc.

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

Dr. T. L. Brunton, London; Dr. George Johnson, London; Dr. J. Matthews Duncan, Edinburgh; Dr. S. Wilks, London; Inspector General Maclean, C.B., Southampton; Dr. J. Hughes Bennett, Nice; Mr. T. H. Bartleet, Birmingham; Dr. Inman, Clifton; Dr. Finlayson, Glasgow; Dr. Bradbury, Cambridge; Dr. J. Milner Fothergill, London; Dr. Edis, London; Dr. Joseph Bell, Edinburgh; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; Dr. G. M. Humphry, Cambridge; The Secretary of the Clinical Society; Mr. T. Holmes, London; The Secretary of the Pathological Society; Mr. T. Annandale, Edinburgh; An Associate; Dr. Alex. Fleming, Birmingham; Dr. Hawkes, Alton; Dr. Harris, Redruth; Dr. W. Rhys Williams, Bethlem; Mr. W. J. Harris, Worthing; An Old Member; Mr. R. E. Power, Dartmoor; Dr. Tannahill, Glasgow; S. Q.; Mr. C. K. C. Herapath, Bristol; Dr. Colahan, Galway; Mr. W. D. Napier, London; Dr. Wiltshire, London; A Country Practitioner; Dr. McD.; Mr. E. de Gomanzie; Mr. F. Brown; Dr. Grimshaw, Dublin; Dr. Wade, Birmingham; Dr. Goldsmith, Worthing; Dr. Rumsey, Cheltenham; Our Irish Correspondent; Mr. Bartleet, Birmingham; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Dr. Lauder Lindsay, Perth; Mr. Lewis Morgan, Oxford; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Forces which carry on the Circulation of the Blood. By Andrew Buchanan, M.D. Second Edition. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1874.
The Middlesex Hospital Reports of the Medical and Surgical Registrars for 1873. London: 1874.
On the Diseases of Women. By Fleetwood Churchill, M.D., M.R.I.A., assisted by Fleetwood Churchill, jun., L.R.C.S.I. Sixth Edition, carefully revised and enlarged. Dublin: Fannin and Co. London: Longman and Co. Edinburgh: MacLachlan and Stewart. 1874.
Outlines of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy. By Montgomery A. Ward, M.B. Dublin: Fannin and Co. 1874.
Therapeutic Means for the Relief of Pain; being the Fothergillian Prize Essay. By J. K. Spender, M.D. London: Macmillan and Co. 1874.