

prived of fruits. From all this it would appear that the treatment of constipation is, for the most part, physiological. It is certain, at all events, that two conditions are indispensable in the treatment; viz., great firmness on the part of the physician, and extreme docility on the part of the patient. There must also be an inclination in the patient to go to the closet; and all obstacles to the carrying out of the inclination should be removed. M. Trousseau mentions the case of a young woman who was "horribly constipated"; and he accidentally discovered that she was so because of the filthy condition of the closet. He reproached the husband; who thereupon "transformed this filthy hole into a convenient and even elegant cabinet." This change entirely cured the constipation of the young wife. The patient, moreover, should go every day at the same hour to the closet, and under the same conditions. He should attempt to pass fæces for five or ten minutes; and if, on the first day, his efforts are useless, he should commence again the same plan on the following day at the same hour. If the second attempt fail, an injection of water should be used; and this treatment should be pursued on the third and fourth days, if necessary. This treatment is usually successful. The best hour for going to the closet is in the half hour succeeding to the most copious meal, in virtue of the old adage that one nail drives out another. The peristaltic action tends to solicit the physiological and mechanical action required in defecation. Lavements should be given only every second day; and if the fæcal matter is very hard, eggs may be added to the water, to replace by their viscosity the mucus. M. Trousseau also prescribes suppositories of soap, honey, etc., in such cases. About six drachms of honey are heated, and powdered gum added in sufficient quantity for the suppositories.

Vegetable diet is the best in these cases. Green vegetables and raw fruit, so far as the stomach will bear them, should form the basis of the food, without, however, excluding animal food. Some persons are purged by a cup of milk, some by milk-coffee, and some by beer: each may be used. Brown bread, so much used in England and America, is also an excellent laxative. There are persons who only have a motion after smoking a pipe or a cigar; consequently, M. Trousseau often prescribes a cigarette after breakfast to some of his female patients who are of robust constitution. M. Bretonneau says that the extract and powder of belladonna mixed together is a sovereign remedy in constipation; and the action of nicotine is much like the action of belladonna. Castor-oil comes in to the aid of this. Then, in refractory cases, we have purgative pills. These pills are, as a rule, formed of aloes, rhubarb, colocynth, and a solanaceous plant. Hydrotherapia also assists us with its glass of cold water in the morning, and its douches and sea-bathing; so that therapeutics are not without weapons in constipation. The means of attacking it are numerous; and the skill of the physician is shown in his power of selecting the appropriate means.

EVIL SPIRITS. One of the most urgent wants of the profession of New York is a dépôt where spirituous liquors of a reliable quality can be obtained for medicinal purposes. Heretofore it has been next to impossible to secure on prescription any form of ardent spirits that was not of an inferior quality, if not positively adulterated with the most injurious ingredients. Several of the leading physicians of this city have endeavoured to secure an agency here which should supply the profession with at least one article—Bourbon whiskey—of a perfectly reliable quality. They will have done the profession a good service if such proves, as we believe it will, both medicinal and palatable. (*American Med. Times.*)

Association Intelligence.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Thirtieth Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be holden at the Royal College of Physicians, in London, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th days of August.

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

Worcester, May 11th, 1862.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
MIDLAND. [Annual.]	Guildhall, Lincoln.	Wed., June 18, 2 P.M.
BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES. [Annual.]	Hen and Chickens Hotel, Birmingham.	Friday, June 20th, 3.30 P.M.
LANCASH. & CHESHIRE. [Annual.]	Royal Institution, Manchester.	Wednesday, June 25th, 12 noon.
SOUTH MIDLAND. [Annual.]	The George Hotel, Bedford.	Thursday, June 26th, 12.30 P.M.
SOUTH-EASTERN. [Annual.]	Public Hall, Reigate.	Thurs., June 26, 2 P.M.
EAST ANGLIAN. [Annual.]	Stowmarket.	Friday, June 27th, 2 P.M.
NORTH WALES. [Annual.]	Royal Hotel, Rhyll.	Tuesday, July 1, 12 o'clock.
METROPOL. COUNTIES. [Annual.]	37, Soho Square.	Tuesday, July 8th, 4 P.M.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of this Branch was held at Clarke's Hotel, Taunton, on Wednesday, June 4th, at 2 P.M.; HENRY ALFORD, Esq., President, in the Chair. There were also present fourteen members and one visitor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read.

The Secretary reported that no events of importance or requiring special notice had engaged the attention of the Council during the past year. The number of members in the Branch remained the same; namely, thirty-three. Mr. Trevor, of Dulverton, had withdrawn his name; but a new member, Mr. S. Farrant, of Taunton, was elected in April last.

The Treasurer's Report was presented, received, and adopted.

The *Next Annual Meeting* was resolved to be held at Wellington; and C. P. Collins, Esq., of Dulverton, was elected President for the next year.

Secretary. Dr. Gillett resigned his offices of Secretary and Treasurer. Much regret was expressed at his resignation, and a cordial vote of thanks was awarded him for his services and the important aid he had rendered the Branch. Dr. Kelly (of Taunton) was elected as Secretary and Treasurer.

Advertisements. It was unanimously resolved—

"That this meeting expresses its entire disapproval of the advertisements in the JOURNAL of the Association of medicinal preparations whose composition is kept secret; and that a copy of this resolution be sent for insertion in the JOURNAL."

After dining together at Clarke's Hotel, the usual loyal and professional toasts were drunk; some interesting medical matters were discussed; and the party then adjourned by invitation to a *conversazione* at Mr. Alford's (the President's) residence, where the evening was spent in a very agreeable pleasant manner.

and sewers may leak, and the fluid pass into the water which supplies the London wells; but our sewers ought to be impermeable to leakage; and our brick drains ought to be all removed, and replaced by impermeable pipes. In a few years we may hope that such a thing as a brick drain will be unknown; for it is so much the interest of all dwellers in houses to carry away their sewerage by earthen pipes, instead of allowing it to accumulate in the elongated cesspool formed by all old brick drains, that this source of possible contamination to our spring-water will cease.

If any percolation of rain into our springs took place through the soil of our streets, the water would be impregnated with gas; for such is the constant leakage from the gas-pipes, that every square foot under the paving-stones is full of it. And this, by the bye, is another argument for trying to utilise the London spring-water; for every empty water-pipe attracts into it the gas which escapes, and there are very few houses where the water supplied by the London water companies is not thus tainted. If any one will be at the trouble of smelling that rush of air out of the water supply pipe which always precedes the flow of the water, he will perceive that much of it is coal-gas. But I must caution such observers not to take a light to assist their explorations, because several explosions have thus occurred. The only means of keeping the gas out of the water-mains is to keep these always charged with water; for so sure as a water-pipe is empty, so surely it will imbibe some of the gas always escaping from the neighbouring gas-pipes.

I hope I have made out a case for inquiry before we condemn altogether our London spring-water. A benevolent person, who has the time to agitate and go into this question, could not do a more useful thing than to take up this question. If the London pump-water is injurious to health, let us all give up the use of it. I have myself for more than thirty years drank at least a pint *per diem* of the water supplied by the pump in Covent Garden Market, and I still continue to do so, together with multitudes of other people; and I have never heard of any injury to health in consequence. The well of this pump is near the church; but the graveyard is not so numerously tenanted as those of the City; and that part of it which is near the pump is so covered with Yorkshire paving, that there can be no percolation from the surface for a very considerable distance.

I am, etc., LIONEL JOHN BEALE,
Medical Officer of Health, St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

Long Acre, June 1862.

THE LATE MR. STANLEY'S PRACTICE.

LETTER FROM CHARLES KIDD, M.D.

SIR,—I think there are few St. Bartholomew's men that will not grieve for the sad loss of Mr. Stanley, even as though they had lost a kind personal friend or an esteemed relative. I do not believe there was ever a kinder man to pupils and patients. Whilst his death is fresh in the recollection of the profession, I would wish to refer to a couple of facts of great practical value (as I suppose them) which I heard him state in one of his last clinical lectures. These lectures were curiosities of research, and of that intuitive wisdom, or deductive prophecy, quite invaluable to students,

"To which old experience doth attain."

One of the facts was this. On going lately over all his notebooks from Mr. Abernethy's time up to last year, he found a very large number of surgical operations which he had personally performed; but, curiously enough, they were divided into two parts equal in numbers—one before, the other since, the chloroform discovery. The cases were amputations for knee-joint disease in large numbers; hernia, etc. He found the

rate of mortality was *greater since chloroform*. He asked me to explain it, which I may at some time; but the fact is very remarkable. Mr. Bryant of Guy's has been examining the same point as to lithotomy; and, if he and Mr. H. Thompson could give us the result of one thousand cases of lithotomy before and since the year 1846, it would be very valuable.

The other point, on which Mr. Stanley was very clear, was the best after-treatment of strangulated hernia operation cases. He took a peculiar pleasure in bringing down to the hospital, on lecture days, a great pile of old notebooks of cases dating back from the time of Mr. Pott and Mr. Abernethy, when he was house-surgeon, and an evident favourite of these great men. I have heard him describe over and over again, with a sort of shudder as he looked back, the orthodox treatment of those early days; what huge doses of "jollop" were ordered, together with Mr. Abernethy's specific grey powder and salts, *nec temerè, nec timidè*, as soon as the strangulation operation was over; but the patients all, or nearly all, died. Mr. Stanley's method of late years was one pill of soap and opium; and, according as he adhered to that and eschewed purgatives, the patients all, or nearly all, recovered. He had also given up ice and tobacco (he had his doubts also of warm baths)—everything for chloroform and his soap and opium pill. I believe Mr. Stanley did not live in vain, as he sent out a thousand students with these ideas. As he said so often, with his usual firmness, he had "bushels" of such cases at both sides.

I am, etc.,

CHARLES KIDD.

Sackville Street, May 27th.

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. The following gentlemen passed their primary examinations in Anatomy and Physiology, at meetings of the Court of Examiners, on June 3rd and 4th; and, when eligible, will be admitted to the pass examination.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Cheese, Frederick	Lawrence, Henry Cripps
Henderson, Hector Graham	Randell, Edward Benjamin
Hughes, William Frederick	Robinson, John

St. George's Hospital.

Anstey, Arthur Newland	Staff, George Thomas Albert
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Guy's Hospital.

Brackwell, John	Richards, Vincent
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King's College.

Cartwright, Samuel H.	Saville, John James
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University College.

Clift, George	Woodforde, Alfred
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Westminster Hospital.

Sanderson, Marwood

Aberdeen School of Medicine.

Redfern, Thomas	Roath, Samuel
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Belfast School of Medicine.

Logan, William	Mussen, Arthur
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Birmingham School of Medicine.

Greene, James Sherwin	Perks, Charles
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Dublin School of Medicine.

Atkinson, James	Mulock, John Bury
Close, Charles Stratherne	O'Sullivan, Edward
Harkin, John	Parks, Charles Holman
Hawkes, Anthony Mann	Thomas, William Robert
Madden, Thomas More	Wallace, Arthur Kennedy

Edinburgh School of Medicine.

Conyers, James Saltus	Taylor, John William
Eddison, John Edwin	

Glasgow School of Medicine.

Jones, William

Hull School of Medicine.

Goodsir, Thomas Henry

Leeds School of Medicine.

Field, Albert

Manchester School of Medicine.

Caldwell, John Thomas	Wardle, James Henry
Longbotham, William	Woodcock, John Rostrom

Newcastle School of Medicine.

Gammage, Robert George
Kelly, James

Snowdon, John Pringle

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD. Degree of M.D. conferred in
a Congregation holden on June 7th:—
Wood, Barnes, Trinity College

APPOINTMENTS.

BOWEN, Thomas A., Esq., appointed House-Surgeon to the Birmingham and Midland Eye Hospital.
BROWNE, Charles W., Esq., appointed House-Surgeon to the St. Marylebone General Dispensary.
CRAVEN, Robert, Esq., appointed Medical Officer to the Southport Convalescent Hospital and Sea-bathing Infirmary.
HAWKINS, Clement J., Esq., appointed Surgeon to the Cheltenham General Hospital.
KNOX, Robert, M.D., elected Curator of the Museum of the Ethnological Society.
SUTTON, Henry G., M.D., appointed Assistant-Physician to the Metropolitan Free Hospital.

ROYAL ARMY. The following appointments have been made:—

BEST, Surgeon T., 68th Foot, to be Surgeon-Major, having completed 20 years full-pay service.
CARSON, Staff-Surgeon W., M.D., retiring on half-pay, to have the honorary rank of Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals.
EATON, Surgeon D. W., 3rd West India Regiment, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* P. A. McDermott.
McDERMOTT, Staff-Surgeon P. A., to be Surgeon 3rd West India Regiment, *vice* D. W. Eaton.
ODELL, Staff-Surgeon-Major W., M.D., retiring on half-pay, to have the honorary rank of Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals.

To be Staff-Assistant-Surgeons:—

HUNT, Assistant-Surgeon J. H., 63rd Foot.
STREET, Assistant-Surgeon J. P., M.D., 62nd Foot

ROYAL NAVY. The following appointments have been made:—

ANDERSON, James R., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Dauntless*.
COOGAN, John, Esq., Surgeon, to the *Cormorant*.
HARVEY, William, Esq., Acting Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Rapid*.
JOHNSON, Arthur B., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Antelope*.
McSWINEY, John, Esq., Surgeon, to the *Sanspareil*.
PENRITH, Donald G., Esq., Surgeon, to the *Rapid*.
PIERCY, Frederick, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Cornwallis*.
THOMSON, Jas., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon (additional) to the *Fisgard*.
WEBB, Samuel W., Esq., Surgeon, to the *Asia*.

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

ALLEN, P., M.D., to be Surgeon 5th Administrative Battalion Lancashire R.V.

To be Honorary Assistant-Surgeon:—

PATERSON, W., M.D., 1st Bute A.V.

MARRIAGE.

*VISE, F. B., Esq., Surgeon, of Holbeach, to Elizabeth, widow of the late John PHIPPS, Esq., of Holbeach.

DEATHS.

BELL, Charles W., M.D., at Borlaston, Staffordshire, aged 51, on June 6.

*BERT. On June 9th, aged 77, Hannah, wife of George Burt, Esq., late of Camden Road.

COATHUPE, Charles T., Esq., Surgeon, at Clevedon, aged 30, on June 2.

MASON, David, M.D., at Savanna-la-Mar, Jamaica, on April 6.

MASON. On June 8th, aged 15, Edward W., second son of Joseph W. Mason, M.D., of Red Cross Street, City.

MOSS, J. W., M.D., at Hill Grove, near Welis, on May 24.

ROBERTS. On June 6th, at Brighton, Sarah, widow of Avery Roberts, M.D.

ROGERS, George, M.D., at Camberwell, aged 65, on June 7.

*SMITH, Thomas, Esq., at Crawley, Sussex, aged 58, on June 9.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION. A legacy of £100 has been left to the society by Dr. C. T. West, of Kingston-upon-Hull.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. Professor Gulliver will recommence his lectures on the Blood of Vertebrata on Tuesday, the 17th inst., and continue the same three days a week until the close.

VACANCIES. The following appointments are vacant:—Physicians (two) to the West of London Hospital; medical officer for the northern district of the Whittlesey Union; physician to the Lincoln Dispensary; medical officer to the Exmoor district of the South Molton Union; and assistant house-surgeon to the Huddersfield Infirmary.

SPORTING PHILANTHROPY. Mr. Bond, a gentleman well known in racing circles, has again renewed his munificent offer made to the stewards of the Jockey Club in September 1860, of contributing 1000 guineas to the London Hospitals, providing the fortunate winners of the Derby and the Oaks will kindly consent to an allocation of ten per cent. of their winnings; but should such be deemed excessive, Mr. Bond will be happy to add an amount equal to a deduction of five per cent. upon their stakes respectively.

THE RAVAGES OF PLEUROPNEUMONIA. A gentleman, in describing one of the pleuropneumonia infected stations, writes: "The hecatombs of the ancients were nothing compared with the huge sacrifices now being made at Yarra. Five thousand beasts are heaped on one gigantic fire, and the gully runs down with molten fat. At present the cattle are burnt in their hides, but this system is found not to answer. If time were no object, there would be great economy in boiling down the beasts, but before the melting-pots could be erected the disease might be all over the country." (*Goulburn Chronicle*.)

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS. The President and Fellows on the 9th inst. held one of their sessional *soirées* with the intention of doing honour to the distinguished foreigners now in attendance on the Social Science Association, the Congrès de Bienfaisance, and the National Exhibition. Some rare and curious objects were displayed, among which may be specified a portion of the spoil taken from the Summer Palace of the Emperor of China, and a few Japanese curiosities. Several Burmese articles were also much admired. Some beautiful illustrations of the effect of polarised light were displayed, and the laryngoscope of Professor Czernak attracted general attention.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE EYE. At a late meeting of the American Photographical Society, Dr. Henry D. Noyes exhibited a negative showing the optic nerve and interior of a rabbit's eye. The impression was obtained by a newly invented instrument devised by himself and Mr. Grunow, a practical optician. Such a photograph has never been obtained before in this country, although it is said to have been done in France. The interior of the eye, namely, the retina and optic nerve, has been disclosed to observation in the living person, by an instrument invented in Germany, called the Ophthalmoscope. This has been in use for ten years; but it is only now that the interior of the eye has been photographed. (*American Journal of Photography*.)

PRESENTATION OF A TESTIMONIAL TO MR. SANDS COX. At the weekly board of the Queen's Hospital on the 6th inst. the following resolution, enclosed in a massive silver box, was presented to Mr. Sands Cox:—"At a meeting of the Committee of Council of the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, held the 25th of April, 1862, Mr. Samuel Vincent Horton in the chair, it was resolved unanimously: That the grateful thanks of the Council be recorded to the founder, William Sands Cox, Esq., F.R.S., upon the completion of the new wings at an expense of £1679:11:2, raised solely by the founder in public contributions of penny postage stamps; an event evincing a degree of devoted industry on the part of a single individual, in aid of the suffering poor, unsurpassed in the annals of charitable institutions. That in honour and in commemoration of the event, the new wards be henceforth called 'The Founder's Wards.'"

QUALIFICATIONS FOR A CORONERSHIP. The correspondent of the *Gipps Land Guardian* states that Dr. Arbuckle intends resigning the appointment of coroner for this district. "We have," he observes, "three local practitioners; and without in the slightest degree reflecting on the other gentlemen, it is impossible to help seeing that the choice of the Attorney-General should fall on Dr. Peck, whose long residence in the district, and the general esteem and confidence in which he is held, would make the appointment a very happy one. A coroner requires to be not only a medical man of ability and experience, but also a gentleman of unimpeachable probity and decision of character, in order that he may well and faithfully perform the duties of his magistracy. We all know that in many parts of the colony, scenes, sometimes curious and sometimes disgraceful, have been enacted at inquests; and I think that were Dr. Peck elected to the office, this district will be secure from anything of the sort."

THE ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETY. The monthly meeting of the Committee of Management took place at the offices of the society, 3, Duke Street, Adelphi, on the 3rd instant. The secretaries reported the following transactions during the month:—1. Lord Pomfret had presented a lot of twenty-two rooks to be transmitted by the society to the Australian Society, that bird being in great request in our colonies there. His lordship will also present from twenty to forty brace of partridges for transmission to Australia. 2. Lady Dorothy Nevill has presented a number of eggs of the Ailanthus silkworm (*Bombyx Cynthia*); and M. Guerin-Melesville has presented cocoons of the same insect, and samples of the silk. 3. The Chinese sheep have been entered for exhibition at the show of the Royal Agricultural Society, on the 23rd inst. 4. Through the kind permission of the Zoological Society, Lord Gage has sent two maiden cows to the island, by way of experiment. 5. Some peas had been received from St. Kitt's, for experiment. A letter was read from Mr. Snowden, Queenstown, Cape of Good Hope, giving a list of desirable mammals, birds, and plants. Mr. Gillbanks offered to present eggs of blackgame for transmission to Australia.

CORONERSHIPS FOR MIDDLESEX. The Order in Council has been passed under the Coroners Act, 7 and 8 Vict., c. 92, for the division of the county into the three districts of Eastern, Central, and Western, in conformity with the petition presented by the Middlesex magistrates in April last. The eastern district will include an area about nine miles from north to south, by four and a half miles from east to west. The northern boundary will be by the parish of Edmonton; the east, the river Lea; on the south, the Thames, the liberty of the Tower, and the city of London; on the west, the parishes of St. Sepulchre, Clerkenwell, Islington, Hornsey, and Friern Barnet; the number of inhabitants being 722,224. The central district will be bounded—north, by Hertfordshire; on the east, by Enfield, Edmonton, Tottenham, Stoke Newington; on the south, by the city of London and the liberty of Westminster; and on the west, by the parishes of Kensington, Willesden, Kingsbury, Edgware, and Little Stanmore. The district is about fifteen miles from north to south, and about four miles from east to west, the number of inhabitants being 804,687. The western division is bounded on the north by Hertfordshire; east, by Hendon, Hampstead, Paddington, and the city and liberty of Westminster; on the south, by the Thames; on the west, by the river Colne. The district is fourteen miles from north to south, and thirteen miles from east to west, the population being 285,537. The freeholders of the two districts will have no lack of candidates from whom to select. For the coronership of the western district, application is made by Mr. T. Alley Jones, a Liberal agent in electioneering matters; Mr. F. Charsley, coroner for South Bucks; Mr.

John R. L. Walmsley, Mr. James Bird, Mr. C. M. Roche, and Mr. J. W. Rudge—all members of the legal profession; while the medical candidates for this district are Dr. George Ross, Dr. W. B. Mushet, and Dr. G. F. Gwyn. In the central district, the medical candidates are Dr. Lankester and Dr. Challice; and the legal, Mr. Sleigh and Mr. C. E. Lewis, both well known members of their profession. Mr. Thomas Wakley, a son of the late coroner, who had announced himself as a candidate, has withdrawn, on the ground that the division of the western district will so much diminish the duties and emoluments as not to justify him in relinquishing his profession.

AMERICAN WAR ITEMS. It is stated that, at the battle of Pittsburgh Landing, the majority of wounds in the Federal troops were situated in the lower extremities. This is supposed to be due to the repeated order of General Beauregard to fire low, and cripple instead of kill, as it required two well men to care for each wounded one.—There is now an urgent want for hospital accommodations for those who are being brought to the port of New York by the Sanitary Commission, and too much haste cannot be made to secure suitable buildings for the purpose. There is not room in the city for those who should be removed hither. The military hospitals in Washington, Alexandria, Annapolis, and Baltimore are full to overflowing; and the city of New York will naturally be now fixed upon as the principal dépôt for the wounded.—A new army hospital is in process of erection in Philadelphia. It is situated between Mill Creek, near the Baltimore turnpike-road, and Spruce Street; and is to consist of twenty-one one-story buildings, arranged in the form of a parallelogram, in the centre of which will be a building for the surgeons. Each ward will contain fifty beds.—A correspondent of the *Chicago Medical Journal*, speaking of the extreme hardness of the bread and biscuit furnished to the western troops, credits the statement of a soldier, who said that a surgeon, in adjusting a fractured leg, used *a hard cracker as a splint*!—The annual meeting of the Illinois State Medical Society has been postponed in consequence of the absence of many of its members at the seat of war. (*New York Medical Times*.)

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....	Royal Free, 2 P.M.—Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 1.15 P.M.
TUESDAY....	Guy's, 1½ P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.
WEDNESDAY...	St. Mary's, 1 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.
THURSDAY....	St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—London, 1.30 P.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—London Surgical Home, 2 P.M.
FRIDAY.....	Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.
SATURDAY....	St. Thomas's, 1 P.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.

POPULATION STATISTICS AND METEOROLOGY OF LONDON—JUNE 7.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

	Boys.. 915	Girls.. 878	Births.	Deaths.
During week.....			1793	1114
Average of corresponding weeks 1852-61			1797	1108
Barometer:				
Highest (Wed.) 29.965; lowest (Fri.) 29.513; mean, 29.766.				
Thermometer:				
Highest in sun—extremes (Wed.) 126 degs.; (Th.) 81.3 degs.				
In shade—highest (Mon.) 73.5 degrees; lowest (Wed.) 45.7 degs.				
Mean—58.6 degrees; difference from mean of 43 yrs.+1.7 degs.				
Range—during week, 27.8 degrees; mean daily, 19.1 degrees.				
Mean humidity of air (saturation=100), 78.				
Mean direction of wind, S.W.—Rain in inches, 0.25.				

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE
NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY. British Architects, 8 P.M.
TUESDAY. Ethnological, 8 P.M.—Statistical, 8 P.M.
WEDNESDAY. Meteorological (Anniversary), 7 P.M.—Geological, 8 P.M.
THURSDAY. Zoological, 4 P.M.—Royal, 8.30 P.M.—Antiquaries, 8.30 P.M.—Linnean, 8 P.M.—Chemical, 8 P.M.—Numismatic (Anniversary), 7 P.M.
SATURDAY. Asiatic, 3 P.M.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * All letters and communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the EDITOR, 37, Great Queen St., Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

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

RECOVERIES IN LUNATIC ASYLUMS.—SIR: My attention has been directed to a quotation from a report of Dr. Power, of the Cork Lunatic Asylum, contained in your number for May 24th last; *apropos* of which, you have offered some editorial remarks on the Turkish Bath. Dr. Power states that he obtained last year seventy-six per cent. of cures during the employment of that remedy; and he proceeds to say that this percentage is "more than double the number of cures produced in any asylum in England."

The quotation I have given, contains a *prima facie* adventurous assertion, which I cannot permit to pass without criticism. In the Prestwich Asylum during the past year, the recoveries (fifty-two per cent. on the admissions) have a little exceeded the average of the previous seven years, which amounted to fifty per cent.

I have little doubt that many other English asylums would furnish notable exceptions to the comprehensive statement of the resident physician of the Cork Asylum.

I am, etc., EDMUND MANLEY, M.B.LOND.
Prestwich County Asylum, June 6th, 1862.

ANÆSTHESIA IN MIDWIFERY.—SIR: In the report of the meeting of the Obstetrical Society of London, on May 7th, in the last number of the JOURNAL, it is stated that Dr. Priestley considered my apparatus for inhaling chloroform "too fragile" for the purpose. Allow me to state that, when Dr. Priestley said so, he had not handled the instrument, but only seen it at a distance. Let me add, that what he did see, was an instrument of my own rude construction, which, unfortunately, had met with an accident just before showing it to the Society. I can testify, from considerable clinical experience, that the apparatus will stand with impunity the roughest usage it is ever likely to meet. It saves from sixty to seventy per cent. of chloroform. I regret exceedingly that I was unable to comply with the request of the Secretary of the Society, to send him an abstract of my paper in time for the weekly medical press; let me trust, however, that I am not too late to state that Messrs. Maw and Son, of 11, Aldersgate Street, London, have made the inhaler and drop-tube to my entire satisfaction, if they have not greatly improved upon the original. Specimens may be seen at their establishment, as also in their cases at the International Exhibition, Kensington; prices from 7s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. complete. The inhaler for carrying inside the hat does great credit to the ingenuity of Messrs. Maw and Son.

I am, etc., THOMAS SKINNER, M.D.
1, St. James' Road, Liverpool, June 3rd, 1862.

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—DR. HANDFIELD JONES; DR. WATERS; DR. LATHAM; MR. T. M. STONE; MR. J. VOSE SOLOMON; MR. D. K. JONES; MR. H. WHITEFELD; DR. R. P. WILLIAMS; DR. KELBURNE KING; THE REGISTRAR OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY; DR. PORTER; MR. G. FALEY; DR. GREENHOW; A COUNTRY DOCTOR; MR. J. C. CLENDON; DR. HILLIER; DR. HOLLAND; DR. DREW; MR. J. C. PRANCE; DR. DE PASCAL; DR. T. WILLIAMS; DR. RADFORD; MR. T. TAYLOR; MR. A. BOLTON; MR. G. E. BLENKINS; DR. H. MARSHALL; DR. DREW; MR. G. WALLIS; MESSRS. EDMONSTON & DOUGLAS; and MR. J. CORNWALL.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Coronership for Middlesex.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MEDICAL
PROFESSION.

Gentlemen,—A Vacancy having occurred in the office of Coroner for Middlesex, by the death of Mr. WAKLEY, I have been requested to stand for the Central District. A member of the Medical Profession, and engaged for the last twenty-five years of my life in studying and treating those sciences the principles of which are necessarily involved in the performance of the duties of a Coroner, I have determined to solicit the suffrages of the Freeholders of Central Middlesex; but it is to you who have known me, and deem it a matter of public duty that a Medical Coroner should be appointed, that I look for success. If each medical man will undertake to exert himself to obtain the votes of Freeholders in his own district, then my election is certain.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient Servant,
EDWIN LANKESTER, M.D., F.R.S.

DR. LANKESTER'S COMMITTEE (FIRST LIST).

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