# Association Intelligence.

# BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: ANNUAL MEETING.

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

President-Alfred Lochée, M.D., F.R.C.P., Canterbury.

President-elect-George Burrows, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S., London.

All the Meetings will take place at the Royal College of Physicians, Pall Mall East.

#### TUESDAY, August 5th.

2 P.M. Meeting of Committee of Council.

3.30 P.M. Meeting of the General Council.

3.30 P.M. Meeting of the Gonzale 8 P.M. First General Meeting of Members. The retiring President will make a few remarks. President will deliver an Address. The Report of Council will be presented, and other business transacted.

### WEDNESDAY, August 6th.

10 A.M. Meeting of the Members of the new Council.

11 A.M. Second General Meeting of Members. An Experimental Report on the Treatment of Suspended Animation will be read by Dr. RICHARDSON. Papers and Cases will be read.

The Report of the Medical Benevolent Fund will be presented after the Address in the afternoon.

9 P.M. Soirée. By the kind invitation of the President and Fellows of the College of Physicians, this Meeting will take place at the College.

#### THURSDAY, August 7th.

11 A.M. Third General Meeting of Members. Papers and Cases will be read.

#### FRIDAY, August 8th.

11 A.M. Third General Meeting of Members. Papers and Cases will be read.

6.30 P.M. Dinner at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street. Tickets One Guinea each.

The Addresses in Medicine, Surgery, and Physiology, will be delivered by W. H. WALSHE, M.D., F.R.S.; J. PAGET, ESG., F.R.S.; and W. SHARPEY, M.D., F.R.S. The hour of delivery will be 1 P.M. each day.

Gentlemen intending to be present at the Dinner are requested to send notice, as soon as possible, to Dr. STEWART, 74, Grosvenor Street, W.; or Dr. HENRY, 15, George Street, Portman Square, W.

Members are requested to enter, on arrival, their names and addresses in the Reception Room, Royal College of Physicians; where cards will be supplied which will secure admission to all the Proceedings.

Refreshments will be provided in the College during the Meetings.

Members who wish for previous information may communicate with Dr. STEWART, 74, Grosvenor Street, W.; or Dr. HENRY, 15, George Street, Portman Square, W.

PHILIP H. WILLIAMS, M.D., General Secretary. Worcester, June 24th, 1862.

MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL.

THE Committee of Council will meet at the Queen's Hotel, Birmingham, on Thursday, the 3rd of July, at One o'clock.

Business.-To prepare Report of Council for Annual Meeting, etc.

PHILIP H. WILLIAMS, M.D., General Secretary. Worcester, June 24th, 1862.

#### BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
NORTH WALES.	Royal Hotel,	Tuesday, July 1,
[Annual.]	Rhyl.	12 o'clock.
METROPOL. COUNTIES. [Annual.]	37, Soho Square.	Tuesday, July 8th, 4 p.m.
BATH AND BRISTOL.	General Hospital,	Thurs., July 10,
[Annual.]	Bath.	4 P.M.

# Special Correspondence.

## LIVERPOOL.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

In former letters, I have related three cases of Ovariotomy; two of which, it will be remembered, were successful, and one fatal. In order to keep your readers au courant with the results of the operations, so far as Liverpool is concerned, I propose to notice those which may come under my observation; and I have now to report a case of Mr. Grimsdale's at the Lying-in Hospital in April last, which, although unsuccessful, affords an interesting illustration of the unforeseen difficulties which may arise in this formidable operation-difficulties which set at defiance the best efforts of the most skilful and experienced operators, placing ovariotomy in the category of those surgical undertakings, the issue of which must always be doubtful even under apparently favourable circumstances.

The patient was 24 years of age. She had suffered from the disease about three years; had been tapped five times; on the last occasion, five weeks before the operation. From her general condition, and the rapid reaccumulation of the fluid, it was evident that the patient must soon succumb to the disease, unless its progress could be arrested by excision; to which, after a fair statement of the chances and contingencies. she was anxious to submit. A careful examination led Mr. Grimsdale to expect extensive anterior adhesions; but, in other respects, the case was, to all appearance, favourable for operation.

After the usual incision through the integuments, the subjacent tissues were found to be so matted together by adhesions, and so altered in appearance by long continued diseased action, that it was quite impossible to distinguish or recognise the different layers constituting the coverings of the tumour; so much so, indeed, that after a prolonged and careful examination by the operator, aided by the judgment of his colleagues, as well as of several experienced operating surgeons present, including Mr. Long and Mr. Bickersteth, it was decided to insert the trocar into what was believed to be the exsiderable increase; and that, owing to the extra expenses which had this year been incurred, there was a deficit.

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS. At the Comitia Majora, held on Wednesday, June 25th, the following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examination, were duly admitted members of the College :-

Philipson, George Hare, M.B., Newcastle-on-Tyne Taylor, John, M.D., 64, Queen's Road, Bayswater Wallis, Francis, M.B., Braceborough, Stamford

APOTHECARIES' HALL. On June 19th, the following Licentiates were admitted :--

Anthonisz, James E., Colombo, Ceylon

Badcock, Lewis Carter, Crescent Place, Camberwell Brown, George, Colchester King, Thomas, Guy's Hospital

Mahon, George Annesley Derville, Aspley, Woburn Nelson, Samuel, Acomb, near York Robson, Matthew James, North Shields

Shapland, John Dee, Oakfield, North Molton

#### APPOINTMENTS.

BOTHWELL, George G., Esq., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Guildford and West Surrey Dispensary. DU PASQUER, Claudius F., Esq., appointed Apothecary to Her Majesty, in the room of the late John Nussey, Esq.

GRAV, Thomas S., M.D., elected Surgeon to the Middle District of the Royal Infirmary and Dispensary, Dundee. "GooDWIN, John W., M.D., of Rury St. Edmunds, appointed one of the Examiners for Medical Degrees in the University of Cam-bridge."

bridge.

Druge. HARRIS, Arthur B., L.R.C.P.Ed., elected Surgeon to the Royal Cornwall Sailors' Home, Falmouth. INGRAM, Charles P., M.D., appointed Assistant-Physician to the Hospital for Sick Children.

TUCKER, Owen, Esq., appointed Surgeon to the Bath Lying-in

Charity.

ROYAL ARMY. The following appointments have been made :-

GILBORNE, Surgeon R., 89th Foot, to be Surgeon 6th Dragoon Guards, Stigeon R., Sour Foot, to be Surgeon out Dragoon Guards, vice D. S. Smith. GREIG, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon J., M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon 2nd West India Regiment, vice Macaulay.

JAMESON, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon J., M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon 47th Foot, vice H. Grange. PORTER, Staff-Surgeon J. .H, to be Surgeon 89th, Foot, vice R. Gil-

borne. borne. SHARP, Assistant-Surgeon W., 83rd Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Sur-geon, vice J. Jameson, M.D. Smith, Surgeon D. S., 6th Dragoon Guards, to be Staff-Surgeon, vice E. W. Skues, M.D. WILLS, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon C. S., to be Assistant-Surgeon 83rd Economic W. Share, Surgeon C. S., to be Assistant-Surgeon 83rd

Foot, vice W. Sharp.

ROYAL NAVY. The following appointments have been made :-

FORREST, Edward P., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the Black Prince. JONES, John W., Esq., Acting Assistant-Surg., to the Black Prince. MULANEY, J., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the Hawke.

MULANEY, J., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the Hawke. RIGHARDSON, W., Esq., Surgeon, to the Hawke. SISSONS, William H., Esq., Acting Assistant-Surgeon (additional), to the Narcissus. THOMAS, David, Esq., Surgeon, to the Black Prince.

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

JOHNSTONE, T., ESq., to be Surgeon 19th Lanarkshire R.V. McPHERSON, J., ESq., to be Assistant-Surg. 19th Lanarkshire R.V. SIMONDS, T. R., ESq., to be Surgeou 1st Sussex A.V.

To be Honorary Assistant-Surgeons :----

JONES, O'B., Esq., 25th Surrey R.V. POCOCK, C., Esq., 1st Sussex A.V.

#### DEATHS.

DAWSON. On June 15th, at Wray Castle, Windermere, Margaret, wife of James Dawson, Esq., Surgeon. DARLING. On June 18th, at 6, Russell Square, Jane, daughter of George Darling, M.D.

Fox. On June 19th, at Weston-super-Mare, Emma Selina, daughter of Edward Long Fox, M.D., late of Brisliugton. \*JESSOP, Walter, Esq., at Cheltenham, aged 34, on June 21.

KENT, Walton, Esq., of Walsham-le-Willows, Suffolk, aged 59, on June 12.

MACLAREN. On June 21st, at 29, Harley Street, aged 4, Sarah L., second daughter of \*A. C. Maclaren, Esq. MACRAE, Alexander, M.D., Surgeon H.M. 97th Regiment, aged 34,

at Kensington, on June 23.

RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY. Mr. Combe, Printer at Oxford, is about to build, at his own expense, a chapel for the Radcliffe Infirmary.

ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE. The tenth annual festival of the Royal Medical Benevolent College was celebrated on Wednesday week at Willis's Rooms, St. James's. Earl Powis presided.

DR. DANIEL WILSON of Toronto is now passing through the press his researches into the origin of civilisation, which will be published in October next, under the title of Pre-Historic Man.

LUNACY INQUISITIONS. Since the passing of the Lunacy Act in 1853, there have been 575 inquisitions in cases of lunacy; but of these twenty-one only have come before a jury.

A PHYSIOLOGICAL PROFESSOR WANTED. The University of Melbourne offers £1,000, with a residence, to the candidate whom they may select as a fit and proper person to be their professor of anatomy, physiology, and pathology. Private practice will not be allowed.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS. At the Comitia Majora held on June 25th, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year :- Censors, Dr. Budd, Dr. A. Farre, Dr. Birkett, and Dr. Monro; Treasurer, Dr. Alderson; Registrar, Dr. Pitman.

DONATION TO THE LATE SURGEON AT ST. HELENA. The French Emperor has presented Dr. Alexander, once Colonial Surgeon at St. Helena, with a gold snuffbox, to mark his esteem for the services rendered by Dr. Alexander to the French soldiers of the mission sent to Longwood.

THE HOMEOPATHISTS have a hospital in Washington, and are calling loudly for donations and contributions. It is to be hoped that its patrons will not contribute according to the homœopathic principle-that the higher the dilution, the more potent the remedy." (American Med. Times.)

VACANCIES. The following appointments are vacant: -Physician to St. Luke's Hospital for Lunatics; two Physicians to the Staffordshire General Infirmary; six Medical Officers for the Camberwell Provident Dispensary; Medical Officer for District No. 7 of the Battle Union, Sussex; two Medical Officers for the Huddersfield Union; two Medical Officers in the Buntingford Union, Herts; and Surgeon to the St. Pancras Workhouse and Infirmary.

THE LATE MR. SIMON ROAD PITTARD. We are requested by Mr. Stone, of the Royal College of Surgeons, to state that he has received and handed over to the widow for her assistance, and that of the eight children of the late lamented Professor Pittard, of the University of Sydney, the following sums received by him for that purpose: --Charles Downes, M.R.C.S., White Street, Southwark, £5:5:0; Henry Smith, F.R.C.S., Caroline Street, Bedford Square, £2:2:0; and Henry Stevens, M.D., Grosvenor Street, Grosvenor Square, £1:1:0.

HOSPITALS. Dr. Marion Sims writes thus in reference to one of the uses of hospitals :--- "To the question whether it were possible to effect a cure, I replied that I did not know, for the books threw no light on the subject; but that the only rational treatment appeared to me to be surgical, *i. e.*, dividing the muscles and nerves of the vulval opening. They seized on the idea, and insisted on the operation, which I declined to perform, on the ground that an untried process was not justifiable on one in her position in social life, the hospital being the legitimate field for experimental observation."

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF SOCIAL SCIENCE. The following medical men are members of the Council :--Sir Benjamin Brodie, Bart.; Sir James Clark, Bart.; Sir Charles Hastings; Sir Ranald Martin, C.B.; Dr. Watson, President of the College of Physicians; Dr. Aclaud; Dr. Niel Arnott; Dr. Babington; Dr. A. W. Barclay; Dr. Conolly; Dr. William Farr; Dr. Greenhill; Dr. Guy; Dr. Headlam Greenhow; Mr. Charles Hawkins; Mr. Philip Holland; Dr. Lankester; Dr. Markham; Dr. Milroy; Dr. John Ogle; Mr. Henry Rumsey; and Mr. Simon.

LOSSES IN THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF GEN. BANKS' ARMY. The loss in medical men was large. Dr. Mitchell, First Maryland, wounded and captured at Front Royal; Dr. Gillespie, Twenty-second Indiana, left at Strasburg; Dr. Porter, Assist. Surgeon U.S.A., left at Strasburg; Dr. Leland, 2d Massachusetts, captured on the field at Winchester; Dr. Johnston, Fourteenth Indiana, captured on the field at Winchester; Dr. Adolphus, Best's regular battery, remained to take care of sick captured in ambulance; Dr. Bissell, Assistant Surgeon, Fifth Connecticut, captured; Dr. Stone, Assistant Surgeon, Second Massachusetts, captured at hospital in Winchester. (American Medical Times.)

WILLS AND BEQUESTS. The will of John Nussey, Esq., late of Chislehurst, Kent, formerly of Cleveland Row, St. James's, has been proved in London, under £35,000. It disposes of his property, real and personal, in trust for the benefit of his wife and children, devising certain estates in Yorkshire, subject to his sister's life interest therein, to his eldest son; directing that his estates, real and personal, should be sold, the trustees retaining a sum equal to £2,000 for each child—if sons, on attaining twenty-one; or daughters, on marriage; applying the remainder of the income of the proceeds arising from the sale thereof for the benefit of his relict and children under her care, and upon her decease to divide the residue amongst the children in certain proportions.

Association of Medical Officers of Asylums and HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE. The annual meeting will be held in London at the Royal College of Physicians, at one o'clock on Thursday next, July 3rd, under the presidency of Dr. Kirkman, Superintendent of the Suffolk County Lunatic Asylum, who will deliver an address to the association. The dinner will be held at the Star and Garter, Richmond, at 6 p.m. Ticket, £1:1, inclusive. Members proposing to dine, are requested to forward their names to Dr. Robertson, the honorary secretary, Hayward's Heath, Sussex. Members of the profession desirous of admission into the association, are requested to communicate with the honorary secretary before the day of meeting. Notice of communications, and of subjects for discussion at the annual meeting, may be made to Dr. Robertson. Members of the committee are requested to meet at the College of Physicians, at twelve, noon, on the day of meeting. Foreign physicians visiting London are cordially invited to attend the annual meeting and dinner of the association.

DEATH FROM CHLOROFORM. A death arising from the administration of chloroform took place on Saturday last at the United Hospital, Bath, during the performance of an operation for the removal of a tumour on the lower jaw of a widow named Susan Harrison, aged 40. At the inquest, which was held on Monday at the Guildhall, Bath, the house physician, Mr. Barter, deposed to administering a drachm of chloroform on a napkin, and afterwards a second drachm when the first had evapora. ted. Her pulse at that time was very good, and in six minutes she was totally insensible. The operation was

then commenced, and the tumour was laid bare ; this took about four minutes, and by this time the second quantity of chloroform was almost inhaled, and the patient was becoming slightly conscious; he therefore poured another drachm on the napkin, which he held to her mouth, and she took one inspiration, when he noticed the pulse suddenly stop. He removed the napkin from her face, and the operation was suspended. She gave three or four gasps, and in about half a minute she was dead. Every effort was made to restore animation, but without effect. Mr. Gore, who performed the operation, said that no precaution was neglected which it was customary to take in such cases. On a post-mortem examination it was found that the deceased was suffering from fatty degeneration of the heart, which, it was stated in evidence, to be impossible to discover during life. The jury returned a verdict that death was caused by the effects of chloroform.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND. The following are the subjects for the Collegial and Jacksonian Prizes for the present and succeeding year, to be awarded by the Council of this institution :--- The Collegial Triennial Prize on The Structural Anatomy and Physiology of the Lymphatic Vessels and Glands (the Anatomical Distributions not being required); the communication (if any) between the Lymphatics and the Blood-vessels to be demonstrated; and the influence (if any) which the Lymphatic Vessels or Glands exercise on the fluid they transmit to be elucidated. The Dissertation to be illustrated by Preparations and Drawings. There are two Jacksonian Prizes for the present year, the subjects of which are the Relative Value of the Treatment of Popliteal Aneurism by Ligature and by Compression: illustrated by a reference to cases; and the Healthy and Morbid Anatomy of the Tonsils, and the appropriate Treatment of their Diseases : illustrated by preparations and drawings. There are also two subjects for prizes for the ensuing year, 1863; namely: The Pathology and Treatment of Diseases of the Larynx: the diagnostic indications to include the appearances as seen in the living person : the dissertation to be illustrated by drawings and preparations; and the Normal and Pathological Anatomy of the various Synovial Bursæ connected with the Muscles and Tendons of the Upper Extremity, and the Treatment of their Diseases: the dissertation to be illustrated by preparations and drawings. The terms and conditions will appear as an advertisement in the next number of this JOURNAL.

AMERICAN RED TAPEISM. From every quarter we hear the same universal complaint of want of preparation, of tardiness to meet the exigencies of battles, and, in consequence, of the sacrifice of human life, with a vast amount of needless suffering. The horrors of the battlefields of Bull Run, Fort Donaldson, Pittsburgh Landing, Williamsburgh, etc., can never be written, and yet all occurred under circumstances which allowed of more or less complete preparation. The battle of Bull Run took place under the immediate inspection of the official head of the Medical Bureau; it was planned weeks beforehand, and admitted the most ample medical provision; yet the nation is not and never will cease to thrill with horror at the mention of its name, and the recollections of the terrible sufferings which followed the disaster. At Fort Donaldson the poor sufferers remained for days uncared for, lying on the snow; not because succor was not at hand, for private bounty had furnished an ample supply and freely offered it; but because an official, re-joicing in the glittering bauble "U.S.," could not unwind the red-tape which bound his official legs, in forty-eight to sixty hours. Pittsburgh Landing found the same army utterly unprepared in its medical department for battle, and the first assistance that reached the sufferers came from Chicago, hundreds of miles distant, by private hands, after the news of the battle was received. Tardiness and tedious formality marked every movement for days, while hundreds of wounded were weltering in their blood, unable to move a step from the spot where they fell. The recent battle of Williamsburgh was but a repetition of the same scenes, with all their sad and harrowing consequences. The wounded were left unprovided with attendants, shelter, or means of transportation, except of the rudest character. The principal provisions for the immediate care of the sick and wounded were, as in nearly every instance, made by the Sanitary Commission or charitable associations. In our military hospitals we find the same want of earnest and systematic labour. The sick and wounded are waiting at the threshold before the building is in readiness to receive them. (American 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, 12 P.M.-Westminster, 2 P.M.
- WEDNESDAY... St. Mary's, 1 p.m.-Middlesex, 1 p.m.-University College, 2 p.M.-Royal Orthopædic, 2 p.M.

THURSDAY.....St. George's, 1 P.M.-Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.-London, 1:30 P.M.-Great Northern, 2 P.M.-London Surgical Home, 2 P.M.

FRIDAY. ..... Westminster Ophthalmic, 1'30 P.M.

SATURDAY..... St. Thomas's, 1 P.M.-St. Bartholomew's, 1'30 P.M.-King's College, 1'30 P.M.-Charing Cross, 2 P.M.

## MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

TUESDAY. Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 p.m.: Addi-tional Meeting, to receive the Report of the Committee on Suspended Animation

WEDNESDAY. Obstetrical Society of London, 8 p.M.: Dr. McClin-tock (Dublin), "Clinical Report on Turning in Cases of Dis-proportion." Also papers by Dr. Harley, Dr. Braxton Hicks, and Dr. Tilbury Fox.

## POPULATION STATISTICS AND METEOROLOGY OF LONDON-JUNE 21, 1862.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

	Births.	Deaths.
During week $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Boys 942} \\ \text{Girls 971} \end{array} \right\}$	1913	1104
Average of corresponding weeks 1852-61	1824	1184
Barometer: Highest (Th.) 29.897; lowest (Sat.) 29.620; mean, 29.780.		

Thermometer: Highest in sun-extremes (Mon.) 107 degs.; (Sat.) 80 degs. In shade-highest (Mon.) 68.7 degrees; lowest (Sun.) 45.5 degs. Mean-54.9 degrees; difference from mean of 43 yrs.-4.6 degs. Range-during week, 23.2 degrees; mean daily, 16.6 degrees. Mean humidity of air (saturation=100), 81.

Mean direction of wind, N.W.-Rain in inches, 0.60.

## 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.

QUACKERY OF CHLOROFORM .- SIR: A new or secret mode of administering chloroform in midwifery cases has made some noise at one part of London; there is always an attraction or a charm for certain minds as to what is secret, and consequently for this so-called novum organon in obstetrics. The secret mode is merely a mixing of chloroform with spirit and some strong smelling spices. This mixture is a mistake, for you have to be always squeezing the spirit out of the sponge. I am, etc., June 12th, 1862. M.D.

CHLORODYNE .-- SIR: Any one that tastes chlorodyne can at once see it is a mixture in the main of chloroform, treacle, and hot spices; but the formula has been openly printed over and over again. Dr. Lankester deserves much credit for his letter on chlorodyne; but let not the BRITISH MEDICAL be the first journal to be obliged to stop advertising it, while the other journals

continue to do so. I quite agree with Dr. Lankester, there is no difference whatever between chlorodyne and Holloway's pills. We are soon, it is said, to have a great noise in the public press about the etiquette of this selfsame chlorodyne; it will do good, however, to show that in the main the mind of the profession is with you and sound, and that conscientious men are against secret remedies on principle. I am. etc.. May 30th, 1862. NEMO.

IS ALCOHOL FOOD ?---SIR: Be good enough to tell us what amount of evidence will be sufficient to overcome the bigotted dogmathat to call alcohol food, is an abuse of language? How any one knowing the composition of farinaceous food and alcohol respectively, can propound such an assertion, is marvellous.

Pray tell us what a learned Editor considers to be food? whether, and how long, persons can live without food? lastly, whether an individual, against whom there is no breath of slander, is to be disbelieved because her statements militate against the prejudices of the British Medical Association Editor?

Do tell me, too, what you mean by "clinical precision"? If a mother, nurse, brother, wife, or husband, tending a sick patient, assert that he takes nothing but brandy and water, and stand all the cross-examination of such an one as yourself-for other people know how to ask questions to satisfy themselves of the correctness of any statement-is such testimony to be trusted? or is it to be disbelieved, because the attendant might have winked, or fallen asleep, or gone away for a few moments, or might have lost memory? or that the invalid might have got some food smuggled in somehow or other, which, of course, he would be very determined to do, as he detested all food of the usual kind.

Or, if a man tell you that he takes no solid food of any kindor, at the most, takes a meal once a week-is he to be believed, or discredited, because he must be fibbing to plague the philosophers.

Please tell us too whether you will require the patient to be weighed at intervals, to demonstrate that there is no loss of bulk ; and then that they shall be kiln-dried afterwards, to prove whether the bulk is due to additional water or spirit?

> I am, etc., THOMAS INMAN, M.D.

12, Rodney Street, Liverpool, June 14th, 1862.

[From what we know of Dr. Inman's writings, we can fully understand that he knows not the value of the words "clinical precision". As, however, he asks us what we mean thereby, we will tell him by adducing a striking example of a want of clinical precision. In the JOURNAL of November 16th, 1861, Dr. Inman wrote as follows :--- " I have investigated five cases, in which for many months nothing more was taken but alcohol and water-the persons keeping up their apparent health and strength, and one increasing in fat." This statement seemed to us so important and strange, that we requested the writer to give us the facts with clinical precision ; i.e., scientifically stated. Dr. Inman thereupon gave his cases in the JOURNAL of November 30th, 1861, and we recommend their perusal to any one who may be interested in knowing the real value of the facts upon which Dr. Inman founds the conclusion above given. The cases appear to us, as we suppose they will to most other men of medicine, utterly valueless, being totally devoid of all " clinical precision". ED.]

#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

Short Abstract of the Diagnosis, Prognosis, and Treatment of the Diseases of the Ear. By Dr. Kramer.
 Prolapsus, Fistula in Ano, and Hæmorrhoids. By T. J. Ashton.

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COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:-Dr. HANDFIELD JONES; Mr. A. B. STEELE; Dr. LATHAM; Dr. RAIMBET; G. J.; Dr. C. L. ROBERTSON; Dr. RADFORD; Mr. STONE; Dr. EDWARD H. SIEVEKING; Dr. VOSE; Mr. F. H. HARTSHORNE; Dr. JAMES RUSSELL; Dr. DIEUDONNĚ; MR. O. PEMBERTON; Mr. H. DUN-CALFE; DR. ACLAND; Mr. JAS. GARDNER; BRISTOLIENSIS; Mr. O. HULME; MR. I. HARRINGON; Dr. J. Z. LAURENCE; Dr. GRAILY HEWITT; Dr. KELBURNE KING; THE HON. SECS. MED. CHIR. SOC.; and Mr. WILLIAM COPNEY.

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