ticularly to the art of dressing wounds, and to the minor operations of surgery, which they should practise with their own hands whenever an opportunity presents itself, as, whether they elect for medicine or for surgery, it will always be of service to them in their after career, as they may be so situated as to be obliged to practise both, and the position of a medical man who cannot put up a fracture or reduce a dislocation can be more easily imagined than described; and yet there are practitioners to be met with who hardly know how to hold a lancet or apply a roller properly. M. Liouville then commended his hearers to cultivate the noble qualities inherent to the profession, and conscientiously to do their duty to the utmost of their ability. He here took the opportunity of paying a just tribute to the memory of the lamented Professor Lorain, who was also once an *interne*, and whom he held up as an exemplary character, as he possessed all the qualities necessary for the practice of the healing art. He was a great observer, gentle in his manner, and almost a slave to his duty. This was exemplified in him to the day of his death, for it was in the execution of his duty that he expired, from a fit of apoplexy, at the bedside of a patient he was summoned to see. M. Liouville then referred to the imputations of materialism made by certain parties against the Paris School of Medicine, which he said he would repudiate with all his might, for the study of medicine, far from being incompatible with those higher qualities which characterise our calling, is calculated to inspire the mind with feelings of admiration and respect for the Creator of all things.

It is popularly known that after a thunderstorm milk turns, beef-tea and other soups get sour, and meat of all kinds becomes tainted and unfit for food; but the immediate cause of these phenomena has not up till now been satisfactorily explained. M. A. Boillot, who is well known for his researches on the properties of ozone, has lately communicated to the Academy of Sciences certain observations which will perhaps throw some light on the subject. During last summer, M. Boillot tried some experiments with a bit of fresh beef, weighing 100 grammes, which he divided into two equal portions. One of these was put into a glass-stoppered bottle containing air, and the other in another glass-stoppered bottle containing ozonated air (five milligrammes to a litre). The size of each bottle was 200 cubic *centimètres*. Both were placed in a cellar where the temperature was about 59 Fah. Five days after this, the meat in the first bottle was in a state of putrefaction; the other piece remained unaltered, and was as fresh as on the day it was put into the bottle. On the tenth day it was still unaltered in appearance, and there was no unpleasant smell whatever about it; but the bottle having been opened only for a few seconds, although it was immediately closed, the meat in it was in a state of putrefaction the following day, which M. Boillot attributed to the ingress of air when he opened the bottle. The same experiment was performed with milk; but the air contained in the first bottle was replaced by oxygen. The results were exactly the same; the milk was found to be in a perfect state of preservation in the ozonated air, whereas it had completely turned in the bottle containing oxygen. These experiments offer many suggestions of great interest, and M. Boillot hopes, by further experiments in the same direction, to determine the kind of action which ozone exercises over animal matter, and thus be able to explain the effect produced by thunderstorms on alimentary substances, the importance of which can hardly be overrated.

A decree, just promulgated in Paris, raises the emoluments of the professors and agrégés of the different Universities throughout France to a somewhat respectable cipher, and we cannot but congratulate them on the well-earned recognition of their services. As regards the medical department, the professors in Paris will in future draw 13,000 *francs* (£520) a year, instead of 10,000 *francs* (£400); and in the provinces the salary is raised from 6,000 *francs* (£240) to 10,000 *francs* (£400) a year. That of the agrégés in Paris is raised from 3,000 to 4,000 *francs* (£120 to £160), and that of those in the provinces from 3,000 to 3,500 *francs* (£120 to £140) a year.

SCARLET FEVER ON BOARD HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "SULTAN".—We regret to hear that several cases of scarlet fever occurred on board H.M.S. *Sultan* shortly after leaving England, and whilst at her post in the Tagus. The vessel was then ordered to Gibraltar, where as many cases as could be accommodated in the hospital were received; the vessel was then sent back to Plymouth, and arrived there on Monday last. Since then, the Quarantine flag has been flying until to-day (Thursday), when it was hauled down. Two cases of scarlet fever, nearly convalescent, were on board at the time of arrival at Plymouth, and were sent to hospital; and six suspicious cases are also being watched in the hospital. The crew has been turned over to the *Canopus*; and the *Sultan* is to be examined and thoroughly disinfected.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

THAMES VALLEY BRANCH.

A MEETING of the above Branch will be held at the Southampton Hotel, Surbiton, at four o'clock, on Thursday, February 17th, 1876.

The following papers are promised.

1. Dr. Fenn: On the Pathology and Treatment of Acute Rheumatism.
2. Dr. Lauder Brunton: On the Mode of Action of Alteratives.

There will be a dinner afterwards at the Southampton Hotel at six o'clock; charge, 7s. 6d. each, exclusive of wine.

F. P. ATKINSON, *Hon. Sec.*

Surbiton Road, Kingston, January 19th, 1876.

REPORTS OF SOCIETIES.

PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18TH, 1876.

G. D. POLLOCK, F.R.C.S., President, in the Chair.

Artificial Teeth removed from Trachea.—Mr. PEARCE GOULD showed for Mr. Heath two sets of teeth, each consisting of a gold plate and two teeth, which had passed from the mouth of a young lady during a fit. When she was brought to University College Hospital, there was some pain on the left side of the neck, and also in swallowing, accompanied with slight dyspnœa; after the passage of a bougie, the patient was able to swallow easily. In three days, the dyspnœa had much increased. Dr. Morell Mackenzie was able to demonstrate with the laryngoscope the presence of one set of teeth just below the vocal cords. Seventy-eight hours after they had been swallowed, Mr. Heath removed by tracheotomy the set that had lodged in the larynx; the other set that had found its way into the œsophagus was passed the same evening by stool.—The PRESIDENT said that the fact of these teeth having slipped from their place in the early morning when the patient was in bed, pointed to the advisability of owners of such teeth always removing them before they went to sleep.

Amyloid Reaction in the Dysmenorrhœal Membrane.—Dr. JOHN WILLIAMS showed two specimens of this. Making use of iodine and sulphuric acid, and examining a thin section microscopically, he had obtained a blue colour just at the margin: it might, however, be possible to obtain the colour with the reactions alone, and colour-tests were of but little value.—Dr. RALFE thought Dr. Williams's case was of great interest, as English pathologists used iodine only, continental ones iodine and sulphuric acid. From his own experiments, he was inclined to think that the violet colour might be due to the volatilisation of the iodine from the heat of the sulphuric acid. He had also tested other albuminous substances; and out of four, viz., albumen, fibrin, casein, syntonin, he found that the three last gave a red colour with iodine, similar to lardacin.—Dr. MOXON, when making use of the iodine test, had often strangely met with the reaction; thus, in one case, he had come across it in the deeper epithelial cells of a hand removed for lupus; on other occasions, when carefully testing urine, he had met with the lardaceous colour, apparently from the presence of epithelial cells of the bladder. He thought the term red or mahogany not quite a good one, and preferred to call it a dark-purple brown. As to the lardaceous material, it should be remembered that no solvent was yet known, and that, in testing for it, we had to deal with very compound textures.—Dr. GREEN thought Dr. Williams's specimens very important; certainly the reaction iodine gave with casein was, when Dr. Ralfe showed it to him, quite undistinguishable from that with lardacin. He did not agree with the tint preferred by Dr. Moxon.—Dr. GREENFIELD mentioned that sections of some kidneys which were not amyloid became distinctly stained with iodine, and he thought this might point to a tendency to degeneration on the part of various albuminous substances.—Dr. WICKHAM LEGG said that, with regard to a solvent, many of the other substances could be removed artificially by gastric juice, the fat by ether, and thus an approach made to accuracy; the amyloid matter was then soluble in ammonia.

Anomalous Blood-cyst.—Mr. GODLEE brought forward this specimen, which was removed by Mr. Marshall. Though termed a blood-cyst, he thought that, microscopically, it was a form of cancer. The patient was a widow, aged 67. She had never borne children, always enjoyed good health, and had no hereditary history of cancer. The tumour, which appeared first in 1873, was then removed by caustics, and no microscopical examination made. It having recurred in the cicatrix,