

THE DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

It is our painful duty to announce the death of Sir John Cordy Burrows, President-elect of the British Medical Association. Sir John Cordy Burrows presented, at the meeting of the Association in Edinburgh last year, an invitation signed by fifty-nine members of the profession at Brighton, "cordially inviting the British Medical Association to hold its annual meeting in 1876 at Brighton", and nominating him for acceptance by the Association as President for the meeting in 1876 and for the year ensuing. This invitation was warmly supported by Sir John Cordy Burrows, who, in the name of the profession and of the Corporation of Brighton, promised that the Association would have a reception worthy of it, and such as might compare with the honour done to it in Birmingham, London, Norwich, Edinburgh, and other great towns where it had recently held its annual meetings. The invitation was, after discussion, and after a kindly invitation of a similar character from Liverpool had been tendered, accepted by a large vote in the General Council, and subsequently by the general meeting. Sir J. Cordy Burrows has, unhappily, since then failed rapidly in health. He has been unable from this cause to be present at the last meeting of the Committee of Council, or to take part personally in the proceedings at Brighton relative to the proposed meeting. His death at this critical juncture must inspire universal regret. No doubt he had looked forward to the office for which so many of his fellow-townsmen had nominated him as a crowning honour of his career, and his death is deeply to be deplored. We publish in another column a memoir, in which the public-spirited acts which marked his career are placed upon record. The death of the President-elect during his expectancy of office, and prior to the annual meeting, of which he is the proper head, and for which he would direct the preparations, is a misfortune of which it is not easy to appreciate the consequences. The Committee of Council will meet shortly, we believe, and will then have to decide what are the proper and most advisable steps to be taken under these circumstances.

THE PRESIDENCY OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

THE friends of Dr. Risdon Bennett and Dr. Pitman are actively pushing their claims to the office of President of the College of Physicians, in anticipation of the meeting next week. A rumour, moreover, has been set abroad very industriously that an eminent Court physician, whose name had commended itself to many, would decline to serve if elected. That rumour is, however, we are informed upon good authority, without foundation, and must have originated in invention or error.

LEGISLATION FOR THE HABITUAL "DRUNKARD".

THIS subject was fully discussed at the Social Science Association meeting last Monday. As we informed our readers, a paper on the subject was read by Dr. Alfred Carpenter, at the invitation of the Law Amendment Committee of that association. The writer asked three questions:—1. Is further legislation required? 2. Are present powers capable of being used for the reformation of the drunkard? 3. The direction which new legislation should take.

Dr. Carpenter answered the first and second questions by showing that present powers were comparatively inoperative for prevention, and had not the least pretence for being considered curative. Besides personal knowledge gained by himself as a Surrey magistrate, he quoted from the report of the Select Committee upon Habitual Drunkards, which clearly went to prove that "small fines and short imprisonments were useless". He fully endorsed the opinion of the Committee "that

fresh legislation upon the subject was necessary, and that the law should be made more simple, uniform, and stringent".

He dealt with Mr. Dalrymple's Bill, and, whilst approving of it, expressed his idea that public opinion was not yet ripe for it, and urged that it would be good policy to take the first clause of Mr. Dalrymple's definition, and ask for a permissive measure only. He referred to Sir Thomas Watson's opinion which was expressed to the Home Secretary when the deputation waited upon that official last year, and then dealt with the "great practical difficulties" which, Mr. Cross said, beset the question. These difficulties were comparatively nothing in Dr. Carpenter's opinion, compared with the mischief which the Bill proposed to remedy. They only asked for a measure which should give permissive power to deal with "intemperance the disease", as distinct from "intemperance the vice"; they wanted power to prevent the establishment of the disease; but they would at present be content with power to cure it after it is established. Dr. Carpenter denied that it would be at all likely that innocent persons would be incarcerated by designing relatives, remarking that the measure proposed was not a penal one, and not intended in any way to be looked at for the purposes of punishment, but for reformation—for cure. He suggested that an habitual drunkard should be deemed such who was shown upon evidence given before the local magistrates to have lost his power of self-control, to be addicted to the habitual use of intoxicating liquors, and to be, whilst suffering from the effects, quite unfit to manage his own affairs; that this evidence should be always taken before the medical evidence; and that the magistrates should have power to award costs against the pursuer, if, in their opinion, there was not a *bonâ fide* case for inquiry. He suggested that a person should be able to go into seclusion on his own petition, if, on inquiry, there was sufficient evidence to establish his case, but not otherwise. "Then", said the reader, "let power be given to detain, and commercial enterprise would do the rest."

The chair was occupied by the Right Hon. Lyon Playfair, M.P. An animated discussion followed the reading of the paper. Dr. Cameron, M.P., agreed with the proposal, but thought that it would be better at present to try only to deal with those cases which came before the police courts on other charges. Some speakers attacked the principles laid down by Dr. Carpenter, as not going far enough, the supporters of Sir Wilfred Lawson's measure advocating that it would be best to lock up the drink, instead of the drunkard.

The Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P., urged that a small permissive measure would be most likely to find support in the present House of Commons; and the Chairman, in closing the debate, expressed his opinion that anything more than a small instalment of that proposed by Dr. Carpenter would not be at all likely to meet with success in the present state of public opinion.

Dr. Carpenter replied upon the discussion, contending that all that was asked for was permissive power to detain dipsomaniacs.

A vote of thanks for the paper was moved by Dr. Cameron, M.P., and carried by acclamation.

The meeting was attended by several associates from different parts of the country, and a general feeling of satisfaction was expressed at the result.

We hope to see our Branches take up the subject, and would be glad to hear that numerous petitions have been presented to the House in support of the moderate proposal which Dr. Carpenter has made.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

DOWNING COLLEGE: OPEN FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS.—At the College Examination in June 1876, two Foundation Scholarships, of the value of £80 *per annum*, will be awarded for proficiency in Law and in Natural Science respectively. These Scholarships will be open to all members of the University who are of not more than three terms' standing from Matriculation; and the successful candidates must at once enter Downing College, if not already members of it. For the Natural Science Scholarship, the subjects will be: Chemistry (theoretical and practical), Physiology, Comparative Anatomy, and Botany; but special proficiency in one subject will be considered of more importance than a moderate knowledge of all. Candidates who are not members of Downing College must send their names to the Master on or before the 29th of May, 1876, accompanied by certificates of moral character. For further information, apply to John Perkins, Esq., or to the Rev. T. J. Lawrence, Tutors of the College.

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, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Thursday, the 13th day of April next, at Three o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANCIS FOWKE,
General Secretary.

36, Great Queen Street, London, W.C., March 22nd, 1876.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE next meeting will be held in the Council Room of the Midland Institute, Birmingham, on Thursday, April 6th, 1876. The Chair will be taken by the President at 3 o'clock P.M. precisely.

Business.—To nominate the Officers, the Council, and the Representatives of the Branch on the Council of the Association, for the ensuing year.

Papers.—1. Dr. Johnston: Remarks on a peculiar Affection of the Lungs, complicating Rheumatic Fever.—2. Dr. Ross Jordan: Comments on some of the Effects of Alcohol on the Female Economy.

Members are invited to exhibit pathological Specimens at the commencement of the meeting.

BALTHAZAR FOSTER, M.D. } *Honorary Secretaries.*
JAMES SAWYER, M.D. }

Birmingham, March 1876.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH.

THE spring meeting of this Branch will be held at the Hospital, Rotherham, on Wednesday, April 8th, at 2.30 P.M.

The members will dine at the Ship Hotel at 5 P.M. Tickets, 6s. 6d. each.

Gentlemen intending to bring forward any communication, or join the dinner, are requested to communicate with the Secretary.

W. PROCTER, M.D., *Local Secretary.*

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

THE fifth ordinary meeting of the session will be held at the York House, Bath, on Thursday evening, April 13th; W. M. CLARKE, Esq., President.

Bath, March 1876. R. S. FOWLER, } *Honorary Secretaries.*
C. BOARD, }

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH.

THE spring meeting of this Branch will be held in the Library of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Infirmary, on Thursday, April 27th.

Gentlemen who are desirous of reading papers, introducing patients, exhibiting pathological specimens, or making other communications, are requested to signify their intention to the Secretary at their earliest convenience.

G. H. PHILIPSON, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, March 14th, 1876.

PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

SUPERANNUATION.—The Tisbury Board of Guardians had before them, a few days ago, a motion to grant a retiring salary to one of their district medical officers; but it was negatived on the ground that it was inexpedient to increase the burden on the rates by placing in this category those officers whose services to the board are fragmentary and unentire.

AN UNHEALTHY DISTRICT.

In an admirable and most painstaking report, by Dr. Thorne Thorne of the Local Government Medical Department, on the sanitary state of the Barton-upon-Irwell district, he publishes a table of the births and deaths by various causes in each quarter of the five years 1870-75, from which it appears that the total deaths by all causes in the district have been registered at the rate of 22.1 per 1,000 of the population

per annum; and that 3.5 per 1,000 have been registered as by the so-called zymotic diseases, which have carried off yearly in the district nearly 200 persons. And it further appears, from the same table, that in no one quarter of the five years has the district been free from fever, diarrhoea, and scarlet fever; these three diseases alone having 693 deaths ascribed to them during the five years.

MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

ARMY MEDICAL EXCHANGES.

A CORRESPONDENT calls our attention to the following.

"Medical Officers of the Army and Exchange.—Mr. Hardy informed Mr. Dunbar that no right of exchange existed anywhere, because it was a matter of commission. But, with respect to medical officers, every application for exchange was carefully considered and decided on its own merits; as a rule, no application of a medical officer was refused; and he did not, therefore, propose to make any alteration on the subject."

Our correspondent observes:—Mr. Hardy is clearly angry. He has been badly advised. What harm could it do him if medical officers were allowed to exchange? The Act was meant to benefit all. Why should the caprice of a single individual thwart the good intended to be effected by a parliamentary proceeding? There are cases, and some of them extremely hard ones. It is a pity that they are not brought forward, I think. The truth must out, and no weapon is so deadly against an unscrupulous adversary. "As a rule", the greatest offender is law-loving, but the exceptional breach convicts him.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS IN THE GUARDS.

WE cannot but look upon it as a fact of some significance that the recent vacancy in the medical staff of the Blues has not yet been filled up. It is well known that strong efforts have been made to retain the services of the late valued and experienced surgeon of that regiment, and even to have him reinstated in the post which he has worthily filled since 1853; and it even yet seems within the limits of possibility that some such arrangement may be effected. The senior assistant-surgeon of the Cavalry Brigade declines present promotion into another regiment, and some difficulty seems to have arisen between the claims of the assistant-surgeons of the Blues and 2nd Life Guards. If it be true, as is rumoured, that in this case an attempt is about to be made to revert to the old regimental system, and promote Mr. Taylor instead of Dr. Spry, to whom the step undoubtedly belongs, another comment is given on the unsatisfactory rules now regulating promotion in the Guards. Our readers may remember the strong protest entered by us against the most unnecessary changes introduced some years ago, and we shall only await a more convenient opportunity of again reopening the subject, and bringing its anomalies before the profession.

It may be that the authorities will cut this present Gordian knot by restoring matters to their original *status quo*; but, supposing that Surgeon-Major Logie is permitted to remain on half-pay, we hold that he has good reasons for dissatisfaction on the following grounds. Dr. Logie may well argue claims of exemption from the special clauses of the warrant regulating retirement by age, on account of the peculiar constitution of the force to which he belonged. The Cavalry Brigade of Guards are special in this, that appointments are not only recommended, but given by the full colonels without any reference whatever to the Commander-in-Chief or War Office, and we can quite understand the indignation with which Lord Strathnairn resented the way in which his expressed wishes in this case were ignored. Dr. Logie had always been under the impression that this total removal from the sphere of Horse Guards and War Office authority was sufficient to withdraw him from the fatal limit of fifty-five years, and, therefore, neglected to make those arrangements which might have enabled him at an earlier date to recover large sums of money which he had expended in his regimental arrangements. It is perfectly well known that medical appointments to the Cavalry Brigade of Guards had their regular price, which was paid by the incoming to the outgoing man, and that this custom was winked at, if not recognised, by the authorities.

Whatever opinion may be expressed as to the merits of these transactions, there can be no doubt that they are strictly analogous to the over-regulation price of commissions, which was so far tacitly allowed by the powers that be as to be admitted among the direct claims on the abolition of purchase. It is, therefore, clear that Dr. Logie may justly hope to receive some substantial compensation for his heavy outlay, and that the War Office may take this opportunity for con-

he gave his services as surgeon until he attained the rank, which he held until his death, of brigade-surgeon. *Pari passu* with the organisation of the Volunteer Corps, went on an effort to establish a Free Library and Museum and a Public Picture Gallery—in all of which Cordy Burrows aided, and lived to see established on a basis which even his sanguine disposition could hardly have anticipated.

"In this, indeed, Sir Cordy's life was a happy one: that the objects which he aimed at in the outset of his career were all accomplished at the close of it. Even the crowning object of his professional ambition—the honour of presiding over the annual meeting of the British Medical Association—was conceded to him; he was the President-Elect of the coming Brighton meeting; he had won it, though he was not permitted to enjoy it.

"He might have been a rich man if he had so chosen; but he preferred to be a useful man—to do the work of the public; and he was never so happy as when doing it. Indeed, his life *was* work, and sure we are that he himself would have elected to cease to live as soon as he ceased to be useful to his fellow-men."

SIR JOHN W. FISHER, F.R.C.S.E.

SIR JOHN W. FISHER, whose death at a very advanced age we chronicle to-day, was a good example of the brighter aspect of our profession. While many lament, and with too good reason, how frequently the thankless drudgery of medical practice leaves the practitioner after all with hardly enough at the end of a long life to satisfy the tastes and habits of a gentleman, we must not forget that there are a fair number who, like the subject of our present notice, succeed in making the ordinary practice of medicine a passport to honour and affluence, without any more shining qualities than the sterling virtues of good sense, good temper, industry, and honourable principles. Yet these virtues, though they may perhaps be less brilliant, are certainly more rare than the possession of some amount of showy ability, or we should have to record more of such careers as those of Sir J. Fisher than we are able to do at present. Sir John Fisher was a self-made man. Commencing the world seventy years ago, without any external advantages of friends or fortune, he attached himself as a student to St. George's Hospital, which was then under the immediate successors and pupils of Hunter—Sir E. Home, T. Keate, and others—obtaining that leading position as a school of surgery which it maintained during the splendid career of Brodie, and was, perhaps, quite as efficient in its medical department, from which Baillie and Heberden had just passed away, but which still boasted the immortal name of Young, that great philosopher, who, in the judgment of Tyndall was only a little lower than Newton himself, and the great practical ability of Chambers and Seymour. In such a school Mr. Fisher could not fail to acquire an excellent medical education. He became a member of the College of Surgeons in 1809; and, some time afterwards, joined a gentleman of the name of Andrews, who practised in Greek Street, Soho, and who was surgeon to the Bow Street "runners". When this gentleman gave up general practice, he was succeeded by Mr. Fisher both in his private connection and in his public appointment; and, on the formation of the "new police", his well-timed services pointed him out naturally as the fittest man for the appointment of chief surgeon to the metropolitan police. The satisfaction which was felt with his conduct in this new capacity by the succession of able men who acted as Commissioners of Police down to Sir R. Mayne's time, was sufficiently shown by his recommendation for the honour of knighthood, which he received in the year 1858. Sir John Fisher had enjoyed a considerable private practice; but advancing age and increasing public duties confined him from this time, at first chiefly, and ultimately altogether, to his official duties. He retired wholly from active life in the year 1865, at a ripe old age, but with a mind and body still vigorous, to the enjoyment of a well-earned leisure and of the society of the "troops of friends" whom his genial temper had gathered round him, and whom it was his greatest delight to see at his hospitable house. Few men realised better the great poet's description of "that which should accompany old age". The inevitable end came to him very slowly. For many months he was confined to his house with the premonitory symptoms of senile gangrene in one foot, and the disease at length declared itself, but advanced very slowly indeed to its fatal termination. His sufferings (which, in spite of the assiduous services of the leading surgeons in the metropolis) were necessarily severe as well as protracted, were borne with admirable courage and patience, and were soothed by all that the most devoted affection could supply. He retained his faculties to the last, and up to a very short time before his death was still glad to welcome a friend, and was cheerful and even gay in conversing with him. Sir John was twice married, and leaves a widow, but no children.

MEDICAL NEWS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, March 23rd, 1876.

Hill, Alfred Postock, Winsor Green, Birmingham
Lawson, Thomas Cornelius, Ashton, Birmingham
Little, Henry Selby, London Street, Reading
Wilmot, Thomas, Fenton, Lincolnshire

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

Bothamley, Richard Broughton, St. Thomas's Hospital
Head, Percy Turner Jones, University College
Howat, George Rutland, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Ling, Charles Arthur Squire, London Hospital
Pryce, Evan William, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Sellon, John William Gore, University College

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

BERMONDSEY VESTRY—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £160 per annum. Applications not later than April 1st.
BIRMINGHAM and MIDLAND FREE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £80 per annum, with suitable rooms, board, washing, and attendance, in the Institution. Applications not later than April 7th.
BROMPTON HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION—Resident Clinical Assistant. Applications on or before the 3rd April.
BOSTON UNION—Medical Officer. Salary, £115 a year, with fees. Application on or before the 8th April.
BRIDGNORTH UNION—Medical Offices for the Second District.
COCKERMOUTH UNION—Medical Officer for the Keswick District.
COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM, Snettton, Nottingham—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 a year, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to Chairman of the Committee of Visitors on or before the 6th April.
ESSEX LUNATIC ASYLUM—Second Assistant Medical Officer and Dispenser. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging and washing. Applications to Dr. Campbell, Medical Superintendent, County Asylum, Brentwood, Essex.
GLOUCESTER COUNTY ASYLUM—Senior Medical Assistant. Salary, £150 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to Mr. Toller, the Superintendent, on or before the 8th April.
GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, Caledonian Road, N.—Physician. Applications on or before April 4th.
KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL—Assistant Surgeon. Applications to J. W. Cunningham, Secretary.
LEAMINGTON HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to the Secretary on or before the 26th April.
LOCHMABEN, Dumfriesshire—Medical Officer. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications to H. B. Currie, Inspector of Poor, not later than 3rd April.
METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL—Honorary Surgeon. Applications to the Committee on or before 18th April.
MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL, W.—Physician. Applications to the Weekly Board before 12 o'clock noon on any Tuesday.
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY IN IRELAND—Examiners in Medicine—salary, £100 per annum; in Surgery—salary, £100 per annum; in Midwifery, etc.—salary, £75 per annum; in Materia Medica—salary, £75 per annum; in Medical Jurisprudence—salary, £75 per annum. Applications by letter, on or before April 4th, to G. J. Stoney, Secretary, Queen's University, Dublin Castle.
ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL, W.—Chair of Botany. Applications, by letter, with testimonials, to the Secretary, on or before the 3rd April.
ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL—Assistant Surgeon, and Apothecary. Applications to the Treasurer, Hospital Counting House, Westminster Bridge.
SOUTHWELL UNION—Medical Officer for the Sutton-upon-Trent District.
SUFFOLK COUNTY ASYLUM—Medical Superintendent. Applications to the Clerk of the Peace, County Hall, Ipswich, on or before April 4th.
THETFORD UNION—Medical Officer for the Sapiston District.
THINGOE UNION—Medical Officer for the first District.
TISBURY UNION—Medical Officer for the Hindon District.
WALSINGHAM UNION—Medical Officer for the Fakenham District.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Names marked with an asterisk are those of Members of the Association.
*CAMPELL, W. Macfie, M.D., elected Surgeon to the Liverpool Northern Hospital, *vice* A. F. Graham, M.D., resigned.
DIVER, Thomas, M.D., appointed Physician to the Infirmary for Consumption, Margaret Street.
WRIGHT, Edward A., M.B., appointed House-Surgeon to the Huddersfield Infirmary, *vice* J. Irving M.B., resigned.

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.

BIRTHS.

HARDESTY.—At Galashiels, N.B., on March 24th, the wife of *J. Jeffrey Hardesty, L.R.C.P. & S.E., of a son, premature and still-born.
MACSWINNEY.—On February 2nd, at Ondeyacona, Laynas, Ceylon, the wife of *G. H. MacSwinney, M.D., of a son.

DEATHS.

COLBY, William, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.S.A., at New Malton, Yorkshire, aged 76, on March 27th.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY Metropolitan 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.

TUESDAY Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—West London, 3 P.M.—National Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Mary's, 1.30 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, 2.30 P.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 3 P.M.—King's College, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.

THURSDAY St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.—St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department), 3 P.M.

FRIDAY..... Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Royal South London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Guy's, 1.30 P.M.

SATURDAY St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 9.30 A.M. and 1.30 P.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. Adjourned discussion on Mr. Henry Smith's paper on "Some Manifestations of Syphilis, and their Treatment"; also, Mr. J. Knowles Thornton, "On the Surgical Aspects of Pelvic Hæmatocele".

TUESDAY.—Pathological Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Pye-Smith: Injury to Head, with Chronic Hydrocephalus. Mr. Knowles Thornton: Contents of Dermoid Ovarian Cyst. Mr. Lennox Browne and Dr. Gilbert Smith: Disease of Larynx, with pressure on Right Inferior Laryngeal Nerve. Mr. Barker: Fracture of Cervical Vertebra, with Injury of Cord. Mr. A. W. Stocks: Occlusion of Superior Vena Cava. Dr. Greenfield: Congenital absence of Superior Vena Cava. Dr. Hilton Fagge: Lardaceous Liver and Spleen. Dr. Hilton Fagge: Thrombosis of Mesenteric Vein. At 9.15, the conclusion of adjourned discussion of Syphilis.

WEDNESDAY.—Obstetrical Society of London, 8 P.M. Mr. Edwin Child, "Notes and Specimen of a Case of Extrauterine Fœtation"; Dr. John Williams, "On the Mechanical Action of Pessaries"; Dr. Cooper Rose, "A Contribution to the Statistics of Midwifery in General Practice"; Dr. Gervis, "Case of Puerperal Septicæmia"; and other communications.

THURSDAY.—Harveian Society of London, 7.15 P.M.; Meeting of Council. 8 P.M.: Mr. Cripps Lawrence, "On the Etiology and Treatment of Scrofulous Ophthalmia".

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS 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.

C. G. (Bootle), Dr. EWEN (Clifton), and other correspondents, are referred to the standing "notices" at the head of this column. We cannot undertake to reply by letter to communications of the kind.

GUY'S HOSPITAL GAZETTE.

THE *Guy's Hospital Gazette* appears now in a monthly form, and is edited by the President of the Physical Society. It contains summaries of lectures, reports of cases, and much matter interesting to old Guy's men.

R. R. (Brighton).—The late Sir John Cordy Burrows was admitted a member of the College of Surgeons March 18th, 1836, just forty years ago; and a Fellow October 21st, 1852, with the large number of thirty-six members. He took a great interest in the annual election of Fellows into the Council, and frequently attended the meetings, although greatly opposed to personal attendance, advocating voting by proxy.

ADVERTISEMENT OF MEDICAL BOOKS IN NEWSPAPERS.

SIR,—For some years past, in my private practice, I have abstained from calling in, in consultation, any of those physicians and surgeons who advertise their books in the public newspapers. Perhaps this plan might be more generally adopted with good result.—Yours obediently, B.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.—Advertisements for insertion in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, should be forwarded direct to the Publishing Office, 36, Great Queen Street, W.C., addressed to Mr. FOWKE, no later than *Thursday*, twelve o'clock.

VAGINAL EXAMINATIONS OF UNMARRIED WOMEN.

SIR,—In reply to the queries of A Young Practitioner on the above subject, I would answer as follows:—1. It is possible, by a carefully conducted digital examination *per rectum*, to obtain very valuable information as to the state of the uterus, in cases where a vaginal examination is not desirable. In a well marked case of flexion of the uterus, this method of examination reveals the fact to the observer without difficulty. This method, therefore, should be adopted in the first place, and the further steps to be taken will depend on circumstances. The presence of a long-standing fixed discomfort, referred to the pelvic region (disease of the bowel being excluded from consideration), justifies an exploration such as above mentioned. 2. Flexion of the uterus is not uncommon in unmarried women. 3. As regards the best treatment for it, that is a wide question; but I would state that if recent and slight, a positional treatment alone often gives satisfactory results. By "positional treatment," I mean maintenance of the recumbent position on the back or on the face, according as the flexion is forwards or backwards. When, however, the disease is of two or three years' standing, or severe, this treatment alone will not answer, and an internal mechanical treatment is indispensable. 4. The necessary mechanical treatment can be carried out, according to my experience, without in any way imperilling the moral health of the patient. 5. Chronic ill health, unfitness for the ordinary enjoyments of life, and for undertaking the obligations of marriage, are the results of neglect of proper treatment in the bad cases. The curability is inversely as the duration of the malady.—I am, etc., March 25th, 1876. GRAILY HEWITT.

DR. WINTERBOTHAM (Bridgwater). Mr. HENRY BROWN (Northallerton) will excuse us if, under the present circumstances, we decide not to publish their communications, lest the publication should do harm in widening the breach, which no doubt they desire to heal.

THE URINE AFTER EXERCISE.

SIR,—Bearing in mind the correspondence which has lately appeared in the pages of the JOURNAL upon the presence of albumen in the urine first passed after great and unusual exertion, I took an opportunity of examining that of the pedestrians, Martin and Taylor, about mid-day on March 7th. I have not any official note of the condition of these men at the time named, but each was unfit for any further exertion. Dr. F. A. Mahomed described the state of the last named in his paper which appeared in your issue of the 18th instant. The urine was passed directly into bottles provided by me for the purpose in my presence. Neither specimen offered any evidence of albumen.—Yours, etc., J. ASHBURTON THOMSON. Islington, March 21st, 1876.

MR. R. L. ROUTH (Sibford, Banbury).—Mr. Haviland's map of the distribution of phthisis is published by Smith, Elder, and Co., London. We do not know of any other similar map.

TREATMENT OF EPISTAXIS.

SIR,—I have read the remarks of Messrs. Cox and Gardner upon the treatment of epistaxis by the injection of the perchloride of iron, and, having used it myself for the same purpose, may as well give your readers my experience, more particularly as it has led me to conclusions the very opposite to those arrived at by them.

In the spring of 1875, I attended a lady aged about 60, with most severe epistaxis, which recurred again and again; and, having tried various things without producing the desired result, of course I thought of the perchloride of iron, the fashionable hæmostatic, and, having made a solution of it a little stronger than Mr. Gardner's, I injected it several times into the nose. So thoroughly did I do this, sending it in all possible directions, that a considerable portion got through into the pharynx, and, though she spat a good deal of it out, yet she swallowed a good deal more. Almost no effect was produced upon the bleeding, and at the end of the process the blood was dripping faster than ever, but the perchloride she swallowed made her reth and vomit violently, and it was nearly two days and nights before she could keep anything down: this, as she was greatly weakened by loss of blood, much diminished her chance of recovery. Two hours afterwards, I had to plug the anterior and posterior nares.

As I am merely writing to give my experience of the use of the perchloride, it is not requisite for me to state any more particulars of this most interesting case, except to say that she eventually recovered, and lived to express emphatically her opinion that the injection was infinitely more disagreeable than the plugging.—I am, sir, yours obediently, WM. HARDMAN.

Blackpool, March 14th, 1876.

L.S.H. (Dewsbury).—Chemists are expressly precluded from prescribing by the Apothecaries' Act. Medical botanists and quacks pure and simple assuming medical titles can only be reached through the Medical Act—a very inefficient and often valueless instrument.

"WANTED AN EXPLANATION."

SIR,—My attention has only just been called to an editorial note in your issue of the 11th instant, commenting upon my letter in the *Times* of the 29th ultimo, headed "Wanted an Explanation." The result of the special meeting of the Board held at the British Lying-in Hospital, Endell Street, to inquire into the circumstances, was of such a very satisfactory character that it is with regret I have to re-open the matter; but I know of no better way to refute the charges made by you—viz., that I have "succeeded in clothing it (the case) with a fictitious sensational interest," and that your inquiry has been made into the "real facts of the case," by inference implying that they were not contained in my letter, than by an extract from the official communication received from Mr. Vincent Yardley, the secretary, and then leave the public to judge between us.

"I am instructed by the Board of Management to inform you that, after a long and careful investigation of the matter referred to in your letter of the 25th ult., in the *Times* of the 29th, they have come to the conclusion that the midwife in charge of the institution at the time of the occurrence was guilty of an error in judgment in adhering too strictly to the laws of the hospital in a case of such great emergency, and they trust that they have given such admonition as to prevent the recurrence of such want of discretion."

I have to request, in fairness to me, that you will insert this letter in your next issue, as, after appearing personally before the Hospital Committee to substantiate my statement under initials in the *Times*, it would be useless to endeavour to maintain my incognito in this matter.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, 332, Strand, March 21st, 1876. JOHN HUTTON.

license would be entitled to all rights, privileges, and advantages enjoyed by licentiates of the London College. Therefore, licentiates of the Edinburgh College were, amongst other things, entitled to the courtesy-prefix "Dr."

Admitting, as I believe we must, the above argument to be logically correct, I would ask, Can any reasonable man assert that the Edinburgh licentiates were guilty of an offence *contra bonos mores* in distinguishing themselves by precisely the same designation as that previously adopted by their London *cofreres*? If there be good reason for challenging the legality of their so doing, why not follow the example recently set by the members of our sister profession, the church, and get the question settled at once and for all by legal judicial authority? This course would be open to the single objection of expense; but surely there would not be wanting contributions on both sides, if such a proceeding were determined on. For my part, I do not think the public cares one iota about the matter. People will always support the man who cures them; and it is within the memory of living persons that two of the most favoured practitioners in aristocratic London were, contemporaneously, Sir Henry Hallford, the President of the London College of Physicians, and Mr. Pennington, the simple apothecary.—I am, sir, yours, etc.,

HUGH NORRIS.

L. J. H.—The first baronet was Sir Henry Hallford, created in 1600. He was long known as Dr. Vaughan, physician to George III, George IV, William IV, and Queen Victoria; President of the Royal College of Physicians. He assumed the name of Hallford on the extinction of the baronet's family of that name, to whom he was distantly related.

PUBLIC VACCINATION.

SIR.—A correspondent (H. H. P.), under the heading "Vaccination in Marylebone", in your issue of February 26th, seems to me to be devoid of information upon the subject of which he writes. Permit me to endeavour to supply him with the information of which he stands in need. After speaking of the unsatisfactory returns of vaccination in Marylebone, he concludes with this passage: "It is well worth consideration whether the universality of vaccination would not be more nearly approached if public vaccinators were made liable to penalty for neglecting to offer to vaccinate any child within, say, six months of its birth, instead of fining the parents, who may not know that it ought to be vaccinated, nor to whom they should apply." What does H. H. P. mean by "neglecting to offer to vaccinate"? Is a public vaccinator to go round to every house in his district, and, with charged lancet, "offer to vaccinate" any child under six months old? For neglecting to do this, would H. H. P. have him fined? Would not the expression be better read for "refusing to vaccinate when asked"? If this be what he mean, may I draw his attention to the fact that, when a medical man is appointed by the guardians as a public vaccinator, he has, before commencing his duties as such, to enter into a contract with the said guardians "to vaccinate every person resident in the district for which he shall have been appointed, who shall apply to or be brought to him for the purpose of being vaccinated"? For non-compliance, no fine or penalty is to be inflicted; but I take it, that refusal to vaccinate, save for very obvious reasons, is neither more nor less than a breach of contract, and would render the contractor liable to suspension and dismissal.

Then, again, let me remind him that, when the birth of a child is registered, "notice of the requirement of vaccination" is given to the person registering. The first paragraph gives the following notice to the mother: "To have the child vaccinated by a public vaccinator or some other medical practitioner, pursuant to the Vaccination Acts, in default of which a penalty will be inflicted." The second paragraph states, "that every child is to be vaccinated before it is three months old", unless it be postponed by medical certificate. The place for vaccination, together with the name of the public vaccinator, and the time of attendance, appears in the third paragraph. I should think that H. H. P. can never have signed a vaccination certificate, or he must have become familiar with the above.—Faithfully yours,

ALFRED MATCHAM, Public Vaccinator and Medical Officer to St. Saviour's Union.

H. (Middlesex Hospital).—Mr. Hulke, the recently elected member of the Board of Examiners of the College of Surgeons, will take his share of the oral examinations commencing on Tuesday next. Mr. W. S. Savory, F.R.S., is the Chairman of the Board.

WESTMINSTER UNION WORKHOUSE.

On Monday, March 13th, an entertainment, consisting of vocal and instrumental music and select readings, was given to the aged and infirm inmates of this workhouse and infirmary, under the direction of Dr. Joseph Rogers, the medical officer. The large dining hall was filled in every part, and among the visitors were to be found the majority of the guardians and their ladies, many respectable ratepayers of the district, guardians from other unions, a number of lady visitors, and the officers of the union. The entertainment was in every way successful, and appeared to be highly appreciated both by visitors and inmates.

At the conclusion of the entertainment, the chairman stated that he had been commissioned by his colleagues to tender to the medical officer Dr. Rogers, and to his talented musical friends, their hearty thanks for the extreme gratification they had derived from the entertainment which had been provided, remarkable as it was for its enjoyable, elevated, and elevating character. This proposition was seconded by the vice-chairman, and carried by acclamation.

There can be no doubt that such reunions are in the highest degree commendable. They tend to encourage feelings of mutual respect and regard between the medical officer and his patient, and promote at the same time a higher consideration on the part of the guardians for the position of the doctor.

TREATMENT OF PSORIASIS BY INDIA-RUBBER CLOTHING.

SIR.—Noticing the discussion between Dr. Mackey and Mr. Balmanno Squire as to the value and safety of India-rubber clothing in the treatment of psoriasis, I judge that my experience will interest them. In August, 1873, I prescribed a complete suit of India-rubber cloth to be worn by a neighbour of mine who suffered from psoriasis, the rubber skin next to the skin. He wore this for three months, but only to sleep in, with decided benefit; but as he also suffered from malignant tumour in the abdomen, which proved fatal at a period, I am not able to report the effect of wearing the rubber clothing during a long period.—Yours truly,

H. O. THOMAS, Surgeon.

11, Nelson Street, St. George Square, Liverpool, March 19th, 1876.

"LEO ROSS."—This accomplished elocutionist, one of the greatest masters of the art, is a member of our profession.—Dr. D. A. Moxey is a graduate in medicine, a member of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, London, etc. Those who justly admired Bellow should attend this evening (Friday) at Willis's Rooms, and see what a powerful and successful rival our clerical friend would have found in a member of the medical profession. His Longfellow's *King Robert of Sicily* is a masterpiece of reading, although we prefer his version of Hood's inimitable poem the *Bridge of Sighs*.

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

OLD AGE.—The obituary of the *Times* of the 28th instant contained some extraordinary illustrations of prolonged existence in nine persons—viz., five ladies and four gentlemen, whose united ages amounted to 773 years, giving an average of 85 years and more than ten months to each. The oldest, as usual, was a member of the fair sex, who had reached the great age of 93 years, the youngest being 84 years of age. Of the gentlemen, the oldest was 87 and the youngest 80 years of age. The following were their respective ages—viz., 83, 81; two at 84; 85; two at 87; and 93. The same obituary contained the deaths of eleven septuagenarians, whose ages averaged 73 years and nine months each.

F.R.C.S. (Bishop's Stortford).—The apparatus in question is very widely known. When we lately applied to the late Dr. Parkes, who was our usual consultant on such subjects, he stated that he thought it much overpraised, and recommended us to publish nothing on the matter.

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The *Macclesfield Guardian*; The *Clonmel Chronicle*; The *Lincolnshire Chronicle*; The *Western Morning News*; The *Cork Daily Herald*; The *Colchester Journal*; The *Northampton Herald*; The *Globe*; The *Bolton Weekly Journal*; The *Cambeltown Courier*; *Saunders's News-Letter*; The *Tenby Advertiser*; The *Eastern Daily Press*; The *Craven Pioneer*; The *Worcester Chronicle*; The *Nottingham Daily Guardian*; The *Brighton Examiner*; The *Edinburgh Evening News*; The *People's Weekly Journal*; The *West Sussex Gazette*; The *Durham Chronicle*; The *Brighton Herald*; The *Brighton Daily News*; The *Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette*; The *Glasgow Herald*; The *Metropolitan*; The *Hastings and St. Leonard's Chronicle*; The *Mining World*; The *Birmingham Daily Post*; The *Sussex Daily News*; The *Hastings and St. Leonard's Independent*; etc.

. We shall be greatly obliged if correspondents forwarding newspapers will kindly mark the passages to which it is desired to direct attention.

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

Dr. A. B. Shepherd, London; Dr. Mackey, Birmingham; Dr. W. H. Broadbent, London; Dr. Cross, Cambridge; Mr. J. Netten Radcliffe, London; Mr. W. D. Napier, London; Dr. R. J. Lee, London; Surgeon-Major Porter, Netley; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Dr. Imlach, Edinburgh; Dr. A. W. Mayo Robson, Leeds; Dr. Gibbes, Plymouth; Staff-Surgeon Nelson, Plymouth; Dr. Alford, Taunton; Dr. Burgess, Frampton-on-Severn; Mr. A. Herbert, Lynton; Dr. Fraser, Knutsford; Mr. Stevens, Bristol; Dr. J. Holmes, Duxton; Mr. J. C. Clapperton, Broughton; Mr. R. Ceely, Aylesbury; Dr. C. Parsons, Dover; Surgeon-Major Wright, Shorncliffe; Dr. Falconer, Bath; Dr. Thomas Skinner, Liverpool; Dr. Berkart, London; Dr. Oppenheim, London; Dr. H. F. Banham, Sheffield; Dr. W. Williams, Cheltenham; Dr. A. Carpenter, Crofton; Dr. E. R. Townsend, Cork; Dr. G. Dobson, Netley; Mr. W. Yates, Falmouth; Our Dublin Correspondent; Mr. W. D. Husband, York; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; Dr. J. Milner Fothergill, London; The Registrar-General of England; Mr. Wm. Mac Cormac, London; Dr. Finlayson, Glasgow; F.R.C.S.; The Secretary of the Harveian Society; Dr. Birt, Stourbridge; Mr. F. Rumsey, Cheltenham; Mr. H. Hancock, London; Mr. R. Freeman, London; Mr. Ashburton Thompson, London; Mr. Branwell, Brighton; Mr. H. B. Hewetson, London; Mr. Chauncey Puzey, Liverpool; Mr. G. Gaskoin, London; An Old General Practitioner; Dr. J. Braxton Hicks, London; Dr. Cobbold, London; Dr. Handsel Griffiths, Dublin; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Mr. W. H. A. Jacobson, London; Dr. Aitken, Rome; Dr. Monaghan, Bradford; Dr. W. Macfie Campbell, Liverpool; Mr. Torrance, Mafsen; Dr. Holman, Reigate; Doctor or M.D.; Dr. Braldwood, Birkenhead; Dr. Heaton, Leeds; Mr. H. Cripps Lawrence, London; Dr. Graily Hewitt, London; Dr. Dalton, Newhaven; Dr. W. Williams, Liverpool; Dr. Douglas Powell, London; The Secretary of the Obstetrical Society; Mr. G. R. Cundell, Kew; Dr. Latham, Cambridge; Dr. Edis, London; Dr. Gillespie, Edinburgh; Dr. Sanders, Edinburgh; Mr. W. Fairlie Clarke, London; Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, London; Dr. Walter Dickson, R.N., London; Dr. Wiltshire, London; Mr. Frank Hodges, Leicester; L.S.A.; Dr. Mackey, Birmingham; Mr. J. W. Hunt, Leicester; Dr. Llewellyn Thomas, London; Dr. Munro, Cupar Fife; Dr. C. Theodore Williams, London; Mr. R. Davy, London; Mr. Eastes, London; Dr. Semple, London; Dr. Macpherson, London; Dr. Urquhart, Aberdeen; Dr. Corfield, London; Dr. Balhazar Foster, Birmingham; Dr. Sawyer, Birmingham; Mr. L'Heureux Blenkarne, London; Mr. Mason, London; Mr. P. Le Neve Foster, London; Dr. Stewart, Melbourne; Mr. T. Holmes, London; Dr. Sandby, London; Dr. E. T. Wilson, Cheltenham; Dr. Aveling, London; Alpha; Mr. R. Harrison, Liverpool; Dr. Tibbits, Leicester; Dr. R. J. Lee, London; Dr. Lee Strathay, Harborne; Dr. Trimen, London; Peritas; Dr. Merson, Wakefield; Dr. Dominichetti, Louth; Mr. Crowfoot, Norwich; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Health in the House. By Catherine M. Buckton. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1876.
Dental Anatomy and Surgery. By Henry Sewill. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1876.
The Non-Alcoholic Treatment of Disease. London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1876.
An Introduction to Animal Morphology and Systematic Zoology. By A. Macalister, M.D. Part I. Invertebrata. London: Longmans and Co. 1876.