

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 6th day of July next, at Three o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANCIS FOWKE,
General Secretary.

36, Great Queen Street, London, June 9th, 1876.

NORTH WALES BRANCH.

THE twenty-seventh annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the George Hotel, Bangor, on Tuesday, June 20th, at 1.15 P.M.: JOHN RICHARDS, Esq., President.

Dinner at 4 P.M. Tickets, 7s. 6d. each, exclusive of wine.

T. EYTON JONES, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*
Wrexham, June 6th, 1876.

SOUTHERN BRANCH.

THE third annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Royal Hotel, Weymouth, on Wednesday, June 28th, 1876, at a quarter past Two o'clock; when Dr. J. P. ALDRIDGE (the President-elect) will deliver an address.

During the afternoon, an excursion will be made to Portland.

The dinner will take place punctually at 6 P.M. Tickets, 7s. 6d. each, exclusive of wine.

The Committee particularly request that those gentlemen who intend to be present at the dinner, will send in their names to Dr. Vawdrey Lush, Weymouth, on or before Saturday, June 24th.

Drs. Lush, Tizard, and Simpson, will kindly provide luncheon at their residences at half-past One o'clock.

J. WARD COUSINS, *Honorary Secretary.*
Southsea, June 5th, 1876.

SOUTH DEVON AND CORNWALL BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Athenæum, Plymouth, on Tuesday, June 27th, at 3.30 P.M. Members desiring to bring papers on professional subjects or communications of interest before the Branch, notice of it should be sent to the Honorary Secretary.

A dinner will be provided at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel, at 5 P.M. Those who wish to dine, must give at least ten days' notice. Seven shillings per head.

WM. SQUARE, *Hon. Sec.*
Plymouth, June 1st, 1876.

SOUTH WESTERN BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Devon and Exeter Hospital, Exeter, on Wednesday, June 28th, at One o'clock precisely. C. H. ROPER, Esq. (President-elect), will read an address.

Gentlemen intending to read papers (not to exceed fifteen minutes), or exhibit cases, etc., are requested to communicate at once with the Honorary Secretary.

After the meeting, arrangements will be made for the members to visit the Cathedral (the choir of which has just been restored), the Chapter House, Guildhall, Albert Museum, etc.

The dinner will be held at the Royal Clarence Hotel, at 5.15 P.M. Dinner and dessert, 7s. 6d. (exclusive of wine).

In the evening, a *conversazione* will be given at the Hospital by the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Exeter; to which, all members and their friends attending the meeting, are invited.

JOHN WOODMAN, F.R.C.S., *Honorary Secretary.*
2, Chichester Place, Exeter, June 5th, 1876.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Masonic Hall, Lowestoft, on Friday, June 30th, at 2 P.M.: W. H. CLUBBE, Esq., President, in the Chair.

Dinner at 5.30 P.M.

Members intending to read papers and cases, or to exhibit pathological specimens, or to be present at the dinner, are requested to communicate with Dr. Chevallier at their earliest convenience.

J. B. PITT, M.D. } *Honorary Secretaries.*
B. CHEVALLIER, M.D. }
Ipswich, May 24th, 1876.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Mineral Water Hospital, Bath, on Thursday, June 29th, at 4.30 P.M., when W. M. CLARKE, Esq., will resign the Chair to H. F. A. GOODRIDGE, M.D., President-elect.

Members having any communications for the meeting, are requested to give notice to the Secretaries.

The members will afterwards dine together at the York House. Dinner tickets, 7s. 6d., exclusive of wine. Members intending to dine are requested to communicate with the Secretaries.

E. C. BOARD, } *Honorary Secretaries.*
R. S. FOWLER, }

Bath, June 6th, 1876.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Guildhall, Swansea, on Thursday, July 6th, 1876, at 12.30 P.M.: President, S. H. STEEL, M.B.; President-elect, ANDREW DAVIES, M.D.

Further particulars will appear in circulars.

ANDREW DAVIES, M.D. } *Honorary Secretaries.*
ALFRED SHEEN, M.D. }

Swansea, June 12th, 1876.

SOUTH MIDLAND AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE BRANCHES.

A COMBINED annual meeting of these Branches will be held in the Board Room of the "Harpur Charity Trustees", Bedford, on Tuesday, June 20th next, at 3 P.M.: H. W. SHARPIN, Esq., President, in the Chair.

The members will dine together at the Swan Hotel, Bedford, at 6.30 P.M.

Gentlemen intending to read papers, or to be present at the dinner, are requested to communicate with Dr. Bryan of Northampton, Honorary Secretary, on or before June 10th.

J. M. BRYAN, M.D. } *Honorary Secretaries.*
WM. MOXON, }
J. B. BRADBURY, M.D. }

Northampton, May 20th, 1876.

MIDLAND BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at the General Hospital, Nottingham, on Thursday, June 29th, at Two o'clock—President, A. H. DOLMAN, Esq., F.R.C.S.; President-elect, JOSEPH WHITE, Esq., F.R.C.S. Edin. The ordinary business of the Branch will be transacted, and the following papers will be read.—1. Novel Mode of Curing Stone in the Bladder: The President.—2. Ligature of External Iliac by High Operation: C. H. Marriott, F.R.C.S.—3. Notes and Remarks on a Complicated Case of Empyema: G. C. Franklin, F.R.C.S.—4. Puerperal Fever in its Relation to Infective Diseases: H. R. Hatherley, L.R.C.P. Edin.—5. Lymphadenoma; with a presumed Case: J. O. Brookhouse, M.D.—6. Brief Observations on the Author's Method of Extracting in Cases of Cataract, and introduction of Patients illustrating the results to be obtained by his mode of procedure: C. Bell Taylor, M.D.—7. Uterine Supports: F. W. Wright, M.R.C.S.

The President-elect will be happy to see any members to luncheon at his house, Oxford Street, at one o'clock on the day of the meeting.

The members and friends will dine together, at the George Hotel, at five o'clock. Dinner, exclusive of wine, 10s. 6d.

L. W. MARSHALL, M.D., *Hon. Local Secretary.*
Nottingham, May 31st, 1876.

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND BRANCH.

THE first annual meeting of this Branch will be held on Friday, June 23rd. Dr. ALLEN THOMSON will preside, and deliver an address.

JOSEPH COATS, M.D. } *Honorary Secretaries.*
JAMES G. LYON, M.D. }

Glasgow, May 30th, 1876.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at Morpeth, on Thursday, July 6th: President, 1875-76, S. E. PIPER, Esq., F.R.C.S.; President-elect, 1876-77, MATTHEW BRUMELL, Esq.

G. H. PHILIPSON, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, June 7th, 1876.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Midland Hotel, New Street, Birmingham, on Friday, June 30th, at 3 P.M.

An address will be delivered by the President, G. FOWLER BODINGTON, Esq., M.D., M.R.C.P.Lond.

The annual dinner will also be held at the Midland Hotel, at 5 P.M. precisely, for the convenience of country members. Dinner tickets (exclusive of wine), 7s. 6d. each. Members intending to be present are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretaries on or before June 24th, in order that suitable arrangements may be made.

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

Birmingham, May 20th, 1876.

EDINBURGH BRANCH.

THE first annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at 5, St. Andrew's Square, on Thursday, June 22nd, at 4 P.M.

CHARLES E. UNDERHILL, Honorary Secretary.

Edinburgh, May 30th, 1876.

ABERDEEN, BANFF, AND KINCARDINE BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held in the rooms No. 198, Union Street, on Saturday, July 1st, at One o'clock in the afternoon.

A. OGSTON, } Honorary Secretaries.
J. URQUHART, }

Aberdeen, June 9th, 1876.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE twenty-fourth annual meeting of this Branch will be held at St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, on Friday, July 14th, at 4 P.M. precisely: President, ROBERT BARNES, M.D.; President-elect, JONATHAN HUTCHINSON, Esq.

Dinner at 6 o'clock precisely. Tickets, One Guinea each.

ALEXANDER HENRY, M.D. } Honorary Secretaries.
ROBERT FARQUHARSON, M.D. }

London, June 14th, 1876.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Town Hall, Southport, on Wednesday, June 28th, at 1 P.M.: Dr. DAVIES-COLLEY, President; GEORGE WOODS, Esq., F.R.C.S., President-elect.

The dinner at the Victoria Hotel, at five o'clock precisely. Tickets, 7s. 6d., exclusive of wine.

Notice of papers (which must not exceed fifteen minutes) should be forwarded at once to the undersigned. None received after June 12th can appear in the circular.

The following papers are promised:—1. A Case of Lithotripsy where Litholysis was also employed: Mr. Reginald Harrison.—2. On the probability of the Muscular Tone of the Uterus having nothing whatever to do in either preventing, causing, or arresting *Post Partum* Hæmorrhage: Dr. John Haddon.—3. Treatment of Bright's Disease by Inhalation of Oil of Juniper: Dr. Davidson (Liverpool).—4. Pathological Specimen; Femur after Supracondylar Amputation: Dr. Lyster.—5. On the Treatment of Dyspepsia in Children: Dr. Caton.—6. A Note on the value of Copaiba Resin as a Diuretic: Dr. Glynn.—7. Remarks on the early Diagnosis and Home Treatment of Idiocy: Dr. Shuttleworth.—8. Case of Peritoneal Sarcoma: Dr. Braidwood.—9. Case of Cyanosis: Dr. D. Leech.

A. B. STEELE, Honorary Secretary.

54, Rodney Street, Liverpool, June 14th, 1876.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT MEETINGS.

THE annual meeting was held in the Library of the County Hospital, Canterbury, on Thursday, May 11th; Mr. FRANK WACHER in the Chair.

Secretary.—Mr. Edward Thurston, the Honorary Secretary, was thanked for his past services, and unanimously re-elected to his office.

The *Ethical Committee*, consisting of Dr. Bowles, Dr. Parsons, Dr. Wilks, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Reid, Mr. Rigden, and Mr. Thornton, were re-elected.

The *Places of Meeting* for the ensuing year were fixed for Margate in September, Canterbury in November, Faversham in March, and Can-

terbury in May. Dr. Pittcock was chosen as the Chairman of the Margate meeting.

The *Midwifery License of the Royal College of Surgeons*.—It was proposed and carried unanimously: "That the cordial thanks of the members of the East Kent District of the South-Eastern Branch of the British Medical Association in meeting assembled on May 11th, 1876, are hereby tendered to Dr. Barnes, Dr. Farre, and Dr. Priestley, for their honest and high-minded conduct in resigning their seats at the Board of Examiners for the License in Midwifery of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, rather than take any part in admitting persons to the *Medical Register* who are not also legally qualified in medicine and surgery."

Communications.—Mr. PUGIN THORNTON read a paper on Tracheotomy.—Mr. HAYWARD narrated a case of Trephining for Abscess of the Dura Mater.—Dr. HORNSBY WRIGHT kindly placed on the table, for the perusal of the members, two volumes of the *War of the Rebellion*, as issued by the American Government.

Dinner.—The members afterwards dined together at the Fleur-de-Lis Hotel, under the chairmanship of Mr. Wacher.

The *Next Meeting* will be held at Margate, on September 7th.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT MEETING.

THE third meeting of the nineteenth session, 1875-76, was held at Dartford on May 19th, 1876; JAMES CHILCOT, Esq., in the Chair.

Honorary Secretary.—Dr. Fred. J. Brown was re-elected Honorary Secretary.

The *next Meeting* was appointed to be held at Rochester in September. Surgeon-Major Slaughter of Fort Pitt was chosen to preside.

New Members.—Surgeon-Major William H. Harris, 76th Regiment at Chatham, was elected a member of the Association; Henry Charles Warren, Esq., of Dartford, was elected a member of the Association and of the South-Eastern Branch.

Papers.—1. Dr. ARMSTRONG read a paper with the title, Is the Medical Practice of the Present Day as successful as that pursued Thirty or Forty Years ago? He instanced two diseases, specially viz., pleurisy and rheumatic fever, and observed that hyperpyrexia was not fatal under depletory treatment. He advised that old modes of treatment should be adopted, with modifications derived from modern research.

2. Mr. NANKIVELL read a paper on Colotomy performed on a lady's maid, aged 29, for Obstruction caused by Cancer of the Rectum. There was pain in the right hypochondrium in July 1875; cessation of pain at the end of August. The patient had continuous diarrhoea from October 27th to November 10th, and obstructions from November 10th to the 24th (date of admission to hospital). There was no habitual constipation, and no gradual narrowing of formed feces. Stercoraceous vomiting occurred on November 27th, the seventeenth day of obstruction. Colotomy was performed with ease and effectual relief. She was discharged to her home at Bedford on January 29th, 1876. She died at Bedford on March 2nd, from the progress of the cancerous disease; with acute suffering from thrush and delirium (according to the friends' statement).

Dinner.—The members and visitors to the number of eight dined at the Bull Hotel.

SOUTHERN BRANCH: DORSET DISTRICT.

A MEETING of the above Branch was held at Portland, on May 24th. Mr. FREDERICK JAMES PARSONS, President, entertained the members at luncheon; after which, visits were paid to the Convict Establishment and Prison Infirmary, the Lighthouses, Verne Citadel and Breakwater Fort.

The *Business Meeting* was held at the Royal Hotel.

Three medical cases of interest were brought forward by the President. The question of prescribing druggists was discussed.

Dinner.—The members and friends afterwards dined together.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE sixth ordinary meeting of this Branch was held at the Royal Hotel, College Green, Bristol, on Thursday evening, May 25th, at half-past seven o'clock; W. M. CLARKE, Esq., President, in the Chair. There were also present fifty-three members and two visitors.

New Member.—Mr. J. Ewens was elected a member of this Branch.

Discussion on Antiseptic Surgery.—Mr. PRICHARD opened the discussion by reading a paper on antiseptic surgery, and was followed by Drs. Marshall, Skerritt, and Stewart, and Messrs. Jennings, Moir, Dobson, Crossman, Thomson, Tibbits, and Ewens. The President made some concluding remarks, and Mr. Prichard closed the discussion.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT MEETING.

A MEETING of the above District was held on Friday, May 26th, at the Castle Hotel, Hastings: J. T. PENHALL, M.D., in the Chair. Twenty members and two visitors were present.

Communications were made by Dr. Baylis, on two Concurrent Outbreaks of Small-pox in the Malling District; by Dr. Penhall, on Tracheotomy; by Mr. Ashenden, on a case of United Twins, and on a case of Epithelioma of the Bladder.

Papers promised by Mr. Hodgson, of Brighton, on Croup and Diphtheria; and by Mr. Sanger, of Alfriston, on two cases of Inguinal Hernia in Females, and on Emetic Doses of Ipecacuanha in Hæmoptysis, were deferred on account of the unavoidable absence of their respective authors.

New Member.—Mr. S. A. Julius, of Hastings, was proposed for membership of the Association, and of the South Eastern Branch.

The Next Meeting will be held at Hawkhurst, in September; Dr. HARMER to be invited to take the Chair.

The Dinner took place at the Castle Hotel, sixteen being present, with Dr. PENHALL as Chairman.

EAST YORK AND NORTH LINCOLN BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE twentieth annual meeting of this Branch was held at the Hull Infirmary on Wednesday, May 31st, 1876: T. B. KEETLEY, Esq., of Grimsby, President, in the Chair. There were upwards of thirty members and visitors present.

The Report of the Committee, which gave an outline of the work done during the year, stated that there had been, as usual, twelve sessional meetings, which had been attended by larger numbers than during any previous period; that the Branch had now above eighty members, and therefore had the right of electing four members to the Council of the Association.

The Report of the Representative on the Parliamentary Committee was received.

New Members.—J. H. Gibson, M.D.; E. P. Hardy, Esq.; W. D. James, Esq.; F. Johnson, Esq.; A. E. Kessen, Esq.; C. A. Lee, M.D.; and J. Sherburn, Esq., all of Hull; and Jas. E. Smith, M.D., of Grimsby; were elected members of the Branch.

Officers for the Year.—The following were elected. *President-elect:* R. H. B. Nicholson, Esq. *Honorary Secretary and Treasurer:* E. P. Hardy, Esq. *Committee:* R. M. Craven, Esq.; G. F. Elliott, M.D.; Kelburne King, M.D.; T. M. Evans, Esq.; B. Moxon, Esq.; W. H. Sissons, Esq.; W. Stephenson.

Medical Benevolent Fund.—On the proposal of Mr. LOCKING, seconded by Mr. DIX, the sum of £2:2 was voted to this charity as a donation.

Half Yearly Meeting.—It was resolved to hold this meeting at Grimsby.

Representatives in the General Council.—The following were elected. T. B. Keetley, Esq., Grimsby; R. H. Nicholson, Esq.; G. F. Elliott, M.D.; and K. King, M.D., of Hull.

Member of Parliamentary Bills Committee.—W. Holder, Esq., was elected.

Midwifery Licence of the Royal College of Surgeons.—Mr. HOLDER proposed the following vote of thanks to Drs. Barnes, Farre, and Priestley, which was seconded by Mr. PLAXTON, and carried.

"The members of the East York and North Lincoln Branch of the British Medical Association hereby tender a hearty vote of thanks to Drs. Barnes, Farre, and Priestley, for their honourable and self-sacrificing protest against the admission of persons on the roll of the Royal College of Surgeons, as licensed and qualified practitioners in midwifery, who have not proved themselves educated for its membership diploma. And this meeting of the Branch views with considerable regret and alarm the first step to create diplomas of specialists, to which this attempt leads, and which we trust their prompt action will tend to frustrate. We also earnestly hope the Royal College of Surgeons will, by obtaining an alteration in the wording of their charter, and by

re-electing them to their past duties, enable them to fulfil those duties to medicine which their attainments so eminently fit them to perform."

President's Address.—The PRESIDENT read his address, in which he passed in review the principal events of the year, in medicine, surgery, and midwifery.

Paper.—Mr. DIX read a paper on Habitual Drunkenness—A Vice or a Disease? The paper was followed by a long discussion. The other papers were postponed.

A Dinner was held at the Vittoria Hotel, at which there was a large attendance.

CORRESPONDENCE.

REGISTRATION OF FOREIGN DEGREES.

SIR,—The able letter in the JOURNAL of June 3rd, signed "One of the Memorialists", contains so ample a reply to the objections urged by the Medical Council to the admission to the *Register* of good foreign degrees when held by duly qualified registered practitioners, as to leave but little additional to be said on the subject. I may, perhaps, be allowed to point out that, amongst the qualifications mentioned in Schedule (A) of the Medical Act, is that of "Doctor of Medicine of any Foreign or Colonial University, practising as a Physician in the United Kingdom before the 1st of October 1858, who shall produce certificates, to the satisfaction of the Council, of his having taken his degree of Doctor of Medicine after regular examination"; and that, consequently, the verification of foreign degrees is a function for which the Medical Council cannot allege their inability. Moreover, in these days of close international intercourse, there certainly cannot be insuperable obstacles to the Council obtaining such authentic information, with regard to the educational and examinational requirements of the various foreign universities, as may enable them *substantially* to comply with the provisions of Clause 18. It seems to me that both this clause and Clause 20 of the Medical Act, are framed primarily for the purpose of excluding from *registration*, as *legally qualified practitioners*, persons whose qualifications "are not such as to secure the requisite knowledge and skill for the efficient practice of their profession". (See Clause 21). It follows, therefore, that however cogent may be the arguments drawn from these clauses, in objection to the provisions of Mr. Cowper-Temple's Bill, they are inapplicable to the case of those who, like the Memorialists, are already registered as fully qualified to practise their profession. Surely, degrees granted after examination by foreign universities of high repute, to practitioners whose professional competence and general culture are guaranteed by such qualifications as the fellowship or membership of the London College of Physicians, are at least as worthy of official recognition as are *purely honorary degrees* conferred by British universities; but while the Medical Council decline to take cognisance of the former, the latter (as may be seen in the case of the Dublin degrees of Drs. Acland and Rumsey) are admitted, as a matter of course, to the *Medical Register*.—I am, sir, yours obediently,

ANOTHER OF THE MEMORIALISTS.

SIR,—I have read with much interest the letter of your correspondent "One of the Memorialists", which appeared in your JOURNAL of the 3rd inst. As a graduate in medicine of a Continental university, and as one who also signed the memorial, I fully endorse all that he has said.

I am not at all surprised to hear that the Medical Council have rejected the prayer of the memorialists, on the grounds that "they cannot exercise the same supervision and control over the examinations as they do in this country, under certain sections of the Medical Act". Now, sir, it would be interesting to know if the thought entered the head of any one member of the Council, that they are doing constantly what they *now* say they have not the power to do. Are they not, at the present time, admitting to the *Register*, as qualifications in medicine, *honorary* ones, granted without any examination whatever? The fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of London, of Edinburgh, and even the membership of the latter college, are purely honorary distinctions, and these are all registrable. How do the control and supervision apply here? The memorialists asked that, as registered practitioners in medicine, and as graduates in medicine of Continental universities of repute, their degrees might be recognised as an "additional testimonial to medical attainment, in the case of one already fully licensed to practise"; in other words, that the Council would do for those who have "submitted themselves for examination to a board of distinguished foreign *confrères*", and who have succeeded in obtaining their *testamur*, the same privilege as is accorded to men who, having

officers to the guardians, it was the exception, and not the rule, to find that the case, and there was no doubt that a great many doctors took the office when they first came into a district, but afterwards transferred themselves, and did not remain under one board. In such cases he did not think the guardians should exercise an arbitrary power, and charge the rates with a pension for a medical officer; but he had no doubt there were many cases in which the services had been continuous, and consequently more exclusive, and in such cases he would be glad to do all he could. He thought they would find the number of such cases comparatively small. The superannuation of medical officers was only a branch of a large subject, and he could not at present see his way to any alteration of the law. With regard to the establishment of dispensaries, there was no reason that the practice should not be extended. At the same time they must be aware that there was an extensive current of feeling towards the restriction of indiscriminate relief, and he did not feel sure that the wholesale establishment of dispensaries would be a good thing. The gradual extension of the system was, however, a matter to which he would devote as much time as he possibly could, as it was a subject deserving great attention.—Dr. Lush having thanked the right hon. gentleman for the courtesy with which he had received them, the deputation withdrew.

MEDICO-PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Wednesday, June 14th, 1876.

Contagious Diseases Acts.—Petitions in favour of the repeal of the Contagious Diseases Acts, 1866 and 1869, were presented, by Mr. E. Stafford Howard, from Primitive Methodists at Blagill, Warrick Bridge, Garrigill, and Nenthead; by Mr. Mundella (6), from the Nonconformist congregations in Sheffield, one from a meeting of several hundreds of women; by Mr. Burt, from the United Methodist Free Church and others, Newsham, and Benfieldside; by Sir G. Elliot, from Primitive Methodists of Castleside, Pelton, and Leadgate; by Mr. Rathbone, from Primitive and United Methodist congregations in Liverpool, also from Liverpool and Northwich district meeting of United Methodist Free Church; by Mr. L. R. Starkey, from Primitive Methodists at Low Valley, Crane Moor, New Wortley, Stocksbridge, and Thurgoland, from United Methodist Free Church congregations at Horbury, East Ardsley, Batley Carr, and New Connection Methodists at Berry Brow, Ecclesfield, and Burton; by Mr. T. K. Sanderson, from the United Methodist Free Church, York Street, and from Primitive Methodist congregation, Wakefield; by Mr. Broadley, from Elloughton, Hornsea, and Holmpton; by Mr. Stanley, from Hesketh Bank, Askham, and Dalton; by Sir Harcourt Johnstone, from Methodist Churches of Lockwood, Ottringham, Shatto Heath, Riston, Aldborough, Ford Moss, Swanland, Lockington, Tyne Dock, Bandsburton Moor, Lower Wortley, Gristhorpe, Bridlington, St. Sepulchre Street, Scarborough, Tyne Dock Free Church, Ackworth, and Nimdon Grange; by Mr. Rylands, from United Methodist Free Church, Lower Darwen; and by Mr. S. Lloyd, from Plymouth.

Poor-law (Scotland) Bill.—Petitions in favour of the Poor-law (Scotland) Bill were presented, by Mr. E. Noel, from M.D.s of Dumfries; Sir W. Cuninghame, from medical practitioners at Ayr; by Mr. R. W. Duff, from medical practitioners in Buckie; by Mr. Grieve, from the Chamber of Commerce, Greenock; also from the medical practitioners of Greenock; by the Marquis of Lorne, from Ardnamurchan; by Mr. W. Holms, from medical practitioners in Paisley, in favour of certain provisions of the Bill.

Vivisection.—Petitions against the practice of vivisection were presented, by Mr. Richard, from Chipping Ongar and neighbourhood; by Mr. Morley, from Bristol; by Sir C. Mills, from Forest Hill; by Sir R. T. Gilpin, from Tempsford; and by Sir T. Chambers (2), from Hampstead.

MR. E. CHESHIRE, F.R.C.S., of Birmingham, who was accompanied by the Right Hon. Sir C. B. Adderley, President of the Board of Trade, had an interview with the President of the Local Government Board on Monday, on the disposal and utilisation of town sewage "by interception of the solid portion of the excreta of the population at the fountain head, before it has entered the sewers by subsidence and filtration at the sewers' outlets, and by irrigation of land, but with the clarified liquid and sewage only".

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen were admitted Fellows by election, on June 8th.

Bennett, Joseph Blacker, L.S.A., Cleckheaton, Normanton: diploma of membership dated May 18th, 1840

Carter, James, L.S.A., Cambridge: January 5th, 1836

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

ABINGDON UNION—Medical Officer for the Second and Fourth Districts, and the Workhouse.

ASHBOURNE UNION—Medical Officer for the Longford District.

BELGRAVE HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN—House-Surgeon, Applications on or before June 17th.

BIRMINGHAM GENERAL DISPENSARY—Resident Surgeon. Salary, £170 per annum, with furnished apartments, etc. Applications on or before June 21st.

BOLTON UNION—Medical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications on or before June 24th.

BRAINTREE UNION—Medical Officer. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications on or before June 17th.

CREDITON UNION—Medical Officer for the Cheriton Bishop District.

DOVER UNION—Medical Officer for the Second Division of the St. James District.

EVANGELICAL TRAINING HOSPITAL, Tottenham—Resident House-Surgeon. Applications on or before July 17th.

HANTS COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM—Two Assistant Medical Officers. Salary of Senior Officer, £150 per annum; salary of Junior Officer, £100 per annum. Each will have furnished apartments, board, etc. Applications on or before July 10th.

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, 49, Great Ormond Street—Third Assistant-Surgeon. Applications on or before the 29th June.

IPSWICH BOROUGH ASYLUM—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodgings, etc. Applications to the Resident Superintendent.

KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, lodging, etc. Applications on or before June 30th.

LANCASTER COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM—Resident Medical Superintendent. Salary, £450 per annum, with furnished house, etc. Applications on or before June 26th.

LANCASTER INFIRMARY and DISPENSARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £90 per annum, with apartments, etc. Applications on or before June 27th.

LIVERPOOL DISPENSARIES—Resident Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £108 per annum, with furnished apartments, etc. Applications on or before the 28th June.

NORTHAMPTON and DISTRICTS—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £700 per annum. Applications on or before June 17th.

ST. MARYLEBONE GENERAL DISPENSARY, 77, Welbeck Street, W.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £105 per annum. Applications on or before the 26th June.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL—Resident Assistant Physician. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished rooms, etc.—Resident Assistant Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished rooms, etc. Applications to the Treasurer.

SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL, Greenwich—House-Physician. Salary, £75 per annum, with board, rooms, and attendance.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, rooms, and attendance. Applications on or before July 12th.

SMALBURY UNION—Medical Officer for the Ludham District.

STOKESLEY UNION—Medical Officer. Salary, £25 per annum. Applications on or before June 30th.

WARWICK COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM—Junior Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, etc. Applications to the Superintendent.

WEST LONDON HOSPITAL, Hammersmith—House-Surgeon. Salary, £70 per annum, with apartments, etc. Applications to the Board on June 19th.—Assistant-Surgeon. Applications on or before June 24th.

WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Board and lodging. Applications on or before June 17th.

WOLVERHAMPTON GENERAL HOSPITAL—Dispenser. Salary, £60 per annum, with board, washing, and lodging. Applications on or before June 27th.

YORK—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications on or before June 22nd.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

*FRASER, Donald, M.D., appointed Visiting Medical Officer to the Riccarton Parochial Asylum, Paisley.

*MAHOMED, F. A., M.D., appointed Assistant-Physician to the London Fever Hospital.

*MALINS, Edward, M.D., appointed Surgeon to the Birmingham and Midland Hospital for Women, vice C. J. Bracey, M.B., resigned.

*PHILIPSON, George H., M.A., F.R.C.P., of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, appointed Professor of Medicine in the University of Durham.

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.

MARRIAGE.

NEWMAN—CUMMING.—At Milverton, Somersetshire, on June 12th, *William Newman, M.D. Lond., F.R.C.S. Eng., of Stamford, to Charlotte, daughter of the late Walter Cumming.

DEATH.

ORWIN, James, M.D., at Brixton, S.W., aged 65, on May 31st.

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.

FRIDAY.—Quekett Microscopical Club (University College), 8 P.M.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

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.

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.

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.

IGNORAMUS.—Veitch's *Handbook of Nurses for the Sick*. London: J. and A. Churchill, New Burlington Street.

MEDICAL DISPENSING.

HIBERNICUS writes to us: If the Irish system were adopted in England, I believe the status of the profession would be materially improved. In Ireland, there is a great social gulf between the man who sells, or even dispenses, his own medicines, and the practitioner who writes prescriptions only. The one, no matter what his professional rank, is not met with in private society, even though he may carry M.D. after his name, as many do. The other meets the lord of the manor on equal terms (*cateris paribus*). There is no jealousy between them: both practise in the same neighbourhood; the one sending the other his prescriptions to compound—it he have a friendly feeling toward him, and his patient is willing—or your Irish doctor otherwise does not care who compounds his prescriptions, provided he is certain of its being faithfully done. The social difference of status between the two is, however, very sharply defined.

PRIVATE INTERMENTS.

SIR,—Will you kindly inform me through your columns as to the legal process, if any, necessary for the erection of a mausoleum in one's own private grounds, and for the burial of the dead therein?—Yours, etc., J. C. L.

* * We are not aware that the law interposes any special obstacles to the erection of private mausoleums; but such structures cannot be too strongly deprecated, alike for sanitary, social, and ecclesiastical reasons.

MENSTRUATION IN AN OCTOGENARIAN.

SIR,—I think the following case is interesting, and well worth recording. J. K., aged 83, has for the last two or three years regularly menstruated every month. The discharge has been, to quote her own words, "with the usual accompaniments," "pain in the back, etc." She tells me that she first began to menstruate when she was eleven years old. She was married before she was 15 years old, her husband dying two or three years afterwards of consumption. By this marriage she had one child, who is now alive and well. She married for the second time before she was twenty, and has had a family of seventeen children in all, all born alive, in no case twins; but all her confinements have followed one another very rapidly, two of her children being born in less than twelve months. She ceased menstruating at the age of fifty, and, much to her surprise, "became regular again" after she was eighty. She is a small made woman, but of very wiry constitution, and, with the exception of a passing attack of sickness and diarrhoea, is in perfect health, and in the enjoyment of all her faculties.—I am, yours faithfully, W. L'HÉUREUX BLENKARNE.

Buckingham, June 6th, 1876.

CORRESPONDENTS are particularly requested by the Editor to observe that communications relating to Advertisements, changes of address, and other business matters, should be addressed to Mr. Francis Fowke, General Secretary and Manager, at the Journal Office, 36, Great Queen Street, W.C., and not to the Editor.

WHEN IS THE USE OF THE GUM-LANCET REALLY INDICATED?

SIR,—This "simple subject of easy solution," contended for by your correspondent Dr. Robert Huntley, must nevertheless be complex, if, as he admits in the same breath, "diversity of opinion exist upon it"; and I much regret that we have not been able to add his opinion to the number, his having missed the drift of the query, in probably having read it hurriedly over, and in lieu of which he has been led to furnish us with a few elementary principles of surgery, which, by the way, were not canvassed for at all anent such cases. I therefore humbly refer him for a correct reading and explanation to the letters of Aite non Vi, Mr. Henry Sewill, and Professor Cartwright, in the JOURNALS of May 27th and June 3rd. The teaching of my student days was exactly as stated in the letter of the last named of these gentlemen, and nearly in these words; that "the great desideratum is not to use the lancet without first diagnosing the true source of diseased action"; but Dr. Huntley believes the lancet to be a *sine quâ non* in the treatment of the ailments of children, and I fear it is so with many members of the profession. While these lines are being penned, there happens to be a case in point. Last Sunday evening, I was requested to visit the child of John Main, residing at Fairspring, Northumberland. An "ancient family doctor" was called in attendance upon it in a convulsive fit, when it was four months old. He lanced the gums; but why he did so, I must leave your readers to imagine. He has continued to visit it regularly till now. It is nine months old; the fits had increased in their severity, and still the child has no teeth, when he abandoned his visitations, saying he could do no more for it. On the date of my second visit (Tuesday last), I was asked by the father of the child to lance the gums; but on making a careful inquiry into the history of the case, as well as an examination of the gums, I refused most positively to accede to his request, at the risk of being dismissed. The fits in this case seemed due to artificial feeding; and, in fact, being treated for this, it seems so far to have improved.

As Dr. Huntley seems to have lost the meaning of my note, I beg to inform him that I always lance the gums when they are red, and swollen, and tense, and injected; but, on the other hand, in my small experience I have discovered that, with "those who carry the gum-lancet, and believe it to be indispensable in the treatment of the ailments of children," such proceeding is nothing better than a piece of "barbarous empiricism," which causes the infant much pain, and is useless or mischievous in a dozen instances for one in which it affords relief; and I believe the circumstances in which it is really indicated are comparatively few.—I am, etc., ROBERT TORRANCE.

W. M.—We are unable to state where information can be obtained respecting the Metropolitan and National Nursing Association.

"FRACTURE OF THE THIGH IN A GENERAL PARALYTIC."

SIR,—There is much in Dr. Phillimore's letter which appeared in last week's JOURNAL that affects a wider circle than I am disposed to be responsible for; besides, I am not qualified to give a legal and authoritative opinion on the rights and duties of "assistants" in general. I am totally unconscious of having ever acted in the capacity of "assistant" to Dr. Phillimore, and must, therefore, repudiate his remarks upon the mutual relationships of such a contract, as wholly inapplicable to the present controversy. In my former letter I pointed out that, when acting as "deputy superintendent of the asylum," an accident occurred, for the care and treatment of which, by virtue of my office, I was legally and morally "responsible." Therefore, I maintain, that the case, its treatment, and the notes taken, were legally and morally mine. How, then, can Dr. Phillimore lay claim to either, and represent that the notes are the "copyright of a case-book"? An official note was made by me in the case-book recording the accident, but the clinical history and result of the case were compiled for and detailed in the JOURNAL.

Dr. Phillimore first mutilates, and then "disavows" as "nonsense," the quotation that "public officers have no right to use their patients for scientific purposes"; yet he has put himself in antagonism to the majority of his brethren and the Commissioners of Lunacy on this very question (see his Annual Report for 1874, note B, and that of the Commissioners for the preceding year). Is it surprising, then, that this should have been the "ground" on which "he withheld his consent when consulted by me on a previous occasion regarding the publication of a case"?

I will stake my position on the Register for the *bona fides* of the case which I have published. On leaving my hands, after repeated examinations, there was firm bony union, and not the shadow of crepitus; in proof of which, the patient could exercise the limb freely, walked on several occasions with less assistance than before the accident, and, as a final test, supported her entire weight upon it without a trace of succeeding deformity. I ask any reasonable man if these facts are consistent with the statement that "no union has yet taken place." We know that the improvement in "bodily health" observed from time to time in general paralytics is no proof of restored nutrition; but rather than attribute malevolence to my opponent, I am disposed to credit his *ipse dixit*, and conclude that absorption of callus or accidental refracture of the bone has taken place.—I remain, sir, your obedient servant, ALEX. M'COOK WEIR, M.D.

Birmingham, June 12th, 1876.

THE SOCIETY OF SURGEONS PRACTISING DENTAL SURGERY.

SIR,—Mr. W. D. Napier, in your last number, writes to put on the key-stone of confutation to certain statements set forth by the adversaries of a society styled the Association of Surgeons practising Dental Surgery. In doing so, he announces by statistics the "entire success of the movement, as it embraces at least half the whole body of medically and surgically qualified dental surgeons." The whole body of these gentlemen, as given in the *Medical Directory* for 1876, is not greater than 54. Of these, 25 signed a letter in the last week's number of a medical contemporary, disclaiming all connection with this new society. This disclaimer could not, for want of time, be signed by several other gentlemen, who would willingly have done so; but allowing the total signatures to be 25, that leaves 29 members from which to elect president, vice-president, treasurer, secretaries, and Council, and but a small number to constitute the body of the society. It is quite legitimate for any section of society to band together for any social object that may take their fancy, but when they assume to themselves public functions they must expect to be publicly criticised; and the result of this short examination into the numbers of the new society need not excite very jubilant congratulations from the pens of its promoters.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, June 5th 1876. T. CHARTERS WHITE.