

ties, as representing the higher education of the country, ought to have at least half, or more than half, the representatives on a conjoint board. According to certain charters, various corporations were bound to appoint their examiners themselves; and hence the new scheme provided for the election of double the number of examiners required, and from these the various bodies were to select. He did not wish to say anything personal, but it was very generally known that some bodies, and he must mention the Society of Apothecaries, did not always choose examiners for their competency for the work.

Dr. VIVIAN POORE proposed, as an amendment, to insert, after the first paragraph of the resolution: "That this House is of opinion that, since this university encourages candidates from all three divisions of the United Kingdom, and also from the Colonies, it would be against the interests of this university, and an injustice to its candidates, to compel them to undergo an examination avowedly instituted for local reasons. Convocation trusts, therefore, that the Senate will refrain from co-operating in any scheme which does not include, at least, a majority of the licensing bodies of the kingdom." Dr. Poore said that the three licensing corporations in London already acted more or less vicariously for each other, and might, with every propriety, amalgamate, but why should the University join? They had everything to lose and nothing to gain. He found a clause in the "Enabling Act" of 1872, which said that the University could give no medical degree, except the candidate had already taken the licence from the conjoint board, when formed, and he considered this policy suicidal; it tended quite to cut off candidates from a distance, to say that they must take another diploma here before they could have the University degree. If the General Medical Council were unanimous on the question of a conjoint scheme, he should attach more importance to it; but he would quote sentences to show that Sir William Gull, Mr. Turner, and others considered the aspect of affairs altered, and that the University would be at a disadvantage. An argument for a conjoint scheme was the "Dutch auction" mode of granting licences by corporations competing against each other; but the University had never had any share in such competition, and was not bound to legislate for them. He quoted figures to show the very large majority of students at London, as compared with other universities; and asserted that, by taking part in the proposed conjoint scheme, the University would lose its just rights, and impair its influence, and forfeit its power of independent action—even, he would add, in the matter of granting degrees to women.

The amendment was seconded by Mr. BUCKLE, and supported by Mr. HORNE PAYNE, who said that Convocation was not pledged to the conjoint scheme, because the "Enabling Act" had been obtained as a private bill, without open and fair discussion in Convocation.

Dr. MORRIS, on the other hand, pointed out that the proposal to make future graduates take the licence of the conjoint board was no real hardship—that, at present, almost, if not quite, all the graduates held other diplomas for practice.

Dr. QUAIN, in an earnest speech, strongly urged Convocation to do all in its power to aid in passing a conjoint scheme, for the advantage of the public and of the profession. After obtaining three Acts of Parliament, and after so many discussions and resolutions, it would be the greatest pity to take a retrograde step. The strongest argument for a scheme was the existence of these nineteen separate bodies, giving equal qualifications to most unequal persons, and after unequal examinations; in the sister kingdom, some of the qualifications were the lowest possible. It should be remembered that the scheme was urged by the late esteemed Dr. Parkes and by the Council; that the resolution was proposed by Sir William Gull, seconded by Dr. Rolleston; and although there was a minority of six, these six were representatives of Edinburgh and Dublin, and it might be said that the interests of these corporations were against a conjoint scheme. They did not want it over the border, but it was hoped that the example of England in this matter would soon be imitated there. If any sacrifice were asked on the part of this University, it was but a slight one; and to help to raise the tone and standard of education was a great honour. The University had never competed on a low level, nor intended to do so; but it would never be right to ignore everything below its own standard; it ought to take a noble part, and all ought to act for the common good. For the three corporations only to join together, would be called jobbery. He implored Convocation to take the highest ground in this matter, and put aside considerations of self-interest.

Dr. SIBSON supported the same view, and pointed out that the licence of the conjoint board might be obtained after a *practical* examination, whilst the State examination, which would probably be instituted if the conjoint scheme did not pass, would require much more of the elementary studies. He hoped the profession would never be under the direction of the State.

Dr. BARNES said that if, in this scheme, the University would really

lose its power of independent action in granting degrees, he should feel bound to vote for the amendment.

Dr. FAGGE, replying to objections, said that the scheme would only be adopted for five years provisionally.

On a vote being taken, a clear majority were in favour of the original resolution.

Other business.—The votes for candidates nominated for submission to the Crown for the election of a fellow, were—for Sir William Jenner, 633; Mr. Shaen, 334; Dr. Barnes, 251.

A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Mr. Shaen for temporarily acting as Clerk of Convocation; and, by a division, Mr. Allen was elected Clerk by two votes only over Mr. Talfourd Ely.

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.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Forty-fourth Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held at Sheffield, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, August 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, 1876.

President.—Sir ROBERT CHRISTISON, Bart., M.D., D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S. Edin.

President-elect.—M. M. DE BARTOLOMÉ, M.D., Senior Physician to the Sheffield General Infirmary.

An Address in Medicine will be given by E. H. SIEVEKING, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician-Extraordinary to the Queen.

An Address in Surgery will be given by W. F. FAVELL, Esq., Surgeon to the General Infirmary, Sheffield.

An Address in Public Medicine will be given by ALFRED CARPENTER, M.D., Croydon.

The business of the Association will be transacted in Four Sections, viz.:—

SECTION A. MEDICINE.—*President:* Dr. Chadwick, Tunbridge Wells. *Vice-Presidents:* Dr. J. C. Hall, Sheffield; Dr. Law, Sheffield. *Secretaries:* Dr. Robert Farquharson, 23, Brook Street, London; Dr. Banham, Glossop Road, Sheffield.

SECTION B. SURGERY.—*President:* Jonathan Hutchinson, Esq., London. *Vice-Presidents:* C. G. Wheelhouse, Esq., Leeds; J. Barber, Esq., Sheffield. *Secretaries:* Dr. J. Hardwicke, Mitton Lodge, Rotherham; John Chiene, Esq., 21, Ainslie Place, Edinburgh.

SECTION C. OBSTETRIC MEDICINE.—*President:* Dr. Lombe Atchill, Dublin. *Vice-Presidents:* Dr. E. Jackson, Sheffield; Dr. Thorburn, Manchester. *Secretaries:* Dr. Wiltshire, 57, Wimpole Street, London; F. Woolhouse, Esq., Chantry Road, Sheffield.

SECTION D. PUBLIC MEDICINE.—*President:* Dr. J. B. Russell, Glasgow. *Vice-Presidents:* Dr. Eastwood, Darlington; Dr. F. T. Griffiths, Sheffield. *Secretaries:* Dr. H. F. Parsons, Goole; Dr. S. Drew, Chapeltown, Sheffield.

Local Secretaries.

Arthur Jackson, Esq., St. James's Row, Sheffield.

J. H. Keeling, M.D., 267, Glossop Road, Sheffield.

Tuesday, August 1st.

1 P.M.—Meeting of Committee of Council.

3 P.M.—Meeting of Council, 1875-76.

8 P.M.—General Meeting.—President's Address; Annual Report of Council; and other business.

Wednesday, August 2nd.

9.30 A.M.—Meeting of Council, 1876-77.

11.30 A.M.—Second General Meeting.

11.30 A.M.—Address in Medicine.

2 to 5 P.M.—Sectional Meetings.

9 A.M.—Soirée.—Weston Park Museum.

Thursday, August 3rd.

- 9 A.M.—Meeting of Committee of Council.
 10 A.M.—Third General Meeting.—Reports of Committees.
 11 A.M.—Address in Surgery.
 2 to 5 P.M.—Sectional Meetings.
 6.30 P.M.—Public Dinner.

Friday, August 4th.

- 10 A.M.—Address in Public Medicine.
 11 A.M.—Sectional Meetings.
 1.30 P.M.—Concluding General Meeting.—Reports of Committees, etc.
 Promenade Concert at the Albert Hall.—Visits to the Works.

Saturday, August 5th.

EXCURSIONS.—Chatsworth, Wentworth, Wharnccliffe, and other places.

Gentlemen desirous of reading papers, cases, or other communications, are requested to forward the titles to the General Secretary, or to one of the Secretaries of the Section in which the paper is to be read. All papers should be forwarded to one of the above named officers at as early a date as possible.

No paper must exceed twenty minutes in reading, and no subsequent speech must exceed ten minutes; all speeches at the General Meeting must not exceed ten minutes each.

THE ANNUAL MUSEUM.

The Ninth Annual Museum of the above Association will be held in the Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield, on August 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, 1876.

The Museum Committee will be glad to receive applications as early as possible from persons desirous of becoming exhibitors, and with such applications a statement of the amount of space required.

The fittings necessary for exhibiting the objects sent will be provided; but all expenses connected with packing and carriage, and all risk from injury or loss, must be borne by the exhibitors.

A printed or written description of all articles intended for exhibition must be forwarded for insertion in the Catalogue. All such descriptions must be sent to either of the Secretaries, on or before July 15th; and all articles intended for exhibition must be delivered (addressed "Museum Committee", Cutlers' Hall) on or before July 24th, 1876.

The name of the exhibitor should be written on the outside of each parcel; and, to facilitate the return of the articles, a card bearing his name and address should be enclosed.

All communications should be addressed to the Secretaries, from whom any further information can be readily obtained.

W. R. THOMAS, Norfolk Street, } *Honorary Secretaries,*
 SIMEON SNELL, 17, Eyre Street, } *Museum Committee.*

The articles to be exhibited must be included in one of the following classes.

1. New Instruments and Appliances in Medicine, Surgery, and Obstetrics.
2. New Drugs, new Preparations, and new Articles of Diet for Invalids.
3. Pathological Specimens, with Photographs, Models, Casts, etc., illustrating Disease.
4. New Physiological Apparatus; Microscopes and Microscopic Specimens, Pathological and General. New Chemicals and other Appliances used in Histological Research.
5. New Inventions relating to Public Health.

Mr. LAWSON TAIT (Birmingham) gives notice that he will move at the annual meeting in August next the following alterations in and additions to the By-laws.

- i. That By-law 8 read thus: "That the President shall be elected every year at the last general meeting from among the members resident in the district in which the next annual meeting is to be held, and he shall enter, etc."; and further to read as it now stands.
- ii. That By-law 12 shall read: "That the Editor of the JOURNAL shall be subject to annual election at a general meeting of the members of the Association; that he shall be remunerated as the Committee of Council see fit; and that he shall be responsible for all that appears in the JOURNAL."
- iii. That By-law 13 shall read: "The Secretary of the Association shall be subject to annual election at a general meeting of the members of the Association"; and further as it now stands.
- iv. That a By-law shall be inserted to the effect, that "The JOURNAL shall be considered the organ of communication between the members of the Association; and that no reasonable communication from any member or members shall be refused admission, without the reason for such refusal being communicated to such member or members."

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary.*

36, Great Queen Street, London, June 8th, 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 Guildhall, Albert Museum, and other objects of interest in the City.

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 20th, 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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held in the Town Hall, Morpeth, on Thursday, July 6th, at 2.30 P.M.: President, 1875-76, S. E. PIPER, Esq., F.R.C.S.; President-elect, 1876-77, MATTHEW BRUMELL, Esq.

The following resolution will be moved by Mr. E. Jepson:—"That this Branch desires to bring under the notice of the General Council of the British Medical Association, the great desirability of taking steps to obtain and to support a representative in the House of Commons, who shall specially watch over the interests of the medical profession."

Dinner at the Queen's Head Hotel, at 4.45 P.M. Charge, exclusive of wine, 7s. 6d.

G. H. PHILIPSON, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, June 17th, 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.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Clarence Hotel, Bridgwater, on Thursday, July 27th, at 2.30 P.M.

Dinner at 5 o'clock.

Members who may desire to bring any communications before the meeting are requested to give notice to the Secretary.

W. M. KELLY, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*

Taunton, June 19th, 1876.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE thirty-second annual meeting of this Branch was held at the Charles Museum, Maidstone, on Wednesday, June 14th.

Several letters were read from members unable to attend.

Dr. STEDMAN, the President, having delivered his farewell address, vacated the chair, and introduced his successor Dr. STEPHEN MONCKTON of Maidstone.

Vote of Thanks.—Mr. NAPPER proposed a vote of thanks to the President and Vice-Presidents for their services during the past year; and, Mr. WALLIS having seconded it, it was carried by acclamation.

President's Address.—Dr. MONCKTON delivered an address, which we print on page 777.

Report of Council.—Dr. PARSONS (Honorary Secretary) then read the report of the Council.

"In presenting a report of their proceedings for the past year, it is the pleasant duty of the Council, in the first place, to direct attention to the steady and continuous growth of the Branch. In 1873, the numbers were 338; in 1874, 370; and in 1875 (last year), 386. Of these, 4 have retired from practice and resigned their connection with us; 6 have migrated beyond the limits of our Branch, and have been absorbed by other Branches; whilst 4 have been removed by death. One of these, a distinguished member of the Association, the valued friend and colleague of your Council, and President-elect of the Association, Sir Cordy Burrows, was followed to his grave by your Council; and a letter from the Honorary Secretary conveyed to Lady Burrows and her family the expression of our deep sympathy with them in their recent bereavement. The total of last year, therefore, is reduced by 14. On the other hand, however, the Branch is invigorated by the addition of 44 new members; and our total number this year stands at 416.

"During the past year, the East Kent District has instituted an Ethical Committee, to whom all subjects bearing on the relationship of doctors to their patients may be referred, and also all questions affecting the social status of the profession. The first topic of importance which engaged the attention of this Committee was the construction of a tariff for professional services, which might serve as a guide for the members in securing adequate remuneration for their labour, and also as a standard of reference in the courts of law when disputes arise. The Committee, after much deliberation, adopted, with some slight alteration, the tariff of the Shropshire Ethical Society; and members can obtain copies on application to the Chairman of the Ethical Committee, J. Reid, Esq., Bridge Street, Canterbury. The Council commend the example of the East Kent District to the other districts of the Branch for imitation.

"Your Council have observed, with much gratification, the energy with which the districts have taken up the subject of the advertisement of medical books in the daily public press, and the unanimity with which resolutions were passed strongly condemning the practice. Rather more than a year since, the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL called attention in a series of articles to the undignified and mischievous prac-

tice which has long prevailed of advertising medical treatises in daily or other newspapers. This practice had become a recognised means of advertising, not so much the books, which were not intended for lay readers, as the names of the authors. Such a practice, although long tolerated, has been frequently pointed out as one of evil influence. The Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons of London have ineffectually passed resolutions condemning it. The practice, however, continued unabated until the Editor of the JOURNAL invoked the assistance of the Branches of the British Medical Association. This Branch, in common with the other Branches of the Association, passed resolutions strongly condemnatory of such advertisements, and the result has been that they have now virtually ceased, and that a very great reform has been rapidly achieved—a satisfactory evidence and result of the powerful ethical influence of the Association when rightly directed.

"The year has not hitherto been eventful in public questions of importance affecting professional interests.

"The pressing question of amelioration of the position of the Army Medical Service has continued to be discussed. The Secretary of State for War has announced his intention to introduce a system of short service, with a large bonus on retirement at the end of ten years. This scheme will, it is feared, prove less attractive to new candidates than the minister anticipates, and lessens the value of the service as a career, while it proportionately threatens its efficiency. A Warrant, however, is immediately expected, which will, it is stated, embody nearly all the concessions of improved pay, rank, and retirement which have been claimed for the service by the Parliamentary Bills Committee of the British Medical Association in documents submitted to the Government.

"A legislative measure promising an amendment of the position of Poor-law Medical Officers of Scotland has been introduced into the House of Commons, and suggestions for increasing its benefits are being prepared by Committees of the Association for submission to the Government.

"In conjunction with the Obstetrical Society of London, representations have again been made to the Lord President of the Privy Council for the restraint of the practice of midwifery by uneducated women, now largely carried on, to the evident danger and injury of the female population. These representations have been favourably received, but no definite promise of legislation has been obtained, although the subject is one of urgency and importance.

"Early in the month of April last, and soon after the decease of the President-elect (Sir Cordy Burrows), a very cordial and pressing invitation to hold the ensuing annual meeting in the town of Sheffield was received by the Committee of Council, and it has been determined by a Special General Meeting of the Association, held at Birmingham, to accept the invitation so cordially given. The Annual Meeting of 1876 will, therefore, be held at Sheffield, under the Presidency of Dr. Bartolomé, and promises to be as brilliant and successful as any which have preceded it.

"In conclusion, the Council desire to express their high appreciation and warm approval of the conduct of Drs. Barnes, Farre, and Priestley on the question of the examination and admission upon the Register by the College of Surgeons of female practitioners of midwifery. The Council object strongly to the insertion of any *partially* qualified practitioners upon the Register of the College, inasmuch as it would confuse, in the public mind, the distinction between those who are fully and those who are partially qualified to practise. But, on the other hand, they cordially recommend, in the interests of the public, the plan for the due examination, licensing, and registration of midwives brought forward by the Parliamentary Bills Committee of the Association, and more fully alluded to in the report of this Council last year."

Mr. W. HOAR, in moving the adoption of the report, urged upon the members the need of Ethical Committees to deal with questions affecting the well-being of the profession, and deprecated the Medical Defence Association assuming the functions and discharging the duties which, he conceived, rightly devolved upon the British Medical Association. He strongly recommended the formation of such a Committee for each Branch. The Army Medical Warrant he regarded as a great blunder, and calculated to do irreparable damage to the Army Medical Service.—Dr. WARDELL seconded the motion, and entirely agreed with the observations of Mr. Hoar.—The motion was carried unanimously.

The Financial Report was read, and showed the receipts to have been £82 : 4, which, with the balance of last year, £74 : 6 : 1, gave a total of £156 : 10 : 1. The expenditure was £84 : 2 : 9, leaving a balance in hand of £72 : 7 : 4.—Mr. HALLOWES having moved, and Dr. SANKEY having seconded, the adoption of the report, it was carried unanimously.

Officers and Council.—On the motion of Mr. GARRAWAY, seconded by Dr. CARR, it was resolved, that the next annual meeting be held at Eastbourne; and that Dr. Bransby Roberts be the President-elect; and Dr. Cunningham (Hailsham) and Mr. Sanger (Alfriston) be the Vice-Presidents-elect.

Representatives in the General Council of the Association.—John Armstrong, M.D., Dartford; J. H. Aveling, M.D., London; R. L. Bowles, M.R.C.P., Folkestone; R. Branwell, Esq., Brighton; J. M. Burton, Esq., Lee; A. Carpenter, M.D., Croydon; W. Carr, M.D., Blackheath; E. Clapton, M.D., Southwark; E. Garraway, Esq., Faversham; A. Hall, M.D., Brighton; J. B. Hicks, M.D., London; W. Hoar, Esq., Maidstone; C. Holman, M.D., Reigate; G. F. Hodgson, Esq., Brighton; W. Withers Moore, M.D., Brighton; A. Napper, Esq., Cranleigh; T. S. Rowe, M.D., Margate; T. Heckstall Smith, Esq., St. Mary Cray; N. Tyacke, M.D., Chichester; J. R. Wardell, M.D., Tunbridge Wells.

Council of the Branch.—F. Bagshawe, M.D., St. Leonard's; C. O. Baylis, M.D., Tunbridge Wells; J. Bostock, Esq., Horsham; T. N. Brushfield, M.D., Brookwood, Woking; T. S. Byass, M.D., Cuckfield; J. M. Cunningham, M.D., Hailsham; E. F. Fussell, M.B., Brighton; G. W. Grabham, M.D., Earlswood; R. Gravely, Esq., Newick, Lewes; H. M. Holman, M.D., Hurstpierpoint; J. M. Jardine, Esq., Capel, Dorking; H. Lanchester, M.D., Croydon; B. Marsack, Esq., Tunbridge Wells; J. Jardine Murray, Esq., Croydon; T. F. Sanger, Alfriston; S. G. Sloman, sen., Esq., Farnham; J. R. Stedman, M.D., Guildford; J. S. Turner, Esq., Anerley Road; W. Wallis, Esq., Hartfield; S. Woodman, Esq., Ramsgate.

Election of Honorary Secretary.—The Honorary Secretary, Dr. C. Parsons, was unanimously requested to continue in office.

Mr. John Marshall's Motion.—A letter was read from Mr. Marshall regretting his inability to be present.—Dr. HOLMAN moved, and Dr. CARR seconded, and it was resolved, that Mr. Marshall's letter be acknowledged by the Secretary, with thanks for having brought the question before the meeting; and that the same question be referred to the Council of the Branch.

Ethical Committee.—On the motion of Dr. CARR, seconded by Mr. W. HOAR, it was resolved, that it be a recommendation from this meeting to the Executive Council of the Branch, that an Ethical Committee be formed, to which all questions affecting the welfare and conduct of the profession may be referred.

The Midwifery Diploma of the Royal College of Surgeons.—It was unanimously resolved, on the motion of Dr. PURVIS, seconded by Dr. CARR, that the special thanks of the South-Eastern Branch of the British Medical Association be forwarded to Dr. Barnes, Dr. Farre, and Dr. Priestley, for their right-minded vigour in declining to act as examiners of the College of Surgeons on midwifery, under the conditions proposed for their acceptance.

Dinner.—The members, with many visitors and friends, dined together at five o'clock, at the Star Hotel, having previously visited Leeds Castle, All Saints' Church, the Ophthalmic Hospital, and other places of interest.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE next meeting of the Yorkshire Association of Medical Officers of Health will be held at Dr. Deville's, Harrogate, on Wednesday, July 5th, at 12 o'clock noon.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

ATKIN, N. E., L.R.C.S.I., appointed Medical Officer for the Hill District of the Crickhowell Union, *vice* J. E. Peirce, M.R.C.S.Eng., resigned.
BENNIE, James, M.B., C.M., appointed Medical Officer for the Parish of Currie, Edinburgh.
BERNARD, T. R., M.B., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Stockwell Union, *vice* Charles McCann, M.R.C.S., resigned.
COLLINS, H., M.R.C.S.E., appointed Medical Officer to the No. 3 District of the Dursley Union, *vice* F. J. Joynes, M.R.C.S.Eng., resigned.
COX, William Ashley, M.B., appointed Medical Officer to the No. 5 District of the Leicester Union, *vice* Frank Fullagar, M.R.C.S.Eng., deceased.
CRAN, George, M.B. & C.M., appointed Parochial Medical Officer for Torphins, *vice* James M'Hardy, L.F.P.S.G., resigned.
HARRIS, Arthur B., M.D., appointed Medical Officer to the Constantine District of the Falmouth Union, *vice* T. S. Guppy, M.D., resigned.
LAWSON, Samuel, L.F.P.S.Glasg., appointed Medical Officer to the Marsden District of the Burnley Union, *vice* Wm. Fleming, M.D., resigned.
M'KANE, G. O., L.R.C.P.Ed., appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator to the Byers Green District of the Auckland Union, *vice* J. G. Todd, L.R.C.P.Ed., resigned.

ORPEN, Arthur H., L.R.C.S.Ed., appointed Medical Officer to the Chelmsford Union, *vice* F. E. Roche, M.D., resigned.
 WRIGHT, Thomas P., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Medical Officer for the East District of the Bingham Union, *vice* Charles Bateman, M.R.C.S.Eng., deceased.

PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

ASHBY, Alfred, M.B., re-elected for three years Medical Officer of Health for the combined Urban Sanitary Districts of Grantham, Newark, Sleaford, Little Gonerby, Ruskington, and Spittlegate; and Rural Sanitary Districts of Grantham, Newark, and Sleaford.
 BLACKETT, William C., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Medical Officer of Health for the Durham Union.
 BRABAZON, A. B., M.D., appointed Medical Officer of Health to the City of Bath.
 SPENCER, Lawrence W., M.R.C.S., reappointed Medical Officer of Health for the Preston Rural Sanitary Authority.

VACCINATION.—The Local Government Board, on the 15th instant, awarded to Mr. Owen Davies of Landport £109 for efficient vaccination in his district. This is the second award which he has had during the last year and a half.

MEDICO-PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday, June 20th, 1876.

Cruelty to Animals Bill.—This Bill was considered in Committee after some observations from Lord LANDSDOWNE, objecting generally to the provisions of the Bill, as the Royal Commission had established in the course of its inquiry that the actual amount of abuse to be dealt with had been very much exaggerated, and was in fact very small. The several clauses were then considered.—On Clause 1, the Earl of CARNARVON intimated that he intended to propose a change in the title of the Bill, and to alter it from "An Act to Prevent Cruel Experiments on Animals", into "An Act to amend the law relating to Cruelty to Animals". He proposed this change in deference to a feeling that the original title reflected in some degree upon the learned professions. The clause was agreed to.—On Clause 3, an amendment was proposed by Lord RAYLEIGH, to substitute for the words in the Bill other words providing that an experiment might be made on animals for the advancement "of medical or physiological knowledge".—Lord COLERIDGE denied the right of man to subject animals to torture even to prolong human life or mitigate human suffering, and exhorted the Government not to accept an amendment which would deprive the Bill of almost all that was valuable in it.—In opposition to this view of the subject, Lord CARDWELL urged that the amendment was necessary to make the clause intelligible and workable, and pointed out that, under the Act, the Government would have to lay down the rules requiring the use of anaesthetics.—Lord CARNARVON, considering that the measure would be thereby made more effectual, intimated his approval of the principle of the amendment.—Eventually, Lord RAYLEIGH withdrew his amendment in favour of a proposal by Lord CARDWELL, to insert the words "physiological or medical" before "knowledge", and the words "or of knowledge" after it; and, thus altered, the clause was agreed to.—On Clause 5, prohibiting painful experiments on dogs or cats, the Duke of ARGYLL proposed an amendment providing that nothing in the clause should prevent a licensed person from administering to a dog or cat drugs or medicines with a view to ascertain their effect in the cure or treatment of disease, or with a view to the detection of crime.—Lord AIRLIE advocated the entire omission of the clause.—Lord HARROWBY desired to bring horses, asses, and mules, within the protection of the clause.—Lord CARNARVON accepted Lord Harrowby's amendment, including mules within its terms; but, in other respects, supported the clause as it stood in the Bill. It was, however, ultimately determined that the clause should be reconsidered on the report. All the clauses of the Bill having been gone through, the House resumed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Notices of Motion.—The following notices have been given.

Wednesday, July 5th. Mr. WHEELHOUSE: On Second Reading of Medical Act Amendment (Foreign Universities) Bill, to move, that it be read a second time upon this day three months.

Tuesday, July 11th. Lord FRANCIS HERVEY: To call attention to the Law respecting Coroners and Coroners' Inquests.—Mr. BIGGAR: On Second Reading of Public Health (Ireland) Bill, to move, that it be read a second time upon this day three months.

DR. D. L. MORGAN, C.B., the chief officer of the Naval Establishment at Hongkong, who has been appointed to succeed Inspector-General R. Pottinger, as chief of the Naval Hospital at Chatham, is expected to take over the duties at Chatham shortly. Dr. Pottinger is carrying on the duties temporarily.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—The following gentleman was admitted a Fellow on June 16th, 1876.
 Legg, John Wickham, M.D.Lond., 47, Green Street, W.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, June 15th, 1876.

Bird, George Gwyn, 14, Berners Street, Oxford Street
 Hopkins, John, Northwich
 Lamprey, Joseph John, Monkstown, co. Dublin
 Quicke, William Jenkins, King's Lodge, Exeter
 Sidebotham, George William, Hyde, Manchester

The following gentlemen also on June 8th and 15th passed their primary professional examination.

Dunstan, William, Guy's Hospital
 Heritage, Julius Harvey, Westminster Hospital
 Jaynes, Victor Alexander, Guy's Hospital
 Leahy, Albert Denis, Charing Cross Hospital
 Ross, Ronald, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Thain, Leslie Lachlan, University College
 Trewhman, George Turner, Westminster Hospital
 Tribe, Herman Thomas B., London Hospital

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

BOLTON UNION—Medical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications on or before June 24th.
 BOROUGH OF SALFORD FEVER HOSPITAL—Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications on or before June 24th.
 CAMBERWELL PROVIDENT DISPENSARY—Medical Officer. Applications on or before June 24th.
 DERBY FRIENDLY SOCIETY'S ASSOCIATION—Assistant Surgeon. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications on or before July 1st.
 DEWSBURY HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, residence, etc.
 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.
 ROSS UNION—Medical Officer for the Third District. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications on or before July 3rd.
 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.
 STOKESLEY UNION—Medical Officer. Salary, £25 per annum. Applications on or before June 30th.
 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.
 WOLVERHAMPTON GENERAL HOSPITAL—Dispenser. Salary, £60 per annum, with board, washing, and lodging. Applications on or before June 27th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

BOWES, J. Ireland, M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Northampton County Asylum.
 DAVISON, Francis V., M.B., elected House-Surgeon to the Liverpool Royal Infirmary.
 FOX, E. A., L.R.C.P., appointed Physician-in-Ordinary to the Warrington Dispensary and Infirmary.
 GILL, Stanley A., L.R.C.P.Ed., appointed Medical Superintendent of the Royal Lunatic Asylum, Liverpool, *vice* J. Yorke Wood, M.R.C.S.Eng., deceased.
 GILLIBRAND, William, L.K.Q.C.P.I., elected House-Physician to the Liverpool Royal Infirmary.
 GORST, Henry, M.R.C.S., elected House-Physician to the Liverpool Royal Infirmary.
 JONES, John M., L.R.C.P.Ed., elected House-Surgeon to the Liverpool Royal Infirmary.
 LAW, William T., M.D., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Brompton Hospital for Consumption, *vice* R. Rendle, F.R.C.S.Eng., resigned.

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.

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.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE "JOURNAL".

We have again to impress upon our correspondents that as the bulk of communications addressed to the JOURNAL is considerably in excess of its space, the task of selection will be greatly facilitated by the observance of studied conciseness.

THE SOCIETY OF SURGEONS PRACTISING DENTAL SURGERY.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit me to state, for the information of your correspondent Mr. T. Charters White, that the above-named Association already numbers thirty-three dental surgeons who are either medically or surgically qualified, inclusive of those who desire election, but exclusive of several physicians and surgeons who take an interest in oral surgery, and have joined the Society as members. It follows, therefore, that if Mr. Charters White be correct in his statement, that "the whole body of these gentlemen, as given in the *Medical Directory* for 1876, is not greater than fifty-four," I can hardly have laid myself open to the charge of exaggeration in stating that the new Society embraces "at least half" of those holding the necessary degree.—I am, sir, faithfully yours,

WILLIAM DONALD NAPIER.

22, George Street, Hanover Square, June 21st, 1876.

MARRIAGE OF FIRST COUSINS.

SIR,—Can you inform me if it be the general opinion of the medical profession that marriage with first cousins is wrong, inasmuch that the offspring are usually imbecile, or otherwise afflicted? An answer in your next issue will much oblige.—Yours obediently,

J. W.

*** The general result of recent inquiries appears to be, that where the stock is perfectly healthy and without taint, the result of marriage of first cousins is also likely to be healthy; but that intermarriage tends to bring out more intensely any constitutional weakness or taint inherited from the parents. The question has been discussed lately elaborately by Mr. Huth, in a work on *Consanguineous Marriages*, published by J. and A. Churchill, London, and by Mr. Darwin in the *Statistical Society's Transactions*.

MEDICAL ETIQUETTE.

SIR,—Referring to a letter under this heading last week, Mr. Alexander had agreed to meet Mr. Evans, but afterwards he declined to do so, at the same time requesting the patient to call in another medical gentleman (whom he named), and offered to attend gratis if they would do so. The poor woman could not be prevailed upon to give her consent, as she had a decided objection to that arrangement. Then Mr. Alexander said the patient's life was in danger, and if they would not agree to his proposal he would have nothing further to do with the case. In this emergency the husband came to me in great distress, and urged me to take the case in hand, as it was distinctly understood they would not, even under such pressure, yield to his wish, and, therefore, there was an end to his attendance.—Yours truly,

WILLIAM JACKSON.

P.S.—The undersigned attests the aforesaid statement of Dr. Jackson to be correct.—Husband of the patient, T. HAMMOND.

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.

STRICTURES.

SIR,—I, in common with many others, cannot but feel gratified that at the next annual meeting of the Association, Mr. Lawson Tait will move several amendments of the by-laws, and also move an important resolution in respect to communications. In regard to myself, I must say that I shall give him all the support I can, since the business of the Association is evidently conducted by a clique. When the "Brighton disaster" was upon the *tapis*, I considered that the Council of Management should be supported, because I thought some jealousy among the "Brighton men" was the cause of the opposition.

You refused insertion to a letter of mine, which was expressly framed to settle upon whose shoulders the onus should lie. Now, sir, from you, as editor, I ask for an explanation in regard to another matter: why was my letter, in reply to a correspondent who sought information upon the subject—"Is Gleet Infectious?"—suppressed? No one has given him all the information sought for. You certainly inserted a few lines from one correspondent, but it was only a hint, or perhaps a placebo. You cannot but see how infinitely short you fall, in regard to correspondence, when you compare your JOURNAL with the *Lancet*. I consider the correspondence the most important part, in many respects, of a medical journal; but you think otherwise, as you give us two letters in one place, and in another one of twenty-three lines, this week—*all* interesting. I have been a reader of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL since 1860, and confess that, latterly, my good opinion as regards management has altered. Do not think I am at all dictatorial. You have a right to judge for yourself, and I claim the same; but I add emphatically, that you consign to the waste-basket many communications far superior to those published. Lectures on the commonest subjects are reported at length; and I and others refrain from sending interesting cases, because we do not happen to know the editor's taste.

Now, this is the reason why so many men in the provinces hesitate in sending reports and communications. It is quite different in London, and with the clique. I see many cases and articles which I should not dream of recording published in the JOURNAL; but the unsatisfied shall not be "snuffed out" in Sheffield as they were in Edinburgh.

You may make what comments you deem desirable upon this letter, as it is my intention to offer suggestions as to holding a preliminary meeting, before Mr. Tait's amendments are brought forward. I can now fully understand the Edinburgh talk, and the opposition movements. The fact is, we must have a change in the conduct of affairs altogether.

Is it not strange that we should be, as it were, compelled to meet this year at Sheffield? What about Liverpool? Sheffield has been chosen. Why, I ask? I trust the editor will explain satisfactorily. But enough. New blood, I hope, will be infused into the British Medical Association; and the anomalous law-costs, etc., shall in future be explained, and not left to me and others to inquire concerning enigmatical expenses which should never have been incurred. I have touched only upon some salient points, and hope that the letter which I now close will awaken in the members that interest which Mr. Tait's amendments so emphatically call for.—I am, etc., yours very truly,

HV. BROWN.

Northallerton, June 10th, 1876.

* * * We shall be quite prepared to reply to Mr. Brown's strictures at the proper time and place.

HOMŒOPATHIC (?) PRACTICE.

SIR,—On visiting one day last week an epileptic patient of mine, who had sent for me on account of an attack of measles, in the course of conversation I asked "How about the epilepsy now?" Patient's mother replied, "Oh, I have taken her to the homœopaths, and she has been taking medicine prescribed by one who practises homœopathy. I asked to see the prescription, of which I took a copy. It is as follows.

R. Ammon. brom. 3ii; potass. brom. 3i; aquæ 3vi. S. Liq. Two teaspoonfuls to be taken in half a glass of water at night, and half as much between ten and four in the morning.

The prescription was stamped as having been made up by a homœopathic chemist. On analysing the prescription, you will observe that the night-dose consists of twenty grains of potassium bromide and five grains of ammonium bromide—*i.e.*, twenty-five grains of bromide for a dose. This is a forcible illustration of the deceptions practised by homœopaths on the unwary public. I make no objection at all to the treatment when administered in a fair way; but when adopted under the guise of homœopathy, it shows at once how little faith in their system the supporters of homœopathy possess.—Yours faithfully,

M.D.

May 29th, 1876.

ULCERATION OF THE FRÆNUM LINGUÆ IN PERTUSSIS.

SIR,—I read a very able letter on Ulceration of the Frænum Linguae in Pertussis in the *Glasgow Medical Journal* in 1871, by Dr. Maccall, Assistant-Physician to the Clinical Hospital for Children, Manchester; and ever since I have examined the frænum in severe cases of whooping-cough, and have frequently seen the ulcer. A large one is under my observation just now, but I think it does not usually occur so frequently as in Dr. Morton's cases. On reference to the *Medical Directory* of 1876, I find Dr. Maccall places this paper among his contributions.—Yours faithfully,

J. C. FLETCHER, M.D.

June 15th, 1876.

THE GASEO-CAUTÈRE.

SIR,—In a recent visit to Paris, my attention was called by M. Verneuil, at the Hôpital de la Pitié, to what appears to me to be a new invention, and one which M. Verneuil considers of very great value: it is made at Charrière's. The gaseo-cautère consists of a hollow blunt knife, made of a cylinder of platinum, flattened, containing an aperture at its point. This platinum-knife is connected by means of tubing with a bottle, containing that kind of alcohol used by Parisians for feeding spirit-lamps; and the vapour of the *essence minérale* is made to pass through the hollow platinum-knife by the ordinary apparatus of two India-rubber balls, made use of in Dr. Richardson's freezing apparatus. When the platinum-knife is heated in a spirit-lamp, and the vapour of the *essence minérale* caused to pass through the knife, red heat is maintained as long as required. It will be seen that this knife can be used in most cases where the galvanic cautery is applied.—I remain, sir, yours, etc.,

CHAS. R. DRYSDALE.

17, Woburn Place, W.C., June 19th, 1876.

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, not later than *Thursday*, twelve o'clock.

NERVOUS SHOCK COMMUNICATED TO THE SUCKLED BABE.

SIR,—We often hear accounts of maternal impressions being communicated to the *fœtus in utero*—some of them resting on good authority, and undoubtedly true, others rather misty and visionary in their origin; but, subject to being corrected, I think that maternal impressions being communicated to the suckled child are of rarer occurrence. The following case is most interesting, and I shall be very glad if any of my medical brethren can tell me of any parallel case, or give any other theory or solution of the *modus operandi* in this one. To be as brief as possible, a patient of mine was very ill, and I did not expect him to live through the night. I saw him about 8 P.M., and then asked if he had any other children, as they ought to be sent for. I was told that he had a married daughter living about eight miles off. I particularly asked if she were pregnant, as, had she been so, I should of course have hesitated to have her sent for; but, hearing that her youngest child was only a few months old (four or five months, I believe), and that she was suckling it, I said that there was no reason why she should not be sent for. I called to see my patient again a little before 11 P.M., and was at his bed-side when I heard his daughter arrive in a carriage. When she came up into her father's room, I went down into the sitting-room, and saw another married daughter of my patient's sitting by the fire and nursing a baby, which her sister had given into her charge when she went up stairs. I sat down, and a few minutes afterwards, looking across the room (it was a very small one), I noticed that the child looked extremely white and pale. I said, "Dear me, the child looks very ill"; and the woman answered, "O dear, no, sir; it is beautifully healthy; never had a day's illness in its life, and it is fast asleep now". I walked across the room, and, feeling the child's arm, could discover no pulsation in the artery. I said, "Why, the child is dead". You can imagine what an agonising scene followed. The child was perfectly pale, "as white as marble"; looked as if it were fast asleep, with a smile on its face; no lividity of the lips, no frothing at the nose or mouth, no appearance of its having had the least convulsive or spasmodic movement of any kind. I believe that its death was perfectly instantaneous—in short, just as rapid as if it had been "struck by lightning". The mother tells me that she "felt all of a whirl" when the carriage came for her, as she guessed that bad news was coming. She took the child out of its cradle, and did not stop to dress it, but wrapped it up in two warm shawls, and quickly started off. The child cried when it was taken out of the cradle; and the mother distinctly remembers suckling it soon after she got into the carriage, which was an open trap. At the inquest, which there was the following day, I gave it as my opinion that the child died "from nervous shock through the mother"; and in this opinion the coroner, who is also a medical man, fully concurred. I cannot see any other solution of the case; but I am open to conviction, if any of your readers could throw any other or further light on the subject. I could not obtain a *post mortem* examination; but even if I had, I cannot see that it would have helped me at all in any evidence or opinion.

Apologising for the length of this letter, believe me, faithfully yours,
Buckingham, June 17th, 1876. W. L'HEUREUX BLENKARNE.

We are much obliged to Dr. Gardner (Box). The *Apollo* is certainly a very interesting and very creditable periodical, and has some quaint references to contemporary medical proceedings. The sketch of a "Medical Reform Bill" (1870) might still serve as a model for several much-needed reforms.

MEDICAL ETIQUETTE OF PRINCIPAL AND ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER.

SIR,—The introduction of irrelevant matter into the discussion by Dr. A. McCook Weir will not deter me from asserting my rights as principal in the care and management of the case reported by him in the **BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL** of May 20th. His statements in your last issue, that he is unconscious of having ever acted "in the capacity of an assistant" to me; that the case, its treatment, and notes taken, were "legally and morally" his; the suppression of all reference to my having been in daily attendance upon the patient for upwards of eight months subsequent to the accident, and am so at present, are such that I cannot pass over without comment, or allow the public to be misled by the inference that no one but himself had charge of this or other surgical cases in the asylum.

The following are the conditions under which Dr. Weir acted as "assistant medical officer" here, this being the only name recognised by the regulations of the institution.

1. That he shall be under the control of the superintendent, and obey his directions, and give up the whole of his time to the duties of his office.

2. That he shall, under the direction of the superintendent, keep the case-book and enter therein a record of the cases of all the patients, describing their history, symptoms, and treatment, and all material circumstances connected therewith.

A review of the circumstances of the case will not justify Dr. Weir's assumption. On the 19th September last, during my temporary absence, a female patient experienced a fracture of the femur by a fall in the presence of the assistant medical officer. He records that she was unable to walk, unsupported, after it. On the fourth day of the accident—that is, on the 22nd—he examined the patient for the first time, and applied splint, band, and pulley, to the injured limb. These dates are from the case-book in his own hand-writing. I returned home on the 25th, and have been in daily attendance upon the patient ever since. In the **BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL**, Dr. Weir prints that the patient fell on the 22nd, and that he treated her next day, the 23rd. I have no hesitation in saying that his written description in the case-book, made at the time, is more authentic than the quotation from memory in the **JOURNAL**.

The statement that I have put myself "in antagonism to the majority of my brethren on this very question", "that public officers have no right to use their patients for scientific purposes", is readily disposed of. I am not aware that it has ever yet been submitted to them, and am inclined to think it never will be. Dr. Weir refers to Note B in my Annual Report for 1874, by way of corroborating his remark. I enclose a copy for your perusal, Mr. Editor: you will be surprised to find that there is no mention made of using patients, or any reference whatever to the publication of clinical reports. I have discussed therein the diversity of practice as to the making of *post mortem* examinations in asylums, and the anomalous state of the law respecting it—a subject having no connection with the present controversy. I therefore maintain my original position, that, from an ethical point of view, Dr. Weir was not the principal throughout the case reported; nor do I agree with his dates, or his description of the result of the injury.—Yours truly,
WM. P. PHILLIMORE, M.B., Superintendent.

County Lunatic Asylum, Snettont, Nottingham, June 18th, 1876.

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.

PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING.

SIR,—I was greatly astonished at reading the letter from Hibernicus in the **JOURNAL** this morning, about the social gulf between dispensing and non-dispensing practitioners in Ireland. I think it not unlikely that I know as much of Ireland and Irish practitioners of medicine as Hibernicus, and cannot say that I think such a gulf exists as he states. In cities like Dublin, Cork, etc., the great bulk of practitioners do not dispense their medicines, but give prescriptions, which are dispensed by apothecaries, who answer to the English chemist, but, having the diploma from the Apothecaries' Hall of Dublin, are also legally allowed to visit and charge for visits and medicines; and in their case the "social gulf" does exist. Also in large towns the practice is carried on in the same way; but in the country the doctor visits his patients and dispenses the medicine, which, as a rule, he does not charge for. In this case, the doctor is received into society quite as freely as the non-dispensing practitioner, whose prescriptions he does *not* make up.—Yours obediently,
June 17th, 1876. PADDY FROM CORK.

THE LOAN COLLECTION CONFERENCES.

SIR,—I was surprised to find the able professor who delivered the address in the biological section of the above conferences, attached great importance to a most unsatisfactory method of estimating the number of red corpuscles in a given specimen of blood. The method is founded on the hypothesis that when blood is diluted with serum, the red corpuscles are equally distributed throughout the mixture. This hypothesis is obviously open to grave objections, for it supposes belief that any solid bodies (far less blood-corpuscles, which have special attraction for each other) can be thus suspended in the liquid. To hope from such data to obtain any useful calculations, shows a far greater trust in the results of such "exact" experiments than is possessed by
Brighton, June 1876.

YOUR CONSTANT READER.

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Birmingham Daily Post; The Leeds Mercury; The Glasgow Herald; The Manchester Courier; The Hull News; The Hastings and St. Leonard's Independent; The Nottingham Daily Guardian; The Worcester Chronicle; The Islington Gazette; The Bolton Weekly Journal; The Brighton Examiner; The Hastings and St. Leonard's Observer; The Metropolitan; The Whitehall Review; 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:—

Sir Henry Thompson, London; M.D.; Mr. J. Sampson Gamgee, Birmingham; Dr. J. Matthews Duncan, Edinburgh; The Rev. Dr. Haughton, Dublin; Dr. Kelly, Taunton; Mr. John Woodman, Exeter; Dr. Pearson Irvine, London; Dr. Fletcher, London; Dr. Nind, Aberdeen; Mr. J. Sides Davies, Oswestry; Dr. Bassett, Birmingham; Mr. P. Leigh, Liverpool; Mr. Lund, Manchester; Dr. Pavy, London; Dr. Kendrick, Edinburgh; Dr. Sheen, Cardiff; Dr. W. Fairlie Clarke, Southborough; Dr. Henry Barnes, Carlisle; Dr. J. Milner Fothergill, London; "Paddy from Cork"; Dr. Charles Parsons, Dover; "One of the Memorialists"; Mr. Furneaux Jordan, Birmingham; "Your Constant Reader"; Dr. Procter, York; Dr. A. S. Taylor, London; Dr. Fletcher Beach, Lower Clapton; Dr. Phillimore, Nottingham; Dr. Stewart Lockie, Carlisle; Dr. G. H. Philipson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Dr. Cory, London; Mr. Nicholson, Hull; Dr. Tuckwell, Oxford; Mr. Reginald Harrison, Liverpool; Mr. Thomas Lucy, Neemuch, India; Mr. Clement Walter, Dover; The Registrar-General of England; Dr. De Bartolomé, Sheffield; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; Mr. Arthur Jackson, Sheffield; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Dr. Sutton, London; Mr. Godfrey Lushington, London; Mr. T. Heckstall Smith, St. Mary Cray; Dr. Dyce Duckworth, Edinburgh; Dr. Shettle, Reading; An Associate; Dr. Falconer, Bath; Mr. Croft, London; Dr. J. L. Roberts, Denbigh; Dr. Shrimpton, London; A Lay Observer, Paddockhurst; Mr. A. W. Dolman, Derby; Dr. Bott, Bury; Dr. Samuel Berry, Edgbaston; Dr. Edis, London; Mr. Chesshire, Birmingham; Dr. Davey, Bristol; Dr. Shuttleworth, Lancaster; Mr. Parker, London; Dr. Lombe Athill, Dublin; Dr. McKane, Durham; Dr. Underhill, Edinburgh; Dr. J. Crichton Browne, London; Mr. Alder Smith, London; Mr. L'Heureux Blenkarne, Buckingham; Dr. de Pietra Santa, Paris; Mr. Owen Davies, Landport; Dr. Carr, Blackheath; W. W.; Dr. Griffith, London; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Mr. Brown, London; Our Dublin Correspondent; Dr. Parsons, Goole; The Secretary of the Staffordshire Branch; Dr. Finlayson, Glasgow; Dr. Leonard Sedgwick, London; Mr. Sydney Pearse, London; Mr. Joliffe Tufnell, Dublin; Dr. Goldie, Leeds; Mr. Wheelhouse, Leeds; Mr. C. F. Maunder, London; Mr. W. D. Napier, London; Dr. Lane, Dunfermline; Dr. Huntly, Jarroon-Tyne; Dr. Monckton, Maidstone; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Physiology of Mind. By Henry Maudsley, M.D. London: Macmillan and Co. 1876.
A Manual of Operative Surgery on the Dead Body. By Thomas Smith, F.R.C.S., and William J. Walsham, F.R.C.S. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1876.
Medicinal Plants. By Robert Bentley, F.L.S., and Henry Trimen, M.B., F.L.S. Part ix. J. and A. Churchill. 1876.
Guy's Hospital Reports. Edited by H. G. Howse, M.S., and Frederick Taylor, M.D. Vol. xxi. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1876.
Atlas of Skin-Diseases. By Tilbury Fox, M.D. F.R.C.P. Part ix. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1876.
Gout, and Rheumatic Gout. By Alfred Baring Garrod, M.D., F.R.S. Third Edition. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1876.