

fore, to Mr. Hawkins with regard to the granting of the licence for New Bridge Street.

4. I believe myself justified, however in feeling aggrieved that Mr. Hawkins did not come to see my premises as soon as any dissatisfaction appeared to exist; a word from Mr. Hawkins would probably have dispelled the unenlightened prejudices by which I was assailed. Instead of that, Mr. Hawkins, without taking the trouble to acquire any personal knowledge of the facts, suddenly ordered me to remove a body (the only one I had) which was in a state of perfect preservation, and which he had previously authorised me to keep, if necessary, the full period of six months, instituted by order of Mr. Home Secretary Bruce.

This arbitrary decision appears to have caused the ruin of my school. It took out of my hands the best proof, the only absolute proof I had, that my school had been carefully conducted.

It further drove my friends to the stratagem of the empty coffin, about which you have doubtless heard. My friends thoroughly believed, as did also the City sanitary authorities, that all that the complainants had smelt was the smell of carbolio acid. And this turned out to be the case; since, in seeing an empty coffin brought in, and believing that there was a body in it, they again said, "they perceived the same smell as before".

I beg, sir, on account of the painful and most serious circumstances in which I had been placed, to crave indulgence for anything that was objectionable to science in this empty coffin stratagem, and also, for the future, the protection which would, I believe, certainly result from more frequent visits of the Government inspector.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

THOMAS COOKE, F.R.C.S.

THE LATE DR. MERCER.

SIR,—As Dr. Mercer's medical attendant, I am in a position to state that the report of his having died from an overdose of chloral is incorrect. With the exception of one dose of ten grains, he did not take any chloral for four days previous to his death, which resulted from heart-disease.—I am, yours truly,

W. STEPHENSON.

Beverly, January 16th, 1877.

AURAL THERAPEUTICS.

SIR,—I beg to call the attention of Dr. Pierce of Manchester, and Dr. Cassells of Glasgow, to the heading under which the notes of the *clinique* at Guy's Hospital, in the JOURNAL of 9th December last, appear. By referring to it, they will see that these "Hospital Notes" occur as one of the "Reports of Medical and Surgical Practice in the Hospitals and Asylums of Great Britain"; and are, therefore, written by the private reporter of the JOURNAL. The gentleman who acts as your reporter visited the *clinique*, remained two or three hours, and has reported on cases which came before him during his visit. I thank him for the trouble he took to acquaint himself with the modes of treatment pursued, and the report he gave of them.

There is nothing set down in the report as a novelty or new proposal, though there are, I believe, several new methods of treatment described, which will be dilated upon at some future time.—I am, etc.,

W. LAIDLAW PURVES.

7, Hanover Street, Hanover Square, W.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE next meeting will be held in the Examination Hall of the Queen's College, on Thursday, February 8th, 1877. The Chair will be taken at Three o'clock P.M.

Business.—To elect an Honorary Secretary to fill the vacancy caused by Dr. Foster's resignation.

JAMES SAWYER, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*

Birmingham, January 24th, 1877.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE third ordinary meeting of this Branch was held at Bristol on Thursday, January 18th, at half-past seven, P.M.; H. F. A. GOODRIDGE, M.D., in the chair. There were present fifty members and two visitors.

New Members.—Dr. A. Stevens and A. D. Talbot, Esq., were elected members of the Association and of this Branch.

Discussion on the Treatment of Acute Rheumatism.—Dr. SKERRITT opened the discussion by a short paper on the Treatment of Acute Rheumatism, in the course of which he instanced cases treated by salicylic acid, the cold belt, and various other remedies. Drs. E. L. Fox, J. G. Davey, Shingleton Smith, Beddoe, Cole, Fyffe, and Siddall, and Messrs. D. Davies, Thompson, H. Grace, and Stone took part in an interesting discussion. The President made some remarks and Dr. Skerritt replied.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE WANTAGE BOARD OF GUARDIANS AND ITS MEDICAL DISTRICTS.

THE Wantage Board of Guardians advertise the Ilsley District of that Union. We would draw attention to the fact that the Ilsley District, as described, is nearly four thousand acres larger than contemplated by the legislature. The limit of districts, as imposed by law, is fifteen thousand acres, a fact of which the Board of Guardians of the Wantage Union cannot, or at least should not, be ignorant. We would ask who is responsible for this ignoring of the law of the land? and whether the Local Government Board might not with advantage see that the law is carried out? There can be nothing very exceptional in the position and circumstances of the Wantage Union to warrant its taking an exceptional line of action; nor can there be any advantage, either to it or its paupers, in having a district larger than can be worked efficiently simply for the sake of cheapness.

THE GUARDIANS OF ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER SQUARE.

SIR,—At page 90 of your last issue, I find that my name is introduced, *à propos* of a case (which you appear to regard as *ad hoc sub judice*) under the heading, "The Guardians of St. George's, Hanover Square, and Mr. Fenton".

May I ask you to give the same prominence to the statement which follows?

Firstly—I am not "the workhouse medical officer". Up to the year 1871, I was one of the visiting medical officers to the Mount Street Infirmary; but since then have had no connection with that institution. I abstain from quotation from my evidence, because I deem it unfair *pendente lite*, but shall be happy anon to furnish you with it *in extenso*.

Secondly—The statement that "for Dr. Bloxam's attendance at the *post mortem* examination, and for his subsequent attendance at the inquest, the Board voted £5:5", is incorrect.

Thirdly—Permit me to say that my attendance and opinion were sought for reasons which I would rather leave to others to explain. As to the manner in which my intervention was conducted, I cannot do better than leave Messrs. Fenton and Price to speak, and content myself by saying that we parted most amicably and agreeably.—I am, sir, yours very obediently,

WILLIAM BLOXAM, M.D.

21, Mount Street, W., January 23rd, 1877.

MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

SURGEON-MAJOR A. N. FOX, M.B., has been appointed principal Medical officer of the African Medical Service, *vice* Surgeon-Major A. F. Elliott, M.D. retired upon half-pay.

The second Professorship of Military Hygiene at the Army Medical School, Netley, vacated by Surgeon-Major De Chaumont, M.D., on appointment as Professor, is not to be filled, but an assistant professorship has been created, the duties having been assumed by Assistant-Surgeon J. L. Notter.

THE appointment of an additional medical officer to the flagship on the China Station, now held by Fleet-Surgeon G. B. Hill, for special service in connection with the Lock Hospitals in Japan, is, the *Army and Navy Gazette* believes, likely soon to be abolished. It is proposed to hand over the charge of these hospitals to the Japanese Government, and it is probable that a higher class of native medical practitioner than hitherto employed in this department will be placed in charge in future.

OBITUARY.

EDWARD WILLIAM MURPHY, A.M., M.D.

DR. MURPHY, who died on the 11th instant, was born in Dublin in 1802. In 1818, he became a pupil of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland; and, in 1819, entered Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated as B.A. in 1825, M.A. and M.B. in 1832, and M.D. in 1853. He became a Licentiate of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland in 1827. He early turned his attention to midwifery, and about 1830 was an assistant-physician in the Rotunda Lying-in Hospital in Dublin, during the mastership of Dr. Robert Collins. In 1840, he settled in practice in London; and in 1842, on the death of Dr. D. D. Davis, was appointed Professor of Midwifery in University College. This post he occupied until 1865, when he resigned it.

His contributions to medical literature were *Lectures on the Principles and Practice of Midwifery*, a second edition of which appeared in 1867; *Lectures on Natural and Difficult Parturition* (1845); *Lectures on Preternatural and Complex Parturition, and on Lactation* (1852). He also contributed a paper on Rupture of the Uterus to the *Dublin Medical Journal* in 1835, and essays on Chloroform to the same journal in 1848, and to the *Edinburgh Medical Journal* in 1849. He was, indeed, among the very first to use chloroform in midwifery in London, following the example of Sir James Simpson.

In 1853, Dr. Murphy delivered one of the earliest courses of Lettsomian lectures before the Medical Society of London, taking midwifery as his subject. The lectures were published in the *Association Medical Journal* for that year. In 1858-59, he was President of the Metropolitan Counties Branch of the British Medical Association.

Dr. Murphy married, in 1830, Miss English, eldest daughter of Mr. William English of Dublin. He had eight children, of whom three—a son and two daughters—survive.

He has been prevented by failing health from attending to professional duties since 1870, and died on January 11th, in the seventy-fourth year of his age.

HENRY HOLMAN, M.R.C.S., HURSTPIERPOINT.

ON January 20th, at Hurstpierpoint, died Henry Holman, aged 83. Thus is simply told the end of him who had laboured as a medical practitioner in one place for sixty years. He was one of the few surviving pupils of Asley Cooper and Cline, and a contemporary of Aston Key.

Mr. Holman was apprenticed to the Messrs. Weekes of Hurstpierpoint in 1809; and, after studying in London at the united hospitals of Guy's and St. Thomas's, and at the University of Edinburgh, he bought a horse in the North and rode back through England to join his old masters in partnership in 1817.

A remarkable knowledge of his profession for those days, unwearied assiduity in work, and a manner and appearance singularly confidence inspiring, soon gained him a large circle of patients. His skill in midwifery was much trusted, and he has often stated that he had attended four thousand cases with but one single death from causes immediately resultant upon the confinement. He turned twice successfully for contracted brim of the pelvis, many years antecedent to the publication of Sir James Simpson's observations on the subject. Amongst the very earliest, he began to use antiphlogistic treatment with great caution, recognising in the cases he was called upon to visit the necessity for rest, warmth, and moderate support. He is gone; and loving memories of the good old man, who never spared himself when duty called, will long live after him in the hearts of all classes amongst whom he lived, and worked, and died.

DAVID ARROTT, M.D., F.R.C.S.E.

DR. DAVID ARROTT died suddenly at his residence, in Arbroath, on December 27th, 1876. Rather more than two years ago, he was seized with hemiplegia of the right side, from which he partially recovered, and was able to move about a little and visit a few of his old patients. On the day of his death, he had gone out as usual; but, while finishing dinner, was suddenly seized with pain in the region of the heart, and, in spite of remedial measures which he himself directed, he peacefully expired.

Dr. Arrott was a native of Arbroath, and had completed his sixty-seventh year. He received his medical education first at Edinburgh

and afterwards at Berlin. On the completion of his studies, he commenced practice in Arbroath along with his father, the late Dr. William Arrott. In addition to a very good private practice, he held the offices of certifying factory surgeon, medical officer of health for Arbroath, and parochial medical officer for the parish of Arbirlot.

Dr. Arrott was a man of great and varied accomplishments. Well versed in ancient and modern languages, he had a thorough acquaintance with English literature, and his original compositions in prose and verse were characterised by great elegance and beauty. His readings and recitations, rendered with much dramatic power, and his racy, polished, and effective speeches, were much relished in public and private gatherings. His gentlemanly manners, his genial exuberant humour, his inexhaustible fund of joke and anecdote, and, above all, his warm kind heart and ready sympathy for all suffering and sorrow, made him a favourite with all classes. To the poor, his services, freely and unselfishly rendered, made him specially dear. He was a noble-hearted gentleman, to whom everything mean and malignant was completely strange.

As a practitioner, he took a high place as an accoucheur of rare success; he was a wise and thoughtful physician, and, at a time when heroic treatment was in vogue, he was very much in advance of his age.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen passed their primary examinations in anatomy and physiology at a meeting of the Board of Examiners on January 18th; and, when eligible, will be admitted to the pass-examination.

Messrs. Francis T. Wilkinson, Harry Hine, Charles H. Haycroft, William W. Leigh, Philip James, George H. W. Jones, Walter Gray, Alfred H. Burton, and Charles J. Parke, students of Guy's Hospital; Thomas S. Dyson, Henry S. Thorpe, John W. Stone, John Protheroe, and Hugh Redmayne, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; George E. Weston, Arthur C. B. Jones, Thomas G. Jenkins, and James L. A. Hope, of St. George's Hospital; Thomas Crisp, Edmund D. Maddick, and John P. Jeffreys, of St. Thomas's Hospital; Charles G. Stein, Richard A. S. Chard, and Henry J. J. Lavis, of University College.

Thirty-five candidates out of the one hundred and twenty-seven examined, having failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Board of Examiners, were referred to their anatomical and physiological studies for three months.

The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted members of the College at a meeting of the Court of Examiners, on January 22nd.

Messrs. W. M. Frobisher, Leeds; James Brett, L.S.A., Leamington; H. S. Stone, M.B. Edin., New Brunswick; J. E. Looker, Altrincham; C. F. Diggle, L.S.A., Manchester; W. T. Ward, M.D. McGill, Stanhope, Canada; J. H. L. Macintire, L.S.A., Richmond Road; E. R. Mansell, L.S.A., Upper Norwood; F. S. Goulder, Norwich; Thomas James, L.S.A., Aberdare; and John Kirkpatrick, M.D. Toronto, Toronto.

The following gentlemen were admitted members on January 23rd.

Messrs. William Rhodes, Birmingham; Richard Davies, Birmingham; Edward Law, Sheffield; William Armstrong, Manchester; Charles A. S. Ling, L.S.A., Gorleston, Suffolk; Wilhelm Devenish, Trinidad; A. T. Winterbottom, Manchester; William E. Luscombe, Porteous Road; P. M. Richards, L.S.A., Fennant, Denbighshire; John Morgan, L.S.A., Strata Florida; A. W. Green, L.R.C.P. Lond., Lee, Kent; W. G. Archer, M.B. Cantab., Edgbaston; T. N. Griffith, L.R.C.P. Ed., Oakley Square; and H. E. F. Cross, L.R.C.S. Ed., Craven Street.

The following gentlemen were admitted members on January 24th.

Messrs. G. B. Longstaff, M.B. Oxon., Wandsworth; Herbert Blaxland, Ryde, New South Wales; H. D. Stewart, St. James's Gardens; R. L. Stokes, Redmarley, Worcestershire; T. H. Gillain, L.S.A., Weaverham; D. D. Malpas, Sevenoaks; E. H. Howlett, Stafford Place; W. F. Hopwood, Staleybridge; W. P. Davey, L.S.A., Leyton, Essex; A. P. Green, St. John's Wood; T. E. Hayward, Tewkesbury; H. F. Steele, L.S.A., Stoke Ferry, Brandon; C. W. C. Fletcher, Leicester; J. S. Clowes, Merrick Square; A. R. Anderson, L.S.A., Plymouth; C. P. Creed, Greenwich; L. A. Barrow, Camden Town; W. O'C. Tarrant, Clapham; T. H. Craddock, Finsbury Park; and J. R. Ogle, L.R.C.S. Ed., Newport, Shropshire.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentleman passed his examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received a certificate to practise, on Thursday, January 4th, 1877.

Wood, Edward Joshua, Higham, Kent

The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, January 18th, 1877.

Earle, Joseph Herbert, Brentwood, Essex
Joynes, Victor Alexander, Hucclecote, Gloucester

The following gentleman also on the same day passed his primary professional examination.

Middleton, Charles Frederick, University College

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

- AXBRIDGE UNION**—Medical Officer for the Tenth District.
BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND FREE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN—Extra Acting Physician. Salary, £60 per annum. Applications to be made on or before February 1st.
BIRMINGHAM GENERAL DISPENSARY—Resident Surgeon. Salary to commence at £130 per annum, with allowance for cab-hire, and furnished apartments, lights, and attendance.
BOSMERE and CLAYDON UNION—Medical Officer for the Debenham District.
BRADFORD INFIRMARY—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum, with board and residence. Applications to be sent on or before the 20th instant.
DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON, Leicester Square—Dental House-Surgeon. Applications to be made on or before the 14th February.
COVENTRY and WARWICKSHIRE HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and attendance. Applications to be sent on or before February 24th.
EAST RIDING LUNATIC ASYLUM—Medical Superintendent. Salary, £350 per annum, with furnished house, coals, and gas. Applications to be made on or before February 1st.
FLINTSHIRE DISPENSARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with apartments, coals, and gas. Applications to be made on or before the 30th instant.
GENERAL HOSPITAL, Nottingham—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board and residence. Applications to be made on or before the 27th instant.
GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, Caledonian Road—House-Surgeon. Salary, 60 guineas per annum, with board and lodging. Applications on or before the 26th instant.—Aural Surgeon. Applications to be sent in on or before the 30th instant.
HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE THROAT, Golden Square—Surgeon. Also, an Emergency Surgeon, at a salary of £50 per annum. Applications to be made on or before the 20th instant.
HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Soho Square—House Physician. Applications to be made to David Cannon, Esq., Secretary.
HUNTINGDON COUNTY HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Salary, £60 per annum, with board, lodging, attendance, and washing. Applications to be sent on or before February 3rd.
INVERNESS DISTRICT ASYLUM—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary to commence at £80 per annum, with bed, board, and washing. Applications to be made on or before the 20th instant.
KENT COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM, Barming Heath. Second Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum, with furnished apartments, etc. Applications to be sent on or before February 16th.
MALDON UNION—Medical Officer for the All Saints' District. Salary, £80 per annum, and fees. Applications to be sent on or before the 20th instant.
MANCHESTER PROVIDENT DISPENSARIES' ASSOCIATION—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £120 per annum, and private practice allowed.
NATIONAL HOSPITAL FOR THE PARALYSED AND EPILEPTIC—Resident Medical Officer and Registrar. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging.
NORTH-EASTERN HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Hackney—Assistant Physician.
QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S LYING-IN HOSPITAL—Resident Medical Officer. Applications to be made on or before the 31st instant.
ROYAL SOUTH LONDON DISPENSARY, St. George's Cross, S.E.—Two Honorary District Surgeons. Applications to be made on or before the 31st instant.
ST. GEORGE'S (Hanover Square) PROVIDENT DISPENSARY—Second Surgeon. Applications to be made on or before February 10th.
ST. MARYLEBONE GENERAL DISPENSARY—Obstetric Physician. Applications to be sent on or before February 5th.
SCARBOROUGH DISPENSARY and ACCIDENT HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon and Secretary. Salary, £120 per annum, with apartments, coals, gas, and attendance. Applications to be made on or before the 30th instant.
WANTAGE UNION—Medical Officer for the Isley District. Salary, £75 per annum, and fees. Applications on or before February 5th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

- ***BERNAYS**, Herbert L., M.R.C.S., appointed Honorary Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Chatham, *vice* A. R. Martin, M.R.C.S. Eng., resigned.
McCOMBIE, John, M.A., M.B., Assistant Medical Officer to the Homerton Fever Asylum, appointed Medical Superintendent of the Limehouse Small-pox Hospital.
SNELL, Simeon, M.R.C.S. Eng., elected Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Sheffield General Infirmary.

VISITORS will not be admitted to patients (except those dangerously ill) in the London Hospital during the prevalence of small-pox.

A DEPUTATION of the Society of Medical Officers of Health will wait on the President of the Local Government Board on Friday next, and bring under his notice some of the present defects in legislation for the prevention of zymotic diseases.

GUY'S HOSPITAL.—We are pleased to notice in the *Guy's Hospital Gazette* for the present month, an elaborate description, with diagrams, of the "Banner system" of ventilation for soil-pipes and drains recently adopted at Guy's, and noticed a few weeks ago in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*. The system at present appears to fulfil its end admirably; and will doubtless, ere long, be much more extensively adopted. The *Guy's Hospital Gazette* is otherwise interesting as usual to old Guy's men, from whom its projectors should receive every encouragement.

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.—Charing Cross, 2 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.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 9.30 A.M. and 1.30 P.M.—Royal Free, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

- MONDAY**.—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Dowse, "A few Notes on Diphtheritic Paralysis"; Dr. E. Woakes, "On some Sympathetic Ear-Symptoms".
THURSDAY.—Harveian Society of London, 8 P.M. Dr. Fitzpatrick, "Cases of Abdominal Disease"; Mr. Carr Jackson, "Cases of Stone in the Bladder".

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 *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, are requested to communicate beforehand with the printer, Mr. Thomas Richards, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.—We shall be much obliged to Medical Officers of Health if they will, on 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, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.; 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., London.

SCARCITY OF VACCINE LYMPH.

SIR,—Cannot the Local Government Board extend their arrangement with the public vaccinators and others to supply that department with lymph, whence it should be obtained by all qualified practitioners (whether by payment or otherwise)? It appears to me that this is the only means whereby the supply of lymph can be increased.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,
 Worcester, January 16th, 1877. W. WOODWARD, M.D.

* * If a moderate payment were arranged, we think the plan very feasible.

RHUN.—A F.R.C.S. Eng. has a right to dispense such medicines as may be necessary for his patients.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

THE unusually large number of one hundred and twenty-seven candidates presented themselves at the College of Surgeons on Friday week, to undergo the written portion of the primary examination in anatomy and physiology. The following questions on those subjects were submitted. 1. Describe the coagulation of the blood, and mention the various circumstances which accelerate or retard it. 2. Describe all the characters by which the duodenum is distinguished from the lower portion of the ileum. 3. Describe the various structures which form the hip-joint. Name and classify the muscles which act upon the joint, specifying the nervous supply and action of each. 4. Give the course and relations of the axillary artery and the dissection necessary to expose it. Name the branches arising from its first part, and describe their anastomoses. 5. The superficial muscles of the calf being removed, describe the parts brought into view between the lower border of the popliteus and the heel. 6. Describe the course, and relations of the vena porta outside the liver. Mention the veins which directly and indirectly form it, and the several communications which exist between it and the general circulation.

LUNACY CERTIFICATES.

SIR,—I have to thank Dr. Constable for his reply. I have a similar letter from the Board of Supervision, but have never been able to obtain any payment from the parochial board of my parish, the inspector cautioning me against offending "our betters" by demanding "what was not customary". I will gladly hear what fee Dr. Constable obtains.—Yours, etc.,
 January 10th, 1877. PARISH MEDICAL OFFICER.

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.

STRUMOUS OPHTHALMIA.

SIR,—In answer to M. A., allow me to say I have found a solution of extract of belladonna—three grains to an ounce of water—used as a lotion on linen pads tied over the eyes (totally excluding all light for several days), to be a most useful and comforting application. The pads require wetting every four hours. I avoid all tonics at the same time.—I am, etc., S. HAYNES.

SIR,—I would suggest to your correspondent M. A. to apply topically a weak solution of sulphate of atropia (one grain to one ounce). It may be dropped between the lids three or four times daily, or applied externally by means of lint soaked in the solution. The general treatment should be quinine and the perchloride of iron, with change of air, if practicable.—I am, yours, etc., W. A. SKINNER.

SIR,—As M. A. asks for an opinion, I hope he will not be offended by a very outspoken one. His plan of treatment is a mistake from beginning to end, and is like adding fuel to fire. In a case of so-called strumous ophthalmia (the ailment is really inflammation of the cornea), blisters do no good, and setons, citrine ointment, and nitrate of silver, do nothing but harm. Let the patient have good food, take ten or twelve drops of tincture of sesquichloride of iron daily, directly after dinner, and one grain of calomel once a week. Let the eyes be bathed with warm water night and morning, and protected by a shade. No darkening of the room is to be thought of. I enclose my card for the editor's private satisfaction, and as a voucher for my being one who has had some experience in eye-matters.—Your obedient servant, Z.

SIR,—In reply to M. A., let him try five-grain doses of pulvis cinchonæ cordifoliæ internally, at the same time putting his patient upon a good and liberal diet. I generally use it simply triturated with water—half a drachm to a six ounce mixture, a sixth part being given three times a day. Bark is tolerated very well by the stomach in small doses, is more agreeable to take, and (I find it) more efficacious than its alkaloid quinine in this affection. In quinine, we lose the peculiar astringent property of the cinchona, which I consider very invaluable in all strumous affections.—I am, sir, yours truly, Wm. W. HARDWICKE, L.R.C.P. Ed.

Rotherham, January 15th, 1877.

EXTRACTION OF FOREIGN BODIES FROM THE EAR.

SIR,—In the **BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL** of December 16th, Mr. Rivington states that he sees no reason why a dead cockroach should not be displaced from the ear by careful syringing, at the same time admitting that in the matter he has had no experience. I have always read with profound respect anything emanating from that distinguished surgeon, and scarcely think it requisite to bring forward a case which, though it confirms Mr. Rivington's opinions, yet in itself may be deemed very trivial; but, at the same time, when one considers the delicacy of the internal ear, and the ease with which it may be permanently injured by ill-advised attempts to remove foreign bodies from the meatus, the record of a case where a full grown cockroach was easily removed by syringing may not be altogether out of place in the pages of this **JOURNAL**.

A few years ago, a man presented himself to me, complaining of deafness on the right side. He was employed in farming operations, and it was too great a tax for his bucolic mind to give any further information than that it had existed a few months, that he did not know whether he had got anything into it, nor whether it had come on gradually or suddenly. Upon examining the ear, I found the canal completely occluded with what looked like a mixture of wax and dirt, with a small black dot about the centre. I got some warm soap and water, and, with a large syringe, commenced the attack. After a short time, there came away two or three legs, which I at once thought belonged to a cockroach; and, continuing the syringing, in a few minutes more had the satisfaction of seeing the rest of the insect come away *en masse*. It was a full grown specimen of that common pest, and a male, as shown by the presence of wings and wing-covers. There was no indication of its having excited any irritation; the membrane of the tympanum looked perfectly healthy, and the man expressed himself as being quite cured, and hearing as well as ever.

I think the main point to be observed to obtain success in the operation, is to draw the pinna well upwards, in order to alter the relation of the meatus to the unyielding body which it contains, and so give a space for the entrance of the fluid. If this precaution be not observed, or the stream be caused to impinge directly on the foreign body itself, one can almost be induced to believe that all the syringing in the world would fail to shift the mass in the slightest degree. There is, however, one case where I am disposed to believe that the use of a rigid instrument is superior to, and perhaps safer than, the syringe—I mean where the patient and operator are combined in one person. I have a vivid recollection of being roused from my sleep some years ago, in the middle of the night, by a great commotion in my left ear. My first impulse was to make firm pressure behind the ear, in the direction of the meatus, hoping thereby to put a stop to the noise, and the most unpleasant sensation which was produced. Next, going to the wash-stand, I squeezed the contents of a sponge of cold water into the ear. This stopped the movements for a few minutes; but, on drying it, they soon recommenced; and, as a next resource, I put a few drops of lime-cream in, as I recollected that oil was fatal to insects. This proved to be the case, and I felt no more of it. I however dressed, and, proceeding to the surgery, attempted the operation of syringing; but this is somewhat awkward on oneself, and the result was *nil*. The next day I had my ear examined, and was told there was nothing to be seen. The hearing was as usual; and feeling convinced there was nothing there, I thought no more about it. One evening, some time after, I fancied there was a little difference on the two sides, and not having a probe at hand, I took from the chimney-piece one of the ever-pointed lead-pencils that was lying there, and, cautiously inserting it, felt it glide over something hard. Holding it with a light hand, and sweeping it two or three times round the meatus, I in a very short time brought out a small beetle about a *centimètre* long.—I am, etc., F. H. WARD, M.R.C.S.

January 1876.

THE PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

SIR,—In the otherwise accurate report of the remarks which I made on taking the chair at the Pathological Society, there is an error which you will oblige me by correcting. The motto of the Pathological Society which I quoted is "*Nec silet mors*," and not, as it is twice printed in your report, "*Nec sinit mors*."—I am, yours, etc., C. MURCHISON.

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.

THE PORTLAND TOWN PROVIDENT DISPENSARY.

SIR,—Will you allow me to correct a misprint in the letter you kindly inserted from me in your last number? The words, "But this delusive circumstance was speedily dispelled", should be, "But this delusion circumstances speedily dispelled".—I am, sir, yours faithfully, J. W. ALLEN.

LEANDER CLUB.—In July, 1827, a match was made between Dr. Bedale of Manchester and a person of the name of Vipan to swim from Liverpool to Runcorn, a distance of twenty miles, in one tide. This was won by the doctor, who accomplished his task in three hours and thirty-five minutes, beating his opponent by about five minutes.

ESTABLISHMENT FOR THE TREATMENT OF THE INTEMPERATE.

SIR,—The **JOURNAL** contains the advertisements of several institutions for the treatment of intemperance in well-to-do people. Can any of your correspondents inform me of any such establishment for working men?—Yours obediently, TIOS. WRIGHT.

H. (St. Bartholomew's).—John Abernethy died at his country residence, Enfield, April 20th, 1837, of asthma, complicated with diseased heart.

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*; The *Londonerry Sentinel*; The *Lincolnshire Chronicle*; The *Liverpool Daily Courier*; The *Salford Weekly News*; The *Glasgow Herald*; The *Metropolitan*; The *Chatham and Rochester Observer*; The *Redditch Indicator*; The *Colonies*; The *Hampshire Telegraph*; The *Birmingham Daily Gazette*; The *Scotsman*; The *Edinburgh Courant*; The *Bridport News*; The *Liverpool Medical Enquirer*; The *Liverpool Porcupine*; The *Sheffield and Rotherham Independent*; The *Western Daily Mercury*; The *Macclesfield Courier*; The *Birmingham Daily Post*; The *North Wales Chronicle*; The *Broad Arrow*; The *Sunderland Daily Post*; The *Irish Times*; The *Australasian*; The *North and South Shields Gazette*; The *Liverpool Daily Post*; The *Bradford Observer*; The *Western Mail*; The *Leeds Mercury*; The *Hull Criterion*; The *Glasgow News*; The *Crews Guardian*; The *Live-pool Critic*; The *St. Pancras Gazette*; The *Worcester Chronicle*; The *Oswestry Advertiser*; The *Glasgow Herald*; The *High Peak News*; The *Metropolitan*; The *Observer*; 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:—

Professor Tyndall, London; Dr. Bucknill, London; Dr. J. Matthews Duncan, Edinburgh; Mr. Nettleship, London; Sir C. E. Trevelyan, London; Dr. Wm. Fairlie Clarke, Southborough; Dr. Grabham, Earlswood; Mr. H. Sewill, London; Dr. Bradbury, Cambridge; Dr. J. Milner Fothergill, London; Dr. Whitmore, London; Mr. P. Le Neve Foster, London; Dr. E. Levinge, Limerick; Dr. Franklin Parsons, Goole; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; Mr. J. E. Adams, London; Dr. Pye-Smith, London; Dr. J. Macpherson, London; Mr. W. H. Williams, Sherborne; The Secretary of the Harveian Society; Dr. W. Highmore, Sherborne; Our Paris Correspondent; J. L. P.; Dr. Cornelius B. Fox, Chelmsford; The Registrar-General of England; Mr. Shoolbred, Wolverhampton; Dr. Woodward, Worcester; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Dr. J. Ashburton Thompson, London; Dr. Murchison, London; Dr. Warlomont, Brussels; Dr. S. Brighely, Savona; Mr. Wm. Adams, London; Dr. Tripe, Hackney; Dr. Daniel Noble, Manchester; Mr. William Phelps, Freshwater; Mr. J. W. Allen, London; Mr. C. S. Webber, London; Dr. Geoffrey Hett, London; L.R.C.P.L.; Mr. Balmanno Squire, London; Mr. George Graham, Wimborne; Mr. D. A. O'Sullivan, Burnley; Mr. Pugin Thornton, London; A Member; Dr. Marshall, Nottingham; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Mr. James Reid, Canterbury; Mr. L. Herbert Jones, London; Mr. Robert Ceely, Aylesbury; Dr. G. de Gorrequer Griffith, London; Dr. Althaus, London; Dr. G. M. Humphry, Cambridge; Dr. W. Lailaw Purves, London; Mr. William Martin, Hammersmith; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Dr. Falconer, Bath; Mr. John Burdon, South Norwood; Mr. Blackett, London; Mr. Annandale, Edinburgh; Dr. Roberts, Manchester; Dr. Maunsell, Liverpool; Dr. Holman, Reigate; Dr. Braidwood, Birkenhead; Mr. Richard Davy, London; Dr. A. S. Taylor, London; The Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society; Dr. Edis, London; Mr. E. C. Board, Clifton; Dr. Mackey, London; M. M.; Dr. McKendrick, Warrington; Mr. Robinson, Dukinfield; Dr. Bond, Exeter; Dr. Needham, Gloucester; Mr. H. L. Bernays, Chatham; A. B.; Mr. Burford Norman, Southsea; Sir James Paget, London; Dr. Crookshank, London; Dr. Wallace, Greenock; Dr. Bourneville, Paris; Dr. Copeman, Norwich; Mr. N. A. Humphreys, London; Dr. J. Hughlings Jackson, London; Dr. Charles Parsons, Dover; Mr. Simeon Shell, Sheffield; Mr. R. Kinneir, Malmesbury; Mr. T. W. Bush, Nottingham; Mr. Robert Smith, Heckfield; Dr. Alland, London; Mr. J. H. Wilson, Peterborough; Mr. Griffith, Taunton; Rhun; D. P.; Dr. L. Thomas, London; Dr. Bloxam, London; Dr. McCombie, London; An Old Member; Dr. Cassels, Glasgow; Mr. J. L. Hamilton, London; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Illustrations of Clinical Surgery. By Jonathan Hutchinson, F.R.C.S. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1877.