

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT MEETINGS.

THE first meeting for the present year of the above District will be held at the Star Hotel, Lewes, on Friday, March 23rd, at 3.15 P.M. * Dr. H. MARTIN HOLMAN, of Hurstpierpoint, in the Chair.

Dinner at 5.30 P.M. Charge, 6s., exclusive of wine.

1. The Discussion on Dr. Fussell's paper on "Some Outbreaks of Diphtheria" will be resumed.

2. Mr. Penfold promises Notes of cases of interest in Ophthalmic Practice.

3. Dr. C. Holman: "Clinical Cases, with Remarks."

4. Mr. A. R. Ticehurst will exhibit specimens of (a) Fractured Lumbar Vertebra; (c) Cystic Disease of Kidney Fatal in a Puerperal Woman.

Papers are also expected from Dr. A. Wiltshire and Dr. Clement Godson of London.

THOMAS TROLLOPE, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.
35, Marina, St. Leonards-on-Sea, March 6th, 1877.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH.

THE spring meeting of this Branch will be held at the Mansion House, Doncaster, on Wednesday, March 28th, at 2.30 P.M.

The members will dine together at the Elephant Hotel, at 5 P.M. Tickets (exclusive of wine), 6s. 6d. each.

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

W. PROCTER, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.
24, Petergate, York, March 3rd, 1877.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT MEETINGS.

THE next meeting will be held at the Ship Hotel, Faversham, on Thursday, March 29th, 1877, at 3 o'clock; R. S. FRANCIS, Esq., of Boughton, in the Chair.

Dinner will be provided at 5 o'clock. Charge, 6s. 6d., exclusive of wine.

The following communications are already promised.

Dr. Walter Beeby: Notes on an Epidemic of Diphtheria at Bromley.

Mr. Arthur Long: Case of supposed Dislocation of the Hip.

Dr. Hutchinson: Cases of Midwifery.

Mr. Garraway: Rotten Teeth, a Rhapsody; with a Remedy.

Mr. Francis: On Inquests in Boroughs and Counties.

Mr. Thurston: Case of Inversion of the Uterus.

Mr. Thurston: Case of Dislocation of the Astragalus.

Gentlemen wishing to make any further communications at the meeting are requested to inform me at once, in order that a notice thereof may be included in the circular convening the meeting.

EDWARD WHITFIELD THURSTON, *Honorary Secretary*.
Ashford, March 14th, 1877.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.

THE spring meeting of this Branch will be held at the Railway Hotel, Taunton, on Thursday, April 5th, at 5 P.M.

The following question has been settled by the Council as the one on which members should be invited to express their opinion at the said meeting after dinner:—"What in your opinion is the best mode of feeding infants artificially, both as regards food and method?"

Dinner 5s. a head, exclusive of wine.

W. M. KELLY, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.
Taunton, March 5th, 1877.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH.

THE spring meeting of this Branch will be held at South Shields, on Wednesday, April 25th.

Gentlemen who are desirous of reading papers, introducing patients, exhibiting pathological specimens, or making other communications, are requested to give notice to the Secretary.

G. H. PHILIPSON, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, March 10th, 1877.

* In place of Wednesday, March 21st, as previously announced.

THAMES VALLEY BRANCH.

A MEETING will be held at the Board Room, Richmond Infirmary, on March 21st, at 5 o'clock.

Dr. Gibbes has promised to read a paper on a Case of Empyema treated successfully by Aspiration; and Dr. Barry one on Diseases of the Scalp in Children.

Any other members who may be willing to contribute are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary as soon as possible.

There will be a dinner after the meeting (7 o'clock), at The Greyhound Hotel. Charge, 7s. 6d., exclusive of wine.

F. P. ATKINSON, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.
Surbiton Road, Kingston-on-Thames, March 5th, 1877.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH.

THE next ordinary meeting will be held at the Stepney Arms, Llanelly, on Thursday, April 5th: President, ANDREW DAVIES, M.D.

The following papers, etc., are promised.

Mr. J. Hancocke Wathen: 1. A New Form of Splint; 2. Notes of a Case of Extra-uterine Foetation: Operation.

Dr. Sheen: Counter-Practice.

Mr. B. Thomas: Prevention of Contagious Diseases.

Further particulars will appear in the circular.

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

March 14th, 1877.

Medical Defence.—A meeting of those members who approve of and support the Medical Defence movement will be held prior to the Council meeting, and members are earnestly requested to attend.

J. HANCOCKE WATHEN, *Honorary Secretary (pro tem.)*

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE fourth ordinary meeting of the Branch was held at the York House, Bath, on Thursday evening, March 1st; H. F. A. GOODRIDGE, M.D., President, in the Chair. There were also present thirty-four members.

New Members.—The following gentlemen were elected members: C. K. C. Herapath, Esq., Bristol; William House, Esq., New Swindon; Henry Lawrence, Esq., Bristol; G. E. P. Pauli, Esq., Bristol; James B. Siddall, M.D., Bristol; and T. D. Saunders, Esq., Bath. Several new members were proposed and will be balloted for at the next meeting.

Communications.—1. Mr. NATHANIEL CRISP read notes of a case of Aneurism of the Arch of the Aorta in which Tracheotomy was performed. This led to an interesting discussion, in which Drs. Davey, Brabazon, Skerritt, Mr. Board, and the President, took part.

2. Dr. DAVEY read an elaborate paper on the Physiological Pathology of the Brain, which led to observations from Dr. E. L. Fox, Mr. Stewart, and others.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE fifth ordinary meeting of the session 1876-7 was held in the Examination Hall of the Queen's College, February 8th, 1877, at 3 P.M. Present: Dr. G. F. BODINGTON, President, in the chair, and ninety-one members and visitors.

New Members.—Mr. R. B. Chaundy, Dr. Guthrie, Mr. R. A. S. Prosser, and Mr. McDonnell were elected members of the Branch.

Secretary.—Dr. Edward Malins and Mr. D. C. Lloyd Owen were proposed as candidates for the office of honorary secretary, vacant by the resignation of Dr. Foster. When the vote had been taken by ballot, the PRESIDENT announced that forty-seven votes had been recorded for Dr. Malins, and forty for Mr. Owen, and he thereupon declared that Dr. Malins had been duly elected as one of the honorary secretaries of the Branch.

Specimens.—Mr. WHITCOMBE exhibited an osseous tumour of the falx cerebri, from a patient aged 64, who died of general paralysis. He also showed a well organised false membrane, covering both cerebral hemispheres and attached to the dura mater, from a man aged 74, who had been the subject of chronic mania, and died of pleuro-pneumonia.

Paper.—Dr. SAVAGE read a paper, entitled Incisions of the Cervix in Uterine Hæmorrhage.—Dr. MALINS made some observations; and Dr. SAVAGE replied.

Medical Defence Committee.—Dr. HICKINBOTHAM read a report

from the Subcommittee appointed "to consider the best means for the promotion of the interests and the defence of legally qualified practitioners".

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SURREY DISTRICT.

A MEETING was held on March 8th, at the Crystal Palace Hotel; THOMAS TRENT, Esq., in the chair, and twenty-three members and seven visitors present.

Secretary.—Dr. Galton was re-elected Secretary.

Communications.—1. Dr. GALTON showed a Case, aged 14, of Pulmonary Stenosis, with Patent Foramen Ovale.

2. Dr. GALTON described Two Cases of Cerebral Tuberculosis.

3. The SECRETARY read a Case of Knock-knee cured by Subcutaneous Osteotomy by Mr. H. S. Taylor of Guildford.

4. Mr. MAUNDER gave a Demonstration of Roussel's *Transfusur* upon a living Subject.

5. Dr. DALTON read a Case of Acute Mania after Scarlet Fever.

6. Mr. SIDNEY TURNER showed a Patient and Apparatus adjusted for Cure of Contracted Tendon of Little Finger.

Dinner.—Eighteen members and visitors sat down to dinner.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE Haworth, Oakworth, Oxenhope, Silsden, and Skipton Urban, and Keighley, Settle, and Skipton Rural, Sanitary Authorities, have agreed to combine in appointing a Medical Officer of Health at £500 per annum.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS FOR THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.

WE know that Government is not always well served in the matter of chemical analysis. The information recently given by the Local Government Board to the Corporation of a town in the North of England is calculated to throw some light on the subject of the shortcomings of Government chemistry. The information to which we refer was that the Local Government Board, according to its own account, pays three guineas for the work for which chemists usually get ten guineas. We are informed that the question is being taken up by the *Chemical News*.

SALARIES OF MEDICAL OFFICERS.

THE Lambeth Guardians have been placed in a somewhat awkward position. On the resignation of Mr. Pope, medical officer for the Tenth District, they issued an advertisement for a successor at a salary of £70 per annum. Mr. W. E. Farnfield was accordingly appointed, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board. The appointment was approved, but not the salary, which the Board considered was too high; and a letter of remonstrance from the Guardians having no effect, the latter have told the Local Government Board that they might appoint a medical officer for themselves. To this the Local Government Board have returned no answer, and in the meantime Mr. Farnfield has declined to act at a lower salary.

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

IN our issue for March 3rd, we called attention to a letter that we had received from Mr. Ashburner, the medical officer to the Union Workhouse, respecting a visit which Dr. Kelly, the medical officer of health for the district, had made to a patient of his in the workhouse, without previously communicating to him as to the visit. Mr. Ashburner further complained that Dr. Kelly, on a former occasion, had called his diagnosis in question, and had stated to the sanitary authority that the case was one of varicella and not of small-pox. We have received a letter from Dr. Kelly, demurring to our observations, and again asserting that he has the legal right to visit any patient who is reported to him to be suffering from an infectious disease, "to ascertain whether or not his information was correct". He also says that, if the medical attendant will not give him the "necessary particulars", he is justified in visiting in his absence, as we suppose, to make a diagnosis for himself, and to report the result to the sanitary authority.

As this is a matter about which there should be no doubt, we now give a very brief epitome of those sections of the Public Health Act, 1875, that bear upon it. These sections are from the 120th to the 140th inclusive. The 120th section directs that a local authority, on receiving a certificate from their medical officer of health, to the effect that the cleansing and disinfecting of any house or part thereof, or of any article of bedding or clothing therein, would tend to prevent infectious disease, shall order the same to be done. By other sections, they may destroy infected articles; may provide proper means for disinfection and for the conveyance of the sick to a hospital; and also remove those who are without proper lodging and accommodation, or who are on board ship. The 130th section gives power to the Local Government Board to alter or revoke regulations as they may see fit, with a view to the treatment and prevention of the spread of infectious diseases. By section 134, whenever any part of England is affected with a "formidable epidemic, endemic, or infectious disease", the Local Government Board may make, alter, or revoke regulations (1), for the speedy interment of the dead; (2), for house-to-house visitation; (3), for the provision of medical aid and accommodation, for the promotion of cleansing, ventilation, and disinfection, and for guarding against the spread of disease.

Now, if Dr. Kelly will refer at his leisure to the sections of the Public Health Act above quoted, and to the instructions issued by the Local Government Board, we think he will be satisfied that there is no legal power given to him to visit the sick, except under the 134th section, which most certainly is not at present in force in his district, or indeed in any part of England. Of course, he may reply that, if he obtain leave from the sick or their friends, he is justified in entering the patient's room, even when the medical attendant is absent; but, as regards that plea, we say that he is forbidden to do so by medical etiquette. He has no right to put himself up as a judge of the diagnosis of his medical brethren, or to assume that he is better acquainted with the symptoms of a zymotic disease than a medical man in ordinary practice. The course of conduct most consistent with medical etiquette, and proper regard for the position of others, would have been an inquiry of the medical attendant as to the nature of the disease, without asking for a visit to the patient, and thus running a risk of placing himself in antagonism with a brother practitioner. Mr. Selater-Booth has lately stated that a medical officer of health is not to assume, when a patient is under the care of a qualified practitioner, that everything has not been done as regards disinfection and isolation for the prevention of the spread of disease. If this be so, how much less right had Dr. Kelly to assume that Mr. Ashburner was in error as to his diagnosis; and, therefore, to request seeing the first patient at the risk of a refusal. As Dr. Kelly had already had an opportunity of satisfying himself as to the nature of the outbreak, the second visit is the more to be regretted, especially as it was made in Mr. Ashburner's absence.

As Mr. Selater-Booth's statement to the deputation of medical officers of health, in January last, shows what his opinion is as regards the law and proper procedure in these cases, we reproduce abstracts from the *Sanitary Record* for February 3rd: "The subjects of the resolutions alluded to by the deputation were carefully considered while the Public Health Act, 1875, was in preparation, and many reasonable improvements were made in the law. It was felt that many desirable improvements were omitted, but, although public opinion is fast ripening in the direction of something more authoritative and vigorous, in the way of an interference between the medical attendant and his patient as to infectious disease, he did not think the time had yet arrived; and that, therefore, it would not be wise to ask now for more legislation. He thought that the medical attendant would supply the patients with means of perfect disinfection, and that the medical world would not be at all disposed to agree that they are neglecting their duty as regards the giving advice to check the spread of the disease. His information led him to suppose that there is a good deal of jealousy in the medical world of interference between them and their patients, and that they would resent very much being placed under the authority of another medical man as regards means to be adopted for purposes of that kind."

Now, it is quite clear that, if the law justify Dr. Kelly's interference between Mr. Ashburner and his patient, these words would never have been uttered; and we would, therefore, counsel for the future that, whilst using every fair and reasonable means of inducing medical practitioners to act with them, medical officers of health should do nothing which might appear to be an interference with other medical men's patients. We advise this, not only because we believe that the best interests of sanitary officers themselves demand it, but also in the interests of the community on whose behalf their office has been created; because, if the medical profession generally should become estranged from those holding these offices, the necessary information

It was during this period that Dr. Mackay was awarded the Blane Medal for the excellence of his medical returns; and when, in 1864, Dr. Brydon became Director-General, Dr. Mackay was appointed to take his place at the Department. From that date, he prepared annually the exhaustive statistical reports of the health of the Navy, with which his name will ever be honourably associated, and which, from their uniform excellence and completeness, have won high praise, not only from writers in the public press, but from statisticians in all countries; the Blue-books being, as we have reason to know, highly valued by the medical officers of the departments of the foreign Ministers of Marine. Shortly after his appointment to the Admiralty, Dr. Mackay was promoted to the rank of Deputy Inspector-General, and he was, during the remainder of his service, borne on the books of H.M.S. *Fisgard* for this special service. In the course of his duties at the Admiralty, Dr. Mackay was called upon to represent the Director-General during his absence from London, and at all times the official duties devolving upon him were of the most arduous and responsible character. He died on Saturday, March 10th, at the early age of fifty-five, at his house at Clifton Hill, from typhoid fever, after an illness of a few weeks.

MEDICO-PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—Thursday, March 8th, 1877.

Vaccination Returns.—Mr. SCLATER-BOOTH stated, in reply to Mr. JAMES, that his attention had been called to the fact that in the thirty-fifth annual report of the Registrar-General, 13,424 deaths were said to have occurred from small-pox, with respect to which it was not stated whether vaccination had taken place or not. As the information was not invariably given to the Registrar-General, that official could not pretend to always supply it in his report.

Coroners' Inquests.—In reply to Lord F. HERVEY, Mr. CROSS observed that the Government had prepared a Bill to improve the law relating to coroners and coroners' inquests, and would introduce it at the first favourable opportunity.

Friday, March 9th.

The Small-pox Hospital.—Mr. SCLATER-BOOTH stated to Mr. RITCHIE that, although patients had continued to be sent to the Small-pox Hospital at Limehouse longer than he had anticipated, he had reason to believe that the new hospital at Deptford would be ready to receive patients on the 10th instant.

Scurvy in the Arctic Expedition.—Mr. WARD HUNT, replying to Captain PIM, said that the report of the committee on the outbreak of scurvy in the recent Polar expedition had not yet been received. As soon as it came to hand it should be presented to the house.

Sanitary Authorities.—Mr. SCLATER-BOOTH, replying to Mr. WHITBREAD, said the loans sanctioned to urban sanitary authorities at the end of 1876 were £2,506,459, and those to rural sanitary authorities £200,692.

Tuesday, March 13th.

The Conveyance of Small-pox Patients in Cabs.—Mr. CROSS, in answer to Lord R. GROSVENOR, said that during the past three months no small-pox patients had been seen to be conveyed to the Highgate Hospital in cabs, nor to the Hampstead Hospital. In the single instance that occurred at Homerton, the vehicle was disinfected and proceedings taken against the hirer by the police. Two cabs were used to Stockwell, both of which were disinfected, and proceedings, resulting in a fine of £5 and costs, were taken against the hirer.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Monday, March 19th.—Dr. Lush: To ask the Secretary of State for War if he will inform the house what was the average number of soldiers in hospital during the years 1875 and 1876 respectively.

Tuesday, March 20th.—Dr. Lush: To ask the Secretary of State for War whether his attention has been drawn to the case of a candidate for the Medical Service of the Army, detailed in a letter to the *Times* of the 28th ultimo, in which it is alleged that a young man was rejected by the Medical Board, subsequently re-examined and again rejected, although a distinguished physician and surgeon pronounced him fit for service; and whether the facts are as detailed; and if, in view of the dissatisfaction the occurrence has occasioned, the War Office will direct an inquiry.

Thursday, March 22nd.—Mr. Errington: To ask the Vice-President of the Council what progress, if any, is being made by the various medical bodies towards carrying out the "conjoint scheme" of examination; and whether in his opinion the time has not come when her Majesty's Government should itself undertake to reform the whole system of licensing for medical degrees.

MEDICAL NEWS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, March 1st, 1877.

Lethbridge, Charles Frederick, Hemmingsford Road, N.
Macgeagh, Thomas Edwin Foster, Pemberton Terrace, N.
Prosser, Thomas Gilbert, Grenville Street, W.
Turner, Frank Edward, Loraine Road, Holloway

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

Walker, Horatio Edward, Guy's Hospital
Wood, Charles, Guy's Hospital

The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, March 8th, 1877.

Atkinson, Henry Seymour, Queenstown, Ireland
Bond, James William, Torrington Square
Rogers, William Henry, Paragon, New Kent Road
Satchell, William Morris, Tunbridge Wells
Stewart, Frederick George, Merrick Square, Borough

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.—Degree of Bachelor of Medicine conferred on March 9th.

Hitchcock, Charles-Knight, Caius

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

ARDNAMURCHAN, Parish of—Medical Officer for the District of Sunart, Ardnamurchan, and Moidart. Salary, £100 per annum, with suitable house. Applications to be made on or before the 24th instant.

BRADFORD INFIRMARY—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £110 per annum, with board and residence. Applications to be sent in on or before the 24th inst.

BRECKNOCK COUNTY AND BOROUGH GENERAL INFIRMARY—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments and attendance. Applications to be made on or before the 20th inst.

CARLISLE DISPENSARY—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £90 per annum, with apartments, coals, gas, and attendance.

CHORLTON-ON-MEDLOCK DISPENSARY—House Surgeon. Applications to be sent in on or before the 26th inst.

CREDITON UNION—Medical Officer for the Bow and Colebrooke Districts.

EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN—Physician. Applications to be sent in on or before the 22nd inst.

HULL AND SCULCOATES DISPENSARY—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £150 per annum, with furnished house, coals, and gas. Applications to be sent in on or before the 31st instant.

HULME DISPENSARY, Manchester—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £130 per annum, with furnished apartments, coal, gas, and attendance. Application to be made on or before the 14th inst.

INGHAM INFIRMARY AND SOUTH SHIELDS AND WESTOE DISPENSARY—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £60 per annum, with board and lodging.

LIVERPOOL ROYAL SOUTHERN HOSPITAL—Senior House-Surgeon. Salary, 100 guineas per annum, with board and lodging. Applications to be sent in on or before the 21st inst.

PORTLAND TOWN FREE DISPENSARY—Resident Surgeon and Dispenser. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, gas, and attendance. Applications to be sent in on or before the 17th inst.

ST. GEORGE'S AND ST. JAMES'S DISPENSARY—Physician. Applications to be sent in on or before the 29th instant.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL, Paddington—Assistant Dispenser. Salary, £90 per annum. Applications to be sent in on or before the 19th instant.

WEST BROMWICH UNION—Medical Officer for the Handsworth District.

WHITEHAVEN UNION—Medical Officer for the Gosforth District.

WIMBORNE AND CRANBORNE UNION—Medical Officer for No. 4 District. Salary, £80 per annum, and fees. Applications to be sent in on or before the 21st instant.

WOLVERHAMPTON AND STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL—Surgeon's Assistant. Applications to be sent in on or before the 19th instant.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

***BROADBENT**, W. H., M.D., appointed Honorary Consulting-Physician to the Hospital for Women and Children, Vincent Square, Westminster.
DE DENNE, T. V., M.R.C.S. & L.R.C.P., Assistant Medical Officer to the Bristol Asylum, appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Northampton General Lunatic Asylum, *vice* J. H. Bell, M.D., resigned.
RYGATE, Brougham R., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed House-Surgeon to the London Hospital, *vice* Valentine Rees, M.R.C.S., resigned.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, is 3s. 6d., which should be forwarded in stamps with the announcement.

DEATHS.

PALMER, William James, Esq., Surgeon, late of Great Yarmouth, at Nassau, on March 9th.

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. J. Braxton Hicks, "On the association of Eczema with Diabetes"; Dr. T. Lauder Brunton, "On Arsenic in the Treatment of Albuminuria".
TUESDAY.—	Pathological Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Goodhart, "Cerebral Aneurism from Embolism"; Mr. Bryant, "Aneurism of the Femoral and Popliteal Arteries from Embolism"; Dr. George Johnson, "On the Changes which occur in the Blood-vessels in Bright's Disease"; Dr. Gowers, "Atrophy of one Kidney, great Hypertrophy of the Heart, and Atheroma of the Arteries". [Dr. George Johnson's Microscopical Specimens will be on view at 8 o'clock P.M.]
FRIDAY.—	Clinical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Barwell, "Excision of a Lingual Epithelioma by Dr. Petrequin's Thermo-Cautère"; Mr. Clement Lucas, "Excision of Lower Half of Ulna for a Myeloid Tumour (a living subject)"; Mr. George Brown, "Excision of Tongue for Cancer supervening on Ichthyosis of twelve years standing (a living subject)"; Mr. Warrington Haward, "Recurrent Cancer of Tongue treated by Ligature of Lingual Artery"; Dr. Southey, "Case of Idiopathic Tetanus".—Quekett Microscopical Club (University College, Gower Street), 8 P.M. Ordinary Meeting.

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.

SIR W. THOMSON ON VIVISECTION.

On March 5th, Sir William Thomson presided at the Royal Society of Edinburgh at the reading of a report of Professor Rutherford's paper on the Secretion of Bile. He writes next day in the *Scotsman* to state that he desires not to be held by his presence in the chair to express his approval of experiments involving cruel treatment of the lower animals. We cannot of course doubt that Sir W. Thomson has a right to express this opinion, and to take whatever methods he thinks most advisable for impressing them upon the people; at the same time, we can but consider that in this instance he makes a distinctly unjustifiable use of his position as President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. If he disapproved of the experiments, knowing perfectly well the nature of the paper beforehand, it was not at all necessary that he should have occupied the chair on that night, and his absence would have absolved his conscience. On the other hand, he must be very well aware that he is not in a position to judge of the suitability or necessity of the experiments, and that those who are in such a position entirely differ from him on this subject. His opinions are entitled to all respect, but it seems clear that his position as President was not intrusted to him for the purpose of exciting public prejudice against the most eminent and esteemed members of the Society to which he belongs, or of vilifying the papers which the Society accepts with great satisfaction, and which form some of the most important and valuable parts of its services to science.

MR. H. A. SMITH.—Tobacco was used by the officers and crew during the recent Arctic expedition, and, we believe, without any peculiar effect being noticed.

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.

THE COMPOSITION AND QUALITY OF THE METROPOLITAN WATERS IN FEBRUARY 1877.

THE following are the returns made by Dr. C. Meymott Tidy to the Society of Medical Officers of Health.

Names of Water Companies.	Total Solid Matter per Gallon.	Oxygen required by Organic Matter, etc.	Nitrogen As Nitrates, &c.	Ammonia.		Hardness. (Clarke's Scale.)	
				Saline.	Organic	Before Boiling.	After Boiling.
<i>Thames Water Companies.</i>	Grains.	Grains.	Grains.	Grains.	Grains.	Degs.	Degs.
Grand Junction ..	21.30	0.73	0.165	0.000	0.006	13.2	2.4
West Middlesex ..	20.70	0.77	0.180	0.000	0.007	12.65	3.8
Southwark and Vauxhall	20.60	0.77	0.180	0.001	0.007	13.2	3.8
Chelsea	21.30	0.66	0.180	0.000	0.006	13.2	3.3
Lambeth	21.60	0.56	0.210	0.000	0.008	13.2	4.2
<i>Other Companies.</i>							
Kent	28.60	0.01	0.390	0.000	0.003	18.8	6.0
New River	21.70	0.49	0.135	0.000	0.005	14.3	4.2
East London	19.80	0.63	0.180	0.000	0.007	15.4	4.2

Note.—The amount of oxygen required to oxidise the organic matter, nitrates, etc., is determined by a standard solution of permanganate of potash acting for three hours; and in the case of the metropolitan waters, the quantity of organic matter is about eight times the amount of oxygen required by it. The water was found to be slightly turbid in all cases.

MEDICAL ETIQUETTE.

SIR,—Kindly answer the following query in your next issue. A., being called urgently to visit a poor woman aged 54, two miles distant from his residence, finds, on arrival, that she had died suddenly about a quarter of an hour previously. A., having known the woman for fifteen years, and having only attended her occasionally during that period for minor ailments, is struck with the suddenness of the death, more especially as she always seemed to A. a strong active woman. Her husband, at A.'s request, readily consented to a *post mortem* examination, which A. does, for his own interest in the case. Shortly after the necropsy is made, A. hears that an inquest has been held, and that the coroner had telegraphed for B.'s attendance, who, after having found that a *post mortem* examination had been made by A., gave evidence as to the cause of death, without consulting A., and knowing nothing previously of the case. Was B. justified in giving evidence under the circumstances?—Your obedient servant,

Anderton, Devonport, Feb. 28th, 1877.

EDWIN J. WORTH.

. We have also received communications on this subject from the gentleman designated B. He states that, on being officially summoned by the coroner, he made inquiries of the summoning officer, but could not learn from him whether any medical man had been called to see the woman. At the inquest, the coroner was informed that A. had seen the woman after death, and had made a *post mortem* examination, and he then called in B. to give his evidence. B. says that a *post mortem* examination at an inquest is (in the district in which he and A. practise) quite exceptional; and also that, as the coroner resided at a distance of nearly twenty miles, and A. at a distance of two miles from the place where the inquest was held, an adjournment would have been inconvenient. We think that, although it would have been better to summon A.—which, we understand, the coroner himself acknowledges—B. could not do otherwise than give evidence, after receiving an official summons to attend the inquest. It does not appear that he was aware before the inquest that A. had seen the woman; and the reason he assigns for not adjourning the inquest in order to obtain A.'s evidence is one that may be fairly admitted, as regards the question of etiquette; of its bearing on the efficiency of the inquest, we say nothing at present. On the whole, we think that there is not sufficient ground for charging B. with a wilful breach of medical etiquette; and that there is nothing in the circumstances which have taken place to prevent them from continuing their friendly relations towards each other, or renewing them if they have been at all interrupted.

A., BEING in attendance on Mr. Z., and thinking a consultant necessary, calls in B. as consultee. Two days subsequently, B. informs A. by telegram that Mr. Z.'s friends wish B. to consult every second day with A. The case not progressing satisfactorily, A., with the consent of Mr. Z.'s friends, calls in C.; A., B., and C. meeting then and there together in regular consultation. B. objects to A. having summoned C. without first expressing his intention of doing so to B., and consulting him in the matter. Query: Has B. any grounds of complaint against A.? and has A. been guilty of a breach of medical etiquette?

. We are of opinion that A. should have informed B. of his intention to call in C.; B. being for the time, by desire of the patient's friends, in regular attendance on the case.

POISONING BY CARBOLIC ACID.

SIR,—What is the best and promptest treatment for poisoning by carbolic acid? I cannot get the information from text-books.—I am, etc., AN APPRENTICE.

. Taylor, in his last edition of his classic handbook on *Poisons* (Churchill, 1875), says the removal of the poison by the stomach-pump is the best plan of treatment. The stomach should be well washed out with tepid water until the smell has disappeared.

SIR,—Can you inform me, which is the most effectual filter (large one) for use in a house for cooking and drinking water?—Yours, W.

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.

ELECTIONS AT THE MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE.

A CORRESPONDENT forwards us a copy of a canvassing letter issued on behalf of a candidate for this College, which includes the following paragraphs.

"I pray you to consider that we cannot afford to lose a single vote. The struggle will be a hard one, and no effort can be safely neglected.

"I desire to thank those friends who, knowing our need, have kindly sent contributions to our canvassing fund, and also those who sent pensioner proxies, which, by an arrangement of reciprocity with the friends of one of the candidates for a pension, we were enabled to turn to account for our mutual benefit. Let me earnestly beg of you to send us, in addition to your scholarship votes, early next May, your pensioner's proxy also, if disengaged, to exchange for other scholarship votes."

This is not the first application, and illustrates painfully the sort of machinery employed to get pet cases into the charity. It is a painful circumstance, that the Medical Benevolent College alone of our medical charities still clings to this most oppressive, costly, and unjust mode of election. There is no security under such a system that the most deserving objects of the charity will be selected. The pushing influential friends of the least deserving can insure success by employing extra canvassing power. It is a sad parody of charity, and, to our mind, a cruel misuse of funds. We feel sure that, by abolishing this anomalous and oppressive system, the Council of the Medical Benevolent College would secure a stronger hold on public and professional munificence.

ALPHA.—1. If the first subject were duly represented to the Committee of the Branch, they would probably prosecute. They could certainly do so with success and at little or no expense. 2. *The Medical Register.*

PORTABLE DISINFECTING APPARATUS.

H. A. L. (Moseley).—A very good portable disinfecting apparatus for public establishments and sanitary unions was described by Dr. Charles Rogers, of East Retford, at the last meeting in Sheffield, and was described and figured in the JOURNAL in January.

SIR,—Can you or some of your readers tell me a good way of rendering the linimentum ammoniac liquid enough to pour easily into bottles, and yet remain a cheap and efficient stimulating embrocation?—Yours, etc., W.

ADMINISTRATION OF IODIDE OF POTASSIUM.

SIR,—I would be much obliged if some of your readers would tell me the best way to give iodide of potassium to a patient whose system is very intolerant of the medicine—one grain producing iodism.—Yours truly, AN INQUIRER.

DR. F. T. PORTER (Dublin).—We have no reason to doubt that the medical journal in question exercises a fair discretion in dealing with the correspondence addressed to it; and it is contrary to our rule to take up a broken correspondence.

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH.

SIR,—I should be glad of your opinion as to whether a medical man is justified in giving a certificate of the cause of death in the case of an infant dying at or soon after birth, where the mother has been attended during labour solely by a midwife, and of which he knows nothing except on the representation of the midwife.—Yours, etc., LICENTIATE.

Handsworth, March 6th, 1877.

**** He may, we think, if he can satisfy himself of the cause of death by personal inspection.**

SIR,—Can any of your readers tell me to what hospital the following gentlemen belonged in 1772: Mr. Smith, Mr. Warner, Mr. Else, Mr. Martin, Mr. Frank, Mr. Way? I ask the question, because I have in my possession a notebook of operations performed somewhere by these gentlemen during the years 1772-73. The notes are by Mr. Stainforth, sen., one of the first surgeons to the Sheffield General Infirmary.—Yours faithfully, ARTHUR JACKSON.

MUSSEL POISONING.

SIR,—I shall be thankful to receive a "wrinkle" from some of your correspondents who have had some experience, as to the treatment they have found most useful in cases of mussel poisoning.—Yours, etc., MEDICUS.

A QUESTION OF TREATMENT.

SIR,—I shall be glad to receive suggestions for the treatment of the following case. A. B., a strong healthy farmer, aged 23, has for the last three years suffered from intense irritation over different parts of the body, but chiefly about the thighs and forearms. The irritation is accompanied, or rather preceded, by some small red pimples, scanty, with no sort of discharge; these are quickly scratched until they bleed, to get relief. The itching is much worse in cold weather than warm, by day than by night. This winter he has not had it so badly, which he attributes to the mildness of the season. He eats a good deal of pork, and drinks a small quantity of cider. Carbolic acid lotion (1 to 30) gives temporary relief.—Yours, March 3rd, 1877. M.D.

MURIATE OF CINCHONA.

SIR,—Can any of your readers kindly tell me the precise therapeutics of cinchonizæ murias, and where its action differs from that of quinine? If so, I should be much obliged.—Yours obediently, GALEN.

VACCINATION FEES.

SIR,—In answer to L.R.C.P.'s inquiry as to the custom in reference to vaccination fees, I should say that if the usual fee of a guinea be made, the operator might vaccinate a second time without further charge; but if requested a third time to perform the operation, a second fee should be demanded.

M.D. asks what would be considered a fair and remunerative fee for the vaccination of a city merchant, his wife, two children, and three female servants. I consider five guineas would be a fair charge to make.—I am, etc., A MEMBER.

MR. ROBERT MANN (Manchester).—The handbill forwarded is amusing enough. We believe that nearly all the quacks recently fined have recommenced business, only taking care to add to their names "not registered"—a formula which, under the present wording of the Medical Acts, effectually shields all who do not supply medicines. In the present instance, however, we are not sure that the person mentioned could not be successfully prosecuted under the Apothecaries' Act, inasmuch as he supplies medicines as well as gives advice.

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.

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Sheffield Daily Telegraph; The Hampshire Telegraph; The Birmingham Daily Gazette; The Scotsman; The Edinburgh Courant; The Bridport News; The Liverpool Medical Enquirer; The Londonderry Sentinel; The Lincolnshire Chronicle; The Liverpool Daily Courier; The Salford Weekly News; The Northern Echo; The Home Ruler; The Chatham and Rochester Observer; The Redditch Indicator; The Colonies; The Warrington Express; The Croydon Chronicle; The Northampton Herald; 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 Crewe Guardian; The Liverpool Critic; The St. Pancras Gazette; The Worcester Chronicle; The Oswestry Advertiser; The Glasgow Herald; The High Peak News; The Metropolitan; The Observer; The Home Chronicle; The Derbyshire Advertiser; The West Middlesex Advertiser; The Rock; The St. Andrew's Gazette; The West Cork Eagle; The Portsmouth Times; The Tunbridge Wells Gazette; The North British Daily Mail; The South London Press; The Richmond and Twickenham Times; The Western Morning News; The Liverpool Mercury; The Carlisle Journal; The Merthyr Express; The Sussex Daily Post; etc.

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

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

Dr. J. Braxton Hicks, London; Dr. A. S. Taylor, London; Dr. J. B. Bradbury, Cambridge; Dr. T. Lauder Brunton, London; Dr. Braidwood, Birkenhead; Dr. George Johnson, London; Dr. J. P. Cassells, Glasgow; Dr. W. R. Gowers, London; Dr. A. A. Gore, Dublin; Mr. N. A. Humphreys, London; Mr. W. L. Selfe, London; Dr. C. Theodore Williams, London; Octogenarian M.D.; Dr. Munro, Battersea; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Dr. Joseph Rogers, London; Dr. Joseph Bell, Edinburgh; Mr. H. C. Burdett, Greenwich; Mr. G. Brown, London; Dr. P. H. Pye-Smith, London; Dr. I. Burney Yeo, London; Our Vienna Correspondent; Mr. Walter Rivington, London; Dr. C. R. Robinson, Dublin; Mr. J. F. Williams, Bristol; Mr. Richard Davy, London; Our Paris Correspondent; Dr. J. Milner Fothergill, London; Dr. Wm. Fairlie Clarke, Southborough; Mr. Wanklyn, London; Mr. Hugh Robinson, Preston; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; Dr. Ord, London; Mr. Francis Mason, London; Mr. Best, Louth; F. E. A.; Dr. Seaton, Nottingham; Mr. MacBain, North Berwick; Mr. F. A. A. Smith, Walton-on-Naze; Mr. E. R. Denton, Leicester; Mr. D. T. Evans, Denbigh; Dr. G. H. Philipson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Mr. B. W. Fothergill, London; The Registrar-General of England; Mr. Holderness, Huntingdon; Mr. North, York; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; Mr. Edward Garraway, Faversham; Dr. J. Russell, Birmingham; Dr. Strange, Worcester; Dr. J. Wight, Aberdeen; The Registrar General of Ireland; Dr. Warner, London; Mr. Inghen, London; Dr. Tripe, London; The Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society; A Member; Mr. Alfred Haviland, Northampton; Mr. Lowther Kemp, London; Mr. P. H. Mason, Gosport; C. G. S.; Mary; Medicus; Mr. W. D. Husband, York; The Director-General of the Medical Department of the Navy; An Inquirer; Mr. W. Prowse, Cambridge; The Secretary of the Pathological Society; Dr. Clarke, Drogheda; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Dr. H. Macnaughton Jones, Cork; Dr. Eustace Smith, London; The Secretary of the Quekett Microscopical Club; Mr. S. D. Clippingdale, London; Dr. W. Squire, London; Mr. E. W. Thurston, Ashford; Dr. F. T. Porter, Dublin; Dr. Greatrex, Lawton; Our Dublin Correspondent; Mr. T. D. Stanistreet, Cowbridge; Mr. C. R. Thompson, Westerham; Mr. R. Woolley, Birmingham; Mr. Chavasse, Berlin; The Secretary of the Association of Dental Surgeons; Dr. J. H. Galton, Anerley; Dr. Sawyer, Birmingham; Dr. Mackey, Birmingham; Mr. Ewens, Bristol; Opaque; Mr. Hillard, Birmingham; Mr. H. A. Smith, Reading; Dr. Goodchild, Leamington; Mr. Cuffe, Woodhall; Mr. W. J. Tyler, London; Dr. West Symes, Leeds; Mr. Hughes, Woodbridge; Dr. W. A. Hollis, Brighton; Mr. Ceely, Aylesbury; Dr. Harbinson, Lancaster; Mr. Lennox Browne, London; Dr. McKendrick, Edinburgh; Dr. Cayley, London; Dr. Thomas Trollope, St. Leonard's-on-Sea; Mr. Farnfield, London; Dr. Cameron, Liverpool; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Atlas of Skin-Diseases. By Tilbury Fox, M.D., F.R.C.P. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1877.
Text-Book of Structural and Physiological Botany. By Otto W. Thomé. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1877.
The Whole Familiar Colloquies of Desiderius Erasmus of Rotterdam. By Nathan Bailey. (Translated.) London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co. 1877.
Geography. By George Grove, F.R.G.S. London: Macmillan and Co. 1877.
The Electric Bath: its Medical Uses, Effects, and Appliance. By George Schweig, M.D. New York: G. C. Putman and Co. London: Sampson Low and Co.
Chemical Microscopical Analysis of Urine. By George B. Fowler, M.D. London: Sampson Low and Co. 1877.