

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

### SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT MEETINGS.

THE next and annual meeting of the above District will be held at the County Hospital, Canterbury, on Thursday, May 24th, 1877, at Three o'clock. The Chair will be taken by the President of the Canterbury Medical Society, *ex officio*.

Dinner will be provided at the Fleur-de-Lis Hotel, at Five o'clock precisely. Charge, 6s. 6d., exclusive of wine.

Mr. Rigden of Canterbury kindly invites members and their friends to luncheon, at his residence in Bargate Street, from One to Three.

Notices have been received of the following communications to be read at the meeting.

1. Mr. Wachter: Notes on Two Cases of *Post Partum* Hæmorrhage treated with the Perchloride of Iron.

2. Mr. T. Whitehead Reid: A Case of Poisoning by Yew Leaves.

3. Mr. Raven: On a recent Epidemic of Variola.

4. Mr. Tyson: A Case of Poisoning by Phosphorus.

Other papers are promised, if time should permit.

Gentlemen who intend to be present at the dinner are particularly requested to inform me on or before Tuesday, the 22nd instant.

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

### BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

THE sixth ordinary meeting of the session will be held at the York House, Bath, on Thursday, May 24th, at 7.15 P.M.: H. F. A. GOODRIDGE, M.D., President.

The evening will be devoted to a discussion on "The restraint of Hæmorrhage during and subsequent to Operations on the Limbs". The subject will be introduced by Mr. Nelson C. Dobson.

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

Bath, April 24th, 1877.

### SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT MEETINGS.

THE next meeting of the above District will be held at the Calverly Hotel, Tunbridge Wells, on Friday, May 25th, at 3 P.M.: Dr. JOHNSON in the Chair.

Dinner at 5 o'clock. Price, 6s., exclusive of wine.

A discussion on Rheumatism will be opened; and a case of Paracentesis Thoracis narrated by the Chairman.

All members of the South Eastern Branch are entitled to attend these meetings.

Notice of intended communications is requested by the Secretary by Wednesday, the 16th instant, in order that they may be inserted in the regular circular.

THOMAS TROLLOPE, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.  
35, Marina, St. Leonards-on-Sea, May 8th, 1877.

### SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Town Hall, Northampton, on Thursday, May 31st, at 2 P.M.; President, H. W. SHARPIN, Esq.; President-elect, WM. MOXON, Esq.

Gentlemen who intend to read papers, or be present at the dinner, are requested to communicate early to the Secretary.

J. M. BRYAN, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.  
Northampton, May 1st, 1877.

### SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT MEETINGS.

THE next meeting is appointed to be held at the Old Falcon Inn, Gravesend, on Friday, May 25th, at 4.30 P.M.: the President of the Branch, Dr. MONCKTON, will take the Chair.

Dinner will be ordered at the Old Falcon for 6.30.

Papers by Frederick Jessett, Esq., of Erith, viz.:—1. A case of Excision of the Knee-joint, with Pathological Specimen and a Splint for the After-treatment. 2. A case of Cleft-palate and Hare-lip in a Child aged 8 years. 3. Two cases of Mechanical Obstruction of the Bowel caused by accumulation of Fæces, reduced by large Enemata and Galvanism.

Also papers by Dr. J. Braxton Hicks (A Case of Hæmorrhage from a Retroflexed Uterus, with remarks); and by the President.

FREDERICK JAMES BROWN, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.  
Rochester, May 14th, 1877.

### STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH.

THE third ordinary meeting of the Session will be held at the Board Room of the Mines Drainage Office, 22, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday, May 24th, 1877, at 3 P.M.

VINCENT JACKSON, Wolverhampton. } *Honorary Secretaries*.

RALPH GOODALL, Silverdale.  
Wolverhampton, May 7th, 1877.

### THAMES VALLEY BRANCH.

A MEETING of the above Branch will take place at the Griffin Hotel, Kingston, on June 14th, at 5 o'clock.

Members who may be willing to contribute papers are requested to notify the same to the Honorary Secretary, as soon as possible.

There will be a dinner at the above hotel at 7 o'clock. Charge, 7s. 6d. each, exclusive of wine.

F. P. ATKINSON, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.  
Surbiton Road, Kingston-on-Thames, May 17th, 1877.

### BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH: SPRING MEETING.

THE spring meeting was held at the George Hotel, Penrith, on Friday, May 4th; Dr. BARNES in the chair. There were present nine members and three visitors.

*New Member*.—Dr. Sanderson of Penrith was elected a member of the Association and Branch.

*Representatives in General Council*.—The following gentlemen were elected: J. A. Campbell, M.D.; D. Macgregor, L.R.C.P.Ed.; S. Lockie, M.D.; H. Barnes, M.D.; and S. Grierson, Esq.

*Papers*.—The following papers were read.

1. Notes of a Case in which a Body (False Membrane?) was removed from a Female Bladder, with Specimen, by Dr. SCAIFE, for Dr. ROBERTSON, Penrith.

2. Notes on Biliary Calculi, by Dr. CAMPBELL, Garlands, Carlisle.

3. On Septicæmia and its Treatment, by Dr. MACDOUGALL, Carlisle.

*Dinner*.—The members and their friends afterwards dined together; Dr. Barnes in the chair, and Dr. Lockie in the vice-chair.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### LUNACY ADMINISTRATION IN SCOTLAND.

SIR,—In your leading article of April 28th, headed "Are Lunatic Asylums Prisons?" there are several statements of facts regarding asylums and lunacy administration in Scotland, which are calculated to cause misapprehension among those who are unacquainted with the facts of the case. My object now is not to reply to the attack that is there made on the Scotch Board of Lunacy, though I hear no one in Scotland acquainted with these matters sympathising with the tone of that attack. The Board is, no doubt, well able to take care of itself. But when you state that "the Board has effectually succeeded in weakening the public confidence in lunatic asylums in Scotland", and that "asylums have been curtailed of their fair proportions" there, an impression is produced which is entirely the reverse of the truth. Where is the proof that our Scotch asylums have not the confidence of the public? It is only my strong feeling that such a statement, appearing so prominently in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, does our Scotch asylums a grave injustice, which makes me write you on this matter. The best proofs that our asylums have the confidence of the public are, that they are all full to overflowing; that a great number of private patients are sent to them from England and Ireland, while very few Scotch patients indeed are sent out of this country; that we have none of those lunatic scares which occur periodically in England; that we have here no lunatics-aid societies; that the physicians of our asylums have far more power given them than in England, to discharge patients, to dismiss attendants, and generally to govern their institutions without interference. Do these things look as if the public had no confidence in us, or that our lunacy affairs were ill-regulated?

In regard to the prison character of many asylums, it is perhaps well that this aspect should have been brought forward by a Scotchman before such a body as the present Select Committee of the House of

held in Chester; so, in deference to their views, I submit, and hope that the plan organised by his friends will attain the desired end. I have only now to say I will, as the oldest friend of Dr. Moffat, be glad to receive subscriptions *in honoris causâ*.

Your obedient servant, W. McEWEN.  
26, Nicholas Street, Chester, May 16th, 1877.

## MEDICO-PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday, May 10th, 1877.

**Public Health Act.**—In reply to Mr. A. Mills, Mr. SCLATER-BOOTH said that, having regard to the terms of the Public Health Act, 1875, section 91, the courts had held that it was necessary that injury to health should be proved in order to make valid the summary proceedings under the Sanitary Act. The whole subject of noxious trades and vapours was now under the consideration of the Royal Commission, whose report, it was hoped, would be presented before the close of the Session. When that report had been presented, an amendment of the law would no doubt be practicable.

Wednesday, May 16th.

**Medical Act (1858) Amendment.**—On the motion of Mr. ERRINGTON, leave was given to bring in a Bill to amend the Medical Act (1858). The Bill was brought in and read a first time.

**Inspection of the Mercantile Marine.**—Captain BEDFORD PIM brought in a Bill to establish hospitals for the mercantile marine, along with a system of compulsory medical inspection, supported by a contribution of 5 per cent. from the seamen's wages. It was supported by Mr. Wheelhouse, Mr. Whalley, Mr. Biggar, and Sir J. Wilmot; and opposed as impracticable and oppressive by Mr. Whitwell, Mr. Gorst, Mr. E. Smith, and Sir C. Adderley.—On a division, it was thrown out by 212 to 11.

## 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 May 14th; and, when eligible, will be admitted to the pass-examination.

Messrs. H. Havelock Sturge and Edward Fielding, students of Guy's Hospital; L. Coltman Parkes and George E. Twynan, of University College; Joseph McClelland and A. Appleton Woods, of the Belfast School; E. Tennison Collins and Vincent A. Jones, of the Birmingham School; John Allnutt and Geo. H. Broadbent, of the Manchester School; Mabyn Read, B.A. Cantab., of the Cambridge School; Maro Tuchmann, of the Berlin School; Henry Elliott, of the Newcastle School; and C. Herbert Murray, of St. Thomas's Hospital.

Twenty-six candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on May 15th.

Messrs. George J. W. Flower, R. E. Ricketts Morse, Francis A. P. Knife, Hope W. Gosse, T. Brown Cross, Charles J. Harper, and J. Gay Barns, of Guy's Hospital; William H. Walter, Alexander B. Payne, Alfred Slate, Jas. Higson, and Chas. F. Rudd, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Frederick Wilde, of University College; D. Templeton Hoskyn, of the London Hospital; and J. David Davies, of St. George's Hospital.

Eight candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on May 16th.

Messrs. T. A. J. Howell, F. O. Combe, S. R. H. Mathews, C. H. Downes, A. Scott, E. S. Cockell, J. J. Reynolds, and F. T. Bayes, of Guy's Hospital; H. F. M. Pope, James Edwards, H. G. G. Wilkins, Nicholas Elliott, A. H. Back, and S. Nall, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Francis Gotch, of University College; and H. C. Wilson, of the London Hospital.

Eight candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on May 17th.

Messrs. W. P. Bothamley, E. N. Davies, John Cock, Richard Seele, T. H. Morse, F. B. Bayer, T. J. Elliott, J. E. Viney, Chas. Crossley, W. H. Sercombe, J. S. Smith, and A. P. Lungley, of Guy's Hospital; Andrew Chillingworth, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; and Edgar English, of the London Hospital.

Eleven candidates were rejected.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, May 10th, 1877.

Beard, Spencer Francis, Norwich  
Hodge, Arthur, Liskeard  
Jervis, Henry Bruce, Bombay  
Miller, Richard Shalders, Wisbeach

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

Leftwich, Charles Harcourt, St. Bartholomew's Hospital

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM.—The following is a list of candidates who passed the recent first M.B. examination.

Callender, J. H.	Fenwick, Bedford
Coombs, M. L. B.	Morton, Shadforth
Dodd, J. R.	Young, Thomas M.

KING AND QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS IN IRELAND.—At the usual monthly examination meetings of the College, held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, May 8th, 9th, and 10th, the following candidates obtained the Licences to Practise Medicine and Midwifery.

Andrew, Albert	Knox, Charles
Atkins, Louisa	Peacocke, James Charles Harding
Cox, Michael Francis	Pechey, Mary Edith
Grant, Charles Scovell	Phillip, Alexander
Jex-Blake, Sophia	White, Thomas Edward

The Licence to Practise Medicine was also granted to—

Davies, William Rees

The Licence to Practise Midwifery was also granted to—

Connolly, William Rogers

McIvor, Robert

## MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

ABINGDON UNION—Medical Officer for No. 1 District. Salary, £107 per annum. Applications to be sent in on or before the 26th inst.

BIRMINGHAM GENERAL DISPENSARY—Five Resident Surgeons. Salaries to commence at £130 per annum, with furnished rooms, fires, lights, and attendance. Applications to be sent in on or before the 23rd instant.

CARNARVONSHIRE and ANGLESEY INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications to be sent in on or before June 14th.

CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL—Resident Medical Officer and Assistant Medical Officer. Applications to be sent in on or before the 26th inst.

CHELSEA UNION—Assistant Medical Officer and Dispenser for the Infirmary and Workhouse. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, rations, washing, coals, and gas. Applications to be sent in on or before the 22nd inst.

CHESTER GENERAL INFIRMARY—Visiting Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with residence, board, and washing. Applications to be sent in on or before the 21st instant.

DURHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications to be sent in on or before the 30th inst.

KINGTON UNION—Medical Officer for the Huntingdon District.

NANTWICH UNION—Medical Officer for the Audlem District.

NEW HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Marylebone Road—Junior Physician; also, Resident Medical Officer. Women only eligible. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, lodging, washing, and attendance.

NOTTINGHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL—Resident Surgeon-Apothecary. Salary, £150 per annum, with furnished apartments and board.

ROTHERHAM HOSPITAL and DISPENSARY—Assistant to House-Surgeon. Salary, £25 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing.

ROYSTON UNION—Medical Officer for No. 5 District. Salary, £50 per annum, and fees. Applications to be made on or before the 22nd instant.

ST. GEORGE'S and ST. JAMES'S DISPENSARY—Physician. Applications to be sent in on or before the 31st instant.

ST. PETER'S HOSPITAL, Berners Street—House-Surgeon. No salary; but board and lodging. Applications to be sent in on or before the 23rd instant.

## MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

\*DAVY, Richard, F.R.C.S., appointed Joint Lecturer on Surgery at the Westminster Hospital, with George Cowell, F.R.C.S.

\*HODGES, Frank H., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Leicester Infirmary.

MACPHAIL, Donald, M.B., C.M., appointed House-Surgeon to the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, vice R. B. Macpherson, M.B., C.M., resigned.

MOVES, John, M.B., C.M., appointed House-Physician to the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, vice W. G. Dun, resigned.

ROSS, John, M.B., C.M., appointed House-Surgeon to the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, vice W. G. Owen, M.B., C.M., resigned.

SERVICE, John, M.B., C.M., appointed House-Physician to the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, vice R. Moffat, M.B., C.M., resigned.

\*WARDEN, Charles, M.D., elected Honorary Surgeon to the Birmingham Institution for Deaf and Dumb Children, vice \*Alfred Baker, F.R.C.S., resigned.

DR. HANDSEL GRIFFITHS has been elected Foreign Corresponding Member of the Medical Society of Lisbon.

GUY'S HOSPITAL PHYSICAL REPORTS.—At the last meeting of the Guy's Hospital Physical Society, the prizes were distributed as follows:—£10 to Mr. R. S. Wainwright, for his paper on "The Sympathetic Nervous System"; £5 to Mr. Horrocks, for his paper on "Hysteria"; £5 to Mr. C. Knox Shaw, for his paper on "Pyrexia and methods of reducing it". The debating prize, £5, was awarded to Mr. Uthoff.

SIXTY POUNDS damages have been awarded in the Common Pleas Division in an action brought against the Brighton Aquarium Company by Mr. Blaise, the Surgical Instrument Maker, for injuries received by him through falling down a stoke-hole on the defendants' premises.

## 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.—King's College, 2 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.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 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), 4 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, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Free, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.

## MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

**TUESDAY.**—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Pearson Irvine, "On the Clinical Conditions of the Heart and Vessels in Chlorosis"; Mr. William Adams, "Contraction of the Fingers, and its treatment by Subcutaneous Division of the Palmar Fascia, and immediate Extension"; Dr. D. Finlay and Mr. R. W. Parker, "Primary Cylindrical Epithelioma of the Lung, with Secondary Deposits in the Pleura, Bronchial Glands, and Liver".

**FRIDAY.**—Quekett Microscopical Club (University College, Gower Street), 8 P.M. Mr. W. H. Gilburt, "On the Staining of Vegetable Tissues"—Clinical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Farquharson, "A Case of Small-pox originating from the contagion of Chicken-pox"; Dr. Murchison, "A Case of Enteric Fever treated by Salicylate of Soda"; Dr. Thin, "Microscopical Specimens of the Skin of a Case communicated to the Society in 1874 by Mr. Morratt Baker"; Mr. Owen, "A Case of Misplaced Testis (a living subject)".

## 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.

OWING to considerable pressure of matter, we print this week a number of important letters in our small type columns. Some of the letters which we have recently printed are of such length, that we are compelled to remind our correspondents that it is necessary that letters should be compressed within moderate limits, in order not to unduly encroach on other departments which require weekly representation, in order to afford the full review of the general progress of medical affairs throughout Great Britain, which the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* aims at presenting.

## TOOTH-FORCEPS.

**SIR,**—After an experience of more than twenty years with the claw and elevator, I venture to differ from "W. J. M." Properly used, I consider the claw one of the best and most valuable instruments we have. A skilful operator can do with the claw what he cannot do with any other instrument. As the late Mr. Samuel Parker once said, "you have only to get into the knack of using it."—I am, etc., Sheffield, May 1877. EDWARD BARBER.

## LODGED CORN.

**SIR,**—I am of a contrary opinion to "Censor" as regards there being a misprint or misrepresentation in the passage quoted from *Macbeth*, Act iv, Sc. 1, "Though bladed corn be lodged". In this part of Gloucestershire, the word "lodged" is frequently used in harvest-time to designate the state of the corn when (especially if heavy in the straw) it has been (by heavy storms of wind and rain) beaten flat to the earth, the consequence of which is, that in many cases it is unable to rise, and that the corn in the ears germinates and grows and is entirely ruined. I have heard the term used as long as I can remember anything about agricultural pursuits; I have also asked several people, both farmers and labourers, and they ascribe the same meaning to the word which I have given above.—I am, etc., C. A. B.

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.

A SUBSCRIPTION is being raised in Glasgow for the wife and children of the late Dr. Dougall of Greenock, who died recently of blood-poisoning, in consequence of a puncture received during a *post mortem* examination. He was a young man who had not yet had time to make provision for his children. He leaves a widow and a family of eight children—the eldest still a boy, and the youngest a baby of five months. Mr. David Macrae, of Ashton Manse, Gourack, has made a local appeal on their behalf, and we shall be glad to receive and forward any funds subscribed by our readers for this purpose.

## A CAUTION TO MEDICAL MEN.

**SIR,**—May I be allowed to supplement Dr. Edis's warning in reference to the suspicious characters who are endeavouring to prey upon medical men by narrating my own experience? A man, who gave the name of Fullagar, three times called on me to make an appointment for me to see his son. The appointment was not kept; but some time afterwards he again appeared, wishing to fix another time for his son's visit, giving his engagements in the city as the reason of his having failed to carry out the former arrangement. This was repeated three times, two or three months intervening between each visit. On the third occasion only, after extending his operations over a period of six or eight months, did he allege that he had lost his money, as Dr. Edis describes.

I have no doubt of the identity of this man with the Fullardy or Fuller whom Dr. Edis mentions; and as he is of good address, and carried out his part well, I think it the more needful to put others on their guard against him.—Yours obediently, WYNDHAM COTTLE, M.A., F.R.C.S.

3, Savile Row, W., May 12th, 1877.

**SIR,**—I write to put my brother practitioners on their guard against a man of gentlemanly appearance giving the name of Fullagar, who has been fleecing some of us innocents about this neighbourhood in a most accomplished manner. This is how it is done. He calls, say, on Tuesday, to appoint a consultation for his wife or child, as the case may be, on the Friday following. On the Thursday he calls again to say he is sorry his wife cannot come on Friday—"will Monday do as well? and at what time?" The consultation being readjusted, and a few pleasantries having passed, he turns to go, but suddenly remembers he has no change, and, facing sharply round, says, "Oh, by the bye, have you any change?" Change for £1 or £5-note at once suggests itself, and the unsuspecting physician, wishing to accommodate his supposed new patient, says, "Yes, what do you want?" Up to this point not a shadow of suspicion has crossed the mind; but when the borrower takes the change for £1 and tenders nothing in return, but walks away, saying he will send it with the fee by his wife on Monday, there is an uncomfortable sense of having been "done". Even so it has been: four of us have been, to my knowledge, so fleeced in one day.

After taking out a warrant and tracing the fellow to Lessness Heath, it turns out that he has left his house with wife and ten children in a hurry by night, without paying rent, and no one knows where he will next turn up. The following is a description of the man. Fullagar, late of Lessness Heath, S.E., age about forty-five, height five feet ten inches, rather long dull brown hair, little whisker and no beard or moustache, teeth coated with tartar, has a quick manner of speech and movement, and is by birth probably a north countryman. He wore brownish tweed trousers and a greenish black Chesterfield overcoat.

Let all practitioners, especially young ones, beware of such a customer: and if they can hand him over to the authorities, they will earn the thanks of his late landlord, and others besides yours, etc., A VICTIM.

## SAFE EMPLOYMENT OF NITRITE OF AMYL.

**SIR,**—I am glad Dr. Thompson has drawn the attention of the profession to the dangerous symptoms attending the inhalation of nitrite of amyl to some patients. My little experience will suffice to teach me in future to be very careful, and not to prescribe more than two minims at a time, and that very cautiously.

On March 12th, I was attending a young lady suffering from cerebral anæmia. I ordered one of Messrs. Allen and Hanbury's capsules to be broken and inhaled, which was done at eight o'clock P.M. I was not present at the time, but was informed the next day that the household was so alarmed at the patient's excited condition and the pain complained of, that they were compelled to sit up half the night with her.

The second case was that of a gentleman aged 35, a patient of mine whom I have repeatedly attended for nervous headaches. Last Saturday week, he walked into my consulting-room suffering from one of his old attacks. On his being seated, I broke one of the capsules in a piece of lint and applied it to the nostrils. He had not taken more than three inspirations, when he suddenly sprang from his chair, and in an excited state exclaimed, "Good heavens! what is the matter? what have you done? I am dying." Thereupon he threw off his coat and fell on my couch. I need not tell you I was greatly alarmed. I gave him a stimulant of ammonia and chloric ether, and he was able, after three-quarters of an hour, to walk home, a distance of half a mile from my house, with my assistance. He describes his sensations as if his brain were fixed tightly in a vice, a terrible throbbing in his head, together with a noise of rushing water.

I consider that four grains is much too strong a dose. Probably the safest plan of administration is the one suggested by Mr. Lennox Browne; viz., by previously diluting it with rectified spirit.—I remain yours truly,

Wanstead, May 14th, 1877.

GEORGE WELLER.

**SIR,**—In reference to a letter on this subject in your number for May 12th, we desire to state that the capsules alluded to were made by us at the request of an eminent surgeon; that, before allowing them to be sold, we consulted several of the members of the profession best acquainted with the use of the nitrite as to the quantity it was desirable to have in each capsule; and that we have since been assured, on authority which we believe to be the best in the country on the subject, that four minims or more may be used with perfect safety, and that the sensations and appearances produced by such a dose, though sometimes alarming, are not dangerous.—We are, sir, yours obediently, ALLEN & HANBURY.

## EXCORIATIONS.

In reply to Mr. Broadbent, Mr. Crocker of Bingley writes:—As they probably depend on malnutrition, and as that can with difficulty be combated in diabetes, it might be of service to attack the integument. I have found useful a solution of carbolic acid (1 part liquefied acid to 20 of water, with glycerine) brushed over the affected parts. Dry carbonate of bismuth dusted on the sores I have also found beneficial.

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.

#### HAYDOCK LODGE ASYLUM.

THE following letter has been addressed by Mr. E. Lister, medical proprietor of the Haydock Lodge Retreat, to the *Liverpool Mercury*.

Sir,—In your issue of the 24th March, under the title of "Mysterious Death at Haydock Lodge Asylum", you published a paragraph relating to the death of Miss Kean at this asylum on the 15th of March last; and under the same title, on the 25th ultimo, another paragraph appeared in your paper containing, among other statements, a quotation from a letter on the subject from the Commissioners in Lunacy. From the nature of the statements contained in both paragraphs, the source whence they have been derived is obvious—viz., from the friends of the deceased. The occurrence was one of a sufficiently unfortunate and painful character to induce me, reluctantly, to abstain from public comment on the highly coloured and inaccurate statements of the first paragraph; but the repetition of these in the second paragraph compels me, in justice to myself, to request you to give equal publicity not only to the version of the facts as reported to the Commissioners in Lunacy and sworn to on oath at the inquest, but also to my contradiction of certain parts of your story which have no foundation in fact.

Below is appended a *verbatim* copy of the report of my assistant medical officer to the Lunacy Commissioners, and also of the coroner's notes of the evidence at the inquest, which, I submit, disprove the accusation of neglect, the attention paid to the case having been exceptionally diligent for a patient of this class. It is, however, unfortunate that the assistant medical officer did not report the condition of the patient to me after making his night visit at eleven o'clock, as I certainly should have ordered her to be visited during the night; the omission to do so arose from an error of judgment of my assistant, who, having injected morphia, considered he had secured the patient's repose.

I deny the statements in the paragraph of March 24th, that there was any specific arrangement that she should receive every attention necessary to her comfort (in the sense as apparently implied that expense was no object), and that a nurse should be with her night and day. Mr. Kean said that he could not afford more than twenty shillings per week, and I would have declined to take the patient at that rate on terms of such continuous exclusive attendance as alleged.

I deny most positively the statement that there were bruises on the body, mentioned as the discovery of Mr. Kean's medical man in the paragraph of March 24th, and most improperly repeated as a fact in the paragraph of April 25th, with an additional allegation of "indications of violence". I am able to state of my own knowledge that this, if not an invention, is at least founded in mistake; and in support of this I point with confidence to the fact, that it would have been the bounden duty of the coroner and jury to have traced the cause of such bruises or marks, had any such existed.

Another matter of pure invention, is the statement that Miss Kean was heard calling for her mother at five o'clock, no such calls having been heard.

The last point to which I have to refer is the complaint, whereby so much prejudice has been imported into the case, that no notice was given to Mr. Kean of the inquest. The facts in relation to this are as follow. When Mr. Kean was at the asylum on Thursday (the day of the death), some discussion took place between him and my clerk as to the arrangements for interment, especially in reference to the fact that an inquest must be held, though the date was uncertain. Mr. Kean was told that the inquest would probably be held on the following Saturday morning; and it was agreed that he should send a hearse and coffin about five o'clock on the Saturday afternoon, but that if the inquest had not taken place before noon on Saturday, he (Mr. Kean) was to be informed by telegram, in order that the preparations for removal of the body might be postponed. The inquest was held on the Saturday morning, as expected, and the remains were removed, as arranged, in the afternoon. The impression on the mind of my clerk was, that Mr. Kean had no desire or intention to attend the inquest, and hence no message was sent to him of the actual hour fixed.

I venture to think that these facts at least qualify the ground of complaint on this head. There was certainly no desire to exclude the friends from the inquest. I am, sir, yours obediently,  
May 16th, 1877.

#### NIGHTMARE.

SIR,—Will any of your correspondents kindly suggest a remedy for frequently recurring attacks of nightmare? They occur in an old lady of more than seventy years of age, who suffers from partial paraplegia, and is obliged to lie constantly supine. There is much acidity, with flatulence. I have given alkalies, soda, and aromatic spirit of ammonia, etc., with only partial benefit. The attacks generally supervene about 12 or 1 A.M.; and, when roused, she always complains of the same unpleasant dream—viz., that robbers have effected an entrance. Any suggestions as to medicine or diet will greatly oblige.—I am, etc.,  
April 21st, 1877.

#### GOETHE ON WINE.

GOETHE (*Reise am Rhein, Main, und Neckar*), being at the celebration of the festival of St. Roch, relates that, the question having arisen at table whether it were possible that there were people in the district who could drink sixteen bottles of wine a-day, one of the company stood up and called to remembrance a Lenten sermon of their suffragan bishop, in which he had set forth the frightful evils of drunkenness in their darkest colours, and had wound up thus:

And be persuaded of this, my pious hearers, who are already inclined to atonement and repentance, that he commits the greatest sin who in suchwise misuses the noble gifts of God. But the misuse of a thing is no hindrance to its proper use. It stands written that wine rejoices the heart of man! From this it is clear that we, to cheer ourselves and others, may and are bound to partake of wine. Now, there is probably no one among my manly hearers who does not take his two quarts of wine a-day, without being in the slightest degree intoxicated, who when he comes to three or four quarts falls into such a state of forgetfulness, that he mistakes his wife and children, and injures them with taunts, blows, and treats them under foot, and treats those who are dearest to him as if they were his deadliest enemies. They as quickly as possible get out of the way of such excess; and he thus renders himself detestable to God and man, and contemptible to his equals.

He who after the enjoyment of four quarts, yea, of five or six, still remains so composed and steady that he can take his Christian neighbour under the arm, can

order his household, and finds himself in a condition to carry out the commands of his spiritual and worldly superiors, let him enjoy his assigned portion and be thankful. But let him beware, without much trial, to go wider, because to weak men there is usually a line that they cannot overpass. But the case is very rare that the exceeding bounty of God has bestowed such grace on any person as that with which He has favoured me His servant, so that he is enabled to drink eight quarts. And now who can say of me that I have ever given way to unjust anger; that I have neglected my household and relations; or have in any way neglected my spiritual duties or offices? Further, you can all bear witness that you have found me at all times ready for the praise and glory of God, and that I am always active for the help and profit of my neighbours: so I may well henceforth, with a good conscience and with thanks, enjoy this trusted gift.

And you, my pious hearers, take everyone, according to the will of the Giver, so that his body may be refreshed and his soul rejoice, his appointed portion. And that this may be so, and all superfluity forbidden, proceed according to the text of the holy apostle, who says: Prove all things, and cleave to that which is good.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Scarborough Daily Post; 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 Chatham and Rochester Observer; The Redditch Indicator; The Colonies; The Londonderry Sentinel; The Lincolnshire Chronicle; The Liverpool Daily Courier; The Salford Weekly News; The Northern Echo; The Home Ruler; The Warrington Express; The Croydon Chronicle; The Northampton Herald; The Edinburgh Courant; The Bridport News; The Liverpool Medical Enquirer; The Hampshire Telegraph; The Birmingham Daily Gazette; The Scotsman; The Dudley Herald; The Shrewsbury Chronicle; The West Surrey Gazette; The Richmond and Twickenham Times; The Western Morning News; The Liverpool Mercury; The Carlisle Journal; The Merthyr Express; The Sussex Daily Post; The Sheffield Daily Telegraph; The Nottingham Journal; The Manchester Free Lance; The Belfast News Letter; The Malvern News; 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. Wm. Rutherford, Edinburgh; Dr. J. Hughlings Jackson, London; Dr. Tripe, Hackney; Dr. Herbert Tibbits, London; Dr. Norman Kerr, London; Dr. Garland, Yeovil; Dr. George Johnson, London; Mr. J. E. Inggens, Putney; Dr. Stephen Mackenzie, London; Mr. Sinclair Kennedy, Fort William; Dr. R. Zimmermann, Toronto; Mr. W. R. Smith, Sheffield; Dr. Braidwood, Birkenhead; Mr. Harry Leach, Blackheath; Dr. Henry Muscroft, Pontefract; Our Dublin Correspondent; Dr. Aveling, London; Dr. Lefour, Bourdeaux; Mr. J. N. Radcliffe, London; Commune Bonum; Dr. Ogston, Aberdeen; Dr. Edis, London; Dr. McCall Anderson, Glasgow; Dr. J. Milner Fothergill, London; The Registrar-General of England; Mr. James White, Wigan; A Victim; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; Dr. J. P. Bramwell, Perth; Mr. A. J. Bond, West Bromwich; X.; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Mr. R. J. Pye-Smith, Sheffield; Mr. W. P. Branson, London; Dr. Strange, Worcester; The Secretary of the Quekett Microscopical Club; Dr. W. Fairlie Clarke, Southborough; Dr. F. Warner, London; Dr. Joseph Bell, Edinburgh; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Mr. G. Eastes, London; The Secretary of the Clinical Society; Mr. J. C. Smith, Great Yarmouth; Dr. J. F. Baldwin, Ohio; Dr. J. C. Steele, London; The Ladies' Sanitary Association, London; Dr. J. F. O'Ryan, Tipperary; An Associate; Dr. de Pietra Santa, Paris; Dr. John Williams, London; Mr. B. Blower, Liverpool; Dr. Michael Taylor, Penrith; Dr. F. J. Brown, Rochester; Mr. W. F. Teevan, London; Mr. Thurston, Ashford; Dr. J. Gibbs Blake, Birmingham; R. E. F.; Mr. Wyndham Cottle, London; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; The Secretary of the Obstetrical Society; The Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society; Dr. F. P. Atkinson, Kingston-on-Thames; Dr. Silver, London; Mr. J. Bailey Denton, London; Dr. Bourneville, Paris; Mr. H. Hugh Hardy, London; Dr. Foster, Birmingham; Dr. Hitchcock, Lewisham; Mr. Weller, Wanstead; Dr. J. Smith, Edinburgh; Mr. Charles Sedgwick, Hellingbourn; Dr. Warden, Birmingham; Mr. Hamilton Cartwright, London; Dr. Syson, Huntingdon; A Member; Mr. Godfrey, Woburn; Dr. G. Y. Heath, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. Pitman, London; Dr. Caulfield, Cork; Mr. Kerr, Preston; Mr. Warren, London; Dr. Pearson Irvine, London; Mr. Henry Morris, London; Mr. Furneaux Jordan, Birmingham; Dr. Dowse, Highgate; etc.

#### BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Modern Society in its Religious and Social Aspects. By Peyton Blakiston, M.A., M.D., F.R.S. London: Macmillan and Co. 1877.  
Transactions of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science. Liverpool Meeting, 1876. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1877.  
Year-Book of Pharmacy and Transactions of the British Pharmaceutical Conference (1876). London: J. and A. Churchill. 1877.  
General Index to the New York Medical Journal from April 1865 to June 1876. By James B. Hunter, M.D. New York: D. Appleton and Co.