

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

### EDINBURGH BRANCH.

THE annual general meeting of the above Branch will be held at 5, St. Andrew's Square, on Tuesday, June 12th, at 4 P.M.

CHARLES E. UNDERHILL, *Honorary Secretary*.

Edinburgh, May 30th, 1877.

### SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH.

THE thirty-third annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Burlington Hotel, Eastbourne, on Wednesday, June 13th, at half-past Twelve o'clock.

The President-elect kindly invites members to luncheon after the meeting.

Sundry excursions will be made in carriages provided by the Local Committee.

Dinner will take place at the Burlington Hotel, at Five o'clock precisely. Tickets (exclusive of wine), 7s. each.

A meeting of the Executive Council of this Branch will be held at the Burlington Hotel, Eastbourne, on Wednesday, June 12th, at 12 noon.

CHARLES PARSONS, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.

2, St. James's Street, Dover, June 5th, 1877.

### THAMES VALLEY BRANCH.

THE next general meeting will be held on June 14th, at the Griffin Hotel, Kingston, at Five o'clock.

Papers will be read by—1. Dr. Fenn: On Nocturnal Enuresis. 2. Dr. Hooper: On Post-scarlatinal Uræmia. 3. Dr. Atkinson.

Dinner at the above hotel at Seven o'clock. An immediate reply is requested from those intending to be present.

F. P. ATKINSON, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.

Surbiton Road, Kingston-on-Thames, June 6th, 1877.

### SOUTHERN BRANCH.

THE fourth annual meeting of the Southern Branch will be held at the Royal Hotel, Winchester, on Wednesday, June 20th, 1877, at 1 P.M.

An Address will be delivered by the President-elect, F. J. BUTLER, Esq., M.D.

During the afternoon, the members will have an opportunity of visiting the various places of interest in the locality.

The dinner will take place punctually at Five P.M. Tickets, 14s. each, including wine.

The Committee particularly request that those gentlemen who intend to be present at the dinner will send in their names to Mr. T. C. LANGDON, Winchester, on or before Monday, the 18th instant.

J. WARD COUSINS, M.D., *Honorary Secretary and Treasurer*.

Southsea, June 6th, 1877.

### BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Midland Hotel, New Street, Birmingham, on Tuesday, June 26th, at 3 P.M. An Address will be delivered by the President, SAMPSON GAMGEE, Esq., F.R.S. Edin.

The annual dinner will also take place at the Midland Hotel, at 5 P.M. precisely, for the convenience of country members. Dinner tickets, exclusive of wine, 7s. 6d. each. Members intending to be present are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretaries on or before June 23rd, in order that suitable arrangements may be made.

JAMES SAWYER, M.D., } *Hon. Secretaries*  
EDWARD MALINS, M.D., }

Birmingham, May 29th, 1877.

### CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held in the Board Room of the Saffron Walden Hospital, on Tuesday, June 26th, at 2.15 P.M.: HENRY STEAR, Esq., President, in the Chair.

Gentlemen intending to read papers, or be present at the dinner, are requested to inform the Secretary on or before June 19th.

Dinner will take place at the Rose and Crown Hotel, at 6.15 P.M. Tickets (including wine), 12s. 6d. each.

J. B. BRADBURY, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.

Corpus Buildings, Cambridge, May 28th, 1877.

### YORKSHIRE BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Museum, York, on Wednesday, June 27th, at 2.45 P.M.

The members will dine at the Black Swan Hotel at 5 P.M. Tickets, 6s. 6d. each.

Gentlemen intending to bring forward communications, or to join the dinner, are requested at once to communicate with the Local Secretary.

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

24, Petergate, York, June 6th, 1877.

### LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Medical School, Dover Street, Liverpool, on Wednesday, June 27th, at 1 P.M.: President, GEORGE WOODS, F.R.C.S.; President-elect, Dr. STEELE.

The dinner will take place at the Adelphi Hotel, at 5 P.M. Tickets (exclusive of wine), 7s. 6d. each.

Notice of papers (which must not exceed fifteen minutes) should be forwarded at once to the Honorary Secretary.

E. J. LEECH, *Honorary Secretary*.

96, Mosley Street, Manchester, June 4th, 1877.

### EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Magistrates' Room, Diss, on Thursday, June 28th, at 2.30 P.M.: T. E. AMYOTT, Esq., President, in the Chair.

Dinner at the King's Arms Hotel at 5 P.M. Tickets, 12s. 6d. each.

The President kindly invites members to luncheon at his residence at One o'clock.

Members intending to read papers and cases, or to exhibit pathological specimens, or to join the dinner, are particularly requested to communicate as early as possible with one of the Honorary Secretaries, in order that proper notices may be given.

B. CHEVALIER, M.D., Ipswich. } *Honorary Secretaries*  
J. B. PITT, M.D., Norwich. }

Norwich, June 1st, 1877.

### SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH: SPRING MEETING.

THE ordinary spring meeting of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Branch was held at the Swansea Hospital on May 15th; ANDREW DAVIES, M.D., President, in the Chair. Eighteen members attended.

*New Members*.—Six gentlemen, already members of the Association, were declared members of the Branch.

*Communications*.—1. Mr. J. H. WATHEN (Fishguard) read notes of a case of Extra-uterine Fœtation, in which the fœtus was removed successfully by incision *per vaginam*, labour-pains having set in several days previously.

2. Mr. RUSSELL (Neath) related a case of Gangrene of the Eyeball.

3. Mr. J. G. HALL (Swansea) read notes of a case of Ununited Fracture of the Humerus, in which the ends of the bones had been resected and brought together with silver wire. The patient's age was thirteen, and the result was entirely successful.

4. Mr. PADLEY (Swansea) gave an account of a case of Acute Ovaritis (right) with Suppuration, discharged *per cœcum*; a second collection being got rid of by absorption.

*Habitual Drunkards*.—A petition in favour of compulsory detention of habitual drunkards with a view to their cure, was adopted and signed by almost every member present.

*Dinner*.—The members dined together at the Mackworth Hotel in the evening.

Dr. C. J. B. Williams, F.R.S., who was in the neighbourhood on a visit, attended and took part in the meeting as a visitor.

The Annual Meeting will be held at Brecon, on July 11th next; President-elect, Talfourd Jones, M.B.

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

THE second meeting for the twentieth session was held at Gravesend on May 25th; Dr. MONCKTON, the President of the Branch, in the Chair. Twenty gentlemen were present.

The Honorary Secretary was re-elected; and C. H. C. Huddart, B.A., M.B., of Greenhithe (already a member of the Association), was admitted a member of the Branch.

*The late Dr. Carr.*—A vote of condolence to the widow of the late William Carr, Esq., was passed, and ordered to be conveyed by the Honorary Secretary to the son, Dr. W. W. Carr.

*Meetings.*—The meeting took into consideration the number and character of the district meetings, and it was resolved to hold two meetings next session—one at Maidstone in November, and one at Rochester in the spring of 1878. Evening meetings might be convened, if called for by the members.

*Papers.*—The following papers were read.

1. A Case of Excision of the Knee-joint, with pathological specimen and a splint for the after-treatment. By F. B. Jessett, Esq.

2. A Case of Cleft Palate and Hare-lip in a Child aged 8 years. By F. B. Jessett, Esq.

3. Two Cases of Mechanical Obstruction of the Bowel caused by Accumulation of Fæces, reduced by large Enemata and Galvanism. By F. B. Jessett, Esq.

4. A Case of Tumour of the Mediastinum (cancerous), with pathological specimen. By F. B. Jessett, Esq.

4. A Case of Hæmorrhage from the Retroflexed Uterus: with Remarks. By J. Braxton Hicks, M.D., F.R.S.

6. A Case of greatly Enlarged Kidney, with Abscess of its lower portion, accompanied by fæcal accumulation, but without urinary indications of its existence. By R. I. Nisbett, Esq.

*Dinner.*—The members and visitors adjourned to dinner to the number of sixteen.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### COMMISSIONS OF LUNACY.

SIR,—In the JOURNAL of the British Medical Association of May 26th, you make a charge against me, who am a member of the Association, that I "appeared for the defence" at a certain lunacy inquiry, where the case was so clear that the jury did not think it necessary to go seriously into it. In the JOURNAL of June 2nd, I pointed out to you that, by my advice, no defence was made or contemplated on that occasion, and that the course advised by me, and pursued by counsel, met with the emphatic approval of the Master who presided. You do not controvert that statement, but, without any acknowledgment of the injustice which you have done, pass away from the inquiry to new matter, founding another charge, either of ignorance or of dishonesty, on garbled extracts from an affidavit made by me six weeks before the inquiry. I would fain believe your possession of that affidavit, and the use which you have made of it, to show—what the annotation betrayed—that you have unwittingly allowed an interested party to use your columns to slander me.

As a member of the Association, permit me once more to call your serious attention to the gravity of the offensive imputation, and to request you either to substantiate or retract it. That is the present issue between us. When it is settled, I shall be quite ready, if necessary, to go into the question of the lady's capacity to manage her affairs, concerning which you have seemingly been as ill informed as about the law relating to the bearing of insane delusions upon civil capacity.

I will not inquire now whether the Master's opinion or yours, as to what lies within the province of a jury, is right. I take leave to prefer the Master's; but I may remark that your statement, "that it is for the Lord Chancellor and the Justices, through their officers, to decide about the arrangements for the care of the patients", is not altogether ingenious, seeing that the responsible officer, who is their representative in the matter, is the Master who tries the case.

Your obedient servant, "A WELL-KNOWN ALIENIST."

### THE HOMŒOPATHIC SCHISM.

SIR,—The forthcoming meeting of the British Medical Association in Manchester affords such an opportunity of holding out a hand of reconciliation to the homœopathic practitioners that, for some months past, I have debated whether or not to solicit the general feeling of the profession upon the subject. The matter might, and probably would, have remained a mere thought, had it not been for Dr. Richardson's communication, enclosing Dr. Wyld's letter, in last week's *Lancet*. The frank and manly tone of Dr. Wyld's letter encourages me now to hope, more strongly than ever, that this reconciliation may, after all, be effected, and without any sacrifice of principle on our part. Homœopathy is understood to mean the doctrine that "like cures like", including, as a lesser law, the doctrine of the infinitesimal dose. It appears from Dr. Wyld's letter, that both these dogmas are now aban-

doned; and when we further learn that homœopaths decry the very name of homœopathy, we may for a moment wonder why their Ishmael-like condition continues, and whether we have any right longer to exclude them from our societies and our consultations. The fact is, however, that something peculiar does cling to them still; and that, in their materia medica and their method of administering certain drugs, we find distinctive features; but I think, in reference to this point, it may be affirmed, in the first place, that their crotchets are not a jot more objectionable than crotchets held by many of our own body as to the *modus operandi*, the dose, and the use of remedies; and secondly, it may fairly be argued that, in such works as those of Dr. Sydney Ringer and Dr. Charles Phillips, we cannot fail to see how largely beneficial an extensive knowledge of the homœopathic *Pharmacopœia* has been to us.

In thus urging, with Dr. Richardson, the burial of the hatchet, no one can accuse me any more than him of homœopathic proclivities. I have written against the fatuity of their pseudo-laws more than once, and have been singled out by the homœopathic press for special vituperation; but if their leaders, like Dr. Wyld, publicly announce that they have abandoned their doctrines, that they have practically struck their flag, I think it ill becomes us to maintain the feud, or, by a paltry jealousy, to continue to exclude from our discussions a body of gentlemen educated on the same lines with ourselves.

May I then hope, sir, to gather the feeling of the leaders of our profession upon this momentous question, in order that, if it be favourable to a reconciliation with that moderate party represented by Dr. Wyld, we may extend our invitation to them to our annual gathering, and then finally extinguish the bitterness of the discussions which have separated us for so many years.—I am, sir, yours, etc.,

Manchester, June 5th, 1877.

S. M. BRADLEY.

### SERVIAN HOSPITALS.

SIR,—A statement in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of last week, under the heading of "Servian Hospitals", based upon an account in the *Glasgow Herald*, calls for some remarks from me.

The English Hospital at Belgrade was opened by the representatives of the National Aid Society, at the instance and by the advice of the Servian authorities and the English Consul-General. In November, the Society resolved to discontinue on December 1st its operations in Servia, deeming that, with the cessation of hostilities, the Servian Government might well be left to undertake the care of the patients remaining in the hospital. I stated to the English Consul-General that it was, in my opinion, desirable that the hospital should be maintained some time longer in other than native hands; and I expressed to him my intention of undertaking its continuance, with the consent of the Servian Government, hoping to find in England public or private support. My reasons for this course were that the hospital contained, at the time, above ninety cases, many of them severe; that the Servian treasury was known to be in an exhausted condition; that adequate surgical treatment would be found wanting; and that the admirable state of the hospital, with its well-devised arrangements and considerable quantities of stores, due to the forethought and liberality of the Society's managers, would render it no impossible task for me to maintain the hospital, with comparatively slight pecuniary assistance, until a great proportion of the patients were cured or out of danger. I was fortunate enough to be aided by two of the surgical staff, Dr. Wattie and Mr. Hume, who kindly offered to stay as long as there should be need for their services, by an Austrian surgeon, and by an efficient nursing staff, composed of Servian ladies who had tended the wounded in various parts of the country during the campaign. The total expense of carrying on the hospital, from December 1st until April 1st, was a little over £700, towards which aid was received to the extent of £330. The National Aid Society sent a contribution of £100, and generously continued to my colleagues and myself our allowance of £1 *per diem* until February 1st. That we should not have received more support from other sources, we naturally regretted; but we quite understood that there was at the time little sympathy in England for the Servians.

It will be seen that it is not the case that the English Hospital at Belgrade was established through the intervention of myself and others, but that it was established and supported, until after the end of the war, by the National Aid Society. It cannot be held just to blame the Society for not longer maintaining the hospital, seeing that it must have seemed little likely, except to those on the spot intimately acquainted with the existing conditions, that the Servian authorities were not fully able to take charge of their sick and wounded when the fighting had come to an end. As to the Servian Government, I am not aware that they have "openly avowed total indifference to the suffer-

## EXCEPTION.

THIS is a protest against the principle of selection for promotion to the highest grade in the Bombay Medical Service. Of course, we cannot say, in this particular instance, whether the selection was or was not a good one; but we have a clear opinion that the principle is a sound one, and should be upheld. A man may be a very good executive officer, and yet quite unfit to be at the head of a department. It is the interest of the Government to select the best man they have for such a post, as he is the adviser of the Government in its civil and military departments on all medical questions. The old principle of promotion to the highest grades by mere seniority was the curse of the service. Selection is the principle now in all services; and unless it can be shown that in any particular instance jobbery, or favouritism, or nepotism, has been the governing motive, the principle should be upheld.

## UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

## UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

CHEMICAL LABORATORIES.—In a Convocation held on June 5th, a decree, authorising the expenditure of £7,000 on the construction and fittings of new chemical laboratories at the University Museum, was introduced by Professor H. Smith. The decree was opposed by Mr. Ogle, who asked whether it was true that the shell of the building had been designed before the internal fittings had been decided on. Professor Odling answered that he had inspected the best Continental laboratories, in addition to having had some experience in the construction of similar buildings at St. Bartholomew's and the Royal Institution. The proposed addition was for elementary teaching, and the fittings would be a simple matter. Professor Holland and Mr. Wilson maintained that the decree touched a principle which it was the province of the coming Commission to settle, viz., whether the University or the Colleges ought to provide for the instruction of elementary students. The decree, which was further supported by Mr. Sidgwick and Dr. Acland, was carried on a division by 64 against 42.

## MEDICO-PARLIAMENTARY.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday, May 31st, 1877.

*The Cost of Vaccination.*—An amendment moved by Mr. PARNELL, in Committee of Supply, to reduce the cost of public vaccinators by £10,000, was negatived by 115 to 2.

## Friday, June 1st.

*Medical Act (1858) Amendment Bill.*—Dr. LUSH moved that the order for the second reading of this Bill be discharged to enable him to bring in a new one.—The motion was agreed to.

## Monday, June 4th.

*Public Health (Metropolis) Bill.*—Mr. SCLATER-BOOTH obtained leave to bring in a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the public health in the metropolis.—The Bill was brought in and read a first time.

*The Arctic Expedition.*—Dr. L. PLAYFAIR asked the Under Secretary to the Admiralty, in the absence of the First Lord, whether, having received a report, of date March 3rd, from the Admiralty Committee on Scurvy, to the effect that the early outbreak of scurvy in the spring sledging-parties of the late Arctic Expedition was due to the absence of lime-juice from their provisions; and, further, that in not including lime-juice, the officer in command of the expedition deviated from the memorandum of recommendations and suggestions of the Medical Director-General, furnished to Sir George Nares by the Admiralty for his information, and that such deviation was not proper, any steps have been taken in respect to this report with a view to prevent similar calamities on future occasions.—Mr. A. EGERTON: There is no intention at present to fit out any Arctic expedition, and therefore there is no necessity to take any immediate steps with regard to the issue of lime-juice. If, at any future time, an expedition should be sent out, the experience of the last one would, doubtless, not be lost on the Admiralty. Directions had been given that the communications to Sir G. Nares on the subject of the report should be laid on the table.—Dr. L. PLAYFAIR gave notice that on the navy estimates he would call attention to the report of the Scurvy Committee.

PRINCE LEOPOLD has signified his intention to lay the first stone of the Detached Infirmary of the Earlswood Asylum for Idiots sometime about the second week in July.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, May 31st, 1877.

Coates, William Henry, Hackney Road

Floyd, John, Oxford

Nariman, Kaikosro Sorabji, Bombay

Tritton, William Parsons, Kilburn

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

Cheesman, George Edward Alexander, Charing Cross Hospital

Marsh, Frank, King's College

Stone, John William, St. Bartholomew's Hospital

## MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

BOLTON UNION—Resident Assistant Medical Officer.

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

CITY OF LONDON LYING-IN HOSPITAL—Consulting Surgeon. Applications to be sent in on or before the 19th instant.

EAST RIDING ASYLUM, Beverley—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, board, and attendance. Applications to be sent in on or before the 23rd instant.

ISLE OF WIGHT INFIRMARY, Ryde—House-Surgeon and Secretary. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to be made on or before the 19th instant.

LINCOLN UNION—Medical Officer for No. 6 and 12 Districts.

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.

NORWICH UNION—Medical Officer for the Workhouse.

NOTTINGHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with furnished apartments and board. Applications to be made on or before the 11th instant.

RIPON DISPENSARY and HOUSE OF RECOVERY—Resident House-Surgeon and Dispenser. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, board, and attendance. Applications to be made on or before the 16th instant.

ROYSTON UNION—Medical Officer for No. 5 District. Salary, £80 per annum, and extra fees. Applications to be made on or before the 19th instant.

SALOP INFIRMARY, Shrewsbury—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and residence. Applications to be made on or before the 15th instant.

WEST SUSSEX, EAST HANTS, AND CHICHESTER INFIRMARY—Surgeon-Dentist. Applications to be made on or before the 18th instant.

WOLVERHAMPTON and STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to be made on or before the 11th instant.

## MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

\*PARKER, Rushton, F.R.C.S., appointed Lecturer on Surgery at the Liverpool Royal Infirmary School of Medicine, vice \*Reginald Harrison, F.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.

## MARRIAGE.

CRISP—ENGLISH.—On June 6th, at St. Luke's, Chelsea, by the Rev. A. G. W. Blunt, M.A., Rector, Eliza Minnie, eldest daughter of Edwards Crisp, M.D., Chelsea, to Thomas Johnstone English, M.R.C.S., only son of Thomas English M.D., of Fulham Road, Brompton.

TESTIMONIAL TO DR. A. H. HASSALL.—A presentation of a very handsome service of plate has just been made to Dr. Hassall. Viscount Eversley and Sir Lawrence Peel were the treasurers of the fund. The tray bears the following inscription: "This silver tray, with the tea and coffee service and three hundred guineas, were presented to Dr. Arthur Hill Hassall by a numerous body of contributors, in recognition of his valuable services as the originator and founder of the Royal National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest located at Ventnor."

WEST KENT MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.—The eighth and last meeting of the twenty-first session was held on Friday, May 4th, at the Royal Kent Dispensary, Greenwich: W. Johnson Smith, F.R.C.S. (senior vice-president), in the chair. The following cases were brought forward for discussion:—Dr. F. Moon: Uterine Fibroids. Dr. R. Gooding: Case of Prostatic Disease. Dr. H. K. Hitchcock: Case of Acute Orchitis. Dr. H. Wilcox: Treatment of Chronic Ulcers of the Leg. Dr. J. Anderson: Simaruba Bark in Dysentery. Mr. H. G. Cable: Aortic Aneurism, with Pathological Specimen.—The annual dinner will take place on Thursday, June 28th, at the Ship, Greenwich, at 6.30 P.M. precisely.

## OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

<b>MONDAY.....</b>	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.
<b>TUESDAY.....</b>	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.
<b>WEDNESDAY..</b>	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.
<b>THURSDAY....</b>	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.
<b>FRIDAY.....</b>	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.
<b>SATURDAY....</b>	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.

**WEDNESDAY.**—Epidemiological Society, 8.30 P.M. Election of Officers, etc. Surgeon-Major Colville, "On Plague in Baghdad".

## 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.

## MEDICAL ETIQUETTE.

**SIR**,—Will you be kind enough to give me your opinion as to the proper course to pursue under the following circumstances? A lady, who has engaged A. to attend her in her confinement, is taken in labour, and sends for A., who is away from home, having been away for a week, leaving his partner in charge. She refuses to have the partner: having, she says, arranged with A. that she should not. Under these circumstances, B. is applied to, and attends, knowing the above particulars. Should B. hand over the case to A. on his return? or should he retain it, as her husband wishes?—I am, sir, your obedient servant,  
June 5th, 1877.

QUERY.

\* \* B. should inform A. of the particulars, and offer to hand over the case to him. If the husband insist on his remaining in charge of the patient, he would be justified in complying, after having done his duty towards A.

## INCUBATION OF GONORRHOEA.

**D. O. F.** writes:—I have found the average period of the "incubation of gonorrhœa" about six days, it being sometimes more, sometimes less; but, with regard to the longest period possible to elapse between infection and the appearance of the disease, I consider we have no reliable data on which to form an opinion. The other day a patient, who came to me on the first appearance of the discharge, alleged that he had had no intercourse for more than four weeks, a statement which I received with some reserve. However, I have known the time to be extended to sixteen days.

**IT** is, we believe, universally held by the profession that such advertisements as that enclosed from Dr. Storey are professionally improper.

## GOA-POWDER, OR CHRYSOPHANIC ACID.

**SIR**,—In your issue of May 19th, Mr. Mayo Robson records a case of pityriasis versicolor treated by Goa-powder, under the impression that it had not been previously used for that disease. In an article on Goa-Powder and Chrysophanic Acid in the *Lancet* of January 27th, I related a case which had been treated with this substance, and which was also "one out of several cases".

In the same article, I warned practitioners of the inflammatory effects and discoloration of skin that were frequently induced by the application of chrysophanic acid, and some time ago showed a case at the Harveian Society illustrating the unpleasant results alluded to by another of your correspondents as attending the use of this substance.—I am, sir, yours obediently,

H. RADCLIFFE CROCKER, M.D., M.R.C.P.,

Assistant Medical Officer in Skin Department of University College Hospital.  
135, Gower Street, W.C., May 29th, 1877.

**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 MEDICAL COUNCIL AND FOREIGN REGISTRATION.

**SIR**,—In the report of the Medical Acts' Committee, discussed before the General Council of Medical Education and Registration on Thursday, May 17th, I find that Mr. Simon, *inter alia*, moved "that the Council would not approve that foreign qualifications should be registrable, as 'additional qualifications' under the Medical Act, by persons primarily registered under British qualifications".

Now, with due deference to the opinions of Mr. Simon and his colleagues, I should like to know by what process of reasoning can it be made out that the public would suffer if doubly qualified medical practitioners already registered were permitted to enter their foreign degrees as additional qualifications upon the *Register*. Anyone who is sufficiently intelligent to look up the *Medical Register* in order to ascertain the qualifications of his medical attendant would surely know that John Brown, M.D. London, must have graduated at the University of London, and that Thomas Jones, M.D. Brussels or Erlangen, must have graduated on the Continent, and what harm would there be in this? In whichever way the question may be viewed, the Council are wrong in their proceedings. They are quite prepared to admit the qualifications of a graduate of the Calcutta College, of which they can know nothing, to the *Register*; while in the same breath they deny a doubly qualified Englishman the privilege of registering all additional qualifications not obtained in the United Kingdom.

They say that foreign degrees "were obtained because of the additional importance supposed to be attached to them". If these degrees have no value in reality, then, why deny them admission to the *Register*? Further, the Council assert that "the object of those who sought the privilege of registering the foreign degrees was to obtain a higher qualification in the eye of the public". To this, it may be replied, Is it for the benefit of the individual or for the good of the public that men graduate at all? and why does anyone seek a higher qualification or endeavour to improve himself? Can a foreign graduate not do this as well as a home one? and is it a fact that degrees are absolutely necessary for attaining the highest success in professional life? If so, according to their mode of reasoning, all the practice and appointments in the country ought to be in the hands of the M.D.'s only.

Lastly, the Council observe: "But it should be known that the title of doctor in foreign countries was a minimum title to practise; and, to sanction it as comparable with the higher titles on the *Register*, would be misleading the public". On what authority has this statement been made? and where are the data to warrant such an assertion? and to what countries does it refer? If such were true, why should foreign practitioners graduate at all? A pet argument with those whose minds have not yet been expanded by travel is that, in Germany, for instance, degrees are inferior to the State examination, because the latter only entitles one to practise. The fact is that the "Staats Examen" is the minimum examination entitling to practise, similar to our own test for the public services, but all who hope to attain distinction in medicine graduate afterwards. Now, why should they do this if the "Staats Examen" were the major of the two? If anyone can explain to me satisfactorily why anyone should accept a minimum qualification after having passed the maximum, I shall be happy to hear from him. I must say that I have been much surprised at the small proof of intellect displayed by our representative Council in respect of this subject. What do they fear? Is it the competition of foreign graduates, or the loss of money which might occur if all our intending graduates were to make a rush for the Continent?—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,  
M.D. ERLANGEN.

## THE ST. ANDREW'S M.D.

**SIR**,—A very sensible letter, signed Гамма, appears in your impression of to-day, and no doubt the experience of your correspondent is that of hundreds upon hundreds who were prevented from graduating during their student days, but who now, wishing to get the M.D., find that they are shut off from it for ever, or at least that it is so fenced round with restrictions that but few can obtain it. At forty, a man is, generally speaking, either "made or marred", and it is difficult to see what a degree can do for him then—much less avail is it when he reaches the age of fifty. My object, however, in writing this, is to draw your correspondent's attention to the fact that, being forty, he can present himself for examination at the University of Durham; and as I believe no limit is placed upon the number of candidates, he would only have to wait until the date of the next examination, when, if successful, he would be in possession of an English degree—an advantage so great to any one practising south of the Tweed, that it need not be enlarged upon.

Now, there are many, like myself, nearer the age of thirty than forty, who would willingly submit to the ordeal at Durham, but who cannot present themselves on account of the age clause; and if the authorities would reconsider the question, and admit to examination those whose qualifications to practise, dated ten years before the day on which they entered their names for the Durham examination, they would earn the gratitude of thousands of the profession (the active workers chiefly), and would raise the good name of the University in a manner that no other course would or could. Let us trust that the University of Durham will one day extend the liberal policy it commenced last year, and admit us to their degrees.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,  
May 26th, 1877.

EXCELSIOR.

## HODGKINSON'S POCKET INHALER.

**SIR**,—We beg to inform you we are the makers of the pocket inhaler, from the design of Dr. A. Hodgkinson, a notice of which appeared in the *JOURNAL* of May 12th, and in the report of the meeting of the Medical Society of this city on March 7th, when the instrument was exhibited. Having had since then a large number of inquiries (especially after the appearance of the account of it in your paper, which was necessarily more or less limited, and which does not seem to have conveyed anything like a clear idea of its construction or uses), we have thought it just possible that you may consider it sufficiently interesting to your readers, and therefore worth giving space, for the insertion of the enclosed illustrations, together with a more detailed account of it. We have been at great cost and trouble in bringing the inhaler to its present state of efficiency, and are therefore anxious (for the sake of those it is intended to benefit as well as for our own) to have the opportunity of bringing its merits before the profession in a *JOURNAL* so justly pre-eminent as your own.—We are, sir, your obedient servants,  
68, Market Street, Manchester, May 30th, 1877. LYNCH & BATMAN.

P.S.—If desired, we should have great pleasure in forwarding an inhaler, as well as the blocks for the illustrations.