

be open hereafter to the governing body of the University, influenced, if they would, by the views of Convocation, to put into force, in whole or in part, or, if they were of such an opinion, not put into force at all. As regarded the Senate, he believed that in this matter it had bowed to the will of Convocation, and he hoped that no gentleman present would vote against the proposal simply because of any feeling of resentment against the Chancellor for the letter which he had issued.

After a few words from Dr. MURRAY and Mr. ADAMS in support of the supplemental Charter,

Mr. W. H. HARFORD said he would regard it as a distinction if a daughter of his were able to fit herself for taking a part in the world which would enable her to help her fellow-creatures with the skill of her male colleagues, and, at the same time, with that delicacy and tenderness which but too seldom belonged to men.

Dr. WILSON FOX would vote against the proposed Charter, because it would admit women to medical degrees.

Dr. PYE-SMITH said that, in connection with the Senate, Convocation had achieved a great victory, and it was their true policy to register that victory on the present occasion. It would be an advantage to the University to get questions of dispute out of the way, so that subjects of reform could be discussed. As Liberals in the best sense of the word, they could not deny the claim of women to try for degrees. With regard to what had been said of the subjects of medical study, they knew that the familiarity of scientific study took off the effect of what, without the study, would be obscene. What would otherwise be impure, was sanctified by the desire for knowledge, and the wish to alleviate human suffering. What already applied to medical students, to nurses, and to sisters of mercy, would apply to women generally. The question which had been urged upon them was one of difficulty, and the best course was to act boldly. Let the experiment be made. He should vote for the Charter in the interests of peace and reform.

Dr. MOXON said that Mr. Herschell had seemed to say that, because Convocation had three times voted for this question, therefore Convocation for all time should be bound thereby. This could not be, any more than that the Senate were to be bound by their former votes, which were opposed to the admission of women to degrees. If one accepted the equality of women in intellectual acquirements, then logically some day they must be admitted to Convocation.

Dr. BUCKNILL would vote against the Charter, on the principle that what was called the higher education of women was mischievous. All who had studied physiology and psychology were of that opinion.

Mr. BOMPAS, in reply, said that, if the medical graduates voted against the Charter, they would take away from the Arts and Science graduates the power to admit women to degrees; whereas, if the Arts and Science members of Convocation, in voting for the Charter, passed it, the carrying out of its proposals as far as regarded the medical degrees must rest with the medical members of the Senate.

A show of hands was then taken, and declared to be in the affirmative. Upon division, the numbers were: Ayes, 242; Noes, 132; the majority for the Charter was consequently 110.

## MEDICO-LEGAL CASES.

### A RAILWAY CASE.

IN the case of *Durrant v. the Midland Railway Company*, to which we have already referred, a rule *nisi* was moved for a new trial this week, on the ground that the verdict was against the evidence as to the total loss of eyesight, and also the damages were excessive in amount. After hearing the arguments, the Lord Chief Justice said the case had assumed a very painful character; for the counsel for the railway company did not hesitate, in the face of the verdict of a jury for such heavy damages, to impute downright imposture to the plaintiff. But there was nothing in the evidence to warrant the imputation; for even the medical witnesses for the company did not deny a very serious injury, and the court would hesitate long before they set aside a verdict upon such an imputation, which appeared to be without foundation. Whether or not the damages given were more than adequate, it was difficult to say, because it might depend partly on the possible loss of eyesight. On the one hand, if loss of eyesight ensued, the amount of the verdict would be hardly adequate; and, on the other hand, even setting that aside, it could hardly be said that the amount was excessive. The verdict therefore ought, in his opinion, to stand. Mr. Justice Manisty concurred, and accordingly the verdict stands.

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

### BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

THE third ordinary meeting of the Branch will be held at the York House, Bath, on Wednesday evening, January 30th, at a quarter past Seven o'clock: H. MARSHALL, M.D., President.

The evening will be devoted to the discussion of Hospitalism, which will be opened by R. W. Tibbits, M.B.

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

Bath, December 31st, 1877.

### DUBLIN BRANCH.

THE first annual meeting of this Branch will be held in the Hall of the King and Queen's College of Physicians, Kildare Street, on Wednesday, January 30th, at 4 P.M. The President, Dr. HUDSON, will deliver an address.

The annual dinner of the Branch will also take place at 7 P.M. the same evening in the College.

GEORGE F. DUFFEY, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*  
30, Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin, January 8th, 1878.

### THAMES VALLEY BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

AN ordinary meeting of this Branch was held at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Wandsworth, on December 18th; Dr. PRICE JONES in the chair.

*Communications.*—1. Dr. HOOPER related a case of Intussusception in a Child.

2. Dr. BATEMAN read a paper on Muco-Enteritis.

3. Mr. BATEMAN showed a case of Amputation at the Ankle-Joint by Pirogoff's operation.

*New Member.*—Mr. Franklin was admitted a member of the Branch.

*Dinner.*—The members afterwards dined together.

## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

### PARIS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

*M. Raspail.*—*Magic Pipe.*—*Infectious Diseases in General Hospitals.*—*Ethnographic Gallery.*—*Prevention of Fires.*—*Sir Richard Wallace.*

THE name of M. Raspail, whose death has been announced in the JOURNAL of last week, has been so intimately connected with the profession that a short biographical sketch of his life may perhaps not be unacceptable. François Vincent Raspail was born at Carpentras, on January 29th, 1794, of poor parents. His father, though a simple publican, had him educated for the Church; but, finding himself unsuited for such a calling, young Raspail turned his thoughts in another direction, and soon became Professor of Natural Philosophy and Theology at Avignon, in which capacity he distinguished himself, so much that, in 1812, being then only eighteen, he was brought to the notice of the Emperor Napoleon, who, with his keen-sightedness, saw in the young professor something out of the ordinary. This prognostication, as has been seen during his subsequent career, was fully realised. In 1816, he came over to Paris with the view of improving his position, but had to work hard to earn a livelihood. During the day, he gave lessons on literature, and during the night he worked at chemistry and botany; and, among his earliest productions as an author, may be named his work on Organic Chemistry, a Memoir on Vegetable Embryos, and another on the Organisation of Flowers. He was of an irascible disposition, and quarrelled with everybody who differed from him. He entered into warm controversies even with the princes of science, and he looked upon Cuvier as his great rival in natural history. The senior members of the profession may well remember the part he took in the celebrated case of Madame Lafarge, on which occasion he was appointed by the Court to control the analysis of the great chemist Orfila, the expert for the prosecution, whom he actually accused of having surreptitiously introduced the arsenic (the substance alleged to have been used for the accomplishment of the murder) into the matter which M. Orfila was analysing. Without having studied even the principles of medicine, he created a system of therapeutics of his own, based on the theory that all diseases were of parasitic origin, and that camphor was

These symptoms continued while either ordinary or Swiss milk, thickened or not, was administered, exhaustion and death terminating the case. Dr. Bateman advanced the opinion that the principal cause was the caseine of the milk upon which the infants are fed, and propounded the question why it should not be produced by the caseine of woman's milk?—A discussion followed, in which Dr. JONES, Dr. WYMAN, Mr. SHIRTLIFF, and Dr. HOOPER took part.—Dr. JONES stated his opinion, as the result of long experience, that the caseine of cow's milk was indigestible only when cows were fed on brewers' or distillers' grains. It was found that by such food the proportion of caseine was increased, and, further, he believed that caseine was in an isomeric and more indigestible state. He mentioned numerous instances in which he put the idea to a critical test, by varying the food of the cow or goat.

## PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

### LUNATICS IN WORKHOUSES.

THE Brighton Board of Guardians had before them, at a recent meeting, a question of importance to parochial bodies, which has been brought prominently under consideration by a circular letter from the Bradford Union; namely, the desirability of memorialising the Local Government Board with the view to obtaining an Imperial grant for the maintenance of pauper lunatics, where such persons are housed and provided for within the walls of local workhouses. At present, a grant is made with respect to such male lunatics as are supported in the county asylums; but in many instances, Bradford and Brighton amongst them, efficient accommodation for such cases has been secured in workhouses, without, however, any subsidy being paid for them. The Board unanimously resolved on a memorial to the Local Government Board, pointing out that provision had been made, at great expense, for the maintenance of idiots and chronic lunatics in special wards at the Brighton workhouse, and that upwards of one hundred and twenty-three such cases were actually there at the present time; also, that the cost of such persons was two shillings per week in excess of ordinary inmates; and asking the Local Government Board to take the subject into consideration with a view to ending the inequality in the matter. As it was understood that other Boards were taking steps to memorialise the Board with the same object, it was decided to await their action before presenting the present memorial.

### THE BROMYARD GUARDIANS AND MEDICAL EXTRAS.

FROM *Berrow's Worcester Journal* of the 5th instant, we learn that, at a recent meeting of the Bromyard Board of Guardians, the Chairman—Sir Robert Harrington, Bart.—brought up the report of the Committee appointed, in September last, to inquire into the amount and nature of the medical extras ordered in District No. 1, containing a population of 6,581 and an area in acres of 32,979. The Committee reported that not only was there a larger number of cases in receipt of medical extras in this district than in either of the other two, but that the medical officer gave an uniform order for three pounds of meat weekly, instead of two as ordered by his colleagues; that they had called on Mr. Powell for an explanation, who had stated that, if the number of cases in his district in which he had ordered extras exceeded that in the other two districts, it was because he had received orders to attend a larger number of cases, which was accounted for by the fact that the population of his district exceeded that of the other two districts. (We perceive, by the last census, that the united population of the other two districts amounts to 5,353, and the united area to 28,028 acres). He also pointed out "that two-thirds of the patients had been over sixty years of age, and that the majority of the cases were those of malnutrition or chronic starvation (infirmity), and that if such patients had been supplied with, or had had the means of supplying themselves with, a better kind of diet, they would probably not have sought an order for medical relief; that he had ordered for each case on its merits, and the Committee must not expect that he should be guided by the practice of the other medical officers, or that they should be guided by any treatment adopted by him". He also showed that the meat supplied consisted of breasts, necks, and scrag-ends of necks, and that, when the bone was extracted, the amount left available for food was about equivalent to the dietary in use in the workhouse.

Taken aback by this remarkably cogent and conclusive reply, the

Committee recommended that the master and matron should receive stringent orders to act, in all cases, on the rule of retaining the bony portions of the meat in the house for soup, and delivering the best and least bony portions of the meat to out-patients; that no difference in this particular should be made in either of the districts; and that the relieving officers, medical officers, and guardians should be invited to inquire into and report whether this was done. At the same time, it was decided that the clerk shall, by way of reminder, send to the medical officers a copy of the rule bearing on the ordering of extra medical relief, the purport of which is that the out-door medical officer can only recommend, but not order, medical extras, the responsibility of complying with the recommendation being thrown on the relieving officer.

The subject of ordering and the supply of medical extras to the infirm and sick poor is one of great importance in rural districts; and we urge that a very considerable amount of latitude should be conceded to the medical officer in issuing his recommendations to the relieving officer on this subject, for there can be no question that the maintenance of the very life even of the aged and infirm is mainly dependent on the supply of properly nutritious food; and, if this be correct of these classes, it is even of still more importance when the patient is young, or when the bread-winner has been stricken down by illness, and needs a generous dietary to restore him to health and work. Feeling this to be the case, we consider that the best thanks of the service and the public are due to Mr. Powell for the able and manly stand he has made against the attempt of the Bromyard Board to fetter and obstruct him in the righteous performance of his duty.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

**APOTHECARIES' HALL.**—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, January 10th, 1878.

Fergusson, Reginald Archfield, Ronald Street, Glasgow  
Maybury, Lysander, Frimley, Surrey  
Roper, George Arthur, Denmark Road, Camberwell

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

Blackwell, Frederick William, London Hospital  
Green, Harry, General Hospital, Birmingham

### MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

**CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST**—Assistant-Physician. Applications to be made on or before the 26th instant.  
**DURHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications to be made on or before the 26th instant.  
**IPSWICH BOROUGH LUNATIC ASYLUM**—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, board, washing, and attendance.  
**KENT COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM**—Assistant Medical Officer and Dispenser. Salary, £165 per annum, with furnished apartments, milk, vegetables, washing, and attendance. Applications to be made on or before February 6th.  
**LIMERICK UNION**—Resident Medical Officer of the Workhouse. Salary, £200 a year, with apartments, rations, etc. Applications up to the 30th instant.  
**LOUGHBOROUGH DISPENSARY AND INFIRMARY**—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, 100 guineas per annum, with furnished rooms, fire, lighting, and attendance. Applications to be made on or before the 26th instant.  
**NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE INFIRMARY**—Senior House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to be made on or before February 4th.  
**RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY, Oxford**—Surgeon. Applications to be made on or before the 29th instant.  
**ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL FOR SKIN-DISEASES**—Honorary Medical Officer. Applications to be made on or before the 21st instant.  
**SCARBOROUGH DISPENSARY AND ACCIDENT HOSPITAL**—House-Surgeon and Secretary. Salary, £120 per annum, with apartments, coals, gas, and attendance. Applications to be made on or before the 21st instant.  
**SUNDERLAND AND BISHOPWEARMOUTH INFIRMARY**—Senior House-Surgeon. Salary to commence at £80 per annum, with board and residence. Applications to be made on or before the 24th instant.

### MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

DAVIES, H. W., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed House-Surgeon to the Memorial Hospital, Jarrow-on-Tyne, *vice* J. B. Emerson, M.B., resigned.  
\*PARKER, Rushton, F.R.C.S., B.S., appointed Assistant Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, *vice* W. M. Banks, M.D., appointed Surgeon.

### 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.*

#### DEATH.

EASTON.—On December 27th, 1877, at 19, Norfolk Crescent, Hyde Park. Eleanor Margaret, eldest daughter of \*John Easton, M.D.

## 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.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.—London, 3 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, 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.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Peter's, 2 P.M.

**THURSDAY**.... St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Charing Cross, 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.—London, 3 P.M.

**FRIDAY**..... Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Royal South London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Guy's, 1.30 P.M.

**SATURDAY**.... St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—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.—London, 2.15 P.M.

## MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

**MONDAY**.—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Lettsomian Lecture by Francis Mason, F.R.C.S.; subject, "The Surgery of the Face".

**TUESDAY**.—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 P.M. Mr. C. Higgins, "On a Case of Rodent Ulcer"; Dr. George Thin, "On the Proportion of Red Corpuscles in the Blood in some Skin-Diseases"; Dr. John Harley, "A Second Communication on Simple Atrophic Sclerema".

**WEDNESDAY**.—Hunterian Society. 7 P.M.: Council Meeting. 8 P.M.: Open Meeting.

**FRIDAY**.—Clinical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Pearce Gould, "A Case of Spina Bifida cured by Injection of Iodine" (a living subject); Mr. Berkeley Hill, "Cases of Spinal Curvature treated by Sayre's Plaster-Jacket" (living subjects); Mr. Nunn, "Two Cases of Cancer of the Breast"; Dr. Broadbent, "A Case of Paracentesis Thoracis"—Quekett Microscopical Club, 8 P.M. Mr. T. Charters White, "On Insect Dissection".

## 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*.

**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.

**CORRESPONDENTS**, who wish notice to be taken of their communications, should authenticate them with their names—of course not necessarily for publication.

The following communications have been handed to the General Manager:—Mr. W. Hasler (Killiney); Mr. Howgrave Graham (Enfield), with enclosure; Mr. J. Herbert Mearns (Richmond, York); Miss King (Southfield); Mr. C. Taylor (London); Mr. G. Rice (Woolwich); Mr. W. T. Grant (Birmingham); Mr. W. M. Banks (Liverpool).

## THE PROPER TREATMENT OF APOPLEXY.

**SIR**,—My attention has only just been directed to an article in your *JOURNAL* of the 5th instant, headed "The Proper Treatment of Apoplexy". As I am the person therein alluded to as having instigated the charge against Dr. Bates, I beg to give this statement (which is apparently given solely on the authority of a local newspaper) my most emphatic denial. Although some difference of opinion existed between me and Dr. Bates as to the treatment of the case in question, I neither originated the attack against him, nor was I aware, until I read the report in a local paper, that any charge was even contemplated against this gentleman. I may add that no one regrets more than I do the undue publicity given to the case to which your article refers, such a course being calculated to promote ill-feeling amongst members of the profession.—I am, sir, yours, etc.,

T. D. STANISTREET, L.R.C.S. & P. Edin.

Cowbridge, January 12th, 1878.

**DR. GEORGE BIRT**.—Our correspondent probably means Rogers's Portable Disinfecting Chest, which contains an outer and inner coating of iron round the bottom and four sides. The fire-box is made movable when the required temperature of 220 to 240 deg. is reached, recognised by a thermometer graduated up to 300 deg. Fahr. It is placed on wheels, to facilitate its removal from one place to another. The price varies from £10 to £30, and it can be obtained of Mr. Charles Rogers, East Retford, Notts.

**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.

**ADVERTISERS are requested to take notice that the regulations of the Post Office do not allow letters to be addressed to initials and directed to any Post Office in the United Kingdom, but letters may be addressed to initials to the JOURNAL Office or any stated address other than a Post Office.**

## SAYRE'S TREATMENT OF SPINAL CURVATURE.

**SIR**,—Having in July 1876, while in New York, had a month's practical experience with Dr. Sayre of his method of treating spinal curvatures, I may perhaps be pardoned for making a few remarks on the first case of those recorded by Mr. Parker in last week's *JOURNAL*. It is stated that, after the application of the jacket, the child was kept in bed a few days, in order to give it time to dry. Now, the object of his method of treatment, as in hip and knee-joint diseases, is to prevent the patient from being kept in bed, or even in the house, that he may take exercise in the open air the same as ordinary individuals. Dr. Sayre remarks, "Give the patient as little medicine and as much sunning as possible". I think if Mr. Parker put up his patients in a room where the temperature is at about 60 deg., and, after the jacket is applied, carefully lay the patient on a flat cushion or couch, the cuirass will be sufficiently firm and dry in half an hour. A heated circular roller now applied over the whole surface will greatly hasten the process. I would recommend also that the plaster be baked in an oven just previously to use, and that the bandages be kept in a tin box, with tightly fitting lid. If the skin-jacket fit, and the dinner-pad be used, I think there would not be any necessity for using cotton-wool or plaster, which is apt to become hardened and displaced, inflaming the skin and causing the cuirass to be become loosened. From first to last, the patient should not feel the least discomfort, but the contrary; if so, the jacket should be immediately removed and a fresh one adjusted.

As Mr. Parker observes in Case II, the "jury-mast" is undoubtedly highly essential in all cases of cervical disease.—Yours truly,  
GEO. CHAS. COLES.  
20, Great Coram Street, January 7th, 1878.

**DR. SAMUEL LEARY** (Berbice, British Guiana).—Letter and enclosure.

## MALFORMATION.

**SIR**,—The following may be of interest to the readers of the *JOURNAL*. X., a delicate woman, was delivered of her first child at the commencement of the seventh month of pregnancy. The child (dead, of course) presented the following malformation. The great toe of the right foot was prolonged into a tendril-like appendage two inches long, not thicker than a small bristle: this had encircled the left leg immediately above the ankle so tightly, that the foot was almost completely amputated at that point. The child was in every other respect well developed.

In the third month of pregnancy, this lady was most seriously alarmed one night by a violent storm of thunder and lightning close to her house, which occupied a very exposed situation.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,  
L.R.C.P.

**DR. W. B. MUSHET** writes, in reply to Mr. Balding, that the age of his patient with tibial aneurism was 28.

## INQUEST AT CATERHAM ASYLUM.

**SIR**,—I can only express regret that you have not seen fit to publish the letters of Dr. Cortis and myself; but surely the commonest sense of fairness requires you to state in your *JOURNAL* not that the original strongly censoring paragraph which appeared in your columns on the above subject, and which remains unexplained and uncontradicted, was put there after carefully considering the statements on both sides—for up to that time no communication had been made on the subject to you from the asylum—but the contrary. The verdict after an adjourned inquest in the case in question, which you already know, as well as in another adjourned case which has taken place since—viz., "Died from bronchopneumonia, accelerated by removal from the workhouse to the asylum", shows not only the necessity which exists for such action on the part of the management of the asylum, but justifies it in every particular.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,  
JAMES ADAM, M.D., Medical Superintendent.  
Caterham Asylum, Caterham, Surrey, January 9th, 1878.

\* \* We have twice gone through the papers on both sides, and adhere to our original opinion, which is adverse to the course pursued, and to the evidence given and the verdict obtained.

## AN OFFICIOUS PATIENT.

**SIR**,—I attend a peculiar patient, inasmuch as I am not allowed to dispense my own medicine nor write a prescription for the chemist to make up. He prefers making it up himself, though he possesses very little knowledge of the *Pharmacopœia*. When I am sent for, I am not allowed, in a manner, to undertake the management of the case, for he is afraid I may make too many visits, I suppose; therefore, it is always a case of "I will send for you if the patient be not better". I was once sent for to a child with a wound of the leg, which required to be nicely dressed. After dressing it once, my services were dispensed with, but I was sent for in about a week to find that the wound had never been dressed, had festered, and the edges were inflamed and gaping. I feel in a very awkward position. What is my duty under such circumstances?—I remain, yours very respectfully,  
J. L. T.

\* \* Why not decline to attend unless full confidence is given, and necessary control? A medical man is not called to solve puzzles in disease, or to answer questions, but to cure; and if all the reasonable conditions of cure be not fairly placed in his power, may fairly decline the responsibility of the case altogether.

## MR. STAMFORD'S CASE OF VILLOUS DISEASE OF THE BLADDER.

**SIR**,—The case narrated by Mr. Stamford of Tunbridge Wells in the *JOURNAL* of January 5th appears open to doubt. Here was a case of a man passing blood in his urine, and the case is diagnosed by Mr. Stamford as one of "villous disease of the bladder"; but his friend Mr. W. H. Rix thought the hemorrhage possibly came from the prostate. We are left rather in the dark as to why these two surgeons formed these opinions, although informed, "from the history of the patient, that the case is one of villous disease of the bladder". Mr. Stamford suggests that he lacerated or injured the urethra during catheterism, and probably he is correct in attributing the rigor to this cause. Although it appears that it was necessary to relieve the bladder by catheterism, I question the propriety of leaving the catheter in the bladder. Perhaps Mr. Stamford or Mr. Rix will kindly supply some further information upon the case, and state what is the man's present condition, now six months after the treatment.—I am, sir, yours, etc.,  
L.R.C.P. Lond.