

inconsiderate attempt to cut off from surgery one of its most ordinary departments. If this precedent were established, we might expect to see a register created for oculists, for aurists, and for obstetricians; and fully qualified surgeons debarred from practising in these departments, in the same way as this Bill proposes to prevent fully qualified surgeons from practising dental surgery. It is hardly possible to suppose that this was the intention of the framers of the Bill; but that would certainly be its effect. A meeting of the Parliamentary Bills Committee will be at once summoned to consider this Bill.

ARMY MEDICAL SCHOOL, NETLEY.

THE thirty-fifth session of this school was brought to a close on Monday, the 4th instant; and while we observed that a considerable number of strangers were present from the neighbourhood, as well as the military and medical officers doing duty at the Hospital, we were sorry to notice that no representative from the War Office nor from the India Office nor the Admiralty was there to give countenance and moral support to the work of the School, and personally to give away the prizes to the successful competitors.

Surgeon-general Dr. Massy, C.B., the Principal Medical Officer at Netley, presided, and presented the Martin Memorial Medal at the conclusion of the proceedings.

The session has been attended by 53 candidates—namely, 25 for the army, 19 for the Indian, and 9 for the naval medical service. There were also present two surgeons of the Indian medical service, home on furlough, who availed themselves of the opportunity of going through the practical work of the school, and another surgeon belonging to the Quebec Royal Artillery was also present and worked most industriously during the session.

Of the 25 army candidates, one of them failed to obtain the necessary number of marks to qualify him for admission to the service. Out of a maximum of 6,900 marks obtainable he gained only 2,122, a number less by 178 than what is just sufficient to place a man in the list of successful competitors; and out of 3,500 marks obtainable at Netley he gained only 872. It is well that these results should be known amongst candidates, because we have reason to believe that an impression has been gaining ground of late that, when once a candidate has passed the London examination, he has no need of any further exertion to maintain his place at Netley, and so pass into the service. He must gain at least *one-third* of the maximum marks obtainable by the combined results of the London and Netley examinations.

Two candidates only out of the 53 especially distinguished themselves in the work of the school. These were Mr. S. J. Thomson and Mr. R. N. Campbell, both of the Indian medical service, Mr. Thomson gaining both the Herbert prize (£20) and the Martin Memorial (gold) Medal. This is the third competition that has taken place for this last-named honourable distinction, instituted in memory of the late Sir Ranald Martin, K.C.B. It is open to the competition of all the candidates of the three services attending the Army Medical School during each session, and is awarded to the candidate who most of all distinguishes himself in Military Medicine. On this occasion 22 candidates competed for the medal—namely, seven army, four navy, and eleven Indian candidates, a special examination paper having been set for this competition by Professor Maclean. The final struggle mainly lay between Thomson (979), Campbell (945), and Brander (895), of the Indian service; Young (865), of the army; and Porter (861), of the naval candidates. Mr. J. S. Thomson became the successful competitor, and received the medal from Surgeon-General Dr. Massy, C.B., amidst the acclamations of his fellows.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE next meeting will be held in the Examination Hall of the Queen's College, on Thursday, February 14th, 1878.

The Chair will be taken by the President, SAMPSON GANGE, Esq., at 3 o'clock P.M.

The following papers are promised.

Mr. Lawson Tait: Fifty Cases of Ovariectomy.

Mr. Lloyd Owen: Nystagmus.

Members are invited to exhibit patients, pathological specimens, new drugs, or instruments, at the commencement of the meeting,

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

Birmingham, February 7th, 1878.

SHROPSHIRE AND MID-WALES BRANCH.

A QUARTERLY meeting will be held at the Salop Infirmary on Tuesday, February 12th, at 6.30 P.M.; J. RIDER, Esq., President, in the Chair.

The Secretary will feel obliged to those members who intend to read papers if they will signify the same to him before the day of meeting.

HENRY NELSON EDWARDS, *Honorary Secretary.*
Shrewsbury, January 30th, 1878.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.

THE first intermediate meeting of this Branch will be held at the Town Hall, Oldham, on Tuesday, March 5th, at 3.30 P.M.

Dr. W. H. Broadbent (London) has kindly consented to read a paper on the Mechanism of Speech and Thought as illustrated by Pathology.

Members wishing to read papers or to exhibit specimens are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary as soon as possible.

Dinner will be provided at 6 o'clock.

D. J. LEECH, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*
96, Mosley Street, Manchester, January 31st, 1878.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH.

AN ordinary meeting of this Branch will be held at the house of the Medical Society of London, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, on Wednesday, February 27th, at 8 P.M.; when Mr. T. HOLMES, F.R.C.S., will read a paper on Provident Dispensaries, to be followed by a discussion.

ALEXANDER HENRY, M.D. }
W. CHAPMAN GRIGG, M.D. } *Honorary Secretaries.*

London, February 7th, 1878.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Committee of Council, held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, London, on Wednesday, January 9th, 1878: Present, Dr. R. W. FALCONER (President of Council), in the Chair, Dr. E. Wilkinson (President), Mr. W. D. Husband (Treasurer), Dr. T. Clifford Allbutt, Mr. Alfred Baker, Mr. J. W. Baker, Dr. M. M. De Bartolomé, Dr. L. Borchardt, Mr. E. C. Board, Mr. Callender, F.R.S., Dr. Alfred Carpenter, Dr. Charles Chadwick, Dr. J. W. Eastwood, Mr. R. S. Fowler, Dr. E. L. Fox, Dr. C. Holman, Mr. A. Jackson, Mr. Frederick Mason, Mr. F. E. Manby, Dr. E. Morris, Dr. C. Parsons, Mr. R. H. B. Nicholson, Dr. A. P. Stewart, Dr. E. H. Sieveking, Dr. W. F. Wade, Mr. C. G. Wheelhouse:

The minutes of the last meeting were read and found correct.

Resolved: That the twenty candidates whose names appear on the circular convening the meeting be elected members of the Association.

Read letter from Dr. Wilson Fox, of which the following is a copy:

"67, Grosvenor Street, W., December 21st, 1877.

"My dear Sir,—After some consideration, I have resolved to ask you to bring the following question before the Council of the British Medical Association, and to favour me with a reply to it.

"The question which I desire to put is this: 'Are women to be permitted in the future to attend the meetings of the Medical and Surgical Sections of the annual and other meetings of the British Medical Association, and to take part in the discussions at such meetings?'

"I had believed that this question was answered in the negative by a large majority of the Association a few years ago.

"At the last meeting, held at Manchester, a lady was present, and spoke in a discussion in the Section of Medicine.

"As I do not intend to be a member of any society where medical topics are debated in public between men and women, I shall be glad to learn the decision of the Council in this matter, reserving to myself the right to publish this inquiry and the reply which I may receive.

"I remain, my dear sir, respectfully yours,

"Francis Fowke, Esq."

"WILSON FOX.

Resolved: That Dr. Wilson Fox be informed that the Committee of Council have no power to prevent ladies who are members of the Association from attending the meetings of the Association.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Journal and Finance Committee of to-day's date be approved, and the recommendations carried into effect.

Resolved: That a seal for the Association be adopted.

The President of Council then reported that the subcommittee appointed to consider the design for a seal for the Association had decided upon recommending the head of Sir Charles Hastings, the founder of the Association.

Resolved: That the design for the seal proposed by the subcommittee be adopted.

Resolved: That the terms of the lease of 161, Strand, having received the approval of the Solicitor to the Association, Mr. J. R. Upton, be, and they are hereby accepted, and that the common seal of the British Medical Association be affixed to an indenture dated the day of _____, 1877, made between Sophia Webb of the one part, and the British Medical Association of the other part, being the counterpart of a lease of a messuage or tenement and premises situate and being No. 161, Strand, in the county of Middlesex, for a term of twenty-one years from the 29th September, 1877, at a yearly rent of £320.

Resolved: That the Committee of Council insure for £3,000, and also for one year's rent (£320) in addition, so that in event of fire the Insurance Company pay the rent, as well as damage by fire.

The minutes of the Arrangement Committee for the annual meeting to be held at Bath were read, and it was

Resolved: That the minutes of the Arrangement Committee of to-day's date be approved, and the recommendation be carried into effect.

The minutes of the Habitual Drunkards Committee of to-day's date were read.

Whereupon an amendment was moved:

Resolved: That in the event of the Home Secretary not being prepared to introduce a Government measure, this Council will be prepared to give support to any reasonable measure which may be introduced by a private member.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

The first ordinary meeting of this session was held at the North Staffordshire Hotel, Stoke-upon-Trent, on Thursday, November 28th, 1877; present, Dr. ARLIDGE, President, in the chair, and twenty-five members.

New Members.—The following members of the Association were duly elected members of the Branch: Dr. J. A. Gailey (Leek); Mr. J. C. Garman (Wednesbury); Mr. M. Taylor (Cannock); Mr. George Lowe and Dr. W. G. Lowe (Burton-upon-Trent).

Pathological Specimens.—Dr. JOHNSON exhibited an Acephalous Fetus.

Mr. ALLCOCK showed two specimens of Extracapsular Impacted Fracture of the Left Femur. Both patients were over seventy years of age; one being a male, and the other a female. Before death, osseous union was complete.

Mr. VINCENT JACKSON showed a portion of the right upper jaw of a man, which had been recently removed by him on account of extensive Epithelial Disease involving the mucous membrane covering the palate and alveolar processes.

Communications.—Dr. J. H. TYLECOTE read a paper, in which he narrated the histories of some recent cases.

Mr. FOLKER read a paper on a successful case of Excision of both Knee-Joints.

REPORTS OF SOCIETIES.

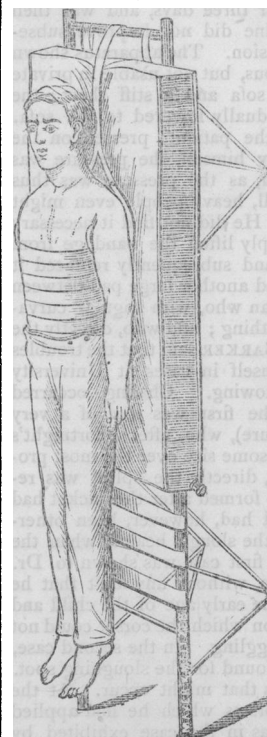
CLINICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25TH, 1878.

GEORGE W. CALLENDER, F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

Sayre's Plaster of Paris Jackets in Spinal Disease.—Mr. BERKELEY HILL brought, for the inspection of members of the Society, a selection of twelve patients with angular and lateral spinal curvature, for which they were wearing Sayre's plaster jackets. In doing this, he avoided criticism of the correctness of the theoretical grounds on which Dr. Sayre explained the mode in which the spine was affected, and also the description of the method of application, observing that those matters were set forth in Dr. Sayre's *Spinal Diseases*, etc. (Smith and Elder, 1877). He confined himself to the results which had been gained by six months' experience of the mode of treatment. The cases exhibited that evening had been mainly under his own care, but some were from the hospital patients of his colleagues, Messrs. John Marshall and Arthur Barker. Four cases from the Cheyne Hospital for Incurable Children were exhibited by Mr. James P. Bartlett. The

cases comprised examples of angular and lateral curvature of various situations and degrees, some wearing the jury-mast to support a curve in the upper dorsal region, one with lumbar abscess and sinus. The first case treated in University College Hospital after Dr. Sayre had himself demonstrated his method, was put up on July 13th. The patient immediately lost the pain in her back, which up to that time had been too severe to permit of her walking about or sitting up for more than half an hour at a time; and she went for a walk out of doors of her own accord the same day. Two days later, she went into the country till November. She at once discarded invalid habits; and in the latter part of her stay nursed a sick sister. The jacket put on in July was worn till nearly Christmas; it was then removed, and a poroplastic felt corset moulded on to the trunk while the patient was suspended. This did not appear to give sufficient support, as the pain in the back had returned frequently and increasingly. Hence Mr. Hill exhibited the patient wearing her corset—an excellent fit—to show that this material did not embrace the trunk with sufficient immobility to support it effectually. Mr. Hill next read the notes of the second case to which the plaster jacket was applied in University College Hospital, on July 14th, 1877, by Mr. Marcus Beck. This was a case of very acute character and with well marked symptoms. The patient could not walk fifty yards without his crutches, and only a very short distance with them, on account of the severe pain produced. On being encased, he walked out of the hospital easily, carrying both crutches in one hand. One month later, he was able to walk nine miles. He wore the shell for three months; it was then removed, and he had remained quite well ever since. Mr. Hill then briefly described the case of the daughter of a medical man in Cheltenham, who was encased by Dr. Sayre himself at Guy's Hospital on July 25th, 1877. She had been suffering for eight years from injury to the upper dorsal region, causing collapse of the upper part of the column, great protrusion both backwards and forwards, complete inability to stand or walk, constant pain, and at one time, paraplegia. On January 23rd, 1878, her father wrote: "She began to improve from the first, and has continued to walk with increasing strength ever since. She has literally had no pain at all. She does her share of play, and goes regularly to school." Mr. Hill then summed up the benefits which six months' experience of the plaster shells had shown. 1. Pain was at once arrested. 2. So far as the spine was concerned, the patient was immediately able to sit upright and to walk about. 3. Control of the lower extremities, when lost or diminished, was rapidly improved or restored. 4. Abscesses steadily closed. 5. The spinal column lost



much of its abnormal curve and consolidated in the improved position. 6. In lateral curvatures, a permanent increase of stature was often obtained. 7. Finally, by Sayre's jacket cure was more rapid and less irksome than by any other method. Mr. Hill remarked that caution was necessary to prevent the patient from attempting too much exertion; even when thoroughly supported in the shell, most patients required rest through some part of the day. In conclusion, Mr. Hill mentioned several small modifications in the method of application, which had been found to be improvements. The chin-piece should be more deeply cupped at the chin and well lined with thick felt. The suspending straps should be attached just in front of the zygoma and behind the ear. The axillary slings should be padded firmly, and stiffened, so as to take the form of the cross of a crutch. To receive adult or heavy patients from the gallows without risk of bending the plaster shell before it had set, Mr. Hill had contrived a table, swinging at its middle like a toilet looking-glass. This, carrying the slack air-bed, could be pushed against the patient while suspended; two large hooks were slipped under the arm-pits and hitched to the top of the table. The patient, thus attached to the table, was freed from the gallows. The table was lowered from the vertical to the horizontal position, and the patient sank without strain or jolt into the slack air bed, which supported the plaster evenly on all sides till it set. Messrs. Mayer and Meltzer, who had

of the Local Government Board whether he had considered the desirability, with a view to the better carrying out of the Public Health Act, especially with regard to the suppression of nuisances, of making it compulsory to appoint the medical officers of health in all cases for unions or other large areas, instead of, as is now sometimes the case, for parishes only.—Mr. SCLATER-BOOTH said he did not intend to propose any change in the law on that subject; but the Local Government Board had always encouraged a combination of local authorities in respect to the appointment of these officers, and it would continue to do so.

MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE.—List of army medical candidates, who were successful at both the London and Netley examinations, having passed through a course of instruction at the Army Medical School, Netley, February 1878:

Marks.		Marks.	
1. Keayes, W.	4930	13. McLaughlin, H. J.	3330
2. Young, P. G.	4558	14. Power, E. R.	3316
3. Crofts, F. W.	4273	15. Donovan, H. L.	3229
4. Beamish, R. T.	3956	16. Leader, N.	3150
5. Parker, W. A.	3900	17. Tidbury, J.	2913
6. Green, A. P.	3869	18. Lyle, A. A.	2842
7. Lundy, A. R.	3865	19. Clinch, J. V.	2784
8. Anderson, J.	3865	20. Conolly, J. V.	2742
9. Pedlow, J.	3850	21. Charlton, H. A. H.	2542
10. Routh, J. J.	3350	22. Barrington, H. W.	2496
11. Mulrenan, J.	3348	23. O'Neill, S. L.	2495
12. Grier, H.	3335	24. Quarry, C.	2454

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.—List of Indian medical candidates, who were successful at both the London and Netley examinations, having passed through a course of instruction at the Army Medical School, Netley, February 1878.

Marks.		Marks.	
*1. Thomson, S. J.	5008	11. Tully, E.	4050
2. Campbell, R. N.	5000	12. Davidson, D. C.	3985
3. Brander, E. S.	4972	13. Bennett, C. H.	3942
4. Manser, R.	4880	14. Peacocke, J. C. H.	3890
5. Chatterjee, F. C.	4719	15. Nariman, K. S.	3875
6. Emerson, G. A.	4565	16. Sargent, A. F.	3697
7. Adey, H.	4500	17. Thornhill, W. H.	3615
8. Koyaji, B. M.	4290	18. Robinson, R. H.	3486
9. Street, A. W. F.	4130	19. Reporter, M. E.	3327
10. Jervis, H. P.	4065		

* Gained the Herbert Prize and the Martin Memorial Medal.

NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICE.—List of naval medical candidates, who were successful at both the London and Netley examinations, having passed through a course of instruction at the Army Medical School, Netley, February 1878:

Marks.		Marks.	
1. Porter, J.	4670	6. Charlton, G. R. D.	3445
2. James, C.	4015	7. Bell, G. W.	3350
3. Loane, Th.	3275	8. Jeaus, F. A.	3160
4. M'Leod, A. W.	3620	9. Reid, A. W. W.	3445
5. Triggs, J. B.	3544		

PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

ACTION AGAINST A MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

SIR,—In your comments upon the County Court action lately brought against me and the sub-inspector to recover the value of some herrings which we were alleged to have illegally seized, you state "the defendants were represented by Mr. Proud, but whether or not he was clerk to the local authority is not stated, and we do not, therefore, know whether or not Mr. Manson was properly supported by his board." Kindly permit me to explain that Mr. Proud is not the clerk to the local authority, but was employed by them; and further, that I am happy to state that I have always received every consideration and all necessary support from the board. With reference to the risk at which medical officers of health carry on their duties, I may mention that I was advised that there was a statutory defence to the action brought against me; in fact, a plea that, as I was acting in my official capacity, no action would lie against me. However, it was much better for the case to be tried on its merits than to have even the appearance of shirking inquiry. The plaintiff supported his case by witnesses who said they had eaten some of the fish. I am afraid some people will eat anything; and, if such evidence be of any weight, a conviction for selling unsound food will be difficult to obtain.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,
R. T. MANSON, Medical Officer of Health.

for No. 1 District, Auckland Union Sanitary Authority.
Howden-le-Wear, February 4th, 1878.

PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

FLINN, D. Edgar, L.K.Q.C.P.L., appointed Medical Officer of Health for the Brownhills (Staffordshire) Local Board District.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

ELSON, Frederic, L.K.C.P., appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator to the Whitwell District of the Workson Union, vice H. E. Walker, M.R.C.S., resigned.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—The following gentlemen were admitted Members on January 31st, 1878.

Cottle, Ernest Wyndham, M.B. Oxford, 3, Savile Row
Duncan, James Matthews, M.D. Aberd., 71, Brook Street

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

BRECON INFIRMARY—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with apartments, attendance, fire, and lights. Applications to be made on or before the 11th instant.

CASTLEBLAYNEY UNION—Medical Officer to Dispensary District. Salary, £125 per annum, exclusive of emoluments as Sanitary Officer, Registration and Vaccination Fees. Applications to the 14th instant.

CLIFDEN UNION—Medical Officer for the District comprising the Islands of Inishboffin and Shark. Salary, £90 per annum, exclusive of Registration and Vaccination Fees. Applications to the 13th instant.

DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON—Dental Surgeon. Applications to be made on or before the 13th instant.

GENERAL INFIRMARY, Hertford—Medical Resident and Secretary. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to be made on or before March 6th.

GENERAL INFIRMARY, Northampton—Surgeon. Applications to be made on or before the 27th instant.

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Pendlebury, Manchester—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, residence, etc. Applications to be made on or before the 14th instant.

HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Soho Square—House-Physician. Applications to be made on or before 12th instant.

IPSWICH BOROUGH LUNATIC ASYLUM—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, board, washing, and attendance.

LINCOLN LUNATIC HOSPITAL—Resident Medical Superintendent. Salary, £150 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to be made on or before the 16th instant.

LIVERPOOL ROYAL SOUTHERN HOSPITAL—Two Honorary Surgeons. Election in February. For particulars, apply to Honorary Treasurer.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL—Assistant Physician. Applications to be made on or before the 12th instant.

NARBERTH UNION—Medical Officer for No. 4 District. Salary, £35 per annum, and fees, with £10 as Medical Officer of Health.

NORTHAMPTON GENERAL INFIRMARY—Physician. Applications to be made on or before the 20th instant.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY IN IRELAND—Examiners for 1878 in the following subjects, at the salaries stated. Medicine, £100; Surgery, £100; Midwifery, £75; Materia Medica, £75; Medical Jurisprudence, £75. Applications to be addressed to the Secretary, at Dublin Castle, up to the 15th instant.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL—Surgeon and Assistant Surgeon. Applications to be made on or before the 13th instant.

TOBERCERRY UNION—Medical Officer of Coolaney Dispensary District. Salary, £120 yearly, with Registration and Vaccination Fees. Applications to the 11th instant.

WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL—Aural Surgeon and Assistant Surgeon. Applications to be made on or before the 26th instant.

WESTERN GENERAL DISPENSARY—Honorary Surgeon. Applications to be made on or before the 12th instant.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS:

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

*PAUL, Frank T., M.B., M.A., appointed Pathologist to the Liverpool Royal Infirmary, vice *Rushton-Parker, M.B., appointed Assistant-Surgeon.

*HACON, W. E., L.R.C.P., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Central London District Infirmary at Highgate.

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.

BIRTHS.

FRER.—On January 4th, at The Lindens, Lozells Road, Birmingham, the wife of *Edward L. Frer, M.R.C.S. Eng., of a daughter.

SKRIMSHIRE.—On January 30th, the wife of *Charles Parnham Skrimshire, M.R.C.S. Eng., of Clydach Villa, near Abergavenny, of a son.

PRESENTATION.—Mr. Caskie of Largs was recently presented with a massive tea and coffee service, and salver, and a purse of sovereigns, by a number of the residents of Inverkip, Wemyss Bay, and Skelmorlie, at a public entertainment given in his honour.

A CENTENARIAN.—There is at present an old lady residing in Lower Crumpsall, who has attained the age of 103 years. Her name is Jane Pinkerton, and she resides with her daughter, who is 72. She was born at Paisley in June 1774. She went to the north of Ireland, and married in 1798. About thirty-four years ago her husband died.

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 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. Dr. Melbourne King (Hull), "A Case of Ligature of Carotid and Subclavian Arteries for Aneurism of Arteria Innominata, and Aorta"; Mr. Balmanno Squire, "Two Cases of Flat Vascular Nevus successfully treated by repeated Linear Scarifications"; Dr. Althaus, "On Diseases of the Anterior Cornua of the Spinal Cord".

TUESDAY.—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society. 8 P.M.: Ballot. 8.30 P.M.: Dr. Poore, "Analyses of Seventy-five Cases of Writers' Cramp"; Dr. Broadbent, "On a Case of Amnesia".

WEDNESDAY.—Hunterian Society. 7.30 P.M.: Annual Meeting for Election of Officers. 8 P.M.: Annual Oration by P. L. Burchall, M.B.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

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.

SIR.—Can you inform me if there is an English translation of Bouchut's *Traité des Maladies des Enfants*? and oblige, yours faithfully,
REDLAND.

*. * We are not aware that there is one.

MEDICAL EDUCATION OF WOMEN.

SIR.—Dr. Wilson Fox has, in my opinion, opened a question worthy of serious and dispassionate consideration by the British Medical Association. I think few will deny that the loss of such a member to the Association is of more importance than that of any number of half-informed young ladies. When I say half-informed, I speak advisedly, for I could not conceive any English gentleman imparting, or any English lady receiving or studying, the entire curriculum of medicine and surgery. But independently of this narrower view, there is the wider one, whether the British Medical Association, by opening its doors to women, does not thereby encourage them in prosecuting the study of medicine, with its always possible results. It would be out of place here to enter on the effects of such study on the virgin mind. One result alone—that a maiden should acquire knowledge that a matron should not possess—should be sufficient to cause every father and brother to oppose such a perversion of education. We have enough to contend with, in shielding our maidens from the vile influences of "Priests in Confessional" and books of the Besant and Bradlaugh order, without aiding them in studies unbefitting their sex.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,
R. EATON POWER.
Dartmoor, February 1878.

An article to which our attention has been called in the *Dublin Mail* of the 30th ultimo, upon the Dublin Orthopaedic Hospital, is, in our opinion, open to very grave objections. We trust that the medical gentlemen whose names are therein mentioned had no complicity with the publication of the article in question; and in any case it is to be regretted that facility should have been afforded for the publication of an article so closely allied to an advertisement, and the particular powers there attributed to the medical officers. Such publications are injurious to the character of the profession, and call for general condemnation.

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.

SUICIDE OF A STUDENT AT GUY'S HOSPITAL.

SIR.—The suicide of one of the students at Guy's Hospital has caused sincere regret. It is not my purpose to attribute blame to any one, or to try to elucidate the real cause of this sad occurrence. Such a task would not only be difficult, but, I am inclined to think, unjustifiable. At the same time, the public have been led to suppose, from an account which appeared in one or two of the daily papers, that this suicide was due to the disappointment and chagrin caused by the refusal of the authorities to allow the student in question to present himself at the College of Surgeons. Be this so or not, I think much good may arise if the present practice in regard to the signing of schedules at Guy's and some other medical schools is reconsidered. Under the existing arrangements, those who are responsible for these matters delay giving an answer to the majority of students until the last day for sending in the papers to the Royal College of Surgeons. In some instances, this practice is carried to such excess that students have been known to be refused admission to an examination, because they have not been able to get their schedules from the medical school authorities until late in the afternoon. Students are kept in doubt under this system until the very last moment, and then, if the answer be unfavourable, the reaction after the excitement of a prolonged suspense is likely to do much mischief. If the schedules are signed, the evil is only a degree less, for by the time the student has been to the College and made the necessary arrangements with the authorities there, he is practically fit for little. Just let your readers imagine the effect of a student waiting, waiting, waiting for an answer from his teacher from ten o'clock till late in the afternoon each day, and day by day during the last three or four days, before an examination! His precious time is wasted, for how can he pretend to read with this load of anxiety on his shoulders? His temper is ruffled, and his nerves become unstrung. Under such circumstances, the wonder is that many of the students pass at all. If the authorities would only place themselves in the position of the students under circumstances similar to those I describe, a new rule would soon be made. The reform needed is, that the classes for the second College examination should commence quite two months before each examination, and the decision of the lecturer should be announced and a list of those men who are considered fit to be admitted to the examination posted in the hall at least a week before the last day for sending in names to the College of Surgeons. If this alteration were made in the direction I suggest, I am convinced that in the future the probability of a repetition of the sad event recently enacted at Guy's Hospital would be considerably lessened. It is no excuse to say that the authorities are anxious to let as many men up as possible, and hence the necessity of the present system; because, if a student be not sufficiently advanced a week before an examination, for his own sake and in the interest of the school he should be kept back.

Hoping you will exert your influence to put an end to a system which has led to great evils in the past, for by its means teachers are made unpopular, parents are dissatisfied, and students are rendered less able to meet the examiners with confidence and nerve.—I am, etc.,
A FOURTH YEAR'S STUDENT.

T. M.—Under the circumstances, we think the course permissible, proper care being of course taken that the stated limits are not overstepped.

AN APPEAL.

SIR.—I venture to appeal to your readers on behalf of the family of Mr. J. C. White, late senior house-surgeon to the Ardwick and Ancoats Dispensary, who was tried, convicted, and sentenced to five years' penal servitude at the last Manchester Assizes, for attempting to procure abortion. However indignant we may feel that a member of our profession should have been guilty of such an offence, we surely must all sympathise with the wife and children, who are thus suddenly left, through no fault of their own, in a state of utter destitution. A subscription-list has been opened, with a view to affording temporary assistance to Mrs. White until she is able to obtain some employment. The Rev. John Watson, Rector of St. Jude's, Mill Street, Ancoats, Mr. Cullingworth, and myself, form a committee to receive contributions and to see that the funds are properly applied. We shall be greatly obliged to any friends who will help us. Post Office orders may be made payable to me at the Branch Office, Downing Street, Manchester.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,
T. N. DEAN, Consulting-Surgeon to the Ardwick and Ancoats Dispensary.

37, Shakespeare Street, Ardwick, Manchester, February 6th, 1878.

P. S.—Without wishing in the least degree to palliate the crime, I may mention incidentally that the young woman has received no injury, and that at the time of the trial she was still pregnant of a living fetus. I may also state that there was no evidence to show that White had any personal reasons for trying to induce abortion. He appears to have had no other object in view than that of helping a married acquaintance to escape the consequences of an improper intimacy with his servant.
T. N. D.

"A SUFFERER" should personally consult one or more competent members of the medical profession.

BOOKS OF REFERENCE.

SIR.—To a "Member" asking for two good practical reference books, I would recommend Flint's *Practice of Medicine* (Lca, Philadelphia) and Murphy's *Midwifery*.—Your obedient servant,
WM. VAWDREY LUSH, M.D.
Weymouth, January 30th, 1878.