

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA.

[FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

New Australian Branch of the British Medical Association.—Presentation to Dr. Neild.—Address to Dr. Jamieson.—Taxation of Patent Medicines.

By this mail, I am glad to inform you that the number of members forming our Branch is now close upon fifty, which we must think a very satisfactory result, considering the short time of its existence. I do not think that our number will keep on swelling at this rate during this year; but I am confident that, when invitation is again made to the medical men of this colony to join during the next year, a more widespread response will be given. The JOURNAL itself, in addition to the advantages of belonging to an Association, is the strong inducement for country members, who, far away from town and at some distance from the possibilities of any professional intercourse, feel themselves thus linked to the English profession. A meeting of the Council was held on Friday, October 10th, at the house of the President (Mr. Gillbee). A number of new members were balloted for and enrolled. At this meeting, in response to an invitation from the Chairman of the Ceremonial Committee of the Melbourne Exhibition for 1880, Dr. McCrea, Mr. Hewlett, and your correspondent, were elected as delegates to the Social Science Congress, which it is intended to hold contemporaneously with the Melbourne Exhibition. The matter of the desirability of amalgamating the Medical Defence Society with the Branch was further discussed; and Dr. Browning, Honorary Secretary of the Medical Defence Society, and Dr. Louis Henry, were authorised to communicate with each other as to the best means of effecting this, and then to lay their proposals before the Council at their next meeting. After the business of the meeting had terminated, the whole of the members of the Council, and some other members who had been invited, sat down to an excellent supper, and the evening passed in a highly enjoyable manner. It has been mutually agreed that the Council shall meet at each other's houses alternately, each to furnish a supper on the occasion. We expect to hold an ordinary meeting for the reading of papers, etc., during this month.

Dr. Neild will shortly be presented with a testimonial from the Medical Society of Victoria, for his energy on their behalf, his long and continuous connection with their Society, and his talented and skilful guidance and editorship of the *Australian Medical Journal*.

On the occasion of delivering the concluding lecture of the term, Dr. Jamieson, the Lecturer on Obstetrics, was presented by his class with an address, in which they congratulated him on the successful issue of his endeavours to instruct them in the science and art of midwifery, and also thanked him for his courtesy and consideration which he had at all times manifested towards them.

A blow has been struck at the excessive use of patent medicines in this colony, by the imposition of an almost prohibitive duty of 25 per cent. In connection with this, the following story is told. A staunch supporter of the present Government, who had been continually purchasing a box of patent pills, on entering the shop to repurchase the same, was asked threepence more than he had usually paid. On inquiring into the matter, he was quietly informed that the new duty had caused the rise in price. The purchaser, looking at the pill-box in a perplexed manner, said: "Well, I can stand a good deal. I supported this Government through thick and thin, from first to last, but this is going a little too far; tax a man's mild aperient! If that's protection, then I'm out of it." And one more swells the ranks of the Opposition.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

THE DEGREE IN NATURAL SCIENCE.—On February 3rd, the question of the Natural Science Degree will, *Nature* reports, again come on for discussion in congregation. Last term, it will be remembered, the proposal to grant a special natural science degree was defeated after a close division, the principal opposition to the motion coming from the scientific members of congregation. It was thought that a separate science degree, not carrying with it the privileges of the Master of Arts Degree, would be regarded as an inferior degree, and tend to lower the position of science in the University. A clause is now proposed by an influential body of residents—including Professor Odling, Dr. Mark Pattison, Rector of Lincoln; A. Vernon Harcourt, Professor Green, Professor Lawson, and Professor Nettleship—to the following effect: "Every person who shall have been admitted to the Degree of Master of Natural Science, shall also be admitted to the Degree of Master of Arts."

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: SOUTH LONDON DISTRICT.

AN adjourned meeting of this district will be held at Bethlem Royal Hospital, St. George's Road, S.E., on Wednesday, February 4th, at 8 P.M.

The reply of the Prime Minister to the resolutions referring to Dr. Farr's resignation will be considered.

The discussion on Private Asylums will be resumed by Dr. W. G. Balfour, who will explain the provisions of a proposed Bill on the subject.

H. NELSON HARDY, *Honorary Secretary*.

The Grove, Dulwich, S.E., January 28th, 1880.

SOUTH OF IRELAND BRANCH.

THE usual quarterly meeting of the Branch will be held in the Royal Cork Institution, on Wednesday, February 25th, at 4 P.M.

Members intending to read papers, or send communications, will kindly intimate their intention to the Secretaries.

P. J. CREMEN, M.D., } *Honorary Secretaries*.
T. G. ATKINS, M.D., }

Cork, January 22nd, 1880.

VICTORIA BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

AN ordinary meeting of the above Branch was held on Wednesday, November 26th, 1879, at the Athenæum, Melbourne. Mr. GILBEE, the President, occupied the Chair; and there were about twenty members present.

THE PRESIDENT congratulated the proposers of the movement upon the success which had attended the formation of the Branch, and expressed himself hopefully of the prospects for the future.

Report.—The Honorary Secretary, Dr. LOUIS HENRY, announced that the list of members now numbered fifty-two. He thereupon read the report of the Council on a visit to the Metropolitan Lunatic Asylum at Kew. This report exposed facts of an interesting character. It showed that the asylum was much crowded, and that the treatment of the patients appeared to have no reference to their specially diseased conditions. Particularly the visitors had noted the lack of employment, both bodily and mental; the want of cubic feet of space sufficient for the requirements of each patient; that the building, originally intended for the accommodation of six hundred patients, was now overcrowded to the extent of one thousand. The report, after a brief discussion, was unanimously adopted.

Papers.—The following were read.

Dr. JAMIESON, Lecturer on Obstetrics at the University, read a carefully prepared paper on the Comparative Fertility and Frequency of Abortion among Women in England and Victoria. His own observations confined themselves to two hundred married women who attended the Melbourne Hospital as out-patients. This paper evoked considerable discussion; and the suggestion was made to Dr. Jamieson to extend the range of his observations, so as to increase the definiteness of his conclusions. Dr. Balls-Headley, Dr. O'Hara, and Dr. Adam took part in the discussion.

A paper on the Pathological Histology of the Brain in a Case of General Paralysis, with microscopical demonstrations, was read by Mr. ALEXANDER MORRISON. It was accompanied by some exquisitely prepared sections of brain-substance illustrative of the author's remarks, and called forth warm admiration for the care with which Mr. Morrison had conducted his observations.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE second ordinary meeting of this Branch was held on Wednesday, December 17th, 1879, at the Museum and Library, Bristol: Dr. BEDDOE, President, in the Chair. There were also present fifty members and two visitors.

Papers.—The following were read.

1. Dr. GREIG SMITH read a paper on Osteotomy for Genu Valgum, showing a patient, and illustrating his paper by numerous photographs.

2. Dr. ELLIOTT read a paper on the Treatment of Chorea by Monobromide of Camphor.

3. Dr. SWAYNE read a paper on the Induction of Premature Labour.

ing, which, in spite of the best exertions of professional friends and the most unremitting attention of his family, were often acute, he finally sank on January 7th. Of a family of ten children, three only, with his widow, survive him—two daughters and his eldest son, who bears his name.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SIR,—I must ask a brief space to say that neither in my letter you were good enough to publish in the *JOURNAL* of the 13th December, nor in anything I have ever said or written on the subject, is there a single word to justify the sentence in your note, in which you speak of "the fullest conceivable use of the information" as to the existence of infectious disease. I have never expressed the slightest objection to the notification of infectious diseases: I have simply asked, as one seeking information, what use medical officers of health are to make of the information when they get it, and pointed out some of the unquestioned difficulties in the way. Medical officers of health have to perform their duties under the sanction of an Act of Parliament by the enactments in which they are bound. They are officers of a public authority, and must act within the law. Surely, then, it is not unreasonable to ask some of the many "eminent sanitarians" to throw some light on this subject. They certainly have not yet done so. If my memory serve me right, they were by no means agreed on the subject in their evidence before the Royal Sanitary Commission, out of whose report the Public Health Act sprang. At the present moment, in every town where the local authority has obtained the power to compel the notification of infectious disease, the matter stands thus: A. B. may say to the friends of his patient, "Your corporation have an Act by which I am obliged under a penalty to give you this certificate; and by the same Act, you are obliged to see that it is delivered at the office of the local authority; but no officer has any right to enter your house without your permission, and certainly no authority to examine or interfere with your sick relative". If this be true, surely it is not wise to be urging local authorities to obtain powers they cannot use for any practical purpose. I ask, simply with the desire to obtain information, "What are the limits of practical usefulness to which sanitary authorities can apply the information when obtained? If this be very limited, what new legislation is proposed?"—I am, your obedient servant,

S. W. NORTH.

York, December 15th, 1879.

*. Mr. North would tempt us into a discussion on the general question of the desirability of the registration of disease, a subject into which we have already expressed our unwillingness now to enter; but we must point out to him that he is in error in supposing that there was any disagreement on this subject in the evidence taken by the Royal Sanitary Commission. If he will turn to the Report of the Commission, under the head of Registration, he will find the Commissioners arguing strongly and at length in favour of the registration of sickness. They stated, indeed, distinctly, that "all the witnesses examined by us on the point have spoken strongly on the need of this registration of sickness" (page 59). On the very numerous grounds brought forward by the Commissioners, they recommended "that authority and sufficient means should be given to the Registrar-General for a registration of sickness", and that "the diseases constantly registered should be those which affect large numbers of the population, which may be considered as, in a greater or less degree, preventable by sanitary arrangements, and which are usually not difficult of discrimination". As to Mr. North's statement, that he has "ever expressed the slightest objection to the notification of infectious disease", we can only say that the papers on the subject read by him last year before the Yorkshire Association of Medical Officers of Health and the British Medical Association appear to leave a distinctly contrary impression. Many phrases occur in these latter which seemed to us to show conclusively that Mr. North was opposed to the notification of such cases; but we are glad to find that we were mistaken, and we do not doubt that many of our readers will be rejoiced to learn what Mr. North's real feelings in the matter are.

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF THE CLUN DISTRICT.

SIR,—I think it right to inform you of the true facts of the case relative to my action in the matter of the medical officership of this district of the union. When I first settled down in this neighbourhood, I was informed by a friend that one of the guardians of the union had told him that the medical officer then in office could not continue in the appointment, as he was not sufficiently qualified to hold it when another medical man who possessed the necessary qualifications was on the spot, and that unless I sent in my application the guardians would be placed in an awkward position. I was also informed that the medical officer of this district then in office was only appointed annually, and not triennially, as is the case with the other medical officers of the union, in the event of another medical man coming to reside here. As the guardians thus appeared to expect me to apply for the appointment, I did so; but, finding it was made more a matter of personal feeling and party spirit on their part than a point of law, I referred the matter to the Local Government Board.

You will thus see that it was not I who pointed out to the guardians the fact of their then medical officer not being sufficiently qualified, but that their eyes were already open to the fact; and had it not been for the opinion expressed by the guardians, I certainly should not have moved in the matter at all.—I am, sir, yours truly,

JOHN W. DAVIES.

Clun, December 30th, 1879.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

ALLEN, Alfred, M.D., appointed Medical Officer to the Keelby District of the Caistor Union, *vice* Ralph Burnham, M.R.C.S.Eng., resigned.
CROWE, J. W., L.K.Q.C.P., appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Hartlepool District of the Hartlepool Union, and Medical Officer of the Hartlepool Union Workhouse, *vice* George Moore, M.D., resigned.
GAGE, R. C., M.B., elected Medical Officer to the Scotstown Dispensary District, Monaghan Union, *vice* J. C. Hall, M.B., resigned.
PENNY, Charles Hall, L.K. & Q.C.P.I., appointed Medical Officer, Medical Officer of Health, and Public Vaccinator for the Wymondham Division of the Melton Mowbray Union, *vice* C. G. Leacock, L.R.C.P., resigned.
STAFF, George T. A., L.K.Q.C.P.I., appointed Medical Officer to the Third District of the Penzance Union, *vice* F. E. Hunt, L.R.C.P.Ed., resigned.

MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

SIR,—Can you inform me in your next issue whether medical officers of the Army Medical Department joining under the new Warrant will be granted extra pay or allowances while serving in India?—I remain, sir, yours, etc., A MEMBER.

*. Army medical officers under the new Warrant will not receive any additional pay or allowances while serving in India. The pay and allowances in that country will remain the same as they have been under the late Warrant. The Secretary of State's instructions on this head are very distinct. They are the following. "The Warrant will not be applicable to army medical officers while in India, and no additional emolument will, under its provisions, accrue to medical officers serving in that country."

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted members of the College at a meeting of the Court of Examiners, on January 21st.

Back, Alfred A., Hethersett, Norfolk (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
Bartlett, Charles R., Cheltenham (St. George's Hospital)
Bates, Henry L., Streatham (Guy's Hospital)
Beresford, Charles W., Buxton (University College)
Biss, Cecil Y., Sydenham (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
Breese, Thomas T., Norwich (University College)
Cree, Edward R., St. John's Park, M. (Middlesex Hospital)
David, William W., Cymer, South Wales (Guy's Hospital)
Dixon, Harry A., Burnley, Lancashire (Manchester School)
Evans, Ebenezer D., Wareham (University College)
Groom, Henry T., Camden Road (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
Harvey, Sidney F., Clapham Road (St. Thomas's Hospital)
Hebbert, Charles A., Birmingham (Westminster Hospital)
Hormazdj, Robert Nesbit, Bayswater (St. Mary's Hospital)
Hunter, Vere E., Cromwell Crescent (St. George's Hospital)
Knipe, Francis A. P., Malvern (Guy's Hospital)
Little, Ernest M., Park Street (St. George's Hospital)
Mort, Robert B., Southport (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
Shorland, Walter E., Bristol (Bristol School)
Smith, Frederick M. G., Fareham, Hants (Guy's Hospital)
Swale, Harold, Guildford (St. Thomas's Hospital)
White, William H., Carshalton (Guy's Hospital)
Wightwick, Fallon P., Folkestone (Middlesex Hospital)

Six candidates were rejected.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, January 15th, 1880.

Heygate, Frederick Nicholas, West Haddon, Rugby
Jago, Edwin Osborne, Plympton, Devon
Whelan, John Joseph, Grafton Terrace, Maitland Road

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

Davies, Jenkin, St. Thomas's Hospital

The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, January 22nd, 1880.

Baines, Harold Athelstane, Saxon Villa, Lincoln
Bissill, Arthur Kent, Sleaford, Lincolnshire
Chenai, Eduljer Sorabjee, Chaudor Villas, Lorn Road, Brixton
Conolly, Paul Bennett, Somerset Terrace, Kilburn
Hakim, Homadji Merwanji, Chaudor Villas, Lorn Road, Brixton
Karanjia, Muwanji Dhunjibhai, Chaudor Villas, Lorn Road, Brixton
Kelawala, Manekshaw Jamskedji, Cromwell Road, Bayswater

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

Orton, Arthur, Queen's College, Birmingham
Puddicombe, William Noble, Guy's Hospital
Williams, Walter Treliving, London Hospital

At the Preliminary Examination in Arts, held at the Hall of the Society, on the 23rd and 24th of January, 1880, one hundred candidates presented themselves, of whom the following passed, and received cer-

tificates of proficiency in general education. In the First Class, in order of merit:

1. C. H. Upham. 2. Mary Royce. 3. C. H. Conolly and Arthur Wright. 4. A. F. Messiter. 5. E. E. Batt, R. H. Castor, B. Rigby Johnston, T. G. MacLaren, and F. H. Mead.

In the Second Class, in alphabetical order:

H. W. Austin, Arthur Badcock, E. E. Barclay, R. S. Betts, A. H. Bird, E. J. Bower, Gilbert W. Brooks, Jabez P. Brooks, K. F. Brown-Constable, G. C. Buchanan, F. J. Calvert, J. A. Coles, E. P. Collett, R. Cordiner, H. A. W. Coryn, W. H. Craggs, W. E. Eppstein, R. Fetherstonhaugh, E. Gumpert, Kathleen H. Graham, E. Gregson, H. Gurney, E. M. Hassard, W. Hook, T. Hurlbutt, H. Hutchinson, H. W. Husbands, C. H. Jackman, F. P. R. James, S. H. Johns, Osborne Johnson, David E. Jones, Hadley G. Jones, C. R. King, A. G. V. Leech, William J. Lewis, H. E. M. Long, Montague Moore, R. Powell, J. P. Roughton, H. S. Saunders, J. B. Sutton, George Thorpe, A. H. Vlieland, J. Wilding, Charles Wisken, and H. P. Ziemann.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

Particulars of those marked with an asterisk will be found in the advertisement columns.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

- ***ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE DISTRICT INFIRMARY**—House-Surgeon. Salary to commence at £80 per annum, with residence and maintenance. Applications not later than February 25th.
- ***BOOTLE BOROUGH HOSPITAL**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications on or before the 31st instant.
- BRIGHTON AND HOVE DISPENSARY**—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £140 per annum, with apartments, gas, etc. Applications on or before February 2nd.
- ***BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY**—House-Physician. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, board, and washing. Applications on or before February 2nd.
- ***BURY ST. EDMUND'S FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £180 per annum, with house, coal, gas, and additional fees for Midwifery. Applications, stating age, testimonials, etc., on or before February 23rd.
- ***EVELINA HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN**—Registrar and Chloroformist. Salary, £30 per annum. Applications not later than February 5th.
- GRANTHAM UNION**—Medical Officer for the Spittlegate District and Workhouse. Salary, £90 per annum.
- ***GRAVESEND DISPENSARY AND INFIRMARY**—House-Surgeon and Dispenser. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications, with testimonials, to the Honorary Secretary, not later than February 6th.
- ***GREAT YARMOUTH HOSPITAL**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications, with testimonials, to the Honorary Secretary, on or before March 18th.
- HUNGERFORD UNION**—Medical Officer for No. 3 District. Salary, £80 per annum, and fees. Applications on or before February 10th.
- ***HUNTINGDON COUNTY HOSPITAL**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £60 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications on or before February 6th.
- ***KING'S COLLEGE**—Professorship of Ophthalmic Surgery, also Ophthalmic Surgeon. Applications to the Secretary.
- ***LIVERPOOL NORTHERN HOSPITAL**—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £70 per annum, with residence and maintenance in the house. Applications and testimonials to be addressed to the Chairman of the Committee not later than February 21st.
- ***LONDON FEVER HOSPITAL**—Physician and Assistant-Physician. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, not later than February 7th.
- MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL**—Assistant-Physician. Applications on or before February 7th.
- ***NATIONAL HOSPITAL FOR THE PARALYSED AND EPILEPTIC**—Physician for the Out-patient Department and two Assistant-Physicians. Applications to the Secretary on or before February 7th.
- ***RICHMOND HOSPITAL, Surrey**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum for first year, with annual increase of £10 up to £100, with board and furnished apartments. Applications to the Secretary on or before February 18th.
- ROSCREA UNION**—Medical Officer for Roscrea No. 1 Dispensary District, at a salary of £100 per annum, £10 as Medical Officer of Health, with Registration and Vaccination Fees. Election on February 2nd.
- ROSCREA UNION**—Medical Officer for Workhouse, at a salary of £80 per annum. Election on February 5th.
- ***ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL**—Clinical Assistant. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, on or before February 12th.
- WEST KENT GENERAL HOSPITAL, Maidstone**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £120 per annum, with lodgings, attendance, etc. Applications on or before the 31st instant.
- ***WEST SUSSEX, EAST HANTS, AND CHICHESTER INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY**—Surgeon. Applications on or before February 7th.
- ***WILLITON UNION, Somerset**—Medical Officer for the Porlock District of the Union. Salary, £50 per annum, with extra fees for operations, etc. Applications, with testimonials and qualifications, on or before February 9th.

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 announcements.

BIRTHS.

- BENTON**.—On January 25th, at The Cottage, Bushey Park, the wife of Samuel Benton, Esq., M.R.C.S., of 2, Bennett Street, St. James's, of a son.
- HARDWICKE**.—On January 25th, at Parkfield House, Sheffield, the wife of *Herbert Junius Hardwicke, M.D., of a daughter.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—During last week, being the third week of the year, 4,370 deaths were registered in London and twenty-two other large towns of the United Kingdom. The mortality from all causes was at the average rate of 26 deaths annually in every 1,000 persons living. The annual death-rate was 21 per 1,000 in Edinburgh, 26 in Glasgow, and 40 in Dublin. The rates in the twenty English towns were as follows: Oldham 19, Sunderland 19, Brighton 21, Sheffield 22, Wolverhampton 22, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 23, Leicester 23, Norwich 23, Bradford 23, Portsmouth 23, Leeds 24, Bristol 24, Salford 24, Birmingham 25, London 27, Plymouth 27, Liverpool 28, Hull 29, Nottingham 30, and the highest rate 31 in Manchester. The annual death-rate from the seven principal zymotic diseases averaged 3.8 per 1,000 in the twenty towns, and ranged from 0.7 and 0.9 in Wolverhampton and Oldham, to 8.4 and 10.8 in Plymouth and Hull. In London, 1,900 deaths were registered, which exceeded the average by 139, and gave an annual death-rate of 27.1. The 1,900 deaths included 3 from small-pox, 30 from measles, 83 from scarlet fever, 13 from diphtheria, 140 from whooping-cough, 11 from different forms of fever, and 14 from diarrhoea—altogether, 294 deaths, which were 31 above the average, and were equal to an annual zymotic rate of 4.2 per 1,000. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 455 and 512 in the two preceding weeks, further rose, under the influence of the lower temperature, to 559 last week, and exceeded the corrected weekly average by 104: 372 resulted from bronchitis, and 120 from pneumonia. Different forms of violence caused 61 deaths: 48 were the result of negligence or accident, including 10 from fractures and contusions, 11 from burns and scalds, 3 from drowning, and 16 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. Nine cases of suicide were registered during the week. At Greenwich, the mean temperature of the air was 29.7°, and 9.6° below the average. The direction of the wind was variable, and the horizontal movement of the air averaged 6.7 miles per hour, which was 7.1 below the average. Rain or melted snow was measured to the amount of 0.01 of an inch. The duration of registered bright sunshine in the week was equal to 11 per cent. of its possible duration.

NEW DISPENSARY AT MILLTOWN.—At a recent meeting of the Tuam Board of Guardians, it was resolved to establish a dispensary depot at Milltown; and that Dr. McDonnell, the medical officer of Dunmore District, should attend there once a week, and receive an addition to his salary of £10 a year for the extra duties to be performed.

LIVERPOOL MEDICAL INSTITUTION.—At the annual meeting held on January 13th, the following honorary officers and members of Council were elected or re-elected.—*President:* Reginald Harrison, Esq. *Vice-Presidents:* John Newton, C. Puzey, R. Caton, M.D., and E. H. Dickinson, M.D. *Treasurer:* W. M. Campbell, M.D. *General Secretary:* Rushton Parker, M.B., B.S. *Secretary to Ordinary Meetings:* E. A. Browne. *Librarian:* J. M. Howie, M.B. *Other Members of Council:* A. Bernard, M.B., A. Davidson, M.A., M.D., A. F. Graham, M.D., J. W. Warburton, D. M. Williams, A. T. H. Waters, M.D., W. M. Banks, T. D. Ransford, J. Barr, M.B., W. McCheane, H. G. Rawdon, and B. Townson. The number of trustees having been reduced to three, the full complement of ten (five physicians and five surgeons) was made up again at this meeting, viz., J. Cameron, M.D., T. F. Grimsdale, A. T. H. Waters, M.D. (remaining three), W. M. Banks, W. Macfie Campbell, W. Carter, M.D., A. Davidson, M.D., T. R. Glynn, M.D., R. Harrison, and C. Puzey. *Microscopical Committee:* Wm. Alexander, M.D., P. M. Braidwood, M.D., A. Davidson, M.D., E. H. Dickinson, M.D., T. R. Glynn, M.D., Sibley Hicks, John Newton, and Rushton Parker, M.B., B.S.

PRESENTATION.—At the annual meeting of the governors of the Yeovil Hospital and General Dispensary, Dr. Russell Aldridge was presented with a silver waiter, water-jug, and case of salts; Mr. E. C. Garland, with a silver *entrée* dish; and Mr. W. A. Hunt, with a silver salver—each article bearing a suitable inscription. Afterwards, the following resolution was passed: "That this meeting tenders its warmest thanks to the medical officers (Messrs. Aldridge, Garland, Hunt, and Flower) for their gratuitous and most efficient services during the past year; that, as Dr. Aldridge and Mr. Garland have tendered their resignations, the same be accepted, but that they be requested kindly to continue to act as honorary medical officers for the in-department; that Mr. Hunt be desired still to hold the office of honorary surgeon-dentist; and that Mr. G. J. Flower and Mr. C. J. Marsh be the honorary surgeons for the out-department for the present year respectively."

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 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.—St. Mark's, 9 A.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 3 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.—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 P.M.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.

FRIDAY.....Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Royal South London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department), 2 P.M.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.

SATURDAY...St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.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 P.M.

HOURS OF ATTENDANCE AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

CHARING CROSS.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, M. Th.; Dental, M. W. F., 9.30.

GUY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, exc. Tu., 1.30; Obstetric, M. W. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 1.30; Tu. F., 12.30; Ear, Tu. F., 12.30; Skin, Tu., 12.30; Dental, Tu. Th. F., 12.

KING'S COLLEGE.—Medical, daily, 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., M. W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th. S., 1; Ear, Th., 2; Skin, Th.; Throat, Th., 3; Dental, Tu. F., 10.

LONDON.—Medical, daily exc. S., 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30 and 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 9; Ear, S., 9.30; Skin, W., 9; Dental, Tu., 9.

MIDDLESEX.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 8.30; Ear and Throat, Tu., 9; Skin, F., 4; Dental, daily, 9.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, M. Th. S., 2; o.p., W. S., 9; Eye, Tu. W. Th. S., 2; Ear, M., 2.30; Skin, F., 1.30; Larynx, W., 11.30; Orthopaedic, F., 12.30; Dental, F., 9.

ST. GEORGE'S.—Medical and Surgical, M. Tu. F. S., 1; Obstetric, Tu. S., 1; o.p., Th., 2; Eye, W. S., 2; Ear, Tu., 2; Skin, Th., 1; Throat, M., 2; Orthopaedic, W., 2; Dental, Tu. S., 9; Th., 1.

ST. MARY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.15; Obstetric, Tu. F., 9.30; o.p., Tu. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 1.30; Ear, W. S., 2; Skin, Th., 1.30; Throat, W. S., 12.30; Dental, W. S., 9.30.

ST. THOMAS'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, except Sat., 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 2; o.p., W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th., 2; o.p., daily except Sat., 1.30; Ear, Tu., 12.30; Skin, Th., 12.30; Throat, Tu., 12.30; Children, S., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 10.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1 to 2; Obstetric, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; Eye, M. W. F., 2; Ear, S., 1.30; Skin, Tu., 1.30; S., 9; Throat, Th., 2.30; Dental, W., 10.3.

WESTMINSTER.—Medical and Surgical, daily 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. F., 3; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 9; Skin, Th., 1; Dental, W. S., 9.15.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Lettsomian Lectures, by W. F. Teevan, B.A. F.R.C.S. Lecture III: "Stone in the Bladder".

TUESDAY.—Pathological Society of London, 8.30 P.M. The President: Specimens and Casts illustrating Joint-Disease in Locomotor Ataxia. Dr. Buzzard: Cases of Locomotor Ataxia, with Osseous and Articular Lesions (living specimens). Mr. Morgan: Specimen of Diseased Bone. Dr. Goodhart: Congenital Occlusion of the Duodenum; Gangrene of the Colon. Dr. Dreschfeld (Manchester): Tumours from Abdomen. Mr. Hulke: Drawings of Cancer. Mr. James Startin: Drawings of Skin-Disease—Psoriasis and Acute Pemphigus. Dr. Gilbert Smith: Epithelioma of Pharynx. Dr. F. Semon: 1. Congenital Syphilis of the Larynx; 2. Endolaryngeal Epithelioma. Mr. Nunn: 1. Secondary Tumour after Removal of Breast; 2. Epithelioma of Penis; 3. Melanosis of Finger. Mr. Nettleship: Optic Neuritis. Dr. W. Ewart: 1. Disease of Suprarenal Capsules; 2. Miliary Tubercle of Bladder.

WEDNESDAY.—Epidemiological Society of London, 8 P.M. Dr. Squire will exhibit Micro-photographs, by Sternberg, of the Blood in Yellow Fever; Surgeon-General Dr. Joseph Ewart will read a paper entitled "Enteric Fever in India, with some observations on its probable Etiology in that Country".—Obstetrical Society of London, 8 P.M. Specimens: New Instruments, by Dr. Heywood Smith; Moles and Fibroid Tumour of Vagina, by Dr. Herman. Annual Meeting: Election of Officers; Changes in By-Laws, by the President's Address.

THURSDAY.—Harveian Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Osman Vincent, "Congenital Talipes in the Adult"; Mr. Walter Pye, "The Present Position of the Operation of Nerve-stretching".

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor, 161, Strand, W.C., London; those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the JOURNAL, etc., should be addressed to the General Manager, at the Office, 161, Strand, W.C., London.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, are requested to communicate beforehand with the General Secretary and Manager, 161, Strand, W.C.

CORRESPONDENTS not answered, are requested to look to the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

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.

A DISTRESSING CASE.

The following is a list of the donations received for Mr. Dalton since last week.

January 17th.—Dr. Sjordet (Mentone)	£	s.	d.
„ 22nd.—Dr. Alexander Maclean (near Wick)	0	10	0
H. F. T.	0	10	0
January 22nd, 1880.			
			HEYWOOD SMITH.

COTTAGE HOSPITALS.

SIR,—Will any of your readers who may be connected with cottage-hospitals kindly forward to me a copy of their reports, which would give me some information as to the working of such institutions?—I am, yours faithfully,
The Hill Top, Gipsy Hill, Norwood, Jan. 20th. WM. GANDY, M.R.C.S.

DUBIOUS.—We think other methods, less open to objection, might be found of rendering friendly service to a beginner, of whom our correspondent thinks well.

COLLEGE OF SURGEONS AND EXAMINATIONS: PASS AND HONOURS.

SIR,—Why cannot the College of Surgeons divide the successful candidates at its examinations for the membership into first and second divisions, and allow those who pass in the first division to compete for honours, similar to the plan adopted by the London University? Some pass with abundance of information to spare, others scrape through, but all are bracketed equal. The examination for honours might be held the week after the first and second examinations respectively, or it could be held at the same time that for the fellowship takes place. Such a plan would allow hard-working students an opportunity of showing that they possessed more knowledge than what was merely sufficient to pass them, and would infuse a healthy rivalry into the schools, all of whom would be pleased to see their men carry off the blue ribbon of the College. The principle once adopted, the details could be easily carried out, and would doubtless add considerably to the prestige of that institution through whose portals the great body of English practitioners pass.—Yours, etc.,
A MEMBER OF THE COLLEGE.

INFLUENCE OF CONGENITAL SYPHILIS ON VACCINATION.

SIR,—I was unfortunately unable to attend the meetings upon the animal vaccination question; but, having attentively read the reports of the various speeches, I failed to see noted a fact that I have repeatedly observed—viz., that it is impossible to obtain a satisfactory (*i.e.*, a properly formed) vesicle in a congenitally syphilitic subject. I have so often noticed this, and am so assured of it, that, when I have not obtained properly formed vesicles, I look upon it as suggestive of a syphilitic taint in the constitution. I am not prepared to say that the vaccination in congenitally syphilitic patients is not protective. I think the opposite to be the case, as I have treated a case of vaccine syphilis—*i.e.*, a tubercular eruption—general over the surface, and yielding to the application of hydrargyrum cum creta and starch externally, instead of violet powder and the internal use of hydrargyrum cum creta. Vaccination from these imperfect vesicles will not produce a well-formed vesicle in a healthy subject, but one similar to the vesicle in the congenitally syphilitic, which looks as though it had been rubbed by the clothes, and its ragged appearance is thus generally accounted for by the parent who brings the child on the eighth day. I have, however, too frequently noticed the fact to be deceived, and in some instances have attended both parents, in others one, for syphilis before marriage. In some cases, I have had to infer syphilis from miscarriages or stillborn children. After the poison has somewhat worn out, and the children are born with less of the characteristics of congenital syphilis about them, the vesicles may form well, but the ulceration afterwards is excessive, and leaves a large ragged scar.

I may mention that during the cattle-plague year I vaccinated, at the request of the owner, as a protective against that disease, a whole herd of sixteen or seventeen cows from points just above the vulva without trouble or failure, and could have taken an unlimited supply of lymph had I wished to do so.—I am, your obedient servant,
SAMUEL PRALL, M.D., F.R.C.S.

West Malling, Maidstone, January 1880.

THE DIET AT CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.

"A MOTHER" writes to complain of the diet at the Blue Coat School, where, she says, the boys have three meals during the day—viz., breakfast, consisting of bread and butter or dripping, with poor milk and water; dinner, of meat and bread, with some vegetable; never a pudding of any kind; the meat in summer often bad from the heat, and in winter so hard and unsavoury that day after day it is not eaten by the weakly, of whom there must be several in a school of seven hundred, and who certainly require more than the bread and vegetable; tea, of bread and butter or treacle, with milk and water. Our correspondent is acquainted with several boys from different counties—none of these from homes of luxury—and, notwithstanding a strong *esprit de corps* towards their school, the testimony of one and all about the food is the same. She trusts that her statement of facts may be the means of calling public attention to a state of things which has only to be realised by the governors and managers of this wealthy and noble charity to be easily remedied, so that the culinary arrangements may be made as good as other large schools and colleges.