

stimulate our national sanitary progress, but as well to advance the study of vital statistics throughout the civilised world; and to record its surprise and regret that his paramount claims to the office of Registrar-General have been disregarded, and the post bestowed on a gentleman whose name is yet entirely unknown to the country in connection with statistical science. And this Society, while suspending its judgment on the reasons which may be assigned to justify this singular appointment, cannot but feel alarm and dissatisfaction that a Government department, by its conduct of affairs, should have caused in succession the retirement and loss to the public service of two such pre-eminent men as Mr. Simon and Dr. Farr."

HOME FOR INEBRIATES.

It has been determined to make an effort to establish by voluntary effort an institute for the purpose of treating inebriates according to the provisions of the Habitual Drunkards Act, 1879, which came into operation with the commencement of this year. This determination was come to last week at a meeting of the committee of the British Medical Association on Habitual Drunkards, and of the committee of the independent society formed to promote legislation on the subject. The institute, when established, is to be supported by payments from the patients. It is proposed to call it the Dalrymple Retreat for the Treatment of Inebriates, and the special committee includes Dr. A. Carpenter, Mr. C. A. Govett, Dr. N. Kerr, and Mr. S. S. Alford.

At the Social Science Rooms, on Tuesday, Dr. A. Carpenter, in the absence of the Earl of Shaftesbury, presiding, Mr. S. S. Alford read a paper on the Habitual Drunkards Act of 1879, the class of persons for whom it is intended, and how it may be administered, with an account of a recent visit to the American Inebriate Homes. The Earl of Shaftesbury, in a letter expressing regret that he could not preside, said: "The truth is that I have been (for the first time in my life) very seriously ill; and I have not yet recovered strength enough for the duty of the evening. I heartily wish well to the movement, and I shall be very glad to give any strength that God may spare to me in aid of your operations." The Archbishop of York wrote: "I shall watch with much interest the report of your meeting", adding his regret that he should not be in London in time for it. Letters of sympathy and regret at their absence had also been received from Lord Aberdare, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Earl of Harrowby, Lord Selborne, and Lord Beauchamp. There was a full attendance of members.—Mr. ALFORD first sketched the origin and history of the movement which led to the passing of the Act, and said that, as 94 per cent. of the occupants of American homes are voluntary inmates, it is believed much good will result from this tentative but incomplete Act. From the numerous applications received by him, as honorary secretary of the society for promoting legislation on the subject, he was confident that well managed retreats would succeed as a pecuniary investment, and from his observations in America, he anticipated a fair percentage of recoveries. The frequency of inebriety in America Dr. Beard attributes to the climate, the dryness of the air, and the extremes of heat and cold. Inebriety and other neuralgic disorders are most common in the north and east, where there is so much total abstinence. Indeed, Dr. Beard says there is no country in the world where there is so much total abstinence from the use of stimulants, and at the same time so much inebriety as a disease. The drinking habit has been diminishing for the last twenty or thirty years among the better classes, and yet the disease has been on the increase among them. Therefore Dr. Beard considers that the disease should be treated on the same principle as nervous diseases; first, by keeping the patient from exposure to the exciting causes; and, second, by fortifying the system with nerve sedatives and tonics. Homes have been established in America for twenty-two years. Most of the local governments, in both Canada and the States, have laws recognising the necessity for control and treatment; some States do not authorise detention, but subsidise the homes. The chief obstacle to their more general establishment arose from the want of a more recognised uniform plan of management. A like difficulty may occur here. If our Act could be brought to bear on the criminal and working classes, it would greatly contribute to the lessening of drunkenness. If the charitable public would start institutions to receive these classes, magistrates might, in drunken cases, give the option of going into an inebriate retreat instead of to prison. In this way, magistrates would be relieved of difficulty, and an infatuated, helpless class put in a position to recover their lost moral and intellectual power.

Dr. NORMAN KERR warmly urged the necessity for something being done, and mentioned the distressing case of a gentleman of education who had written to him from a workhouse, declaring that he was willing to be put anywhere.—Mr. POTTER said the police-court agents

of the Church of England Temperance Society were always meeting with prisoners who would be willing to submit to restraint.—Mr. ZIERENBERG, of the St. James's Home for Women in Kennington, said that it had reclaimed sixty-two per cent. of its inmates for four years.

The discussion closed with the adoption of the following resolution, moved by Mr. HOLTHOUSE, and seconded by Dr. HARDWICKE:

"That, to establish a home for the treatment of habitual drunkards, in which it is proposed that the managing committee shall have no pecuniary interest, appears to be the best way by means of which the Habitual Drunkards Act, 1879, is likely to be made useful. This meeting, therefore, recommends the society by whose means the Act was obtained, to proceed with the course which they propose to undertake, and that the term 'Dalrymple Retreat' appears to be an appropriate name for the same."

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE fifth meeting of the session will be held in the Examination Hall of the Queen's College on Thursday, the 12th instant. The Chair will be taken by the President, Dr. JOHNSTON, at three o'clock P.M.

The following papers are promised.

1. Mr. J. V. Solomon: Ophthalmic Notes of interest to the "Family Doctor".

2. Dr. Carter: Notes on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Pleurisy in Children.

3. Dr. Hickinbotham: Midwifery two hundred years ago.

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

E. MALINS, M.B.,

E. RICKARDS, M.B., } *Honorary Secretaries.*

Birmingham, February 4th, 1879.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: NORTH LONDON DISTRICT.

THE next meeting of this district will be held at the Myddleton Hall, Islington, on Thursday, February 19th, 1880, at 8.30 P.M., when the following papers will be read.

Mr. Brown: Some Remarks on Tumours of the Breast following Injuries.

Mr. French: On Carbuncle.

Mr. Mann: On Lupus.

THOMAS STRETCH DOWSE, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*

2, Old Burlington Street, February 4th, 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.,

T. G. ATKINS, M.D., } *Honorary Secretaries.*

Cork, January 22nd, 1880.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH.

THE second ordinary meeting of the present session will be held at the Board Room of the Infirmary, Stafford, on Thursday, February 26th, at 3.30 P.M.

VINCENT JACKSON, Wolverhampton

J. G. U. WEST, Stoke-upon-Trent

Wolverhampton, February 2nd, 1880.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: NORTH LONDON DISTRICT.

A MEETING of this District was held at the Myddleton Hall, Islington, on Thursday, January 15th.

The following papers were read.

1. A Case of Extra-uterine Fœtation. By J. W. Mason, Esq.

2. The Diagnosis of Paralysis of the Motor Division of the Seventh Nerve, arising from Centric (Cerebral) and Peripheric (Neural) Disease. By A. Morison, M.D. A discussion followed, in which Drs. Wiltshire, Henty, Cree, and Dowse, and Mr. Archer, took part.

For many years, Sir Dominic Corrigan held the office of Physician to the College of Maynooth; and for the last ten years of his life, those of Physician in Ordinary to the Queen in Ireland and of one of the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland.

In August 1870, Sir Dominic was elected M.P. for the City of Dublin in the Liberal interest, after a sharp contest, in which, owing to the impending disestablishment of the Church, which he warmly advocated, somewhat more than the ordinary amount of difference was exhibited. He held his seat till the dissolution of 1874, taking an active part in the business of Parliament, and frequently addressing the House. Though holding a respectable position in the House of Commons, and occasionally speaking with effect, he never achieved there the success predicted by his friends. Many of these had grave misgivings, not only from the age (sixty-eight) at which he entered Parliament, but from the mode of his address not being of a character to conciliate that fastidious assembly. It was further feared that late watching, loss of sleep, and the fatigue of frequent travel to and from London, would ultimately impair his health, which, though previously vigorous, had latterly given indications of yielding in frequent and severe attacks of gout. By these attacks, which left his feet somewhat stiff and swollen, his capacity for active exercise was diminished. In 1874, he might have been re-elected for Dublin, but, to his honour be it said, he declined to accept his seat on the terms proposed by the Vintners, the then dominant interest in the city—namely, that he should forego his advocacy of the Sunday Closing Bill then before Parliament.

MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

ARMY MEDICAL BOARDS.

A CORRESPONDENT calls our attention to a statement made in a military journal, to the effect that every Surgeon-major will have to show to the satisfaction of a Medical Board "that he is fit for service at home and abroad before he can be promoted to the new rank of Brigade-surgeon"; and alleges that, inasmuch as the proceedings of these Medical Boards are secret, there are no means of testing their honesty or accuracy. We have not observed any clause in the Army Warrant recently published that lays down a rule for Brigade-surgeons before their promotion to pass through the ordeal just mentioned; but we presume it to be an admitted principle in all instances of promotion to a higher rank, that the officers promoted are fit for service in all respects. Our correspondent mentions some instances in which surgeons who have been examined as to their physical fitness for service in a higher rank, have been declared unfit for promotion; and others in which they have been declared fit for promotion, with what appears to be a strange disregard of evenhanded justice. We cannot credit that a "Medical Board"—that is, a committee of medical officers—would combine to give a dishonest professional opinion regarding fitness for service, or any other matter affecting the interests of an officer whose case may be submitted to their judgment, especially when the officer is one of their own body; at the same time, we cannot see why the grounds on which a decision is based should be kept secret in any instance. On the contrary, we think that every surgeon whose welfare is seriously injured by the decision of a board of officers, is fully entitled, in common justice, to be made aware of the circumstances which have led to that decision.

BRUSSELS MEDICAL GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION.—The first annual dinner of this Association was held on Wednesday, January 28th, when about twenty of the members and their friends were present. The President, Dr. J. Beresford Ryley, in proposing prosperity to the Association, referred to the great difficulty which beset British practitioners who were desirous of obtaining a degree; and said that, were some native university to open its doors to any practitioner able to pass its examination, without insisting on residence, it would supply a want felt throughout the whole of the profession, and would obviate the necessity of men seeking abroad what they were prevented from obtaining at home. Dr. F. E. Pocock, Honorary Secretary, in replying to this toast, with which his name had been coupled, gave a short sketch of the origin of the Association, and congratulated the members present upon the success of this the first annual dinner. The toast of the "Country Members" was responded to by Dr. Huthwaite of Nottingham. Dr. Stretch Dowse, in responding for the "Visitors", congratulated the members on having been able in so short a time to get up such a flourishing Association as the present. He had inquired carefully about the Brussels examination, and felt sure that it was a good one; and, for his own part, "his great regret was that he could not be a Brussels graduate".

PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL APPOINTMENT.

NORTHEY, W. C., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Medical Officer to the Tavistock District and the Workhouse of the Tavistock Union, *vice* R. Eliot West, M.R.C.S., deceased.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—The following gentlemen, having passed the required examination, were elected members at the quarterly meeting of the College, on January 29th, 1880.

Fowler, James Kingston, M.B. Cambridge, 35, Clarges Street, W.
Huggard, William Richard, M.D. Queen's University, Hammersmith, W.

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 22nd.

Butler, George R., Yarmouth, Nova Scotia (St. Thomas's Hospital)
Farmer, Ernest W. W., Boulogne-sur-Mer (University College)
Gubbin, George F., Brixton Road (Westminster Hospital)
Harper, Charles J., Hadleigh, Suffolk (Guy's Hospital)
Harris, Frederick W. H. D., Ivy Bridge, Devon (University College)
Hatton, George S., Newent, Gloucestershire (St. Thomas's Hospital)
Hawkins, Frederick D. C., Clapham (St. George's Hospital)
Jacob, Henry G., Southsea (Charing Cross Hospital)
Peck, Edward G., Cambridge (St. George's Hospital)
Powell, Henry A., University Street (University College)
Winterbottom, Charles, Sloane Street (St. George's Hospital)

Fifteen candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen were admitted members on January 23rd.

Atkin, Charles, Sheffield (Guy's Hospital)
Billiald, Richard A., Nottingham (King's College)
Bissill, Arthur K., L.S.A., Sleaford (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
Buckell, Arthur E., Chichester (University College)
Gilkes, Malin D'O., Leominster (Guy's Hospital)
Harries, Arthur J., Llanelly (University College)
Henty, Sydney H., Camden Road (University College)
Knight, William, Sutton (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
Mathews, Sidney R. H., Bickley (Guy's Hospital)
Palmer, John, Langport, Somerset (King's College)
PHELPS, Philip, Weston-super-Mare (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
Phillips, Lawrence H. K., Brighton (Guy's Hospital)
Sers, Clement H., Lewisham Road (St. Thomas's Hospital)
Smith, James S., Salisbury (Guy's Hospital)
Towilson, Harry J., Wingfield, Derbyshire (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
Whitworth, William, St. Agnes (Guy's Hospital)

Ten candidates were rejected.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN.—At the Winter Commencements, held on Wednesday, December 17th, 1879, in the Examination Hall of Trinity College, the following Degrees in Medicine and Surgery were conferred by the University *Caput*.

Bachelor in Surgery.—George Henry Manning, Beatty Wallace, John A. de Courcy Williams, Joseph Dallas Pratt, and Robert Henry Johnston.

Bachelors in Medicine.—George Henry Manning, Wallace Beatty, Malcolm Henry Moore, and Richard Henry Stewart Sawyer.

Master in Obstetrics.—William Henry White.

Master in Surgery.—William Ireland Wheeler.

Doctors in Medicine.—Thomas Kinley Hamilton, Nicholas John Halpin, Edmund Sharkey, William Alexander Fitzgerald, and Stephen Flood (*in absentia*).

The Honorary Degree of *Doctor in Utrouque Jure* (LL.D) was also conferred on James Henry Reynolds.

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM.—Primary examination for degrees in Medicine and Surgery. The following have satisfied the examiners.

Cheetham, Walter Henry, M.R.C.S.
Giles, Bernard Faraday, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.
Lloyd, George Jordan, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.
Mantle, Alfred, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.
Fardington, George Lucas, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.S.A.
Porter, William Smith, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Roué, William Barrett
Seager, Herbert West, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.
Wills, Joseph Pearce Budgett
Wray, Charles

One candidate referred in botany, and two candidates referred in all subjects, will be permitted to re-enter for examination in April next.

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.
- *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.
- *GENERAL LYING-IN HOSPITAL, Lambeth—House-Physician. Applications on or before the 14th instant.
- GRANTHAM UNION—Medical Officer for the Spittlegate District and Workhouse. Salary, £90 per annum.
- 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.
- *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.
- *LONDON HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL—Lectureship in Botany. Applications on or before the 23rd instant.
- 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.
- *ROYAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY, Margate—Resident Surgeon. Applications on or before the 21st instant.
- *ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL—Clinical Assistant. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, on or before February 12th.
- *WEST LONDON HOSPITAL, Hammersmith—Assistant Surgeon. Applications on or before the 21st 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.

OGILVIE.—At 13, North Street, Kingston, Jamaica, on December 9th, 1879, the wife of James Ogilvie, F.R.C.S.Ed., of a son.

DR. GEORGE GIBSON, Surgeon to the Royal Naval Hospital, Port Royal, Jamaica, was killed, on January 21st, by a fall from his horse.

VACCINATION.—Mr. Morgan Lloyd, of Conwil-Elvet, Carmarthenshire, has received a government grant of £16 8s. for successful vaccination in his district.

MEDICAL MAGISTRATE.—Dr. William MacLachlan, of Doonbank, Dalmellington, has been, on the recommendation of the Lord Lieutenant of the County, appointed a Justice of the Peace for the County of Ayr.

THE will and codicil of Dr. William Chamberlain Hood, formerly of South Lambeth, and afterwards of Dublin, who died on the 14th ulto., has been proved under £45,000.

THE Wakefield Guardians have increased the salary of Mr. William J. Lorraine, as Medical Officer for the Sandal Magna district, from £10 to £20 per annum.

THE FRENCH HOSPITAL.—The twelfth annual dinner of this excellent institution took place on Saturday at Willis's Rooms. The Comte de Florian, one of the Secretaries of the French Embassy, presided in the absence of the French Ambassador. It was stated by the Honorary Secretary that since the day of its opening the hospital has afforded relief to 2,043 in-patients and 48,240 out-patients, divided into twenty different nationalities. The list of subscriptions at the dinner amounted to about £2000.

DR. JOHN WATT REID has assumed the duties of Director-General of the medical department of the navy.

WE have received an excellent photograph of the late Dr. Seaton from Mr. Fradelle of Regent Street.

BEQUESTS TO MEDICAL CHARITIES.—Mr. Duncan Hoyle has left £1,000, and Miss Hunter £100, to Greenock Infirmary. The late ex-Bailie Kedzlie of Portobello has left to the Portobello Destitute Sick Society, £100; to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, £100; and to the Sick Children's Hospital, Edinburgh, £150, in addition to other benevolent bequests.

MR. JAMES NAYLOR, the Medical Officer to the Provident Dispensary at Stockport, died very suddenly on Thursday, January 22nd. He appeared to be in better health than usual in the morning, and proceeded by omnibus from his residence to the Dispensary; but, on getting out, he was seen to fall. He was immediately put into a cab, to be taken home; but expired on the way.

SUPERANNUATION.—At a meeting of the council of the Poor-law Medical Officers' Association, held on February 3rd, at their rooms, 3, Bolt Court, Fleet Street, attention was directed to the hardship of the case of Mr. J. J. Terry of Wittersham, Kent, who after upwards of forty years service as Poor-law medical officer was refused superannuation allowance, when incapacitated for further duty. It was resolved that a communication be addressed to the President of the Local Government Board on this subject, he having promised to a deputation of Poor-law medical officers on June 12th, 1876, his willingness to investigate any case of this nature which might be brought before him.

THE *United Service Gazette* is glad to find that the question of exchanges in the Army Medical Department is being ventilated. Combatant officers are allowed to make an open declaration on exchange, without entering into detail of expenses incurred, whereas medical officers are under the necessity of making out statements as if they were stewards rendering accounts to their masters. Our contemporary has heard of cases in which it has been suggested that even the outfitter's bill for an increase to the medical officer's 'family wardrobe should be attached, and it remarks: "Such statements of expenses should not be required any longer. One and the same declaration should apply to the whole army."

PUBLIC HEALTH.—During last week, being the fourth week of the year, 4,964 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 30 deaths annually in every 1,000 persons living. The annual death-rate was 25 in Edinburgh, 26 in Glasgow, and 49 in Dublin. The annual rates of mortality in the twenty English towns were as follow: Wolverhampton 16, Portsmouth 21, Sheffield 21, Bradford 24, Sunderland 25, Bristol 25, Norwich 25, Birmingham 26, Leeds 27, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 27, Brighton 27, Leicester 29, Oldham 30, Nottingham 30, London 31, Liverpool 32, Plymouth 32, Salford 32, and the highest rate 35 both in Manchester and Hull. The annual death-rate from the seven principal zymotic diseases averaged 4.2 per 1,000 in the twenty towns, and ranged from 0.0 and 0.4 in Wolverhampton and Portsmouth, to 9.7 and 11.2 in Plymouth and Hull. Whooping-cough showed the largest proportional fatality in Salford, Plymouth, and London; measles in Hull, Plymouth, Nottingham, and Leicester; and scarlet fever in Norwich and Sunderland. In London, 2,200 deaths were registered, which exceeded the average by 607, and gave an annual death-rate of 31.3. The 2,200 deaths included 11 from small-pox, 33 from measles, 70 from scarlet fever, 10 from diphtheria, 193 from whooping-cough, 19 from different forms of fever, and 5 from diarrhoea—altogether, 341 deaths, which were 92 above the average, and were equal to an annual zymotic rate of 4.9 per 1,000. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 455, 512, and 556 in the three preceding weeks, further rose last week, under the influence of the severe cold, to 757, and exceeded the corrected weekly average by 341: 531 resulted from bronchitis, and 149 from pneumonia. Different forms of violence caused 48 deaths: 46 were the result of negligence or accident, including 13 from fractures and contusions, 9 from burns and scalds, 3 from drowning, and 16 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. At Greenwich, the mean temperature of the air was 29.2°, and 10.9° below the average. The mean was considerably below the average on each day of the week; the coldest day was Wednesday, when the mean was only 23.4°, and showed a deficiency of 16.7°. The general direction of the wind was easterly, and the horizontal movement of the air averaged 4.2 miles per hour, which was 9.8 below the average in the corresponding week of sixteen years. No rain was measured during the week. The duration of registered bright sunshine in the week was equal to 34 per cent. of its possible duration. No ozone was recorded during the week, except on Sunday.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAYMetropolitan 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.

TUESDAYGuy'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, Tu. 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. Mr. A. Pearce Gould, "A Case of Melanotic Sarcoma of the Penis"; Dr. Woakes, "On Ear-sneezing and Ear-giddiness"; Dr. Farquharson, "Some Therapeutic Superstitions".

TUESDAY.—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society. 8 P.M.: Ballot. 8.30 P.M.: Mr. Lawson Tait, "The Antiseptic Theory tested by the Statistics of One Hundred Cases of successful Ovariectomy"; Dr. V. Carter, "Contributions to the Experimental Pathology of Spirillum Fever".

WEDNESDAY.—Hunterian Society. At 7.30 P.M., Annual General Meeting for the election of Officers. At 8 P.M., Dr. Pye-Smith will deliver the Hunterian Oration.

FRIDAY.—Clinical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Henry Morris, "Traumatic Salivary Fistula, treated by passing a fine Catgut Bougie from the Mouth along Stenson's Duct"; Mr. Hulke, "A Case of Suture Junction of the Median Nerve in the lower part of the Forearm, five weeks after its division by a broken Glass-bottle, followed by return of Function"; Dr. Sangster, "Disturbed Nutrition, with Suppuration and Exfoliation of the Nails, probably of Strumous origin"; Mr. Heath, "Two Cases of Popliteal Aneurism, cured by the application of Esmarch's Bandage".

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.

THE NURSING AT GUY'S HOSPITAL.

SIR,—In an article in your JOURNAL of January 24th, Mr. Paul, as an old house-surgeon of Guy's Hospital, comments on the nursing of his time. In the absence of testimony from those more qualified to speak than myself, will you allow me, as a house-surgeon of the present day, to make reply, lest misunderstanding arise as to the actual condition of the hospital prior to Miss Burt's arrival?

In the first place, I have been assured on all sides (in full agreement with my own experience, so far as it goes) that for some years—and especially since the introduction of the probationary system and the relegation of the scrubbing to regular "scrubbers" two and a half years ago—there has been visible a steadily increasing improvement in the tone and efficiency of Guy's Hospital nurses. For myself, I can testify to the fact, that during my house-surgery last autumn, far from Mr. Paul's experience being repeated, the large majority of the nurses on the surgical side were excellent. Most of them, alas, are now scattered to the winds. Next, with regard to women being taken from Patience Ward to become nurses, I have made the closest inquiries, with the result that during the last eleven years only five instances of the kind are known to have occurred, that all of these performed their duties as nurses thoroughly well, and never (with one single exception) did the conduct of any of them give to the authorities cause for complaint.

Finally, Mr. Paul remarks on the want of methodical training to the nurses. But if I may draw a conclusion from my own comparatively short experience, it would be that (with good sisters) the system did not fail to produce good nurses; the advice to be remembered being (to paraphrase the proverb), "Take care of the sisters, and the nurses will take care of themselves". But one wonders of what nature can be that training which is now offered at Guy's Hospital, when one knows that to such a nurse as that in Cornelius (after eleven years' good and faithful service), the new head of the nursing department applied the epithet "untrained"; and when further one hears that, as an inducement to remain, there was held out to this same nurse the promise of a certificate as "trained" if she would remain but one year under her (Miss Burt), one can only marvel at the assurance which claims for a system the magic of a name to do in one year what the surgeons of Guy's Hospital and such a sister as "Cornelius" had failed to accomplish in eleven.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

EDWARD PENNY, late House-Surgeon.

A DISTRESSING CASE.

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

January 29th.—W. E. W. Vaughan (Crewe)	£ s. d.
31st.—T. Burnie, L.R.C.P. Ed. (Nottingham) ..	1 0 0
February 4th.—Jukes de Styrap, M.K.Q.C.P. (Shrewsbury) ..	0 10 6
February 4th, 1880.	0 10 0
HEYWOOD SMITH.	

TEXT-BOOKS.—A Young Practitioner must make his own choice. Among the standard text-books of Medicine are Watson, Aitken, Bristowe, and Roberts; and Barnes, Graily Hewitt, and Thomas, in Gynaecology.

MIDDLE-CLASS HOSPITALS.

THE following letter has just been issued. It gives the views of the Committee of the Home Hospital Association for Paying Patients on the recent decision of the Master of the Rolls.

We beg to recommend to your careful consideration the enclosed papers relating to a public movement of great importance for establishing hospitals for paying patients. You will observe that one-half of the preliminary capital fund has already been subscribed. The managing committee having experienced insurmountable difficulties in converting the house they had secured in the centre of the "W." district into a "pay hospital", are now fitting up an eligible freehold house, which they have purchased in Fitzroy Square. A recent decision of the Master of the Rolls proves that none but freehold premises can be utilised without the consent of the ground-landlord. This decision forces the committee to make a strenuous effort to obtain the second half of the preliminary capital fund; and it has been decided to confer on those who assist them in this task the privileges of governors or members. It is hoped that the many who are interested in the progress of this most successful and beneficent movement will show their practical sympathy by assisting to raise the additional sum required (£10,000) without delay. Such a sum will enable the committee to proceed vigorously with the scheme they have so carefully elaborated. The pay hospital will be the means of rendering inestimable service to many who are unable, when ill, to obtain the skilled nursing and hygienic surroundings, without which recovery is scarcely possible. The committee rely upon the sympathy of the public in the difficulties they have had to overcome, and they look forward with confidence to its continued approval and support to enable them to carry their undertaking to a successful issue.

(Signed)

NORTHUMBERLAND, President.
FREDERICK COX, Treasurer.
HENRY C. BURDETT, Hon. Sec.

Home Hospitals Association, 246, Regent Street, W.