

the present full staff, are at all times onerous; but in seasons of more than ordinary distress, and during the prevalence of epidemic disease, they become extremely laborious, and are but too inadequately remunerated by the most liberal salary that can be screwed out of the carefully guarded and jealously watched parochial exchequer.

A highly suggestive and instructive, though by no means an encouraging view of the position and prospects of parochial medical officers, is afforded by a retrospect of the financial progress of this branch of service during its existence in Liverpool. Some years ago, as has been shown, the districts were worth, say £200 a year with private practice. This was, by commutation of the extras, reduced to £140; and this has, by the last change, been still further reduced, in eight out of the twelve districts, to £125: a sliding scale which, however acceptable to the ratepayers, is, we may suppose, by no means satisfactory to the unhappy doctors.

It will, I have no doubt, be granted by those readers who have followed this imperfect and somewhat discursive sketch, that the Poor-law medical officers of Liverpool are not altogether exempt from the grievances to which their 3000 colleagues in the other unions of England and Wales are subjected; but that their case may fairly be included in the difficult and complicated question of Poor-law medical relief, which is certainly worthy the serious consideration of our Association. The battle of the Poor-law medical officers, like that of the navy and army surgeons, can be most successfully fought, not by themselves, but by the independent members of the profession, and where can they look with more confident hopes of ultimate success than to the influence and support of the British Medical Association? Time and space will not permit me to enter at any length into this subject; otherwise it might be shown that the appeals of the Poor-law medical officers deserve a more encouraging response than they have more than once met with; namely, that the remedy is in their own hands, and that the keen competition amongst themselves is the main cause of their inadequate remuneration. This is a fallacy. They are powerless to prevent competition in their own branch of their profession, as long as it is equally rife in other departments of the medical community. Nor can we expect so much to be effected by antagonism against what some are pleased to call "ignorant and unfeeling boards of guardians," as by endeavouring to enlighten those gentlemen upon questions that heretofore they have but imperfectly understood. In many, perhaps in most, instances, the guardians of the poor believe that their medical officers are well paid, and are really desirous of doing them justice, acting in the matter in perfect good faith "according to their lights." They see medical men acting as surgeons to public institutions without any salary whatever, and thence naturally infer that their own officers are certainly better paid than these honorary gentlemen. They cannot understand why pauper practice should be less advantageous than dispensary and hospital practice. These and other mistaken notions must be explained away, before we can hope to see our over-worked and ill-paid brethren of the Poor-law staff placed in a satisfactory

position. As the attention of the medical public has lately been aroused to the evils of gratuitous medical services, there is perhaps some hope that the movement may naturally extend to the scarcely less important question of underpaid medical services.

## Association Intelligence.

### BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
METROPOL. COUNTIES. [General.]	37, Soho Square.	Tuesday, Dec. 2nd, 4 P.M.

### NOTICE REGARDING NEW MEMBERS.

By desire of the Committee of Council, the General Secretary requests that the Local Secretaries will be good enough to forward to him the names of all New Members who join the Association through the Branches; as otherwise the JOURNAL cannot be sent to them.

PHILIP H. WILLIAMS, M.D., *General Secretary.*

Worcester, November 10th, 1862.

### LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.

MEETINGS for the reading and discussion of papers on scientific subjects will be held as follows:—

On Thursday, the 18th December next, at Chester.

On Thursday, the 12th March next, at Manchester.

Gentlemen desirous of communicating papers or cases to either of the above meetings are requested to send notice to the Honorary Secretary.

A. T. H. WATERS, M.D., *Hon. Sec.*

Liverpool, November, 1862.

### SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT MEDICAL MEETINGS.

THE sixth meeting was held at the Fountain Hotel, Canterbury, on November 6th; H. MAUND, M.D., of Ashford, in the chair. A large number of members attended. The president of the Branch, and several other members, sent notes expressing their regret in not being able to attend.

*Next Meeting.* After the usual routine business,

Mr. REID proposed, and Mr. BOWLES seconded, the following proposition, which was carried unanimously:—

"That the next meeting be held at Folkestone on Thursday, March 5th; and that Mr. Eastes be requested to act as local chairman."

*Papers.* The following is an abstract report of the communications read at the meeting:—

1. Dr. BAWTREE, staff-surgeon, related a case of Rupture of the Uterus. A robust looking Irish woman, of large frame, and unusually fat, the mother of two children, was taken in labour with her third child on the morning of the 28th of June, 1862. An intelligent nurse attended her. The pains continued to increase; and at 8.30 P.M., the membranes broke, and a great gush of water followed. Up to 2 A.M. of the 29th, the labour was natural and the pains strong. The child's head was then at the outlet of the pelvis (and was seen by the nurse) at this time, whilst the patient was making a great effort. The pains suddenly ceased, and the head receded. The patient was also seized with vomiting, and became faint.

At 4 A.M., Dr. Bawtree was sent for. He found the patient lying on her left side; her countenance pale; pulse frequent, but not remarkably feeble. Respiration was rather hurried. She complained of pain in the

right side and shoulder. On examination, the head was found still presenting, and well down in the pelvis. The fingers could be easily passed around it. There was no action of the uterus. The head was pushed back with ease; but came forward again when the pressure was removed. Sometime afterwards, on moving the patient round she became faint, and the head receded more. Brandy was administered.

At 9.30 A.M., the abdomen became tender and the pain excessive. The pain, also, of the right shoulder was so great that she could not move it. Some time afterwards, she vomited a large quantity of dark fluid.

At noon, the head had receded still further, and the examining hand (for the first time) was stained with dark blood.

At 2.30 P.M., Mr. Reid saw the patient; and it was at once determined to deliver the woman by turning, which was accomplished without difficulty, but considerable extractive force was required. After taking away the dead child, Dr. Bawtree passed his hand to the fundus of the uterus, but did not discover the rent. His hand moved freely about in it, and there was no contraction. From the excess of fat in the abdominal parietes, not much could be made out by applying the hand externally during any part of the labour. The patient bore the operation better than could have been expected. The bleeding was not excessive. A copious lochial discharge quickly came on, with symptoms of peritonitis and excessive abdominal tenderness, dyspnoea, hiccup, and quick pulse. Various remedies were used, and the symptoms were so far alleviated, that on July 2nd she gave hopes of recovery. But this more favourable condition did not last long; she became worse, and died on the morning of the 5th, nearly six days after delivery.

A *post mortem* examination was made. Proofs of general peritoneal inflammation were discovered. There was pus on the edge of the liver, and in the left iliac region. The uterus was of about the size of a child's head flattened. On drawing it over to the left side, a large collection of pus and dark grumous fluid was found, covered over by adhesive inflammation, and with the folds of the broad ligament. By the right anterior fold, an opening was made, through which the fingers passed into the rent of the uterus, which was about three inches long, in the right side of the neck; how far it extended down was not shown by the uterus as it was exhibited to the meeting. (There had been some difficulty in extracting it from the pelvis.) The muscular structure of the uterus was examined under the microscope, and fatty degeneration was considered to exist.

2. Mr. SANKEY of Dover read the report of a case of Herpes Circinnatus occurring in a strong muscular man. The remarkable extent of the disease, covering every part of the body except the face, neck, and hands, was uncommon, he thought; and the gradual dying away of the eruption and perfect recovery by change of air he thought worth the attention of the meeting.

3. Mr. SANKEY read also a case of Diphtheria, for the sake of showing the advantage of the solid nitrate of silver, he having found it useful in so many cases. He earnestly recommended its application, and large doses of chlorate of potass and tincture of iron, combined with port wine, beef-tea, jellies, and abundance of fresh air.

4. Dr. MAUND of Ashford read some notes of a case of Umbilical Fæcal Fistula, to which he had applied several applications without relief; but, after once applying the actual cautery, the opening had closed, and the part perfectly healed.

5. Dr. BOYCOTT read a case which after death presented Fatty Degeneration of the Heart, extensive old Pleuritic Adhesions, Dilated Bronchia, and Congestion of the Lungs, with Nutmeg Liver and Healthy Kidneys. The first point of interest in the case was the similarity of the physical, and some of the other symptoms, to

phthisis. The second point was to inquire what were the symptoms in the case to help us in the diagnosis of this form of disease of the heart. The man was forty-two years of age, a drunkard; he had been ill four or five years, subject to frequent attacks of severe dyspnoea. There was weak heart and circulation, without abnormal valvular sounds, dropsy without albuminous urine, and the absence of the early symptoms of phthisis, before the other symptoms in the history of the case. Such a combination of evidence pointed clearly, he thought, to what was found after death.

## Reports of Societies.

### LIVERPOOL MEDICAL SOCIETY.

THURSDAY, OCT. 30, 1862.

THOMAS F. GRIMSDALE, L.R.C.P.Ed., Vice-President, in the Chair.

*The late Sir Benjamin Brodie.* The Chairman alluded to the recent death of Sir Benjamin Brodie, and thought the society ought to record on its minutes a tribute of respect to the memory of so honourable a name. The following resolution, proposed by Mr. STEELE, as an old pupil of Sir Benjamin Brodie, and seconded by Mr. HAKES, was unanimously agreed to:—

“That this society desires to express a deep feeling of regret at the great loss which the medical profession and the scientific world at large have sustained, in the lamented death of Sir Benjamin Brodie.”

#### PATHOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

*Extensive Disease of the Lower Part of the Shaft of the Femur.* Mr. HIGGINSON shewed the specimen. The patient, a man, aged 55, had had disease of the lower end of the left femur since the age of 15; no cause was assigned for its origin; he had worked as a labourer, with little or no interruption, for forty years, and has had open sinuses on each side of the knee habitually discharging. He was admitted into the Southern Hospital on account of a fall from an omnibus some weeks previously. The knee-joint was found distended and fluctuating, very painful on motion, and a grating could sometimes be felt. A probe passed from either sinus down to denuded bone at the back of the femur, above the condyles. No improvement taking place in his health, but the contrary, his limb was amputated, and he is now, fourteen days after the operation, doing well. The knee-joint contained a quantity of greenish pus; the cartilages were partially eroded; and the opposing surfaces were adherent to one another by deposit of lymph. Abscesses of various sizes existed in the lower third of the femur, and opened into the joint. A detached portion of exfoliated bone lay behind the femur, and this had been felt with the probe. The lower third of the shaft was much enlarged, and bony deposits almost shut up the exfoliated bone in the manner of a sequestrum.

*Cancer of the Liver.* Mr. LOWNDES shewed a specimen of cancer of the liver, from a patient who had been under Dr. Collingwood's care at the Northern Hospital. The liver was studded with small white round tumours, of the size of small marbles, and of firm consistency. They appeared to have an investment of their own, and not to be continuous in structure with the liver. The lungs and kidneys were quite healthy.

Dr. SKINNER thought that in this case the tumours were of such an encysted character, that the disease could not be cancer.

Mr. HAKES replied that this very encysted form is characteristic of one form of cancer.

being premised as in the case of any other powerful remedy.

Objections are made against it—first, because it is alleged to be an attempt to abrogate the curse imposed by the Almighty on the parturient act; second, because the pains of labour are physiological, and should not be opposed. But it is the office of the physician to alleviate suffering; and, if there were any force in the former argument, it would tell equally against the whole medical art, since every pain and every disease is, equally with the pain of labour, the result of the original curse; and, regarding the second, the pain of labour is physiological in no other sense than any other pain which medical men do not hesitate to relieve.

I am, etc., F. T. PONCIA.

November, 1862.

### THE CHLOROFORM COMMITTEE.

SIR,—In common with most of your readers, I am sure, I have read with much pleasure the announcement that the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society are about to appoint a Committee to investigate the subject of chloroform—the whole subject, I trust. The Council could not fix on a subject of greater interest, and one regarding which the public as well as the profession are anxiously waiting for an opinion. But in your articles, among the questions to be inquired into, you do not mention a most important one; viz., the use or abuse of chloroform in *midwifery*. Now, it appears to me that there can be no part of the subject on which there is a greater necessity for inquiry than this. At the present time, some practitioners in midwifery, and those of the largest experience, are decidedly adverse to its administration to women in labour; some use it extensively; some in a modified degree. The Committee should make their inquiries in a most extended form. Although the laws do not allow any but Fellows of the Society to form members of the Committee, I trust that the Committee will not fail to obtain information from every quarter, and from all who have had experience in the matter. I should suggest that the Committee should frame a set of questions to be forwarded to every hospital in England, Ireland, and Scotland. If the Committee are enabled to present a satisfactory report, the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society will have done much to increase its former usefulness, and in some measure to erase from one's memory that most disreputable scene that was enacted at its last meeting!

I am, etc., ENQUIRER.

November, 1862.

### THE THERAPEUTICAL INQUIRY.

LETTER FROM C. H. JONES, M.B., F.R.S.

SIR,—In reply to Dr. Skinner's letter, I may say that it seems to me that it might be left optional to include cases of lepra in the return or not. I believe, as he does, that both disorders are essentially similar, and require the same treatment. With regard to cod-liver oil, I think it would have been well to include it in the list; but there is nothing to prevent Dr. Skinner from using it, and I hope he will, and let us have his experience of its effects. There is no intention that I am aware of to exclude the use of other remedies than those recommended, if the reporters prefer them.

I am, etc., C. HANDFIELD JONES.

49, Green Street, Park Lane, W.

BEQUEST. Mr. William Barker, formerly of Mark Lane, and late of Barnes Green, Surrey, has left the following among his legacies:—The Brompton Consumption Hospital, £200; King's College Hospital, £100; Chelsea, Brompton, and Belgrave Dispensary, £50.

## Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. 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 Nov. 19th:—

Axford, William Henry, Bridgwater  
Craig, John Wright, M.D., Ayr  
Dixon, William Henry, M.D., Sunderland  
Eccles, George Henry, Plymouth  
Gibson, Robert Edward, Plymouth  
Gibson, Robert Farmer, Cardiff  
Griffiths, Thomas, Carmarthen  
Hains, Augustus Palmer, M.D., Totnes  
Hanks, William, Snaith, Yorkshire  
Hyde, Sydney, Langport, Somerset  
Roberts, William Robert, Birmingham  
Thomas, Lynch, M.D., Demerara  
Thorold, Ellis Frederick, M.D., Edinburgh  
Ward, Cornelius Harrison, Tollerton, near Nottingham  
White, George, Thatcham  
White, Thomas Robert, M.D., Balieboro, co. Cavan  
Willey, Henry, St. John's Wood  
Williams, John, M.D., Brecon  
Young, Francis, M.A., Kentish Town

Admitted on November 20th:—

Bloxam, Matthew, Duke Street, Grosvenor Square  
Elliston, William Alfred, Ipswich  
Evans, John Beddoe Morgan, Haverfordwest  
Harries, Gwynne Henry, Haverfordwest  
Harris, Alfred, York Terrace, Commercial Road East  
Thompson, Ebenezer Mark, Billingham, Lincolnshire  
Turner, Richard, Pentreheynlin, Oswestry  
Wood, John Henry, Ledbury, Herefordshire

NAVAL SURGEONS. The following members of the Royal College of Surgeons passed their examinations for Naval Surgeons last week:—

Dobbin, John Wilson, H.M.S. *Dromedary*, Woolwich: diploma of membership dated June 3, 1854  
Gregory, Bradley, H.M.S. *Sutlej*, Portsmouth: April 11, 1859  
Magill, Martin, H.M.S. *Russell*, Falmouth: June 6, 1856  
Rodgers, M., H.M.S. *Royal Adelaide*, Plymouth: May 8, 1857  
Rolston, Peter Williams, H.M.S. *Fox*, Woolwich: May 6, 1853

UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREW'S.—Honour List, November 18th, 1862.

First Class.

Nicholls, John F., Devises  
Waterworth, Charles A., Isle of Wight } Equal.

APOTHECARIES' HALL. On November 13th, the following Licentiates were admitted:—

Buckle, William Henry Fleetwood, Royal Mint  
Hains, Frederick Augustus Palmer, Totnes, Devon  
Kempster, William Henry, Battersea

### APPOINTMENTS.

ARNOTT, James M., Esq., F.R.S., appointed Surgeon-Extraordinary to the Queen.  
BLUMENTHAL, Theodore, M.D., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Queen Adelaide Dispensary, Bethnal Green Road.  
COOMBS, William G., Esq., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Devon County Lunatic Asylum.  
DROSER, W. H., M.D., appointed Assistant to the Professor of Chemistry, University of Cambridge.  
HARGOOD, Frederick H., Esq., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Lancaster County Lunatic Asylum, in the room of H. W. Jackson, Esq.  
\*HAVILAND, H. J., M.D., appointed Assistant to the Regius Professor of Medicine, University of Cambridge.  
HAWKINS, Cæsar H., Esq., F.R.S., appointed one of Her Majesty's Sergeant-Surgeons, in the room of the late \*Sir B. C. Brodie, Bart.  
\*HUMPHRY, G. M., M.D., F.R.S., appointed Assistant to the Professor of Anatomy, University of Cambridge.  
JOB, Samuel, Esq., appointed Surgeon to the Newark-on-Trent Dispensary.  
LESTOURGEON, C., Esq., appointed Assistant to the Downing Professor of Medicine, University of Cambridge.  
MARTIN, J. Hamilton, Esq., appointed Apothecary to the Male Lock Hospital, Denmark Street, Soho.  
ORTON, Charles, Esq., appointed House-Surgeon to the North Staffordshire Infirmary, in the room of C. Parsons, Esq.  
\*QUAIN, Richard, Esq., F.R.S., appointed Surgeon-Extraordinary to the Queen.  
RAINY, H., M.D., elected Honorary President of the University Medical Society, Glasgow.

SMITH, Charles S., Esq., appointed Local Surgeon for Burbage, Wilts, of the Great Western Railway Provident Company.  
 SMITH, William A., M.D., appointed Honorary Medical Officer to the Church of England Scripture Readers' Association.  
 \*WOOD, William, M.D., appointed Medical Officer for the Yorkshire District of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company.

#### ARMY.

CLUTTERBUCK, Surgeon J. E., M.D., 17th Foot, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* E. B. Tuson.  
 TUSON, Staff-Surgeon E. B., to be Surgeon 17th Foot, *vice* J. E. Clutterbuck, M.D.  
 WHITE, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon G. F., to be Assistant-Surgeon 77th Foot, *vice* A. Humfrey.

#### To be Staff-Assistant-Surgeons:—

HUMFREY, Assistant-Surgeon A., 77th Foot.	MELBURN, T. D., Esq.
BARTLEY, A. G., M.D.	MORGAN, T. C., Esq.
BECHER, E., M.D.	MURRAY, J. R., M.D.
CHURCHILL, A. F., M.D.	NICHOLSON, E., Esq.
DUSTAN, J., Esq.	OWEN, R. J., M.D.
ELLIOTT, J., Esq.	PILE, W. M.B.
FERGUSON, R. P., Esq.	SMITH, T. P., M.B.
HANNAT, J. B., M.D.	TYRRELL, W. J., Esq.
HENSMAN, H. F., Esq.	
M'ADAM, J. S., Esq.	

#### ROYAL NAVY.

ANDREWS, John (b), M.D., to the *Meanece*.  
 BEALE, George B., M.D., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Meanece*.  
 BUCKLEY, John, Esq., Acting Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Royal Adelaide*, for Plymouth Hospital.  
 CREE, Edward H., M.D., Surgeon, to the *Saturn*.  
 HORROCKS, John, M.D., Acting Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Victory*, for Haslar Hospital.  
 HURLESTONE, Michael O., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon (confirmed), to the *Cockatrice*.  
 LAMBERT, John, Esq., Acting Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Victory*, for Haslar Hospital.  
 LEAHY, James W., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon (additional), to the *Wellesley*.  
 MAXWELL, —, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Royal Adelaide*.  
 ROBERTSON, Adam, M.D., Acting Assistant-Surg., to the *Meanece*.  
 ROGERS, Maxwell, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon (confirmed), additional, to the *Royal Adelaide*.  
 RYALL, W. T., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon (confirmed), to the *Orlando*.  
 TYLE, Allen, M.D., Acting Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Royal Adelaide*, for Plymouth Hospital.

**INDIAN ARMY.** Her Majesty has been pleased to approve of the undermentioned promotions and alterations of rank among officers of Her Majesty's Indian Military Force:—

HARRIS, Assistant-Surgeon F. W., to be Surgeon.  
 HYSLOP, Assistant-Surgeon J. M., M.D., to be Surgeon.  
 PEET, Surgeon J., M.D., to be Surgeon-Major.  
 STYLE, Surgeon M., to be Surgeon-Major.  
 STEINHAUSER, Assistant-Surg. J. F., Bombay Army, to be Surgeon.

**VOLUNTEERS.** (A.V.—Artillery Volunteers; R.V.—Rifle Volunteers):—

HOAR, W., Esq., to be Surgeon 3rd Battalion Kent R.V.  
 SANKEY, G., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 1st Kent R.V.  
 SISSON, A., Esq., to be Surgeon 3rd Administrative Battalion Surrey R.V.

**NEW MAYORS.** The following members of the medical profession have been elected Mayors for the ensuing year:—

\*CLEMENT, William J., Esq., Shrewsbury.  
 \*HARRISON, Edward T. D., Esq., Welshpool.

#### BIRTHS.

HINTON. On November 22nd, at Hinton, near Bath, the wife of \*Joseph Hinton, Esq., of a son.  
 O'BRYEN. On November 20th, the wife of \*John R. O'Bryen, M.D., Thistle Grove, Brompton, of a son.

#### MARRIAGE.

\*FRY, John William, Esq., of Thaxted, Essex, to Lydia Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Thomas Marchant, Esq., of Deptford, on November 20.

#### DEATHS.

BREMNER. On November 9, at St. Peter's Road, Mile End, Sibella, widow of the late John Bremner, Esq., Surgeon R.N.  
 BROCK. On November 20, at Great Malvern, Letitia, youngest daughter of the late W. W. Brock, M.D., of Clifton.  
 JAGO, Francis R., Esq., Surgeon R.N., at Hammersmith, aged 75, on November 19.  
 \*JAQUES, William R., Esq., at Droitwich, aged 59, on Nov. 22.

JOHNSON. On November 19, at Southlands, Kent, aged 71, Jane, widow of James P. Johnson, M.D.  
 MADDOCK, Alfred D., M.D., at 56, Curzon Street, aged 47, on November 18.  
 RIDGE. On November 18, at Northfleet, aged 83, Elizabeth, widow of the late Benjamin Ridge, Esq., of Lambeth.  
 WILLIAMS. On November 24th, at Heulian Place, Denbigh, aged 72, Mary, widow of \*R. Lloyd Williams, M.D.

**MORTALITY IN SHEFFIELD.** In Sheffield, the mortality of infantile life (from 0 to 5 years), is 50 per cent among the poorer classes.

**A REMEDY FOR TENIA.** M. Tarneau tells us that the seeds of the pumpkin are an excellent remedy for tenia.

**TESTIMONIAL TO A POOR-LAW SURGEON.** The poor of Acton have presented Mr. Day, who is about to leave Acton, with a clock, to testify their gratitude to him for his long kindness to them.

**THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE IN PARIS** have presented the following names for the chair of clinical midwifery vacant at the Faculty:—1. M. Depaul; 2. M. Pajot; and 3. M. Blot.

**APOTHECARIES' HALL.** The annual dinner of this Society was held on the 14th instant. The Society was justly and warmly praised for the prominent part it had played in elevating the standard of professional education. The number of students, we learn, now presenting themselves for examination is still large, and therefore, we may conclude, that, notwithstanding the Colleges of Physicians, the license of the Hall is still highly esteemed.

**DUBLIN OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY: TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION, 1862-63.** A special meeting for the election of officers for the ensuing session was held in the Rotundo, on Saturday, 15th instant, when, on a ballot being taken, the following gentlemen were declared to be elected:—*President*, Dr. T. E. Beatty. *Vice-Presidents*, Dr. A. H. McClintock, Dr. J. Denham. *Treasurer*, Dr. H. S. Halahan. *Secretary*, Dr. George H. Kidd. *Committee*, Dr. G. Johnston, Dr. H. Kennedy, Dr. Montgomery, Dr. Sawyer. Dr. Sinclair.

**THE GORILLA NOT YET CAUGHT.** The English and French papers have contained a paragraph announcing the arrival of a live gorilla by an African vessel at Liverpool. On the strength of this, a scientific gentleman from the Zoological Society started by express train, with his pocket full of gold, to acquire the valuable specimen for the gardens in Regent's Park. A speedy telegram, however, at once announced to those disappointed enthusiasts who believe, with Dr. Grey, that gorillas are as plentiful as sheep on Salisbury Plain, that the so-called gorilla was nothing more than a poor chimpanzee, an animal often been in England before.

**MEDICAL COLLEGES OF THE UNITED STATES: SESSION 1862-63.** In the number of the *Medical Times* for October 13, 1860, we gave a catalogue of all the medical colleges in the United States. At that time they numbered about fifty. The meagre list which follows proves the havoc which civil war has produced among our institutions of learning. Of the present condition of the Southern schools we are entirely ignorant; probably there is not one in existence. Nor can we speak confidently of the Northern schools. Many have suffered severely from the loss of Southern patronage, while some have had their classes enlarged by the increase of Northern students. (*American Medical Times*.)

**ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.** At a recent meeting of this Society, a letter by Dr. Livingstone, on the Lake Nyassa, in Africa, was read by Dr. Norton Shaw. It described the course of the gallant doctor, and was replete with the characteristics of the natives. It stated that at Mount Zomba there were two tribes, which were exceedingly warlike and destructive. There was a party of those people who, elated with continued success, finding

they were before a small number of about twenty, commenced shooting their poisoned arrows, when a resort to firearms was necessary. None, however, were struck by the firearms. Fortunately, none were hit by the arrows as they were handled by native Portuguese slaves. On approaching Lake Nyassa they found elephants and hippopotami, which were very tame; and in that locality they fell in with a number of natives who wished the English to sit in the sun while they remained in the shade. This was not acceded to, when they rattled their shields, and, being frightened at the production of a notebook, which they thought a pistol, they sped away. Reference was made to a thick atmospheric-like smoke, which was composed of insects, which the natives collected and made into a kind of cake, tasting like roasted locusts, but fishy. Alluding to the cotton districts, which were most prolific together with the lakes and cataracts, the letter concluded with a notice of the most extensive slave traffic, which was carried on to the westward.

**VACANCIES.** The following appointments are vacant:—Surgeon to the United Law Clerks' Society; medical officer of the union workhouse and the St. Clement district of the Truro union; surgeon to the Bluecoat Hospital; house-surgeon to the Torbay Infirmary and Dispensary; two surgeons for the Lewisham District of the Royal Kent Dispensary; assistant in the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons; medical officers for the St. Mary's district of the Wandsworth and Clapham Union, for the St. George's district of the same union, for the Bedford district of the Foleshill Union, Warwickshire, and for the Silsden District of the Skipton Union, Yorkshire.

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF SOCIAL SCIENCE.** A numerous meeting of the Council of the Social Science Association was held at their rooms in Waterloo Place on Thursday week, the principal business being to decide the place of the annual meeting of the Association in 1863. Lord Brougham, on taking the chair, moved a resolution expressing the deep sense of the Council of the loss sustained by the Association in the death of Sir Benjamin Brodie, one of their earliest members. The Lord Mayor of York, Mr. Alderman Husband, and other gentlemen, attended as a deputation to urge the claims of that city to a visit from the Association. The rival applicant was Edinburgh, represented by Mr. Charles Cowan, Mr. Baillie Mossman, and Mr. Robert Chambers. After a long discussion, a majority of 22 to 17 decided in favour of Edinburgh, in which city the next congress will be held.

**THE HUNTERIAN MUSEUM.** This collection has been enriched by the purchase of some skeletons of rare and interesting animals, beautifully prepared by Professor Hyrtl of Vienna, and by him forwarded to the International Exhibition. They consist of *Chlamydophorus truncatus*, found at Mendoza, in Chili, and first described by Dr. Harlan from a specimen now in the Philadelphia Museum. It is supposed by Mr. Flower, the conservator of the Hunterian Museum, that there are but three skeletons of this curious little animal in Europe. It is very much like the *Glyptodon clavipes*, so familiar to the visitors to the College Museum, only that it is very small. The late Mr. Yarrell described and figured the animal in the *Zoological Journal*; this, with a second specimen obtained by Sir Woodbine Parish, is in the British Museum. The specimen now the property of the College has been the subject of an elaborate memoir by Professor Hyrtl, in the *Denkschriften der Akademie der Wissenschaften*, illustrated with drawings. Another case contains skeletons of rare fish, including examples of the three genera of existing ganoid fish, *Lepidosteus*, *Polypterus*, and *Amia*. There are also a case of batrachians, two cases of tailed amphibia and snakes. The several specimens have been obtained at a cost of nearly

£200. This department of the museum has also been enriched with some fine skeletons of large British fish, admirably prepared by Mr. James Flower, the College articulator. One is a specimen of the sword-fish, upwards of ten feet in length, taken, in October last year, off the Suffolk coast, in the herring nets, and purchased by the College. A large number of foreigners have visited this museum during the present year.

**FATAL CASE OF PRACTICAL JOKING.** At an inquest on the body of James Davenport, who died from having partaken of some pluck and liver into which a quantity of jalap and croton oil had been poured by a man named Farrand, it appeared that Mr. Massey is a druggist residing in West Street, Oldham. The officer went to apprehend Mr. Massey; and, after cautioning him, he said that John Farrand came to his shop and told him that they were having a fry or hash, and he wanted two-pennyworth of jalap to put into it. He (Mr. Massey) then gave him the jalap, and put two drops of croton oil into it. He added that he was very sorry, but he did not think that Farrand would use it improperly. The prisoner Farrand, when apprehended by Sergeant Bell, made a similar statement. The jury, after a long consultation, returned a verdict of "Manslaughter" against Massey and Farrand; and they were bound over, in £40, and two sureties of £20 each, to answer the charge at the next Liverpool assizes.

**NARROW ESCAPE OF PROFESSOR SIMPSON.** On the 16th inst., Professor Simpson of Edinburgh had a narrow escape while travelling in a railway carriage on the Caledonian Railway. While passing Cobbinshaw, about seventeen miles from Edinburgh, the tire of one of the fore wheels of the first-class carriage in which he was sitting gave way; in consequence of the disturbance of the carriage, several other wheels also came off, and the carriage was dragged some distance along the rails before the engineman could stop the train. The floor of the front compartment in which Professor Simpson was seated was entirely broken up, and the body of the carriage was threatening to give way, when it was brought to a stand. Had the train been at full speed at the moment, the results might have been disastrous. Little detention, however, was caused; for the train immediately proceeded, *minus* the broken carriage. The cause of the accident was the same as that of the more fatal and serious one of the previous night. The alterations of temperature which the train experiences on the longitudinal journey of 100 miles, and the passing through a cold and hilly district in the northern part of the route, are supposed to account for the wheels giving way in this manner.

**THE ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.** By a vote of a Council meeting the sum of £150 had been granted from the funds for the purpose of getting from Australia a supply of the wonga-wonga and bronzewing pigeons the Murray cod, and a few wombats. A communication having been received from Mr. E. Wilson, kindly offering to place at the disposal of the society the machinery of the Acclimatisation Society of Melbourne, for the purposes of obtaining and transmitting to the society specimens of these creatures, it was determined to hand over the money so voted to Mr. Wilson for transmission to the Melbourne society. Measures were decided upon for obtaining from Berlin a supply of that desirable fish the *lucio perca*, for the purposes of breeding, and Mr. Buckland was authorised to make arrangements and incur a limited amount of expenditure for that purpose. The secretaries reported the receipt of a present of a great variety of vegetable and other seeds from Algeria, presented to the society by M. Teston, the Commissioner of the French-Algerian colonies at the International Exhibition. Forty-two new members have joined since the beginning of the month of August. The stock of Chinese sheep is in a thriving condition; all that were offered for

sale were readily purchased, and there is a demand for more. The turkeys, which arrived from Honduras in the month of September, laid twenty eggs, which produced nine birds, seven of which are now in good condition. Reports from several members give a good account of the *dioscorea batatas*, which have been dug in excellent condition where the soil has been rich and light, and therefore favourable to their growth. A present from Sir George Bowen, the Governor of Queensland, in the form of a pair of the *talegalla* (or mound-building turkey of Australia) is shortly expected. A promise has been received from the French Société d'Acclimatation of *sorgho* seeds, to be sent over in the spring.

**SERGEANT-SURGEONS.** The appointment of serjeant-surgeon to Her Majesty has been bestowed on Mr. Cesar Henry Hawkins, F.R.S. (the vacancy having been caused by the death of Sir Benjamin Brodie.) Mr. Hawkins, who has long been a member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, filled also the high office of President of that institution in 1852, and, for a second time, in the past year. Her Majesty has two serjeant-surgeons, Mr. Lawrence being the senior. One of the duties of the office is to attend the Sovereign in all battles. Henry V when he invaded France had only one principal surgeon with him, one Thomas Morstede, afterwards surgeon to Henry VI. He wrote a "goodly boke on chirurgery," which is now extremely rare. This person was authorised to press as many surgeons as he thought necessary, and it appears from *Rymer's Fœdera* that with the army which won the day at Agincourt there landed only one surgeon—this same Thomas Morstede, who did, indeed, engage fifteen in that capacity, but these gentlemen were compelled to add a little fighting to their practice of surgery, and three of them acted as archers. He took into his service also Nicolas Colnet, as field-surgeon, for one year. With such a medical staff, what must have been the state of the wounded after the day of battle? The pay was £10 quarterly, and twelve pennies daily for subsistence; but then, both Morstede and Colnet could receive prisoners and plunder, and when the latter amounted to more than £20 in value a third part of it was given to the king.

### OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

**MONDAY.....** Royal Free, 2 P.M.—Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 1.15 P.M.—Samaritan, 2.30 P.M.—Lock, Clinical Demonstration and Operations, 1 P.M.  
**TUESDAY. ....** Guy's, 1½ P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.  
**WEDNESDAY....** St. Mary's, 1 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.  
**THURSDAY....** St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—London, 1.30 P.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—London Surgical Home, 2 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.  
**FRIDAY. ....** Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.  
**SATURDAY....** St. Thomas's, 1 P.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.

### POPULATION STATISTICS AND METEOROLOGY OF LONDON—NOVEMBER 22, 1862.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

	Births.	Deaths.
During week.....	{ Boys ..1000 } { Girls.. 885 }	1885 1559
Average of corresponding weeks 1852-61 .....		1833 1436
<b>Barometer:</b>		
Highest (Mon.) 30.234; lowest (Sat.) 29.728; mean, 30.029.		
<b>Thermometer:</b>		
Highest in sun—extremes (Sun.) 79 degs.; (Fri.) 43.8 degs.		
In shade—highest (Tu.) 47.3 degrees; lowest (Sat.) 30.6 degs.		
Mean—38.3 degrees; difference from mean of 43 yrs.—4.0 degs.		
Range—during week, 16.7 degrees; mean daily, 10.3 degrees.		
Mean humidity of air (saturation=100), 88.		
Mean direction of wind, N.E.—Rain in inches, 0.01.		

### MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

**MONDAY.** Royal College of Physicians, 4 P.M. Dr. Charles Bland Radcliffe, "On Certain Diseases of the Brain and Nervous System."—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. James Bird, Lettsomian Lecture on "Means of Ameliorating the Physical and Moral Condition of the Masses."—Entomological.—Odontological.—Epidemiological, 8 P.M. Mr. Radcliffe, "On the State of Epidemic Disease in Great Britain, 1861-2."  
**TUESDAY.** Pathological, 8 P.M.—Photographical.—Ethnological, 8 P.M.  
**WEDNESDAY.** Obstetrical, 8 P.M. Dr. Tilbury Fox, "On the Influence of the Mother's Health in the Production of Rickets."—Hunterian, 8 P.M.—Pharmaceutical.  
**THURSDAY.** Royal College of Physicians, 4 P.M. Dr. Charles Bland Radcliffe, "On Certain Diseases of the Brain and Nervous System."—Harveian Society of London, 8 P.M. Mr. J. R. Lane, "On Stone in the Bladder in the Female."—Chemical, 8 P.M. Linnæan, 8 P.M.—Royal.  
**FRIDAY.** Western Medical and Surgical.—Royal Institution.  
**SATURDAY.** Army Medical, 7.30 P.M.

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

\*.\* All letters and communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the EDITOR, 37, Great Queen St., Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

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

**CHLORODYNE.**—A correspondent writes:—"I hear that, partly on account of the inherent weakness of the plaintiff's case, and partly on account of the firm stand taken by a portion of the profession in our columns, in opposition to secret remedies of any kind being introduced in our *Pharmacopœia* or prescriptions, that the chlorodyne trial has been suddenly adjourned *sine die*; the plaintiff paying the costs of the defendant, which were very considerable. It is something new in practice to know that chlorodyne of the chief maker does not contain either chloroform or Indian hemp; but owes its alleged virtues to a new alkaloid incapable of analytical reactions. The formula for the chlorodyne of other makers has been more than once published; and that it contains both chloroform and cannabis Indica is no secret. The chief property of the latter compound is, of course, anodyne or sedative; not stimulant, as erroneously supposed. A very important duty now remains to the profession, if they are in earnest as to secret medicines; whether they shall decide to prescribe one form of chlorodyne or the other. I have good reason to know that no notice whatever is taken of chlorodyne, its properties, or doses, in the forthcoming *Pharmacopœia*; yet it is every day in the hands of our medical assistants and house-surgeons, and generally admitted to be (like chloroform and opium, its constituents) a very useful medicine. The point of the wedge has been at length inserted into the dubious mass of quackery and specialism inside our ranks; it remains to be seen with what final result."

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Mr. J. KENT SPENDER; Mr. J. B. CURGENVEN; Mr. T. M. STONE; Dr. EDWARD COPEMAN; Mr. T. L. PRIDHAM; Mr. J. N. RADCLIFFE; Mr. JOSEPH HINTON; Mr. G. BODINGTON; Mr. CHAS. F. HODSON; Dr. JOHN HOPE; Dr. WOOTTON; Mr. OSBORN; Dr. PARKES; Mr. JOHN WALTER; Dr. LANKESTER; Dr. SIEVEKING; Mr. ERASMUS WILSON; Mr. JAMES LANE; Dr. H. BARKER; Dr. DAY; Dr. HANDFIELD JONES; Dr. KIDD; and Mr. J. A. PEARSON.

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