

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL:

NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the Committee of Council will be held at the office of the Association, 161A, Strand, London, on Wednesday, the 13th day of October next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

161A, Strand, London, September 14th, 1880.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at Lowestoft, on Friday, October 8th.

It is requested that notice of intention to read a paper or other communication may be forwarded to Dr. Elliston by September 14th.

J. B. PITT, M.D., Norwich, } *Honorary Secretaries*.
W. A. ELLISTON, M.D., Ipswich, }

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH.

THE autumnal meeting of this Branch will be held at Barnard Castle, on Tuesday, October 5th.

Members intending to read papers are requested to communicate at once with the Secretary.

Durham, September 9th. T. W. BARRON, *Honorary Secretary*.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.

THE next meeting of this District will be held at the Town Hall, Folkestone, on Thursday, September 23rd, at three o'clock; Dr. FITZGERALD of Folkestone in the Chair.

Business.—To receive the resignation of the Honorary Secretary, and to appoint a successor.

Communications promised:

1. A Case of Imperforate Rectum. By Dr. Thomas Eastes.
2. Specialities in General Practice. By Mr. W. J. Tyson, F.R.C.S.
3. Some of the Evils arising from Enlarged Tonsils. By Mr. W. Knight Treves, F.R.C.S.

Dinner will be provided at the West Cliff Hotel at five o'clock; charge, 6s. 6d., exclusive of wine.

Members intending to be present are requested to signify the same to the Secretary on or before Tuesday, the 21st instant.

WM. KNIGHT TREVES, *Honorary Secretary*.

Margate, September 14th, 1880.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of this Branch was held at the County Hotel, Carlisle, on Friday, June 25th; Dr. MACLAREN, and afterwards Dr. CAMPBELL, in the chair.

The Report of Council was read by Dr. BURT. It stated that the number of members belonging to the Branch was one hundred. The financial statement showed: Balance from last year, £3 os. 7d.; receipts this year, £12 17s. 6d.; disbursements, £5 13s. 3d.—leaving a balance in hand of £10 4s. 10d. The Council recommended that the sum of five guineas be given to the British Medical Benevolent Fund.

Dr. LOCKIE proposed, and Dr. CULLEN seconded: "That the report of Council be adopted." This was carried unanimously.

New Members.—The following gentlemen were elected members of the Association and Branch: John Thompson, M.B., Dumfries; A. Patterson, Esq., Carlisle; —. Lediard, Esq., Carlisle.

President-elect.—It was proposed by Dr. TIFFEN, seconded by Dr. LOCKIE, and carried unanimously: "That Dr. Grierson of Melrose be President-elect."

Honorary Secretaries.—Dr. Smith and Dr. Burt were re-elected, on the motion of Dr. BARNES, seconded by Dr. CAMPBELL.

Members of Council.—The following gentlemen were elected: Messrs. Tiffen, I'Anson, Taylor, Barnes, Macbean, Thompson, Brydon, Forbes, and Maclaren.

Representative upon Parliamentary Committee.—Dr. Taylor of Penrith was re-elected.

Number of Meetings.—It was resolved that two meetings, in addition to the annual meeting, should be held in the ensuing year—one in the autumn, at Dumfries; one in the spring, at Penrith.

A *Vote of Thanks* was given to the retiring President (Dr. Maclaren) and the office-bearers of the past year.

President's Address.—Dr. CAMPBELL, the President, delivered an address. He briefly alluded to the good which the meetings had done, both medically and socially; but regretted the absence hitherto of papers on sanitary subjects; named several sanitary topics of local interest, on which light might be thrown; and expressed a hope that, during the ensuing session, some contributions on these points might be laid before the Society by medical officers of health connected with this Branch. He then offered some remarks "On Insanity: its Treatment and Prevention"—explaining that the magnitude of the subject merely allowed a sketchy outline. He traced the history of the treatment of insanity from the times of the Athenians and early Romans down to the passing of the Lunacy Acts in England, in 1845; touching briefly on the state of matters abroad, and the philanthropic actions of Pinel and William Tuke. He then discussed the results of the Lunacy Act; gave a short account of what he had noticed during the fifteen years he had spent in the study and treatment of insanity; and, among many other things, pointed out the increasing tendency to examine into the physical condition of the insane; to look for, and in the majority of cases to find, bodily causes for mental manifestations; and to keep careful records of cases; also, an increased interest in pathological research, and increased facilities for the theoretical and practical study of this disease. He then discussed the present medical treatment of insanity, especially with reference to sedative treatment; and stated that he considered that the consensus of opinion of careful observers in asylum practice questioned a direct curative action from sedative treatment, while quite admitting its use to enable an acute attack to be safely and more easily tided over. Passing to the subject of the prevention of insanity, he pointed out the difficulties of finding the true causation; gave an analysis of the Commissioners' Return on this head for 1878, stating the vast preponderance of physical over moral causes, both as excitant and predisposed, in attacks of insanity; gave statistics for two years from Garland's Asylum; dealt with the City of Glasgow Bank failure, as a cause directly acting on the mind, and gave statistics of those ruined by it, and the number of patients sent to Scotch asylums, the disease considered to have been brought on by this failure; and briefly mentioned the remedies proposed, and which he would propose, for physically induced insanity. He entered into the subject of the bringing up and educating children; the choice of professions, and the want of consideration of the capabilities and nervous states of children in both these respects; the acquirement of bad habits in young persons of both sexes the result of ignorance; the improper importance which social, monetary, and even religious, considerations had acquired in reference to marriage; and the utter disregard shown to personal drawbacks, or to family history, with the results. He afterwards touched on the time which should elapse before another confinement in cases of puerperal mania, giving records of practice; treated of the evils of over-nursing, and the necessity of medical practitioners watching this, a most preventable and fertile cause of insanity; ascribed many cases of insanity to over-rapid gestations or miscarriages; and dealt with the necessity of good health in the parents previously to procreation, if healthy offspring were desired—pointing out the frequency with which diseased offspring from drunken parents were seen, and coarsely formed and stupid children from intemperate parents—that this might just be a question of degree, and that both the mental and physical state, immediately before the time of procreation, probably exercised a far greater influence than is commonly supposed. In conclusion, he said that medical science was a progressive study—that each year new facts should be observed, and medical men should make themselves more acquainted with the wonderful laws of nature which deal with human creatures, and fit themselves to advise—with such certainty as is to be expected from fallible man—on many of the points touched on in this address, as, each year, more would be expected in this direction.

Dr. BARNES proposed, Dr. TIFFEN seconded, and it was carried unanimously: "That the best thanks of the meeting be given to Dr. Campbell for his very able address."

Papers.—The following papers were read:

1. On Chronic Accidental Poisoning. By HENRY BARNES, M.D. (Carlisle).—After referring to the progress which had been made in recent years in the department of preventive medicine, the paper referred to the necessity of some further legislation for the prevention of chronic accidental poisoning by mineral poisons. The different sources of lead-poisoning were alluded to, and a case was reported in which the poison was traced to a source unsuspected both by the patient and by his employers. The connection between gout and lead-poisoning was also discussed, reference being made to Dr. Garrod's discoveries; and a new exciting cause of the gouty paroxysm was described. After referring to the report of the Medical Society of London on Arsenical Poisoning by Wall-Papers, Paints, etc., two cases of poisoning were reported in detail, in which the symptoms were evidently due to the impregnation

of the system with arsenic, and in which abundance of arsenic was found in the wall-papers. The author agreed with the Committee of the Medical Society of London that legislation is desirable, and recommended that, until such legislation is obtained, the profession should take every opportunity of advising their patients to purchase only such papers as are guaranteed "free from arsenic".

2. The Aspirator as a Guide to Colotomy. By RODERICK MACLAREN, M.D. (Carlisle).—For the purpose of illustrating the use of the aspirator as a guide to operation in obstruction of the bowel, Dr. MacLaren reported a case in which he had employed it—Mrs. R., aged 43. At the time when operation became necessary from threatened collapse, there had been no motion for nine days. There was some evidence that the stoppage was in the colon; but, from the absence of marked physical signs, the exact seat was doubtful. It was a question whether it would not be better to open the small bowel close to the cæcum rather than run the risk of cutting down on the colon below a stricture. Aspiration of the ascending colon settled the question by withdrawing liquid fæces and air; and right colotomy relieved the patient. Five days after the operation, the patient passed some fæces *per anum*, and in a short time she had daily an apparently natural motion. Two months after the operation, she was found dead in bed, though she had been strong and well on the previous day. A *post mortem* examination showed degenerated heart-muscle, which accounted for the sudden death. In the bowel, just above the sigmoid flexure, was a cancerous mass. This did not then occlude the bowel, but had at the time when she suffered from the obstruction. In conclusion, the paper drew attention to the very valuable aid to diagnosis which aspiration afforded in this class of cases, by determining whether a given portion of the great bowel contains liquid fæces or not.

Medical Education.—Of the five resolutions submitted by the Committee of Council, the Branch approved of 1 and 2, disapproved of Resolution 3, and moved amendments to 4 and 5.

Dinner.—The members dined at the County Hotel, where they were joined by several of the local clergy.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICE.

SIR,—The Warrant, or not the Warrant? This is the question that agitates the Naval Medical Service at the present moment. Parliament has been prorogued; the Lords of the Admiralty have gone on holiday-trips after inspections of some medical establishments; and the Medical Director-General is now on his tour of inspection. Have these officials dropped any hints that may cheer hearts pining under the influence of "hope deferred"? Were a summary of the recommendations of the Committee communicated through the professional papers, and some indication given as to the probability of their being carried out, it would do much good in many ways. It would explain why a deputy inspector-general has been promoted, though not qualified; why officers of long and good service on the fleet-surgeon's list have been passed over in the late promotions; in fact, it would explain all that is now veiled in mystery, to the prejudice of those in the service and those who would join were sufficient inducement offered. Most probably you will agree with me that what is wanted to allay discontent, soothe disappointment, and encourage youthful ambition, is

September 13th, 1880.

THE WARRANT.

* * We entirely agree with our correspondent; nevertheless, we have good grounds for anticipating that the delay will ultimately be succeeded by satisfactory concessions. Let no man, however, put his trust in official promises in this matter; they have been too often proved hollow. We believe the intentions of the Government to be liberal; and we feel assured that Dr. Watt Reid, the Director-General, will spare no exertion to second those intentions, and to make them fructify. But nothing but the actual appearance of a thoroughly satisfactory Warrant can allay the existing discontent, or ought to satisfy the service and the schools.—[Ed. B. M. J.]

ALCOHOL AND INSANITY.

SIR,—It was with deep regret that I was compelled to leave Cambridge suddenly, and thus had no opportunity of saying a word of explanation with reference to Dr. Bacon's most interesting paper on Insanity and Alcohol. Dr. Bacon spoke of what he considered exaggerated state-

ments as to the influence of alcohol in the production of insanity as emanating from temperance advocates, who had formed a preconceived opinion. Permit me to assure Dr. Bacon that temperance advocates never originated any statements or statistics on the subject in question. They simply quoted the opinions of non-abstaining alienist medical and other experts, such as Dr. Shepperd of Colney Hatch, the Chairman of the Lunacy Commission, and Dr. Crichton Browne, not one of which gentlemen is an abstainer. Dr. Bacon's quarrel, therefore, is with his own colleagues, and with such authorities as the Chairman of the Brookwood Asylum and the Chairman of the Commissioners in Lunacy. To show the candour of temperance reformers, suffice it to state that the *Alliance News* reported Dr. Bacon's and the other able papers and speeches in support of his views *in extenso*. Temperance men, while bound to use the evidence of experts as that is given, will be perfectly content with the final verdict of the profession, well knowing that the lowest estimate of the insanity caused by alcohol is more than enough to call for the unceasing efforts of all who are interested in the mental and moral health of the community.

Your obedient servant,
NORMAN KERR, M.D.
42, Grove Road, Regent's Park, N.W., September 4th, 1880.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND EYE HOSPITAL.

SIR,—In your notes of "The Week" contained in the *JOURNAL* of August 21st, appear some remarks on the sanitary condition of the Birmingham Eye Hospital, and on the official relations existing between its Committee and that of the public health of the Corporation. The statements are a curious admixture of fact and fiction, while some facts, material to the question discussed, have been omitted. Of course, in such matters you have often to rely upon the *bona fides* of your local correspondent, who, in this instance, has proved misleading as I shall presently show.

Some of the erroneous statements have been publicly refuted by me elsewhere. I will, therefore, confine my comments to that passage in the *JOURNAL* which runs as follows: "It is customary for the managers of an unhealthy hospital to afford the sanitary authorities every possible facility they may require to enable them to overcome the existing evils". Any one reading these words, would assume that our Committee had refused the assistance of the Medical Officer of Health in rectifying the sanitary defects of their hospital. But, so far from this being true, our Committee immediately after the publication of your "Report on the sanitary condition of the hospital" (which in some important particulars was admitted by the Medical Officer of Health to be not founded on fact) about eighteen months ago, invited the Medical Officer of Health to investigate the condition of the institution. He was met on his visit by our chairman and two of the medical staff; also by our architect and plumber. His examination was searching and complete; nothing was withheld from him. And on receiving his report from the Health Committee, all his suggestions were at once carried out by the hospital authorities. Having done this, our Committee declined some months afterwards to receive a proposed deputation of certain members of the Health Committee of the Corporation; and they also successfully disputed the legal right claimed by the Health Committee to enter the building at their pleasure. These facts are perfectly well known in Birmingham, and there is no excuse for the misleading statements that have been imposed upon you. Moreover, at the annual meeting of the subscribers recently held, the Committee, which includes the two senior members of the medical staff, stated in their report that, "the hospital has been remarkably free from all hospital diseases", a conclusive evidence, if any were needed, that no further interference on the part of the Health Committee is required. Our conduct has not, therefore, differed in any respect, as alleged in your article, from that of the managers of the hospitals of Norwich, Manchester, and Oxford.

We received a copy of the report of your commissioner; we met the Medical Officer of Health, and assisted him to examine in detail our hospital. We carried out all his recommendations under the superintendence of an experienced and skilful architect. We obtained a perfectly healthy institution, and at the end of a year some one has the audacity to write to you and say that it is unsanitary, and that we refuse to avail ourselves of the services of the public health authorities. I repeat that there is no excuse for such misrepresentation of facts accomplished, and well known to the profession in Birmingham.

Let me say, in conclusion, that within about six years of the present time, the mortality of a small local hospital exceeded anything that has ever been known in the annals of the operative surgery of Birmingham. This mortality was known to members of the Public Health Committee, but no notice whatever was taken of it. It may, however,

interest the profession to learn that the death-rate referred to was diminished upon all the surgical instruments being carbolicised, and other antiseptic precautions adopted; the gradually increased experience of the operators may also be taken into consideration.—I am, sir, yours obediently,

J. VOSE SOLOMON, Surgeon and Trustee of the Birmingham and Midland Eye Hospital.

P.S.—Six years since, the Corporation made an offer for the 1000 square yards and building thereon, constituting the property of the hospital, which includes a hotel, yielding a revenue of about £300 *per annum*. The offer was carefully considered and declined. Since this, it has been pretended by interested parties that the site of the hospital, which stands 450 feet above the level of the sea, and is in close proximity to four acres of open space, is unsuited for an Eye Hospital; and threats have been thrown out by members of the Corporation Health Committee that, whatever our plans for reconstruction may be, they will not be passed by them. I trust that the Chairman will publicly vindicate the honour of his Committee by disclaiming sympathy with an intention so flagrantly wrong and hostile to the interests of the public.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

ASPIRANS.—According to a recent decision of the Local Government Board, medical officers of unions are not precluded from being justices of the peace. The only restriction placed on them is, that they must not act as *ex officio* guardians in the unions in which they hold office.

MR. BLACKBURN AND THE BARNSLEY BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

OUR contemporary the *Barnsley Chronicle* of the 4th instant, in its report of a recent meeting of the board of guardians, gives the proceedings consequent on the application of Mr. Blackburn, medical officer of the district, for an increase of his stipend. In his letter, read at a previous meeting of the board, he showed that for £75 a year (with all medicines to supply—for the Barnsley guardians do not find anything in the way of expensive drugs), he had attended, in the preceding half-year, the large number of 437 cases of sickness, which was more than all his district colleagues put together, whose aggregate salaries amounted to £170. His application now came on for consideration, after some show of opposition from a Mr. Senior, who made some jocular observations about the cost of medicines (they need not be much in the Barnsley Union if Mr. Blackburn does not stand to lose heavily by his appointment), a resolution was submitted that the doctor's stipend be increased to £100 a year. This, on being put to the vote, was unanimously adopted. The principal ground taken by the proposer was the very satisfactory manner in which Mr. Blackburn had performed his onerous duties.

We congratulate Mr. Blackburn on the augmentation of his stipend, not alone from the fact that he is justly entitled to it, but also for the reasons alleged by the mover of the resolution. It must be very difficult to continue one's work satisfactorily under the conditions which Mr. Blackburn has had to encounter.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

ABBOTT, C. E., L.K.Q.C.P., appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator to No. 7 District of the Braintree Union.
ADRIEN, Edward N., L.K.Q.C.P., appointed Medical Officer to the Balbriggan District of the Balrothery Union, *vice* Francis J. McEvoy, L.K.Q.C.P., resigned.
BUCKENHAM, John, L.R.C.P.Ed., etc., appointed Public Vaccinator for the Borough of Cambridge, *vice* Edward Knowles, M.R.C.S.Eng., deceased.
CONSTABLE, John, M.D., C.M., Leuchars, appointed Parochial Medical Officer of the parishes of Logie and Dairsie, *vice* James W. R. Mackie, M.D., deceased.
GALPIN, Richard, M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator to the 6th District of the Braintree Union.
HININGS, John William, L.R.C.P.Ed., appointed Medical Officer to the Knight-wich District of the Martley Union, *vice* David Holmes, M.B., resigned.
MACINTYRE, Alexander, M.B., appointed Medical Officer for the Parish of Archdattan and Muckairn, Argyllshire.
MAGNER, Edward, M.D., appointed House-Surgeon to the Cork Workhouse, *vice* T. F. Riordan, M.D., resigned.
MILLS, Samuel, A.B., L.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Medical Officer to the Donaghmore Dispensary District of the Newry Union, *vice* W. F. Saunderson, M.B., deceased.
PENTLAND, A., M.B., appointed Medical Officer to the Ryan Dispensary District of the Mohill Union, *vice* Wm. Creery, M.B., resigned.
REID, John, M.D., appointed Medical Officer to the Fifth District of the Fulham Union, *vice* M. A. Gleeson, Esq., resigned.

MEDICAL NEWS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their Examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, September 9th, 1880.

Braganza, Bellarmin Moscardi, Bombay.
Ford, Lewis Frederic, Highgate, N.
Northcott, Arthur, Albert Street, N.W.
Rodway, Edwin Augustus, Taunton, Somerset.

The following gentlemen also on the same day passed their Primary Professional Examination.

Atkinson, Thomas Ruele, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Bird, Ashley, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Davis, Edward, Middlesex Hospital.
Deane, Herbert Edward, Middlesex Hospital.
Duff, Charles Henry, Middlesex Hospital.
Girdler, George Toussaint, Westminster Hospital.
James, James Prytherch, St. Thomas's Hospital.
Moore, Thomas Ricketts, Charing Cross Hospital.
Robinson, John Henry, St. Mary's Hospital.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

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

THE following vacancies are announced:—

BALLATER PAROCHIAL BOARD—Medical Practitioner. Salary, £35 per annum. Applications, with testimonials, to the Inspector of the Poor, on or before October 4th.
*BETHLEM HOSPITAL—Two Resident Medical Students. Applications, with testimonials, before October 9th.
*CAMBRIDGE COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and attendance. Applications, etc., on or before September 27th.
CHELTENHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL—Junior House-Surgeon, Salary, £50 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications, with testimonials, before October 10th.
CHESTER GENERAL INFIRMARY—Visiting Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with residence, maintenance, and washing. Applications and testimonials to the Chairman of the Board, on or before September 27th.
*EVELINA HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN—House-Surgeon. Salary, £70 per annum, with board, washing, and residence. Applications, with testimonials, on or before September 21st.
GALWAY UNION—Medical Officer for Oranmore Dispensary District. Salary, £120 per annum, exclusive of sanitary, registration, and vaccination fees. Election on 20th instant.
LEEDS PUBLIC DISPENSARY—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, lodging, etc. Applications, before September 22nd, to Mr. Jacob, 12, Park Street, Leeds.
MANCHESTER DISPENSARY FOR SICK CHILDREN, Gartside Street.—Visiting and Medical Officer. Salary, £180 per annum, without board and lodging. Applications, with testimonials, on or before September 25th, to Chairman of Medical Staff.
*RIPON DISPENSARY—Resident House-Surgeon and Dispenser. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, etc. Applications, with testimonials, to the Honorary Secretaries.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

*BRIGGS, H., M.B., appointed Senior House-Surgeon to the Stanley Hospital, Liverpool.
DRANNIGAN, Henry C., L.R.C.P.Ed., appointed House-Surgeon to the Liverpool Infirmary for Children, *vice* James Pointon, L.R.C.P., resigned.
FIRTH, R. H., M.R.C.S., House-Surgeon to the Blackburn and East Lancashire Infirmary, *vice* E. W. S. Wilkins, M.R.C.S.Eng., resigned.
HAMMOND, Thomas, L.R.C.P.Lond., late Assistant House-Surgeon to the Halifax Infirmary, appointed House-Surgeon, *vice* Robert Scott, M.D., resigned.
LUNN, J. R., M.R.C.S., appointed House-Surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital.
*LYTLE, J., M.D., appointed Junior House-Surgeon to the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary and Dispensary, Wigan.
MACPHERSON, A., M.B., appointed Junior House-Surgeon to the Stanley Hospital, Liverpool.
MACKENZIE, Murdo T., M.B., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Greenock Infirmary and Fever Hospital, *vice* S. Rutherford Macphail, M.B., resigned.
NEWSHOLME, A., M.R.C.S., appointed Resident Accoucheur to St. Thomas's Hospital.
PORRITT, Norman, M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed House-Surgeon to the Huddersfield Infirmary, *vice* W. H. M. Evans, M.R.C.S.Eng., resigned.

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.

BIRTH.

STRANGE.—On September 14th, at Biction, Shrewsbury, the wife of Arthur Strange, M.D., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

HOME—WHITWORTH.—On September 7th, at the Parish Church, Nantwich, Cheshire, by the Rev. James Campbell Home, M.A., Vicar of Rawcliffe, Garstang, Lancashire (uncle of the bridegroom), assisted by the Rev. Walter Hillyard Vicar of

Worleston, near Nantwich, and by the Rev. Foster Blackburn, M.A., Rector of the Parish, Rev. James David Home, only surviving son of the Rev. John Home, B.C.L., Rector of Bradley, Redditch, Worcestershire, to Sarah Jane, widow of the late Dr. James Whitworth, Tenby, Pembrokeshire.

BATT-WAKE.—On the 14th instant, at the Parish Church, Ecclesfield, by the Rev. E. H. Bucknall Estcourt, M.A., Rector of Eckington, assisted by the Rev. Alfred Gatty, D.D., Sub-Dean of York and Vicar of Ecclesfield, and the Rev. Nathan Jackson, M.A., Vicar of Easingfold, brother-in-law of the bridegroom, Charles Dorington Batt, M.B.Lond., fourth son of the late Edward Augustine Batt, Surgeon, of Witney, Oxon, to Isabel, eldest daughter of Bernard Wake, Esq., Abbeyfield, Sheffield.

DEATHS.

BAKER.—On September 9th, at his residence, No. 6, Gambier Terrace, Hope Street, Liverpool, John Copleston Baker, M.D., aged 43.

CAMPBELL, William, M.D., of Westbourne Place, Eaton Square, drowned at Redcar, on September 9th.

DAVIES.—On the 5th instant, in London, John Davies, M.D., late Surgeon Ebbw Vale Ironworks, Monmouthshire, aged 60.

O'CONNOR, William, M.D., Senior Physician to the Royal Free Hospital, at Upper Montagu Street, aged 68, on September 3rd.

THOMSON.—At 9, Burnbank Gardens, Glasgow, on the 7th instant, Noel George William, infant son of A. Tinning-Thomson, M.D.

WILLIAMSON, John E., M.D., formerly of Nantwich, at Grahamstown, Cape of Good Hope, aged 45, on August 5th.

MEDICAL MAGISTRATE.—Dr. Myrtle of Harrogate has been made a Justice of the Peace for the West Riding of the county of York.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—During last week, being the thirty-sixth week of this year, 4,140 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 25 deaths annually in every 1,000 persons living. The annual death-rate was 21 in Edinburgh, 17 in Glasgow, and 35 in Dublin. The annual rates of mortality in the twenty English towns were as follow: Bristol, 20; London, 20; Birmingham, 24; Plymouth, 24; Leeds, 27; Portsmouth, 28; Sheffield, 29; Bradford, 29; Manchester, 30; Hull, 30; Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 30; Oldham, 31; Norwich, 31; Brighton, 32; Nottingham, 32; Sunderland, 36; Wolverhampton, 38; and the highest rate, 39, in Liverpool, Leicester, and Salford. The annual death-rate from the seven principal zymotic diseases averaged 8.3 per 1,000 in the twenty towns, and ranged from 4.8 and 6.4 in London and Bristol, to 21.7 and 22.7 in Leicester and Salford. Scarlet fever showed the largest proportional fatality in Norwich, Salford, and Sunderland; and fever (principally enteric) in Plymouth, Portsmouth, and Sheffield. In London, 1,391 deaths were registered, which were 4 below the average, and gave an annual death-rate of 19.8 per 1,000. The 1,391 deaths included 5 from small-pox, 7 from measles, 55 from scarlet fever, 8 from diphtheria, 19 from whooping-cough, 18 from different forms of fever, and 223 from diarrhoea—being altogether 335 zymotic deaths, which were 17 below the average, and were equal to an annual rate of 4.8 per 1,000. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 124 and 152 in the two preceding weeks, declined again to 124 last week, and were 18 below the average; 68 were attributed to bronchitis, and 38 to pneumonia. Different forms of violence caused 49 deaths; 37 were the result of negligence or accident, including 13 from fractures and contusions, 2 from burns and scalds, 13 from drowning, 1 of a labourer in East London from plumbism, and 5 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. —At Greenwich, the mean temperature of the air was 62° 8', and 4.0° above the average. The direction of the wind was variable, and the horizontal movement of the air averaged 8.1 miles per hour, which was 3.2 below the average. Rain fell on four days of the week, to the aggregate amount of 1.51 inches. The duration of registered bright sunshine in the week was equal to 29 per cent. of its possible duration.

BEQUESTS, &c.—Among various bequests for charitable purposes left by Messrs. Joseph and John Morrison, are—for the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, £500; Glasgow Asylum for the Blind, £300; Glasgow Eye Infirmary, £300; Glasgow Institution for Deaf and Dumb, £300; while by a codicil a third of the residue of the estate is left to Glasgow University. The West of England Sanatorium has become entitled to £1,000 under the will of Miss Fanny Brookman of Winscombe, and £2,000 further on the deaths of two persons therein named. The rector and churchwardens of the parish of St. Edmund the King and Martyr, trustees of the Long Charity, have given £1,000 to the London Hospital, £500 to the Metropolitan Free Hospital, and £250 each to the Charing Cross Hospital, the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, King's College Hospital, and the Westminster Hospital. The Dundee Royal Infirmary has become entitled to £100 under the will of Mr. Thomas Couper. The National Hospital for Consumption at Ventnor has received £90 under the will of Mrs. Margaret Caulfield Fisher. Lady H. M. Scott Bentinck has given £50 to the Hospital for Women. Mr. J. H. Good has given £50 to the building fund of the Home for Incurable Children.

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.—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.—National Orthopaedic, 10 A.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, Tu. 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., 1; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 9; Skin, Th., 1; Dental, W. S., 9.15.

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.

TREATMENT OF VOLUNTARY FASTING.

SIR,—If Dr. Collins had made his fasting patient imbibe a few drops of chloroform, and then offered her liquid food, she might have swallowed it. I have employed this method with success, but cannot find any reference to its use.—Yours faithfully,
M.B.

