

not been entered in the record of the fixed population. The number of deaths in the Foundling Hospital, too, is out of all proportion to the entries, sometimes amounting to 70 per cent. of the infants received annually.

Turning from the non-resident classes who died in the hospitals in 1878, we find that there remain 365 deaths of persons not included in the fixed population to be accounted for. From inquiries made by the officials of the Department of Statistics at the Municipality, the mean annual number of visitors to the principal hotels and pensions is about 40,000, and this takes no note of any received into private houses. The average duration of residence is unknown. Of those, about 16,000 are foreigners; and, in 1878, thirty-four persons of foreign nationality died in Rome. This leaves 331 deaths occurring in the city among Italians whose circumstances did not compel them to take advantage of the hospitals, and whose names were not on the register of the population. To add 24,000 to the population to counterbalance their deaths would probably not be legitimate, owing to the probably short average duration of residence; but some correction ought to be made.

Small-pox has again been epidemic in Rome. Beginning about the middle of April, the deaths from the disease up to the end of October were 333. Of those, 276, or 83 per cent., were unvaccinated; 57, or 17 per cent., vaccinated. Of the total number, vaccinated and unvaccinated, 214, or 64.2 per cent., were under five years of age; 56, or 16.8 per cent., from five to fifteen; and 63, or 19 per cent., above fifteen years old; that is, the disease has told very much on children under five years of age, who are, or ought to be, thoroughly protected in countries where a compulsory vaccination Act exists. In the epidemic of 1871-72, the same thing occurred, as pointed out by me in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL at the time; the proportion of deaths under five years of age being then even higher, or 67.6 per cent. of the total mortality; whereas, in well-vaccinated countries, the death-rate from an epidemic among children under five years ought not to attain 25 per cent. Facilities indeed are offered for vaccination, but, as the law only compels proof of vaccination when the children enter schools or other public institutions, there invariably exists plenty of food for small-pox amongst the very young; and thus, every five years or so, an epidemic is inevitable, as long as the deplorable indifference to the value of thorough protection by a proper compulsory vaccination Act continues. This is true for every part of Italy, but it is difficult to know much about the prevalence of any particular complaint, detailed statistics being published only in one or two of the larger cities, as Milan and Rome.

The number of cases is now diminishing, though there were still twenty-eight under treatment about a week ago, when I was in the small-pox wards of the Santo Spirito Hospital.

PHYSICIANS TO PROVINCIAL HOSPITALS.

It is more evident each year that the prospects of consulting physicians and surgeons in provincial towns—excluding, of course, those which possess schools of medicine—are becoming less and less encouraging. Without resorting to general practice, the juniors, unless possessed of considerable private fortune, stand little chance of weathering the period of anxious waiting. Whether this is due to the increased facilities which the better class of patients possess of visiting the metropolis, to the considerable influence exercised by, and to the confidence reposed in the medical officers of the numerous cottage hospitals, or to other causes, we cannot decide. The fact, however, remains, whatever may have brought it about, that young consultants cannot longer get a living in provincial towns. In these circumstances, it is not surprising there should be a growing feeling in favour of relaxing the rules which compel all the physicians to abstain from general practice. At Worcester, for example, Dr. William Strange, the senior physician to the infirmary, has taken up the cause of the junior physicians. He shows that, "ever since the death of Sir Charles Hastings in 1866, one physician after another has taken office, only, after a longer or shorter time to relinquish it, disappointed of that success in private practice" which the office was supposed to, and did formerly, ensure, and upon which he had to depend for a living. Each of the later junior physicians to the Worcester Infirmary has spent several valuable years of his life in anxiety, ending in disappointment and loss, not from want of talent, of energy, or of patience, but from an absence of opportunity to attain success. Dr. Strange, therefore, advocates a relaxation of the present restrictive system, so far as the junior physician is concerned. He would allow him to enter into private practice, including the attendance upon women in their confinement, for the earlier years of his physicianship. He would invite men of the highest qualifications; but he would not insist, as of old, upon their being confined to the barren dignity of the pure physician, whilst the surgeons, "with not greater,

perhaps not so great, deserts, carry off all the remunerative practice".

Such is Dr. Strange's proposal; and we have taken some little trouble to ascertain the prevailing rule at the provincial hospitals having no medical schools. Of twenty-four county infirmaries, only the Sunderland, Cheltenham, North Staffordshire, and Worcester place any such restrictions upon the physicians. The Norwich, Bedford, Brighton, Hull, Salisbury, Shrewsbury, Lincoln, and Hereford, and other hospitals, leave the physicians free to take the kind of practice which they may consider best. In these circumstances, the preponderance of precedent is in favour of a relaxation of the rules at the Worcester and other similar hospitals. A physician to a provincial, or, for that matter, to any hospital, should be a man of varied attainments. As Dr. Strange says, "such a man possesses energies which he will seek to exert, and which it is unfair and even immoral to seek to check. The experience he gains in the wards of a hospital should benefit both his poor patients there, and his paying patients out of doors. The possession of private practice enables him to compare the diseases of one class of persons with those of another, and so the infirmary profits by his experience gained in private practice." For these and other reasons, especially as the work of the infirmary at Worcester necessitates the appointment of two, if not of three physicians, it seems desirable that the present rules should be relaxed in favour of the junior physician.

Another question arose at Worthing, when it was recently proposed to appoint a physician to the infirmary. For many years the staff have been designated medical officers; and there have been no physicians and surgeons—owing, no doubt, to the smallness of the institution. A lady, however, desired to benefit the infirmary, and to secure the election of her private medical attendant, a graduate of St. Andrew's, as physician to the Worthing Infirmary. This gentleman had formerly been one of the medical officers, but had resigned his appointment a few years previously. The lady in question offered to give £2,000 to the institution, on condition that the committee elected her medical attendant physician to the infirmary. When this proposal was under consideration, the three medical officers protested against any such appointment being made, on the ostensible ground that no gentleman who was not a Fellow or Member of the Royal College of Physicians of London was eligible, or could rightly be elected to so honourable an office. They even went so far as to declare, they would resign in a body, if the conditions were agreed to and the money was accepted. In the result, the committee refused the £2,000, which, if offered to one of the Coalescent Hospitals Associations, would probably ensure the immediate opening of a convalescent pay hospital at Worthing, to which the gentleman in question might be elected physician. Unless professional feeling was justified in the Worthing case, precedent and practice prove the staff to have been wrong in the objection they raised to the appointment of a physician. At only two out of thirty of the leading provincial hospitals do the rules insist upon the physicians being Fellows or Members of the London College. Brighton is one of the exceptions; and this, no doubt, went far to influence the committee in coming to a decision. Otherwise there was no good reason, on the ground of the professional qualification of the candidate, for depriving the Worthing Infirmary of the £2,000. It is something to be able to afford to refuse such a sum.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.

THE next meeting of the above District will be held on Thursday evening, at half-past eight o'clock, in the Library of the London Hospital Medical College; Dr. HABERSHON, President of the Branch, in the chair.

The following papers will be read:

1. A. E. Sansom, M.D.: On a New Method of Supplementary Alimination.
2. Major Greenwood, L.R.C.P.Lond.: Some Remarks on the Symptoms and Diagnosis of Typhoid Fever.
3. George Weller, M.R.C.S.Eng.: Notes of a Case of Foreign Body in Male Bladder; Operation for its Removal.

243, Hackney Road, E. FREDERICK WALLACE, Hon. Sec.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT.

A MEETING of this District was held on Wednesday, November 17th, at the Maiden's Head Inn, Uckfield; Dr. W. J. TREUTLER in the chair.

Communications.—The following communications were made.

On Hydrophobia, its Pathology and Prevention. By JOSEPH EWART, M.D.—With reference to the first point, the investigations of Radcliffe, Coats, Benedikt, and Gowers, were succinctly summarised; and, as regards the second, valid reasons were given for looking upon early excision, with or without cauterisation, as the most efficient mode of prophylaxis.

A Fatal Case of Ileus caused by Congenital Malformation of the Intestina. By W. WALLIS, Esq.—It occurred in a young man aged 19, who died after sixty hours' illness. At the *post mortem* examination, one-third of the ileum was found to be strangulated by a fibrous cord. This proved to be a hollow tube, extending from the ileum, and attached by a fimbriated extremity to the abdominal parietes. The danger of faecal extravasation, in case an operation had been resorted to, was pointed out. The appendix vermiformis was natural.

Metrorrhagia in an Old Lady. By G. F. HODGSON, Esq.—The case was that of an old lady aged 75, who had had metrorrhagia for upwards of sixteen years. Two mucous polypi were found growing from the fundus uteri. The specimen was exhibited.

Hemiplegic Unilateral Anasarca, consequent on Scarlatina. By W. J. TREUTLER, M.B.—The case occurred in a girl aged 5½.

Dinner.—The dinner took place at the hotel; Dr. Treutler in the chair. In the course of the after-proceedings, the Chairman ably and eloquently alluded to the benefits conferred by the British Medical Association, and such meetings as the present.

The Next Meeting will take place at Eastbourne, in March; Dr. Jeffery to be invited to take the chair.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: NORTH LONDON DISTRICT.

THE second meeting for the session was held at 44, Mildmay Park, on Thursday, November 25th; Dr. WILLIAMSON in the chair.

Papers.—The following papers were read:

1. On Scarlatina. By James Williamson, M.D.
2. On Syphilitic Ataxy, and the Pre-ataxic Stage of Locomotor Ataxy. By T. S. Dowse, M.D.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

BIRMINGHAM.

The Medical Institute.—*The Queen's College.*—*Mason's College.*—*Projected Industrial Museum.*—*The Goodall Testimonial.*—*Alleged Poisoning of Dogs at the Dog Shows.*

SINCE my last letter, the arrangements have been completed for the formal opening of the new buildings of the Medical Institute, in Edmund Street, by the President of the Royal College of Physicians—Dr. James Risdon Bennett. The ceremony will take place on the 17th inst., at the institute; when it is expected that Dr. Risdon Bennett will deliver an address; after which, there will be a dinner, at which Mr. D. W. Crompton, the President of the Medical Institute, will preside. It is well known here, that of all the active friends to whom the institute owes so much, it is most of all indebted to Mr. Crompton; so that it is especially pleasing that he should preside during the inaugural year, and at the inaugural ceremony. Mr. Crompton has been at all times unsparing of his valuable time, his extensive influence, and his purse, to bring to a successful issue, this attempt to provide a home for the medical profession in the town and district. At present, the institute consists of a very handsome building, situated in the centre of the town, containing reading-rooms, committee-rooms, and a large handsomely furnished library-hall for meetings. The meetings of the Branch and its Sections, and the Midland Medical Society, are held in this room; these societies paying a small rental for the use of the rooms. The library numbers over six thousand volumes, and the reading-room table is well supplied with British and foreign periodicals. It is a highly satisfactory fact, that the building will be opened free from any building debt.

The anatomical class, at the Queen's College, is being conducted this winter by Professor Thomas alone, no successor having been appointed to Mr. Jolly. Two students of the college, Messrs. Suckling and Harvey, were placed in the first class at the recent M.B. examination of the University of London.

Mason's College has an entry of between fifty and sixty students, but of these, a large proportion are ladies. I understand that this is quite as large an entry as the trustees expected. There is some ground for hoping that the basis of the trust-deed may yet be enlarged, so as to get rid of the exclusive clauses, and to enable the trustees to provide accommodation for instruction in literary subjects, if the endowment for the chairs be forthcoming.

A great effort is to be made to induce the present Government to aid Birmingham, and the other great manufacturing towns, to found industrial museums out of the funds at present appropriated too exclusively by South Kensington.

The committee entrusted with raising a fund for a testimonial to Mr. W. P. Goodall, were extremely successful in their efforts. At a meeting of subscribers held in the committee-room, at the Town Hall, the Mayor, Mr. Richard Chamberlain, in the chair, Mr. Goodall was presented with an illuminated address, a piece of plate, and a purse of five-hundred sovereigns.

The Cattle and Poultry, and Dog Shows have brought many strangers to the town during the past week. Several of the dogs have been taken ill, and these have died under circumstances so suspicious, that their stomachs have been sent to Dr. Hill, the Borough analyst, for chemical investigation. The facts, when known, caused considerable excitement among the owners of dogs in the show.

GLASGOW.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

University of Glasgow.—*Bute and Randolph Halls.*—*South Side Infirmary.*—*Temperance Legislation in Scotland.*—*Professor Pettigrew's Lecture on "Flight."*

THE number of students attending the classes in the different faculties of the University of Glasgow this winter session has just been made public. The matriculation closed on December 1st, and the total number of students this year is 2,281 against 2,220 on the same day last year, showing an increase of 3 per cent. Taking the different departments *separatim*, we find that the students in arts are 1,389 against 1,365; in medicine 557 against 539; in law 189 against 193; in theology 85 against 73. Some students have entered for classes in two faculties, and of these there are 61, against 50 last year.

It is satisfactory to be able to announce that not only is the new Common Hall of the University rapidly approaching completion, but, with the cordial sanction of Mrs. Randolph, widow of the late Mr. Charles Randolph, part of the large legacy left by that gentleman to the university for building purposes is to be immediately expended in completing the buildings necessary for joining the new Common Hall to the main building. A good deal remains to be done in order to the completion of the design, and the Building Committee will require to make a fresh appeal to the liberality of the citizens, it being stipulated by the Marquis of Bute, when he gave his handsome donation of £45,000, that the general public should contribute a certain sum within a specified time. The new buildings will include a hall to be named the Randolph Hall, which will be of much smaller dimensions than the Bute or new Common Hall, and which will be available for meetings where the attendance will be limited. Seeing that the sum of money given by Mr. Randolph is not available in the meantime, according to the provisions of the legacy Mrs. Randolph having the life-rent of it, the permission of that lady to allow part of it to be made available for present requirements must be regarded as a very handsome and generous proceeding. The length of the Bute Hall internally, from north to south, is 110 feet, its width 68 feet, and its height 74 feet. Along each side and across the north end are spacious galleries, intended for the accommodation of the public, the students occupying the body of the hall. From the cloisters, which extend under the entire area of the hall, are circular turret staircases, at each angle of the building, leading to the hall and galleries. In each turret are two winding staircases, so arranged that the students may gain access to the floor of the hall without coming in contact with the public going to the galleries. These double-staired turrets, which are after the model of that in the Castle of Blois, were suggested by Professor Blackburn, who designed the staircases. It is scarcely likely that the hall will be ready for the inauguration of the newly elected Lord Rector, but no doubt his successor will be duly installed within its walls.

The question of increased infirmary accommodation in Glasgow has been lately taken up in one or two quarters. Although the new wards in the Western Infirmary are now completed, and nearly ready for occupancy, the managers have decided only to use them as they receive money to defray the expenses which will be thereby occasioned. No doubt the necessary funds will be in time forthcoming, but with the view of lessening the demands upon the Royal and Western infirmaries, there has been a renewal of a movement set on foot some years ago, to take steps for the erection of a suitable hospital and dispensary on the south side of the city. The Glasgow Southern Medical Society, which has all along interested itself in the matter, has continued the committee which it appointed some time ago, instructing them to take all necessary steps for the furtherance of the scheme, by making it generally known, and obtaining support from all employers of labour and

MEDICAL NEWS.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—M.D. Examination, 1880. Pass List.

Buchanan, Arthur, Guy's Hospital.
 Cattle, Charles Henry, Leeds and University College.
 Chapman, Paul Morgan, University College.
 Colquhoun, Daniel, Charing Cross Hospital.
 Dunbar, James John Macwhirter, St. George's Hospital.
 Ferrier, John Christian, Guy's Hospital.
 Gristock, William, University College and Westminster Hospital.
 Henderson, G. Courtenay (Gold Medal), University College.
 Jones, Arthur Henry, Guy's Hospital.
 Lubbock, Montagu, Guy's Hospital.
 Mackern, George, Guy's Hospital.
 Phillips, Sidney Philip, University College and Middlesex Hospital.
 Sainsbury, Harrington, University College.
 Silcock, Arthur Quarry, B.S., University College.
 White, William Hale, Guy's Hospital.
 Wigleworth, Joseph, Liverpool Royal Infirmary and St. Thomas's Hospital.
 Wilkinson, Arthur Thomas, B.A., B.Sc., Owens College.
 Willcocks, Frederick, King's College.

Logic and Psychology only.

Bond, James William, B.S., University College.
 Lendon, Alfred Austen, University College and Middlesex Hospital.
 Plumb, Samuel Thomas, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
 Prowse, Arthur Bancks, St. Mary's Hospital.
 Ryley, James, University College.
 Williams, Dawson, B.S., University College.

Second M.B. Examination, 1880. Examination for Honours. Medicine.

First Class.

Newsholme, Arthur (Scholarship and Gold Medal), St. Thomas's Hospital.
 Money, Angel (Gold Medal), University College.
 Saunders, Arthur Rich, University College.
 Barnes, George Frederick, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Sellers, William, University of Edinburgh and London Hospital } equal.
 Meek, John William, Guy's Hospital } equal.
 Pollard, Bilton, University College } equal.
 Paddle, James Isaac, B.A., B.Sc., University College
 Suckling, Cornelius William, Queen's College, Birmingham } equal.

Second Class.

Brooke, Henry A. G., B.A. Owens College and Guy's Hospital } equal.
 Harvey, Alfred, Queen's College, Birmingham
 Shaw, John, St. Thomas's Hospital.
 Wainwright, Robert Spencer, Guy's Hospital.
 Baddeley, Charles Edward, King's College.
 Dalton, Norman, King's College } equal.
 Penny, Edward, Guy's Hospital }

Third Class.

Day, Donald Douglas, St. Bartholomew's Hospital } equal.
 Sayer, Mark Feetham, University College
 Notley, William James, B.A., University of Edinburgh.

Obstetric Medicine.

First Class.

Barnes, George Fredk. (Scholarship and Gold Medal), St. Bartholomew's Hosp.
 Paddle, James Isaac (Gold Medal), University College.
 Banks, William, University College.
 Saunders, Arthur Rich, University College.
 Newsholme, Arthur, St. Thomas's Hospital.

Second Class.

Pollard, Bilton, University College.
 Sayer, Mark Feetham, University College.
 Rich, Arthur Creswell, St. Thomas's Hospital.
 Pernewan, Arthur Edward, University College.

Third Class.

Sellers, William, University of Edinburgh and London Hospital.
 Dalton, Norman, King's College.
 Harvey, Alfred, Queen's College, Birmingham.
 Meek, John William, Guy's Hospital.
 Day, Donald Douglas, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Forensic Medicine.

First Class.

Meek, John William (Scholarship and Gold Medal), Guy's Hospital.
 *Paddle, James Isaac (Gold Medal), University College.
 †Banks, William, University College.
 †Shaw, John, St. Thomas's Hospital.
 Rich, Arthur Creswell, St. Thomas's Hospital.
 Money, Angel, University College.
 Berry, Frederick Haycraft, Guy's Hospital.

Second Class.

Newsholme, Arthur, St. Thomas's Hospital.
 Penny, Edward, Guy's Hospital.
 Pollard, Bilton, University College.
 Wainwright, Robert Spencer, Guy's Hospital.
 Saunders, Arthur Rich, University College.

* Obtained the number of marks qualifying for the University Scholarship.
 † Obtained the number of marks qualifying for a Gold Medal.

Third Class.

Faulkner, John Thomas, Owens College.

M.S. Examination, 1880.

Symonds, Charters James, M.D., Guy's Hospital.

B.S. Examination. Pass List.

First Division.

Claremont, Claude Clarke, University College.
 Gill, Richard, B.Sc., St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
 Neale, William Henry, University College.
 Pollard, Bilton, University College.
 Sheppard, Charles Edward, St. Thomas's Hospital.
 Smith, Robert Percy, St. Thomas's Hospital.

Second Division.

Day, Donald Douglas, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
 Money, Angel, University College.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the fellowship, at the half-yearly meeting of the Court of Examiners terminating on the 29th ultimo, were reported to have acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of the Court, and at a meeting of the Council on the 9th instant were admitted Fellows of the College.

Messrs. Cleland Lammiman, L.R.C.P.L., Tunbridge Wells, diploma of membership dated July 21st, 1871; Charles H. Newby, L.R.C.P.L., Adelaide Road, N.W., January 22nd, 1873; James Black, M.B. Cantab., Stockwell, January 26th, 1875; Samuel D. Clippingdale, M.D. Aberd., Kensington, July 20th, 1875; Robert W. Greenwich, L.R.C.P.L., New Street, N.W., July 27th, 1875; Hubert F. Weiss, L.R.C.P.L., Fulham, January 8th, 1876; Hugh P. Dunn, Guilford Street, January 8th, 1876; George R. Turner, L.R.C.P.L., Sussex Gardens, July 25th, 1877; Walter J. Miles, L.R.C.P.L., Wyndham Place, July 27th, 1877; Hayward R. Whitehead, L.R.C.P.L., Cadogan Terrace, November 3rd, 1877; George J. Lloyd, L.S.A., Birmingham, July 23rd, 1878; James O'M. MacDonnell, M.D. Queen's Univ. Irel., H.M.I. Army, November 17th, 1880; Alfred H. Young, M.B. Ed., Warrington (not a member).

Twelve candidates were sent back to their professional studies for twelve months.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their Examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, December 2nd, 1880.

Cooper, Richard Gilpin, Park Road, Southport.
 Everard, Horace Nathaniel, Leicester.
 Field, Cornelius, Fortess Road, Kentish Town.
 Jerome, John William, St. Heliers, Jersey.
 Orton, Arthur, Queen's College, Birmingham.
 Osborne, Harold Rochester, St. Ives, Huntingdon.
 Unsworth, Francis Henry, Derby.
 Willis, Arthur, Soham, Cambridgeshire.

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

Baker, William B., London Hospital.
 Campbell, Henry William, Guy's Hospital.
 Jones, David William, University College.
 Holroyd, John, London Hospital.
 Williams, Montagu, Middlesex Hospital.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

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

The following vacancies are announced:—

ADDENBROOKE'S HOSPITAL, Cambridge—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £65 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, on or before December 15th.

ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS, Earlswood, Redhill.—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum, with board and washing. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, on or before December 20th.

BATH HOSPITAL, Harrogate—Secretary and Dispenser. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, before January 6th, 1881.

DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON MEDICAL SCHOOL—Medical Tutor. Salary, £40 per annum. Applications on or before December 14th.

DORSET COUNTY ASYLUM—House-Surgeon. Salary, £70 per annum, and £10 additional as Secretary. Applications, with testimonials, to the Chairman, on or before January 12th, 1881.

FISHERTON HOUSE ASYLUM, Salisbury—Senior Assistant Medical Officer. Applications at once.

*HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Great Ormond Street.—Ophthalmic Surgeon. Applications, with testimonials, on or before December 16th.

*KENSINGTON UNION—Medical Officer to Workhouse and Infirmary. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications, with testimonials, not later than December 23rd.

LEICESTER INFIRMARY AND FEVER HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon and Apothecary. Testimonials, addressed to the Secretary's Office, 24, Friar Lane, on or before Monday, December 13th.

LIVERPOOL NORTHERN HOSPITAL—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £70 per annum, with board and residence. Applications, with testimonials, not later than December 11th.

MITCHELSTOWN UNION—Medical Officer for Galbally Dispensary District. Salary, £100 per annum, with £15 yearly as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination fees. Election on the 15th instant.

MOUNTMELLICK UNION—Medical Officer for Cooham Dispensary District. Salary, £60 per annum, with £15 yearly as Medical Officer of Health, registration and vaccination fees. Election on the 13th instant.

*NEWARK-UPON-TRENT HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY—Resident Medical Officer and Secretary. Salary, £400 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, on or before December 21st.

NOTTINGHAM DISPENSARY—Resident Surgeon. Salary, £200 per annum, with furnished apartments, gas, and coals. Applications, with testimonials; on or before December 20th; election January 3rd, 1881.

*RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY, Oxford.—Junior Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £60 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications, with testimonials, before December 18th.

ROYAL SOUTH LONDON DISPENSARY—Honorary District Surgeon. Applications on or before December 30th.

ROYAL BERKS HOSPITAL, Reading—Assistant to the House-Surgeon, with board and lodging. Applications, with testimonials, on or before December 21st.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL, Chatham—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, lodging, washing, etc. Applications, with testimonials, on or before December 13th.

*ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL—Surgical Registrar. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications to the Secretary on or before December 21st.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH—An additional Examiner of Pathology. Applications and testimonials to the Secretary not later than January 17th, 1881.

*WALLASEY DISPENSARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £140 per annum, with furnished residence, coals, and gas. Applications, with testimonials, to the Honorary Secretary, on or before January 7th, 1881.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

*FORT, T., L.R.C.P., appointed a Certifying Factory Surgeon, *vice* H. Halkyard, F.R.C.S., resigned.

HORNE, John F., F.R.C.S., Ed., appointed Surgeon to the Beckett Hospital and Dispensary at Barnsley, *vice* W. Stawman, M.R.C.S. Eng., deceased.

MADLEY, E., M.R.C.S.E., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Lincoln United Friendly Societies' Dispensary, *vice* C. M. Davidson, M.R.C.S., resigned.

*MORTON, Shadforth, M.B., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Surgeon to the W Division of Metropolitan Police, Croydon, and Examiner of Recruits for the Militia and Regular Army in the Croydon District.

OSWALD, H. R., M.B., C.M., appointed Medical Officer to the Royal South London Dispensary.

SMYTH, S. T., M.D., appointed Consulting Surgeon to the Infirmary for Sick Children, Sydenham Park, upon resigning as Surgeon.

WALDO, F. J., M.A., M.B., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the East London Hospital for Children, *vice* T. E. Hayward, 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.

BIRTHS.

COCKELL.—On the 5th December, at 62, Forest Road, Dalston, the wife of Fredk. E. Cockell, junr., M.R.C.S.E., of a son.

CURTIS.—On the 3rd of December, the wife of William Curtis, jun., of Eastbrook House, Alton, Hants, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

MOXON—TUCKWELL.—On December 1st, at South Street, Exeter, by the Rev. F. Bosworth, M.A., assisted by the Rev. J. Tuckwell, brother of the bride, Dr. William Moxon, of Matlock, Derbyshire, to Julia, youngest daughter of Henry Tuckwell, Esq., St. Leonard Road, Exeter, Devon.—No cards.

DEATH.

HEWLETT.—On December 5th, from convulsions, Ethel, fourth daughter of John and Caroline Hewlett, of The Ferns, Hornsey, and Cree Church Lane, London, E.C.

MEDICAL MAYOR.—Dr. Thomas E. O'Sullivan has been elected Mayor of Limerick for the ensuing year.

HIS Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant has appointed Sir George B. Owens, M.D., J.P., to be High Sheriff of the County of the City of Dublin for the year 1881.

DONATIONS, ETC.—Dr. John Moore and Mr. Macrory have given £50 each to the Belfast Royal Hospital, to qualify as life governors. The late William McKeown has left £50 to the Belfast Royal Hospital, and Lord Ashtown, £100 to the Hospital for Incurables.

BABY-FARMING.—At Durham Quarter Sessions, a widow named Elizabeth Bell, pleaded guilty to unlawfully abandoning a child, whereby its life was endangered, at Gateshead. Prisoner had received £12 from the child's mother to maintain it, but notwithstanding this, the child was recently discovered in an emaciated and shocking condition. Prisoner was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour.

VACCINATION.—Mr. A. H. Boys of Pill, near Bristol, has received a grant of £7 8s. (second time) for efficient vaccination.—Dr. G. K. Sproule of Frome has received a vaccination grant, for the third time in succession.—Dr. Lionel A. Weatherly has been awarded a Government grant, for efficient vaccination, in No. 6 District, Bedminster

Union (second time).—Mr. George Harvey of Wirkworth has received a local Government award for vaccination of £7 8s., being the third in succession.

DURING the past nine weeks of the current quarter, the metropolitan death-rate has averaged 21.3 per 1,000, against 21.7 and 22.3 in the corresponding periods of 1878 and 1879.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—During last week, being the forty-eighth week of this year, 5,552 births and 3,478 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 21 deaths annually in every 1,000 persons living. The annual death-rate was 22 in Edinburgh, 21 in Glasgow, and 30 in Dublin. The annual rates of mortality in the twenty English towns were as follow: Brighton, 14; Wolverhampton, 14; Bristol, 17; Sheffield, 18; Plymouth, 18; Leeds, 18; Birmingham, 19; Bradford, 20; Leicester, 20; London, 21; Portsmouth, 21; Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 21; Manchester, 22; Oldham, 22; Salford, 23; Liverpool, 23; Nottingham, 24; Norwich, 24; Hull, 25; and the highest rate, 26, in Sunderland. The annual death-rate from the seven principal zymotic diseases averaged 2.5 per 1,000 in the twenty towns, and ranged from 0.0 and 0.7 in Brighton and Wolverhampton, to 4.8 and 6.7 in Salford and Sunderland. Scarlet fever showed the largest proportional fatality in Sunderland, Leicester, Bradford, and Liverpool; measles in Salford; and whooping-cough in Hull and Nottingham. The highest death-rates from fever (mainly enteric) occurred in Leeds and Leicester. In London, 1,446 deaths were registered, which were so many as 322 below the average, and gave an annual death-rate of 20.6. The 1,446 deaths included 10 from small-pox, 54 from measles, 73 from scarlet fever, 10 from diphtheria, 12 from whooping-cough, 17 from different forms of fever, and 9 from diarrhoea—being altogether 185 zymotic deaths, which were 79 below the average, and were equal to an annual rate of 2.6 per 1,000. The 73 fatal cases of scarlet fever showed a decline of 10 from the number of the previous week, and were within 2 of the corrected weekly average; 4 were returned in Islington, 4 in Shoreditch, 4 in Bethnal Green, 7 in Bromley and Poplar, and 9 in Lambeth. The fatal cases of small-pox, which had been 10 and 19 in the two preceding weeks, declined again to 10 last week, of which 4 were recorded in the Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals at Homerton and Deptford, and 6 in private dwelling-houses. Six of the deceased small-pox patients had resided in the East (including 4 in Bethnal Green), 2 in the North, and 2 in the South groups of registration districts. The new cases of small-pox admitted to the Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals, which had been 99 and 57 in the two previous weeks, were 67 last week. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 332 and 367 in the two preceding weeks, declined again to 334 last week, and were no fewer than 170 below the average; 210 resulted from bronchitis, and 87 from pneumonia. Different forms of violence caused 64 deaths; 56 were the result of negligence or accident, including 20 from fractures and contusions, 8 from burns and scalds, 6 from drowning, 2 from poison, and 17 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. At Greenwich, the mean temperature of the air was 44.1°, and 2.6° above the average. The general direction of the wind was south-westerly, and the horizontal movement of the air averaged 11.4 miles per hour, which was 0.9 below the average. Rain fell on Wednesday, to the amount of 0.04 of an inch. The duration of registered bright sunshine in the week was equal to 8 per cent. of its possible duration. Very little ozone was recorded during the week.

MEXBOROUGH.—The chief feature in the vital statistics of this district, for 1879, is the terrible mortality amongst children. Of the 109 deaths, no fewer than 74, or rather more than 67 per cent., were in children under five years of age; 46, or a little over 42 per cent., being registered as occurring under one year of age. Mr. Sykes has evidently devoted some pains to discovering the reasons for this abnormal mortality, which he ascribes mainly to improper feeding, and to injudicious exposure of children insufficiently clad. The only zymotic diseases prevalent were scarlatina, which caused 7 deaths; and measles and whooping-cough, which caused 5 and 7 deaths respectively—both the latter diseases spreading all over the town. Although the Officer of Health recommended the closure of one of the schools, on account of the prevalence of measles, the School Board saw fit to disregard his advice—with the result of considerably protracting the epidemic. Of the non-zymotic diseases, bronchitis and the other diseases of the respiratory organs were the most fatal, 30 persons dying from these disorders. The general death-rate is calculated as 18.16 per 1,000; though the accuracy of the estimated population may be open to question. The birth-rate was very high (44.6 per 1,000), which may account in part for the large infant mortality.

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.—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	King's College, 2 P.M.—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., 1.30; 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.	

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Allchin, "A Case of Gastric Ulcer". Dr. Habershon will read the notes of a case of Obstruction of Colon from Contraction of Calibre of Intestine.	
TUESDAY.—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Bantock, "On Hyperpyrexia after 'Listerian' Ovariectomy"; Mr. Lawson Tait, "Hydatids of the Liver treated by Abdominal Section and Drainage". Dr. Thin will show the subject of an Unusual Form of Skin-Disease.	
WEDNESDAY.—Association of Surgeons practising Dental Surgery. 7.30 P.M., Council Meeting. 8.30 P.M., Mr. Edmund Owen, "On Maxillary Abscess and Necrosis in Childhood"—Meteorological Society, 7 P.M. Rev. T. A. Preston, "Report on the Phenological Observations for 1880"; Mr. G. M. Whipple, 1. "On the Variations of Relative Humidity and Thermometric Dryness of the Air, with Changes of Barometric Pressure at the Kew Observatory"; 2. "On the relative frequency of given heights of the Barometer Readings at the Kew Observatory during the ten years 1870-79".	
THURSDAY.—Harveian Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Harveian Lecture, by Dr. J. E. Pollock, "On the Prognosis and Treatment of Chronic Diseases of the Chest, in relation to Modern Pathology".	

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 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 Manager, 161A, Strand, W.C.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.—We shall be much obliged to Medical Officers of Health if they will, on forwarding their Annual and other Reports, favour us with Duplicate Copies.

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

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

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

MR. TENNYSON AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

SIR,—Much as medical men may feel grieved at the piece you quoted last week from Tennyson's new work, yet, in writing that, he has only been consistent with the opinions he has before expressed concerning the medical profession. The following quotations will fully show that.

"In truth
We shudder but to dream our maids should ape
Those monstrous males who carve the living hound,
And cram him with the fragments of the grave;
Or, in the dark dissolving human heart
And holy secrets of this microcosm,
Dabbling a shameless hand, with shameful jest
Encarnalize their spirits." *The Princess.*

"Doctors they knows nowt; fur a says what's nawways true;
Naw soort o' koind o' use to saay the things that a do."

Northern Farmer (old style).

"And sleep must lie down arm'd, for the villanous centre-bits
Grind on the wakeful ear in the hush of the moonless nights;
While another is cheating the sick of a few last gasps, as he sits
To pestle a poisoned poison behind his crimson lights."—*Maud.*

I am, yours obediently,
Ferndale, December 5th, 1880.

W. COLE HAIME.

QUÆRE should recommend a consultation with an eminent surgeon accustomed to investigate such cases.

THE ONE PORTAL SYSTEM: WHY DO THE COLLEGES EXIST?

SIR,—Mr. G. R. Gilruth is in the same boat with a good many others who write on questions about which they know nothing. The great question with the medical profession is not that of the title of doctor, or the union of two colleges to grant such titles, but why should these colleges exist at all? We, in Scotland, have no reason to complain; for the sum of £105, or at most £120, spread over four years, any student can obtain two university degrees. The hardship complained of by English students does not, therefore, exist here. The real question, as I have said, is: Why do the corporations exist at all? Take the Colleges of Surgeons and of Physicians of London, the Apothecaries' Hall of London, the two Colleges in Edinburgh, and the Faculty of Glasgow. What are these bodies doing for the furtherance of medical science? They are simply examining boards; they are not teaching bodies at all. From candidates for their diplomas they draw about £15,000 annually—probably more. Surely, if the Government is able to examine candidates for its public services, it is capable to examine candidates for civil practice. By so doing, a clear profit of between £20,000 to £25,000 would be annually saved to the country. You complain of the method of examination conducted by the London College, and proceed to show that students are sometimes examined on the physiology of only one organ. This, I am sorry to say, is not peculiar to the London College of Surgeons. Here, the examining board is virtually self-selective; death of one of the examiners being the only chance of change. The examiners, with two exceptions, are general practitioners; and I have known that students in anatomy have been examined only on the bones of the pelvis by a midwifery practitioner; and frequently all the questions have been on the nervous or digestive system, read up the night before by the examiner. Besides, a strange system prevails here. Ages ago, the Colleges met and propounded a list of questions, which are used over and over again, reminding one of the story of the parson who bought a barrel of sermons, drawing one out at the bottom, and placing it on the top when used. I know for a fact that the paper set for the double qualification in July did service in October, and came round nicely for those rejected in the former month. There are other abuses; but my letter is already too long. Apologising for taking up your valuable space, I am, sir, your obedient servant.

H. AUBREY HUSBAND, F.R.C.S.E., Lecturer on Medical Jurisprudence, Medical School, Edinburgh.

13, Northumberland Street, Edinburgh, Nov. 21st, 1880.
P.S.—The truth is, no medical paper troubles itself about us, and thus things continue as they were from the beginning. Thus, the London College gets all the lecturing and advice. The beginning was bad enough.

PUZZLED.—The statement quoted is a fair sample of the perversions of the anti-vaccinators. It is undoubtedly true that Mr. Ernest Hart, in his book on the *Truth about Vaccination*, stated that "the characters of small-pox, when uncontrolled by vaccination, still remain the same, as is evidenced by the present mortality from it amongst unvaccinated persons"; and that he gave statistics to show the immensely larger death-rate from small-pox amongst unvaccinated than amongst vaccinated persons. But it is, to say the least, illogical to assert, as Mr. Enoch Robinson has done in the memorial submitted to the Ashton-under-Lyne board of guardians, that "the same writer [viz., Mr. Hart] on October 23rd, 1880, says" what the merest glance at the context of the paragraph on page 672 of the JOURNAL for that date would show were the observations of Dr. Dixon of Bermondsey, who is, of course, alone responsible for the opinions expressed therein.

THE TREATMENT OF SEA-SICKNESS.

SIR,—Having crossed the Irish Channel twice during the recent violent gales, I have had two opportunities of practically testing my views on the prevention of sea-sickness by large doses of bromide of potassium. Previously to using this remedy, I had suffered severely on taking a trip by sea, no matter how short the voyage. My first experiment at this time was from Silloth to Dublin, a passage lasting thirteen hours: As the storm had commenced before I began my journey, I took a drachm of bromide two hours before the advertised hour of starting, and repeated the dose on reaching the vessel. The passage was a very rough one, but I never felt a single qualm. On the return journey from Dublin to Holyhead, occupying eight hours, the gale still blowing, I adopted the same treatment, and again escaped, while nearly all the passengers on board suffered violently. More than one assured me that, though accustomed to sea-voyages, and to making this same passage on many previous occasions, they had never before been sea-sick. I suffered no evil after-effects from the large doses of the drug. For long voyages, the use of bromide of potassium, continued for some time, till the body becomes accustomed to the motion of the vessel, would yield equally good results.—I am, yours, etc.,
Helmley, Yorkshire. R. BRUCE LOW, M.D. Edin.

SIR,—I beg to offer my experiences in aid of the valuable contribution by Dr. Long in the JOURNAL.

Impressed with the idea—very likely erroneous—that the exhausted patient, ever laying on his back, was suffering from pressure of the stomach on the solar plexus, I resolved to act on it at the next opportunity. This occurred on a voyage from Monte Video to Rio. I embarked on a most stormy and rainy night, and creeping under some tarpauling lay close to the funnel, amidships, on my right side, and, though a wretched sailor, remained well, and slept till morning. I have reason to know that not a single person, except myself, escaped sickness in that night.

On the voyage from Rio in a much larger vessel I adopted the same plan, with equal success, but when 12 or 13 days out I was requested by the ship's doctor to see a patient with him. This was a young lady who was vomiting from the day she came on board, was then in the last stage of exhaustion, was lying on her back unable to move, her stomach heaving every few moments. I had her moved gently on her right side and supported there, gave small doses of champagne and brandy at very short intervals, kept her head down on the pillow, and had the satisfaction of seeing the stomach quieted, and recovery surely, though slowly, taking place. Again, on another long voyage, I was requested by the captain and the doctor to see a very fine young Irish woman exhausted from long-continued sea-sickness. The same plan was adopted with her; the exhaustion abated, and she gradually recovered. At that time ice was to be found in these great vessels, and was a most valuable addition to our means.

I believe that keeping the head low, as Dr. Long recommends, and lying on the right side, are most valuable additions to our knowledge of curing sea-sickness, or, better still, preventing it.—Your obedient servant,
J. WM. MACKENNA.
31, Great Marlborough Street.

GLOVES FOR WET WEATHER.

SIR,—May I answer "J. T. K.'s" inquiry by telling him that Sister Taylor, of the Salisbury Nurses' Home, knitted me a "Richmond Glove," which is gauntlet, mitten, and glove combined; it is very warm, soft, and comfortable, and readily dries. The price was 4s., and the profit is devoted to "a good cause."—Yours truly,
A WILTSHIRE COUNTRY DOCTOR.

ON SWEATING OF THE FEET.

SIR,—A good many communications have recently been made to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL on the subject of that not very uncommon, but extremely unpleasant, complaint—fœtid sweating of the feet. Many years ago, whilst a student at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, I was consulted by one of my father's workmen, employed in his sugar refinery, who suffered much from the complaint; and from that period to the present, I have from time to time had occasion to put in practice on others the same treatment which then proved efficacious, and with equally good results.

Curiously enough, while this correspondence has been going on in the JOURNAL, a servant-girl was engaged at the lodgings where I am temporarily residing, who suffers—or rather did suffer—to as great an extent as anyone I have met with; so strong and offensive was the fœtor, that the whole room became intolerable if she only came in to put on coats, or do any other trifling job, which did not necessitate her remaining for more than a few seconds. This poor girl is only eighteen years of age, but had suffered in the same way for the last four years. Her feet presented the appearance which I have always seen in these cases; viz., a white sodden look, like the hands of a washerwoman when engaged at her work; and in warm weather, she says, they frequently become blistered, and so painful that she can scarcely get about. She tried, some time ago, washing them with a strong solution of soda, and then with alum, twice a week; but without any permanent benefit. She had, therefore, done nothing, for some months past, but wash them every night with warm water, and put on a fresh clean pair of stockings every morning.

The treatment I adopted, in the first case alluded to, consisted in washing the feet with warm water and soap, drying them, and then dusting well with the oxide of zinc powder. This effectually checked the sweating; but the feet became hot, dry, and burning, and so uncomfortable that the patient preferred her former condition; it then occurred to me that, if I used the ointment of zinc instead of the powder, the same good result might be obtained, without the unpleasant effects; and such proved to be the case.

In the few cases which have come under my notice since that time, I have always adopted the same treatment, and have never observed any of the ill effects which some German writers have attributed to a stoppage of the foot-sweat. As regards the duration of the treatment, and the permanence of the cure, these will probably depend on the duration of the disease previous to the treatment. The most satisfactory case that has come under my notice was that of a gentleman, in whom two applications sufficed to produce a permanent cure. In another case, there was a recurrence of the sweating months after it had been cured (excited, in all probability, by the sudden ushering in of very warm weather), which was at once stopped by a single application of the ointment. In the servant-girl referred to, there was no perceptible fœtor three days after she commenced the use of the ointment; though she still continues, eight days after she began the treatment, to rub a little between the toes on going to bed.

I offer the above facts for what they may be worth; a more extended experience may show that the remedy is only exceptionally successful; but inasmuch as it has not been mentioned by any of your correspondents on this subject, it may be worth a more extended trial by those who have greater opportunities of testing it than myself.—I am, etc.,
C. HOLTHOUSE.

November 22nd, 1880.

MR. S. G. JOHNSON.—The letter arrives as we are preparing for press. It shall, however, have attention for next week's issue.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

SIR,—I beg to inform "M.B." that the position of medical officer to a Friendly Societies' Association is by no means an enviable one. The work is very heavy, and the salary comparatively meagre. There is always such a large number of cases that a medical man cannot possibly treat each case with a sufficient amount of care; thus he acquires a slipshod way of performing his work. In the election of an officer, age and marriage have more weight than ability and high degrees. He is also excluded from private practice afterwards. These appointments, however, would be just endurable but for the committee which manages the business of the association. This is usually composed of a most unsavoury class: such as small shopkeepers, petty schoolmasters, and mechanics, who are elected on account of surpassing their brethren in stolid insolence. These gentlemen, wishing to make themselves important, employ their leisure time in finding out complaints against the medical officer; the consequence is that, if he is not mean enough to curry favour with the committee, he has to appear frequently before this awful tribunal, which adjudicates and censures, in terms not always the most refined. As this is extremely annoying to a gentleman of education and culture, I should advise "M.B." to turn his thoughts to a more agreeable field of labour.

Yours, etc. SPECTATOR.

COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, etc., have been received from:—

Mr. G. Coden, Stourbridge; Dr. John Alexander, Glasgow; Dr. W. Macewen, Glasgow; Mr. Graham, Warrington; Rustic; Mr. W. D. Spanton, Hanley; A Member; Dr. Crichton Browne, London; Mr. Henry Hall, Carlisle; Dr. W. H. Taylor, Anerley; Dr. J. Graham Brown, Edinburgh; Mr. Andrew Spearing, Shaw; Mr. M. R. Behrendt, Birmingham; Mr. John Glaister, Glasgow; Dr. H. L. Snow, London; Dr. Sawyer, Birmingham; Mr. F. J. Hanbury, London; Dr. S. W. Smith, Pershore; E. G. T.; Mr. H. G. Cartwright, Narborough; Dr. H. M. Rowland, Malvern Wells; Mr. L. C. Parkes, London; Dr. R. B. Low, Helmsley; Dr. J. Ward Cousins, Southsea; Mr. G. Eastes, London; Dr. J. Rogers, London; Mr. G. Andrew, Staines; Mr. J. A. Haynes, London; Mr. Jabez Hogg, London; Dr. J. L. Mackenzie, Rugby; Mr. W. H. Dobie, Edinburgh; Dr. G. W. Potter, London; Our Aberdeen Correspondent; Mr. S. Morton, Croydon; Mr. A. Kempe, Exeter; Placenta; Mr. W. P. Turner, Leytonstone; Dr. Mackie, Alexandria; Mr. Archibald Clerk, Glasgow; Mr. T. Sansome, West Bromwich; Our Dublin Correspondent; B.A.; Anglo-Scot; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Dr. B. Kraus, Berlin; Dr. W. Dale, Lynn; Dr. Bankart, Exeter; Mr. C. G. Read, Wickham; Mr. E. Witten, Brighton; Mr. C. F. Pollock, Glasgow; Dr. R. Saundby, Birmingham; Messrs. John Marston and Co., Birmingham; Mr. J. Porter, London; Dr. A. Robinson, Hull; E. M. S.; Sceptic; Mr. F. Wallace, London; Dr. A. Carpenter, Croydon; Mr. W. Peyton, Hartlepool; Mr. W. R. Belch, Philadelphia; Mr. W. C. Haime, Ferndale; Dr. John Kennedy, Fife; Dr. T. Jones, Ross; Dr. M. Collins, Scarborough; Dr. J. F. Goodhart, London; Dr. J. Garrett, Norwich; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Mr. T. Holmes, London; Mr. Ansell Ball, Spalding; Mr. A. H. Benson, Dublin; Dr. James E. Pollock, London; Dr. Joseph Ewart, Brighton; Mr. J. R. Clouting, Thetford; Mr. W. M. Bird, York; Our Paris Correspondent; Mr. W. Nicholson, London; Dr. G. B. Barron, Southport; Mr. J. B. Wilkinson, Sheffield; Dr. J. J. Ridge, London; Dr. E. Haughton, London; Mr. G. Walter, London; Mr. J. Hamilton Craigie, London; Dr. John Grigor, Rome; Rev. E. Ibbotson, Eastbourne; Dr. Jacob, Leeds; Mr. S. G. Johnson, Nottingham; Dr. Thin, London; Mr. J. E. Smith, Snodland; Mr. Lawson Tait, Birmingham; Mr. G. Bush, London; A Member; Mr. J. W. Hulke, London; Dr. L. Aitken, Rome; Mr. Richard Davy, London; Mr. Warrington Haward, London; Mr. S. Smith, Edinburgh; Mr. David Davies, Bristol; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

A Treatise on the Theory and Practice of Medicine. By John Syer Bristowe, M.D. London. Third Edition. London: Smith, Elder, and Co. 1880.
A Manual of Ophthalmoscopy, for the use of Students. By Dr. Dagenet. Translated by C. S. Jeaffreson, F.R.C.S.E. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1880.
Observations on the Cæsarean Section, Craniotomy, and on other Obstetric operations. By Thomas Radford, M.D., F.R.C.P. Edin. Second edition. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1880.
The Science and Practice of Medicine. By William Aitken, M.D., F.R.S. Seventh edition. Two vols. London: Charles Griffin and Co. 1880.

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1881.

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