

Mr. G. COWELL (London) read a paper on certain Modifications of Von Gräfe's Operation for Extraction of Cataract. Dr. Andrew and Mr. Anderson Critchett took part in the discussion which followed.

Mr. SIMEON SNELL (Sheffield) read a paper on Extraction of Cataract by a Shallow Lower Flap; with particulars of 120 operations.

Dr. BELL TAYLOR (Nottingham) read a paper on the Use of Eserine as a Preliminary to Extraction in Cases of Cataract; and showed four patients.

Thursday, August 10th.

Mr. ANDERSON CRITCHETT (London) read a paper on the Operative Treatment of Congenital Cataract. Mr. Cowell, Mr. Nettleship, and Mr. Frederick Mason, took part in the discussion which followed.

Dr. A. H. BENSON (Dublin) read a paper on the Treatment of Partial Trichiasis by means of Electrolysis. Dr. Andrew made remarks.

Dr. BENSON also read Brief Notes of Rare Ophthalmic Cases.

Mr. NETTLESHIP (London) described a Case of Optic Neuritis, followed by a persistent Flow of Fluid from the Nostrils.

Mr. PRIESTLEY SMITH (Birmingham) described two cases of Atrophy of the Optic Nerves, with continuous dropping of fluid (cerebro-spinal?) from the Nostril. He also showed a Registering Perimeter.

Mr. NETTLESHIP (London) opened a discussion on the following subject: To what extent do the signs derived from the Examination of the Eye and its Appendages contribute to the Localisation of Central Nervous Diseases? Dr. Andrew, Dr. Hughlings Jackson, and Mr. Priestley Smith, took part in the debate.

Mr. H. E. JULER (London) read a paper on the Application of Retinoscopy to the Diagnosis and Treatment of Errors of Refraction.

Dr. EDWYN ANDREW (Shrewsbury) read a paper on Dislocation of the Lens, with remarks on the old Operation of Couching.

Dr. BELL TAYLOR (Nottingham) read a paper on the Transplantation of Skin *en masse* in the Treatment of Ectropion and other Deformities of the Eyelids.

Mr. BENSON (Dublin) showed the following drawings. 1. Primary Lupus of the Conjunctiva (two cases in four drawings). 2. Rupture of the Choroid without Rupture of the External Tunics of the Eye (Traumatic) (two cases). 3. Double Coloboma of the Choroid (Congenital) (two drawings). 4. Double Coloboma of the Choroid, and of the Optic Nerve Sheath (Congenital) (two drawings). 5. Embolism of the Central Artery of the Retina, modified by the presence of a Cilio-retinal Vessel (two drawings).

Mr. BENSON also showed several Ocular Tumours (mounted in glycerine jelly), from the collection of Mr. J. B. Story of Dublin. 1. Melanotic Sarcoma of Choroid, with Infiltration of Optic Nerve (male, aged 21). 2. Alveolar Sarcoma (?) of Ciliary Body. (Female, aged 34; symptoms of six years' duration. Patient died subsequently in an "Incurable" Hospital with some hundreds of carcinomatous (?) tumours scattered over the whole surface of the body.) 3. Melano-Sarcoma of Anterior Part of Choroid. (Female, aged 33; history of injury six years previously; brother died of "tumour of base of the brain.") 4. Melanotic Sarcoma (?) (Male, aged 76). 5. Glioma. (Female, aged 2 or 3 years (?).)

#### SECTION H.—OTOTOLOGY.

Wednesday, August 9th.

Mr. LAIDLAW PURVES, the President, delivered an address, which was published at page 273 of the JOURNAL for August 12th.

Letters of apology were read from Professor Von Troeltsch (Würzburg), Professor Burckhardt-Merian (Basle), Professor Moos (Heidelberg), Dr. Hedinger (Stuttgart), Dr. Bonnafont (Paris), Dr. Weber-Liel (Berlin), Dr. C. J. Blake (Boston), Dr. A. H. Buck (New York), Dr. Sexton (New York), Dr. St. John Roosa (Newport), Sir James Paget (London), Dr. Russell (Birmingham), Professor Grainger Stewart (Edinburgh), Dr. Brakenridge (Edinburgh), Dr. Byrom Bramwell (Edinburgh), Dr. Cumberbatch (London), Dr. Morrison, Dr. Sinclair (Dundee), Dr. Mackenzie Booth (Aberdeen).

Mr. GEORGE P. FIELD (London) opened a discussion on the Connection between Diseases of the Ear and General Medicines.

Mr. LENNOX BROWNE (London) read a paper on the same subject; and a discussion followed, in which Dr. Cresswell Baber, Dr. Urban Pritchard, Mr. A. A. Napper, Dr. Woakes, Dr. Barr, Mr. R. Ellis, Dr. C. Warden, Dr. McBride, Mr. T. M. Hovell, Mr. Purves, and Dr. Field took part.

The papers of Mr. Field and Mr. Browne, with the discussion, are published in the present number of the JOURNAL.

Thursday, August 10th.

Dr. WOAKES (London) and Dr. P. MCBRIDE (Edinburgh) read

papers on Auditory Vertigo. A discussion followed, in which Mr. Ellis, Dr. Hudson, Dr. Baber, Dr. Barr, Dr. Woakes, Dr. Pritchard, Dr. Pierce, and Dr. McBride took part. A letter from Dr. Weber-Liel of Berlin was read, in which he called attention to the use of suction applied to the *membrana tympani* as a means of diagnosing auditory vertigo.

Dr. C. WARDEN (Birmingham) read a paper on Polypus of the Ear, on which remarks were made by Dr. Pierce, Dr. Woakes, and Dr. Kirk Duncannon.

Dr. URBAN PRITCHARD (London) read a paper on the Use of Mineral Acids in the Treatment of Caries, Necrosis, and Exosostis of the Ear. A discussion followed, in which Dr. Kirk Duncannon and Dr. Pierce took part.

Dr. T. BARR (Glasgow) read a paper on the Use of the Galvanic Cautery in Diseases of the Ear.

Dr. BABER (Brighton) showed a Waistcoat Pocket Reflector and Set of Specula.

Dr. URBAN PRITCHARD showed a Convenient Form of Audiphone.

Dr. WARD COUSINS (Southsea) showed his Ear-Protectors.

Dr. WOAKES then proposed a vote of thanks to the President.

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

### COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL.

#### NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1882: ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

A MEETING of the Committee of Council will be held on Wednesday, October 18th. Gentlemen desirous of becoming members of the Association must send in their forms of application for election to the General Secretary not later than 21 days before the meeting—viz., September 27th, in accordance with the regulation for the election of members passed at the meeting of the Committee of Council of October 12th, 1881.

August 31st, 1882.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary.*

### BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST AND WEST KENT DISTRICTS.—A conjoint meeting of the above Districts will be held at Folkestone, under the presidency of R. L. Bowles, M.D., F.R.C.P., on Thursday, September 28th, at 3 P.M.—A. H. B. HALLOWES, Maidstone, T. WHITEHEAD REID, Canterbury, Honorary Secretaries.—August 28th, 1882.

SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.—The autumnal meeting will be held at Kettering on Thursday, September 28th. Gentlemen desirous of reading papers, or of showing cases or specimens, are requested to communicate at their earliest convenience with the Honorary Secretary.—G. F. KIRBY SMITH, Honorary Secretary, Northampton.—August 29th, 1882.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT.—The next meeting of the above District will take place at East Grinstead on Wednesday, September 27th. Time and place of meeting will be announced shortly. Dr. Mackey has promised a paper on a Case of Hysteria with very Rapid Breathing. Members and others desirous of reading papers should communicate with the Honorary Secretary.—T. JENNER VERRALL, Honorary Secretary, 95, Western Road, Brighton.—August 30th, 1882.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH.—President, W. M. Crowfoot, Esq., M.B.—The autumn meeting will be held at the Assembly Rooms, East Dereham, on Thursday, September 28th, at 1.30 P.M. The following papers have been promised. 1. H. C. Hastings, Esq. (East Dereham): Notes of a Case of Rheumatic Fever, and its Treatment past and present. 2. H. Mallins, M.D. (Watton): Notes of a Case of Aphasia with Right Hemiparesis, in a girl aged 12. 3. F. Bateman, M.D. (Norwich): Hystero-Epilepsy. 4. S. H. Burton, Esq. (Norwich): A Case of Scarletina followed by Septicæmia. 5. Alan Reeve Manby, Esq. (East Rudham): The Curability of Fevers. 6. F. Haward, Esq. (Halesworth): Notes of a Case of Ovariotomy. The medical men of East Dereham and neighbourhood have most liberally invited all the members of the East Anglian Branch to a *déjeuner* at the King's Arms Hotel, at 4.30 P.M.; and it is requested that all who intend to accept their hospitality will send in their names to Dr. Beverley, 63, St. Giles' Street, not later than Tuesday, September 26th. By the kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. J. B. Armstrong), an Organ Recital will be given by Dr. Bennett, at the Parish Church of East Dereham, at 12.30 P.M. Members of the medical profession, whether members of the Association or not, are invited to attend the general meeting at 1.30.—W. A. ELLISTON, M.D., Ipswich MICHAEL BEVERLEY, M.D., Norwich.—September 1882.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH.—The autumnal meeting will be held at Durham, on Wednesday, September 20th. Gentlemen intending to read papers or to show specimens or cases are requested to communicate with the Secretary.—DAVID DRUMMOND, M.D., Honorary Secretary, Newcastle-on-Tyne.—August 22nd, 1882.

NORTH OF IRELAND BRANCH.—A meeting of this Branch will be held in the Corporation Hall, Londonderry, on Thursday, September 7th, at 11.30 o'clock. Members intending to read papers or propose new members will kindly intimate their intention to ALEXANDER DEMSEY, M.D., Honorary Secretary, Clifton Street, Belfast.

medical charge), Surgeon-Major Walker, Surgeons Vacy Ash, B. B. Connolly, P. B. Connolly, Harding, Lafan, and Farmour were the medical officers, Quartermaster O'Connor acting as paymaster. There were also 143 rank and file of the Army Hospital Corps, composed mostly of army reserve men. For the previous three or four days these men had been undergoing a hurried course of instruction in the special duties to be performed by a bearer company in the field—duties that require such special training as to necessitate the presence of a large staff of instructors at Aldershot. If such importance is attached to this system, it hardly seems fair to send the men into active service while they are totally ignorant, or almost totally ignorant, of its duties. And this is not all, for we understand that many of the officers have not been so specially instructed. No fewer than three of the medical officers in No. 1 and one in No. 2 Company had not gone through the course of instruction at Aldershot, and another officer in No. 2 Company failed to obtain a certificate after passing through this course. Yet these officers were put into these responsible positions, and others that had received the special instruction were detailed for other and less important duties.

At first No. 2 Bearer Company was detailed to proceed in the *Texas*, and half the officers attached to proceed in the *City of Paris*. At the last moment all this was changed, and the company was embarked on board the *City of Paris* with all its officers except one, who was ordered to proceed in medical charge of troops on board the *Texas*, the surgeon-major previously detailed for that duty having been recalled by telegraph.

The hospital accommodation on board these troopships is described as being satisfactory. In some cases it has been knocked together in a rough way; but cubic space and ventilation has been well looked after by Brigade-Surgeon Hungerford, the medical officer superintending the embarkation of troops at Portsmouth.

THE only British officer killed in the recent engagement at Kassassin was Surgeon-Major J. A. Shaw, Army Medical Department. He was a Graduate in Medicine of Queen's University, Ireland. He entered the army as assistant-surgeon in 1863, became surgeon in 1873, and surgeon-major in 1876.

## OBITUARY.

### RICHARD GILES, M.D. EDIN., M.R.C.P. LOND.

ON August 8th, the above member of the Association passed away, at his residence at Torquay, to which place he had been forced to retire owing to bronchitis and diseased heart, after thirty-five years' devotion to the duties of a very extensive practice, radiating from Oxford into the adjacent counties. The natural gifts of their possessor enabled Dr. Giles to have the full benefit of an excellent education, professional and otherwise. After the usual apprenticeship, which was with Mr. Lupton, of Tame, and on which he always looked back with pleasure and gratitude as the foundation of his knowledge, he graduated at Edinburgh in 1841; and, after taking his degree, he passed two years in Paris and Germany. He eventually settled at Oxford, the place of his birth, where he immediately obtained a large practice. From the first to the last he maintained an exceptionally large circle of patients of the highest class, as well as the poor, to whom he was always the kind friend. Dr. Giles was most persevering and industrious, genial, and most kind, entirely free from humbug, an enthusiastic admirer and collector of articles of art and *vertu*. He was devoted to horticulture and fond of animals; he carried on a small farm three miles from Oxford. Dr. Giles caught a severe cold during the last Paris Exhibition, and had been failing ever since. He was therefore compelled to relinquish practice last autumn and retire to Torquay. There seemed every hope that the improvement following the change would be maintained, as the oedema consequent on defect of the valves of the heart was relieved; but at last he passed away without suffering through failure of vital power.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

**APOTHECARIES' HALL.**—The following gentlemen passed their Examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, August 24th, 1882.

Maye, John, Kingsbridge, Devon.  
White, Thomas Harry, Silver Street, Lincoln.  
Wilson, Mervyn Seppings, Birchington Road, Kilburn.  
Worthington, Sidney, Enfield, Middlesex.  
Young, Charles Stewart, Royal Infirmary, Glasgow.

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

London, John E., King's College, London.

At the recent examination for the Prizes in *Materia Medica* and *Pharmaceutical Chemistry*, given annually to medical students by the Society of Apothecaries, the successful candidates were—

1. John Barker Smith, of St. Thomas's Hospital—the Gold Medal.
2. Thomas Henry Williams, of the Middlesex Hospital—the Silver Medal and Books.

## MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

**CANCER HOSPITAL, LONDON AND BROMPTON (FREE).**—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, seventy-five guineas per annum. Applications by September 2nd.

**CHICHESTER INFIRMARY**—House-Surgeon and Secretary. Applications to the Secretary by September 9th.

**DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON MEDICAL SCHOOL**, Leicester Square, W.C.—Demonstrator of Contour and Cohesive Fillings. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications by September 29th.

**DORE UNION**.—Medical Officer. Salary, £70 per annum. Applications by September 5th.

**DOWNPATRICK DISTRICT LUNATIC ASYLUM**.—Assistant to Resident Medical Superintendent. Applicants must be unmarried, be doubly qualified, and possess a diploma in midwifery. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, fuel, light, washing, first-class rations, and attendance. Election on September 2nd.

**DOWNPATRICK UNION**.—Medical Officer for Portaferry Dispensary District. Salary, £100 per annum, with £15 yearly as Medical Officer of Health, registration, and vaccination fees. Election on September 20th.

**HORTON INFIRMARY**, Banbury.—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £60 per annum. Applications to Mr. C. H. Davids, 18, Marlborough Road, Banbury, by September 2nd.

**KENT COUNTY OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL**, Maidstone.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by September 15th.

**MITCHELSTOWN UNION**, Kildorrery Dispensary District.—Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, and £15 as Medical Officer of Health. Applications by September 13th.

**NORTHLEACH UNION**.—Medical Officer for the No. 2 District. Salary, £57 10s. per annum. Applications by September 12th.

**NORTHLEACH UNION**.—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by September 12th.

**QUEEN'S COLLEGE, CORK**.—Chair of Natural History. Candidates to forward testimonials, on or before September 20th, to the Under Secretary, Dublin Castle.

**ROCHDALE INFIRMARY**.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications to J. Rushworth, Honorary Secretary.

**ROYAL INFIRMARY OF EDINBURGH**.—Pathologist. Applications to Mr. Peter Bell by September 30th.

**ROYAL UNITED HOSPITAL**, Bath.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £60 per annum. Applications by September 14th.

**ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER SQUARE, PROVIDENT DISPENSARY**, 59, Mount Street.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary and allowance for last year, £214 4s. 3d. Applications to Mr. G. H. Leach, Secretary, by September 30th.

**UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN**.—Six Examiners in Medicine. Salary, £30 per annum. Applications to Robert Walker, Secretary.

**WESTERN DISPENSARY**, Rochester Row, Westminster.—Consulting Accoucheur. Applications by September 10th to Mr. Henry S. Bigg, Secretary.

**WINCHCOMB UNION**.—Medical Officer for the Vale District. Salary, £65 per annum. Applications by September 22nd.

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY**.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £70 per annum. Applications by September 20th.

## MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

**BALDWIN**, T. A., M.B., appointed Medical Officer of Health to the Dunmow Rural Sanitary Authority.

**BARLING**, G. H., M.B., appointed Resident Surgical Officer to the General Hospital, Birmingham, *vice* H. G. Lowe, M.R.C.S., resigned.

**BEST**, E., L.R.C.S.I., appointed Apothecary to the Kilkenny County Infirmary.

**BOLTON**, J. A., L.R.C.S.I., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Leicester United Friendly Societies' Medical Association, *vice* A. Grandison, M.B., resigned.

**BOND**, J. W., M.D., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the General Hospital, Birmingham, *vice* H. Malet, M.D., resigned.

**COATES**, William, M.R.C.S.E., appointed Resident Accoucheur to the London Hospital, *vice* C. E. Jennings, resigned.

**HODGSON**, G. G., M.R.C.S., appointed Medical Officer to H.M. Post-Office, Liverpool, Bootle Division.

**HOLLIS**, E., M.D., appointed House-Surgeon to the Bradford Infirmary, Yorkshire.

**MURIEL**, C., L.R.C.P., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Guest Hospital, Dudley, *vice* R. Walford, M.R.C.S., 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.

### MARRIAGE.

**DRUMMOND**—**WILSON**.—On the 24th August, at Devonport, James Drummond M.D., of South Shields, to Charlotte, elder daughter of the late William Wilson, of Wimborne, Minster, Dorset.

## 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 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 A.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.—North-west London, 2.30 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.; 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., 1.30; Ear, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, Tu., 1.30; Dental, Tu. Th. F., 1.30.

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

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., 1.30; 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., 1.30; Orthopaedic, F., 1.30; 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. MARVY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.45; Obstetric, Tu. F., 9.30; o.p., Tu. F., 2; Eye, Tu. F., 9.15; Ear, M. Th., 2; Skin, Tu. Th., 1.30; Throat, M. Th., 1.45; Dental, W. S., 9.30.

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

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1 to 2; Obstetric, M. Tu. T., F., 1.30; Eye, M. Tu. Th. F., 2; Ear, S., 1.30; Skin, W., 1.45; S., 9.15. Throat, Th., 2.30; Dental, W., 10.3.

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

## LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

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

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

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED

## SUGGESTION FOR A SICK FUND.

SIR,—Mr. Boys' suggestion is a most admirable one, and it deserves the attention of the profession generally. As he very correctly says, we all of us at times are subjected to the hardship of being compelled to work when unfit by ill health, and not only are our present sufferings increased, but convalescence is greatly prolonged. Is not this, then, a matter of sufficient importance to engage the attention of the British Medical Association? To whom can it more rightly belong? There, with its Branches, is already at hand the machinery both for collecting the subscriptions and distributing the benefits of such a fund.

With regard to the amount of subscription, I do not for one moment suppose that the subscription, £2 2s. a year, proposed by Mr. Boys, would produce sufficient to pay sick members £10 per week; for, if we take the average age of our members to be thirty-five years, the average annual expectation of sickness for members of that age would be about one week; and this would (if realised) consume the whole fund, and leave a debt. But a subscription of £2 2s. would, I think, yield a sufficient income to pay £3 3s. a week for a *locum tenens* for sick members; and this would be a very great benefit.

We have occasionally in connection with our Branches surpluses; and why should not these surpluses be added to the sick fund? But over and above all these small Branch surpluses, our great Association is yearly laying by and investing a large sum of money. There is now invested a very considerable sum, and it is yearly growing larger. Should this accretion continue, at no very distant day will come the consideration: What is to be done with this money? Surely, what better thing can be done with it than devoting a portion to this great and useful work?—I am, yours faithfully,

J. W. MEASURES, M.R.C.S.E.

Long Sutton, August 23rd, 1882.

THE LATE ANNUAL MEETING.—When writing of the excursions, we omitted to mention that Dr. and Mrs. Tibbits of Warwick kept open house, entertaining all visitors on their return from Stratford-on-Avon and Kenilworth; and on the following day, Dr. Thursfield, Physician to the Leamington Infirmary, entertained at a banquet in his house several of those members of the Association who remained to take a more extended view of the beautiful neighbourhood.

SIR,—Will any of your correspondents inform me of a machine to take the weight of patients, specially suitable for a consulting-room?—Yours truly,

Waterloo, Liverpool, August 24th, 1882.

J. MATTHEWS, L.R.C.P.

## THE DEATH-RATE OF EDINBURGH.

SIR,—In the number of the JOURNAL for January 7th, 1882, your "Edinburgh Correspondent" gave the following as the mortalities per 1,000 for that city during the six years 1876 to 1881 inclusive: 19.51, 20.86, 21.53, 19.06, 21.05, 20.06. These figures give an average annual mortality of 20.24 per 1,000 for the four years before the acquisition of compulsory notification, and 20.55 per 1,000 for the two years since. As this reported rise in the general mortality of the city did not seem to me to be the best proof of the "entire success" claimed by Dr. Littlejohn in the Public Medicine Section for the Edinburgh Act, I asked him, at the general meeting on the day following—the 11th instant—if the figures which showed such a result were correct. He categorically denied that they were so. Will your "Edinburgh Correspondent" inform us whence he obtained the figures, of which the correctness has been thus openly impugned, and whether he agrees with Dr. Littlejohn that they are not correct?—I am, sir, yours faithfully,

WILLIAM CARTER.

Liverpool, August 12th, 1882.

MR. WILLIAMS.—Mr. W. H. R. Skey, the common crier to the City of London, is a son of the late Mr. F. C. Skey, a former President of the College of Surgeons. The salary attached to the office is £325 per annum. Dr. W. S. Saunders, the Medical Officer and Food Analyst to the City, receives a salary of £800 per annum. Mr. G. B. Childs is surgeon to the City Police, at a salary of £600 per annum.

## ACNE.

SIR,—In spite of the numerous letters which have appeared in your JOURNAL, I have not read one which, in my opinion, hints at the true cause of this disease. I can speak from personal experience. I suffered from acne for nine years, during which time I tried, I believe, every known remedy without the slightest effect, and only hit by chance on what proved (at least in my case) the true one. I found that, by abstaining totally from beef, and also at the commencement of the treatment from mutton, and living upon fish, pork, and vegetables, the pimples rapidly disappeared. I continued this for six months, and at the end of that time my face, which had for so long a time never been free from pimples, presented a perfectly clear appearance. I continued this treatment for this period in order to prevent their recurrence; for, in a couple of months, the pimples had entirely disappeared, though the marks still remained.

In order to prove the above, I may state that even now, if I indulge too long in juicy beef, that is to say, for a month or two, I am liable to get a slight eruption, but it disappears on my returning to a diet of fish, pork, or mutton. My conclusion, therefore, is that the state of the blood, particularly in certain young subjects, is liable to get out of order by the introduction of the juice of rich meat, particularly beef, and that this state of affairs is not caused, but favoured, by the depressing emotions.—I am, sir, yours, etc.,

E. G.

P.S.—I have tried the above treatment on several people, and invariably with success.

AN OLD MEMBER.—There are 16,140 members of the Royal College of Surgeons making, with 1,210 Fellows, a total of 17,350.

## ON THE EXTERNAL APPLICATION OF IODINE IN ERYSPIELAS.

SIR,—Thirty years ago, I read a paper bearing the above title to a local association of young medical men. I inclose you a reprint of the same, from the *Medical Times and Gazette* of December 11th, 1852, where it was published. I therein trace the first introduction of the use of iodine in erysipelas to the late Dr. John Davies of Hertford. In 1843, he published a second edition of a valuable little book, entitled *Selections in Pathology and Surgery, etc.* (Longman and Co.), which I fancy was written chiefly with the object of directing attention to the value of the external use of iodine in divers inflammations—erysipelas amongst the number.

I may add that I at one time made extensive and very successful use of the remedy, but of late years I have been unable to procure iodine, the fumes of which do not greatly irritate the conjunctiva when applied over even a comparatively small surface of the body. I should be glad to get the old-fashioned drug.—Yours, etc.,

HUGH NORRIS.

South Petherton, Somerset, August 28th, 1882.

A FIRST YEARS' STUDENT.—Registration at the Royal College of Surgeons has been abolished some years. Write to Mr. Miller, the Registrar, at the General Medical Council Office, 299, Oxford Street.

