

largely quoted in giving the above description, concludes with a very natural outburst of national pride. "So far", it says, "as the scheme of the designers of the buildings has been carried out, no British, and few, if any, Continental, schools can be said to possess a more magnificent home. With its various departments completed, and the courses of instruction given in these supplemented by the clinical teaching of the Royal Infirmary, and the botanical course followed out at the Botanical Gardens, the equipment of the school may be viewed as in every respect satisfactory."

THE ANNUAL MUSEUM OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

[Continued from page 699.]

Dr. Styrap (Shrewsbury) had on view an admirably-devised Urinary Cabinet (designed for his own use), which contains the following serviceable collection of fittings: Seven capped and stoppered bottles for reagents; drop bottle in case for acid; eight test tubes, inclusive of one with fine conical end; urinometer in case, and 2 oz. graduated trial glass; 6 oz. glass, with cup bottom to receive urine passed in the consulting-room for examination; thermometer; spirit-lamp; litmus and turmeric paper; microscopic and thin glass slides; watch-glasses; Stanhope lens; blow-pipe; pipette; stirring rod; tube-holder; brass forceps; platinum foil and wire; wood stand for urinometer, trial glass, and test-tubes; glass tray in wood frame.

Mr. James Startin exhibited a collection of Twenty Water-Colour Drawings of Skin Eruptions; also a specimen (in spirit) of a Mouse affected with Favus; and his Skin-Scraper, Lancet, and Ring, for the treatment of acne rosacea by division of the prominent cutaneous vessels.

Mr. Priestley Smith (Birmingham) exhibited his Registering Perimeter. This perimeter acts on a principle different from that commonly adopted. The test object sweeps the field of vision in circles concentric with the point of fixation, and not in meridians passing through that point. This permits automatic registration on the chart with a minimum of mechanism. The test object is carried by a quadrant fixed in a revolving axis, and attached to the other end of this axis is a wooden disc, or handwheel, by means of which it is rotated. On the posterior surface of the handwheel, in the meridian corresponding to that occupied by the quadrant, is a strip of brass, in which slides a steel pencil or pricker. Facing the point of the pricker, and readily brought into contact with it by the thumb of the operator, is a chart holder, carrying a circular paper chart. The test object and the pricker move in circles, the one around the visual field, the other over the surface of the chart. The first revolution sweeps the extreme periphery (90°); on the completion of this and each succeeding revolution, test-object and pricker are both moved by hand 5° or 10° (i.e. one or two notches) nearer to their respective centres. During each revolution two points are pricked upon the chart, namely, those at which the test-object appears and disappears.

Dr. Swayne (Clifton) exhibited some interesting Pathological Drawings.

Dr. F. Charlewood Turner displayed some interesting microscopical specimens of Arterioles of the Brain, from a case of cerebral haemorrhage, showing miliary aneurysms and periarteritis. One was a portion of an arteriole with a small branch, affected with periarteritis; the latter presenting at its origin a well defined aneurysmal dilatation of recent formation. The outer coat of the vessels was swollen and infiltrated with nuclei; at the seat of the aneurysm, the tunic was also much swelled, and over its convexity the muscular fibres of the middle coat had disappeared. Another specimen was a portion of an arteriole affected with periarteritis, presenting at one place a dense aggregation of corpuscles, causing a projection with some in-lying of the arterial wall at that part; apparently the commencement of an aneurysmal formation. The third was a portion of an arteriole presenting a fusiform aneurysmal dilatation at one part, over which there is great fibrous thickening of the outer coats. The inner tunic was also much thickened at this part, and had become fused with a fibrinous coagulum which occupied the cavity of the aneurysm.

Messrs. Weiss and Son exhibited a varied collection of their surgical instruments and appliances.

Messrs. Wyleys and Co. (Coventry) exhibited their special preparations of Chekan, Standardised Organic Liquids, representing a fixed percentage of the active ingredients of Aconite, Belladonna, Conium, Colchicum, and Digitalis, and their general pharmaceutical preparations and solutions.

Messrs. Young and Postans had a large display of their special medical granular effervescing preparations, their Phosphosised Cod-

Liver Oil, Ripe Indian Bael Fruit, and other specialities, which have on previous occasions been noticed with approval in our columns.

The Zander Medico-Gymnastic Company, Limited (7, Soho Square), exhibited three of their excellent machines (of which they have over fifty in use) for exercising and strengthening the muscular system, for correcting deformities, and for the application of passive movements in general medical practice, and for the promotion of healthy growth and development in young persons. These machines, which attracted great attention, are divided into two sets, termed active and passive. In the former, resistance, which can be regulated at pleasure by means of a weight on a graduated lever, has to be overcome by the patient; in the latter, the patient is perfectly passive: but here, also, the various movements are capable of exact regulation.

Medical literature was well represented by the collections of Messrs. J. and A. Churchill; Smith, Elder, and Co.; Sampson Low and Co.; and Deighton and Co., of Worcester.

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, January 17th, 1883. 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., December 27th, 1882, in accordance with the regulation for the election of members passed at the meeting of the Committee of Council of October 12th, 1881.

FRANCIS FOWKE, General Secretary.

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the Committee of Council will be held in the Council Room, Exeter Hall, Strand, London, on Wednesday, the 18th day of October next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

MEETINGS OF SUBCOMMITTEES.

Tuesday, October 17th, 1882.—Scientific Grants Committee, 4 P.M.; Office and Printing Subcommittee, 5 P.M.; Medical Reform Committee, 8.15 P.M.

Wednesday, October 18th, 1882.—Arrangement Committee, 10.30 A.M.; Journal and Finance Subcommittee, 12 noon.

FRANCIS FOWKE, General Secretary.

161A, Strand, London, September 12th, 1882.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.—The autumnal meeting of this Branch will be held at the Railway Hotel, Taunton, on Thursday, October 26th, at five o'clock. Dinner (ss. a head, exclusive of wine) will be served at 5.30 punctually. The subject, as settled by the Council, for the meeting to discuss after dinner is, The Treatment of Acute Rheumatism. Gentlemen intending to read papers or be present at the dinner, should inform the Honorary Secretary before the day of meeting.—W. M. KELLY, M.D., Honorary Secretary.—Taunton, September 26th, 1882.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH.—The autumn meeting will be held at Abergare, on Thursday, October 26th. Members desirous of reading papers etc., are requested to forward titles to Dr. Sheen, Cardiff, before October 14th.—A. SHEEN, M.D.; D. A. DAVIES, M.B., Honorary Secretaries.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH.—The ninth annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Bell Medical Library, Cleveland Road, Wolverhampton, on Thursday, October 26th, at 3 P.M. An address will be delivered by the President-elect, Dr. Totherick. Dinner at the Star and Garter Hotel, Victoria Street, at 6 P.M. Tickets (without wine), 7s. 6d. each.—VINCENT JACKSON, General Secretary.—Wolverhampton, September 25th, 1882.

THAMES VALLEY BRANCH.—The next ordinary meeting of this Branch will be held at the Griffin Hotel, Kingston, on Thursday, October 19th, at 6 P.M. Members intending to bring forward any communications are requested to give notice to the Honorary Secretary. Dinner at the Hotel at 7 P.M.—EDWARD L. FRAN, M.D., Honorary Secretary.—Richmond, October 3rd, 1882.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.—The first meeting of the fifth session of the above District will be held at the Hackney Town Hall, on Thursday evening, October 29th, 1882, at 8.30 o'clock; Dr. Bridgwater, President of the Metropolitan Counties Branch, in the chair. Dr. Ord will read a paper on Some Clinical Aspects of Glycosuria. Any members having specimens to show are requested to make early communication to the Honorary Secretary.—FREDERICK WATKINS, Honorary Secretary, 96, Casenove Road.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST SURREY DISTRICT.—The next meeting will be held at the Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, on Thursday, October 26th, 1882, at 3.30 p.m.; T. M. Butler, Esq., in the chair. The following cases have been promised. 1. Dr. W. H. Day: Chorea. 2. Mr. Lorimer: A Case of Congenital Stricture of the Rectum. 3. Dr. Morton: A Case of Psoas Abscess. 4. Mr. C. J. Sells: A Case of Tetanus. Several interesting cases in the Hospital will be shown. Dinner will be provided at 6.30 to the minute at the White Lion Hotel; charge, 5s. 6d., exclusive of wine. Members intending to dine are requested to kindly intimate their intention to the Honorary Secretary, before the 23rd instant.—A. ARTHUR NAPPER, Honorary Secretary, Broad Oak, Cranleigh.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH.—The autumnal meeting of this Branch will be held at the Infirmary, Whitehaven, on Friday, October 27th. Gentlemen who intend to read papers are requested to communicate with one of the Honorary Secretaries—J. KENDALL BURT, M.B., Kendal; JOHN SMITH, M.D., Dumfries.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.—The first ordinary meeting of the session will be held at the Museum and Library, Bristol, on Wednesday evening, October 25th, at half-past seven o'clock. J. K. Spender, M.D., President. A petition respecting the Regulations affecting militia surgeons will lie on the table for signature. The following communications are expected. Dr. H. Waldo: Consolidation of a Large Aneurysm without Surgical Interference (the patient will be exhibited). Mr. N. C. Dobson: Remarks on some of the more important Operations during Ten Years' Work at the Bristol General Hospital. Mr. W. H. Harsant: Two Successful Cases of Colotomy. Dr. A. E. Aust Lawrence: Notes on Cases of Placenta Praevia.—F. MARKHAM SKERRITT, R. J. H. SCOTT, Honorary Secretaries.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: SOUTH LONDON DISTRICT. The first meeting of the present session will be held at the Royal Naval School, Greenwich Hospital, on Friday, October 20th, at 8 p.m. Dr. Bridgwater, President of the Branch, will preside, and deliver an address. Clinical cases will be discussed, and the election of an honorary secretary will take place.—H. NELSON HARDY, Honorary Secretary, The Grove, Dulwich, S.E.—October 12th, 1882.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH: AUTUMNAL MEETING. The autumnal meeting of the East Anglian Branch of the British Medical Association was held at East Dereham, on Thursday, September 28th, when upwards of eighty medical men assembled from various parts of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, and Essex. This is the first meeting ever held at Dereham, and the proceedings were most successful throughout. Upon arrival, they were escorted to the new Water Works, and from thence to the Sewage Farm, where the system of downward filtration at the outlet of the sewer attracted much attention. The sewage-water, after irrigation over the farm, escapes through small drain-pipes into the river alongside the farm, quite clear and apparently colourless. Returning to the town, the visitors were enabled to observe the excellent and simple method adopted for flushing the drains in the streets. Here and there are manholes, which are connected with the drains, and, by means of a trap-door, are converted into wells. These are easily filled by a hose, and, the trap being lifted, about eighty gallons of water rushes along the drain and thoroughly flushes it. Every drain is submitted to flushing of this kind once a week.

Previous to the meeting for the discussion of papers and other matters of scientific and professional interest, an organ recital was given in the handsome parish church by Mr. Martin, the organist.

At 1.45, the members met at the Assembly Rooms, the chair being taken by the President, WILLIAM MILLER CROWFOOT, Esq., M.B. There were also present: the President-elect, J. Lowe, M.D. (King's Lynn); the Honorary Secretaries, W. A. Elliston, M.D. (Ipswich), and M. Beverley, M.D. (Norwich); T. E. Amyot (Diss), R. Atthill (Great Bentley), F. Bateman, M.D., P. Eade, M.D., H. Robinson, R. J. Mills, S. T. Taylor, M.D., R. W. White, and H. Turner (Norwich), P. W. Latham (Cambridge), Caleb Rose, M.D., G. C. Edwards, H. J. Benham, M.D., and W. Locke, M.D. (Ipswich), R. V. Gorham (Yoxford), E. Crickmay (Laxfield), W. W. Vores, M.B., J. Smith, F. Palmer, and J. Browne, R.N., M.D. (Great Yarmouth), E. G. Barnes, M.D. (Eye), F. Haward (Halesworth), J. B. Pitt, M.D., H. C. Hastings, J. Vincent, M.D., H. B. Vincent, and S. M. Hopson (East Dereham), W. Ebden (Haughley), H. Mallins, M. B. (Watton), A. R. Manby (East Rudham), J. Ryley, M.B. (Great Yarmouth), C. W. Doyle, M.B., F. C. Bailey, J. T. Compton, M.B., T. H. Morse, T. W. Richardson (Norwich), H. G. Foster (Attleborough), C. G. Ellis, J. R. Clouting, R. H. Foot, M.D. (Wells), F. W. Joy (Brandon), R. T. Hales, M.D. (Holt), R. B. Kidd (Blofield), D. W. Hughes (Wyndham), T. L. Lack (Hingham), A. C. Mayo (Great Yarmouth), T. K. Milne, M.D. (Shipdham), H. Raven (Litcham), E. Reeve (Reedham), W. E. Sofe (East Harling), H. F. Steele (Brandon), J. T. Skrimshire (Holt), F. J. Thomas (Swaffham), G. Gillet (Brooke), C. P. S. Wayman (Foulsham), C. A. O. Owens, M.D. (Long Stratton), J. Bateley (Gorleston, Medical Officer of Health, Great Yarmouth), P. P. Ransom (North Elmham), etc.

Nineteen gentlemen residing in the district were admitted members of the Association.

The following papers were then read and discussed.

1. H. C. Hastings, Esq., M.R.C.S. (East Dereham): Notes of a case of Rheumatic Fever, with Observations on the Past and Present Treatment of the Disease.
2. James Vincent, Esq., M.D. (East Dereham): An Account of three cases of Total Suppression of Urine.
3. H. Mallins, Esq., M.B. (Watton): Notes of a case of Aphasia, with Right Hemiparesis, in a Girl aged 12.
4. F. Bateman, Esq., M.D. (Norwich): A paper on Hystero-Epilepsy.

5. Alan Reeve Manby, Esq., M.R.C.S. (East Rudham): The Curability of Fevers.

6. F. Haward, Esq., M.R.C.S. (Halesworth): Notes of a case of Ovariectomy.

7. W. A. Elliston, M.D. (Ipswich): Notes of a case of Excision of the Lower Four Inches of the Circumference of the Rectum.

8. Michael Beverley, M.D. (Norwich): Notes on the Efficacy of Quinine in Whooping-cough.

The members afterwards adjourned to an invitation *dîjeuner*, given to the Branch by the medical men of East Dereham and the neighbourhood.

SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH.

A CONJOINT meeting of the East and West Kent Districts of the above branch was held in the Town Hall, Folkestone, under the presidency of Dr. Bowles, F.R.C.P., on Thursday, September 28th.

The Provisional Sub-Committees of the Collective Investigation Committee for the two districts, were confirmed by the meeting.

Dr. Bowles opened a discussion on "The Ventilation and Management of Sewers." After tracing the history of sewers as applied in recent times, pointing out the difficulties and dangers which dogged each step of advance, he drew the attention of members to the desirability of investigating and determining for certain the causes of the stenches from street gratings, which were injurious to property and health, and questioned whether the permitting warm summer air to enter the cool drains did not encourage putrefactive changes, and thus give rise to dangerous organisms. He believed the necessity for such extreme ventilation might not arise if flushing were properly carried out.

A very prolonged and interesting discussion ensued, in which Mr. Adams of Maidstone, made some very original and practical remarks, illustrated by diagrams, of the rate of influx and efflux of sewer gas at ventilators, and the causes which influence the moving of gas in the sewers.

The discussion was finally adjourned to a future conjoint meeting, to be held in the West Kent District this time next year.

Dr. Tyson showed a boy, aged 16, with leprosy of the face, which had been developing for two years. The patient, born in Ireland, left for India when two months old, and remained there six years; then returned to Ireland, and has not been abroad since. There was no history of leprosy in the family.

Dr. Tyson showed a man, aged 83, with a rodent ulcer situate on left side of nose over the canine fossa, which commenced five years ago, and gradually increased to the present size, about one square inch.

The President entertained members at luncheon before the meeting, and afterwards 20 sat down to dinner at the West Cliff Hotel.

A. H. B. HALLOWES, Hon. Sec., West Kent District.

T. WHITEHEAD REID, Hon. Sec., East Kent District.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT. A MEETING of the above district took place at East Grinstead, on September 27th; Mr. WALLIS of Hartfield in the chair.

The following papers were read:

1. Dr. Mackey related a case in which urgent Dyspnoea, with respirations of 100 to 120 per minute, accompanied by cardiac *bruit*, pain, etc., simulated serious disease for a time, but culminated in a hysterical paroxysm. The differences between hysterical and diabetic dyspnoea were illustrated by comparison of cases.

2. The Chairman showed specimens from a Tumour of the Kidney in a Child two years old. The growth seemed during life to involve the liver, and not the kidney.

3. Mr. Abbott described cases in which Conjunctivitis seemed to be due to the use of atropine and other solutions. He believed the cause to lie in the formation of septic growths in the solutions, and recommended the addition of camphor, which completely prevented such formation.

4. Dr. Ranking read a paper on the Relation of Lithæmia to Cardiac Prognosis and Treatment.

Dinner took place at the Railway Hotel.

OBITUARY.

W. ST. GEORGE DAVIES, M.R.C.P.

THIS aged retired staff-surgeon of the Royal Navy, whose death at Brighton, on September 30th, at the advanced age of 96, is reported in the *Times*, was appointed to the medical staff of the Navy in 1806, and served in line-of-battle and other ships of war till 1829, when he retired. He had seen much active service in the early part of the century, having been acting surgeon of the *Norge* at Copenhagen in 1807, and in the following year was assistant-surgeon of the *Centaur* in an action with French frigates off Rochefort, and the capture of the Russian 70-gun ship *Sewolod*. In 1809, he was surgeon of the *Doterel* in the Basque Roads, and of the *Hydra*, on the north coast of Spain, in 1813. He was decorated with two naval medals: one for the famous action off Copenhagen, the second attack on that city during the Napoleonic war, when the Danish fleet was seized and the capital bombarded by Admiral Gambier and Lord Cathcart in September 1807. Of this engagement he was, in all probability, the very last survivor. He became a Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians of London in 1841, and since 1860 had been a full Member of that body. He was also a Member of the Botanic Society of London, and an honorary member of the Natural History Society of Brighton.

Mr. Davies studied medicine at the Middlesex Hospital; and after leaving the navy held, for a time, the appointment of Surgeon-Accoucheur to the Paddington Lying-in Institute. One of the few contributions he made to medical literature was a paper on Naval Medical Reform, published in the *Medical Circular*.

JAMES HUSON-MORE, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

THE *Athenaeum*, in noticing the recent death of this physician, states that he has earned some celebrity as being one of the founders of the Manchester Scientific Students' Association, and a promoter of the National Education League. After studying medicine at Manchester, he held several colonial appointments, and travelled, in a professional capacity, in several mail steamers and also in a naval transport. He was a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, and a member of both the London and the Manchester Anthropological Societies. He ultimately practised at Salford; and died, not quite forty years old, from an acute attack of erysipelas.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

THE Examiners in State Medicine (Dr. Barclay of Gonville and Caius, Dr. De Chaumont of Edinburgh, Dr. Ransome of Gonville and Caius, and Dr. Corfield of Oxford) have issued the following list of those entitled to sanitary science certificates: D. S. Davies, M.B.; A. MacLachlan, M.D.; C. J. M'Nally, M.D.; T. Maxwell, M.D.; C. J. W. Meadows, M.R.C.S.; A. Pern, L.R.C.P.; S. M. Salaman, M.D.; Joseph Smith, M.R.C.S.; W. E. Steavenson, M.B.; and J. A. Thompson, L.R.C.P.

The Vice-Chancellor having received a requisition, signed by Professor Paget, Professor Hughes, Professor Humphry, Professor Newton, Dr. Michael Foster, and other influential members of the Senate, desiring that a meeting of members of the Senate and others should be convened, under the presidency of the Vice-Chancellor, for the purpose of taking steps for establishing some memorial of the late Professor Balfour, has notified that a meeting for that purpose will be held in the lecture-room of Comparative Anatomy, in the New Museums, on Saturday, October 21st, at 4.30 P.M.

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN.

ON October 6th, the University Court appointed the following six extra-professional examiners in Medicine, viz., Dr. James Anderson, London; Dr. John Barclay, Banff; Dr. George M. Edmond, Stonehaven; Dr. James Greig Smith, Clifton; Dr. Fred. Treves, London; and Dr. R. M. Wilson, Old Deer.

THE LINGUAL NERVE.—M. Vulpian reports to the *Académie des Sciences et Recherches* on the vaso-motor effects produced by stimulation of the peripheral segment of the lingual nerve. This nerve seems to have a certain degree of recurrent sensibility, manifested on stimulating the peripheral segment of the cut nerve, by contraction of the vessels in the opposite half of the tongue.

MEDICAL NEWS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their Examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, October 6th, 1882.

Appleton, Harry, Lizard, Cornwall.
Bartlett, Benjamin Pope, Hastings.
Piesse, Charles Henry, New Bond Street.
Rouse, Rolla Edward, Woodbridge Rectory.
Winter, Thomas Bassell, Western Road, Putney.

The following gentlemen passed the Primary Professional Examination on October 6th.

David, Evan, The London Hospital.
Hentsch, George Frederick, Charing Cross Hospital.
Lyster, Arthur Edward, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Tyler, Alfred Joseph Reeve, Charing Cross Hospital.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, New Zealand.—Two Professors, one for Chemistry, and the other for Natural Science. Applications by October 31st.

BELGRAVE HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Gloucester Street, S.W.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £30 per annum. Applications by October 15th.

BURTON-ON-TRENT INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £130 per annum. Applications by October 16th.

CARLOW UNION.—Medical Officer for Bagenalstown Fever Hospital. Salary, £56 per annum. Election on October 19th.

CARLOW UNION.—Medical Officer for Bagenalstown Dispensary District. Salary, £120 per annum, with £20 per annum as Medical Officer of Health, registration, and vaccination fees. Election on October 24th.

CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL.—Assistant-Physician. Applications by October 23rd.

CROYDON UNION.—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for No. 9 District. Salary, £60 per annum. Applications by October 16th.

DONCASTER INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY.—Third year's student as Dispenser and Assistant House-Surgeon. Application to the House-Surgeon.

GLENTIES UNION.—Medical Officer for Ardara Dispensary District. Salary, £100 per annum, with £15 per annum as Medical Officer of Health, registration, and vaccination fees. Election on October 24th.

GRANARD UNION.—Medical Officer for Finnea Dispensary District. Salary, £100 per annum, with £14 per annum as Medical Officer of Health, registration, and vaccination fees. Election on October 14th.

GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, Caledonian Road, N.—Ophthalmic Surgeon. Applications by October 31st.

HACKNEY UNION.—Medical Officer for the Third District. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications by October 17th.

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—Resident Clinical Assistant. Applications by November 4th.

MACCLESFIELD GENERAL INFIRMARY.—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £70 per annum. Applications by October 14th.

MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY, DISPENSARY, AND LUNATIC HOSPITAL OR ASYLUM.—Honorary Assistant-Surgeon. Applications by October 28th.

MARKE BOSWORTH UNION.—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for No. 6 Twycross District. Salary, £18 per annum. Applications by October 27th.

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL, W.—Assistant-Surgeon. Applications by October 24th.

NORTHAMPTON GENERAL INFIRMARY.—Physician.—Applications to be addressed to the Secretary not later than October 27th.

NORTH-WEST LONDON HOSPITAL, 18 and 20, Kentish Town Road.—Ophthalmic Surgeon. Applications by October 28th.

OLDCASTLE UNION.—Medical Officer for Crossakiel Dispensary District. Salary, £80 per annum, with £15 per annum as Medical Officer of Health, registration, and vaccination fees. Election on October 20th.

PARISH OF BIRMINGHAM.—Physician. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications by October 23rd.

ROYAL ALBERT EDWARD INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY, Wigan.—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications by November 2nd.

SCARBOROUGH FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £200 per annum. Applications by October 23rd.

SHEFFIELD PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.—Junior Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications by October 19th.

TORBAY HOSPITAL AND PROVIDENT DISPENSARY, Torquay.—Senior House-Surgeon and Senior Provident Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by October 16th.

WEST RIDING LUNATIC ASYLUM, Wakefield.—Resident Clinical Assistant. Applications to Dr. Herbert Major.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

BARLING, H. G., M.B., appointed Resident Surgical Officer to the General Hospital, Birmingham.

BENSON, Arthur H., M.B. (Univ. Dub.), L.R.C.S.I., appointed Medical Officer to the Dublin Throat and Ear Hospital, *vice* Bertram C. A. Windle, resigned.

CANB, Frank Edward, L.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P.Ed., appointed Resident Dispensary Surgeon to the Bradford Infirmary and Dispensary, *vice* Spence, promoted.

COPPOLD, C. S. W., M.D., appointed Medical Practitioner to the Earlswood Asylum for Idiots, *vice* G. W. Grabham, M.D., resigned.

CRADDOCK, F. H., M.R.C.S., appointed Medical Superintendent to the Gloucester County Lunatic Asylum, *vice* E. Toller, M.R.C.S.

DOVY, J. Harrington, M.R.C.S.Eng. and L.S.A., appointed Second Assistant Medical Officer in the Powick Asylum, near Worcester.

DUNLOP, J. B., L.R.C.S.I., appointed Assistant Resident Medical Superintendent to the Downpatrick District Lunatic Asylum.

DUSERAT, H. A., M.B., appointed House-Surgeon to the Weston-super-Mare Hospital, *vice* F. N. Ozanne, L.R.C.P., resigned.

FLINN, David Edgar, L.K.Q.C.P.I., L.K.C.S.I., L.M., appointed Surgeon to St. Michael's Hospital, Kingstown, Dublin.

GARDNER, P. H., M.R.C.S., appointed House-Surgeon to the Royal United Hospital, Bath, *vice* H. G. Terry, M.R.C.S., resigned.

GILBERT, H. J., M.B., appointed House-Surgeon to the Lancaster Infirmary and Dispensary, *vice* J. H. Fraser, M.B., resigned.

HITCHCOCK, Charles Knight, M.D., M.A.Cantab., appointed Deputy-Superintendent of the Warneford Asylum, Oxford, for six months from the 3rd instant.

HORMAZDJIAN, R. N., M.R.C.S.E., appointed Assistant-Surgeon to the Cape Copper Mining Company, South Africa.

HUNT, H. R., L.S.A., appointed Dispenser to the Public Dispensary, 59, Stanhope Street, Clare Market.

MORGAN, E. Rice, M.R.C.S.Eng., of Morriston, appointed Medical Officer to the Swansae Truants' Industrial School.

O'BRIEN, R., M.B., appointed House-Surgeon to the Western General Dispensary, *vice* W. Knight, M.R.C.S.

RAND, R. F., M.B., appointed House-Surgeon to the Oldham Infirmary, *vice* T. Harkness, M.B., resigned.

ROBERTSON, D. W., L.R.C.P., appointed Medical Officer to the Pickering Union, *vice* F. W. Smailes, L.R.C.P., resigned.

RODGERS, J. H., L.R.C.P., appointed Junior House-Surgeon to the Darlington Hospital, *vice* D. H. P. Johnston, B.A., resigned.

ROWLAND, C. D., M.B., appointed Junior Assistant Medical Officer to the County Asylum, Whittingham, Preston.

SPENCE, William James, L.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P.Ed., appointed Resident Physician to the Bradford Infirmary and Dispensary, *vice* Foster, resigned.

STREET, Alfred Francis, M.A., M.B.Cantab., M.R.C.S., appointed Senior Resident Medical Officer to the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, *vice* J. E. Hine, M.B., resigned.

TREVES, Frederick, F.R.C.S., appointed an Examiner in Anatomy at the University of Aberdeen.

WALSH, J. H. T., M.R.C.S., appointed Resident House-Surgeon to the London and Brompton Cancer Hospital.

WEBB, H. G., L.K.Q.C.P.I., appointed Medical Officer of Health to the Northleach Union.

WILLOUGHBY, H. J., M.B., appointed House-Surgeon and Secretary to the Chichester Infirmary, *vice* A. E. Buckell, M.B., resigned.

WILSON, M.S., M.R.C.S., appointed House-Surgeon to the Salisbury Infirmary.

WINDLE, B. C. A., M.B., appointed Resident Registrar and Pathologist to the General Hospital, Birmingham, *vice* H. G. Barling, M.B.

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.

SPENCE.—At St. Ninians, Burntisland, Fife, on the 6th inst., the wife of Robert Spence, M.B., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CHADWICK—WESTALL.—On September 28th, at the British Consulate, and afterwards at the Church of Holy Trinity, Geneva, Switzerland, by the Rev. John Wood, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Rev. Joseph Last, Chaplain, Alfred Chadwick, M.D., of Heywood, Lancashire, to Ellen, eldest daughter of William Westall, Esq., Clair, Voie, Geneva.

HEATH—BROWN.—On October 10th, at St. Paul's, Newcastle-on-Tyne, by the Rev. Robert Daunt, W. Lenton Heath, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S., of Gloster Road, South Kensington, to Bertha, youngest daughter of Arthur Brown, Esq., of High Park Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—The Entrance Scholarships in Natural Science have been awarded as follows: Scholarship of £100 to Mr. Horace Duncan; scholarship of £60 to Mr. E. D. Shirliff.

LONDON HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE.—Mr. Hugh Smith has obtained the Entrance Science Scholarship of £60; Mr. E. Barclay Smith, the Entrance Science Scholarship of £40; Mr. R. Raby, the Buxton Scholarship of £30; and Mr. F. R. Ozzard, the Buxton Scholarship of £20.

WEST KENT MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.—The first meeting of the twenty-seventh session, 1882-83 was held at the Royal Kent Dispensary, Greenwich Road, on Friday evening, October 6th, 1882, at eight o'clock precisely. The following gentlemen were duly elected as officers for the present session, 1882-83: President: G. H. Cable, M.R.C.S.E. Vice-Presidents: A. Forsyth, M.D.; John Marshall, M.R.C.S.E. Council: A. L. Bowen, M.R.C.S.E.; J. E. Burroughs, M.R.C.S.E.; F. Carson Fisher, P.A., M.D.; J. Hammersley,

M.R.C.S.E.; C. H. Hartt, L.R.C.S.I.; F. Moon, M.B.; J. P. Purvis, M.R.C.S.E. Treasurer: Prior Purvis, M.D. Secretary: H. W. Roberts, M.R.C.S.E. Librarian: J. B. Saundry, M.D.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.—The distribution of prizes to successful students, under the direction of this body, took place last week in the lecture theatre of the society's house, Bloomsbury Square, before a crowded audience. Mr. M. Carteighe, president, occupied the chair, and was accompanied by Mr. S. R. Atkins, vice-presidents Professors Redwood, Attfield, and Bentley, and several members of the council. Reporting on the results of the most recent examinations in chemistry and pharmacy, Professor Redwood remarked with satisfaction on the solidity of the studies, and on the fact that the students were of a good class, and had been regular and punctual in their attendance on lectures. Equally favourable reports were made by Professors Attfield and Bentley from their respective departments. The principal honours of the occasion were awarded to Mr. F. W. Short; good seconds to Mr. T. G. Nicholson, Mr. W. C. Drew, and other students. In the course of an address to the students, Mr. Joseph Ince, F.L.S., F.C.S., remarked that fifty years ago pharmacy was not represented by any corporate body, and had no recognised system of training or education. Now this deficiency had been met, and a school had arisen which could boast of the services of men like Pereira, Todd, Thomson, Fownes, and of the eminent professors who directed its curriculum at this moment. The text books at the command of the modern student were so various, and many of them written with so much ability, that it had ceased to be desirable to be a man of one book; on the contrary, it was a positive gain to consult two or more standard treatises, and to bring independent judgment to bear on any branch of science or technical research.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL; ABERNETHIAN SOCIETY (Founded 1795).—Winter Session, 1882-83. Committee of Management: Presidents—Mr. Ernest Clarke, Mr. Jessop; Vice-Presidents—Mr. Harper, Mr. Howe; Treasurer—Mr. Savory; Hon. Secretaries—Mr. Berry, Mr. Womack; Additional Committeemen—Mr. Chapman, Mr. Heath. This society, composed of the teachers and students of the hospital, holds its meetings in the Abernethian room every Thursday evening, at 8 o'clock precisely, during the Winter Session, for the reading and discussion of papers on subjects of medical science or practice, and for the exhibition of pathological specimens. The society's reading room is for the exclusive use of members, and is open during the same hours as the library. The following papers are announced for the present session, 1882-83: October 10th, Mr. Davy, Sociology and Disease; October 26th, Mr. Habershon, Theories of Vision; November 2nd, Surgical Discussion, Intestinal Obstruction, introduced by Mr. Bruce-Clarke; November 9th, Mr. Oscar Clarke; November 16th, Mr. Montague Smith, Hydrophobia; November 23rd, Mr. Howe, Nerve Stretching; November 30th, Mr. Womack, Ferrier's Nerve Centres; December 7th, House Physicians' Evening; December 14th, Mr. Ernest Clarke, Congenital Abnormalities; January 11th, Mr. Collyns, The Study of Nervous Diseases; January 18th, Mr. Harper, Retention of Urine; January 25th, Mr. Campbell, Reason and Instinct in Relation to Medicine; February 1st, Medical Discussion, Diphtheria (introduced by Dr. Steavenson); February 8th, Mr. Jessop, A Blow on the Eye and its Consequences; February 15th, Mr. Bowlby, Orthopaedic Surgery; February 22nd, Mr. Shore, Bright's Disease; March 1st, House Surgeon's evening; March 8th, Mr. King; March 15th, annual general meeting; election of officers. Any member wishing to read a paper, or show cases, is requested to communicate at once with one of the secretaries. The above list is liable to alteration, but the subject of each meeting will always be posted on the society's notice boards, and published in the medical papers one week beforehand.

INCREASE OF LUNACY.—Attention is called by the daily papers to the fact that pauper lunacy is, according to official reports, greatly on the increase in London: and the asylums are so full of patients, that the greatest difficulty has been experienced in providing suitable accommodation for the cases as they arise. The board of guardians of St. Saviour's, Southwark, was lately compelled to send some cases into Lancashire, Devonshire, and Glamorganshire. The clerk to the guardians reported that he had, in answer to his application, received telegrams from six or eight asylums, all conveying the same answer, "No accommodation"; and, when waiting on the Lunacy Commissioners, he had been informed that room might possibly be found at Ipswich for one patient. In the end, the guardians resolved to write to the Surrey justices, asking them to use all possible expedition in opening the new county asylum they are building.

WE understand that out of eight candidates who presented themselves for the recent primary professional examination of Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin, five failed to satisfy the examiners.

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.—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, 1 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., 1; Ophthalmic Department, W., 1; Ear, Th., 2; Skin, Th., 3; Throat, 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, 1.45; 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., 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. 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.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Introductory Remarks by the President, Mr. Francis Mason. Dr. Dolan: *Résumé* of Fothergillian Prize Essay on Whooping-Cough.

TUESDAY.—Pathological Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Specimens to be shown: Dr. Norman Moore: 1. Ulcer of Duodenum; 2. An Appearance of the Diaphragm in Rickets; 3. Aneurysms in Young Persons. Mr. Bowlby: Double Obturator Hernia. Dr. Bedford Fenwick: Tricuspid Stenosis. Mr. Alban Doran: Incipient Cystic Disease of Parovarium, etc. Dr. Samuel West: 1. Mediastinal Tumour in a Boy; 2. Aneurysm of Aorta; 3. Ulceration of Colon in Typhoid Fever. Dr. Heneage Gibbs: Cirrhosis of Liver in an Infant. Mr. W. H. Kesteven: Injury to the Vertebral Column.

THURSDAY.—Harveian Society of London, 8 P.M. Mr. Pepper: Trepanning Mastoid Cells in the Adult. Physiological Rest in the Treatment of Medical Cases (concluded).

FRIDAY.—Society of Medical Officers of Health, 8 P.M. The President (Dr. Tripe): Inaugural Address on Some of the Relations between Meteorological Phenomena and Man.

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.

THE CO-OPERATIVE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

SIR.—It is not difficult to see the cause of those various frantic efforts by necessitous medical men in London and other places in the neighbourhood of large hospitals, when at these we have constant evidence of persons of competent means and good social position being willingly admitted and gratuitously attended. Which of the two classes acts most discreditably? the multitude of impoverished men who, in their necessity, vulgarise medical practice, and who, by their number, must, without some radical corrective, soon reduce it to beggary? or is it they who, having the advantage of hospital appointments, abuse that advantage to their own interest? I say to their own interest, because a surgical operation, or successful medical treatment of persons in middle social position, will in various ways, direct and indirect, best serve to the private practice of him or they who attend such persons at a hospital.

If, in the rare examples of death by chloroform, we see recorded within a fortnight or so, the case of "a retired victualler", and that of "a master builder", occurring at a London hospital, what numbers of persons of competent means, of whom we hear nothing, must be daily attended at such institutions, taken collectively? It is high time, both professionally and socially, that some rearrangement should take place in hospital affairs; only a few weeks since, I sent a patient for consultation to an eminent, and certainly a very competent, surgeon for consultation. After paying two or three fees, the patient was taken into the hospital to which this gentleman is surgeon, and received there, during many weeks, gratuitous support and professional attendance. This man is fairly educated, is a churchwarden, a trustee, etc., and possessed of property to the value of at least £10,000. He may have pleaded poverty, as niggards do, but he must have been accepted without inquiry, as I believe is usual. Now, which of the two classes of medical men here referred to is most deserving reproach? The potent few, who unscrupulously take, or the many, who in hunger scramble to keep? They both snatch, and that without heeding. The first, having a well loaded purse, and nothing to complain of, have consciences so clear, that remonstrance is at present in vain, and they hold, as yet, "the even tenour of their ways"; as to the other lot: preach to them about professional dignity, and, like cynical beggars, they retort the proverbial truth, "*jejunus raro stomachus vulgaria temnit*".—I enclose my card.—Your obedient servant,

PROBE.

* * That hospitals are constantly and shamelessly abused by the admission of those who ought to pay for their treatment, we hold to be as well established as any truth can be that rests on the evidence of numerous and independent witnesses; but it does not seem to follow that the medical staff is necessarily responsible for arrangements with which they have, in many cases, nothing to do. In the instance adduced by our correspondent, the conduct of the hospital surgeon was, if we have heard the whole story, quite inexcusable; since, for those able to pay for hospital treatment, there are the Home Hospital and St. Thomas's House, at either of which the patient could be treated by his own surgeon; and, had there been any doubt about his ability to pay, inquiry could have been made of his doctor in the country. Nothing is more unsafe than to generalise from such an extreme example as this, and so accuse a whole class of conduct which is, we hope, quite exceptional. We prefer to believe that neither class of practitioners is so unscrupulous as our correspondent appears to think.

THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY AND THEIR MEDICAL FEES.

SIR.—With reference to an anonymous letter, on the fees paid by the above Company, which appeared in the JOURNAL for September 23rd, it is only fair to the Company for someone to state that the fees alluded to in the letter must have been fees for examinations in the Industrial Department, a copy of the brief examination-form for which department is herewith inclosed. The examinations in the Industrial Department begin for policies as low as £10, and, in my practice, the proposers always come cheerfully for examination to the surgery.

The fees for ordinary business are, 10s. 6d. on policies not exceeding £100, and 2s. on all policies of more than £100—a more liberal arrangement than that offered by many English and Scotch officers. Since 1870, I have been paid these fees; and, to show that they are the common rates, the printed scale of fees supplied to me by the Company is also inclosed. The examination-form for ordinary policies is a much longer document than that for the Industrial Department, but not more minute than the corresponding form of other companies.

I have invariably found the Prudential Company fair, prompt, and accurate in the settlement of accounts.—Yours truly,

W.M. WHITELAW, M.D.

Kirkintilloch, North Britain.

HOW TO DISGUISE THE ODOUR OF IODOFORM.

A PHILADELPHIAN medical man directs his patients to spread some of the ointment on a piece of muslin, and bandage a finger with it. The ointment will smell just as strongly as before, but the patient will be able to assume a virtue, if he has it not, and to comply with the injunction, to "avoid even the appearance of evil".

HABITUAL DRUNKARDS ACT.

SIR.—Observing that a considerable amount of interest has been recently manifested with regard to the operation of the Habitual Drunkards Act, I presume that it may probably interest many of your numerous readers to be aware that I can, from practical experience, bear testimony to the evidently increasing success of the Act, and can confidently assure them of the great permanent advantages that have been derived by patients who have resided in this Retreat.

Since the commencement of the present year, fifteen patients have entered this establishment, and placed themselves under the provisions of the above-named Act; in addition to which, ten have been received as private patients.—I am, sir, yours very obediently,

JOHN H. BROWN.

Tower House Retreat, Westgate-on-Sea, October 5th, 1882.

J. A. MACWILLIAM, M.B., should look at last week's JOURNAL.

DR. HARKIN'S PAPER ON RHEUMATISM.

SIR.—I am sure many will be surprised at Dr. Harkin's expression that a blister applied over the region of the heart is a new mode of treating gout and acute rheumatism, *par excellence*. I could give case after case where every comfort surrounded the patient, and, in spite of the blistering over the region of the heart (not for the purpose of curing the rheumatism, but owing to endocardial and pericardial mischief setting in very early), the acute rheumatic affection ran its course, and was not influenced by the blistering. The pain in the chest was relieved; but the constitutional symptoms were not.

Dr. Harkin's object is one which may commend itself; but I think many will not consider the plan of treating gout and rheumatism by blisters as solely reliable. Dr. Harkin calls it "a new and effective remedy for acute rheumatism."

An interesting case is recorded by the late Dr. Graves: "A woman was admitted into hospital on September 1st, labouring under febrile symptoms, etc. All went on favourably until the 5th, when there was distinct friction-sound over the region of the heart. Calomel and opium were given, and, on the 6th, a blister was put over the region of the heart. On September 10th, she was seized with pains in the loins, knees, shoulders, wrists, and ankles. The joints were exceedingly swollen, red, and painful."

This case clearly illustrates the uselessness of early blistering as a preventive of an attack of acute rheumatism. I could give the histories of many cases in which the application of blisters over the heart and around the joints appeared perfectly useless—at least, in my opinion—as invariably I have had to resort to the alkaline treatment with opium, all other things failing.

The salicylic treatment is most disappointing, and this I account for by almost all the preparations being made from artificial salicylic acid, and not from the pure natural acid, which is expensive. I am convinced that all modes of vaunted treatment will in many instances fail, and we should place no reliance in any one mode. We should treat symptoms of diseases, but not a disease, because it bears a certain name.

Only a short time ago, a boy came under my care, and it was his second attack of acute rheumatism. The heart was much affected, and the breathing very difficult. He had only been ill a few hours before I saw him, and a large blister was applied over the region of the heart. It eased the chest-symptoms, but the case progressed very slowly, in spite of salicylate of soda, and I discarded the treatment. Alkalies and calomel and opium, on the first day after the other treatment was abandoned, produced good results, but the boy was over three weeks under treatment.

Two other cases (brothers) occurred in one family, where blisters were almost useless. About a year ago, one of the brothers died—a perfect wreck—and the other is seen by me occasionally.

I have had a boy under my care since 1880, and the blistering treatment completely failed. Necrosis of the right femur has ensued; and I extracted, a few weeks since, from the knee joint, a piece of bone three inches long by two broad. The right leg is perfectly useless. Another case was that of a fine tall man, and no effect was visible until alkalies were given. As to the observed fact that the urine becomes alkaline under cantharides, Dr. Harkin does not give any information.

Can the beneficial effects, spoken of by those who have tried cantharides in the form of blisters or tincture, be due to some catalytic action of the mucus of the bladder, and may not this ferment, acting upon the urea, cause the formation of ammonium carbonate, which, in a nascent state, may, in part at least, become absorbed?

The statement is made by many that, under the influence of cantharides, the urine becomes alkaline, but I have not met with any explanation as to the cause. That gout and rheumatism are closely connected, few can doubt; but I am of opinion that the cause of gout is not identical with that of acute rheumatism. Sir William Gull and Dr. Sutton's plan of treating acute rheumatism with mint-water, can only be mentioned as a kind of *fiasco*. It is impossible to treat acutely painful diseases without drugs; and what does it avail a patient who is suffering agony and in torment, to be told Nature will cure you?

I consider all "expectant modes" as simply trifling with a patient and disease. Our object is to assist Nature; and the new-fangled ideas of treatment are becoming so absurd and ridiculous, that people seem to lose faith in orthodox medicine, and betake themselves to all sorts of quackery—from homeopathy to hydrotherapy, and now to the "expectant mode". Of one thing I am convinced, that the medical men of our generation, are far behind our ancestors in gaining the confidence of patients. The cause is not far to seek. Pathology is all very well; but I never knew it, apart from remedies, relieve suffering. Indeed, it may well be said that we know much of the nature of diseases, but very little as to their cure. We are all agreed upon one point, that too much physic is bad; but, if we discard it altogether, and actually lead the way, I think we had all better burn our diplomas, raze our colleges and schools of medicine, and become veritable Diogenes. I think the workman should be the last to place little or no confidence in his tools.—I am, etc.

HENRY BROWN.

Northallerton, October 9th, 1882.

"A SUBSCRIBER."—The inquiry on the subject has been forwarded to Paris.

"E. J. H."—Not of sufficient interest.

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Practical Treatise on the Diseases of the Uterus, Ovaries, and Fallopian Tubes. By R. County, Professor of Clinical Surgery, Montpellier. Translated from the Third Edition by his Pupil, Agnes McLaren, M.D., M.K.Q.C.P.I., with Preface by J. Matthews Duncan, M.D. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1882.

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Micro-Chemical Experiments and Observations on the Structure of the Human Blood. By Thomas Shearman Ralph, M.R.C.S.Eng., President of the Microscopical Society. Victoria: Stillwell and Co., Melbourne.

Is Consumption Contagious? and Can it be Transmitted by means of Food? By Herbert C. Clapp, A.M., M.D. Boston: Otis Clapp, and Son. 1882.

Lectures on Surgery. Vols. I and II. Third Edition. By Jas. Spence, F.R.C.S.E. Edinburgh: Adam and C. Black. 1882.

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