

## CHOLERA IN ITALY.

Our correspondent in Rome writes: Drs. Finkler and Prior, of Bonn, who demonstrated, at the recent German Science Congress, held at Magdeburg, a comma-shaped bacillus in the excreta from cases of cholera nostras, which they claim to be identical with Koch's bacillus, have arrived at Genoa. They are at work in Professor Ceci's laboratory, where Professor Klebs, from Prague, also found material to study the pathology of cholera, when lately in Genoa. The epidemic, however, seems to have died out there, no new cases having been reported for four or five days.

In Naples, too, the number of cases has diminished so materially that, during the last three days, only 37 new cases have been reported, and 25 deaths. This may be due, in part, to the colder weather which prevailed all last week, the temperature on Saturday morning having been as low as 38° Fahr.; and snow has fallen in the Apennines, and is quite visible from Rome, an unprecedented event in my experience of more than a dozen Octobers here.

That the number of sporadic cases is diminishing rapidly, too, is shown by the fact that the last reports mention only four provinces as returning such cases, whereas, at one time or other during this epidemic, 44 out of the 69 provinces of the kingdom have been infected. The total number of cases known to have occurred throughout Italy up to October 20th was 21,519, of which 11,563 had terminated fatally. The population of the kingdom this year may be set down as 29½ millions.

## "NO FEAR OF CHOLERA."

The British Consul at Toulon announces, in a letter to the *Times*, that the epidemic of cholera is now practically over, and that the town has resumed its "normal appearance." We do not doubt the substantial accuracy of either statement, but we fear that the normal condition of Toulon, Marseilles, Spezzia, Naples, and of all those towns where the cholera has recently been raging, is that of a tinder-box in the proximity of sparks. The municipal authorities have, indeed, been lavish in the use of disinfectants, and have issued orders for the better scavenging of the streets pending the panic; but, so long as the soil reeks with soakage from pervious cesspits, the exhalations from which are perceptible in most houses, so long as slops of every kind are thrown into the gutters, to find their way by rude drains to the nearest watercourses, into land-locked harbours as at Toulon, or into the rivers, as at Spezzia, close to the principal intake of the general water-service, so long will all the conditions exist for outbreaks like that we have just witnessed.

But, though visitations of cholera are happily few and far between, the conditions which favour them are always at work insidiously, but not less surely, producing and fostering such diseases as enteric fever, diphtheria, diarrhoea, or less definite forms of ill-health. Everywhere it may be said that, if cholera has slain its thousands, filth-diseases have slain their ten thousands. There are few of us who have not known patients, seeking health after recovery from serious illness, or wishing to escape from the chilly winters of England, in the sunny south, fall victims to typhoid or diphtheria.

We would far rather have heard that the towns in question presented the abnormal appearance of the construction of new sewers, and of works for the supply of water free from all suspicion of pollution. One by one the municipalities of Germany are following, or even improving, on the example of this country; and if France and Italy do not awake to the realisation of the absolute necessity of ensuring purity of soil and water, they will forfeit their claims to a place among the more enlightened nations of Europe, and what may, perhaps, possess a more tangible value in the eyes of municipal authorities, the character of their maritime towns as health-resorts.

The remarkable immunity that Rome has always enjoyed during epidemics of cholera is, doubtless, owing to the fact that, though the domestic and other sanitary arrangements are in no wise better than those of other Italian cities, the water-supply is abundant, and, for the most part, of excellent quality.

**TESTIMONIAL.**—At the last meeting of the John Hervey Lodge of Freemasons, No. 1260, Mr. Jabez Hogg, a founder, past-master, and treasurer of the lodge, was presented with his portrait, as a testimonial to his long and valuable services to the craft in general, and to that lodge in particular. To the address by the W. M., Mr. Hogg returned a graceful reply; and, at the banquet that followed, the Rev. R. T. Simpson, past grand chaplain, and late rector of St. Clement Danes, spoke in high terms of the recipient of the testimonial.

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

## NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1885:

## ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

MEETINGS of the Council will be held on January 14th, April 8th, July 9th, and October 14th, 1885. Gentlemen desirous of becoming members of the Association must send in their forms of application for election to the General Secretary not later than twenty-one days before each meeting, namely, December 25th, 1884, and March 19th, June 19th, and September 24th, 1885, 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*.

## COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION OF DISEASE.

CARDS for recording individual cases of the following diseases have been prepared by the Committee; they may be had on application to the Honorary Secretaries of the Local Committees in each Branch, or on application to the Secretary of the Collective Investigation Committee.

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|----------------------------|--|
| I. Acute Pneumonia.        | VII. Puerperal Pyrexia.                    |
| II. Chorea.                | VIII. Paroxysmal hæmoglobin-uria.          |
| III. Acute Rheumatism.     | X. Habits of Aged Persons.                 |
| IV. Diphtheria, clinical.  | XI. Albuminuria in the Apparently Healthy. |
| IVa. Diphtheria, sanitary. | XII. Sleep-walking.                        |
| V. Syphilis, acquired.     |  |
| Va. " inherited.           |  |
| VI. Acute Gout.            |  |

An inquiry is now issued concerning the general condition, habits, and circumstances, past and present, and the family history, of persons who have attained or passed the age of 80 years.

The replies to this inquiry will be most valuable when given by a medical man; but the questions have been so arranged, that, with the exception of some on the last page, they may be answered by another person. *Partial information will be gladly received.*

There is also now issued an inquiry as to the occurrence of albuminuria in apparently healthy persons.

The Acute Gout card, which had been found too elaborate, has been made a great deal simpler, and is now re-issued.

Copies of these forms and memoranda are in the hands of all the local secretaries, and will be forwarded to any one who is willing to fill up one or more of the forms, on application by post-card or otherwise to the Secretary of the Collective Investigation Committee, 161A, Strand, London, W.C., to whom all applications and correspondence should be addressed.

July, 1884.

## BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

**SOUTH INDIAN BRANCH.**—Meetings are held in the Central Museum, Madras, on the first Saturday in the month, at 9 p.m. Gentlemen desirous of reading papers or exhibiting specimens are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary.—C. STRETHORPE, Honorary Secretary, Madras.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST SUSSEX DISTRICT.**—A meeting of the district will be held at the Marine Hotel, Worthing, on Thursday, November 13th, Dr. Fuller of Shoreham in the chair. Members intending to read papers, etc., will please communicate with the Honorary Secretary, G. B. Collet, 23, Gratwicke Road, Worthing.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT.**—The next meeting of this district will take place on Tuesday, November 25th, at Rochester, Dr. J. D. Burns, R.N., in the chair. Gentlemen desirous of reading papers, or exhibiting specimens, are requested to inform the Honorary Secretary of the district, Dr. Lewis Jones, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Chatham, not later than November 6th. Further particulars will be duly announced.—H. L. JONES, Honorary Secretary.—October 21st, 1884.

**YORKSHIRE BRANCH.**—The autumn meeting of the Branch will be held at the Royal Hotel, Scarborough, on Wednesday, November 12th, at 4 p.m. Dinner on the table at 7 p.m. (6s. per head, exclusive of wine); dinner, bed, and breakfast, 12s. 6d. It is hoped as many members as can will stay all night. Gentlemen intending to read papers are requested to communicate at once with the Secretary.—ARTHUR JACKSON, Honorary Secretary.

**METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.**—The next meeting will be held at the Hackney Town Hall, on Thursday, November 20th, at 8.30 p.m. The chair will be taken by Dr. Herman; and a discussion on the use of the forceps will be opened by F. Wallace, Esq.—JOSEPH A. HUNT, Honorary Secretary, 101, Queen's Road, Dalston.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Council, held at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday, October 15th, 1884, present:

Dr. BALTHAZAR FOSTER, Birmingham, President of the Council, in the chair;

Dr. W. T. Edwards, Cardiff, President-elect	Dr. T. Eyton-Jones, Wrexham
Mr. Macnamara, London, Treasurer	Dr. Bruce Goff, Bothwell, Glasgow
Dr. B. Anningson, Cambridge	Dr. W. C. Grigg, London
Mr. J. Wright Baker, Derby	Dr. C. Holman, Reigate
Dr. G. B. Barron, Southport	Mr. A. Jackson, Sheffield
Dr. M. M. De Bartolomé, Sheffield	Mr. T. R. Jessop, Leeds
Dr. T. Bridgwater, Harrow	Dr. W. G. V. Lush, Weymouth
Dr. A. Carpenter, Croydon	Dr. F. A. Mahomed, London
Dr. A. H. Carter, Birmingham	Mr. F. Mason, Bath
Dr. C. Chadwick, Tunbridge Wells	Dr. W. Withers Moore, Brighton
Dr. J. Ward Cousins, Southsea	Dr. C. Parsons, Dover
Dr. G. W. Crowe, Worcester	Dr. A. Sheen, Cardiff
Dr. A. Davidson, Liverpool	Mr. Septimus W. Sibley, London
Dr. P. M. Deas, Exeter	Dr. E. M. Skerritt, Bristol
Mr. J. Dix, Hull	Mr. T. Simpson, Lincoln
Dr. G. F. Duffey, Dublin	Mr. J. Taylor, Chester
Dr. W. A. Elliston, Ipswich	Dr. T. W. Trend, Southampton
	Dr. E. Waters, Chester
	Mr. C. Wheelhouse, Leeds

The minutes of the last meeting, as printed and circulated, having been put to the meeting, and no objection to them being raised, they were signed as correct.

Read letters of apology for non-attendance from several members.

Mr. Dix having called attention to minute of the Council, No. 977, passed at Belfast, and asked permission to bring up the report of the Subcommittee on the admission and retention of homeopaths,

Resolved: That Mr. Wheelhouse and Mr. Dix be re-appointed a Subcommittee to ascertain the opinion of the Association with regard to the admission and retention of homeopaths as members of the Association, and that they be requested to report to the next meeting of the Council.

The President of Council reported that he had received acknowledgments of the honorary membership from Dr. Austin Flint and Dr. Koch.

Resolved: That a motion be made on behalf of the Council, at the next Annual Meeting, that Articles 13 and 15 be altered by substituting the word "hundred" for the word "fifty," so as to read as follows:

"13. The Council may, whenever they think fit, and they shall upon a requisition made in writing by any one hundred or more members, convene an extraordinary general meeting.

"15. Upon the receipt of such requisition, the Council shall forthwith proceed to convene a general meeting, and if they do not so within twenty-one days from the date of the requisition, any one hundred members may themselves convene a meeting."

The President of Council reported that, as the solicitor to the Association was out of town, and would not be back till the end of October, he had been unable to consult him, as requested by the Council, upon the subject of filling up vacancies on the Council.

It was moved: That the meetings of the Council shall be held in London and the Provinces, and that the places of meeting be left to the President of Council and Treasurer.

The motion having been put from the chair, the same was declared to be lost.

Resolved: That a Committee be appointed to consider the position of the Committees which are appointed at the Annual Meeting, which have been accustomed to act independently of the Council of the Association, and that the Committee report any recommendations which they may make to the next quarterly meeting of the Council.

Resolved: That the Committee consist of the gentlemen whose names are as follows: namely, the President of the Council, the Treasurer, Dr. Holman, Dr. Grigg, Mr. Wheelhouse, and Dr. Alfred Carpenter.

Resolutions of the Section of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, adopted by the Annual Meeting with reference to the *British Pharmacopœia* and the Patent Medicine Stamp Act, were brought before the Council.

Resolved: That a Committee be appointed to consider whether any means might be advantageously adopted by the Government or other public body to ascertain and certify the composition and quality of patent and manufactured medicines, of unofficinal and also of officinal drugs, and of all drugs dispensed under the prescriptions of registered medical practitioners; that the Committee report to the Council at the meeting in January 1885.

Resolved: That the Committee consist of the gentlemen whose names are as follows, viz.: Dr. Bushell Anningson, Dr. Parsons, Dr. Elliston, Dr. Davidson, Dr. Markham Skerritt, Dr. Grigg, Dr. Withers Moore, Dr. Mahomed.

The applications of 109 candidates were then considered, and an application was found not to be in accordance with the By-Laws.

Resolved: That the remaining 108 candidates, whose names appear on the circular convening the meeting, be, and they are hereby, elected members of the Association.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Journal and Finance Committee of to-day's date, together with those of the Premises Subcommittee of the 14th instant, be approved, and the recommendations contained therein be carried into effect.

The minutes of the Journal and Finance Committee contain particulars of the accounts for the quarter ending 30th September last, amounting to £4,680 4s. 11d.; financial statement of Investigation Committee, showing a net expenditure for the year of £549 19s. 7d.; and a special grant to the Scientific Grants Committee of £100.

Resolved: That Messrs. Price, Waterhouse, and Co. be appointed Auditors for the ensuing twelve months.

Resolved: That Professor Humphry, Dr. Alfred Carpenter, Dr. George Duffey, Dr. Balthazar Foster, Mr. Macnamara, Dr. Mahomed, Dr. Alfred Sheen, together with those members added by the Committee, namely, Dr. R. L. Bowles, Dr. Dyce Duckworth, Dr. Herringham, Dr. Leech, Dr. Robert Saundby, Mr. T. R. Jessop, Dr. Bridgwater, and Mr. Arthur Jackson, be appointed the Committee for the Collective Investigation of Disease for the ensuing twelve months.

Resolved: That, on the nomination of the Collective Investigation Committee, Dr. Isambard Owen be appointed Secretary of the Collective Investigation Committee, in the place of Dr. Herringham, resigned.

Resolved: That the Annual Meeting be held on the 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st July next.

Resolved: That there be three addresses.

Resolved: That the subjects be Surgery, Therapeutics, and Public Health.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Arrangement Committee of the 14th instant be approved, and the recommendations contained therein be carried into effect.

The minutes of the Arrangement Committee contain the appointments and arrangement of meetings of the annual meeting at Cardiff.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Scientific Grants Committee of the 14th instant be approved, and the recommendations contained therein be carried into effect.

The minutes of the Scientific Grants Committee contain the distribution of the remainder of the amounts granted at the annual meeting of £200, and a request for a special grant of £100 for investigating the methods for conferring immunity from infection, by Mr. Dowdeswell.

## SHROPSHIRE AND MID-WALES BRANCH: QUARTERLY MEETING.

A QUARTERLY meeting of the Branch took place at the Wynnstay Arms Hotel, Oswestry, on Tuesday, October 21st. Twelve members were present.

*Collective Investigation.*—Mr. W. A. A. Lewis, of Oswestry, was unanimously elected Honorary Secretary to the Local Committee of Collective Investigation, in place of Dr. Packer, resigned.

*New Members.*—The following members of the Association were duly elected members of the Branch: George John Morgan, Kinnerley; Highbett Philip Westbury, Ruyton-Eleven-Towns; John Ferguson Macgregor, Oswestry.

*Medical Sickness, Annuity, and Life-Assurance Society.*—The PRESIDENT brought forward the aims and objects of the Medical Sickness, Annuity, and Life-Assurance Society, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted.

"That this Branch cordially approves of the formation of the Medical Sickness, Annuity, and Life-Assurance Society, and especially recommends it to the favourable consideration of the members of this Branch of the Association."

*Papers.*—The following were read.

1. Mr. CARTWRIGHT (Oswestry) read the notes of a case of Sarcoma, upon which he had operated. He also showed a section of the tumour under the microscope. He said that the points of interest in the case were, that there was no history of cancer or tumours in the patient's family; that the tumour for a time appeared to diminish under the external and internal use of iodide of potassium; that the patient had not received any injury; the slowness of growth, namely, three years; and that there was no indication of recurrence, although eight months had elapsed since removal.

2. Mr. CORKE read the notes of a case of Hernia in a Child five years old, upon which he had operated by opening the sac; also the history of another case of hernia in a male adult, aged 49, upon which he had performed the operation for radical cure by Wood's method. The latter case had only recently been operated upon, so that it was impossible to state whether the case would prove to be of permanent advantage to the patient.

3. Dr. ANDREW opened a discussion upon the Use of Deodorants in Surgical Practice. He had come to the conclusion that sanitas and iodoform (mixed with glycerine) were superior to all others; the only fear in the use of the latter being the risk of absorption.—Dr. SANKEY stated that, in his opinion, nitrate of lead was superior to all deodorants. He found that nearly all noxious odours were due to the decomposition of sulphur, and its union with hydrogen. He had also used the acetate of lead with advantage.—Mr. HUMPHREYS stated that he had seen several cases in hospital practice where iodoform had been used, and in which the symptoms as of an irritant poison were set up by its action.—Several other members spoke upon the general question.

*Dinner.*—The members afterwards dined together at the hotel.

#### LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH: INTERMEDIATE MEETING.

THE second intermediate meeting of this Branch, for 1884, was held at the Royal Lunatic Asylum, Cheadle, near Manchester, on Friday, October 10th, at 2.30 P.M.; Dr. WILLIAM CARTER, Vice-President, in the chair.

*Papers, etc.*—The following communications were made.

1. Dr. BARRON read the notes of a case of Acute Cerebral Meningitis, due to excessive school-work. The reading of this communication was followed by a lively discussion on overpressure in schools, in which the Chairman, Dr. Whittle, Dr. Emrys-Jones, Dr. Dreschfeld, Mr. Berry, Mr. Meacham, Dr. Strehill-Wright, and Mr. Mould took part.

2. Dr. C. J. Renshaw (Ashton-on-Mersey) read a paper on Diphtheria, together with the results of collective investigation.

3. Dr. Sinclair showed and described an apparatus for Continuous Irrigation in Chronic Cystitis.

4. Dr. Mallett (Bolton) showed a child, suffering from Scleroderma in the second stage.

5. Dr. Crutchley (Alsager) showed two rare cases of Tracheal Stenosis, and one of Primary Epithelioma of the Larynx.

6. Dr. Dreschfeld related the particulars of a fatal case of Syphilitic Stenosis of the Trachea, and showed the specimen.

7. Dr. De Vere Hunt described a concise form of Bookkeeping suitable for general practitioners, to which he had given the name of the Bolton Medical Daybook.

8. Dr. Brooke gave a demonstration of Models of Skin-Disease, and

9. Dr. Raiton exhibited a specimen of Acute Yellow Atrophy of the Liver.

*Dinner, etc.*—By the kindness of Mr. Mould, the whole asylum was thrown open to the inspection of the members. A light luncheon was provided by the visiting physician and medical superintendent, at 2 P.M.; and, after the meeting, one hundred and thirty-four members sat down, under the presidency of Dr. Waters of Chester, to an excellent dinner, served in the fine new ball-room of the asylum, to which the members of the Branch had been specially invited by the visiting physicians and medical superintendent of the asylum. After the usual loyal toasts, Dr. Waters proposed the health of "Our Hosts," which was responded to by Dr. Simpson, Dr. Morgan, Dr. Leech, Dr. Dreschfeld, and Mr. Mould. The Chairman then proposed the toast of the British Medical Association and its Lancashire and Cheshire Branch, which was responded to by Dr. Glascott, the Honorary Secretary.

#### SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST AND WEST KENT DISTRICTS.

A CONJOINT meeting of the East and West Kent Districts of the above Branch was held at Canterbury on Friday, October 3rd.

*Visit to the Cathedral.*—After lunch, with the President, Dr. Gogarty, the members proceeded to the Cathedral, where, through the kindness of the Dean, Mr. J. B. Sheppard, M.R.C.S., the keeper of the Chapter Records, was in attendance, as guide, to conduct them over the remains of the Benedictine Monastery of Christ Church, Prior Wybert's water-supply and the "Necessarium" of the convent were inspected; and the monastic obituary in the Cathedral Library was examined and explained by Mr. Sheppard, who showed also that

considerable remains of the infirmary were still standing, and drew attention to the windows containing contemporary pictures of the miracles worked by the body of St. Thomas à Becket within the first fifty years after his death.

*The Ventilation and Management of Sewers.*—Mr. ADAMS (Maidstone) read a paper on this subject, reopening the discussion adjourned from the conjoint meeting of the same Districts held at Folkestone in September 1882. He also exhibited an instrument he had designed for the chemical examination of sewer-air and other gases, whereby a quantitative determination of their quality was obtained. Mr. Adams considered the water-carriage system as a whole under, 1, water-supply; 2, the private house-drains; and 3, the public sewers, comparing the water-supply to the arterial, and the sewage to the venous portions of a circulation similar to that of the blood in our bodies. Stagnation in one or other part caused a stench, and this would arise from one or both of two causes: a, faults of design or work in the "house-drains" themselves; b, insufficient water-flush at the house-extremities of the drains. Finally, he said: "the ventilator-nuisance is inescapable till the facts mentioned are recognised and acted upon in such a way that the private drains and water-closet connections, etc., are entirely reorganised, and kept under strict official inspection by the public sewer administrators." An animated discussion ensued on the advantages and disadvantages of open gratings and tubes as ventilators, which summed itself up into the dictum that "pure drains would require no ventilators;" our main sewers were, as a rule, too large, and our flushing power altogether inefficient and inadequate.

*Dinner.*—The members afterwards dined together at the Royal Fountain Hotel.

#### METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.

THE first meeting was held at Hackney Town Hall on October 16th, Mr. MACNAMARA, President of the Branch, in the chair. Forty members and visitors were present.

*Paper.*—Dr. ROBERT BARNES read a paper on Puerperal Fever. A discussion followed, in which Drs. Daly, Aveling, Gilbert, Chalmers, Brunton, Diver, Morison, and Grigg took part. It seemed to be the general opinion that, while puerperal patients, owing to the greater attention paid them by their attendants, were more liable than others to take the infection of the acute specific diseases, yet such diseases only reproduced themselves, and not true puerperal fever; the latter disease being considered, by more than one speaker, to be erysipelatous in nature. One speaker related that he had introduced his hand and arm, covered with a scarlet fever eruption, into the uterus to remove an adherent placenta, without any harm ensuing. The usual notes of thanks were warmly accorded to Dr. Barnes, and the chairman brought the meeting to a conclusion.

#### NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH: AUTUMNAL MEETING.

THE autumnal meeting of this Branch was held in the Town Hall, Morpeth, on Tuesday, September 30th, 1884; the President, Dr. MUNRO, in the chair.

*New Member.*—Dr. Gordon Black, of Harrogate, was unanimously elected a member of the Branch.

*Papers.*—The following papers were read:

1. Dr. E. W. Forster (Darlington), on the Basis of Therapeutics.  
2. Mr. G. E. Williamson (Newcastle), Remarks upon Squint.  
3. Dr. Drummond (Newcastle), on Some of the Difficulties Attending the Localisation of Brain-Lesions, with drawings and specimens. A discussion followed, in which the President, and Drs. Philipson and McDowall took part. Dr. Drummond replied.

*Dinner.*—After the meeting, the members dined together at the Newcastle Hotel, Morpeth, the President occupying the chair.

*BEQUESTS AND DONATIONS.*—The Eye Hospital, Birmingham, has received £1,098 18s. 11d., under the will of Mr. John Green.—The Sheffield General Infirmary has received £1,000, under the will of Mr. John Newton Mappin.—Mr. Henry E. Murrell has given £750 to the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic.—The Duke of Westminster (the president) has sent £500 to the Chester Infirmary, being the produce of one year's admission-money for inspecting his residence, Eaton Hall.—The National Hospital for Consumption at Ventnor has received £340, additional (being part of £2,000), from "Anonymous," in memory of C. A. and M.; and 200 guineas from three Sisters, in memory of T. H.—The Viscountess Ossington (Mrs. Alexander H. Ross, M.P.) has given £100, and Miss Priestley £50, to the Middlesex Hospital, in aid of the fund for the new buildings.

As regards the concluding inquiry, "What good the plaster-jacket did?" I would say that the effort was made at first to correct the deformity by the addition of the thick sole and gymnastic exercise alone, but that experience of a month's treatment showed that the girl failed to improve as rapidly as she ought, and that, therefore, the corset was added in order to retain her in a correct position while at her hard factory-work, and that it did the good of placing her, at the end of ten weeks, in the position shown in Fig. 6. And the testimony of the patient herself, as regards the relief she experienced (while wearing the corset) from pain in her back, and sense of weariness and fatigue, is sufficient evidence of its necessity in these cases.—Yours respectfully,

285, Fifth Avenue, New York.

LEWIS A. SAYRE, M.D.

#### THE COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE.

SIR,—From a paragraph in the JOURNAL of October 18th, I observe that the Collective Investigation Committee have appointed Dr. Isambard Owen as Dr. Herringham's successor, in the secretaryship of that Committee.

From the time that Dr. Herringham informed us that he was about to resign, which he did at the Belfast meeting, I have been expecting to see some announcement of the vacancy, and an advertisement for applications for the post; but, so far as I am aware, the paragraph to which I refer is the first intimation that has been made in the JOURNAL with regard to the vacancy. Whether our representative Council think it is right that such a vacancy should be filled up in this way, I cannot tell; but, having taken an interest in such work, even before our Collective Investigation Committee was formed, and having endeavoured to master the method pursued by our Committee in its work, I feel sure that the Committee will do no good, until the responsibility for the reports which it issues is settled on one individual; and who should bear the responsibility but the secretary? At present no one is responsible; and so I have no hesitation in saying, after careful perusal of the reports already published, that that on phthisis was of very little scientific value, while that on pneumonia is, to say the least, absolutely worthless. I believe I read that Dr. Isambard Owen accompanied Dr. Mahomed to Copenhagen, and was there appointed English Secretary to the International Collective Investigation Committee. Whether it is advisable that the same gentleman should hold both appointments, is a point on which no doubt opinions will vary; but I feel sure that every member will join me in the hope, that the reports submitted during our fourth secretary's tenure of office, may show that the work is improving as it proceeds.—I am, etc.,

JOHN HADDON.

#### THE LATE MR. SAMUEL RABBETH.

SIR,—I have not the slightest doubt but that many persons have expressed a hope, among their friends, that some tribute should be offered to the memory of the late Mr. Samuel Rabbeth, and I also feel perfectly sure that many of his fellow students have, long ere these words will reach you, been considering in what manner they can best perpetuate his memory. Doubtless with a desire not to appear to initiate this question of their sympathy, his professional brethren and medical students have refrained from appealing, through the medium of the press, for a fund to carry out this object, and as I have not seen any suggestion to this end, in the last issue of the medical journals, I feel, as a layman, that I am not out of place in venturing to introduce the subject to you and your readers. Would it not be a graceful tribute to found a scholarship at the hospital in which Mr. Rabbeth pursued his studies, to be named the "Rabbeth Scholarship?" I do not hesitate to believe that a very substantial one would, in a short space of time, be raised, and that numbers, like myself, would take it as a privilege in having an opportunity of subscribing to it.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

The Green, Southgate, N.

RICHARD KERSEAW.

[Such a memorial should not be confined to the members of the medical profession—Ed. B.M.J.]

## UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

#### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

NEW APPOINTMENTS.—The following appointments are announced: Dr. Donald MacAlister to be the University Lecturer in Medicine; Dr. Robert Nicholls Ingle to be the University Lecturer in Midwifery; Dr. Bashell Anningson to be the University Lecturer in Medical Jurisprudence.

## MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

### REVISED RULES FOR THE EXAMINATIONS OF SURGEONS AND SURGEONS-MAJOR IN THE ARMY.

WE have received a copy of the revised regulations in regard to the examination of surgeons and surgeons-major of the medical staff of the army. They are ordered to be substituted for the regulations which were issued as an Army Circular on the 1st of August last.

There is no important change in the rules for the examination of medical officers of the surgeon's grade. The subjects of examination are precisely the same as they were in the original circular; nor is there any change as regards the certificate required concerning operative surgery, or the terms on which the surgeon is to send in a report on some subject of practical professional character, which he himself may select. But the limit of time at which the surgeons may obtain qualifications entitling them to exemption from examination in medicine, surgery, and hygiene, is discontinued. According to the original regulations, any surgeons possessing the Fellowship of a College of Physicians or Surgeons of Great Britain or Ireland, or the diploma in Hygiene and State Medicine of any university in Great Britain or Ireland, would only be exempted from examination in medicine, surgery, and hygiene respectively, on condition that their qualifications in these subjects had been obtained at least five years subsequently to their entry into the service. By the new regulations, the qualifications mentioned will be accepted in lieu of an examination on their respective subjects, without any proviso as to the time at which they were obtained. No doubt, the limited period named in the former rules was inserted with the object of insuring recent knowledge on the subjects referred to, but the authorities appear to us to have acted wisely in removing the limitation.

There are several alterations in the regulations for the examination of surgeons-major prior to their promotion to the grade of brigade-surgeon. The heading of the part of the circular referring to this examination, which in the former circular was "Rules for the examination of Surgeons-Major of twenty or more years' service," is now simply "Rules for the optional examination of Surgeons-Major." It thus appears that the examination of the surgeons-major may be carried out at any period of their service in this rank. No change is mentioned in the general conditions under which surgeons-major are to be selected for the administrative ranks. The selection is to be made on the grounds of ability and merit; and, in determining these grounds, various points named in the circular are to be taken into account. The surgeon-major must have been favourably reported on by the several military and departmental officers under whom he has served; he must be physically fit for general duty, and have the necessary qualifying foreign and Indian service; and he must establish before an examining board his efficiency in the subjects laid down in the examination-rules. These subjects are, with one exception, the same in the revised regulations as they were in the former regulations. The exception is that, in the original rules, it was mentioned that questions on operative surgery and practical medicine would form part of the examination, while, in the revised rules, this notice is omitted, and only those medical officers who have not passed an examination prior to obtaining the rank of surgeon-major, will be liable to be examined in operative surgery and practical medicine. It is understood that the new rule will restrict this portion of the examination to a minority of the surgeons-major, and that these will be the juniors of the rank. At the same time, they, equally with the surgeons, will be exempted from examination in medicine, surgery, and hygiene, if they possess the qualifications in these subjects which have been named in the earlier part of this analysis. There is a further clause, which did not appear in the original rules, that any medical officers who are promoted for distinguished professional service, whatever may be their grades, will be exempt from examination.

The general regulations regarding the manner in which the examinations are to be conducted have not undergone any change; they are expressed in the same terms both in the previous and in the present circulars.

#### ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE.

DEPUTY SURGEON-GENERAL R. WEBB has been posted to the administrative medical charge of the Allahabad Division, *vice* Deputy-Surgeon J. Hendley, C.B., who has been ordered to return to England in anticipation of his promotion.

Surgeons-major W. E. Dudley, and H. C. Gillespie, M.D., have been granted retired pay with the rank of Brigade-Surgeon. Mr. Dudley, *Hart's Army List* says, "served with the 3rd Buffs in the 'Zulu' war

recently received reports from Madeira as to the quarantine regulations of the Portuguese Government involving loss of life to British seamen, especially with reference to the cases of the steamship *Plessy*, and the barque *Valetta*; and whether Her Majesty's Government, in the event of the Portuguese Government declining to abolish altogether the vexatious and absurd restrictions placed on vessels direct from English ports, would impress upon the Government of Portugal the necessity of at once opening the existing excellent lazaretto at Madeira. —Lord E. FITZMAURICE: Her Majesty's Consul at Madeira has furnished reports on the cases to which the hon. member refers. Her Majesty's Government regret that, notwithstanding the strongest remonstrances, the Portuguese and other Governments continue to maintain a stringent quarantine system; but attention will at once be called to the importance of opening the lazaretto at Madeira.

*Alleged Outbreak of Cholera in Normandy.*—Sir W. BARTELOTT asked the right hon. gentleman the President of the Local Government Board whether he could give the House any information as to the disease which had broken out at Yport; and, if that disease were cholera, as to what steps had been taken to prevent it spreading to this country.—Sir C. DILKE was understood to say that information with regard to the nature of the outbreak had been asked for by the Medical Department, and partial information had been already obtained. With regard to steps to prevent cholera from spreading to this country, the most complete examination of the ports had been made in advance during the last four months, and all the regulations that were in force, and which successfully prevented the last epidemic of cholera in Northern Europe from spreading to this country, were in force at the present time, and had been improved, probably, by experience; and they had been supplemented by the examination of the ports to which he had referred.

## OBITUARY.

WILLIAM BATES, M.R.C.S., BIRMINGHAM.

WE record with regret the death of Mr. William Bates, which occurred at his residence in Birmingham on September 25th. Mr. Bates appeared to be in his usual good health until four days before his death, when he had an apoplectic seizure, after which he never regained consciousness. Graduating in arts at the University of London, in 1857, he devoted his earlier years to literary pursuits, and held the post of Professor of Classics in the old Sydenham Medical College at Birmingham. Entering the medical profession late in life, he was admitted a member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1874; he was shortly afterwards appointed Medical Officer to the Birmingham Borough Fever Hospital, where he discharged his onerous duties with devoted fidelity until his resignation, a few months ago. Upon the union of Sydenham College with the Queen's College, Mr. Bates was elected Professor of Classics in the latter institution, and this office he held until his death.

JOHN NIVEN, M.D. Ed., L.R.C.S. Ed.

THE announcement of the death of Dr. John Niven, of Edinburgh, will be received with regret by a large circle of friends, to whom he had endeared himself by his many good qualities. Dr. Niven, though he had not attained the three score years and ten, was yet one of the oldest practising physicians in Edinburgh, and was busy among his patients till within a fortnight of his death. In early life, he had travelled much, and was regarded as a well read man. Since a serious illness, some years ago, he mixed but little in society, but passed a great portion of his leisure among his books, in which he took a genuine pleasure.

## INDIA AND THE COLONIES.

**ENTERIC FEVER AT BANGALORE.**—Enteric fever has, the *Indian Medical Gazette* states, again made its appearance among the European troops at Bangalore. The *Madras Times* states that Dr. Martin, senior surgeon of the South Station Hospital, is of opinion that the present outbreak is due to the fact that the men are supplied with un-boiled and probably polluted water whilst engaged in their stable duties, when they are served by *bhistis* directly from their leather bags or casks. The water served in the barracks is duly filtered and boiled, in accordance with the instructions recently issued; but it would appear that, in the stables, less care is taken, and the men often drink unwholesome water supplied in the manner just indicated. It has, therefore, been found necessary to adopt special steps to pro-

vide water of good quality in the stables as well. For this purpose, an additional sum of money has been sanctioned for the purchase of sufficient fuel to boil the extra quantity of water that will be required.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.**—The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations, were admitted Licentiates in Dental Surgery at a meeting of the Board on the 29th ultimo.

Messrs. W. R. Ackland, Exeter; J. C. V. Crocker, Penzance; P. G. Levason, Hereford; H. S. Parkinson, Sackville Street, W.; and C. A. Roberts, Weymouth Street, W.

At the pass-examinations for the diploma of membership of the Royal College of Surgeons, which were brought to a close on the 24th ultimo, 125 candidates had been examined, against 129 in the corresponding period last year. Of this number, 31 were referred for six months, and 18 for three months.

**KING AND QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS IN IRELAND.**—At the monthly examinations for the Licences of the College, held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, October 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th, 1884, the following candidates were successful.

For the *Licences to practise Medicine and Midwifery*.—M. E. Dowson, London; S. S. Harwood, M.D. Univ. Pennsylvania, Sydney, N.S.W.

For the *Licence to practise Midwifery only*.—E. Bell, M.D. R.U.I., Moneymore, co. Derry; N. C. Ferguson, M.B. Univ. Dub., Dublin; A. P. H. Moore, M.D. R.U.I., Belfast; R. T. A. O'Callaghan, Bagenalstown, co. Carlow.

The following Licentiates in Medicine of the College, having complied with the by-laws relating to membership, pursuant to the Supplemental Charter of December 12th, 1878, have been duly enrolled Members of the College.

A. Fry, Lic. Med. 1845, Mount Alton, Templeogue, co. Dublin; J. P. Ryan, Lic. Med. 1866, Melbourne; R. H. Robinson, Lic. Med. 1867, Surgeon-Major, Army; M. A. Boyd, Lic. Med. 1869, 90, Upper George's Street, Kingstown; J. S. Kennefick, Lic. Med. 1870, Clonmel, co. Tipperary; H. W. B. Boyd, Lic. Med. 1872, Surgeon, Bombay Army; S. Keays, Lic. Med. 1876, Surgeon, R.N.; J. A. Frend, Lic. Med. 1877, Rosario, Argentine Republic; E. D. O'Neill, Lic. Med. 1878, Richmond Lunatic Asylum.

**ROYAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND.**—M.B. Examination.—The following candidates have been placed in the Upper Pass Division, and those marked with an asterisk have been admitted to a further Examination for Honours.

\*W. Bartley, R. A. Carter, M. Connery, C. J. Cooke, \*J. T. Daly, C. R. Elliott, T. Frizell, \*T. Grainger, \*B. Hosford, \*J. Kearney, \*P. A. M'Carthy, \*R. J. Macnamara, \*J. Morwood, \*D. Sheahan, \*W. White.

The following candidates have passed the examination.

W. F. Bailey, P. Blackall, A. Blackwood, F. J. Burns, G. Clarke, J. N. Corbett, P. G. Cotter, W. R. Crooke, J. C. Ferguson, J. Giusani, C. H. P. D. Graves, E. Greene, C. Hayden, P. J. Horkan, S. R. Hunter, H. Lewers, M. E. Loudon, J. M'Avoy, N. J. M'Donnell, J. B. M'Kay, M. M'Swiney, E. Magennis, J. F. Magner, D. C. Martin, J. Moore, H. S. Morrison, C. O'Doherty, M. O'Halloran, P. J. O'Hara, J. J. Prendergast, F. C. Sinclair, A. J. Smith, P. J. Soraghan, E. A. Starling, G. S. Tate, W. A. Wadsworth, G. A. Waters, G. N. Wynne.

**Degree of Master of Surgery.**—The following have passed the examination.

W. F. Bailey, W. Bartley, P. Blackall, A. Blackwood, R. A. Carter, G. Clarke, M. Connery, C. J. Cooke, J. N. Corbett, P. G. Cotter, W. R. Crooke, J. T. Daly, C. R. Elliott, J. Fairbrother, M.D., J. C. Ferguson, T. Frizell, J. Giusani, T. Grainger, C. H. P. D. Graves, E. Greene, C. Hayden, P. J. Horkan, B. Hosford, J. F. Hunter, M.D., S. R. Hunter, J. Kearney, J. D. Kenny, M.D., H. Lewers, M. E. Loudon, J. A. M. Macaulay, M.D., M. M'Avoy, M.D., J. M'Avoy, P. A. M'Carthy, N. J. M'Donnell, J. B. M'Kay, R. J. Macnamara, W. N. M'William, M.D., J. F. Magner, W. A. P. Martin, M.D., J. Morwood, J. O'Connell, M.D., C. O'Doherty, M. O'Halloran, P. J. O'Hara, D. Sheahan, A. J. Smith, P. J. Soraghan, E. A. Starling, G. S. Tate, G. A. Waters, W. White, G. N. Wynne.

**Diploma in Obstetrics.**—The following have passed.

P. Blackall, A. Blackwood, J. W. Bullen, P. G. Cotter, C. R. Elliott, J. C. Ferguson, J. Giusani, T. Grainger, S. Hamilton, B. Hosford, J. Kearney, H. Lewers, J. M'Avoy, P. A. M'Carthy, N. J. M'Donnell, J. F. Magner, J. Morwood, C. O'Doherty, M. O'Halloran, D. Sheahan, A. J. Smith, E. A. Starling, W. White.

**APOTHECARIES' HALL.**—The following gentlemen passed their Examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, October 23rd, 1884.

Best, William James, Richmond House, Queenstown Road, Clapton, E. Jones, John Arnallt, Abergweyn Vicarage, Llanwrtyd, Brecon. Lloyd, Henry, Llanrhaidar, Denbigh. McDonnell, Alexander, 418, Kingsland Road, E. Trouson, William Francis, 9, Oxford Gardens, W. Williams, Reginald Musio, Trocassell, Beaumaris, Anglesea.



The following medals have been awarded by the Society during the past year. In Materia Medica and Pharmaceutical Chemistry.

Gold Medal to John Henry Garrett, of University College.  
Silver Medal and Books to Henry Hamilton, of the Bristol Medical School.

#### In Botany.

Gold Medal to Ernest Henry Starling, of Guy's Hospital.  
Silver Medal and Books to William Becroft Bottomley, of St. Mary's Hospital.

*Young Women.*

Gold Medal to Bertha Whitehead.  
Silver Medal to Sarah Elizabeth Wright.

The Society's Gardens at Chelsea have been visited during the year by 3,248 students, of whom three-fifths were males, and the rest females.

#### MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced.

- ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS, Earlswood, Redhill.—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications by November 1st.
- BRISTOL LUNATIC ASYLUM.—Temporary Medical Assistant. Applications to the Chairman of the Committee of Visitors, Council House, Bristol.
- BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY.—Assistant Resident Officer and Pathologist. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications by November 24th.
- CANCER HOSPITAL, Fulham Road, Brompton, S.W.—Honorary Surgeon and Honorary Assistant-Surgeon. Applications to the Chairman of the Weekly Board by November 11th.
- CANCER HOSPITAL, Fulham Road, Brompton, S.W.—Clinical Clerk and Dresser for six months: £20 for the term. Applications to the Chairman of the Weekly Board by November 4th.
- CARRICK-ON-SUIR UNION.—Medical Officer, Piltown Dispensary. Salary, £120 per annum, and fees. Applications to H. Villiers Stuart, Honorary Secretary, Belline, by November 6th.
- CRICHTON ROYAL INSTITUTION, Dumfries.—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications to Dr. Rutherford.
- DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON, AND LONDON SCHOOL OF DENTAL SURGERY, Leicester Square.—Lecturer on Dental Surgery and Pathology. Applications by November 10th.
- DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON, AND LONDON SCHOOL OF DENTAL SURGERY, Leicester Square.—Demonstrator of Non-Cohesive Fillings. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications by December 8th.
- EASTERN COUNTIES ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS, Colchester.—Resident Medical Attendant. Salary £100 per annum. Applications by November 1st.
- EAST GRINSTEAD LOCAL BOARD.—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £20 per annum. Applications by November 1st.
- GATESHEAD DISPENSARY.—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £210 per annum. Applications to Mr. Joseph Jordan, 2, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
- LONDON HOSPITAL, Whitechapel, E.—Honorary Assistant Surgeon. Applications by November 24th.
- MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY.—Resident Medical Officer of the Convalescent Hospital at Cheadle. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications by November 8th.
- NORTH RIDING INFIRMARY, Middlesbrough-on-Tees.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by November 3rd.
- PARISH OF LOCHS, Stornoway.—Medical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications to the Inspector of Poor, by November 20th.
- PAROCHIAL BOARD OF NEW ABBEY.—Salary, £40 per annum. Applications to Captain Stewart, Shaumbelle, New Abbey, Dumfries, by November 10th.
- ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.—Junior Resident Medical Officer. Applications by November 5th.
- ROYAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, Blomfield Street, Moorfields.—Assistant Surgeon. Applications by November 8th.
- SOUTH LONDON MEDICAL AID INSTITUTE, 300, Waterloo Road, S.E.—Two Medical Officers.
- ST. PATRICK'S HOSPITAL.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £300 per annum. Applications to the Chairman of the Board of Governors.
- TORBAY HOSPITAL AND PROVIDENT DISPENSARY, Torquay. Senior House-Surgeon and Senior Provident Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by November 22nd.

#### MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

- ADDENBROOKE, E. H., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., appointed Certifying Surgeon under the Factory Act for the District of Kidderminster, *vice* Wm. Roden, M.D., deceased.
- ARMITAGE, E. H., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Hulme Dispensary, *vice* J. B. Dreaper, M.R.C.S.Eng., resigned.
- CALEB, Clement C., M.B., M.R.C.S., appointed House-Physician to the North London Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, Hampstead.
- DREAPER, J. B., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Hulme Dispensary, Manchester, *vice* A. J. Neale, M.B., C.M. Edin., resigned.
- DWYER, F. Conway, M.D., appointed House-Surgeon to the Mater Misericordie Hospital, *vice* E. J. Cruise, L.R.C.S.I., resigned.
- HARRIDGE, Gustavus, F.R.C.S., appointed Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Chatham, *vice* Henry Power, F.R.C.S., resigned.
- SHACKLETON, Edmund, L.K.Q.C.P.L., L.R.C.S.I., appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the South Norwood District, Croydon Union, *vice* W. Milligan, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Edin., resigned.
- SHAW, H. C. C., M.R.C.S., appointed House-Surgeon to the Richmond Hospital, Surrey, *vice* A. L. Copner, L.R.C.P., resigned.
- STEELE, Richard, M.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P. Edin., appointed Visiting Medical Officer to the Cottage Homes for Children, Leicester Union.

- TOMKINS, H. H., M.R.C.S., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Gloucester County Asylum.
- TREVES, Edward, M.R.C.S., appointed additional Honorary Surgeon to the Throat and Ear Dispensary, Brighton.
- WALLER, Charles B., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., appointed House-Surgeon to the Westminster Hospital, *vice* A. Scanlan, resigned.
- WEBB, Malcolm, M.B. Lond., M.R.C.S., appointed Resident Medical Officer of the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, *vice* David Grant, M.B. Edin., resigned.
- WILSON, G. J., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., appointed House-Surgeon to the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.

#### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 3s. 6d., which should be forwarded in stamps with the announcements.

##### BIRTH.

WEBB.—October 21st, at Cheadle, Staffordshire, the wife of H. Langley Webb, M.R.C.S.E., of a son.

##### DEATHS.

- BARHAM.—On October 20th, at Truro, Charles Barham, M.D., aged 80.
- BURTONSHAW.—October 23rd, at Rochester, John Dan Brown, M.D., aged 66.
- BURTONSHAW.—On Tuesday, October 21st, at 43, De Beauvoir Road, N., Thomas Burtonshaw, M.R.C.S., aged 32.
- GILSON.—October 19th, at 50, Prospect Street, Hull, aged 71 years, Henry Gilson, M.R.C.S.E.
- SHEEHY.—On October 24th, at his residence, 39, Great Percy Street, W.C., William Henry Sheehy, L.R.C.P. Edin., etc., late of Claremont Square, in his sixty-fifth year.

#### OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

- MONDAY.....St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—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.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.
- TUESDAY .....St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—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 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.—Chelsea Hospital for Women, 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, 11 A.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.

#### MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

- MONDAY.—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. General meeting. Mr. Edmund Owen: On Lancing the Gums. Dr. de Havilland Hall: A Case of Surgical Scarlet Fever.—Odontological Society of Great Britain, 8 P.M. Casual communications by Messrs. Ackery, A. S. Underwood, Storer Bennett, Morton Smale. Paper by Mr. F. Newland Pedley: Some Points in connection with Fracture of the Lower Maxilla.
- TUESDAY.—Pathological Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Hale White: Coarctation of the Aorta. Drs. Hobson and Lanchester: Caseous Pneumonia simulating Empyema. Mr. Barker: Removal of Upper Jaw for Epithelioma. Dr. Percy Kidd: Cardiac Aneurysms. Dr. Howard Tooth: Lymphosarcoma of the Liver in a Child. Dr. Carrington: Cancer of the Liver and Adrenals, with Melanemia, etc. Dr. Acland: Two Cases of Ulceration of the Intestines in Paraplegia.
- WEDNESDAY.—Obstetrical Society of London, 8 P.M. Specimens will be shown by Mr. Lawson Tait and others. Dr. Graily Hewitt: On the Severe or So-called Uncontrollable Vomiting of Pregnancy. Dr. Potter: On a Case of Retained Product of Conception.—Medico-Psychological Association, 3.30 P.M. Council meeting.—4 P.M. Quarterly meeting. Dr. A. H. Newth: The Value of Electricity in the Treatment of Insanity.
- THURSDAY.—Harveian Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Clinical evening. Dr. Stephen Mackenzie: Two Cases of Lichen Planus of Nervous Distribution. Mr. J. H. Morgan: Cases of Painful Mamma in Young Girls. Mr. R. F. Benham will bring forward: (a) A New Antiseptic Vapouriser; (b) Improvements in Syringes. Dr. Anand Routh: Cases of Retroversion of the Gravid Uterus.
- FRIDAY.—West London Medico-Chirurgical Society, 8 P.M. Mr. Bernard Pitts: Foreign Body in the Air-passage: Abscess of the Lung: Recovery. Mr. Maitland Thompson: Case of Retention (Twenty-four Hours): Catheter-Fever: Death. Mr. Noble Smith: The Objects of the Medical Sickness, Annuity, and Life Assurance Society. Dr. Charles Good: Gastric Ulcer: Rupture: Sudden Death.

## 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.

In order to avoid delay, it is particularly requested that all letters on the editorial business of the JOURNAL should be addressed to the Editor at the office of the JOURNAL, and not to his private house.

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

### TRAINING OF NURSES.

SIR,—I had hoped that a far abler pen than mine would have continued the correspondence which had been commenced in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL on the subject of the training of nurses; but as I see no one has addressed you on this matter in the current number, I should like to do so.

It is a matter of great importance that every facility should be granted for the training of nurses, if both rich and poor are to be adequately provided with skilled attendance in sickness. I wish more particularly to refer to the training of ladies; and by this I mean all those women who have been so reared that they have not been accustomed to perform menial offices. There are very many such, who, from various causes, either from wishing to earn a livelihood in this way, or from a longing to do good in nursing the poor, or merely from a desire to be able (should occasion arise) to nurse any sick member of their own family, are most anxious to be thoroughly trained as nurses, and who yet, under the existing rules in many hospitals, are physically unfit to go through the required course, not because they are unequal to the fatigue of the nursing, but because in addition to this they are obliged to do work which ought to be done for them by paid servants, such as cleaning furniture and cooking utensils, cutting bread and butter, etc., which cannot possibly be brought under the head of nursing, and not even of sick-cookery.

I think most people who have considered the question are agreed that the higher the social grade from which nurses are drawn, the better it is for their patients; and, if this be granted, surely the way to induce such women to be trained is not to set them a domestic servant's work to do, but, while training them most thoroughly, and testing their fitness, both as to their mental and physical capacity most scrupulously, for the hard work of nursing the sick, to render their time of training as agreeable, and, with due consideration for the perfection of the nursing proper, as free from drudgery and unpleasantness as possible.

Probably it will be said that the expense of providing additional servants to do the rough work now done by those being trained, cannot be borne by the hospitals in question. My answer is, that the charges made for training are generally too low, that a higher fee for the instruction may well be asked, and that the balance thus obtained should be spent on providing a sufficient staff of servants, and in increasing the comforts of the nurses. The aim should be to manufacture first-rate nurses, not a combination of nurse and servant; the training should be of the highest class, both practical and theoretical, as often as possible it should be in all branches, but I would not refuse to train a lady, if she wished it, in one special branch of the art, medical, surgical, or midwifery alone.

I may add that, during the past nine months, I have met with three cases of ladies, otherwise suitable for the work of nursing, who have broken down entirely under the fatigues (the unnecessary fatigues, as I maintain) of their training. I remain, sir, obediently yours, W. H. AXFORD.

Warwick House, Clarence Parade, Southsea.

### LIABILITY TO DISEASE AT ALL AGES.

SIR,—I have an abstract of Mr. Neilson's tables regarding the morbidity, or liability to disease, at different ages; but it does not give the mean liability to disease at all ages. Can you tell me, with any approximation to accuracy, how many per cent. of all ages may be expected to be ill per annum?—Yours, etc., J. S.

"Illness" is a term of somewhat indefinite meaning. Presuming, however, that our correspondent means incapacitating illness, it may be stated that the late Dr. William Farr estimated that there are two persons constantly sick to every death that occurs, for there is an undoubtedly constant relation between the number of deaths occurring in a population and the amount of incapacitating illness.

### EAR-TUBES.

SIR,—We beg to call your attention to a slight error in the notice you published of ear-tubes in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of October 18th. You there say: "the prices of these tubes are 4s. 9d. and 5s., post paid." This should read thus: "The prices of these tubes are 5s. and 7s., the former being for the short tube, post paid, and the latter for the longer tubes securely packed for rail." By making this correction, you will confer a favour on  
12, Great Portland Street, W.

CRESWICK AND CO.  
A MEMBER.

### CIVIL MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION asks if there be any book published which gives a list of the civil medical appointments under the patronage of Government, or where he can find a list of such appointments.

### WANTED, A CUPPER.

SIR,—Can any of your readers inform me, and the profession, if a cupper can still be found, or is cupping now to be counted amongst the lost arts? I believe that such cupping would be useful to  
CEREBRAL CONGESTION.

### THE DEADLY TRAP.

"WHILE good temperance people are decrying liquor," says a leading American physician, "they seldom stop to think how much harm is being done by an abuse of a beverage to which many of them are devoted. I just came from attending a case of a five-year-old babe who is ruined for life by its parents indulging in tea-drinking. The child became very nervous and dyspeptic, and they sent for me. I asked them how much tea the child drank. 'About two cups at each meal, and several between meals,' was the reply. You see," the physician continued, "they let the teapot stand on the stove all day. Thus the tannic acid is extracted, which serves to turn the linings of the stomach into leather, and brings on dyspepsia and kindred diseases. Yes, you will find hundreds of women, young girls, and aged women, and occasionally a man, who have completely ruined their nervous system by the excessive use of common tea. It would be a blessing to mankind when a temperance crusade can spare wind enough from its attack on alcohol to assail tea."

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

Dr. Walter, Manchester; Mr. James Startin, London; Mr. A. E. Tanner, Tottenham; Our Dublin Correspondent; Mr. Samuel Mitchell, Wadsley, near Sheffield; Dr. T. Cranstoun Charles, Streatham; Dr. Willoughby, London; Mr. W. Square, Plymouth; Dr. Campbell Pope, London; Dr. A. Hughes Bennett, London; Dr. Robinson, Dunsar, Bolton; Mr. W. G. Bacot, Blandford, Dorset; Our Rome Correspondent; Dr. Anningson, Cambridge; Dr. Simpson, Edinburgh; Mr. G. W. Homan, Lichfield; Dr. Richard Neale, London; Dr. Faulkner, Stretford, Manchester; Our Berlin Correspondent; Dr. Huggard, London; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Mr. E. H. Addenbrooke, Kidderminster; Dr. R. F. Starkie, London; Dr. R. Wade Savage, London; Dr. Barnes, London; Mr. A. Jackson, Sheffield; The Secretary of the Pathological Society, London; Mr. T. F. Raven, Broadstairs; Dr. Newman, Stamford; Our Liverpool Correspondent; Dr. A. Duncan, Rawal Pindi, India; Dr. Rogers, London; Dr. Charles, Cannes; Mr. G. R. Nunn, London; Mr. John M. H. Martin, Blackburn; Dr. G. G. Bantock, London; Mr. Richard Kershaw, London; Mr. Dreaper, Hulme; W. E. J. Mr. E. F. Flynn, Sunderland; Dr. Donald MacAlister, Cambridge; The Hon. J. G. Beane, Melbourne; Dr. Howden, Moutrose; Messrs. J. E. Stone and Co., Kidderminster; Mr. Simeon Snell, Sheffield; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; Mr. T. F. Tannahill, Wakefield; Mr. P. H. Walker, Prestwick; Messrs. Jeffery and Co., London; Dr. Roche, Kingstown; I. O.; Mr. W. Muir, Kirby Moorside; Mr. W. H. Axford, Southsea; Mr. Thomas Langston, London; Dr. Nicholson, Greenwich; Mr. Stanley Boyd, London; Mr. W. J. Boer, London; Mr. R. H. Wood, Rugby; Mr. D'Arcy Power, London; Messrs. J. Allen and Son, London; Dr. Fly Smith, London; Dr. Oldtmann, Maastricht; Dr. F. Conway Dyer, Dublin; Dr. Ashby, Manchester; Messrs. Pauley and Co., London; Mr. F. Shapley, Sidcup; Mr. E. A. Walker, Leamington; Mr. Harry Scott, Manchester; Dr. Rayner, Hanwell; Dr. Sayre, New York; Mr. W. P. Thornton, Canterbury; Mr. Charles Stephens, Haughley; Mr. J. B. King, Killashenden, co. Cavan; Dr. W. Ewart, London; Dr. D. Thomas, London; Dr. J. Hunt, Dalston; Mr. H. C. Alderton, Leeds; Dr. Maxwell, Bath; Mr. T. Cassan, Gainsborough; Our Birmingham Correspondent; Dr. A. Sheen, Cardiff; Mr. J. H. Williams, Southport; Dr. John Robertson, Cockermouth; Dr. Chavasse, Birmingham; Dr. Stevenson, London; Dr. J. B. Finny, Dublin; Dr. E. Gordon Hull, Alford; Mr. J. Hunt, Ross; Dr. S. West, London; Mr. T. H. Moxon, Great Yarmouth; Mr. John S. Storr, London; Dr. Lawson, Hull; Dr. C. White, Snodland; Mr. C. Gell, Birmingham; Dr. J. F. Payne, London; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Our Paris Correspondent; Dr. Campbell Black, Glasgow; Dr. C. R. Illingworth, Clayton-le-Moors; Mr. C. S. Middleton, London; Messrs. Creswick and Co., London; Our Aberdeen Correspondent; Our Manchester Correspondent; Mr. R. W. Parker, London; Dr. Thompson, Manchester; Dr. J. Althaus, London; Dr. Brailey, London; Our Belfast Correspondent, etc.

### BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

On Diseases of the Rectum and Anus. By Harrison Cripps, F.R.C.S. London: J. and A. Churchill.

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