

vision should be made for providing and appointing scrutineers to superintend the ballot at the annual election; and, in the section which deals with the meetings of Fellows and Members, a clause was inserted, "That no by-law, rule, regulation, or ordinance of the College, shall be made, altered, or revoked, without the consent of the Fellows and Members assembled at the annual general meeting specially convened for the purpose." With these exceptions, the Recommendations, as printed in our columns, were adopted; and the Committee were directed to take what steps may seem most likely to attain the objects of the Association, as set forth in the report.

The Committee accordingly met on Wednesday afternoon, and a letter was drawn up, requesting the Council to consider the Recommendations, and offering that a deputation of the Association should wait upon the Council if a further explanation of their views be desired. This letter, with a copy of the Recommendations, will be brought before the Council at an extraordinary meeting on Wednesday, November 19th; and on the action of the Council will depend the direction of the future labours of the Association. Copies of the Recommendations will be forwarded to every Fellow in the United Kingdom, and their interest and support will be sought; but it is hoped that the reasonable nature of all that has been proposed will commend itself to the Council, and that the earnestness of the Association may be met in a kindred spirit.

THE ASSOCIATION OF MEMBERS OF THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

A MEETING was held on Friday, the 7th instant, at No. 3, New Inn, Strand, to consider the alterations proposed by the Association of Fellows to be made in the regulations of the College. Approval was expressed of the first six clauses; but Clause VII was unanimously objected to, and it was agreed to suggest to the Association of the Fellows that this clause should read as follows: "That the Council of the College shall be elected by the Fellows and Members of the College; and that the President of the College shall be elected annually by the Council from amongst the members of the Council, and that no one shall hold the office of President for longer than three years."

It was also suggested that, in Clause VIII, referring to the election of the Treasurer, the words "That a Treasurer be appointed from amongst the Members," should read as follows: "That a Treasurer be appointed by the Members."

The remaining clauses were thoroughly approved of, although it was considered that Clause X, referring to the Board of Examiners in Anatomy, would be improved by the addition to it of the following words: "That, should any Member of the College be elected a Member of the Board of Examiners, he shall, by virtue of such election, become a Fellow of the College."

Great disappointment was expressed at the manner in which the Fellows had ignored the right of the Members to vote in the election of the Council, without which the Members would have no voice in the government of the College.

After the propositions of the Fellows had been considered, an animated discussion followed in reference to the difficulty students experienced in obtaining a medical degree in London. A strong opinion was expressed that the General Medical Council had greatly neglected the welfare of the profession; and that the interests of the great mass of the profession were not represented on it, and were not protected by it.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

An ordinary monthly meeting of the Council was held at the College on Thursday, the 13th instant.

The resignations of the President, Mr. Cooper Forster, the Senior Vice-President, of Mr. Savory, and of Mr. Hulke, as Members of the Court of Examiners, were received and accepted—to take effect at the conclusion of the next Pass Fellowship Examination. Mr. Hulke will, however, be a candidate for re-election.

It was agreed to proceed with the election of Examiners in anatomy, physiology, and midwifery, under the conjoint scheme of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons for examination, on the 11th of December, and it was referred to the nomination committee to consider and report upon candidates for examinerships in these subjects. It was further agreed that the selection of candidates as Examiners on the above subjects should no longer be confined to the Fellows of the College, but be extended to the Members; the new Board will carry on the examinations in anatomy and physiology previously to the scheme coming into force. The Board of Examiners in anatomy and physiology will, however, be restricted as at present to Fellows of the

College. The examination in surgery, under the conjoint scheme, shall be conducted by the court of examiners for the time being, until otherwise determined.

A letter was read from Mr. Pollock, and received with much satisfaction, stating, on behalf of the widow of the late Mr. Cæsar Hawkins, that she will be pleased to present to the College a bust of her late husband.

Mr. Heath gave the following notices of motions, which will be considered at an extraordinary meeting of Council, to be held on Wednesday next, the 19th instant: "That the office of Vice-President be, for the future, held for one year only by the same person;" and "That the President be elected annually by the Council from its members, and that no President hold office for more than five consecutive years."

A letter was read from the Association of Fellows recommending several alterations in the charter and by-laws; and it was resolved to consider it also at the extraordinary meeting of Council on Wednesday next, after Mr. Heath's motions have been disposed of.

COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION.

LIST OF RETURNS RECEIVED IN OCTOBER 1884.

The Committee beg to acknowledge the following returns received during the month of October:

East Anglian Branch: X, Dr. Hart; P. H. Emerson, B.A.; St. John Rands; J. Worthington; J. Barnes.
 Gloucestershire Branch: I, III, VI, G. A. Cardew.
 Lancashire and Cheshire Branch: I, A. C. Rayner, M.D.; X, A. Ransome, M.D. (4); Mrs. Milner; XII, A. Ransome, M.D.—Chester District: I, George Harrison (2); A. Macpherson, M.B. (8);—Liverpool District: I, Charles E. Steele; G. Whittle, M.D.; W. Macfie Campbell, M.D.; A. Creswell Rich, M.B. (2); II, A. Creswell Rich, M.B. (3); III, A. Grewell Rich, M.B. (3); H. G. Rawdon, M.D.; G. Shearer, M.D. (3); IV, C. E. Steele; V, A. Creswell Rich, M.B. (2); VI, A. Grewell Rich, M.B.; VII, W. Macfie Campbell, M.D.; X, A. Creswell Rich, M.B. (2); G. Whittle, M.D.; XII, A. Creswell Rich, M.B.—Manchester District: VII, William Coates (2); X, C. J. Ranshaw, M.D. (3); G. V. Ryder (2); E. M. Renshaw.
 Metropolitan Counties Branch: X, Maurice Davis, M.D.; J. J. Hott (2); William Keen, M.D.; X, J. M. Finzi; XII, G. E. Stewart; R. H. Milsom, M.D.
 Midland Counties Branch: III, VI, VII, Duncan Mackenzie, M.D., Glossop; X, Thomas Walker, M.D., Peterborough; Leonard J. Palmer, Snetterton.—Lincoln District: III, C. Harrison, M.D.
 North of England Branch: X; John Cameron Dall (2).
 North of Ireland Branch: III, W. Bernard, F.R.C.S.P.
 Southern Branch: Isle of Wight District: II, H. M. Barlow, M.B.; III, W. E. Green (2); H. M. Barlow, M.B.; IV, W. E. Green (2); X, W. E. Green (2); James M. Williamson, M.D. (2); J. G. Sinclair Coghlin, M.D.
 South Eastern Branch: East Kent District: I, T. F. Raven (5)—West Kent District: III, C. Boyce, M.B.; X, XI, C. Boyce, M.B.—West Surrey District: X, George Wilks, M.B. (2); Charles Jevyns.
 South Midland Branch: I, J. B. Unwin; II, W. J. Mackie; X, A. Street, M.D.; C. Hudson, F.R.C.S.
 South of Ireland Branch: X, James Martin, F.R.C.S.
 South Wales Branch: I, A. P. Fiddian, M.B.
 South Western Branch: North Devon District: I, J. E. Square, F.R.C.S.; X, T. Harvey.
 Cambridge and Huntingdon Branch: X, Professor Humphry, F.R.S. (6); W. Copley (2).
 Shropshire Branch: X, Edward Burd, M.D. (2).
 Staffordshire Branch: I, A. S. Underhill, M.D. (3).
 Thames Valley Branch: III, J. Dunbar Dickson, M.B.; VI, T. P. Atkinson, M.D.; X, T. P. Atkinson, M.D. (3); J. Donald.
 Yorkshire Branch: I, Norman Porritt; IV, H. C. Alderton; X, J. Johnstone, M.B., C.M.
 Also; VII, J. Blair, M.D., Shotts, Lanarkshire; X, J. Blair, M.D.; Dr. Carlos Gomez, Spain.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1885:

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

MEETINGS of the Council will be held on January 14th, April 8th, July 8th, 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 18th, June 17th, 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.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

SOUTH INDIAN BRANCH.—Meetings are held in the Central Museum, Madras, on the first Saturday in the month, at 2 p.m. Gentlemen desirous of reading papers or exhibiting specimens are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary.—C. SIBTHORPE, Honorary Secretary, Madras.

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.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: SOUTH LONDON DISTRICT.—The first meeting of the session 1884-5, will be held in the Governors' Court Room, St. Thomas's Hospital, on Wednesday, November 19th, at 8.30 P.M.; Mr. Macnamara, President of the Branch, in the chair. Mr. Croft will read a paper on Hip-Joint Disease, and its early treatment. The paper will be illustrated by microscopical specimens. All members of the Branch are invited to attend.—**ROBERT E. CARRINGTON**, Honorary Secretary, Entrance, Westminster Bridge Road.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT.—The next meeting of the above district will be held at Tunbridge Wells on Wednesday, December 3rd. Notice of papers, or other contributions, should be sent to the Honorary Secretary, T. JENNER VERRALL, 95, Western Road, Brighton.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.—The next meeting of the above district will be held at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital on Thursday, November 27th, at 3 P.M.; Mr. Wachter in the chair. Mr. Shirley F. Murphy will open a discussion on Diphtheria Card, No. IV and No. Iva of the Collective Investigation Committee. It is hoped that all members who have filled up cards during the last few weeks, will bring them, and take part in the discussion. The President very kindly invites members and their friends to luncheon at his house on King's Bridge. Dinner will be held at the Royal Fountain Hotel at 5 P.M.—**T. WHITEHEAD REID**, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT.—The next meeting of the above district will be held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, on Tuesday, November 25th, at 3.30 P.M., Dr. J. D. Burns, R.N., in the chair. Papers to be read: Dr. Fancourt Barnes, a case of Porro's Operation; Dr. J. Adams, a few remarks on existing Lunacy Law and Practice. The dinner will take place at the Sun Hotel, Chatham, at 6.30 P.M. Charge 6s. 6d., exclusive of wine. Gentlemen who intend to dine are particularly requested to signify the fact not later than November 22nd. All members of the Branch are entitled to attend this meeting, and to introduce friends.—**H. LEWIS JONES**, Honorary Secretary, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Chatham, November 11th, 1884.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH.—The first general meeting of the present session will be held at the Railway Hotel, Stoke-upon-Trent, on Thursday, November 27th, at 4 P.M. The principal feature of the meeting will be a discussion upon the Radical Cure of Hernia, which will be commenced by Mr. Spanton, who will read a paper. The following have promised to be speakers: Mr. Mitchell Banks (Liverpool), Mr. Folker, Mr. Lawson Tait, Mr. Vincent Jackson. The General Secretary will be pleased to receive the names of other gentlemen desirous of taking part in the debate.—**VINCENT JACKSON**, General Secretary, Wolverhampton.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH.—The annual meeting will be held, under the presidency of J. Cornwall, Esq., on Tuesday next, November 18th, at 6.30 P.M., in the Board Room of the County Infirmary, Gloucester. The supper will be held at the Bell Hotel, at 8 o'clock. Papers: 1, Notes on an Epidemic of Diphtheria, Dr. A. S. Currie (Sydney); 2, Sewer-Ventilation, T. S. Ellis, Esq. (Gloucester); 3, the advantages of a Preliminary Iridectomy as a separate operation, in the Extraction of Cataract, E. D. Bower, Esq. (Gloucester); 4, to draw attention to the subjects of Chorea and Rheumatism, now under investigation by the Collective Investigation Committee, Dr. F. Bond (Gloucester); 5, to propose a resolution with regard to the death of the late Mr. Rabbeth, Dr. Stewart (Clifton).—**RAYNER W. BATTEN**, G. ARTHUR CARDEW, Honorary Secretaries.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH: AUTUMNAL MEETING.

The autumnal meeting was held at the King's Arms Hotel, Kendal, on October 24th. The chair was taken by the President, Dr. MUIR, of Selkirk, at 1.30 P.M. There were twelve present.

Collective Investigation of Disease.—Dr. Hamilton, of Hawick, and Dr. Green, of Kendal, were appointed Secretaries for Collective Investigation, and the President made some remarks upon Collective Investigation. The next meeting of the Branch being at Galashiels, it was decided to have a discussion upon Pneumonia, to be introduced by Dr. Lockie, of Carlisle.

New Members.—The following were elected members of the Branch: John Lowe, L.R.C.S.I., L.R.C.P.E., Workington; John P. Balbirnie, L.R.C.P. and S.Ed., Staveley, Westmoreland; D. McCallum Clark, L.R.C.P.Ed., Eskdalemuir, Dumfriesshire; John Gill, M.B. C.M., Langholm; Benjamin Jumeaux, M.R.C.S.Eng., Ambleside; Edward Johnson, Kelso; Patrick Kinock, L.R.C.P. and S.Ed., Greenlaw, Berwickshire; W. H. Murray, M.D., Galashiels; J. N. McDougall, M.D., Coldingham; Robert Somerville, M.D., Galashiels; B. R. Archer Taylor, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., Kendal.

Communications.—The following communications were made.

1. Mr. Taylor (Kendal) showed a living specimen of Chronic Synovitis of the Ankle-joint, and made some remarks upon "Bone-setting," which were followed by a discussion.

2. Dr. Green (Kendal) read a paper on Permanganate of Potash in the treatment of some forms of Puerperal Pyrexia.

3. Dr. Macdougall (Carlisle) read a paper on Hydrorrhoea Gravidarum.

4. Dr. Lockie read a note of a case.

5. Dr. Lediard read a short paper on the Treatment of Cancer of the Lip by Scraping.

6. Dr. Lockie showed a specimen of Disease of the Heart, with thinning of the wall and calcareous degeneration, following Pericarditis. Two slides were put under microscopes showing the disease.

7. The following specimens were shown by Dr. Lediard: 1, Photograph of a Meningocele; 2, Slides under microscopes of a Villous Tumour of the Bladder; 3, A Diverticulum of Meckel; 4, Disease of the Head of the Femur; 5, Reid's outlines of Fissures and Convolutions of the Brain, painted on the cast of a head; 6, Some new Materials for Surgical Dressings, including Wood-wool, Moss, Saw-dust, etc.

Dinner.—The members dined together after the meeting. Previously to the business, an excursion was made on Windermere.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

The first ordinary meeting of the session was held at the Museum and Library, Bristol, on Wednesday evening, October 29th; R. S. FOWLER, Esq., President, in the chair. There were also present sixty members and two visitors.

New Member.—Mr. A. F. Blagg, Clifton, was elected a member.

Collective Investigation of Disease.—Dr. E. L. Fox made some observations on this subject, which led to remarks by Messrs. Bartrum and Griffiths.

Communications.—The following communications were made.

1. Dr. F. Stockwell (Bruton) reported a case of successful Removal of Uterine Myoma by Abdominal Section, and exhibited the specimen. Mr. Greig Smith and Drs. Swayne and Coombs made observations on this case.

2. Mr. W. H. Harsant read a paper on the Treatment of the Sac in Herniotomy, which led to a discussion, in which Mr. Cross and Mr. Greig Smith took part.

3. Dr. Aust Lawrence read some notes on a case of Uterine Myoma removed by operation, and exhibited the specimen. Mr. Dobson and Dr. Swayne commented on this case.

4. Mr. Hancocke Wathen related two cases of Temporary Mydriasis from Sudden Exposure to Light, which were discussed by Messrs. Cross and Mason, Dr. Markham Skerritt, and Dr. Waldo.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

The eleventh annual meeting of this Branch was held on Thursday, October 30th, at the North-Western Railway Hotel, Stafford. Dr. C. Orton introduced the President-elect, Dr. E. T. TYLECOTE, who took the chair. Thirty-four members were present.

Vote of Thanks.—Dr. TOTHERICK proposed "That the best thanks of this meeting be given to the retiring president, Dr. C. Orton, for his services during the past year." This was seconded by Mr. GREAVES, and carried unanimously.

President's Address.—The PRESIDENT gave a most interesting historical and instructive address upon Epidemics.—On the motion of Dr. ARLIDGE, seconded by Dr. CHARLES SMITH, an unanimous vote of thanks was given to Dr. Tylecote for his address.

New Member.—The following gentleman was elected a member of the Branch; Dr. Crutchley, Alsager.

Report of Council.—Mr. VINCENT JACKSON read the annual report as follows.

"Your Council have to report that the usual number of general meetings has been held during the past year, and that they have been well attended; and they refer with pleasure to the meeting which was held at Wolverhampton in May last. At that meeting a debate, in connection with the Collective Investigation Committee of the Association, was arranged for upon the very important subject of Puerperal Pyrexia. Dr. J. Braxton Hicks, F.R.S., of London, commenced the discussion; and the following gentlemen also spoke, namely, Dr. Millington, Dr. Strange (Worcester), Mr. J. G. U. West, Dr. W. G. Lowe, Mr. J. Harthill, Dr. Clindennan (Coseley), and Dr. Lycett. Your Council consider that the discussion of such a very practical subject as puerperal pyrexia, as well as that of pneumonia, which occurred last session, must serve a good purpose; and it would seem as if benefit could only accrue if, in each future session, subjects of similar importance were selected for discussion at one of the general meetings. The following members have, by their contributions at the various meetings, earned the thanks of your Council: Mr. Spanton, Mr. Clare, Mr. J. G. U. West, Dr. Hatton, Mr. Folker, Mr. Vincent Jackson, Dr. C. E. Baddeley, Dr. W. G. Lowe, Mr. F. Marsh, Dr. Totherick, Dr. Dingley, Dr. C. Smith. The number of members (six being new) is now 122."

The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. SPANTON, and seconded by Dr. J. H. TYLECOTE.

Financial Statement.—Mr. J. G. U. WEST read the statement of accounts for the past year, which showed a balance of £26 18s.

Next Annual Meeting.—Mr. FOLKER proposed, and Dr. JOHNSON seconded, that the next annual meeting be held at Wolverhampton.

Election of Officers for 1884-85.—The following were elected. *President-elect:* Mr. John T. Harthill. *Vice-Presidents:* Dr. Totherick; Dr. C. Orton. *General Secretary:* Mr. Vincent Jackson. *Financial Secretary:* Mr. J. G. U. West. *Auditor:* Mr. Folker. *Council:* Dr. Arlidge (Stoke); Mr. Boldero (Penkridge); Dr. Reid (Stafford); Mr. F. J. Gray (Cannock); Mr. H. M. Morgan (Lichfield); Dr. McAlldowie (Stoke); Dr. Millington (Wolverhampton); Mr. J. J. Ritchie (Leek); Mr. G. G. Sharp (Walsall); Dr. Mulville Thomson (Newport); Mr. J. W. Wolfenden (Tutbury); Dr. J. K. Wynne. *Representative in the Council of the Association:* Mr. Vincent Jackson. *Representatives upon the Parliamentary Bills Committee:* Dr. C. Orton; Mr. W. D. Spanton.

Local Collective Investigation Committee.—*Chairman:* Dr. J. T. Arlidge. *Committee:* Mr. F. Boldero, Mr. Clendinning, Mr. J. Cooke, Mr. F. J. Gray, Mr. G. A. Phillips, Mr. G. G. Sharp, Dr. J. Y. Totherick, Dr. J. H. Tylecote. *Honorary General Secretary:* Mr. Vincent Jackson. *Honorary District Secretaries:* North Staffordshire, Dr. A. McAlldowie, Stoke; Mid-Staffordshire: Dr. G. Reid, Stafford; East Staffordshire: Dr. G. H. Lowe, Burton; West Staffordshire: Dr. H. Malet, Wolverhampton.

Votes of Thanks to the Auditor and Secretaries were proposed, seconded, and passed.

Dinner.—Thirty-two members, with the Mayor of Stafford as a guest, sat down to dinner, and a most pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH: AUTUMNAL MEETING.

THE autumnal meeting of the above Branch was held at the Railway Hotel, Taunton, on October 30th, at 8 p.m. Eleven members were present, G. R. NORRIS, Esq., President, in the chair.

Exhibition of Chemicals, etc.—Mr. Wm. A. Wrenn, of East Street, Taunton, attended and exhibited specimens of pepsin prepared by himself, which he stated to be of extreme purity, and of greater strength than commonly met with, in some cases treble that of the requirements of the *British Pharmacopoeia*. He exhibited other specimens of pepsin prepared by the methods of different pharmacopoeias and ordinary commercial makers, and he stated that the result of eighteen analyses which he had made gave very variable and unsatisfactory results, which he detailed. Mr. Wrenn also showed some very fine specimens of the roots of convolvulus scammonia, and of the tubercles of exogonium purga, and gave information as to the manufacture of pure jalapine and convolvuline, and showed specimens. He likewise showed a variety of essential oils, etc., which he had personally prepared or collected, all of which proved highly interesting to the meeting.—Mr. Wrenn was thanked for his attendance, and for the information he had given.

Wood-Wool and Clinical Figures.—A sample of Paul Hartmann's patent "Wood-wool," and of his "Hygienic Wood-wool Diaper," forwarded by Essinger and Neuburger; also specimens of "Clinical Figures," by Lebon and Co., which had been sent for exhibition, were placed before the meeting.

The late Mr. Samuel Rabbeth.—The following was passed, it being understood that, in passing this resolution, the meeting did not express approval of such risks being run:—

"That the West Somerset Branch of the British Medical Association offers its condolence to the family of the late Mr. Samuel Rabbeth, at the loss of one whose unselfish conduct, in a recent case of a child under his care in the Royal Free Hospital, ended in the sacrifice of a life of great promise and devotion to duty."

Collective Investigation.—Dr. KELLY drew attention to the small number of returns sent in to him from members of this Branch, and requested attention to the notice on the subject of Collective Investigation, which appeared every week in the JOURNAL, under the head of Association Intelligence.

Medical Sickness, Annuity, and Life-Assurance Society.—Mr. SINCOCK gave some particulars as to the progress and prospects of this Society, and urged the meeting to exercise its influence for promoting the growth of the Society by getting members to join it.

Discussion.—The question, of which notice had been given, namely:—"What, in your opinion, is the best treatment of Syphilis in its early stages, with special reference to the use of mercury and iodide of potassium?" having been introduced by the President, was, in rotation, answered by all present; and written answers from two absent

members, Dr. Cordwint and Mr. Cornwall, were read. The answers of Mr. James Stewart, Surgeon R.N., and of Brigade-Surgeon Hensman, were of special interest and value, from the circumstance of their having had great experience respectively in the naval and military services, and an opportunity of watching the results of treatment over long periods of time. With one or two exceptions, all present advocated the use of mercury, cautiously administered by the mouth, and so as to avoid salivation, the treatment to be continued until all induration, and other traces of the disease, had disappeared.

Dinner.—The usual dinner was served at the conclusion of the discussion, and most of the members left at seven o'clock.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

PARIS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

A Proposed Sanitary Service.—*Apparent Death in Cholera.*—*The Dental School and Hospital.*—*A Deputation to the Prefect of the Seine concerning Lady House-Surgeons.*—*Private Munificence.*—*The Force of a Good Example.*—*General News.*

M. ALPHAND, the chief city engineer, has sent in a report to the Prefect of the Seine on the organisation of a service of public health. At the present time, the different health-commissions are in connection with the Minister of Commerce. M. Alphand urges that a special Health Ministry be appointed, including the medical aid service for the poor, the vaccination service, health and medical societies; also the Academy of Medicine. Each commune, numbering 3,000 inhabitants, is to be provided with a sanitary council, chosen by the Prefect from a list prepared by the municipal council. When there are fewer than 3,000 inhabitants, the sanitary council will be established at the principal commune of the canton. The councils of the communes and cantons will have the right of expressing views, but not of carrying them into effect. The results of their meeting will be submitted to the approval of three inspectors—a medical man, a chemist, and an architect or road-engineer.

Since the epidemic of cholera in Italy, proofs have been collected that apparent death is much more frequent in this affection than in any other. The following instance is apparently authentic. Dr. Canessa of Genoa was seized with cholera one morning, and towards the evening he was apparently dead. The usual preparations were made for his burial. The next morning the coffin was being brought into an adjoining room, when the door opened, and Dr. Canessa, in a feeble voice, asked why he had been left so long without some tea. The undertaker's men quickly disappeared. Dr. Canessa's medical attendants were summoned, who put the patient in bed, and performed hypodermic injection, after Pacini's method. It was, unfortunately, too late; Dr. Canessa died during the day. An Italian physician will soon publish a list of apparent deaths during the epidemic of cholera, stated to be authentic. In these cases the patients have been saved.

The dental school and hospital of Paris celebrated its fifteenth year a few days ago. M. Paul Bert presided. In his speech, he criticised adversely the doctrine that all dentists should obtain a doctor's degree. Dental students should be required to have an exact and extended knowledge of all subjects in connection with their profession. The President terminated his address by expressing a hope that the French dentists would soon possess a college equal to that of their American colleagues.

The proposal that lady medical pupils should be admitted to compete for the post of house-surgeon, meets with strong supporters and courteous opponents, who treat the subject with great good sense and unbiassed logic. Dr. Samuel Pozzi, in a letter to the *Revue*, points out the difficulty of such a position as that claimed by the lady-students. Frequently, in a French hospital, a house-surgeon (the *interne de garde*) has the night-charge of the whole hospital; that is to say, of the men's and women's wards, and all casualties that may be brought in. Also, he frequently acts for his *chef*, and then occupies the position, not only of doctor, but of clinical teacher to the dressers and pupils. It requires a very slight stretch of the imagination to perceive that such a position is quite untenable for a woman, whatever may be her intellectual capabilities and professional acumen. Dr. Pozzi very happily says, equality is not identity; he does not deny her intellectual equality with her male colleague, but disputes her identical fitness. According to the present organisation of French

PICRIC ACID AS A TEST.

SIR.—Your correspondent, Dr. Hollis, evidently considers it a public duty to expose and correct the supposed dangerous error which I have committed in speaking of picric acid as an "innocuous powder."

Now, candour compels me to admit that, since the publication of Dr. Hollis's first letter, picric acid has, in one instance, caused, though indirectly, an explosion of some degree of violence; yet, to borrow an expression of your facetious correspondent, "I still survive, sir, to inform your readers of the fact."

The circumstances were these. In conversation with an eminent chemist, I directed his attention to Dr. Hollis's alarmist letter in the JOURNAL of October 18th; and the result of his reading it was a hearty burst of laughter, followed by the remark that "the letter affords a good illustration of theory without practical knowledge." That burst of laughter is the explosion to which I refer.

It is notorious that many tons of picric acid are yearly manufactured, and that it is very largely employed as a dye. It is also a fact that neither the chemical manufacturers nor the dyers look upon it as a dangerous substance to work with, for the simple and sufficient reason that it requires something like a red heat to fuse and ignite it. Yet your correspondent, disregarding your editorial reminder that picric acid should be distinguished from its compounds, writes as if the acid itself were a dangerous explosive. Nitro-glycerine is notoriously a violent explosive; but pure glycerine is not, therefore, looked upon as a dangerous liquid.

When a solution of picric acid and liquor potassæ is mixed, in the process of testing for sugar, a picrate of potash of course is formed in solution; but surely Dr. Hollis does not imagine that the boiling of such a liquid mixture could by any possibility cause an explosion. Dr. Hollis quotes the familiar sentence, "Ne sutor ultra crepidam," in excusing himself for not having tested by experiment the explosive qualities of the substance about which he is writing; but, since practical chemistry is obviously not his forte, he does not "stick to his last" when, relying upon a quotation from a chemical text-book, he gives public expression to an opinion upon a subject of which, by his own confession, he has not resorted to the only means for acquiring a practical knowledge.

Various objections have, from time to time, been made to the use of picric acid as a test-agent. These have all been met and refuted; and, as this last suggestion of its dangerously explosive character is the most absurd and baseless of all, we may hope that the list of objections has well-nigh come to an end. In spite of these objections, or, it may be, partly through the publicity which successfully refuted objections have given to the subject, picric acid as a test, both qualitative and quantitative, for albumen and sugar in the urine, has rapidly come into general use; and I frequently receive from members of the profession, many of them personally unknown to me, an acknowledgment of the high estimation in which the test is held by those who have had practical experience of its value.—Yours faithfully,

Savile Row, November 10th, 1884. GEORGE JOHNSON.

P.S.—Be it observed that, in order to fuse and ignite picric acid, it must be exposed, in a dry state, to a red heat. When used as a test, it is never heated when dry; and, mixed with water, it is subjected to no higher temperature than that of the boiling water in which it is dissolved. It scarcely need be added that dissolved picrates are not explosive nor combustible at any temperature.

INDIA AND THE COLONIES.

INDIA.

MRS. M. SCHARLIEB, M.B. of the University of London, has been appointed Lecturer in Midwifery to the female students at the Madras Medical College.

DEPUTY SURGEON-GENERAL R. W. SUTHERLAND, Lahore Division, is shortly going on leave for two months.

AUSTRALIA.

DEATH FROM CHLORODYNE.—A young woman named Cunningham recently died at Orange from the effects of an overdose of chlorodyne. She had for some time suffered from pains in the head, toothache, and faceache, and took the chlorodyne to relieve her suffering. Drs. Heinemann and Codrington adopted every remedy, but failed to restore consciousness or prolong life. Dr. Heinemann, at the inquest, pointed out the danger of using chlorodyne by persons unacquainted with its dangerous composition, and deplored the facility with which the drug can be procured. The verdict of the jury was "accidental poisoning."

MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

CHANGES OF STATION, APPOINTMENTS, Etc.

THE following changes of station among the officers of the Medical Staff have been officially notified as having taken place during the past month:—

	From.	To.
Surgeon-General J. Lamprey, M.B.	Portsmouth	
Deputy Surgeon-General A. H. Fraser	Dublin	Gibraltar
" " J. B. C. Reade	Peshawur (Bengal)	Umballa (Bengal)
" " G. M. Slaughter	"	Lucknow
" " W. H. Corbett, M.D.	"	Meerut
" " R. Webb	"	Allahabad
Surgeon-Major F. A. Turton, M.D.	Bengal	Egypt
" " A. Lewer, M.D.	Gosport	Madras.
" " C. W. Watling	Bombay	Egypt.
" " E. H. Lloyd, M.B.	Bengal	Egypt.
" " O. Codrington, M.D.	Bombay	Aldershot.
" " J. Langdon	Aldershot	Edinburgh.
" " G. Ashton, M.B.	Bombay	Egypt.
" " R. W. Troup, M.B.	Hounslow	Woolwich.
" " T. Y. Baker	York	Salford.
" " J. Fleming, M.D.	Portsmouth	Gosport.
" " H. S. Muir, M.D.	"	Hounslow.
" " G. B. Sanders	"	Horfield.
" " G. B. Mouat, M.D.	Madras	Egypt.
" " W. F. Burnett	Bengal	Egypt.
" " J. A. Anderson, M.D.	Preston	"
" " A. H. L'Estrange	Kinsale	Tipperary.
" " R. M. Craig	Tipperary	Dublin.
" " J. Latchford, M.B.	Portsmouth	Gosport.
" " J. A. M'Cracken, M.D.	Bengal	Egypt.
" " J. G. Williamson	Bengal	Netley.
" " W. E. Saunders	Netley	Bombay.
" " H. H. Stokes, M.B.	"	Dublin.
Surgeon G. B. Hickson	Bombay	Egypt.
" " J. Pendergast	"	Netley.
" " J. E. V. Foss, M.D.	Waterford	Cork.
" " F. W. Trevor, M.B.	Exeter	Egypt.
" " W. J. Le Grand, M.D.	Cork	Ballincollig.
" " J. J. Morris, M.D.	Shorncliffe	Dover.
" " P. H. Johnston, M.D.	Cork	Fermoy.
" " G. Laffan, M.D.	Madras	Egypt.
" " R. C. Gunning	Avonmouth Camp	Devonport.
" " F. H. S. Murphy, M.D.	Madras	"
" " J. Anderson, M.B.	Edinburgh	Madras.
" " J. Pedlow, M.D.	Portland	Portsmouth.
" " H. J. M'Laughlin, M.B.	Hounslow	Woolwich.
" " H. E. W. Barrington, M.B.	Preston	Netley.
" " M. D. O'Connell	Tralee	Youghal.
" " W. O. Wolseley	York	Salford.
" " L. W. Swabey	Newcastle	Burnley.
" " D. Semple, M.D.	Dublin	Bengal.
" " T. R. Morse	Devonport	Madras.
" " H. Mitchell	Dover	Canterbury.
" " A. E. C. Spence, M.B.	Portsmouth	Gosport.
" " J. H. Nicholas	Cape Coast Castle	"
" " C. G. D. Moose	"	Sierra Leone.
" " R. Porter, M.B.	Sierra Leone	Cape Coast Castle
Quarter-Master J. D. Marshall	Dublin	Belfast District.
Captain of Orderlies F. Philpot	"	Netley.

ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE.

Surgeons-Major T. Ramsay and J. A. Scott have been permitted to exchange places on the Indian roster of service.

Surgeon-Major C. A. Maunsell, M.D., has received orders to embark for the Cape of Good Hope, for service with the Bechnaland expedition, under Sir Charles Warren. Dr. Maunsell served with the Royal Artillery in the Bhoota campaign in 1864-65, and has the medal and clasp granted therefor.

Deputy Surgeon-General L. Kidd, M.B., died at Hamilton, Bermuda, on the 31st ultimo, at the age of 54. Mr. Kidd was in medical charge of the troops on board the *Charlotte*, wrecked with much loss of life in Algoa Bay, on September 20th, 1854; also on the *Eastern Monarch*, destroyed by fire at Spithead, on June 3rd, 1859, and was honourably mentioned in General Orders for his conduct on the occasion of the loss of each of these ships. He served with the 27th Regiment on the Peshawur Frontier in 1857-58, during the Sepoy Mutiny, and was at the assault and destruction of Nerinjee (medal).

Mr. C. J. Sutherland has been appointed Acting Surgeon of the 5th Durham Rifle Volunteers. Mr. Sutherland has been a lieutenant in this corps since the 3rd of May last.

Dr. C. Godson has been appointed Acting Surgeon of the 18th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers.

Acting Surgeon W. J. Atkinson has resigned his appointment in the 2nd Volunteer Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers, till lately known as the 23rd Middlesex Rifle Volunteers.

Plymouth, 20.0; Wolverhampton, 20.6; Leicester, 20.8; Sunderland, 20.8; Bradford, 21.2; Salford, 21.7; Norwich, 21.9; Sheffield, 22.4; Hull, 23.3; Halifax, 23.9; Bolton, 24.4; Derby, 24.4; Leeds, 25.2; Manchester, 25.4; Nottingham, 25.7; Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 25.9; Liverpool, 26.0; Cardiff, 27.4; and Preston, 31.5. In the twenty-seven provincial towns, the death-rate last week averaged 22.6 per 1,000, and exceeded by 2.9 the rate recorded in London. The 3,569 deaths in the twenty-eight towns included 82 which resulted from scarlet-fever, 79 from measles, 73 from diarrhoeal diseases, 60 from "fever" (principally enteric), 49 from whooping-cough, 26 from diphtheria, and 23 from small-pox; in all, 392 deaths resulted from these principal zymotic diseases, against 390 and 379 in the two preceding weeks. These zymotic deaths were equal to an annual rate of 2.3 per 1,000. In London, the zymotic death-rate was 2.2 per 1,000; while it averaged 2.5 in the twenty-seven provincial towns, among which it ranged from 0.0 and 0.5 in Plymouth and Brighton, to 4.8 in Bolton, 6.3 in Preston, and 7.3 in Cardiff. The deaths referred to scarlet fever, which had been 67 and 66 in the two preceding weeks, rose to 82, and caused the largest proportional fatality in Sheffield, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Sunderland. The fatal cases of diarrhoea showed a further decline from recent weekly numbers. The deaths from measles, which had steadily increased from 37 to 57 during the five previous weeks, further rose to 79 last week, and caused the highest rates in Bolton, Preston, and Cardiff. The 60 fatal cases of "fever" were lower than those recorded in any recent week, and caused the largest proportional fatality in Derby and Blackburn. The 49 deaths from whooping-cough were below the average; this disease caused the highest rates in Bradford and Leeds. The 26 fatal cases of diphtheria in the twenty-eight towns included 17 in London, 3 in Liverpool, 2 in Portsmouth, and 2 in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Of the 23 deaths from small-pox, 22 were recorded in London (exclusive of 7 deaths of London residents from this disease registered in the Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals situated outside Registration London), and 1 in Sunderland. The number of small-pox patients in the Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals, which had been 596 and 580 on the two preceding Saturdays, rose to 615 on Saturday last; 233 new cases were admitted to these hospitals during the week, against 173 and 101 in the two previous weeks. The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs in London was equal to 4.6 per 1,000, and was considerably below the average. The causes of 91, or 2.5 per cent. of the 3,569 deaths registered last week in the twenty-eight towns were not certified, either by medical practitioners or by coroners.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGES OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH, AND FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF GLASGOW.—*Triple Qualification.*—The first examinations under the conjoint scheme, recently entered into by the above bodies, commenced at Edinburgh on the 16th ultimo. The following gentlemen passed their first Examination.

William G. Roberts, Carnarvon; Robert D. Prichard, Carnarvon; Thomas Monies, India; H. P. Shuttleworth, London; T. Young, London; W. Beecham, Wigan; J. Mason, Arbroath; T. Thompson, Belfast; W. D. Eddowes, Stamford; A. D. Pithie, Aberdeen; E. R. Crofton, Roscommon; R. D. Harman, County Down; D. Lees, St. Andrews; C. S. Phillips, Jamaica; T. K. J. Fulton, Pondicherry; E. Brooks, Lancashire; M. M. Murphy, County Kerry; J. A. Murray, Cork; R. Ambler, Hemel Hempstead; A. P. Brown, Shropshire; W. W. Paterson, Inveresk; E. H. Corder, Birmingham; T. A. Davidson, County Down; G. T. Birkett, Cumberland; J. J. McEnery, County Waterford; J. McDowell, County Down; A. W. Hogg, Middlesex; J. Westwood, Birmingham; E. Hilliard, County Kerry; A. D. McLean, Edinburgh; E. F. Hawkesworth, Cork; F. J. Kenay, Calcutta; J. Cotter, County Cork; W. C. Robinson, County Antrim; T. Bowser, Northumberland; and E. R. Sims, Derby.

The following gentlemen passed their Second Examination.

William J. Morton, New South Wales; Peter Lynch, Victoria; John H. Doske, Bucks; T. Young, London; W. Beecham, Wigan; W. J. H. Macgilvray, Glasgow; R. S. Marsden, Sheffield; and E. F. Taylor, Yorkshire.

The following gentlemen passed their Final Examination, and were admitted L.R.C.P. Edinburgh, L.R.C.S. Edinburgh, and L.F.P. & S. Glasgow.

G. Armstrong, Edinburgh; F. Fernandes, Demerara; W. F. Fossman, Ontario; C. H. Greatorex, Madras; T. T. Hamilton, Newry; W. H. O. Mills, Cape Town; T. Young, London; S. T. Williamson, London; G. de B. Watson, China; and E. W. Short, Madras.

ROYAL COLLEGES OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH.—*Double Qualification.*—The following gentlemen passed their first professional examination during the October sittings of the Examiners.

J. G. Nixon, Thalee; J. W. Fox, Edinburgh; I. B. Le Gentil, Mauritius; R. W. Long, co. Cork; M. Bernstein, Sunderland; W. G. Meade, co. Cork; J. C. Figg, Boness; H. McCallum, Plymouth; I. A. Goumany, Mauritius; G. J. E. Trotter, Durham; M. G. Robinson, Sedgebrooke; O. H. Edwards, Great Crosby; J. Wallace, Anticure.

The following gentlemen passed their final examination, and were admitted L.R.C.P. Edinburgh and L.R.C.S. Edinburgh.

H. Harris, Honolulu; J. Macgregor, Perthshire; T. W. Rice, Queen's County; B. Stevenson, Nottingham; W. Langran, Dublin; J. Jones, Anglesea; E. Portal, Mauritius; C. C. Dickson, Galashiels; J. McCaull, Belfast; C. S. Davies, Canada; W. Davies, Manchester; T. E. S. Scholes, Jamaica; G. S. Page, Cephalonia; C. W. Dean, Lancaster; A. E. Woodforde, London; D. P. F. French, County Galway; G. A. H. Woodforde, London; M. G. Robinson, Sedgebrooke; J. Cram, Dollar; A. F. Turner, Wiltshire; S. S. McFarlane, Australia; A. T. White, Torquay; J. Malcomson, County Down; W. K. Clayton, Leeds; W. B. Garvin, Ceylon; J. W. Fawcitt, Yorkshire; E. Black, Woolwich; P. Campbell, Argyllshire; J. C. Sheehan, County Cork; A. Hood, Midlothian; J. I. Fullarton, Australia.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH.—During the October sittings of the Examiners, F. P. Denman, Yorkshire, passed his first professional examination, and the following gentlemen passed their final examination, and were admitted Licentiates of the College.

C. A. Parker, Chatham; W. A. Ross, Ontario; A. McKillop, Ontario; D. Gow, Ontario; D. A. D'Monte, Bandon; and C. Arblaster, Shrewsbury.

J. Taylor, Lancashire, passed the first professional examination for the Licence in Dental Surgery, and W. H. Harrison, British Guiana, passed the final examination, and was admitted L.D.S. Edinburgh.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their Examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, November 6th, 1884.

Barrett, William Peard, Bunwell House, Cheltenham.
Bell, William Howard, 27, Myddelton Square, E.C.
Dagg, Trevor Augustus, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Farr, Ernest, Gloucester House, Barry Road, East Dulwich.
Jones, Herbert Charles Walter, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

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

Jones, Herbert Josiah, The Middlesex Hospital.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced.

ADDENBROOKE'S HOSPITAL, Cambridge.—Resident House-Physician. Salary, £65 per annum. Applications by December 9th.

ATLEY UNION.—Medical Officer, Fontstown Dispensary. Salary £135 per annum and fees. Applications to R. Bagot, Honorary Secretary, Fontstown Glebe, Kildare.

BASFORD UNION RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £400 per annum. Applications by November 26th.

BIRMINGHAM BOROUGH LUNATIC ASYLUM.—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications to E. B. Whitcombe, Superintendent, by November 22nd.

BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY.—Assistant Resident Officer and Pathologist. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications by November 24th.

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.

EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN AND DISPENSARY FOR WOMEN, Shadwell, E.—Assistant-Physician. Applications by November 21st.

EAST WARD UNION.—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator. Salary £20 per annum. Applications by November 21st.

ENNIS DISTRICT LUNATIC ASYLUM.—Resident Medical Superintendent. Applications to the Under-Secretary, Dublin Castle, by November 21st.

GATESHEAD DISPENSARY.—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £210 per annum. Applications to Mr. Joseph Jordan, 2, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

GREAT NORTHERN CENTRAL HOSPITAL, Caledonian Road.—House-Surgeon. Salary, 60 guineas per annum. Applications by November 29th.

HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE THROAT, Golden Square.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications by November 24th.

LIVERPOOL EYE AND EAR INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications by November 24th.

LONDON HOSPITAL, Whitechapel, E.—Honorary Assistant Surgeon. Applications by November 24th.

NORFOLK AND NORWICH HOSPITAL.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by November 28th.

NORFOLK COUNTY ASYLUM.—Junior Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications to Dr. Hills, Thorpe, Norwich.

NORTH-EASTERN HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Hackney Road, E. House-Surgeon. Applications by November 25th.

NORTH SURREY SCHOOL DISTRICT, Anerley.—Dentist. Salary, £60 per annum. Applications by November 22nd.

NORTH-WEST LONDON HOSPITAL, Kentish Town Road, N.W.—Two Assistant-Physicians, Senior Assistant-Surgeon, Ophthalmic Surgeon, and Physician for Diseases of the Skin. Applications by November 18th.

PARISH OF LOCHS, Stornoway.—Medical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications to the Inspector of Poor, by November 20th.

PORTUMNA UNION, No. 1 Dispensary.—Medical Officer. Salary, £112 10s. per annum. Election, November 15th.

PORTUMNA UNION.—Workhouse Medical Officer. Salary, £80 per annum, with £5 10s. yearly as Consulting Sanitary Officer. Election, November 15th.

ROYAL CORNWALL INFIRMARY. House-Surgeon. Salary, £120 per annum. Applications by November 27th.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn Road.—Senior Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £104 per annum. Applications by December 3rd.

ST. ANDREW'S HOSPITAL FOR MENTAL DISEASES, Northampton.—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications by November 20th.

SUSSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL, Brighton.—Dispenser. Salary £100 per annum. Applications by December 3rd.

TORBAY HOSPITAL AND PROVIDENT DISPENSARY, Torquay. Senior House-Surgeon and Senior Provident Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by November 22nd.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, London.—Curator of Anatomy. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications by November 24th.

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE, South Australia.—Elder Professor of Anatomy. Salary, £600 per annum. Applications to Sir Arthur Blyth, K.C.M.G., Agent-General for South Australia, 8, Victoria Chambers, Westminster, S.W., by December 15th.

WEST LONDON HOSPITAL, Hammersmith, W.—Assistant Ophthalmic Surgeon. Applications by November 27th.

WESTERN OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, 155, Marylebone Road, W.—Surgeon. Applications by November 22nd.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

BLUMER, W. PERCY, F.R.C.S.E., appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Monkwearmouth and Southwick Dispensary, *vice* James Murphy, M.D., resigned.

FRASER, T. A., M.B., C.M., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed House-Surgeon of the North Riding Infirmary.

KOCH, W. V. M., M.B., C.M.Édin., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Hull Borough Asylum.

LAWRIE, Macpherson, M.D., appointed Physician and Gynaecologist to the Sanatorium, Weymouth.

PALIN, H. Venables, M.B., C.M., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Éd., appointed Honorary Surgeon to Wrexham Infirmary, *vice* J. Dickenson, F.R.C.S.Éd., resigned.

SHEARS, Charles H., L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S., appointed Assistant Surgeon to the Liverpool Eye and Ear Infirmary.

STEEVES, G. Walter, L.R.C.P.Éd., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Medical Officer of Health to the Toxteth Park District, Liverpool, *vice* J. McClelland, M.D., resigned.

STEWART, Rothsay C., M.R.C.S., L.S.A.Lond., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Peckham House Asylum, Peckham, S.E., *vice* G. W. Coombe, M.D., resigned.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

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

BIRTH.

DAVIES.—On November 1st, at Bergholt House, Yarrow-on-Tyne, the wife of Hugh Walter Davies, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.Eng., of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

MITCHELL—DUNN.—On August 9th, at Adelaide, South Australia, James Thomas Mitchell, M.B., of Port Adelaide, to Edith Mary, eldest daughter of the Hon. John Dunn, of Hackney, Adelaide.

DEATHS.

CHILCOT.—On September 11th, at Wardell, Richmond River, New South Wales, James Chilcot, M.R.C.S., only son of J. W. Chilcot, Esq., of Southsea, after a few days illness, aged 37 years.

HUNTER.—On the 11th instant, at Isleworth, Richard Henry Hunter, M.R.C.S., aged 46 years.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Carriek (postponed): On the Manufacture and Uses of Koumiss in Russia. Dr. Markham Skerritt (Clifton): On the Conduction of Physical Signs in Diseases of the Lungs. Mr. Noble Smith will show a case of cured Meningocele.

TUESDAY.—Pathological Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Percy Kidd: Fatal Hemoptysis from Bronchial Ulceration. Dr. Carrington: Addison's Disease, with Cancer of the Liver and Suprarenal Capsules. Dr. Norman Moore: New Growth in Stomach of a Child. Mr. Sutton: Uterine and Ovarian Disease in Animals and Birds. Mr. Knowsley Thornton: Hydro-nephrosis caused by Papillary Growths and Calculus. Mr. Hopkins: Bones from a Case of Ataxia. Mr. Treves: Two Specimens of Tumour of the Soft Palate. Mr. Lane: Fracture of First Rib (card).

WEDNESDAY.—Royal Meteorological Society, 7 P.M. Mr. Hugo Leupold: A New Method of Reading the Direction of the Wind on Exposed Heights and from a Distance. Mr. Alfred N. Pearson: Description of a Component Anemograph. Mr. C. C. Walker: On the Injury by Lightning (April 28th, 1884) to the Monument to the first Duke of Sutherland at Lilleshall, Shropshire. Colonel the Hon. Arthur Parnell: On the Mechanical Characteristics of Lightning-strokes.

THURSDAY.—Harveian Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Thomas Bryant: On the Mode of Death in Acute Intestinal Strangulation and Chronic Intestinal Obstruction.

FRIDAY.—Society of Medical Officers of Health, 7.30 P.M. Mr. Alfred Spencer: On Noxious Trades.

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.

TUESDAYSt. 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 Westminster 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.

THURSDAYSt. 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.

FRIDAYKing's College, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Royal South London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department), 2 P.M.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.

SATURDAYSt. 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.

CHARGING 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. T., 1.30; Obstetric, M. W. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; 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.; Throat, Th. S.; Dental, Tu. F., 10.

LONDON.—Medical, daily, exc. S., 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30 and 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 9; Ear, S., 9.30; Skin, Th., 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., M. Th., 9.30; Eye, Tu. F., 9.30; Ear, W. S., 9.30; Throat, M. Th., 9.30; Skin, Tu. F., 9.30; Electrician, Tu. F., 9.30; Dental, W. S., 9.30.

ST. THOMAS'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, except Sat., 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 2; o.p., W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th., 2; o.p., daily, except Sat., 1.30; Ear, Tu., 12.30; Skin, Th., 12.30; Throat, Tu., 12.30; Children, S., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 10.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1 to 2; Obstetric, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Tu. Th. F., 2; Ear, S., 1.30; Skin, W., 1.45; S., 9.15; Throat, Th., 2.30; Dental, W., 10.30.

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

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

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.

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.

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

THE EXAMINATIONS AT THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

SIR,—Those who have noticed the recent results of the examinations at the College of Surgeons, must, I think, feel, as I do, that there is something very wrong somewhere, either in the schools or in the examinations; the number of rejections being so very great, out of all reasonable proportion, and such as to demand thorough investigation. I see by your report in the JOURNAL, that at the recent examinations, 70 candidates were rejected out of 136; surely there must be either a very lax system at the schools, or the examinations are not fair tests. I incline strongly to the latter view, more especially at the Primary Examinations; take for instance the subject of physiology; with so wide a subject there should be some limit, either certain books should be specified, or some guide given as to the branch of the subject upon which they would examine—it is so arranged at the universities; and then, above all, I believe that sufficient allowance is not made for highly nervous men, which is more than ever necessary now that such vast numbers are rejected, that both teachers as well as candidates feel that there is no certainty as to who will get through. As a rule the quick men, with good memories and self-possession, are successful, and the dull plodding men, probably in the end the best, with indifferent memories, and no self-confidence, are rejected, whereby grievous harm and discouragement are inflicted upon the student, and a heavy penalty imposed on the parents.

I believe I am right in stating that the rejections at the College of Surgeons exceed largely those of any other examining body in the United Kingdom; and that, therefore, the subject urgently needs ventilation amongst those interested, and, indeed, on public grounds, and I shall be glad to know the opinion of others on this matter, and shall be surprised if the mention of it does not elicit some remarks.—I am, yours etc,

M.R.C.S., etc.

SIBERIAN PLAGUE.

SIR,—With reference to your note on the prevalence of Siberian plague in Russia, it may reassure some to know (as was clearly ascertained by Surgeon-Major Colvill and myself during our visit to Russia in 1879) that what the Russians mean by Siberian plague, is a contagious cattle-disease occasionally transferred to man, that is, anthrax, or some very closely allied disease. It has nothing to do with bubonic or Oriental plague, though a confusion has sometimes arisen on this point, and did even at one time find its way into official reports in this country.

As to the bubonic plague of the neighbourhood of Bagdad, noticed in your JOURNAL, as well as in some London morning papers, it was announced in July that the plague had been "stamped out"; but it is well to remember that this is the official statement published in every plague-year at that season, when the epidemic is temporarily extinguished by the intense heat of the weather. Whether it is to recur in the winter, or next year, no one can say.—Yours faithfully,

J. F. PAYNE.

78, Wimpole Street.

SCHULTZEN'S METHOD OF DETERMINING OXALIC ACID IN URINE.

H. V.—The urine is rendered weakly alkaline with ammonia, and then treated with calcium-chloride to complete precipitation. The whole is next evaporated to a small volume, strong alcohol added, and the mixture laid aside for twelve hours, then it is filtered, and the precipitate washed with alcohol and ether. The precipitate is subsequently washed with water and acetic acid in succession, the residue dissolved in hydrochloric acid, filtered, and the filtrate first made alkaline with ammonia and then strongly acid with acetic acid. The resulting oxalate of lime is collected on a filter, washed, and converted into caustic lime before weighing. Fehrbinger's modification of Neubauer's process also gives very good results, and it is less troublesome in its performance than the above.

SCARLET FEVER.

SIR,—Will you or some of your many scientific readers be so good as to show how to account for the fact, that scarlet fever, that was in 1803, according to Dr. Reece, "a disease so mild as to require nothing more than to observe a low diet, and to avoid cold air and cold drink," has become, in 1884, "one of the most dangerous and contagious diseases known," so says Dr. Newsholme in *Hygiene*, page 365? There must be a cause for this sad change.—Yours, etc.,

ENQUIRER.

THE TREATMENT OF PHIMOSIS WITHOUT (CUTTING) OPERATION.

SIR,—Recently a child, aged 18 months, with tight phimosis, was placed under ether; I then inserted within the prepuce the end of a pair of dressing-forceps, expanded the blades, and with great ease retracted the prepuce behind the glans. The facility and rapidity with which this was done (the whole process being almost momentarily), and the satisfactory results, lead me to doubt whether it is justifiable to submit any infant to the risk, however slight, attending circumcision (to say nothing of other objections); and in the case of adults (for whom Mr. Richmond's ingenious instrument appears specially intended), it seems to me highly probable, at any rate, that a similar proceeding could well be borne without anaesthetics, and that it would be preferred by the patient to a tedious gradual dilatation—I am etc.,

HERBERT L. SNOW.

40, Norfolk Terrace, Bayswater, W.

THE ASPIRATOR.

SIR,—Dr. Protheroe Smith, in his letter in the JOURNAL for November 8th, referring to my paper on Aspirators, seems somewhat aggrieved that I remarked that "it was not until the year 1869 the instrument attained anything like perfection." I think if he will refer to my paper again, and will read the following paragraph, he will see that I have given him credit for what he claims. I say, "Dr. Protheroe Smith claims priority of invention to Dr. Dieulafoy, as he suggested a set of exploring needle-trocars, with exhausting syringe attached, which he exhibited, in the year 1867, at the annual meeting of the British Medical Association held in Dublin." He will pardon me, however, I am sure, if I repeat that his instrument was "not nearly so perfect as Dr. Dieulafoy's."—Yours obediently,

FREDERIC B. JESSETT.

16, Upper Wimpole Street, W.

COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, &c., have been received from:

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Spitalfields Genius; The Story of W. Allen, F.R.S. Retold by J. Fayle, B.A. London: Hodder and Stoughton. 1884.
Hygiene; Its Principles as Applied to Public Health. By E. F. Willoughby, M.B. Lond. London and Glasgow: W. Collins, Sons, and Co. 1884.

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