

comparative experiments on ourselves and on animals. We promised to undertake, in writing, not to publish any account of our experiments, if we should discover anything new, until he should empower us to do so. All to no purpose!

"The experiments that we were prevented from making in Valencia are now being made in the laboratory of the Museum for Comparative Pathology at Paris, and I shall perhaps give an account of them later on."

POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of this Association will be held at the Lecture Room, Public Hall, Queen Street, Cardiff, on Wednesday, July 29th, at one o'clock in the afternoon; Dr. Joseph Rogers, of London, in the chair.

As matters of great importance to the Poor-law Medical Service will be brought forward and discussed on this occasion, it is earnestly hoped that all poor-law medical officers attending the meeting of the British Medical Association at Cardiff will make an effort to be present.

Among the subjects that will be referred to will be: Lunacy Law Reform; the Enfranchisement Clauses of the Government Medical Relief Bill; Permanence of Appointments, etc.

By order,

JAMES MILWARD, M.D., Local Honorary Secretary.

Cardiff, July 21st, 1885.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1885. ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

ANY qualified medical practitioner not disqualified by any by-law of the Association, who shall be recommended as eligible by any three members, may be elected a member by the Council or by any recognised Branch Council.

A meeting of the Council will be held on October 14th, 1885. Candidates for election by the Council of the Association must send in their forms of application to the General Secretary, not later than twenty-one days before the meeting, namely, September 24th, 1885.

Candidates seeking election by a Branch Council should apply to the secretary of the Branch. No member can be elected by a Branch Council unless his name has been inserted in the circular summoning the meeting at which he seeks election.

FRANCIS FOWKE, General Secretary.

GRANTS FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

THE Scientific Grants Committee of the British Medical Association desire to remind members of the profession engaged in researches for the advancement of medicine and the allied sciences, that they are empowered to receive applications for grants in aid of such research. Applications for sums to be granted at the next annual meeting should be made without delay to the General Secretary, at the office of the Association, 161A, Strand, W.C. Applications must include details of the precise character and objects of the research which is proposed.

Reports of work done by the assistance of Association grants belong to the Association.

Instruments purchased by means of grants must be returned to the General Secretary on the conclusion of the research in furtherance of which the grant was made.

NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETINGS.

A MEETING of the Council 1884-1885 will be held in the Council Room of the Town Hall, Cardiff, on Tuesday next, the 28th instant, at half-past two o'clock in the afternoon. Meetings of the Council 1885-86 will be held in the Council Room of the Town Hall, Cardiff, on Wednesday, the 29th instant, and Thursday, the 30th instant, at half-past nine o'clock in the forenoon.

London, July 23rd, 1885. FRANCIS FOWKE, General Secretary.

COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION OF DISEASE.

INQUIRIES are in progress on the subjects of

CHOREA, DIPHTHERIA,
ACUTE RHEUMATISM, OLD AGE,
CANCER OF THE BREAST.

Memoranda on the above, and forms for recording individual cases, may be had on application.

It is requested that returns in Chorea and Acute Rheumatism be sent in at as early a date as possible, as the Reports on these subjects are in preparation.

The greater part of the "Old Age" form may be filled in by a non-medical person, if necessary.

The Committee are also glad to receive reports of cases of the following conditions, memoranda and forms for which are prepared.

PAROXYSMAL HÆMOGLOBINURIA.

ALBUMINURIA IN THE APPARENTLY HEALTHY.

SLEEP-WALKING. ACUTE GOUT.

The "Sleep-walking" form may be filled in by a non-medical person, if necessary.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.—The Committee will be glad to receive reports of cases illustrative of the points mentioned in the JOURNAL of January 31st, 1885 (p. 249). Separate copies of the article and questions alluded to will be forwarded on application.

THE CONNECTION OF DISEASE WITH HABITS OF INTEMPERANCE.—A schedule of inquiry upon this subject has been prepared by the Committee, and was issued with the JOURNAL of May 9th. Replies are requested on the schedule issued with the JOURNAL of May 9th. Additional copies of the schedule may be had at once on application.

Returns on ACUTE PNEUMONIA are still received.

THE ETIOLOGY OF PHTHISIS.—Continuation of inquiry. The Committee will be glad to receive the names of gentlemen willing to engage in joint investigation of any of the following points in relation to the origin of cases of Phthisis;—(a) The influence of residence and occupation; (b) the previous state of the patients' thoracic organs and general health; (c) heredity and communication. Full particulars will be sent on application.

Application for forms, memoranda, or further information, may be made to any of the Honorary Local Secretaries, or to the Secretary of the Collective Investigation Committee, 161A, Strand, W.C.

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.—J. MAITLAND, M.B., Honorary Secretary, Madras.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH: ESSEX DISTRICT.—The next meeting will be held at Braintree, Friday, August 7th, at 2.30 P.M. Dr. Elliston, of Ipswich, President of the East Anglian Branch, will preside. Agenda.—1. To decide time and place of next meeting. 2. President's address. 3. The Radical Cure of Hernia, by C. B. Keetley, Esq., London. 4. Notes on a Case of Myxœdema, by C. E. Abbott, Esq., Braintree. 5. Twin Abortion, by J. Sinclair Holden, M.D., Sudbury. 6. A short Account of the New Association of Members of the Royal College of Surgeons, by C. E. Abbott, Esq., Honorary Secretary of the Association for Essex. 7. Coxeter's Obstetric Vade Mecum will be shown by Mr. Abbott. After the meeting there will be high tea at the Horn Hotel. Any member wishing to be present, or to read a paper, or to exhibit a case, is requested to notify his intention to the honorary secretary on or before Tuesday, August 4th.—WILLIAM THOMAS JACKMAN, Coggeshall, Essex, Honorary Secretary.

MIDLAND BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of this Branch was held at the Infirmary, Leicester, on Thursday, July 9th, under the Presidency of Dr. G. Pearce.

Business.—The Secretary intimated that the names of Mr. Sympton and Mr. Wright Baker had been again sent in to the General Secretary as those members selected to act on the Council. An explanation for this course having been taken was given, and his action was confirmed by the meeting. Dr. Morris, of Spalding, took exception to the method of selection of members for this office, and a protest was entered by him against the system observed by this Branch. Dr. Webb supported Dr. Morris, but the remainder of the meeting voted in favour of the course adopted on this and other occasions.

Branch Council.—Mr. Hatherly for Nottinghamshire, Mr. Pilcher and Dr. C. Hamson for Lincolnshire, and Mr. Willan for Leicestershire, were elected to take the places of those members retiring from lapse of time.

President-elect.—Dr. Newman (Stamford) was proposed by Mr. SYMPSON, of Lincoln, seconded by Dr. MORRIS. This proposition was received most cordially.

Honorary Secretaries and Treasurer.—Dr. Carline (Lincoln) was elected General Secretary and Treasurer for the Branch in place of Dr.

Marshall, who expressed his willingness to officiate as Local Secretary for Nottinghamshire. The remaining appointments were reconfirmed.

New Members.—Mr. Montagu Williams, Mr. Boobyer, Mr. Anderson, and Dr. Whitledge were elected members of the Branch.

President's Address.—Dr. PEARCE gave a practical address on cases in his practice, illustrating the value of wood-wool dressing.

Papers, etc.—The following communications were made.

1. Mr. Victor Horsley gave an admirable address on the New Pathology of the Brain, as demonstrated by experimental research. The address was illustrated by diagrams and photographs.

2. A case of successful extraction of a Dental Plate from the Esophagus.

3. Note upon the use of Cucaïne in cases of Chronic Enlargement of the Prostate, by Mr. T. Symptom.

4. Dr. Handford (Nottingham) showed a new Clinical Chart to record temperature, pulse, and respiration.

5. Dr. Webb (Wirksworth) gave Further Observations on Derbyshire Neck.

6. Cases were shown by Mr. Hodges.

Luncheon and Dinner.—The President entertained the members at lunch in the board-room at the infirmary, and, after the meeting, about 20 members dined at the Royal Hotel.

OXFORD BRANCH: GENERAL MEETING.

A GENERAL meeting of the new Branch for Oxford and the neighbouring district was held at the Radcliffe Infirmary on June 23rd, and was largely attended. Sir HENRY ACLAND, the President of the Branch, was unable to be present.

By-laws.—The Council of the Branch proposed a series of by-laws for the acceptance of the members.

President-elect.—Dr. Gray, of Oxford, was elected president for next year.

Dinner.—Several of the members dined together in the hall of Balliol College after the meeting.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Fifty-third Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held at Cardiff, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, July 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st, 1885.

President: JAMES CUMING, M.D., F.R.C.S., Professor of Medicine in Queen's College, and Physician to the Royal Hospital, Belfast.

President-elect: W. T. EDWARDS, M.D., F.R.C.S., Physician to the Glamorgan and Monmouth Infirmary, Cardiff.

An Address in Therapeutics will be delivered by W. Roberts, M.D., F.R.S., Consulting Physician to the Manchester Royal Infirmary.

An Address in Surgery will be delivered by John Marshall, F.R.C.S., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in University College, and Senior Surgeon to University College Hospital.

An Address in Public Medicine will be delivered by Thos. Jones Dyke, F.R.C.S., Medical Officer of Health, Merthyr Tydvil.

All Sections will be held in the Town Hall.

SECTION A. MEDICINE. Crown Court.—**President:** S. Wilks, M.D., F.R.S., London. **Vice-Presidents:** T. D. Griffiths, M.D., Swansea; Byrom Bramwell, M.D., Edinburgh. **Secretaries:** W. Price, M.B., Park Place, Cardiff; E. Markham Skerritt, M.D., Richmond Hill, Clifton.

SECTION B. SURGERY. Nisi Prius Court.—**President:** E. H. Bennett, M.D., President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Dublin. **Vice-Presidents:** P. R. Cresswell, F.R.C.S., Dowlais; Edmund Owen, F.R.C.S., London. **Secretaries:** G. A. Brown, M.R.C.S., Tredegar; Thomas Jones, F.R.C.S., 96, Mosley Street, Manchester.

SECTION C. OBSTETRIC MEDICINE. Mayor's Court.—**President:** Henry Gervis, M.D., London. **Vice-Presidents:** S. H. Steel, M.B., Abergavenny; W. C. Grigg, M.D., London. **Secretaries:** A. P. Fiddian, M.B., 5, Newport Road, Cardiff; D. Berry Hart, M.D., 4, Wemyss Place, Edinburgh.

SECTION D. PUBLIC MEDICINE. Assembly Room.—**President:** D. Davies, M.R.C.S., M.O.H., Bristol. **Vice-Presidents:** E. Davies, M.R.C.S., M.O.H., Swansea; J. Lloyd-Roberts, M.B., Denbigh. **Secretaries:** Edward Rice Morgan, M.R.C.S., Morriston, Swansea; Herbert M. Page, M.D., 16, Prospect Hill, Redditch.

SECTION E. PSYCHOLOGY. Ante-Room.—**President:** D. Yellowlees,

M.D., Glasgow. **Vice-Presidents:** G. J. Hearder, M.D., Carmarthen; G. E. Shuttleworth, M.D., Lancaster. **Secretaries:** C. Pegge, M.R.C.S., Vernon House, Briton Ferry, Glamorgan; A. Strange, M.D., County Asylum, Bicton Heath, Shrewsbury.

SECTION F. OPHTHALMOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY. Grand Jury Room.—**President:** Henry Power, M.B., F.R.C.S., London. **Vice-Presidents:** E. Woakes, M.D., London; D. C. Lloyd Owen, F.R.C.S., Birmingham. **Secretaries:** J. Milward, M.D., 54, Charles Street, Cardiff; A. Emrys-Jones, M.D., 10, St. John Street, Manchester.

SECTION G. PHARMACOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS. Council Chamber.—**President:** T. R. Fraser, M.D., F.R.S., Edinburgh. **Vice-Presidents:** J. Talfourd Jones, M.B., Brecon; W. Murrell, M.D., 38, Weymouth Street, London. **Secretaries:** Evan Jones, M.R.C.S., Ty Mawr, Aberdare; J. H. Wathen, L.R.C.P., 16, York Place, Clifton.

Local Secretary: Alfred Sheen, M.D., Halswell House, Cardiff.

TUESDAY, JULY 28TH, 1885.

2.30 P.M.—Meeting of 1884-85 Council. Council Chamber, Town Hall.

3.30 P.M.—General Meeting. Report of Council and other business. Adjourn at 5 P.M. Assembly Room, Town Hall.

8 P.M.—General Meeting. President's Address, and any business adjourned from meeting at 3.30 o'clock. Assembly Room, Town Hall.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29TH, 1885.

9.30 A.M.—Meeting of 1885-86 Council. Council Chamber, Town Hall.

11.0 A.M.—Second General Meeting. Address in Therapeutics. Assembly Room Town Hall.

2 to 5 P.M.—Sectional Meetings.

5 to 7 P.M.—Garden Party by the High Sheriff of Glamorgan and Mrs. Hill.

8 P.M.—A *Conversations* will be given by the President of the Association and the South Wales and Monmouthshire Branch. Park Hall, Park Place.

THURSDAY, JULY 30TH, 1885.

9.30 A.M.—Meeting of Council. Council Chamber, Town Hall.

11 A.M.—Third General Meeting. Address in Surgery. Assembly Room, Town Hall.

2 to 5 P.M.—Sectional Meetings.

6.30 P.M.—Public Dinner. Park Hall, Park Place.

FRIDAY, JULY 31ST, 1885.

10 A.M.—Address in Public Medicine. Assembly Room, Town Hall.

11 A.M.—Sectional Meetings.

2 P.M.—Concluding General Meeting. Assembly Room, Town Hall.

3.30 P.M.—Music and Refreshments at the Windsor Gardens, Ffarnth, by invitation of Lord Windsor.

8 P.M.—Reception by the Mayor of Cardiff. Park Hall, Park Place.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1ST, 1885.

Excursions.

The following discussions and papers are promised up to the present time. Members desirous of reading papers or joining in the discussions are earnestly requested to communicate, without delay, with the Secretaries of the respective Sections, as the date of the annual meeting is a week earlier than usual.

SECTION A.—MEDICINE.

The following subjects have been chosen for special discussion.

1. The Clinical Aspect of Glycosuria. Introduced by F. W. Pavy, M.D. Dr. J. Milner Fothergill, Professor P. W. Latham, Dr. C. H. Ralfe, Dr. R. Saundby, Dr. W. R. Thomas, and Dr. G. H. Savage, will take part in the debate on this subject; and Dr. E. Markham Skerritt will contribute a paper on Acute Febrile Glycosuria.

2. The Treatment of Acute Rheumatism. Introduced by J. S. Bristowe, M.D. Dr. Sidney Coupland, Professor P. W. Latham, Dr. G. B. Barron, Dr. C. H. Ralfe, Dr. Prosser James, Dr. W. R. Thomas, and Dr. E. Markham Skerritt, will speak in the discussion.

The following papers have been promised.

BIDEN, W. P., Esq. The Climate of Hyères.

BRAMWELL, Byrom, M.D. 1. On Right-Sided Endocarditis. 2. (a) Demonstrations of Ulcerative Endocarditis (naked-eye specimens); (b) Microscopical Sections and Drawings of (a) Cardiac Vegetations; (b) Kidneys; (c) Spleen; (d) Skin; (e) Choroid Coat of the Eye; (f) Membranes of the Brain; (g) Brain showing Micrococci.

BULKLEY, L.D., M.D. (New York). Asthma as related to Diseases of the Skin.

CAMPBELL, J. A., M.D. A Note on the Frequency of Biliary Calculi in Patients at the Carlisle Asylum.

COULPLAND, Sidney, M.D. On Gangrene of the Lung.

DRUMMOND, E., M.D. 1. Malarious Melanemia. 2. The Influence of Geographical Position upon the Phenomena of Fever.

DRYSDALE, C. R., M.D. 1. The Treatment of Syphilis, and the alleged Prevention of Tertiaries. 2. On the Hygienic Treatment of Phthisis.

DUTTON, Thomas, M.D. Treatment of Gastric Ulcer by Nutrient Enemata; some further Cases.

FOOTHERGILL, J. Milner, M.D. When a Patient Dies of Exhaustion, of what does he Die?

GRIFFITHS, T. D., M.D. The Causes of the Localisation of Tubercle in the Apex of the Left Lung.

HADDON, John, M.D. The Tropical Sea, as best Health-Resort for those suffering from Pulmonary and Renal Affections.

HARPER, H., M.D. 1. Extraordinary Coma in a Child. 2. Abnormally Shaped Skull.

- HARRISON, A. J., M.B. A New Method of Treating Tinea Tonsurans.
 JAMES, Prosser, M.D. Pancreatic Digestion.
 LOEBNER, G., M.D. Acupuncture, and its Use in some forms of Chronic Rheumatism.
 MACIVER, F. A., M.D. Trades-Phthisis.
 MYRTLE, A. S., M.D. Syphilitic Eruptions; their Successful Treatment by Mercury and the Sulphur Springs of Harrogate, after the Method practised at Aix-la-Chapelle.
 MYRTLE, J. A., M.B. Cutaneous Eruptions traceable to Central and Local Nerve-Influences.
 PADLEY, G., Esq. A Case of Empyema Successfully Treated by Operation.
 PAVY, F. W., M.D. Cyclic Albuminuria (Albuminuria in the apparently Healthy).
 RABAGLIATI, A. C. F., M.D. A Criticism of the New Nomenclature of Disease.
 SHEEN, A., M.D. Some Points in the Treatment of Enteric Fever.
 SKERRITT, E. Markham, M.D. Cases illustrative of Rupture of the Pulmonary Air-Vesicles.
 SMART, A., M.D. A Note on Anthracosis.
 SMITH, R. Shingleton, M.D. On Intrapulmonary Injections.
 STEPHENS, Lockhart, Esq. 1. A Case of Simple Stenosis of the Oesophagus, with specimen. 2. A Rare Form of Congenital Heart-Disease.
 STRAHAN, J., M.D. Puzzling Conditions of Heart and other Organs dependent upon Neurasthenia.
 STRATON, C. R., Esq. Chorea; its Pre-choreic Stages.
 TATHAM, J., M.D. The Registration of Cases as carried out at the Hospital for Chest Diseases and Consumption, Brompton, and the Investigations proposed to be specially worked out.
 THOMAS, W. R., M.D. A Few Remarks on the Influence of Malaria on the Progress of other Diseases.

Short abstracts of papers to be forwarded to the Secretaries.

SECTION B.—SURGERY.

The following discussions will take place.

1. A discussion on Bladder-Tumours, their Diagnosis and Treatment, will be introduced by Mr. Reginald Harrison on Wednesday, at two o'clock. The following gentlemen have expressed their intention to take part in the debate: Professor Guyon (Paris), Dr. Stein (New York), Sir Henry Thompson (London), Messrs. Knowsley Thornton, Swinford Edwards, Walter Whitehead, F. T. Paul, and Hugh R. Ker.

2. Mr. F. Treves will introduce the subject of Operative Interference in Intestinal Obstruction on Thursday, at two o'clock. The following gentlemen will join in the discussion: Messrs. Lawson Tait, Greig Smith, A. F. McGill, Alfred Eddowes, A. W. Mayo Robson, Dr. J. Ward Cousins.

The following papers are promised.

- ADAMS, W., Esq. Observations on the so-called Congenital Dislocation of the Hip-Joint.
 BALL, C. B., M.D. Melanotic Sarcoma of the Rectum.
 BISHOP, E. Stanmore, Esq. Enterorraphy, with a Description of a New Form of Suture.
 BROWNE, J. Walton, M.D. 1. Surgical Scarlatina. 2. On Treatment of Club-foot.
 CAHILL, T. E., Esq. The Latest Surgical Dressings.
 COUSINS, J. Ward, M.D. 1. The Treatment of Infantile Hernia, and a New Washable Truss. 2. The Treatment of Retention of Urine with a Capillary Catheter.
 FRANKS, Kendal, M.D. The Application of Permanent Dressings in Antiseptic Surgery, and Dry Dressing in Antiseptic Surgery.
 FRY, J. Farrant, Esq. Cure of Varices by Excision.
 HUNT, De Vere, Esq. Rupture of the Kidney; Football Accident; Recovery.
 JAMES, J. Brindley, Esq. On the Treatment of Lumbago and Rheumatic Pains by his Percusso-punctator.
 KETLEY, C. B., Esq. The Radical Cure of Hernia by Injection.
 LAWRENCE, A. G., M.D. Case of Recovery from a Severe Injury to the Skull and Brain (patient to be shown).
 NICHOLSON, R. H. B., Esq. Case of Renal Lithotomy.
 OWEN, Edmund, Esq. Caries of the Cervical Vertebrae.
 PUGH, R. N., Esq. Notes of a Successful Case of Abdominal Section for Internal Strangulation.
 ROBSON, A. W. Mayo, Esq. Case of Enterectomy for Acute Intussusception; also a series of Surgical Cases illustrating the Use of the Eucalyptus-Air, and Dry Dressings.
 ROTZ, Bernard, Esq. Two Hundred Consecutive Cases of Lateral Curvature of the Spine treated without Mechanical Supports.
 SHEEN, A., M.D. Strangulated Hernia, with Cases.
 SNOW, H. L., M.D. The Non-Hereditary of Cancer.
 STEPHENS, Lockhart, Esq. Suicidal Injury to the Stomach; Death from Internal Hemorrhage.
 THOMAS, J. Davies, M.D. (South Australian Branch). Treatment of Pulmonary Hydatid Cysts by the Establishment of Large Openings into the Sac, and subsequent Free Drainage, based upon Thirty-two Cases.

A recent dissection and other specimens will be exhibited by Dr. Bennett.

SECTION C.—OBSTETRIC MEDICINE.

An Introductory Address is promised by the President.

The subjects chosen for discussion are the following.

1. The Mechanism and Management of the Third Stage of Labour, introduced by Dr. Berry Hart. Dr. Hart will use the Oxy-hydrogen light in illustration of his paper. Dr. A. E. Aust Lawrence and Dr. J. B. Hicks have promised to take part in the discussion. Dr. A. H. Freeland Barbour contributes a paper on the Anatomy

of the Placental Site, with reference to the Third Stage of Labour and the First Days of the Puerperium.

2. The proper sphere of Constitutional and Topical Treatment in certain forms of Uterine Disease. Introduced by Dr. W. S. Playfair. Dr. Priestley, Dr. Clifford Allbutt, Dr. Imlach, Dr. A. E. Aust Lawrence, Dr. J. B. Hicks, Mr. Edis, and Dr. D. Lloyd Roberts, are expected to take part in the discussion; and a paper is contributed by Dr. More Madden, on the Correlation of Topical and Constitutional Treatment in Gynecological Practice.

The following papers are promised.

- DAVIES, D. A., M.B. Short Notes of a Case of Chronic Inversion of the Uterus.
 GRIGG, W. C., M.D. On Antiseptic Midwifery as conducted in a Lying-in Hospital.
 GRIFFITH, G. de G., Esq. The Arrest of Post Partum Hemorrhage.
 HICKS, J. Braxton, M.D. On a Condition of the Inner Surface of the Uterus after Expulsion of the Fœtus, of practical importance.
 IMLACH, Francis, M.D. On Pregnancy in Double Uterus, with a Successful Case of Porro's Operation.
 KERR, Norman, M.D. Hot-water Injections in Post Partum Hemorrhage.
 LAWRENCE, A. E. Aust, M.D. On the Septic Origin of Pelvic Inflammations.
 LESSHART, Professor (St. Petersburg). 1. On the Structure of the Pelvis. 2. On the Influence of Mechanical Violence on the Form of the Skull in Young Animals. (Specimens will be shown illustrating the above papers.) 3. Skeletons of Young Animals, showing the modifications caused by exclusive Animal and exclusive Vegetable Diets.
 MADDEN, T. More, M.D. On Ovarian Displacements.
 MILLER, Hugh, M.D. Two Cases of recurrent Placenta Prævia.
 PADLEY, G., Esq. 1. A Case of Acute Abscess of the Unimpregnated Ovary, with recovery by absorption. 2. The Accidental Rupture of an Ovarian Cyst, with recovery without reaccumulation.
 PRIESTLEY, W. O., M.D. On the Occasional Latency and Insidiousness of Grave Symptoms in connection with the Puerperal State.
 REID, W. L., M.D. The Duty of Consultant and Practitioner in Relation to Puerperal Fever.
 TAIT, Lawson, Esq. Modern Treatment of Uterine Myoma.
 WALTER, William, M.D. A Case of Hysterectomy.
 Dr. Simon Fitch (Halifax, Nova Scotia) has signified his intention of bringing before the Section his Gynecological Inventions and Discoveries.

SECTION D.—PUBLIC MEDICINE.

The President, Mr. T. J. Dyke, will deliver an address.

The following papers are promised.

- AITKEN, L., M.D. (Rome). A communication on the result likely to be obtained from the recent meeting of the International Sanitary Conference on Cholera at Rome.
 DAVIDSON, J. H., M.B. Summer Diarrhoea of Children.
 DAVIES, J. W., Esq. The Natural Elements the most Reliable Disinfectants.
 DRYSDALE, C. R., M.D. The Influence of Comfort in Lowering the Death-Rate.
 GRIFFITH, G. de G., Esq. On Unity and Differentiation in Disease, and Unity of Poison in Diseases usually considered Separate and entirely Distinct; Evolution from one Unity or Common Origin, and of one Disease from another apparently quite Different.
 JAMES, J. Brindley, Esq. Are Coroners' Juries Necessary?
 LLOYD-ROBERTS, J., M.B. Epidemic Pneumonia.
 MANTLE, Alfred, M.D. Cases of Infectious Sore-throat in which Rheumatism played a Prominent Part. (Microscopic preparations of organisms found in the throat-exudation of some of such cases, and their mode of growth in meat-infusion, will be shown.)
 MARTIN, J., Esq. Over-pressure in Schools and Home-Lessons.
 MAUNSELL, J., M.D. The Various Schemes of Medical Aid, with a view of their Adaptation to the Requirements of the Present Day.
 NICHOLLS, R., M.D. The Sewage-question Scientifically and Practically Considered.
 PAINE, H. J., M.D. Cholera and other Zymotic Diseases in their Relationship to Sanitation; Practically Illustrated.
 PRINGLE, R., M.D. Cholera.
 SWETE, H., M.D. A Real Danger, where there is a Constant Service-Supply of Water, of Disseminating Enteric Fever. Illustrated by an Exhibit.
 VACHER, F., Esq. Is Summer Diarrhoea of Children One Disease or Many?
 WELCH, H., M.B. (Title not communicated.)
 WRIGHT, S. H., M.D. Some Remarks on the Present Management of the Sanitary Medical Service, with Suggestions for its Improvement.

SECTION E.—PSYCHOLOGY.

The following papers are promised.

- CAMPBELL, J. A., M.D. Treatment of Maniacal Excitement.
 MICKLE, W. J., M.D. Brain-Disease of Traumatic Origin; Cases.
 TUKE, D. Hack, M.D. Lunacy Legislation.

SECTION F.—OPHTHALMOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.

OPHTHALMOLOGY.

Dr. Arthur Benson will open a discussion on Causes of Atrophy of the Optic Nerve other than Glaucomatous. The following gentlemen will take part in the discussions: Messrs. Edgar Browne, Richardson Cross, Frederick Mason, W. Charnley, M. M. McHardy, Frank Hodges, and Simeon Snell.

The following papers are announced.

- ANDREW, Edwyn, M.D. Extirpation of the Eyeball.
 BARRETT, J. W., M.B.; MORTON, A. Stanford, M.B. A Clinical Investigation of the Merits of Various Methods of Practising Retinoscopy.

- BENSON, A. H., M.D. Notes on a Case of Micropsia with Slight Ophthalmoplegia Internus.
- BRALEY, W. A., M.D. On Stretching of the Supratrochlear Nerve.
- HARTIDGE, G., Esq. A short note on the Examination of the Cornea and Lens with the direct Ophthalmoscope, having behind it a Strong Convex Lens.
- HEWETSON, H. B., Esq. 1. Antiseptic Precautions during Cataract and other Operations on the Eye, by means of Mr. Mayo Robson's Dry Eucalyptus Spray, followed by Antiseptic Dressings. 2. The Treatment of Interstitial Keratitis by Syndectomy in the Acute and Semi-acute Stages, without the Assistance of Specific Medicines or Counter-irritants.
- JACOBSON, D. Julius, Esq. 1. Herpes Zoster Catarrhalis. 2. Glaucomatous Cupping of the Optic Disc, with perfect acuteness of sight. 3. The Spring Catarrh of the Conjunctiva.
- MCLES, F. H., M.D. Evisceration of the Eyeball.
- SNELL, SIMON, Esq. On the Causes of Blindness in the Inmates of and Workers at a Blind Institution: 111 cases.
- TAYLOR, C. Bell, M.D. 1. Precis of One Thousand Cases of Cataract-Extraction. 2. On the Treatment of Synblepharon by Epidermic Grafts.

OTOLOGY.

Dr. F. M. Pierce will open a discussion on the Pathology and Treatment of Affections of the Ear termed Menière's Disease. Mr. E. Cresswell Baber will take part in the discussion.

Dr. Woakes will open a discussion on Syphilis a Factor in Ear-Disease. Dr. C. J. Lewis (Birmingham) will take part in the discussion.

The following papers have been promised.

- BABER, E. Cresswell, M.B. Case of Rhinolith.
- COUSINS, J. Ward, M.D. A New Inflator, Evacuator, and Injector; with Remarks on Chronic Middle Ear-Disease.
- HEWETSON, H. B., Esq. On the Immediate Improvement of Hearing following Division of Cicatrices in the Membrana Tympani.

SECTION G.—PHARMACOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS.

The following arrangements have already been made in this Section.

1. The President, Professor Fraser, F.R.S., will deliver his introductory address.
2. Professor Leech will open a discussion on the Duration of the Action of Medicines.
3. Dr. Telford Jones, Vice-President, will open a discussion on Hypodermic Medication. Dr. J. K. Spender will take part in the discussion.
4. Dr. E. Long Fox will open a discussion on the Action of Diuretics.
5. The President will open a discussion on the Action and Uses of the Digitalis Group, with special reference to Strophanthus Hispidus.

Dr. Stockman will demonstrate the Action of some members of the Digitalis Group. Professor Hay will contribute a paper on this subject. Dr. Talpade will take part in this discussion.

Professor Hay will open a discussion on the Nitrites.

A debate on Anæsthesia, General and Local, will be opened by Dr. Dudley Buxton, followed by Professor John Chiene and Dr. Milne Murray, Mr. Woodhouse Braine, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Marcus Gunn, and Dr. Redwood and Dr. Prosser James. In connection with the debate on Anæsthesia, demonstrations of various anæsthetics and apparatus will be given.

Dr. Carl Köller, of Vienna, and Dr. Dujardin-Beaumetz, of Paris, will attend and take part in the proceedings of this Section.

Gentlemen are invited to take part in the proceedings of this Section by joining in the discussions arranged, or contributing papers. Early intimation is requested to be made to one of the Secretaries of the Section.

The following papers have been promised.

- ATKIN, LAUCHLIN, M.D. Subcutaneous Injection of Salts of Quinine and Ergotone.
- CURRIE, A. S., M.D. The Antagonism between Ether and Chloroform and Ether and Amyl-Nitrite.
- KERR, NORMAN, M.D. Ought Alcohol to be prescribed? and how?
- MAKUNA, M.D., Esq. Short Notes on Extract of Quebracho.
- RAWLINGS, J. A., Esq. Dietary of Infants.

The Section will be asked to consider a proposal of Dr. Balthazar Foster, made through the Collective Investigation Committee, that this Section should discuss New Remedies, and make a selection for further investigation, in conjunction with the Collective Investigation Committee.

* * It is particularly requested that members, on their arrival, will at once proceed to the Reception-Room at the Town Hall, where each member should enter his name and address, obtain his tickets and programme, inquire for letters and telegrams, consult the list of lodgings and hotels, etc.

The Reception Room will be opened on Monday next, the 27th instant, at 12 o'clock at noon, and on the remaining days at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, closing at 6 o'clock in the afternoon.

Members desirous of reading papers, cases, or other communications, are requested to forward the titles to the General Secretary, or to one of the Secretaries of the Section in which the paper is to be read.

EXCURSIONS.

1. *Tintern Abbey and Raglan Castle*.—The party will leave the Great Western Railway Station, Cardiff, by special train at 10.30, reaching Chepstow at 11.25. Here carriages will be in readiness to drive to Chepstow Castle, and then to the foot of the Windcliff, a perpendicular mass of rocks rising 800 feet above the level of the river, and overhung with thickets; from the summit is obtained a magnificent view of the Wye, and parts of nine counties—namely, Monmouth, Gloucester, Wilts, Somerset, Devon, Glamorgan, Brecon, Hereford, and Worcester. Tintern will be reached at 1 p.m., when luncheon will be served at the Beaufort Arms Hotel. The Abbey will be visited after luncheon; and at 4.50 the special train will leave Tintern Station for Raglan, which will be reached at 5.35. Raglan Castle, one of the most picturesque ruins in Wales, will be visited, and afternoon-tea will be served on the lawn. The party will leave by special train at 7.20 p.m., and reach Cardiff at 8.30 p.m. If preferred, those returning home eastwards may stop at Newport, and catch the mail at 9.26. Arrangements will be made about luggage for the mail train. Numbers limited to 150.

2. *Glastonbury Abbey and Wells Cathedral*.—The party will leave the Taff Vale Railway Station at 8.20 a.m., and proceed by steamship *Sherbro* from the Pier Head at 8.40 a.m., reaching Burnham at 10.30 a.m. At 10.40, the party will leave by train for Glastonbury, which will be reached at 11.15 a.m. The ruins of the Abbey will be visited. In the cemetery, tradition says, are buried King Arthur and his Queen, Guinever, and Joseph of Arimathea. In the garden grows one of the oldest of the Holy-thorn trees, a graft from the miraculous staff of St. Joseph, which sprouted when thrust into the ground, and ever afterwards retained the power of flowering at Christmas. At 1 p.m., the party will leave by train for Wells, reaching that station at 1.16 p.m. Luncheon will be served at 1.30 p.m., at the Swan Hotel, Wells, after which the Cathedral will be visited. The west front of the Cathedral is one of the noblest Gothic *façades* in the kingdom, and is especially interesting for its sculptures, consisting of upwards of 300 statues. The members are invited by the Bishop of Bath and Wells to visit his palace and gardens. The ruined Bishop's Palace will also be seen, occupying, with its pleasure ground, upwards of fourteen acres. Afternoon tea will be provided at 5 p.m., at the Swan Hotel, and at 6 p.m. the return train will leave Wells; and the steamer will leave Burnham for Cardiff at 7.30 p.m., reaching there about 9.20 p.m. Numbers limited to 150.

3. *Caerphilly Castle, etc.*—By invitation of the Marquess of Bute, the members may visit Caerphilly Castle and Penylan, a mountain 1,200 feet high, in the centre of the South Wales coal-basin, commanding a fine view of the surrounding country, including the Brecon Beacons, Bristol Channel, and parts of Monmouthshire, Gloucestershire, and Carmarthenshire. A special train will leave Taff Vale Railway Station, Crockherbtown, at 10 a.m., proceeding to Quaker's Yard, whence a walk of a mile and a half will bring them to the top of Penylan. They will rejoin the train, and proceed by Rhymney Railway to Caerphilly Castle, where refreshments will be provided at 2.30. Return train at 4.45, reaching Cardiff at 5. Number limited to 200.

4. *Symonds Yat and the Speech House, Forest of Dean*.—Symonds Yat, near Monmouth, is a perpendicular cliff, standing 600 feet above the sea-level, and renowned for the very beautiful view it commands of the numerous and singular windings of the river Wye. The walk from this point along the cliff at the margin of the Coldwell Woods to Lydbrook, is unsurpassed for beauty, in the Wye scenery. The Speech House is situated in the midst of the Forest of Dean, and is surrounded with grand forest scenery. The party will leave the Great Western Railway Station, Cardiff, by special train, at 10.30 a.m., changing at Newport into the ordinary train for Symonds Yat, which leaves at 11.5, and is due at 12.46. Luncheon will be served at the Refreshment House at 1 p.m. At 2.0 p.m. the party will ascend the Yat and walk a distance of about three miles to Lydbrook Junction, whence they will leave by special train at 4 p.m. for Speech House Road, due at

4.40 P.M. Afternoon tea at the Speech House at 5 o'clock. The return train will leave at 6.24, and reach Cardiff, *via* Lydney, at 8.10 P.M. Those returning home eastwards can stop at Chepstow for the mail at 9.51.

5. *Merthyr Sewage Farm.*—Mr. Dyke, of Merthyr Tydfil, invites 30 members to visit the Merthyr Sewage Farm and witness Mr. Bailey Denton's application of Frankland's idea of downward intermittent filtration for the cleansing of sewage. Mr. and Mrs. Dyke will afterwards entertain the visitors at luncheon at their house. Leave Cardiff by Taff Vale Railway Station at 10.30.

The medical profession in Weston invite a party of 50 to visit Weston-super-Mare and Cheddar.

(For further particulars of these latter excursions, *vide* "Daily Journal," on arrival at the Reception-room.)

ANNUAL MUSEUM.

THE nineteenth annual exhibition of objects of interest in connection with medicine, surgery, and sanitary science, will take place in the Public Hall, Queen Street, Cardiff, during July 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st, 1885. (Floor-space, 9,000 feet.)

The Museum will be divided into the following sections.

SECTION A.—Preparations, diagrams, casts, and models of anatomical and pathological objects, microscopes and microscopical preparations. (Secretary, W. M. Hier Evans, Esq.)

SECTION B.—Surgical and medical instruments and appliances; other instruments for scientific investigation; new medical works. (Secretary, A. Plain, M.B.)

SECTION C.—Foods, drugs, chemicals, and pharmaceutical preparations. (Secretary, Maurice G. Evans, M.D.)

SECTION D. SANITARY SECTION.—1. Books on sanitation. 2. Ambulances and appliances for carrying or moving sick and wounded. 3. Recent improvements in hospital furniture. 4. Personal hygiene, as clothing, beds, educational appliances, domestic appliances, filters, and arrangements for softening water; disinfectants and disinfecting apparatus. (Secretary (1, 2, 3, 4), E. Seward, A.R.I.B.A.) 5. Sanitary appliances, including drawings, models, and apparatus illustrative of the ventilation, lighting, draining, etc., of hospitals, public buildings, and private dwellings. (Illustrations of defects usually found would be of great interest.) (Secretary, E. M. B. Vaughan, A.R.I.B.A.)

In Sections A and D a printed name and description must be attached to each exhibit.

In Sections B and D, and with microscopes in Section A, exhibitors must send a printed list, with the name, number, and price of each article, and a corresponding number on each exhibit.

Unless these instructions are carried out, the exhibits will be declined.

The medical, surgical, and scientific instruments and sanitary appliances must be genuine novelties or improvements on those in common use.

EXHIBITION OF INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUS.

It is intended to arrange for the exhibition of complete series of instruments, electro-therapeutic apparatus, instruments for physical diagnosis, and appliances relating to sanitary science and public health.

Facilities will also be afforded, when requested, for the display of instruments and apparatus in action.

CATALOGUE.—It is intended to print a catalogue of the exhibits in the Museum, and lithograph-plan. Descriptions should be sent in as early as possible.

To EXHIBITORS.—All expenses of carriage to be prepaid, and all risks to be borne by the exhibitors; but the committee will exercise every care of the articles entrusted to them. A card bearing the name and address of the exhibitor, with the name of the instrument, etc., to be enclosed in each package, ready to be fixed on the outside of the exhibit.

All communications with reference to the museum and advertisements for the catalogue to be addressed (prepaid) to C. E. HARDYMAN, Esq., 42, Crockherbtown, Cardiff.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL BUSINESS.

Notice is hereby given that, at the general meeting, to be held in the Assembly Room, Town Hall, Cardiff, on Thursday, the 30th instant, after the Address in Surgery, the meeting will be special to consider a motion that will be made on behalf of the Council that, in Articles 13 and 15, the word "fifty" be altered to "one hundred," so as to read as follows, namely:

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.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

On behalf of the Council a motion will be made that the following addition be made at the end of By-law No. 27:

"Any casual vacancy occurring in the Council may be filled up by any Branch the representation of which may have become vacant. The return of the election of a representative member by any Branch to fill a casual vacancy, shall be communicated in writing to the Secretary of the Association by the President or Secretary of such Branch. But any person so chosen shall retain his office so long only as the representative member in respect of whom such casual vacancy may occur would have retained the same."

Mr. Dix gives notice that he will move that an addition be made to By-law 22 in the words following:

"The railway fares—first class return—of the Representatives of the Branches who attend the Meetings of the Council shall be paid from the funds of the Association."

Mr. GEORGE BROWN hereby gives notice that he will move an alteration in By-law 17, paragraph (D), so as to read:

"Any member shall be eligible as such representative if he be a member of the Association, and shall not be disqualified to act if not resident within the area of the Branch he has been elected to represent."

Dr. JACOB (Dublin) hereby gives notice that, upon the consideration of Report of the Parliamentary Bills Committee, he will move:

"That it be an instruction to the Parliamentary Bills Committee, in view of the approaching general election, to take immediate and active steps to organise the political power of the Association; to ascertain definitely the views of parliamentary candidates upon those questions in which the Association and the medical profession are specially interested; and, so far as may be possible, to influence the members of the Association to give their votes for those candidates whose views, so ascertained, are consistent with the policy of the Association and the good of the profession."

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary.*

161A, Strand, London, June 18th, 1885.

[The following Reports of the Council, and of Committees, will be presented at the Annual Meeting at Cardiff on July 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st, and are published in accordance with the regulations for the conduct of Annual Meetings, which require that all Reports of Committees of the Association shall be printed in the Journal before the Annual Meeting.]

REPORT OF COUNCIL.

Fifty-third Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association, Cardiff, July 31, 1885.

YOUR Council have the pleasure to meet you, for the first time in the history of the ASSOCIATION, in the important seaport town of Cardiff, and for the second time in South Wales. Since the meeting at Swansea in 1853, the ASSOCIATION has made great progress; in that year, the JOURNAL was first published in London instead of Worcester, and was issued weekly instead of fortnightly. The number of members was then 1,853, and so corresponded with the numerals of the year. Cardiff offers one of the most interesting examples in recent years in the United Kingdom, of a town increasing rapidly in size and prosperity. Everywhere is to be seen the rebuilding of the old town, mostly in stone, while the enormous dock now being constructed, and the crowded condition of the others in use, point to remarkable prosperity. The presence of the Mayor, and the fine rooms of the handsome Town Hall, which have been placed at your service by the Corporation for the meetings of the ASSOCIATION, show the desire of the inhabitants to welcome you officially. In the intervals of work, and at the close of the meeting, the beauty of the surrounding scenery will afford pleasure and change to many members of the ASSOCIATION after the arduous and anxious work of the past year.

In issuing their first report under the new constitution your Council venture to express a hope that the ASSOCIATION may be as successfully governed in the future as in the past. The new constitution, by placing the whole policy and management of the ASSOCIATION under the direct control of the members is, they venture to think, more adapted than the old to its increased wealth and numerical importance.

Numerical strength of the numbered 10,826; of these, 123 have since died, and 162 Association. have resigned; 708 new members have been elected during the year, leaving a total of 11,249 members on the roll of the Association on June 16th, 1885. Your Council, in their annual report of 1884, referred to the increasing success of the colonial branches, in work, number of members, and organisation; and they now beg to direct your attention to the home branches, which are constituted as follows up to December 31st, 1884:—

Branch.	Number of Members.	Branch.	Number of Members.
Metropolitan Counties ..	915	Shropshire and Mid Wales ..	104
Lancashire and Cheshire ..	904	South Midland ..	103
South-Eastern ..	488	North Wales ..	101
Birmingham and Midland ..	337	Aberdeen, Banff, and Kincardine ..	95
Yorkshire ..	317	East York and North Lincoln ..	88
Midland ..	260	Dorset and West Hants ..	79
Bath and Bristol ..	257	Cambridge and Huntingdon ..	77
North of Ireland ..	250	Worcester and Hereford ..	73
North of England ..	249	Gloucester ..	73
Southern ..	233	Edinburgh ..	59
South-Western ..	205	Thames Valley ..	59
East Anglian ..	198	West Somerset ..	57
Dublin ..	177	South of Ireland ..	50
South Wales and Monmouth ..	172	Northern Counties of Scotland ..	47
Glasgow and West of Scotland ..	139	Reading ..	42
Staffordshire ..	120	West of Ireland ..	23
Border Counties ..	117		

Some of the Branches perform regularly all the functions of Scientific Societies, while others hold only occasional meetings, and an annual dinner. Your Council would commend to the consideration of the less active Branches the example, among others, of the South-Eastern, which, with its districts or sub-branches, holds about twenty meetings during the year, at which papers are read and discussions take place; and that of the Birmingham and Midland Counties Branch, which has, in addition to its ordinary monthly meetings at which papers are read, a Pathological and Clinical Section, meeting also monthly during the active medical session.

The Aberdeen Branch holds eight ordinary meetings in addition to the annual meeting. The Bath and Bristol Branch holds six ordinary meetings and one annual; while the Southern has many district meetings and a combined annual meeting.

As the transactions of all active Branches are regularly and fully published in the JOURNAL, your Council desire to point out that the Branches of the Association offer a means ready to hand for the development of local scientific societies, with an unrivalled medium for the publication of their transactions. By increasing the activity of Branches in this direction, all the other objects of the Association, social, ethical, and medico-political, would be simultaneously promoted.

Success of Association largely due to branch officers. The success of the Association depends very much upon the efficiency of the organisation and the amount of work done by the various Branches, and the Association is consequently under a sense of deep obligation to those gentlemen who have so kindly undertaken to fill and important duties of presidents and of honorary secretaries to the Branches during the past year.

Revenue of Association. The revenue of the Association for the year ending the 31st December, 1884, was £22,256. The expenditure, inclusive of losses from deaths, bad debts, amounts written off for depreciation of plant, and charge on cost of alteration of premises in 1878, amounted to £19,937, leaving a surplus of £2,319. A sum of £2,000 has been invested in Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway four per cent. debenture stock, at a cost of £2,300. The total invested funds of the Association, exclusive of trust funds, amount to £19,541, at cost.

The chief items of increase in the expenditure are £567, which is accounted for by the increase in the quantity of paper used, for the larger number of Journals issued, and an increase in the amount of postage of the JOURNAL. The scholarships appear for the four quarters at an increase of £213, there being only one quarter's payment in last year's financial statement. The salary of the Assistant Secretary appears also for the four quarters, against one quarter for last year, an increase of £186; there are also some items that had to be supplied after the fire which amount to £82.

The JOURNAL maintains its high reputation at home and abroad. In accordance with a long standing custom, an extensive issue of the JOURNAL is made twice yearly to the whole of the profession, and on every occasion this is followed by a large accession to the numerical strength of the Association.

On the other side your Council have the pleasure to report to you an increase in the subscriptions, £583, after deducting difference in losses from death; an increase for advertisements, £480, and of interest on investments, £101. These are the principal items of increase on the receipt side, and your Council look forward with hope to report to you next year a still further favourable progress in these items.

Advantage derived from Association printing the JOURNAL. In their annual statement for the year 1884, your Council reported to you the results achieved by taking the printing of the JOURNAL into their own hands. Satisfactory as these results appear to be, it was considered desirable to ascertain whether better could not be obtained. A

subcommittee was therefore appointed to inquire whether it was possible to devise any cheaper or better method of printing and publishing the JOURNAL. After a careful inquiry by your auditors, under the instruction of the Subcommittee, and the Journal and Finance Committee, aided by the testimony of one of the largest firms of printers in London, your Council have to report that a resolution, of which the following is a copy, was passed by the subcommittee appointed to inquire into the matter, and was adopted by the Council of the Association:—

"After a most careful consideration of the various estimates and elaborate calculation of the auditors, the Council are unanimously of opinion that, from a commercial point of view, the Association has been largely the gainer by undertaking its own printing and publishing."

Acquisition of site and erection of Association Buildings. Your Council alluded, in their last report, to the necessity which exists for acquiring convenient premises in which the business of the Association and the JOURNAL can be carried on. Increased accommodation is absolutely necessary for the efficient publication of the JOURNAL and the conduct of the general business. It is also very desirable that the Association should have premises accommodating the meetings of the Council, and in which the work of the several committees of the Association can be transacted. This building should be worthy of the Association, and should contain rooms in which members could meet for business or other purposes.

The Council, at the meeting in April, passed the following resolution:—"That the Council authorise the Subcommittee to continue its labours, and to offer a sum not under any circumstances to exceed £15,000 for a freehold site, or £600 a year for a leasehold site of not less than 80 years, and that before concluding any bargain the Subcommittee report to a meeting of the Council." Your Council suggest that you should request them to appoint a Committee with power to purchase or rent a site, and erect suitable premises.

Retention of Homœopaths subject of admission and retention of Homœopaths in Association. The Council have had under their consideration the subject of admission and retention of Homœopaths as members of the Association during the past year. An inquiry has been made throughout the 33 Branches, and the result has been that there is evidence to the effect that a large majority of the members are adverse to the admission of Homœopaths as members, but an equally large proportion are opposed to the idea of the expulsion of those members who have already gained admission into the ranks of the Association.

Your Council, therefore, feel that this decided expression of opinion by the Branches should guide the future action of the Association.

Alteration of Law requiring 100 in place of 50 Signatures to convene a General Meeting. Having regard to the increased number of members constituting your Association, your Council have considered it advisable to give notice of a change in the Articles of Association 13 and 15. These articles now require a special general meeting to be called upon the requisition of 50 members. This number has remained the same for many years; it was so in the by-laws issued for 1856, when the number of the members was only 2,000. Your Council have, therefore, given notice that, instead of 50 members, 100 be henceforward required to sign a requisition for a special general meeting of members. The Council have also given notice for an alteration in by-law 27, so as to permit casual vacancies in the representatives on the Council to be filled up by the Branches.

Association has no legal power to appoint Committees outside the Council. In the opinion of your solicitor, the Association in general meeting has not the power, by ordinary resolution or otherwise, to appoint any Committees to act independently of the Council; he further states that no power to delegate their duties having been given to the Council by the Articles of Association, the Council cannot appoint any Committees to act independently, except Committees appointed to investigate and report to the Council. To meet the object referred to, and in order to place all Committees on a sound basis, your Council propose to appoint those Committees which have heretofore been annually elected at the general meetings, and to request these Committees to report to the Council from time to time. It is manifestly undesirable that there should be several Committees acting independently of the Council, which is a representative body, elected by the Branches. On the other hand, it is certain that several of these Committees should continue to carry on the work for which they were appointed. The arrangement proposed will, in the opinion of the Council, enable the Association to derive all the benefit heretofore received from these standing Committees, and at the same time prevent friction from divided authority on points which may be of the greatest importance to the welfare of the Association.

As the work of the several Committees for the past year is recorded in separate reports, your Council do not think it necessary to do more than call attention to them, and to express a regret that another year should have passed without any attempt at important medical legislation.

In the death-roll of the past year your Council deeply regret to find many names of distinguished associates, and among them they would specially mention Dr. C. Barham, of Truro, who gave the address in medicine when the Association met at Torquay in 1880; Dr. C. C. Baylis, of Southport; Dr. T. B. Washbourne, of Gloucester; Dr. Lanchester, of Croydon (a former President of the South-Eastern Branch, and member of the Committee of Council); Dr. Buchanan Baxter, of London; Dr. James Whitehead, Dr. Noble, Dr. Thorburn, all of Manchester; Mr. J. Netten Radcliffe, of the Local Government Board; Dr. Samuel Budd, of Exeter; Dr. F. A. Mahomed, first secretary to the Collective Investigation Committee; Dr. Browne, Commissioner in Lunacy, Dumfries; Dr. F. T. von Frerichs, Professor of Medicine, University of Berlin, honorary member; Dr. E. Wells, Senior Physician to the Royal Berkshire Hospital, and Mr. W. W. Moxhay, of Reading; Mr. Martin Coates, who presided over the section of Surgery at the annual meeting of 1881; Mr. P. B. Connolly, Surgeon A.M.D., and Surgeon G. D. Bradshaw, while on duty in the Soudan; Dr. Tibbits, Bradford; Mr. W. P. Goodall, and Dr. T. P. Heslop, Birmingham, formerly a member of Committee of Council; Mr. J. Mash, of Northampton; and Dr. Dalby, R.N.

In conclusion, your Council are pleased to announce that a very cordial invitation to hold the annual meeting of 1886 at Brighton has been received from the Medical Profession of that town and district. The Corporation of Brighton have warmly seconded the invitation, and offered to place the Royal Pavilion and other public buildings at the disposal of the Association. Your Council recommends the invitation to the favourable consideration of their successors.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL REFORM COMMITTEE.

THE Committee closed their report last year with a reference to the difficulties that the powerful Government of that day had encountered in the way of medical legislation, which compelled the withdrawal of the Medical Act Amendment Bill, notwithstanding the support given by the leaders of the Opposition, and the earnest efforts of the Government to carry it.

The difficulties that beset medical legislation were never more painfully exemplified. As with the efforts of the Marquis of Ripon, and subsequently with the Duke of Richmond, so also with Lord Carlingford and Mr. Mundella, the attempt proved abortive. A strong Government, strengthened by the evidence taken before the Select Committee during two sessions under Lord Beaconsfield, and by the investigations and Report of the Royal Commission, presided over by Lord Camperdown, failed to settle the vexed question.

The Committee, at their first meeting after the last annual meeting of the Association at Belfast, instructed their Chairman to request the Government to reintroduce the Medical Bill, and he lost no time in doing so; but, owing to the adverse position of legislative business, the late Government found it impossible to introduce any measure of medical reform, although it is known that they were anxious to do so.

The change of Government, and the resolution of both parties not to submit to the legislature any measure of a contentious character, has prevented any further attempt at legislation this year. Next session, it may be hoped that more time will be available for domestic legislation, and that a Medical Bill may be brought forward which will embrace the essentials of medical reform.

EDWARD WATERS,

Chairman and Convener of the Medical Reform Committee.

REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY BILLS COMMITTEE.

THE Committee have given their attention during the year to a considerable number of matters of interest and importance to the profession. The chief of these have been: the Lunacy Acts Amendment Bill of Lord Chancellor Selborne; the Poisons Bill of the Lord President of the Council; the Burgh Police and Health (Scotland) Bill; the Local Sanitary Bills dealing with notification of infectious diseases; the Medical Relief Disqualification Removal Bill; the Housing of the Working Classes Bill; and the Medical Act (1858) Amendment Bill. Further matters, not directly arising out of Bills actually introduced, but dealing with questions that were the subject of other Parliamentary action during the year, were the position of militia surgeons; the

charge-pay of Indian medical officers; and the registration of midwives.

Detailed Reports of the meetings of the Committee, of the proceedings thereat and consequent thereon, and all the memoranda prepared, have been published in the JOURNAL from time to time, and have thus promptly been brought to the notice of the Association and of the Council.

The Lunacy Acts Amendment Bill.—Your Committee gave considerable attention to the subject-matter of this Bill immediately on its introduction. An exhaustive analysis of the Bill was published in the JOURNAL for April 11th (page 750), and its proposals need not, therefore, now be analysed in detail. At their meeting of April 30th, your Committee discussed the medical details of the measure, especially the question whether or not, and if so, how far, medical men certifying, or receiving, a "private" lunatic, would be protected by the provision of the Bill that, except in cases of urgency, no person not being a pauper, and not being a lunatic so found by inquisition, should be received or detained as a lunatic in any asylum, hospital, or licensed house, or as a single patient, except with an order under the hand of a judge of county courts, stipendiary magistrate, or justice of the peace, having jurisdiction in the place where the lunatic is. It was decided to take the opinion of counsel on this part of the subject.

An amendment of the provisions of the Bill was also suggested with reference to the reception of boarders into lunatic hospitals and licensed houses, by omitting the words "not being a person of unsound mind," the retention of which words would have shut out persons of unsound mind; and would have, therefore, reduced to very narrow limits the beneficial working of the clause. A Subcommittee, consisting of Dr. Orange, Dr. Micklo, Mr. Sibley, Dr. Laugdon Down, Mr. Wickham Barnes, Dr. Grigg, and Mr. Ernest Hart, was also appointed to deal with the whole subject, and to present a report.

This Subcommittee went with much care and patience through the Bill, and made a number of very useful suggestions, amendments, and remarks, which were printed in full in the JOURNAL for general information (volume i for 1885, pages 1073-5). Their report was communicated to the Lord Chancellor on behalf of the Committee by the Chairman, together with a prefatory memorandum explaining, in greater detail than it was convenient to insert in the report itself, some of the reasons on account of which the particular suggestions were made. It was felt, for instance, to be important to legalise consultation between the "usual medical attendant" and other medical practitioners who might be called in for a second or further opinion; since, in the interests of the patient, it is unnecessary and harmful to place any impediments in the way of full, free, and deliberate consultation between the medical men concerned in the case.

The proposals of the original Bill would have rendered the already existing provisions against such consultation more stringent than before. It was recommended that pauper patients should have the same protection, as regards the number of medical certificates, as private patients now have; so that in every case, private or pauper, there should be two medical certificates; one only being now requisite in the case of "paupers," or, rather, of those who, as regards the forms of lunacy-law, are so classed. Very many of these persons have never been a burden on the rates, and many of them never become so, even after being sent to asylums as "pauper" lunatics.

Suggestions were made for preserving, particularly for the poor, the means of enabling sudden violent and dangerous cases of insanity, or cases with sudden exacerbations, or with recurrences of former symptoms—often occurring at night—to be promptly dealt with, by giving power to a constable or overseer or relieving officer to apprehend such persons and send them to the workhouse. Patients of this kind may in a few hours accomplish a large amount of destruction, do much injury to themselves or to others, and create much public disturbance. A protective subsection was suggested for preventing frivolous and vexatious or speculative actions at law from being brought against the various medical men and others concerned in certifying, receiving, and detaining a person of unsound mind in a hospital, asylum, or licensed house, or as a single patient. It was felt that the absence of fair and reasonable protection in the performance of duties in connection with persons of unsound mind would greatly aggravate the already increasing difficulty of getting medical men to certify in cases of insanity.

The reasons for these recommendations were set out in detail in the Subcommittee's report, and it was pointed out that it was especially in cases admitted under urgency-order that some provisions were necessary for the fair and reasonable protection of those concerned.

Amongst other suggestions were the following. The clause determining the legal force of medical certificates and of "orders for re-

ception by effluxion of time, and requiring from the medical superintendents of asylums periodical special reports of the mental and physical condition of all lunatics, should either be omitted, or be so modified as not to absorb too much of the time of medical superintendents of large asylums, and thus injuriously affect the performance of their other and usual numerous and important duties.

The provisions of the Bill with respect to the sending of all letters of insane patients in asylums should be so amended with regard to letters not addressed to the authorities and persons named in the sections, that letters of the objectionable or other kinds specified in the report might, in certain cases, be retained and placed before the Commissioners or Committees of Visitors, to be dealt with as they might direct.

The several provisions of the primitive clauses of the Bill with regard to medical men should be mitigated. Many of the penalties provided would certainly only be incurred by inadvertence; and no distinction was made in the Bill between Acts done inadvertently or designedly.

The Bill, introduced on March 26th, was read a second time on April 27th. Between this date and May 19th, when it was down for Committee, the Lord Chancellor prepared no less than 13 pages of amendments.

These chiefly concerned the appointment of special justices to sign the orders in lunacy-cases; the permission of consultation between the medical men certifying; the insertion of a new clause legalising the immediate removal to workhouses, and without certificate, in certain sudden and dangerous cases of insanity; the insertion of a subsection affording some protection to medical men who sign certificates of insanity in good faith; and of one to the effect that no prosecution for misdemeanour, under s. 16 of the amended Bill, should take place except by the direction of the Attorney-General, or of the Public Prosecutor; and the omission of the proviso that boarders must not be of unsound mind. Several of these amendments were in the sense suggested in the Subcommittee's report. With the object of giving time for their consideration, the Bill was accordingly ordered to be reprinted, in order that it might be discussed in detail after the Whitsuntide recess. But the defeat of the Government upset all calculations, and the Bill shared the fate of many others in becoming a dropped order so far as the present Parliament is concerned, a resolution for its discharge being passed on the 9th instant. As one consequence of this, Lord Shaftesbury, who had resigned the position which he had held for half a century as Chairman of the Lunacy Commission, in view of his "invincible repugnance" to the introduction of a magistrate into the process of placing a patient under care and treatment in a hospital or licensed house, has now resumed that office, reserving to himself complete liberty of action as to future legislation. The general result, however, is that considerable progress has been made in shaping and amending the proposed new legislation, and in bringing to bear upon it the matured results of medical experiences.

The Sale of Poisons and Patent Medicines.—At the concluding general meeting of the Association, held on August 1st of last year, a resolution with reference to the repeal of the Patent Medicines Stamp Act, sent up by the Section of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, was adopted and referred to this Committee in order that steps might be taken to bring the matter under the notice of the Government. This resolution set forth that (1) "It is unjust to impose a tax on medicines; (2) the Act, as recently interpreted, promises greatly to impede the importation and use, especially in hospital practice, of medicines of foreign origin; (3) the Government label issued under the Stamp Act is taken advantage of by patent medicine manufacturers to give the appearance of Government endorsement to their productions, and lead the public to suppose that the properties of the medicines are sanctioned by authority."

At their meeting of February 18th last, your Committee took this reference into their consideration, together with a memorandum on the subject prepared for them by Dr. Murrell. Shortly afterwards, a Bill to regulate the sale of poisons was introduced into the House of Peers by the Lord President of the Council, which Bill contained clauses dealing with the question of patent medicines. In the Government Poisons Bill, read a second time on March 19th, precautions of great stringency were proposed with regard to the sale of poisons, the keeping, dispensing, and sale of which were to be subject to the regulations of the Privy Council, instead of the Pharmaceutical Society. Compounds not poisonous in the ordinary acceptance of the term, or under ordinary conditions if taken in moderate quantities, were to bear a precautionary label indicating their dangerous character. As to patent medicines, the Bill proposed to put them "absolutely upon the same footing as all other medicines."

"It made," in the words of

Lord Carlingford, "no distinction between cases where a certain person has compounded a certain medicine, and cases where that is not the case, nor between cases where the Government stamp is used, and where it is not used." The effect of the Bill would therefore have been that a person selling any compound containing poison, whether it bore the Government stamp or not, would do so at his own risk. If he believed it to be innocuous, and not to come within the meaning of the word "poison" or "preparation of poison," as used in the Bill, he might sell it freely without the restrictions of the Bill or of the present law, but he would do so at his own risk. If, in the case of any particular medicine, whether a so-called "patent medicine" or not, it should be proved, upon judicial investigation, that it came within the meaning of the Bill as containing dangerous quantities of poison, the person having so sold the article would be subject to the restrictions and conditions of the Bill, and, if convicted, would be liable to a penalty; and that article having been proved to be a poison would not in future be indiscriminately saleable, but would be saleable only under the restrictions of the Bill.

This measure did not meet with a very favourable reception, and, having been subsequently (April 20th), on the motion of the Lord President, referred to a Select Committee, disappeared for a time from the public view. Your Committee requested Dr. Murrell to attend on their behalf before the Select Committee, and to put in the memorandum on the subject which had been previously submitted to, and approved by, the Committee. On the change of Government, the Bill was definitely abandoned for this year.

As to the tax at present levied upon patent medicines, your Committee feel it to be unnecessary to further argue against its retention. The President of Council of our Association well summed up its evils in a letter addressed to the *Times* last year, as follows. "Passed originally as a means of raising revenue for the war against Napoleon, it has survived to the present day, in direct contravention of our policy of free trade, till now, under its most recent interpretation, it threatens to cripple commercial enterprise and to obstruct scientific inquiry. Its baleful effects in giving a quasi-government sanction to many worthless preparations, and thus bolstering up a nefarious traffic, cannot be too strongly condemned, more especially as the poor and the ignorant are the chief sufferers." Lord Carlingford himself had no word to say in favour of the tax, which he described as an unfortunate one, his only justification for it being that it brought into the Treasury £120,000 a year. Looking to the present financial exigencies of the nation, it is apparently hopeless to expect that the Government will be likely to look favourably upon any proposal to do away with this tax; and your Committee have felt it necessary therefore, to accept, as an instalment of reform, the decision of the Treasury to alter the stamp so as to make it plain that there is no Government guarantee of the medicine. The new stamps, which will be used as soon as the old ones are exhausted—namely, in about two months' time—will bear the words, "This stamp implies no Government guarantee." It is not clear whether the new Government intend to carry out the further change adumbrated in Mr. Childers's Budget speech, of taxing such medicines only as are held not to be "proprietary," but it is to be hoped that this is so. In these ways, some of the most mischievous results of the present Act will certainly be obviated, though the matter cannot be said to be left in a satisfactory position.

Burgh Police and Health (Scotland) Bill.—At the date of the presentation of the last annual report of your Committee, they were actively engaged in opposing the further progress of this Bill, which the Government were using all efforts to push through Parliament in the last days of the Session of 1884. The Bill had been introduced by the Lord Advocate with the stated object of, amongst other things, regulating upon uniform principles the sanitary law of towns. It consisted of 558 clauses, and was referred to a Select Committee, which did not include in its ranks a single medical member. Although the Bill affected very importantly the interests of the general medical practitioners of Scotland, especially making it obligatory upon them to report all cases of infectious disease in their practice to the local medical officer of health (in practically every case a rival practitioner), the Select Committee declined to receive any evidence with regard to the Bill, and held their deliberations in private. The Bill, as it appeared after amendment by the Committee, was even more objectionable to the profession than before, for it gave the medical officer of health the power of revising and contesting the diagnosis which the medical attendant on a case of infectious disease might have formed. In these circumstances, and also because of the numerous other clauses in the Bill which appeared to be ill-considered and improper, your Committee circulated amongst all the members of the legislature an exhaustive memorandum as to the medical points in the Bill, prepared by the

Chairman, in order to secure their co-operation in procuring the expunging of those parts of the Bill which dealt with medico-sanitary matters, so that the whole question of the consolidation of the public health laws of Scotland might be carefully inquired into before further piecemeal legislation was attempted. The Government, in view of the opposition raised, withdrew the Bill for the session of 1884; but they reintroduced it this year with practically all the crudities noticed by the Chairman in his memorandum,¹ unremedied and unaltered. The Bill was this time brought forward in the House of Lords; and correspondence with reference to it was at once entered into with Lord Dalhousie, who had it in charge. It was at a later period referred to a Select Committee, to whom the Chairman applied for leave to give evidence as to the medical points involved in the measure. Lord Dalhousie wrote to say that the application would be duly brought before his colleagues. The consideration of the Bill is being somewhat languidly proceeded with by the Select Committee, and evidence antagonistic to it is being adduced by the sanitary authorities of several of the large towns of Scotland; but it is impossible that it should become law this session. Your Committee have, however, circulated the Chairman's memorandum of last year amongst the members of the Select Committee, and others interested in the measure.

Local Sanitary Bills: the Notification of Infectious Disease.—As customary, the private bills of all corporations introduced into Parliament were carefully examined for proposals that might affect the interests of the medical profession. Eight bills, as originally drafted, contained clauses with regard to the notification of infectious diseases; namely, for Eastbourne, Hastings, Mossley, Ramsgate, Southport, Sunderland, Wakefield, and Wigan. A summary of the medico-sanitary proposals in these Bills was published in the JOURNAL immediately on their appearance, and correspondence on the subject was invited from members or committees of the local profession. The information which the Chairman of your Committee was able to furnish to the local practitioners had an important share, in at least two cases, in securing the expunging of the notification clauses. Communications were subsequently established with the profession in all the towns affected by these provisions; and, in the end, the clauses have either been expunged or the whole Bill withdrawn in every case but one, Sunderland, where the Select Committee to whom the Bill was referred, have passed the notification proposals, subject to their being assimilated to the form settled by Mr. Slater-Booth's Committee of 1882. As was the case last year, your Committee found it impossible to get a hearing before the Committee on Police and Sanitary Regulations, to whom all Bills of this class have been referred. In reply to an application by the Chairman, Mr. J. G. Talbot, under whose guidance the special committee held its deliberations, wrote to say that it regarded itself as bound by the decisions of the Committee of 1882, and did not intend to take evidence on the general question of the desirableness or the proper method of the notification of infectious disease. Your Committee, therefore, once more urge upon the local profession the necessity for taking an initiative in each case, in which they alone have a *locus standi*; and they repeat the opinion, which they have more than once expressed, that it is inadvisable and unwise to continue to deal with this question of the notification of infectious disease by local legislation, and that it is highly important that the whole question should be thoroughly and exhaustively considered by a Select Committee or Royal Commission, and be settled on general principles at an early date.

Housing of the Working Classes (England) Bill.—The Bill drafted upon the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Housing of the Poor, and read a second time in the House of Lords on the 16th instant, on the motion of the Prime Minister, was introduced too late to enable your Committee to consider its provisions, or to deliberate upon it in detail. Any measure designed to improve the sanitary condition and surroundings of the artisan classes in our large towns has, however, their warm sympathy, and they will be ready to give the weight of their influence towards securing the greater perfection and better administration of the law on this important subject.

Medical Relief Disqualification Removal Bill.—In the progress of the great measures before Parliament for reform of the electoral franchise, a clause was introduced into the Irish Act providing that those persons who had received poor-law medical relief should not on that account be disqualified from being registered as a voter. The passing of this clause for Ireland raised a like question in England. The political history of this question has been stated in detail in the JOURNAL, and has been so much discussed in the public papers, that it is unnecessary to repeat it. Carried in the House of Commons on

the amendment of Mr. Davey, in opposition to the Government of the day, it was subsequently rejected in the House of Lords. A considerable agitation arose in consequence throughout the country, and a measure was introduced by a private member. The new Government subsequently framed a new and more permanent measure, the second reading of which was carried by a majority of 279 to 20, with the practical concurrence of the leading members of both Governments. The attention of the Committee was drawn to the subject by the Chairman, and the attention of the Honorary Secretary of the Poor-law Medical Officers' Association (a member of this Association) has been especially given to it in the interests of the poor-law medical officers. Mr. Wickham Barnes has taken active steps in the matter, of which he will communicate the result at a special meeting of the poor-law medical officers.

Medical Acts Amendment.—This matter falls more within the province of the Medical Reform Committee than of this Committee; but, for the purpose of completing the medical history of the Parliamentary session, it may be permitted to note that the Medical Acts Amendment Bill, which was amongst the more promising of the measures that had to be sacrificed to Parliamentary exigencies in 1884, and which was to have been reintroduced this year in an abbreviated form, has, for various reasons, been once more allowed to be shelved. A short Bill, entitled the Medical Act (1858) Amendment Bill, was introduced by Dr. Lyons, but, having been blocked by the Irish members, it has now been dropped. The object of this Bill was to obtain registration, under the Medical Act, for the grade of membership recently instituted by the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland. The University of Dublin and the Royal University of Ireland, who both grant degrees in obstetrics, which, being also of recent institution, are not scheduled as registrable qualifications in the Act of 1858, gave their support and assistance to Dr. Lyons' Bill; and, in order to embrace these and any future degrees in obstetrics that may be conferred by the universities, a clause providing for their registration had been added to the Bill.

Militia-Surgeons.—The grievances of militia-surgeons under the Order of January 1881, enacting that no medical officer should be allowed to remain in the militia service after he had attained the age of 65, have been repeatedly under the consideration of your Committee during the last four sessions. A petition from your Committee explanatory of the case, supported by others influentially signed, was presented to the Secretary for War in 1882; and, in June 1883, Sir Eardley Wilmot, Dr. Farquharson, and other members, brought the matter directly under the attention of the House of Commons. The motion for the appointment of a Committee to inquire into the matter was then only lost by 13 votes, and the course of the debate gave some confidence to the hope that such a Committee would eventually be granted. At the Liverpool meeting in 1883, a resolution expressive of regret at the long delay in redressing militia-surgeons' grievances, was passed by our Association. This Session, all preparations had been made, with the co-operation and assistance of your Committee, for an effective debate on the subject on May 19th, when Sir Eardley Wilmot was proposing to move "that the case of the militia-surgeons in respect to their just claims to compensation for being deprived compulsorily of their appointments from the exigencies of the services, and not from any fault of their own, be referred to a Committee of this House." Unfortunately, this motion ranked in the order-paper after one by Mr. Warton, on the subject of Wednesday sittings; and the temptation to the House to retaliate upon the member for Bridport for his peculiar obstructive tactics proved too strong. The House was counted out before the motion as to militia-surgeons could be reached; and thus was lost practically the only real opportunity of drawing attention this session to the grievances of a deserving and hardly used class of public servants. It is obviously essential, however, that the matter should be brought to a definite issue, and should not be allowed to remain in its present anomalous and unsatisfactory position.

Charge-Pay to Medical Officers of Indian Station-Hospitals.—On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman has for some time been much in communication with Members of Parliament and those concerned, on the subject of a particular hardship under which Indian medical officers at present suffer. The Local Government in India have desired to give the officers in medical charge of station-hospitals an allowance known as "charge-pay," being impressed with the great importance and weighty responsibility of such positions. This pay has been disallowed by the Home Government; and, in view of the great discouragement to a valuable class of officials thus involved, your Committee directed a letter to be addressed to the Secretary of State for India, asking for a reconsideration of his Council's decision. The answer received was, unfortunately, not favourable, the Military Secretary being instructed

¹ Published in the JOURNAL for August 9th, 1884, p. 293.

to say that "Lord Kimberley was not prepared to reopen the question of the grant of charge-allowances to officers of the British Medical Service in charge of station-hospitals in India, which had received, together with other questions relating to the pay and emoluments of medical officers in India, the careful consideration of the Secretary of State." As this reply arrived at a time when there were serious national anxieties in connection with Russia and the Afghan frontier, the time was not considered propitious for further pressing the question. But the subject will not be lost sight of when an opportunity arrives for bringing it forward again, with a better chance of favourable consideration.

Registration of Midwives.—A Bill for the registration of midwives was drafted by a joint Committee of the Parliamentary Bills Committee and the Obstetrical Society some years ago, and was accepted by the Privy Council. It was afterwards referred to the General Medical Council, approved by them, and subsequently adopted by the Government. As it had not been introduced into Parliament, your Committee thought it necessary that the attention of the Government should be recalled to the subject, and accordingly a further joint deputation was arranged to wait upon the Lord President, with a view to the prosecution of the Bill without delay. Lord Carlingford's reply was not of a very promising character, his opinion apparently being that the Bill was too complicated. Subsequent Parliamentary events made it useless to attempt to prosecute the matter further this session.

In addition to these subjects, the attention of your Committee has been directed during the year to a reference from the Council on the subject of Public Health Legislation, to the report of the Council of the Dublin Branch on the present condition of the Army Medical Department, to the proposed legislation of the subject of Rivers Pollution, and other matters on which it is not necessary to report in detail.

ERNEST HART, Chairman.

REPORT OF HABITUAL DRUNKARDS COMMITTEE.

THE Committee desire to report to the Council that, during the past year, there has been no opportunity for bringing forward any measure in Parliament in furtherance of the objects aimed at in the resolution agreed to at the annual meeting in Belfast. It is hoped, however, that, after the coming general election, the way will be clear for an attempt at improved legislation on behalf of the habitual drunkard.

The Government Inspector of Retreats, in his latest (the fourth) annual report, has at length been able to announce the successful opening of a retreat for inebriates under such conditions as ensure a fair trial of the provisions of the Habitual Drunkards Act. The Dalrymple Home, at Rickmansworth, is carried on by the Homes for Inebriates Association (a philanthropic organisation, no member of which can derive any pecuniary return from the undertaking). This institution is characterised by Dr. Hoffman as "a model for similar establishments which may be opened in future." He also reports to the Home Secretary that the "success of this retreat is very marked."

With the results of two years' work at this home, which is so highly commended by the Government Inspector, your Committee feel that they will be in a better position than before to ask for further and more effectual legislation.

Your Committee are encouraged, by the first year's operations of the Society for the Study and Cure of Inebriety, to look forward to a more general recognition of the disease-aspect of habitual inebriety, and to a more widespread demand for a stronger and a permanent Act.

Resolutions approving of better legislation have been passed by the Health Section of the Social Science Association, by the British Medical Temperance Association, and by the Society for the Study and Cure of Inebriety.

Your Committee respectfully suggest the adoption of a strong resolution by the Association, affirming (1) The need for a relaxation of the stringency of admission into a retreat, by appearance before any one justice instead of before two justices, or even without any such appearance in the first instance; (2) the permanent enactment of an amended Bill in lieu of the present Act, which will expire in between four and five years; (3) the investing of some authority with power to commit habitual drunkards, in certain cases, to a retreat; (4) the empowering of guardians to detain paupers who are habitual drunkards, and who may have voluntarily entered into a workhouse for recovery from the effects of excessive indulgence, for a period sufficient to effect their reformation and cure.

In view of the urgent call for public enlightenment and State legislation, your Committee recommend their re-election.

NORMAN KERR, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC GRANTS COMMITTEE.

THE Scientific Grants Committee have to report to you that the sum granted in aid of Scientific research was £307, of which the following are the particulars:—

	£	s.	d.
Dr. P. M. Chapman, 26, Gordon Square, W.C., for a Research on Physiological and Clinical Applications of Thermo-electric Measurement	20	0	0
Dr. V. D. Harris, 39, Wimpole Street, Cavendish Square, W., for an Investigation into the Derivatives of Hæmoglobin	10	0	0
Dr. Noël Paton, Physiological Laboratory, University of Edinburgh, a Research upon the Influence of Hepatic Stimulants on the Composition of the Urine	30	0	0
Professor Schäfer, F.R.S., University College, Gower Street, W.C., a Research into the Constitutional Properties of the Proteid Matters of the Blood	25	0	0
Mr. D. Astley Gresswell, 30, Great Russell Street, W.C., Investigations on Temperature	5	0	0
Mr. Victor Horsley, 80, Park Street, W., in Aid of Researches on Repair of Animal Tissues	25	0	0
Dr. Thim, 22, Queen Anne Street, Cavendish Square, W., Investigation into the Nature and Effects of Pathogenic Bacteria, and more particularly into those of the Bacillus Lepre	12	10	0
Dr. Angel Money, 50, Torrington Square, W.C., for an Experimental Study on Cerebral Capillary Embolism	20	0	0
Dr. Warner, 24, Harley Street, W., to Improve his Experimental Apparatus	12	10	0
Dr. Dawson Williams, 4, Oxford and Cambridge Mansions, W., in Aid of an Investigation into Infectious Wound Diseases and Tuberculosis (continued)	45	0	0
Mr. Alfred Lingard, 49, Lambeth Palace Road, S.W., an Inquiry into the Pathology of a Peculiar Contagious Ulcerative Disease in Calves, resembling Noma (Gangrenous Stomatitis) in the human being (continued)	50	0	0
Mr. Sidney H. Martin, University College, Gower Street, in Aid of a Research into the Action of Papain, and permission to retain the Apparatus of Mr. Stanley Boyd (continued)	5	0	0
Dr. J. Barr, 1, St. Domingo Grove, Liverpool, Cost of Illustrations to Report on the Causes and Mechanism of the Cardiac Impulse	25	0	0
Dr. Sydney Ringer, 13, Cavendish Place, W., for Illustrations to Report on the Influence of Rhombic Sodium-Phosphate and Sodium-Bicarbonate on Muscular Contraction	10	0	0
Dr. Theodore Cash, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C., in Aid of an Investigation of the Action of Non-Pathogenic upon Pathogenic Organisms	12	0	0
	£307	0	0

There was also a special grant of £100 made by your Council, on the recommendation of the Scientific Grants Committee, after examination into the merits of the proposed investigation by Professors Burdon Sanderson, F.R.S., and Schäfer, F.R.S., to Mr. Dowdeswell, in aid of experimentally determining the methods most suitable for conferring immunity from infection in some septic diseases.

The following sums have been returned as unused balances, namely:

	£	s.	d.
Dr. V. D. Harris	10	0	0
Professor Schäfer, F.R.S.	25	0	0
Mr. D. A. Gresswell	5	0	0
Professor Horsley	7	13	0
Dr. Angel Money	5	14	4
Dr. F. Warner	12	10	0
Dr. Dawson Williams	29	6	8
Mr. Alfred Lingard	25	13	6

£120 17 6

Dr. Chapman has purchased, in part with the grant of £20 made to him, a low resistance galvanometer and thermopile, of a particular design, with which he purposes to investigate small variations in temperature under different conditions. At present, he has found results somewhat disappointing, owing to the extreme difficulty of the subject, and to the various alterations in the apparatus which have been necessary. The preliminary experiments to determine the accurate working of the instruments are not yet complete.

The grant of £10 made to Dr. V. D. Harris was in aid of the continuation of investigations into the compounds of hæmatin on the one hand (for an account of which see *Journal of Physiology*, April, 1885), and into the nature of the proteid residue of the complex molecules of hæmoglobin on the other. At present, Dr. Harris has wholly directed his investigations to the former portion of the proposed object. Dr. Harris has been able to confirm the statements of one or more French observers as to the possibility of obtaining compounds of hæmatin with the acids closely allied to hydrochloric; namely, with hydrobromic and hydriodic acids; these compounds are made without great difficulty. The corresponding

compounds with hydrocyanic acid, Dr. Harris has not been able to obtain, nor could he procure any compound with the other mineral acids, nor with certain of the organic acids. The results obtained by Dr. Harris, therefore, agree with the before mentioned observers, and he hopes to proceed with these experiments.

Dr. Noel Paton has prosecuted a research upon the influence of hepatic stimulants on the composition of the urine (*vide* BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, July 25th).

Respecting the grant of £25 to Professor Schäfer, the research has been conducted by Dr. W. D. Halliburton, and by Mr. W. P. May, under Dr. Halliburton's direction. Their investigations of the blood and serous fluids in man and various animals, have added largely to our knowledge of the constitution of those fluids, especially of the proteid substances which occur in them. A report of the investigations has been sent to the JOURNAL for publication (*vide* BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, July 25th), and they have in part also been published *in extenso* in the *Journal of Physiology*.

Respecting a grant of £25, awarded to Professor Victor Horsley, and Mr. Samuel Shattock, for the expenses of an investigation into the healing of wounds by the first intention, owing to the method they have adopted (namely, the infliction under strict antiseptic precautions of slight wounds, and subsequently excising the same and hardening in suitable reagents for microscopical examination) their investigation has to be spread over at least a year before they can publish the results. They have prepared a quantity of material, which is now in a fit condition for examination, and they desire that the balance of the grant returned by them to the treasurer may be remitted to them for the completion of their research. They expect to publish their report at the beginning of the winter.

The investigation of Dr. Thin has been specially directed to the examination of the organs and tissues in animals that had been inoculated with leprous skin, which was proved to contain bacilli lepræ. The inoculations, which were done under anaesthesia, and with all necessary precautions to ensure that the bacilli should not perish, have been entirely negative. In animals inoculated twice at considerable intervals, the portion of skin inserted became in some instances absorbed; in others, it remained permanently fixed, undergoing little alteration. No extension of the disease took place from the inoculated tissue, and the bacilli lepræ which it contained must have undergone degeneration, as their presence could not be detected by the ordinary methods. All the organs in the animals were carefully examined for bacilli lepræ, but none were detected.

These results harmonise with those obtained by other investigators on the Continent; and it may be now considered established that, in the results of inoculation, a radical difference is shown to exist between the bacilli of tubercle and of lepra, although, as regards size and staining peculiarities, it is difficult to make a distinction between them.

During the past year, Dr. Francis Warner has devoted much time to the analysis of the tracings of movements previously obtained. The results are embodied in his work, entitled *Physical Expression*, published in the International Scientific Series. These analyses show the importance of considering the special combinations and series of movements in the body, and the coincident physical forces exciting such movements, by their action on the nerve-centres. The apparatus to be used in this experimental inquiry is still incomplete; the counters used for enumerating the combinations of movements are being remodelled with pneumatic power in place of electricity. It is hoped that this will make them more serviceable. A full account of the apparatus and the results obtained will be published as early as possible.

With regard to the research for papain, by Mr. Sidney Martin, in a paper published in the *Journal of Physiology* (vol. v, No. 4), it was shown that papain acted like trypsin on animal proteid, forming peptones, a globulin-like body, leucin, and tyrosin.

In the present research, the nature of the ferment was investigated; also its action on milk, and on the proteids occurring in the juice of the plant.

Nature of the Ferment.—It is closely associated with a proteid, a hemialbumose, which is soluble in glycerine. This glycerine-extract is very active, hence it may be of some use as a preparation.

Action on Milk.—It peptonises milk after curdling. Some practical suggestions are made in the report as to the readiest method of preparing peptonised milk, either by pancreatic extract or papain. Two stages of the digestion are suggested as useful for food; one, partially, the other, wholly digested, the former being much less bitter than the latter.

Action on Proteids of the Juice.—These proteids are globulins, and

albumose, and the proteolytic change is from globulin into hemialbumose, peptones being found in only small quantity, if at all.

Dr. J. T. Cash has been engaged in investigating the action of non-pathogenic upon pathogenic micro-organisms when grown together in a medium which is capable of sustaining the life of either in separate cultivation. For the pathogenic, he has chosen the microbe of anthrax; for the non-pathogenic, amongst others, the bacillus subtilis, bacterium termo, B. lineola micrococci (chromogenic and otherwise.) After the growth of a pure cultivation of anthrax-bacilli had proceeded for one or more days at a suitable temperature, contamination by the addition of the fraction of a drop from a cultivation of the microbe whose action upon the growth of anthrax it was desired to ascertain was practised. After the noted time had elapsed, examinations were made of the cultivating medium; and, if doubts existed as to the destruction of anthrax, inoculation of an animal was resorted to, care being taken that the inoculated droplet should be representative of all parts of the cultivation. A counterpart experiment, which consisted in introducing a certain amount of fresh anthrax, containing blood, into an established growth of some non-pathogenic micro-organisms, was also resorted to. The results afford evidence of the rapid destruction of the anthrax-bacillus under the circumstances indicated, and the enormous resistance of the spore. Thus, the bacilli contained in a droplet of anthrax-blood introduced into a growth of bacillus subtilis may be totally destroyed in no longer time than three hours, whilst a droplet of bacillus subtilis cultivation may destroy a healthy growth of anthrax in 24 hours. Some micrococci were slower in their action, but nevertheless in the end they exterminated the anthrax-growth. In one or two cases only, and those of chromogenic micrococci transplanted into the depth of a fluid medium, has the pre-existent growth of anthrax continued to thrive. A successful joint-cultivation of a pink torula and of the anthrax-bacillus has, however, been made. It is intended to publish the results of these investigations in full in the course of the present year, and therefore the questions dealing with the probable manner of destruction of anthrax by contamination, relationship of time of growth to resistance, and other questions, must be for the present postponed.

Mr. Dowdeswell's investigation is still in progress. He reports in respect to it as follows.

"In respect to the research upon the methods of conferring immunity from infection in certain septic diseases, and the conditions upon which such immunity depends, for which a grant of £100 was made to me towards the end of last year, I have to report that I first examined the so-called cholera comma-bacillus, which has been alleged to constitute the virus of Asiatic cholera; but, as I found that, in artificial cultivations, it was clearly without any specific action on the lower animals, it proved to be useless for the purposes of this research. In the comparatively large quantities in which I used these cultivations, they were found to be devoid of any appreciable effect; and it appears evident that, whatever toxic action may have been induced by other observers by the employment of still larger quantities, must have been due to a soluble chemical poison contained in the cultivations, and not to any specific action of the organism itself. The details of some of these experiments that appeared the most conclusive have already been published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

"I also obtained the virus of thickened-cholera from Mr. Watson Cheyne, but I found that the microbe, which here constitutes the contagium, in artificial cultivations develops very slowly and uncertainly, so as to constitute a great difficulty in examining the action of different agents upon its virulence; and, further, that inoculations of the unmodified fertile virus, both into cultivating fluids and also into fowls or pigeons, were uncertain in their effects, in several instances failing to germinate in the former—nutrient media—and sometimes, in the latter, producing only a slight affection, perceptible though not fatal, but which, in opposition to what has been previously stated, conferred no immunity from subsequent infection upon the subjects. This microbe thus also proved to be unsuitable for the particular investigation in question.

"In this case, however, I found incidentally that the microbe which constitutes the virus is identical with that of Davaine's septicæmia in rodents. Its morphological characters are precisely the same in both cases, and when inoculated into the rabbit from the blood of a fowl, the symptoms induced are likewise the same as those which I had previously observed in numerous experiments on the latter affection in rabbits, induced in the typical manner by the injection of septic (putrid) matter. This result appears important as showing that the disease in rabbits known as Davaine's septicæmia, which has been termed merely an experimental disease produced artificially in the laboratory, is identical with one that occurs spontaneously amongst poultry, and is at times very destructive; it points to the probable

origin of the latter, and invalidates the distinction that has been drawn between septicemic and epizootic or epidemic diseases. I have not as yet confirmed this result of the identity of the two diseases by the converse method of experiment, namely, by inducing fowl-cholera by inoculation with the virus of Davaine's septicæmia originated in the typical manner, inasmuch as, up to the beginning of June, though having made constant attempts to originate the latter disease in the usual manner (namely, by injection of putrid matter), I have failed to obtain infection, although in previous years I had invariably succeeded in March, or at the latest in April; affording a further proof of what I before referred to, namely, the dependence of the specific infectivity of putrid matter upon the season, the temperature of which, during the past spring months, has been considerably below the average; and this is only explicable by the presence in the atmosphere of the specific germs at certain times. A detailed account of these experiments and results I hope shortly to furnish.

"I have also examined the action of heat upon the virus of anthrax in artificial cultivations, but I have not found that, when modified by this means, it is capable of conferring immunity upon rodents; I am, therefore, about to try experiments in another direction, and hope, before the winter, to have definite conclusions upon the main point to communicate.

"I must express my thanks to the Association, through the Scientific Grants Committee, for the very liberal grant so handsomely made to me; and I beg to solicit its continuance till the end of the present year, to enable me to conclude the research."

Dr. Angel Money has already reported at length the result of his investigation to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society (*vide* BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, May 30th).

He found that the emboli found most suitable were arrowroot-particles, granules of potato-starch, and carmine. The particulate liquid (the above mentioned material suspended in .75 per cent. salt-solution) was generally injected into the common carotid artery. Sometimes the injection was made towards the brain; but, as a rule, the liquid was injected towards the heart. It was found to be exceedingly easy to produce embolism of the capillaries of the brain, but it was found to be difficult to get emboli into the capillaries of the upper part of the spinal cord without causing death by paralysis of respiration. The most important clinical observation which came out of the experiments was the production of involuntary movements undistinguishable from those of chorea, allowance being made for the difference between the animals used and man. This observation has not yet been verified in monkeys. The "chorea" of the other animals was apparently the result of embolism of the capillaries of the spinal cord. In nearly every animal in which the brain was affected with capillary embolism, some form of "uncontrollable" movement was present, like the "forced" movements so well known to physiologists as the result of section of various parts of the brain. When choreoid movements were developed in the animals experimented on, the reflex actions were increased. Rhythmical repetitions of one movement, such as Anacker has described as "chorea," have also been observed as the result of the experiments. Spinal paralysis, hemiplegia of cerebral type, complete facial palsy, various disturbances of pulse and respiration, nystagmus, have all been produced as the result of artificial capillary embolism.

Dr. Dawson Williams and Dr. Norris Wolfenden, who have been conducting a research for which a grant was made to the former, report that the object with which the research was undertaken has been to study the mode of action of the micro-organisms which are present in certain diseases, and to investigate the products of their vital activity under certain conditions. They write:

"The ferment-action of the organisms commonly classed as pathogenic has been heretofore rather assumed than proved to exist. Upon this point we have made a number of experiments, chiefly with the *Bacillus anthracis*. Various authors have affirmed the existence of a 'diastatic ferment' associated with the organisms of ordinary decomposition, and M. Pasteur has made the same statement with regard to the *Bacillus anthracis*; but of such a ferment in connection with that organism we have been able to obtain no evidence at all. We are disposed to agree with the statement of Wortmann, that bacteria of decomposition have a ferment-action on starch.

"On the other hand, we have met with clear evidence that the *Bacillus anthracis*, or some product of its activity, acts as a proteolytic ferment. A pure cultivation growing in a neutral or faintly alkaline infusion of beef or veal quickly renders the liquid acid. Considerable quantities of the lower fatty acid, especially acetic acid, are found in the liquid. Phenyl also appears, though in much smaller quantity, and is probably associated with acetic acid as phenyl-acetic acid. In a few instances only we have met with oxyacids, and it might be

anticipated that phenyl and oxyacids would occur in inverse ratio, phenyl being the terminal product, and the oxyacids the mid terms of the series; they are products of the destruction of albumen.

"The *Bacillus anthracis* grown in broth or in beef-jelly is capable of forming peptone from the albumen. We are not yet in a position to speak with precision as to the possibility of isolating an unorganised proteolytic ferment from the *Bacillus anthracis*; to this and allied questions we prepare to devote further attention.

"With regard to the products of bacterial activity, we believe that they must be studied from two points of view; (1) their action on the micro-organism; (2) their action on the host. It is a well-known fact that a micro-organism introduced into a suitable sterilised cultivating fluid will, at a favourable temperature, develop with great rapidity for a certain time, after which growth ceases. The *Bacillus anthracis*, under these circumstances, forms spores, which retain their reproductive power for an indefinite period; other micro-organisms, also assumed to be pathogenic, but which do not form spores, die. This cessation of growth, and, in certain cases, ultimate death, has been variously explained.

"M. Pasteur has held—and, we believe, still holds—that the micro-organism ceases to grow because it has exhausted a peculiar (hypothetical) pabulum necessary for its development. Others attribute the arrest of growth to the inhibitive action of phenyl, acetic acid, or some other of the products of the activity of the micro-organism itself.

"With regard to M. Pasteur's theory, we have at present no direct evidence to offer; but it may be easily shown that this arrest of growth occurs, while the culture-fluid still contains a considerable quantity of proteid material.

"With regard to the second theory, which has been fully set forth by Dr. Burdon Sanderson (Report of the Medical Officer to the Local Government Board), it is supported by our observations, so far as the production of phenyl and acetic acid in considerable quantities goes. On the other hand, it may be noted that the micro-organisms of ordinary decomposition can flourish in nutritive fluid in which the growth of *Bacillus anthracis* has spontaneously ceased. In ordinary decomposition, the liquid becomes alkaline. This alkalinity is, in part, at least, due to the production of ammonia, and this fact, among others, appears to suggest that the arrest of growth of *Bacillus anthracis* may be due to the gradually deteriorating influence of ever increasing quantities of acid. We propose to make further investigations on this point.

"We have failed, after most careful search, to meet with any trace of an alkaloidal body among the products of the action of *Bacillus anthracis*. We have met with indications of the presence of such a body in cultivations of Koch's comma-bacillus of cholera five days old, and alkaloidal bodies have been isolated from the products of ordinary decomposition. So far as we are aware, however, such bodies have only been discovered among the products of bacteria which tend to render the liquids in which they grow more alkaline, part of the alkalinity being due to a volatile alkali.

"This research is being conducted in the Physiological Laboratory at University College, London."

With regard to the Science Scholarships, the present holders, Mr. Watson Cheyne and Dr. Waller, have each made elaborate reports upon their respective researches. Mr. Watson Cheyne's highly important report on a research on the cholera-bacillus has been published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNALS of April 25th, May 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd. Dr. Waller's report on a research relating to the process of fatigue and recovery, is published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of July 25th. Both reports are exceedingly able and interesting.

JOSEPH LISTER, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE.

THE Collective Investigation Committee present the following report to the Council, to be laid before the annual meeting of the Association at Cardiff.

The Committee have much pleasure in announcing that the last 12 months have been productive of a fair amount of steady work in the prosecution of collective investigations. Although, as might be expected, the first burst of enthusiasm which greeted the project at its commencement has now in some degree passed off, it is abundantly evident to the Committee that in many quarters the movement has taken sure root; that a body of persevering workers who may be relied upon has been permanently attracted to it; and that this body tends

still to increase. The last quarter has shown a marked increase in the number of returns.

It has been represented to the Committee during the past year, from many different quarters, that the earlier forms of inquiry issued erred in being too long and complicated for men engaged in busy practice to fill up. The Committee, recognising the validity of this objection, have, during the year, constantly aimed at simplifying and shortening the question-papers issued in new inquiries; and this will be taken as a standing principle for the future.

In October last, Dr. Herringham resigned his office of Secretary, but still continues to lend assistance as Honorary Secretary. On the nomination of this Committee, Dr. Isambard Owen was appointed Secretary by the Council at its meeting on October 15th.

A second volume of the *Collective Investigation Record* was issued at the time of the last annual meeting of the Association at Belfast. It contained an analysis of the returns upon pneumonia and puerperal pyrexia, with a full report upon the former drawn up by Drs. Sturges and Coupland, and a report upon the latter by Dr. Galabin; besides one or two special contributions. This volume has been supplied to members of the Association at the charge of eighteenpence a copy.

The Committee do not propose to continue the *Collective Investigation Record* in the form in which it was originally started. The Committee are making arrangements for the production of their reports in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, in order that they may be accessible to all the members of the Association without extra charge. Any tables of cases that it is considered desirable to publish *in extenso* will not accompany the reports in the columns of the *JOURNAL*, but will be printed in a cheap form, together with a reprint of the reports, and supplied at a small cost to those who desire to purchase them. The Committee consider that in this manner they will best meet the wishes of the members of the Association, and at the same time avoid incurring unnecessary expenditure.

The returns upon Chorea, upwards of 400 in number, and those upon Acute Rheumatism, upwards of 600 in number, have been tabulated and revised, and are now being printed. The reports upon these returns will be issued in the course of the autumn.

A preliminary report upon the Habits of Aged Persons was prepared in the spring of this year by Professor Humphry, and was published in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of May 9th, having previously been read before the annual *conversations* of the Medical Society of London by its author, in his capacity as Orator for the year.

Upon the publication of the reports on Chorea and Acute Rheumatism, it is intended to close the inquiries into these subjects as carried on by the original question-forms; but the Committee have in contemplation to issue further inquiries of a simpler and more special character, upon such points as the results of the first investigation shall suggest. The Committee hope, in particular, to obtain more information respecting the treatment of these two affections.

Nearly 200 returns upon Acute Pneumonia have been received since the issue of the report upon that subject; which the Committee consider may well be embodied in a supplementary report at a future time. Returns will therefore still be received.

The inquiries at present extant into Diphtheria, Old Age, and Cancer of the Breast will be continued during the ensuing year.

The Committee will continue to receive returns upon the rarer diseases for which forms and memoranda have been published, namely upon Paroxysmal Hemoglobinuria, upon Albuminuria in the Apparently Healthy, upon Sleep-walking, and also upon Acute Gout. At present it is not possible for the Committee to foresee when they will be in a position to report upon these four subjects.

As regards future work:

An inquiry into the Geographical Distribution, Heredity, and some other points in the Etiology of Cancer of the Breast was issued early in the present year, and has already met with considerable success. The thanks of the Committee are due to Mr. Butlin for his personal exertions in framing and pushing this inquiry.

In the *JOURNAL* of January 31st was published an editorial upon Puerperal Pyrexia, and a fresh series of questions asking for returns on cases illustrating certain special points. Copies of these questions have been placed in the hands of the local secretaries.

In view of the importance with regard to practical medicine of definite and well ascertained facts bearing on the Connection of Disease with Habits of Intemperance, and the scanty supply of such facts at present, the Committee resolved, after long consideration, to issue a Schedule of Inquiry upon this subject, in a form originally proposed by Dr. Edward Casey, of Windsor. The Schedule was published as an insert in the *JOURNAL* of May 9th. Many returns have already been received, and they are still coming in.

The Phthisis Subcommittee is continuing its inquiry into the

Etiology of Phthisis, having lately issued a memorandum upon the subject, and a series of forms for recording the desired particulars of cases.

The Committee have at present under consideration proposals for the issue of inquiries into the Prognosis of Heart-valve Disease, and into the Duration of Infectiousness in cases of certain Infectious Diseases.

The Committee is, further, in communication with the officers of the Therapeutic Section of the annual meeting, with the view of associating themselves with that Section in the prosecution of annual inquiries into the Action and Therapeutic Value of New Remedies.

The cordial thanks of the Committee have been accorded to Sir William Gull for the able and effective address which he delivered at their request before the Medical Congress of 1885, "On the Formation of a Committee for the International Collective Investigation of Disease," the result having been the formation of such a Committee, representing most of the leading countries of Europe and America, which has now nearly completed its organisation, and will shortly commence to prosecute, in conjunction with the work of this Committee, inquiries into the Geographical Distribution and Etiology of some of the most important diathetic diseases.¹

The Committee wish to express their deep sense of the loss which has been sustained, not only by collective investigation, but by the whole science and profession of medicine, in the death of the late Dr. Mahomed, who was one of the first and most active prompters of the movement, who, as Secretary, carried on the details of its early work with extraordinary energy and devotion, and who, in his subsequent capacity of Honorary Secretary, never ceased to extend his attention and supervision to all departments of its operations.

The Committee, in conclusion, beg to apply for the renewal of the grant made last year for carrying on the work.

G. M. HUMPHRY, Chairman of Committee.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

PARIS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Norwegian Leprosy.—General News.

M. PAUL BERT has presented to the Académie des Sciences a memoir from M. Leloir on Norwegian leprosy. M. Leloir made his researches in Norway, where there are from 1,500 to 1,800 lepers. The entire population is estimated at five to six million inhabitants. In 1856, there were 2,867 lepers. Since then, special establishments have been organised for these sufferers, where they live removed from contact with the healthy inhabitants, but they are not obliged to enter these establishments. M. Leloir does not believe in direct contagion; neither clinical facts nor experimental pathology have furnished data that prove it to be contagious. All attempts to provoke leprosy by inoculating the bacilli in the tubercle of leprosy have been fruitless; hereditary leprosy is common. M. Leloir believes that there is only one kind of leprosy, but that it presents two varieties, the tubercular form and the anæsthetic form. The anæsthetic succeeds the tubercular form; the latter very often has periods of amelioration, which suggests the probability of cure, but they are frequently the preliminary phenomena of the appearance of the second form.

M. Lunier has written an interesting memoir on the subject of vintage and public health. He discussed the subject at a recent meeting of the Académie de Médecine. Wines from the South of France can neither be kept nor imported unless alcohol be added to them; if the proportion do not exceed three per cent., there is not any danger to public health. The strength of the alcohol must be limited to 12°. Moreover, it is important that the alcohol should be added when the wine is in the vats, before the second fermentation takes place. If this precaution be not observed, the result will be a simple mixture, instead of an alcoholic wine—an alcohol weakened by the presence of wine, and excessively injurious to health. It is imperative that vinous alcohol be used. Manufactured alcohol, extracted from beet-root or potatoes, especially if added to wine in casks, is excessively injurious.

MM. Béchamp and Dujardin have described their researches, which they believe to demonstrate that organic cells, or, more properly speaking, cellular granules, are resolved into microzymes.

¹ A copy of a report presented to this Committee on March 20th, 1885, by Professor Humphry and the Secretary of the International Committee accompanies this report.

he had been compelled to discontinue prescribing them, a resolution the clerk does not refer to in his letter of explanation to the Local Government Board. We shall, in our next issue, give the answer of the department to Mr. Thorold Rogers's question.

MEDICAL NEWS.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced.

- BRISTOL DISPENSARY.**—Two Medical Practitioners. Applications to Mr. E. Stock, 57, Queen Square, Bristol, by August 6th.
- CHELSEA PARISH.**—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by July 28th.
- CITY AND COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM, Stapleton, Bristol.**—Clinical Clerk. Applications to Dr. G. Thompson, Medical Superintendent.
- CLONMEL LUNATIC ASYLUM.**—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary £100 per annum, and £50 in lieu of rations. Candidates to be unmarried, and not over 32 years. Election on August 10th.
- COTON HILL LUNATIC HOSPITAL, Stafford.**—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by August 8th.
- CROYDON GENERAL HOSPITAL.**—House-Surgeon. Salary £100 per annum. Applications by August 7th.
- DEACONESSES' INSTITUTION AND HOSPITAL, The Green, Tottenham.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications to Dr. Laserson, Tottenham, by August 1st.
- DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON, AND LONDON SCHOOL OF DENTAL SURGERY, Leicester Square.**—Demonstrator of Non-Cohesive Fillings. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications by August 3rd.
- EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN AND DISPENSARY FOR WOMEN, Shadwell, E.**—Assistant-Physician. Applications by July 30th.
- EDMONTON UNION.**—Medical Officer for the parish of Cheshunt. Applications by July 29th.
- GRBAT NORTHERN CENTRAL HOSPITAL, Caledonian Road, N.**—Junior Resident Medical Officer. Applications by August 3rd.
- ISLE OF MAN GENERAL HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications to F. Brown, 46, Atholl Street, Douglas, by August 10th.
- LINCOLN COUNTY HOSPITAL.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by August 15th.
- MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY, MONSALL FEVER HOSPITAL.**—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications to the Chairman of the Medical Board.
- MASON SCIENCE COLLEGE, Birmingham.**—Demonstrator in Physiology. Applications by August 26th.
- NETHERFIELD INSTITUTION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES, Liverpool.**—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £80 per annum. Applications to R. Calder, Secretary, 4, Commercial Court, 17, Water Street, Liverpool, by August 1st.
- PARISH OF BIRMINGHAM.**—Three Temporary District Medical Officers. Salary, £400 per annum each. Applications by July 28th.
- RAMSGATE AND ST. LAWRENCE ROYAL DISPENSARY AND SEAMAN'S INFIRMARY.**—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £120 per annum. Applications by August 1st.
- ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.**—Examiner in Dental Surgery. Applications by July 30th.
- ROYAL INFIRMARY, Ryde, Isle of Wight.**—House-Surgeon and Secretary. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications by July 28th.
- STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY, Stafford.**—Assistant House-Surgeon and Secretary. Applications to F. Milnes, Blumer.
- ST. GEORGE'S AND ST. JAMES'S DISPENSARY.**—Physician. Applications by July 28th.
- WESTERN GENERAL DISPENSARY, Marylebone Road.**—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £63 per annum. Applications by July 25th.
- YORK COUNTY HOSPITAL.**—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications to R. Holtby, 5, New Street, York, by July 25th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

- BIDEN, Charles W., M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond.,** appointed House-Surgeon to the Charing Cross Hospital, *vice* J. Marriott.
- GREENFELL, H. Osborne, L.S.A.,** appointed House-Physician to the Charing Cross Hospital, *vice* B. W. Thomas.
- WALLINGTON, W. T., L.S.A.,** appointed House-Physician to the Charing Cross Hospital, *vice* W. H. Haw.

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.

- ROBERTSON.**—At Kimberley, South Africa, July 27th, 1884, the wife of William Robertson, M.D., of a son.

MARRIAGE.

- BLACKMAN-GREEN.**—On June 30th, at All Saints' Church, Portsmouth, by the Rev. William Popplewell, M.A., Vicar of All Souls, Bolton, Lancashire, assisted by the Rev. E. B. C. Churchill, M.A., vicar of All Saints, Josiah George Blackman, M.R.C.S. Eng., and L.S.A. Lond., of Poplar House, Portsmouth, to Sarah Anne, youngest daughter of Richard Green, Esq., of Bolton.

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.—St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department), 4 P.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 2.30 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 Central, 3 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.—King's College, 3 to 4 P.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, 2 P.M.—Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department), 2 P.M.—East London Hospital for Children, 3 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 3 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 2.30 P.M.

HOURS OF ATTENDANCE AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

- CHARING CROSS.**—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30 Skin, M. Th., 9.30.
- GUY'S.**—Medical and Surgical, daily, exc. Tu., 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. 3; Dental, Tu. F., 10.
- LONDON.**—Medical, daily, exc. S., 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30 and 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 1.30; o.p. W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 9; Ear, S., 9.30; Skin, 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, W., 2; Throat, Th., 2; Orthopaedic, W., 2; Dental, Tu. S., 9; Th., 1.
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