

gists as to the influence of the alkyls, of which the sedative principle of the ale is one of the best known compounds. With regard to the use of bromide combinations, which had been mentioned, it seemed probable that our most prized hypnotics of the future would be those not containing halogen elements, since those elements tended to give combinations in which they were contained too great a depressant effect on lower nerve centres and on muscle.

## BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

### FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF SECTIONS.

#### SECTION OF PATHOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14TH.

*Nature of Constitutional Susceptibility to Disease.*—After the address on the subject by the President (Dr. JOSEPH COATS), which was published in the JOURNAL on August 24th, p. 409, Professor GAIRDNER made the following remarks: He said that he had no intention of raising a discussion on the President's address, but he thought it would be a misfortune, alike for the author of that address and for the Section in which it was spoken, if words so thoughtful, so very suggestive, and (considering the obscurity of the subject) so luminous were to pass altogether without observation. At the commencement of his address Dr. Coats alluded to the remarkably powerful control, or it might almost be called coercion, exercised over the field of physiology and pathology by certain phrases derived from John Hunter. That was by no means an unusual result of the progress in doctrine as influenced by a great mind; and John Hunter's was one of the greatest and most original minds that their profession had ever known. But in Hunter's case the idea had to be clothed in language which, even according to his own estimate, must have appeared at the time inadequate; for John Hunter was no highly-educated man, and he knew well that in his case the ideas and the language together came hot, as it were, from his own brain, and almost without reference to any preceding state of medical doctrine. It was not to be wondered at, therefore, if thoughts and words thus uttered failed in some degree in sustaining criticism now. At the time when he (Dr. Gairdner) was a student the Hunterian phrase of "coagulable lymph" had been replaced, to a great degree, by "exudation," the theory being in this case that all manner of physiological materials and pathological productions were alike transuded from the capillaries, and the differences among them depended exclusively on differences in the quality of the plasma. This theory was even worked out into a kind of system, which, however, was again obliged to give way when Virchow gave to physiology and pathology the great impulse derived from his conversion of Harvey's phrase "omne vivum ex ovo" into the wide-reaching hypothesis "omnis cellula e cellula." The implication here was that everything pathological—pus, tubercle, cancer, all kinds of tumours—were alike determined by changes in the mode of growth of pre-existing cell forms, or the germs of these, in the living and healthy tissues. But here again the causes of the first step in pathological change were left in comparative obscurity; and no doubt the doctrine in question, as promulgated by Virchow, had to submit to important modifications in view of the importance attached to parasitic germs, that was, not cells generated in the diseased body, but coming into it from without, in the origin of some of these conditions. But here again the difficulty arose, how to reconcile the fact of a disease originating in a microbe with the nearly unquestionable facts of heredity in some of these cases. This was a part, but only a part, of the problem before Dr. Coats in the address referred to. Another point, not altogether distinct from the preceding, and very carefully discussed in the address, was the relation of constitutional to local changes. Any attempt to deal with this question led at once into some of the darkest and most difficult regions of biology—speculations which had led the mind of Charles Darwin himself into his curious, and as yet unaccepted, theory of pangenesis. It might almost be said that the more one thought of the distinction between local and constitutional the more difficult it became. What could be more local, for instance, than a mere habit, apparently, as it were, accidental or the result of repetition,

in the automatic movements of one limb? Yet, in one of Darwin's books there would be found a well-attested case where a habit of this kind, having no other significance in itself, was transmitted through three generations; and in one of these it was impossible for any kind of parental influence to have been exercised otherwise than through heredity, for the father died while the child was still in the cradle. Dr. Coats had not finally disposed of any of these difficult questions; no one could even attempt to do so in such an address; but he had given some important considerations towards their being viewed in the light of modern science and thought, and he (Dr. Gairdner) had no hesitation in saying that, as a teacher of medicine, he would never be able to lecture again on the relations of constitutional to local disease without taking count of this most admirable and thoughtful address.

*Neoplastic Processes from an Evolutional Standpoint.*—Mr. ROGER WILLIAMS read a paper in which he pointed out that of the two great common pathological theories—that of Virchow and the germ theory—the former had been for some time stationary, partly through the action of its originator, but that an extended version of the cell theory, enlarged by the knowledge of general biological considerations, would explain the facts. In the genesis of neoplasms they must consider the cells and the force that regulated their combinations, and that the former showed a degree of autonomy, so that one cell might produce an enormous neoplasm, but that this tendency to increase was inhibited by the influence of the whole organism. Certain cells, however, remained more or less unspecialised, and so constituted the real tumour germs. The condition which determined their growth was the removal of the restraining influence of the organism, allowing of the formation of the subordinate centres of development; so in the embryo certain monstrosities arose. The first step in the process was increased growth; secondly, cell-multiplication. A scientific classification should be founded on the degree of development attained by the cells, and the original archiblastic (epithelial) and parablastic (connective tissue) would be further divided, each into the lowly and highly organised structures.—Dr. SIMS WOODHEAD could not agree with Mr. Williams that the micro-organismal theory of the causation of tumours was so absolutely ridiculous. It was quite possible that certain growths now known as sarcomas would be relegated to the category of specific infective growths. In the case of cancers the matter had to be looked at from a different standpoint. They were in no sense due, so far as he could see, to micro-organismal activity.

## CLINICAL MEMORANDA.

### ARTHRITIC HÆMOPTYSIS.

I HAVE read with much interest the able and suggestive remarks on "arthritis hæmoptysis," by Sir Andrew Clark, which appeared in the JOURNAL of October 26th.

I should like to mention a case of pulmonary hæmorrhage which has come under my observation, and which seems to be confirmatory of the views put forth by this distinguished physician. Several years ago I was summoned to attend a gentleman, about 80 years old, who, after having had a sail in an open boat during an easterly wind, was suddenly seized with copious hæmoptysis, associated with bronchitic symptoms. There was no evidence of cardiac disease, of thoracic aneurysm, or of tuberculosis. As the breathing was considerably embarrassed, saline aperients with diaphoretics were prescribed.

At my next visit, on the following day, I was agreeably surprised to find the hæmorrhage had entirely ceased, but that an acute attack of gout had supervened in the right foot. Under the usual alkaline treatment the podagra speedily disappeared, the recovery being complete.

Does not this case supply the *experimentum crucis* necessary to establish the correctness of Sir Andrew Clark's view? Was it not clearly one of gouty hæmoptysis due to thrombosis of the terminal blood-vessels of the lung?

Weymouth.

JOHN MOORHEAD, M.D.

### RECURRENT CHANCRE.

MR. H. contracted a chancre early in 1888, and was treated for it by a London surgeon, who mercurialised him to salivation, applied nitric acid several times to the sore, and gave the patient lunar caustic to touch it with. The seat of the sore was at the free edge

It was decided to take the remainder of the business on the agenda paper at an adjourned meeting.

THE following gentlemen, having conformed to the by-laws and regulations, and passed the required examinations, were, at a meeting of the College on October 30th, admitted Licentiates:

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|--|---|
| *Barker, J. C., St. Bartholomew's.                 | *Livsey, W. E., Liverpool.                        |
| Barker, J. H., Manchester.                         | Major, A. C., London.                             |
| Bates, S. H., University College.                  | Manning, H. P. O., Guy's.                         |
| Bentham, A. O., Manchester.                        | *Mansbridge, J., Charing Cross.                   |
| Bergin, G. F., Bristol.                            | Martin, A. E., London.                            |
| Bevan, T. W., St. Bartholomew's.                   | Meyers, D. C., Toronto.                           |
| Beyts, W. G., Guy's.                               | Milner, A. S., Charing Cross.                     |
| Birkenhead, H., Manchester.                        | Morris, G., St. Bartholomew's.                    |
| Boase, W. G., St. Bartholomew's.                   | Naylor, J., St. Bartholomew's.                    |
| Borrett, G. G., London.                            | Nell, B., St. Bartholomew's.                      |
| Cameron, E. G., Middlesex.                         | Norburn, A. E., Guy's.                            |
| Carrell, G. N. P., Guy's.                          | Norton, E. E., Middlesex.                         |
| *Cato, A. McL., Westminster.                       | O'Leary, A. F. E., Bristol.                       |
| Cayley, C. H., Middlesex.                          | Olive, E. J. P., St. Bartholomew's.               |
| Chestham, S. W., Liverpool.                        | *Ormerod, H. L., Bristol.                         |
| Cleveland, R. A., University College.              | Osborne, O., London.                              |
| *Collett, H. G. O., King's College.                | *Paget, Peter, Guy's.                             |
| Collins, A. E., St. Bartholomew's.                 | Paul, M. E., London.                              |
| Conway, B. W., Manchester.                         | Pires, G., Bombay and University College.         |
| Cook, J. A., Manchester.                           | Pollock, C. S., St. George's.                     |
| Cuthbert, H. P., London.                           | Powers, C. H., St. Mary's.                        |
| *Dane, R., Middlesex.                              | *Pratt, E. F., Birmingham and Newcastle-on-Tyne.  |
| Dewhurst, J. H., Cambridge and St. Thomas's.       | *Purnell, P., Guy's.                              |
| Dickson, T. H., Cambridge and St. Thomas's.        | *Rayne, W. T., Westminster.                       |
| Dowse, H. E., Westminster.                         | Rees, J. M., St. Bartholomew's.                   |
| Duigan, W., London.                                | Rendel, A. B., St. Bartholomew's.                 |
| Edmonds, G., St. Bartholomew's.                    | *Rowlands, H. P., Guy's.                          |
| Edwards, J. H., St. Bartholomew's.                 | *Rubinstein, D., Leipzig.                         |
| Ellam, G., Middlesex.                              | Rudyard, H. A., University College.               |
| Elliot, E. H., St. Bartholomew's.                  | Saunders, F. W., Cambridge and St. Bartholomew's. |
| Enraght, W., St. Bartholomew's.                    | *Scott, G. H., Leeds.                             |
| *Evans, T. H. F., St. Bartholomew's.               | Shepherd, H. B., St. Thomas's.                    |
| *Foley, C. N., St. Thomas's.                       | Simmons, F. H., St. Bartholomew's.                |
| George, A. W., Edinburgh and St. Thomas's.         | *Simpson, G. W., Westminster.                     |
| Gibbs, S. F., St. Bartholomew's.                   | *Smith, H. W., Birmingham.                        |
| Giffard, G. G., St. Bartholomew's.                 | *Snape, E. A., Charing Cross.                     |
| Glinn, G. F., St. Mary's.                          | Speechly, H. M., London.                          |
| Goddard, J., London.                               | Stabb, A. F., St. Thomas's.                       |
| *Griffin, J. H., St. Bartholomew's.                | Standage, R. F., St. Bartholomew's.               |
| Heath, A. J., University College.                  | Stokes, W. G. G., Cambridge and St. Thomas's.     |
| Hickley, A. M., St. Mary's.                        | *Sullivan, E. H. C., St. Thomas's.                |
| Higginson, J. W., University College.              | Taylor, E. E., Edinburgh.                         |
| *Hooton, W. A., Manchester.                        | *Tindall, E. E. P., Guy's.                        |
| *Hughes, A. E. P., St. Thomas's.                   | *Toller, S. G., St. Thomas's.                     |
| Hugo, E. V., St. Bartholomew's.                    | Tuppen, H. S., St. Thomas's.                      |
| Jameson, S., Edinburgh.                            | *Verano, L. L., St. Bartholomew's.                |
| Kelbe, W. E., Guy's.                               | Walters, A. P., University College.               |
| Khan, M. A., London.                               | Warde, W. B., St. Bartholomew's.                  |
| Kitchin, H. B., University College.                | Watkins, H. E., Manchester.                       |
| Knox, J. J., Cambridge and St. Mary's.             | Wightman, H. T., Sheffield.                       |
| Lewers, A., St. Mary's.                            | Williams, E. M., University College.              |
| Lewis, L., Westminster.                            | Williams, E. G. H., Charing Cross.                |
| Ley, G. L., University College.                    | Woodall, R. W., London.                           |
| Lightbody, J. H., Liverpool and St. Bartholomew's. |   |

\* Candidates who have not presented themselves under the regulations of the Examining Board.

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.*

NOTICES OF BRANCH MEETINGS intended for insertion in the JOURNAL of the current week should be forwarded, addressed to the Editor, so as to reach the office not later than mid-day Wednesday of that week.

### BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

**WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.**—The autumnal meeting of this Branch will be held at the Railway Hotel, Taunton, on Thursday, November 7th, at 5 o'clock. Dinner at half-past five. The subject for discussion after dinner will be Proposed Legislation for amending the constitution of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. Mr. Rigden will open the discussion. Members having any communication to bring before the meeting are requested to send early notice of its title to W. M. KELLY, M.D., Honorary Secretary, Taunton.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT.**—The next meeting of the above District will take place on Thursday, November 21st, at Maidstone, Dr. White in the chair. Gentlemen desirous of reading papers or exhibiting specimens are requested to inform the Honorary Secretary of the District, A. W. NANKIVELL, F.R.C.S., St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Chatham, not later than October 31st. Further particulars will be duly announced.

**SOUTHERN BRANCH: SOUTH-EAST HANTS DISTRICT.**—A meeting will be held on Thursday, November 7th, at Grosvenor Hotel, Queen's Gate, Southsea. W. F. Brook, Esq. (President) will occupy the chair. Members desirous of exhibiting pathological specimens or making communications are requested to signify their intention at once to the Honorary Secretary, J. WARD COUSINS.

**METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.**—The next meeting will be held, by the kind invitation of Dr. Adams, at Brooke House, Upper Clapton, on Thursday, Nov. 21st, at 8.30 P.M. A demonstration of interesting cases of skin diseases will be given by Stephen Mackenzie, M.D. Visitors will be welcomed.—J. W. HUNT, Honorary Secretary, 101, Queen's Road, Dalston.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.**—The next meeting of the above District will be held at Canterbury on Thursday, November 28th. Mr. Schön, of Bridge, in the chair. All communications to be sent to the Honorary Secretary, W. J. TYSON, 10, Langthorne Gardens, Folkestone.

**THAMES VALLEY BRANCH.**—The next meeting will be held at the Talbot Hotel Richmond, on Wednesday, November 6th, at 5.30 P.M. punctually, Dr. Sealy in the chair. Agenda:—1. Presidential Address: On Some of the Errors of Routine. 2. Dr. Burney Yeo will open a discussion on Some Points in the Treatment of Typhoid Fever and Pneumonia. 3. Consideration of Dr. Rentoul's Public Medical Service Scheme. Members are requested to make themselves familiar with this scheme, as described in the JOURNAL of June 22nd, p. 1425. A full attendance is earnestly requested. Dinner at half-past seven. Kindly give me twenty-four hours' notice if you hope to be present.—CHARLES C. SCOTT, M.B., Honorary Secretary, St. Margaret's, Twickenham.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND HEREFORDSHIRE BRANCH.**—A meeting of this Branch will be held at the Infirmary, Worcester, on Tuesday, November 5th, at 3.30 P.M., in accordance with instructions of the Council of October 16th, "That Dr. Rentoul's resolutions be forwarded to the Branches for consideration, and that a Committee be appointed to receive and digest the replies, and to report upon them to the Council." It is hoped that a large number of members will attend, as the subject is one of great importance to general practitioners. Dinner will be provided at the Star Hotel, at six o'clock. Tickets 5s. each, exclusive of wine. If you intend to be present will you kindly inform me on or before Saturday, November 2nd.—Geo. W. CROWE, Honorary Secretary, Foregate Street, Worcester.

**LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.**—The autumn meeting will be held at Blackburn, on Wednesday November 6th, at 2.30 P.M. By the courtesy of the Mayor and Corporation, the meeting will take place in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall. Agenda:—The consideration of Dr. Rentoul's application for a special meeting of the Branch to discuss his resolutions. Medical and Surgical communications: Dr. John M. H. Martin will show three cases: 1. Aneurysm of the Ascending Aorta. 2. Hypertrophy of the Cheek. 3. Ectopia Vesicæ. And two specimens: 1. Resected Ends of Fractured Clavicle, woman, aged 22. 2. Ununited Fracture of Clavicle from boy, aged 3. Mr. Hunt will exhibit a specimen of Horseshoe Kidney, one extremity Hydronephrotic. Mr. Rushton Parker will remark on a few cases of Stone in the Bladder with peculiar features. Dr. Emrys-Jones will show coloured drawings of two cases of Cysts of the Iris, and read short notes. Dr. Thomas Harris will make some observations on the Curability of Pulmonary Phthisis, and show some preparations of Healed Phthisis. Dr. Judson S. Bury will read a paper on The Face as an Index of Disease. Mr. Hare will give some recent experiences in Cerebral Surgery, with remarks on the Localisation of Lesions. Dr. Hirst will read a short paper on The Medical Training of the Country Practitioner of Forty Years ago. Dr. Briggs will mention an Obstetric case (Scolio-rachitic Dwarf). Refreshments will be provided by the members of the Branch in Blackburn for those coming from a distance, in the ante-room of the Town Hall, from 2 to 2.30 P.M. Dinner: A dinner will be held (Dr. Davidson, President of the Branch, in the chair), at the Old Bull Hotel, at 5.30 P.M. Tickets, 7s. 6d. each (wine not included). Cotton Mill: By the kindness of Mr. Fred Baynes, his mill will be open to the inspection of the members. Gentlemen wishing to see over the mill should communicate with Dr. Martin, Honorary Local Secretary, Arnheim, Blackburn, who has undertaken to make the necessary arrangements.—CHARLES EDWARD GLASCOTT, M.D., General Secretary, 23, St. John Street, Manchester.

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

### LIBRARY OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS are reminded that the Library and Writing Rooms of the Association are now fitted up for the accommodation of the Members, in commodious apartments, at the offices of the Association, 429, Strand. The rooms are open from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Members can have their letters addressed to them at the office.

### NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1890. ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

MEETINGS of the Council will be held on January 15th, April 16th, July 16th, and October 15th, 1890. 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 each meeting, namely, December 25th, March 27th, June 25th, and September 4th, 1890.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Council, held at the offices of the Association, 429, Strand, W.C., on Wednesday, October 16th, 1889:

*Present.*

Dr. T. BRIDGWATER, President of the Council, in the chair.  
 Mr. C. G. WHEELHOUSE, Leeds, President-Elect.  
 Dr. HOLMAN, Reigate, Treasurer.

Dr. H. BARNES, Carlisle.	Mr. G. F. HODGSON, Brighton.
Dr. F. BATEMAN, Whitchurch.	Mr. T. V. JACKSON, Wolverhampton.
Dr. J. S. BRISTOWE, F.R.S., London.	Mr. T. R. JESSOP, Leeds.
Mr. H. T. BUTLIN, London.	Mr. EVAN JONES, Aberdare.
Dr. J. S. CAMERON, Huddersfield.	Dr. W. M. KELLY, Taunton.
Surg.-Gen. W. R. CORNISH, London.	Mr. H. R. KER, Halesowen.
Dr. J. WARD COUSINS, Portsmouth.	Mr. C. MACNAMARA, London.
Dr. G. W. CROWE, Worcester.	Dr. W. WITHERS MOORE, Brighton.
Dr. J. L. H. DOWN, London.	Dr. F. NEEDHAM, Gloucester.
Dr. D. DRUMMOND, Newcastle-on-Tyne.	Mr. C. H. W. PARKINSON, Wimbome Minster.
Mr. GEORGE EASTES, London.	Dr. C. PARSONS, Dover.
Dr. W. A. ELLISTON, Ipswich.	Dr. E. SAUNDBY, Birmingham.
Sir B. W. FOSTER, M.D., M.P., Birmingham.	Mr. S. W. SIBLEY, London.
Mr. R. S. FOWLER, Bath.	Dr. E. M. SKERRITT, Bristol.
Dr. J. H. GALTON, London.	Mr. NOBLE SMITH, London.
Dr. C. E. GLASCOTT, Manchester.	Dr. W. STRANGE, Worcester.
Dr. BRUCE GOFF, Bothwell.	Mr. T. SYMPSON, Lincoln.
Dr. O. GRANT, Inverness.	Dr. T. W. TREND, Southampton.
Dr. T. W. GRIMSHAW, Carrickmines.	Dr. W. F. WADE, Birmingham.
Mr. J. H. HEMMING, Kimbolton.	Mr. F. WALLACE, London.
	Dr. G. E. WILLIAMSON, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
	Mr. A. WINKFIELD, Oxford.

The General Secretary having reported that the minutes had been printed and circulated, and that he had received no objection to them, the President of the Council signed them as correct.

Dr. Williamson, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, called attention to the omission of his name in the printed minutes of the meeting of the Council of August 15th sent out; the General Secretary reported that the omission had been rectified in the Minute Book.

Read letters of apology for non-attendance from Dr. Mackenzie Booth, Mr. Thomas Crosse, Mr. Jones Morris, Mr. W. Pearse, Dr. W. Russell, and Dr. Alfred Sheen.

Read letter from the Medical Defence Union asking for the use of a room for meeting.

Resolved: That the use of the Council Room be granted to the Medical Defence Union upon payment of the usual fee, £1 1s.

Read communication from the Therapeutic Committee asking for the addition of four members to the Committee.

Resolved: That in accordance with the request of the Therapeutic Committee, the gentlemen whose names are as follows be added to the Committee, namely: Professor Fraser, Professor Cash, Dr. Mitchell Bruce, and Dr. Donald MacAlister.

Dr. William Strange reported that he had been requested by the widow of the late Dr. Joseph Rogers to ask the Council to accept a portrait of him—an oil painting.

Resolved: That the offer of Mrs. Rogers be accepted, with thanks.

The President reported that a resolution, of which the following is a copy, was passed at a general meeting of members held in the Coliseum, Leeds, on Tuesday, August 13th, 1889:

Resolved: That it is the opinion of this meeting that the Members of the Royal College of Surgeons of England should have a voice in the management of that College and the election of its Council, and that it be an instruction to the Council of this Association to further this object through the action of the Parliamentary Bills Committee, or a Special Committee to be appointed for the purpose at this annual meeting.

Read letter from the Chairman of the Parliamentary Bills Committee suggesting members for election on the Parliamentary Bills Committee.

Resolved: That the resolution as requested be referred to the Parliamentary Bills Committee, and that the gentlemen whose names are as follows be added to the Parliamentary Bills Committee: Mr. Rivington, Dr. Danford Thomas, and Mr. Butlin.

The President of the Council reported also that the following resolution was passed at the annual meeting, Leeds, on August 13th last, upon reading the letter of Sir Joseph Lister, of August

1st, with replies, and resolution of Council (No. 1644), and that copies had been forwarded to Sir Joseph Lister.

Resolved: That this meeting desires to express its satisfaction with the result of the present representative system of government of the British Medical Association, and their approval of the steps taken by the Council for the management of its JOURNAL.

Also the following resolution on August 13th last:

Resolved: That the motions of Dr. Rentoul and Mr. Brindley James be referred to the Council of the Association; that the Council invite the Branches and individual practitioners to forward suggestions to them; and that the Council furnish their report to the JOURNAL within six months of the present date, and refer their conclusions to a general meeting.

*Motion of Dr. Rentoul.*—See proceedings of annual meeting.

Resolved: That Dr. Rentoul's resolution be forwarded to the Branches for consideration, and that a committee be appointed to receive and digest the replies, and to report upon them to the Council.

Resolved: That the gentlemen whose names are as follows be appointed to receive and formulate the replies, namely, Dr. Rentoul, Dr. Hugh Woods, Mr. Nelson Hardy, Mr. Brindley James, Dr. Major Greenwood, Dr. Brierley, Mr. Wickham Barnes, Sir Spencer Wells, Dr. Bristowe, Dr. Henty, Mr. George Brown, the President of the Council, the Treasurer, the Chairman of the Parliamentary Bills Committee, Dr. Ogilvie Grant, Dr. Wallace, with power to add to their number.

The President of Council reported also that the resolutions, of which the following are copies, were passed at the Leeds meeting in August last.

At a general meeting of members, held at the Coliseum, Leeds, on Thursday, August 15th, 1889:

Resolved: That the best thanks of this meeting be tendered to the Parliamentary Bills Committee for their action in reference to the appointment of medical officers of health; that the Committee be requested to continue their labours in the matter, and that in the English Local Government Act a clause should be inserted providing that no medical officer of health should be dismissed from office without the consent of the Local Government Board; and also that in regard to the appointment of any such officer the word "shall" should be substituted for "may" in the English Local Government Act.

At a general meeting of members, held in the Coliseum, Leeds, on Friday, August 16th, 1889, the following resolutions were reported from the Public Health Section:

Resolved: That this meeting of the Public Health Section of the British Medical Association recommends that all keepers of hotels, hydropathic establishments, and boarding houses in a town (or other convenient district), should form themselves into an association for the mutual sanitary protection of themselves and visitors.

That this association should have for its principal objects—(1) An agreement that insists upon the removal (as soon as practicable and when consistent with safety) of all members of an infected family. (2) An agreement to require the signature of every visitor to a declaration that none of his or her party has recently been suffering from any infectious disease, or to his or her knowledge exposed to infection. (3) The establishment of a Register of Hotels certified to be in a perfect sanitary condition.

The Section recommends that such certificates, which must be approved by the local sanitary authority, should be renewed annually, after inspection, and that they should be exposed in a prominent position in every hotel, etc.

The Section also recommends such a combination of hotel-keepers, etc., that in towns where no sufficient provision for such purposes exists, they should themselves provide, either jointly or separately, a detached building for the isolation of infectious or doubtful cases.

Resolved: That the resolutions be referred to the Parliamentary Bills Committee, with full power to deal with the matter.

The President of Council reported that the following resolution had been passed at a general meeting of members, held in the Coliseum, Leeds, on August 13th, 1889.

Resolved: That the travelling expenses of representatives of Branches, incurred in attending meetings of the Council in London, be defrayed out of the funds of the Association.

Read resolutions of committee appointed to investigate and report as to the average development and brain power among children in primary schools.

Resolved: That the Committee, acting in the spirit of resolutions passed unanimously by the Section of Psychology at the annual meeting of the Association, 1889, request the Council to urge upon the School Board for London, the Government, and other educational bodies the importance of undertaking a scientific inquiry as to the condition of school children in London.

Read resolution passed by the Psychological Section at the annual meeting held at Leeds, together with a memorial concerning the appointment of a scientific inquiry as to the school population.

The following resolution, moved by Dr. Yellowlees, and seconded by Mr. North, was carried: "That the Section of Psychology of the British Medical Association, having conducted an investigation and considered their report as to the average development and brain power among children seen in primary schools, is of opinion that a Scientific Committee should be appointed by the Government for the further elucidation of this question."

The Committee suggest that the memorial of the Council be presented by deputation.

**MEMORIAL CONCERNING THE APPOINTMENT OF A SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY AS TO THE CONDITION OF THE SCHOOL POPULATION.**

The Section of Psychology of the British Medical Association having conducted an investigation, and considered their report as to the average development and brain power among children in primary schools, is of opinion that a scientific inquiry should be conducted by the School Board for London, the Government, and other educational bodies for the purpose of determining the condition of portions of the school population, as to the average development and brain power among them, the best means of classifying them, and ascertaining the relative numbers and distribution of the different classes of children.

Such inquiry should be conducted in selected public elementary schools, certified industrial schools, schools for the blind and deaf, and other exceptional schools, as well as among groups of children exempted or summoned for non-attendance at school.

Such inquiry should be conducted by examination of the children, as well as by inquiry among teachers and others.

Further, it is desirable that schools should be examined where exceptional methods of education are employed, such as Slöjd, and technical instruction, with a view to determine the effects of such methods upon the children seen.

Resolved: That the memorial be forwarded to the School Board, signed by the President of the Council and the President of the Association.

Resolved: That the correspondence on voting by proxy be referred to a committee consisting of the President, President-elect, the President of the Council, the Treasurer, and Dr. Ward Cousins, to confer with the solicitor, and to bring up a report to the Council at the next meeting.

Resolved: That 85 out of the 88 candidates whose names appear on circular convening the meeting, together with 17 of the 18 gentlemen previously elected at the Council meeting held at Leeds on August 15th, and now brought up for confirmation, be, and they are hereby, elected members of the British Medical Association.

The names of three candidates whose forms were signed irregularly by non-members of the Association were deferred until the forms had been received properly signed by three members.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Journal and Finance Committee of to-day's date be received and approved, and the recommendations contained therein carried into effect.

The Journal and Finance Committee minutes contain the report upon the quarterly accounts, amounting to £7,028 12s. 2d., the auditors' report for the quarter, and recommendations for grants of £25 to the Parliamentary Bills Committee and £10 to the compositors' sick fund.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Scientific Grants Committee of the 15th instant be received and approved, and the recommendations contained therein carried into effect.

The Scientific Grants Committee contain the recommendations for the distribution of the remaining balance of the Fund—namely, £82—and the re-appointment for one year of Dr. Sidney Martin as Scientific Scholar.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Trust Funds Committee of the 15th instant be received and approved, and the recommendations contained therein carried into effect.

The minutes of the Trust Fund contain suggestions to be communicated to Mr. Middlemore for a modification of his trust deed.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Inebriates Committee of the 14th instant be received and approved, and the recommendations contained therein carried into effect. See page 1003.

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

The minutes of the Premises Committee contain recommendations for a trial of the electric light in some of the rooms.

Read letter from Dr. Carpenter, of which the following is a copy:

Duppas House, Croydon, October 14th, 1889.

MY DEAR DR. BRIDGWATER.—Will you kindly ask the Council to relieve me of the duty of acting on the Premises Subcommittee. I think the time has arrived at which it is better for younger men than myself to take such duties. I am not now often in London, and not so able to give the attention required as I used to be.

I have now assisted in the work of the Council for a long number of years, and have seen it come from lodgings in a back street, through the hired premises in the Strand, to its present noble home.

I sincerely hope it will continue to be prosperous and long preserve its commanding position.—Believe me, faithfully yours,

Dr. Bridgwater.

ALFRED CARPENTER.

Resolved: That Messrs. Price, Waterhouse and Co. be re-appointed public auditors for the ensuing year, in accordance with Bylaw 26.

The President of Council reported that the following resolution had been passed at a general meeting of members held in the Coliseum, Leeds, on Wednesday, August 14th, 1889.

Resolved: That the Council be empowered to arrange for a place of meeting of 1890, and to appoint a President-elect.

Dr. Wade, Sir Walter Foster, Mr. Lawson Tait, Dr. Saundby, Mr. Hugh Ker, and Mr. Vincent Jackson, attended as a deputation from

the Birmingham and Midland Counties Branch. Dr. Wade, on behalf of the deputation, offered a warm invitation to hold the annual meeting of 1890 in the city of Birmingham.

Resolved: That the invitation to hold the annual meeting of 1890 in the city of Birmingham be cordially accepted, and that Dr. Wade be appointed President-elect.

Resolved: That the gentlemen whose names are as follows be appointed an arrangement committee to consider the necessary arrangements for the annual meeting of 1890, namely:—Dr. Wade, Mr. Lawson Tait, Mr. Lloyd Owen, Mr. Hugh Ker, Dr. Saundby, Dr. Carter, Mr. T. H. Bartleet, Mr. Bennett May, and Mr. Jordan Lloyd, together with the President, President of Council, the Treasurer, Mr. Eastes, Dr. Glascott, Mr. Jessop, Dr. Needham, Dr. Markham Skerrett, and Dr. Williamson.

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

The inaugural meeting of the session was held at the Hackney Town Hall on Thursday, October 24th. Nineteen members and visitors were present. The chair was taken by the PRESIDENT of the Branch.

*Paper.*—After the usual formal business, a paper on Certain Forms of Hepatic Cirrhosis was read by Sir DYCE DUCKWORTH, M.D. The paper was listened to with much interest, and called forth considerable discussion, in which the PRESIDENT (Dr. Ord), Drs. ANGEL MONEY, GREENWOOD, WOODS, HUNT, FULCHER, and others took part.

*Votes of Thanks.*—Most hearty votes of thanks were proposed and carried with enthusiasm to Sir Dyce Duckworth and Dr. Ord.

**DORSET AND WEST HANTS BRANCH.**

The autumn meeting of this Branch was held at Weymouth on Wednesday, October 23rd, Mr. P. W. G. NUNN, President, in the chair. Thirty-seven members and visitors were present.

*Election of Officers.*—Dr. Edward Monro Spooner, of Blandford, was elected President; and Dr. P. W. MacDonald, of the Dorset County Asylum, and Mr. William Rendell, of Marden Newton, Vice-Presidents for 1890. Dr. William Vawdrey Lush, of Weymouth, and Mr. C. H. Watts Parkinson, of Wimborne, were re-elected joint Honorary Secretaries and Treasurers.

*New Members.*—Mr. John Benson Cooke, of Portland; Mr. Hubert Houssemayne Du Boulay, of Weymouth; and Mr. George Moule Evans, of Bridport, were elected members of the Branch.

*Next Meeting.*—It was resolved that the May meeting should be held at Ringwood.

*Vote of Sympathy.*—A vote of sympathy was accorded to Dr. Eadie, of West Coker, Somerset, and congratulations on his vindicating his character from unfounded charges. Notice was given that at the next meeting a vote of confidence would be moved to Mr. Charles Marsh, of Yeovil.

*Medical and Surgical Emergencies.*—A discussion on Some Medical and Surgical Emergencies was opened by the PRESIDENT, and taken part in by Drs. LAWRIE, MOORHEAD, GRIFFIN, MCLEAN, SNOW, and TIZARD; Messrs. PARKINSON, LYS, and MARSH.

*Communications.*—Dr. MACDONALD: Notes on a case of Tumour of the Cerebellum, with an absence of all symptoms. The specimen was shown.—Dr. CHILDS: Astigmatism as a Common Cause of Headache.—Dr. MOORHEAD: Case of Extroversion of the Bladder. The patient was shown.—Dr. LAWRIE exhibited a set of Apostoli's Instruments for the Electrical Treatment of Uterine Tumours, and Dr. MOORHEAD boxes of Dr. Ward Cousins's Artificial Antiseptic Ear Drums.

*British Medical Benevolent Fund.*—A donation of two guineas was granted to the British Medical Benevolent Fund.

*Dinner.*—The members and visitors dined together at the Royal Hotel.

**NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH.**

The autumnal meeting was held at the Royal Infirmary, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on Wednesday, October 23rd, at 3 P.M., the President, Dr. BARRON, in the chair.

*Cases.*—Dr. COLBY showed Two Typical Cases of Duchenne's Paralysis, which gave rise to a good discussion.—Dr. ROBERTSON showed a case of Tubercular Tumour of the Larynx treated by Tracheotomy.

*Medical Defence Union.*—Dr. PHILLIPSON brought forward the question of a medical defence union, and it was resolved that a division for the counties of Northumberland and Durham be formed.

*Treatment of Hæmorrhoids.*—Dr. MURPHY described the method he adopts for the operative treatment of hæmorrhoids. The remaining papers were postponed.

*Dinner.*—After the meeting the members dined together at the Douglas Hotel.

#### STIRLING, KINROSS, AND CLACKMANNAN BRANCH.

THE autumn meeting of this Branch was held in the Scottish National Institution for Imbecile Children at Larbert on Friday, October 18th, at 4 P.M. Dr. STRACHAN was in the chair, and there were also present Drs. Haldane, Leslie, Linton, Ronald, Cribbes, Wickham, Griffiths, Joss, Mackintosh, Peake, and Lewis.

Apologies for absence were received from Drs. Macpherson, Spence, Oswald, Lindsay, Keith Macdonald, John Fraser, Hosack Fraser, Reid, McCandlish, and Kirkwood.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

*Imbecility in Children.*—Dr. LESLIE read a paper on the types of imbecility in children, and illustrated his remarks by the exhibition of a large number of imbecile children. He said the term "imbecile child" was one of no exact scientific value, but the sense in which it was accepted might be illustrated by giving a classification of children in general based on their attitude towards education: 1. The class of the normal child of varied mental endowment, but who were all educable by the methods of our ordinary schools. 2. The class of the imbecile child of varied but all of weak mental capacity, educable only by special more elementary methods, the class for which the Larbert Institution was specially devoted. 3. The class of the idiot child, where the mental incapacity was so profound that the children composing it were practically unable to benefit by any form of education. Some of the more common and important characters, chiefly of physical defect, which many imbecile children exhibited, such as abnormalities of the cranium, palate, teeth, muscularity, vision, speech, etc., were then described, and cases exhibiting them in a marked degree were shown. Special attention was directed to the characters of the "Mongolian" group. In the course of the address medical statistics of the institution were given; 22 per cent. of the number resident suffered or had suffered from epilepsy; speech was absent in 32 per cent.; 14.5 per cent. of the girls and only 3 per cent. of the boys were of the Mongolian type. The improvement in mental and physical condition often attained, even in the least hopeful, by special modes of education was then referred to, and the speaker concluded by giving an account of the methods in use in the Larbert Institution.—Dr. HALDANE proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Leslie for his most interesting demonstration, and this was carried unanimously.

*Dinner.*—The members were then conducted over the institution by Dr. Leslie, and later they were most hospitably entertained at dinner by the directors of the institution, who gave a cordial welcome to the visit of the Branch.

#### MIDLAND BRANCH; LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT.

THE first meeting ever held of this District took place at Melton Mowbray on October 24th, and was fairly attended; G. T. WILLAN, Esq., President of the Branch, was in the chair.

*Sudden Death after Labour.*—The PRESIDENT read notes of a case of sudden death occurring after labour, and discussed the probable cause.—Dr. NEWMAN and Mr. FRANKLIN attributed it to embolism of the pulmonary artery.

*Vomiting of Pregnancy.*—Dr. PRATT read a paper on vomiting of pregnancy, in which he stated he had cured two serious cases by application of cocaine to the os uteri by means of a vaginal suppository. The effect was permanent, and not merely transitory, as in some other cases where cocaine was used.—Dr. POPE referred to a paper by Gottschalk,<sup>1</sup> in which menthol was recommended in such cases, and stated that he had since found it answer in a case of vomiting due to ovarian irritation.

*Typhoid Pneumonia.*—Dr. HANDFORD read a paper on typhoid pneumonia, in which he drew attention to the frequent coexistence of epidemics of enteric fever and pneumonia, and also to an attack of pneumonia proving the first symptoms of an attack of enteric fever, and suggested that a common cause might underlie the fever and certain cases of the lung disorder. He showed many beautifully executed water-colour sketches of microscopical preparations from cases of the two diseases, and especially insisted on the fact that enteric fever was not to be considered a disease localised in the intestine, but that it had its manifestations in almost all organs.

<sup>1</sup> *Berl. klin. Woch.*, October 7th, 1889.

*Post-Nasal Growths.*—Dr. BENNETT related instances where deafness, etc., had been caused by post-nasal growths, and described the disadvantages arising from inability to breathe through the nose. He recommended removal of soft growths with the finger nail, and showed instruments—a scoop and cutting forceps—which might be used should the nail not be sufficient.

*New Lunacy Act.*—Mr. R. C. STEWART described instances in which lunacy certificates had been improperly filled in, and gave an account of the requirements of the Commissioners in Lunacy, and also of the changes which the new Lunacy Act would effect in the duties of those signing certificates.

*Vote of Thanks.*—Dr. HANDFORD proposed, and Mr. L. POWELL seconded, a vote of thanks to the President.

*Dinner.*—Most of the members then dined together.

## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

### PARIS.

*Surgical Congress: The Surgical Treatment of Tubercular Diseases.—Removal of Meckel's Ganglion in Facial Neuralgia.—Laryngeal Cancer.—Thallin.—Puerperal Fever.—The "Cholera Scare."—Pseudo-Urinary Troubles.*

M. LE DENTU dealt with several subjects, degeneration of the medulla of long bones placed at a distance from tubercular arthritic affections, nephrectomy in renal tuberculosis, suprapubic cystotomy in tubercular disease of the bladder, scraping of the prostate gland. With regard to the first of these subjects, M. Le Dentu said the bone medulla in this affection was steatosed, this condition forbade excision and might render immediate amputation necessary. Sometimes the medulla became rarefied, and the medullary canal was completely empty; M. Le Dentu mentioned several cases of amputation in which bones were observed to present this condition, also fistulæ. In the other cases he adopted a more radical treatment; for fungoid arthritis of the elbow-joint he amputated the limb, leaving half of the upper part of the arm; the bones were observed to be friable; M. Le Dentu therefore decided on disarticulating the stump; in arthritis of the knee-joint, M. Le Dentu performed disarticulation of the hip-joint. After nephrectomy for renal tuberculosis, the patient was troubled by the presence of a fistula, iodoform administered internally during three or four years arrested suppuration. Suprapubic cystotomy was unsuccessful in a case of tubercular disease of the bladder, complicated with pain and hæmaturia, the kidneys being probably attacked. Another patient operated on two years, found life bearable. In a very severe case of tubercular disease of the bladder, M. Le Dentu left permanently an india-rubber catheter. The patient's condition was considerably improved. M. Le Dentu suggests that this treatment should be tested in cases of tubercular cystitis. M. Le Dentu records a case of abscess of the perineum cured by scraping the prostate gland.

Dr. Daniel Mollière stated that he had three times removed Meckel's ganglion to relieve incurable facial neuralgia. In one case five years had elapsed since the operation, and there was no recurrence. In the other two cases neuralgia has returned.

Dr. Demons, of Bordeaux, showed a patient whose larynx he had removed, two years and four months ago, for laryngeal epithelioma; there was no sign of recurrence.

M. A. Robin stated, before the Academy of Medicine, that thallin acts as a poison on red blood corpuscles, nerve tissue, and all tissues containing a considerable quantity of sulphur and phosphorus; it is not therefore a good antipyretic, because it hinders elimination of uric acid, and should never be administered to arthritic patients.

The fact that recently epidemics of puerperal fever are of frequent occurrence has been brought under the notice of the Minister of the Interior. These epidemics are attributed to the neglect by French midwives of antiseptic injections. The midwives, on the other hand, allege that they are forbidden to use antiseptics, all of which, applied in certain doses, are caustic and toxic. The Minister sought advice from the Academy of Medicine, and a committee appointed by that body recently presented its report. It decides that antiseptic precautions should be practised by midwives, but at the same time states that druggists cannot sell mercuric salts or carbolic acid unless authorised to do so by a prescription signed by a medical man or an *officier de santé*. The committee therefore proposes that druggists be



## UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

## OXFORD.

DR. W. S. CHURCH has been elected the representative of the University on the General Medical Council, in the place of the late Dr. T. K. Chambers. An examination will be held in Preventive Medicine and Public Health, commencing on November 25th, at 10 A.M. The examination is only open to those who have passed all the examinations requisite for the Bachelor of Medicine at Oxford. Names must be sent to the Regius Professor by November 11th.

## CAMBRIDGE.

**GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL.**—The term of five years for which Professor Humphry was elected to represent the University on the General Medical Council expires on November 13th. Professor Humphry has been elected on four occasions, and he has written a letter to the Vice-Chancellor thanking the University for the honour thus conferred on him, and stating that it is not his intention to offer himself for re-election. The Vice-Chancellor fixes Thursday, November 7th, from 2.30 to 3.30, for the election of a successor, the voters being all persons who are on the register of members of the Senate. A circular has been sent out, signed by Professors Paget, Humphry, Macalister, Liveing, Foster, and Roy, the Master of Downing (Dr. Hill), Dr. Gaskell, and a number of other resident members of the medical faculty, stating that Dr. Donald Macalister will be voted for.

**JUNIOR DEMONSTRATOR OF PHYSIOLOGY.**—W. B. Hardy, B.A., of Gonville and Caius College, has been appointed Junior Demonstrator of Physiology, in place of Mr. Wingfield, resigned.

**CRANE'S MEDICAL CHARITY.**—A meeting of the distributors of Crane's Charity will be held in Trinity Lodge on Tuesday, November 19th, at 10 A.M., to make grants "to poor scholars, for their relief that are sick, for paying their physick diet, or other things necessary for them in their sickness." The application of scholars must be made by their college tutors.

**JOHN LUCAS WALKER FUND.**—The Managers, on October 19th, made the following grants in aid of Original Research in Pathology:

a. A grant of £14 2s. 3d. to J. G. Adami, M.A., M.B., Christ's College, Demonstrator of Pathology, to defray certain expenses incurred by him in his investigations on the Pathology of the Heart.

b. A grant of £35 to William Hunter, M.D. Edin. (St. John's), John Lucas Walker Student, to defray certain of the expenses incurred in his research on Pathology of the Blood.

c. A grant of £30 to E. Hanbury Hankin, B.A. (St. John's), to defray certain expenses in his research on the Nature of Immunity from Infectious Diseases.

**MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.**—The following table has been issued by the Registry:

Examinations.	Names Sent In.	Corrected List Issued.	Certificates Received.	Examination Began.
First M.B. ...	Nov. 20	Nov. 29	Nov. 28	Dec. 3
Second M.B. ...	" 20	" 29	" 28	" 3
Third M.B. I ...	" 27	Dec. 7	Dec. 6	" 10
Third M.B. II...	" 27	" 7	" 6	" 11
M.C. ...	" 27	" 10	" 9	" 13

**ELECTORAL ROLL.**—The Council of the Senate have issued a report recommending several changes in the statute respecting the Electoral Roll, the body which elects the Vice-Chancellor and the Council of the Senate. The chief alterations of principle are (1) the inclusion as *ex officio* members of readers and University lecturers in addition to heads and professors; and (2) the exclusion of public examiners, as not having a sufficiently permanent connection with the University to justify their retention *ex officio*.

**EXAMINER IN ZOOLOGY.**—Professor Ray Lankester has been appointed a Second Examiner in Zoology for the Natural Sciences tripos.

**TEACHER OF PHYSICS.**—The Special Board of Medicine recommend that L. R. Wilberforce, M.A., Trinity College, Assistant-Demonstrator at the Cavendish Laboratory, and Lecturer at Gonville and Caius College, be appointed as a Teacher of Physics, with reference to the medical regulations.

**MATRICULATION.**—On October 21st no fewer than 946 freshmen were matriculated, against 862 on matriculation day last year. The largest increase appears to be at St. John's and Jesus Colleges; Selwyn and the *non-scripti* show also considerable increases.

The Council of Cavendish College, Cambridge, will give a luncheon on the occasion of the opening of the new college hall on Saturday, November 16th, at 2 o'clock, which will be presided over by the Marquis of Hartington.

## PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

## POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

## HEALTH OF ENGLISH TOWNS.

In twenty-eight of the largest English towns, including London, which have an estimated population of 9,555,406 persons, 5,709 births and 3,433 deaths were registered during the week ending Saturday, October 19th. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had declined from 17.9 to 17.5 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, rose again to 18.7 during the week under notice. The rates in the several towns ranged from 13.2 in Derby, 13.5 in Leicester, 14.5 in Nottingham, and 14.6 in Brighton to 25.1 in Hull, 26.3 in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 31.4 in Plymouth, and 34.1 in Preston. In the twenty-seven provincial towns the mean death-rate was 20.3 per 1,000, and exceeded by 3.4 the rate recorded in London, which was only 16.9 per 1,000. The 3,433 deaths registered during the week under notice in the twenty-eight towns included 98 which were referred to scarlet fever, 83 to diarrhoea, 64 to measles, 59 to whooping-cough, 57 to diphtheria, 53 to "fever" (principally enteric), and not one to small-pox; in all, 414 deaths resulted from these principal zymotic diseases, against numbers declining from 535 to 352 in the four preceding weeks. These 414 deaths were equal to an annual rate of 2.3 per 1,000; in London the zymotic rate was equal to 1.8, while in the twenty-seven provincial towns it averaged 2.6 per 1,000, and ranged from 1.0 in Leicester and in Birkenhead, and 1.4 in Cardiff to 4.0 in Bradford, 6.0 in Preston, 6.2 in Sunderland, and 11.3 in Plymouth. Measles showed the highest proportional fatality in Halifax, Preston, and Sunderland; scarlet fever in Sheffield, Bolton, Brighton, Blackburn, and Plymouth; whooping-cough in Oldham, Portsmouth, and Wolverhampton; and "fever" in Leeds, Birkenhead, Bradford, and Portsmouth. Of the 57 deaths from diphtheria recorded during the week under notice in the twenty-eight towns, 41 occurred in London, 3 in Salford, 3 in Sheffield, and 2 in Derby. No fatal case of small-pox was registered either in London or in any of the provincial towns; and no small-pox patients were under treatment in any of the Metropolitan Asylums Hospitals on Saturday, October 19th. These hospitals contained, however, 1,339 scarlet fever patients on the same date, against numbers steadily increasing from 538 to 1,287 in the sixteen preceding weeks; 181 cases were admitted during the week, against 134 and 168 in the two previous weeks. The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs in London was equal to 3.6 per 1,000, and was considerably below the average.

During the week ending Saturday, October 26th, 5,801 births and 3,204 deaths were registered in twenty-eight of the largest English towns, including London, which have an estimated aggregate population of 9,555,406 persons. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 17.5 and 18.7 per 1,000 in the two preceding weeks, declined again to 17.5 during the week under notice. The rates in the several towns ranged from 9.7 in Birkenhead, 10.5 in Norwich, 11.7 in Derby, and 11.8 in Portsmouth to 24.0 in Manchester, 27.6 in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 28.0 in Plymouth, and 29.0 in Preston. The mean death-rate in the twenty-seven provincial towns was 19.0 per 1,000, and exceeded by 3.3 the rate recorded in London, which was only 15.8 per 1,000. The 3,204 deaths registered during the week under notice in the twenty-eight towns included 356 which were referred to the principal zymotic diseases, against 352 and 414 in the two preceding weeks; of these, 83 resulted from scarlet fever, 80 from diarrhoea, 58 from "fever" (principally enteric), 54 from whooping-cough, 53 from diphtheria, 48 from measles, and not one from small-pox. These 356 deaths were equal to an annual rate of 1.9 per 1,000; in London the zymotic death-rate was 1.7, while it averaged 2.2 per 1,000 in the twenty-seven provincial towns, and ranged from 0.3 in Leicester, 0.6 in Wolverhampton, and 0.9 in Bristol to 3.2 in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 3.9 in Sunderland, 4.5 in Preston, and 5.3 in Plymouth. Measles caused the highest proportional fatality in Preston, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Sunderland; scarlet fever in Liverpool and Plymouth; whooping-cough in Preston; "fever" in Nottingham and Halifax; and diarrhoea in Norwich and Preston. The 53 deaths from diphtheria recorded in the twenty-eight towns during the week under notice included 37 in London, 2 in Salford, and 2 in Cardiff. No fatal case of small-pox was registered, either in London or in any of the provincial towns, and no small-pox patients were under treatment in any of the Metropolitan Asylums Hospitals on Saturday, October 26th. These hospitals contained, however, 1,388 scarlet fever patients on the same date, against numbers increasing from 538 to 1,338 in the seventeen preceding weeks; 172 cases were admitted during the week, against 135, 168, and 181 in the three previous weeks. The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs in London was equal to 3.4 per 1,000, and was considerably below the average.

## HEALTH OF SCOTCH TOWNS.

DURING the week ending Saturday, October 19th, 873 births and 524 deaths were registered in the eight principal Scotch towns. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had declined from 18.8 to 18.3 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, rose again to 20.5 during the week under notice, and exceeded by 1.8 per 1,000 the mean rate during the same period in the twenty-eight large English towns. The lowest rates were recorded in Paisley and Greenock, and the highest in Aberdeen and Glasgow. The 524 deaths registered in these towns during the week included 61 which were referred to the principal zymotic diseases, equal to an annual rate of 2.4 per 1,000, which slightly exceeded the mean zymotic death-rate during the same period in the large English towns. The highest zymotic death-rates were recorded in Aberdeen and Perth. The 235 deaths registered in Glasgow during the week under notice included 7 from whooping-cough, 5 from diarrhoea, 4 from measles, 4 from diphtheria, 4 from "fever," and 2 from scarlet fever. Two fatal cases of diphtheria occurred in Edinburgh, and 3 of scarlet fever in Perth. The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs in these towns was equal to 4.6 per 1,000, against 3.6 in London.

In the eight principal Scotch towns, 855 births and 494 deaths were registered during the week ending Saturday, October 26th. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 18.3 and 20.5 per 1,000 in the two preceding weeks, declined again to 18.3 during the week under notice, but exceeded by 1.8 per 1,000 the mean rate during the same period in the twenty-eight large English towns. Among the Scotch towns the lowest rates were recorded in Paisley and Edinburgh, and the highest in Perth and Glasgow. The 494 deaths

who have spent their all, or all their parents can allow them, on a most expensive education and in the fees for acquiring their newly-won diplomas? These would either be compelled to sit down and starve for the two years' probation or become wanderers on the face of the earth, either as ship doctors or qualified assistants; or, worse still, would be compelled in their desperation to enter into fierce competition with the Public Medical Service by opening "open surgeries," etc., with all their degrading adjuncts of handbills and advertising. And who then could blame them?

While on the subject of advertising, let us turn to one portion of the scheme which alone will be sufficient to condemn it in the eyes of all those who have the dignity of our profession at heart. "There are to be no handbills or advertising of any sort," but each patient is to have a card, on the front page of which is to be emblazoned, "The Public Medical Service of England," "the names of the doctors," "their hours of attendance," and the legend "always bring this book with you." On the back page, "list of medical and dental staff, with addresses and hours of attendance," "scale of fees and rules referring to patients." Dr. Rentoul's ethical gorge rises at the idea of handbills, but a card! To my mind the worst part of the whole scheme is this covert attempt to obtain advertisement and publicity by means of the card trick. The medical profession have already given their opinion as to its morality in the matter of the Metropolitan Provident Dispensaries' Association.

I will not trouble you further by going through such rules as Rule 4, which allows the chemist the right to refuse medicine at 4d. per bottle until he has consulted the doctor, when he imagines the patient is in a position to pay more. The procedure would be eminently satisfactory to both patient and doctor in a case of croup.

The out-patient departments of hospitals are undoubtedly in need of great reform, but the object will not be gained by erecting a scheme of this sort to remedy their shortcomings. The only way to remedy the evil is to convince the public and hospital authorities by means of evidence before the forthcoming Royal Commission, that nearly all the out-patient departments (with the exception of some of the special ones) are useless so far as the patients are concerned, an encumbrance on the hospital funds, and an illegitimate opposition to the young general practitioner. That the very poor are provided for already by an elaborate Poor-law system of relief, and that every facility is afforded already by general practitioners in the localities where these people dwell, for their attendance either by clubs or small fees according to their respective means. When this is accomplished the result will be a quiet revolution, in which all the superfluous out-patient departments of hospitals will be abolished. No new philanthropic movement will be allowed to start until Government has heard both sides of the question, and is convinced that they are really needed; and a large field will be opened for the individual efforts of the junior members of our profession, to the everlasting good both of themselves and the wage-earning poor.

Let general practitioners band themselves together to see that this Royal Commission is thoroughly and properly conducted. In this I believe they will have the hearty co-operation of all the leading consultants in the profession. Let them understand that those of the wage-earning class who are not constitutional paupers have set them already a brilliant example in combination for supplying their wants, medical and political; that they have done it among themselves, and have no need of further provident systems than those which they have already contracted for.

Let general practitioners once for all understand that on self-reliance, without the assistance of the lay public, is their only hope in raising the profession from the backboneless state into which it has fallen.

First, let them understand and use their enormous numerical strength to bring pressure to bear for the removal of the abuses which are eating away the foundation of their cause, and then let them tackle to the battle of life, and make the best they can of it according to their abilities.

In all professions, trades, businesses, etc., some must succeed and some go to the wall. But let the start in life at least be fair; and I would earnestly entreat all members of our profession who have sons intent on following their steps to pause before they institute another huge monopoly, which they may in years to come be reminded of by the bitter reproaches of those for whose future they should now be providing.

In conclusion, Dr. Rentoul's latest efforts in drawing up a scale of fees is sufficient to show how little practical experience he can have of the income and expenditure of an average artisan.

The objections to the scheme are: 1, that it is unworkable; 2, that it is unfair; 3, that it would be an advertising medium; 4, that it would in a short time become a huge vested interest for the few, to the exclusion of the many; 5, that it is not wanted.—I am, etc., T. H. CORBYN, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Edin.

Abercorn Place, St. John's Wood, N.W.

EBORACENSIS writes: The proposals of Dr. Rentoul are, in the opinion of men who have worked in thickly populated districts, perfectly impracticable. The class who earn £1 a week and under are those whom we wish to benefit, and the fees he has proposed are such as cannot be got from the poorer working classes.

One way of meeting the difficulty would be for the whole body of the profession, in any community, to combine and have a free dispensary, where each would take his turn daily for an hour, and give gratuitous advice and medicine to persons recommended by himself and other members of the staff. Each man could bear his own share of the expenses, which would not be heavy; all the shaky payers could be weeded out, black lists could be passed from one to another, and the remaining practice could be made remunerative and agreeable. This admirable result only needs union among the profession. As to bad payers' midwifery cases, they could be sent to the relieving officer for his order for the parish doctor. When they came to engage any medical man, and if not in so necessitous circumstances as to require parish help, they could be compelled to pay half the fee in advance before undertaking the engagement. In a few years' time the profession in moderately-sized towns would soon get to know the paying qualities of the inhabitants, and could train up people to find that the doctor could not be at their beck and call as was the endowed clergyman and his curate.

This is a practicable scheme, and the charitable work would be done cheerfully and willingly, instead of often, as at present, grumblingly and perfunctorily. The sole condition for success is union among medical men. The law is in their own hands.

Let us avoid all co-operative schemes, such as clubs, provident dispensaries, etc. When we do charity let it be charity, and when we work let us be suitably rewarded.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

**BEQUESTS.**—The Royal Medical Benevolent College has received £100 under the will of the late Baroness Clementina von Roemer.

**THE annual dinner of the Metropolitan Police Surgeons' Association** will be held at the Criterion Restaurant on Thursday, November 14th, at 7 o'clock.

**THE medical officers and lecturers of the National Dental Hospital and College** will give a dinner at the Holborn Restaurant on Friday, November 8th, on the occasion of the annual presentation of prizes, Mr. Henry Morris, M.A., M.B., in the chair.

**THE Hampstead Medical Society** has now been fully organised and held its first meeting at the Hampstead Home Hospital on October 29th. The following officers were elected: *President*, W. Heath Strange, M.D.; *Treasurer*, Andrew Miller, M.D.; *Secretary*, A. H. Cook, M.B.

**STERILISED LINT.**—M. Regnier renders lint sterile by heating it to a temperature of 120° C. (248° F.). M. Regnier has tested the antiseptic value of lint thus prepared in dressings applied after operations of various kinds with good results. At the recent Surgical Congress he stated that he considered sterilised lint equal to antiseptic dressings.

**WE are requested to state that the adjudicators named by the late Dr. Joseph Rogers, in founding a prize for the best essay on the treatment of the sick poor, were the President of the Royal College of Physicians, the President of the Royal College of Surgeons, and the Master of the Apothecaries' Company for the time being.**

**AN Anglo-American Vienna Medical Association** has been formed for the purpose of furnishing information to English-speaking medical men coming to study in Vienna. The office will be at No. 12, Landesgerichts-Strasse. Membership will be open to any British or American physician or medical student, on payment of an entrance fee of one guilder.

**AT the Central Criminal Court, on October 25th, Elizabeth Jane Frost, against whom three charges of murder by poison, at Deptford, had been preferred, was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude for committing forgery, in order to obtain the insurance money recoverable upon the policies effected on the lives of the deceased persons. No evidence was offered on the capital charge.**

**THALLIN AND THALLIUM.**—In *Merck's Bulletin*, attention is drawn to the fact that some confusion exists among physicians and chemists regarding these two substances, thallium sulphate having been prescribed in many cases when thallin sulphate was

meant. Thallium is of course a metal and of no therapeutical importance, while thallin is an alkaloid of the chinolin group having antiseptic properties which make it useful in medicine.

THE *Standard* understands that the Government propose to supplement their Local Government Bill for London with another measure dealing with the vestries and their amalgamation with district councils, to be elected in the same manner and for smaller areas, as are members of the County Council. The provisions of the Act are virtually settled, but due care will be taken to preserve all vested interests.

MESSRS. GILL and Co. have just issued a card headed "Sanitary Hints for Householders," by G. M. Lawford, Associate Inst. C.E. It is intended to be hung up as a memorandum, and gives general directions to servants, together with certain precautions with regard to cleaning and inspecting drains, etc., weekly, quarterly, half-yearly, and yearly. Some diagrams are appended to render the directions clearer. It is a useful memorandum for householders as a reminder of things that are often overlooked.

PRESENTATION.—Mr. Sidney Plowman, F.R.C.S., late apothecary, teacher of pharmacy and lecturer on materia medica at St. Thomas's Hospital, was presented on Saturday last, by the medical and surgical staff, together with past and present students of that institution, with an oak cabinet containing a complete set of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, on the occasion of his leaving for Melbourne, where he has been appointed demonstrator and lecturer on chemistry, pharmacy, etc., at the College of Pharmacy.

GLASGOW OBSTETRICAL AND GYNÆCOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—At a meeting of this Society on October 23rd, the following office-bearers were appointed: *Honorary President*: Professor Leishman. *President*: Dr. Murdoch Cameron. *Vice-Presidents*: Drs. Robert Park and George Halket. *Treasurer*: Dr. Robert Pollok. *Secretary*: Dr. George A. Turner. *Reporting Secretary*: Dr. E. H. Lawrence Oliphant. *Pathologist*: Dr. J. Nigel Stark. *Council*: Drs. T. Tindal, T. F. Gilmour, Alex. Scott, Alex. Miller, T. Richmond, A. Milroy.

TRANSMISSION OF DISEASE BY BRUSHES AND DENTAL INSTRUMENTS.—A discussion recently took place at the Conseil d'Hygiène concerning the transmission of certain diseases by hairdressers and dentists, the brushes and instruments being used in common for all their clients. M. Lancereaux wished to have stringent measures enforced, and cited a case of phthisis which Dr. Cochran, an American dentist, alleged was transmitted by a dentist's instrument; M. Dujardin-Beaumetz and others declared that there were great difficulties in the way, but recommended great care in schools and public institutions.

SANITATION IN FRANCE.—A decree issued June 3rd, 1889, authorises the city of Angoulême to negotiate a loan for the purpose of defraying the expense of improving the water-supply of that city. The city of Alençon is also authorised to effect the same improvements. Beaune (Côte d'Or) is authorised to contract a loan to pay for an improved water-supply and for the construction of sewers. The cities of Sedan and Nice are authorised to improve the drainage by contracting a loan to defray expenses. Reims and Poitiers have followed the example set them by the French capital as regards the sewage system and subsequent utilisation in agriculture.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION AND TEMPERANCE.—During the past week an unusually large number of important temperance conferences have been held, including a National Temperance Congress at Birmingham. It is significant of the lively interest taken by members of the profession of medicine in the temperance movement that at Birmingham two metropolitan physicians and at Norwich a metropolitan physician and a distinguished provincial surgeon took a prominent part, while at Glasgow a leading place in the proceedings was assigned to the assistant of one of the university medical professors. A public meeting at Birmingham was addressed by several provincial members of our Association. The British Medical Temperance Association numbers over 400 members, all abstainers.

THE ANTIPYRETIC ACTION OF DIGITALIS.—Dr. Joseph Leidy has found in seventeen cases of heart disease that the administration of digitalis was followed by a slight fall in temperature, which remained subnormal—96.3° to 97.8° F.—during the use of the drug and for one or two days after. Ten cases of typhoid fever were also treated with digitalis. In six of these there was a decided fall of temperature, in three a slight fall, and in one no

change. The decrease in temperature averaged from 1.5° to 3° F. Dr. Leidy is of opinion that digitalis is not of much value as a pure antipyretic, but thinks that its antipyretic action may be useful in fever cases where it is given primarily to stimulate the circulation.

BIRMINGHAM QUEEN'S COLLEGE MEDICAL SOCIETY.—The thirteenth annual meeting of this Society was held in the library of Queen's College on the evening of Wednesday, October 23rd. The chair was occupied by the President, W. F. Haslam, F.R.C.S. The annual report showed that the Society was in a flourishing condition. Dr. T. Nelson was elected President and Mr. J. Hall-Edwards Vice-President for the ensuing session. Mr. Brice was re-elected Honorary Treasurer and Dr. Mahood and Mr. Sproat were elected Joint Secretaries. The following gentlemen were elected to serve on the Council: Mr. W. F. Haslam, Professor Windle, Mr. A. Clay, Dr. Purslow, and Dr. John C. Grinling. The retiring President read his valedictory address on "Recent Advances in Surgery."

OPHTHALMOSCOPIC DEMONSTRATIONS AT THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL.—Mr. Frost gave the third demonstration in this course on Tuesday, October 29th. Paintings showing the varying appearances seen in the yellow-spot region under physiological conditions were projected upon the screen, and also one illustrating the "cherry-red spot" seen in embolism of the central artery of the retina. The majority of the paintings illustrated morbid conditions of the choroid coat, including "guttae choroiditis" or vitreous infiltration of the choroid, and the various stages of atrophic, disseminated, and central choroiditis. A marked example of "choroid tigrée" was also shown, where the great excess of the normal choroid pigment caused the choroidal vessels to appear as light streaks on a dark background.

THE LATE MR. PERCIVAL LEIGH.—In Mr. Percival Leigh, who died last week in the seventy-sixth year of his age, the medical profession has lost one of its most humorous, if not one of its most learned, members. He was the author of the *Comic Latin Grammar* and the *Comic English Grammar*, which appeared under the *nom de plume* of Paul Prendergast, and which led to his being asked to join the staff of *Punch* when it was first started. He was the friend and collaborator of Leech and the Mayhews, of Thackeray, Dickens, Douglas Jerrold, and Albert Smith, and was a constant contributor to *Punch* down to the time of his death. Mr. Percival Leigh was born in 1813, and received his medical education at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. He was admitted a Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries in 1834, and a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1835.

HYDROPHOBIA AND MUZZLING.—From a return recently issued it appears that from August 3rd until September 30th, no fewer than 782 unmuzzled dogs were seized in the County of Middlesex by the police. Of this number 554 were taken to the Dogs' Home, and only 142 were claimed by their owners. The majority of the others were destroyed. The course pursued has been for the dogs to be taken to the district veterinary surgeons' premises and kept there by them for seven days, after which they are taken to the Dogs' Home at Battersea. A sum of 5s. per dog is paid to the veterinary by the Council for his trouble, and persons claiming the dogs have to pay 6d. per day for their keep. The veterinary surgeon is paid in addition 3d. per mile for all batches of dogs taken by him to the Dogs' Home. The Middlesex County Council pays these fees, together with 4d. for each animal taken to the home. There were seventeen cases of rabies during the quarter ending September 30th. There have only been fifty-six prosecutions under the order, and the fines and costs only amount to £35 10s.

#### MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following Vacancies are announced:

BALLINASLOE DISTRICT LUNATIC ASYLUM.—Resident Assistant. Salary, £100 per annum, with £50 in lieu of rations, furnished apartments, and certain allowances. Candidates must not be over 32 years of age. Applications not later than November 9th. Election on November 11th.

BOROUGH OF HUDDERSFIELD.—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £400 per annum. Applications by November 12th to G. B. Nalder, Esq., Town Clerk.

CENTRAL LONDON SICK ASYLUM.—Assistant Medical Officer and Dispenser. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and residence. Applications by November 9th to William Appleton, Clerk's Office, Cleveland Street, W.

CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL.—Surgeon-Registrar. Salary, £40 per annum. Applications by November 4th to the Chairman of the Medical Committee.

CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST, Victoria Park, E.—House-Physician. Board and residence. Applications by November 15th to the Secretary at the office, 24, Finsbury Circus, E.C.



**CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST**, Victoria Park, E.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, etc. Applications by November 15th to the Secretary at the office, 24, Finsbury Circus, E.C.

**FLINTSHIRE DISPENSARY**.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, and furnished house, etc. Applications by November 11th to the Secretary, Board Room, Bagillt Street, Holywell.

**GORDON HOSPITAL FOR FISTULA**, Vauxhall Bridge Road.—Assistant-Surgeon. Applications by November 9th to the Secretary.

**LEICESTER INFIRMARY AND FEVER HOUSE**.—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications by November 24th to the Secretary, 24, Friar Lane, Leicester.

**LIVERPOOL BYE AND BAR INFIRMARY**.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80, with board and lodging. Applications by November 4th to Reginald Haigh, Honorary Secretary, Grosvenor Buildings, Liverpool.

**MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL**.—Second Chloroformist. Applications by November 8th to the Secretary-Superintendent.

**NATIONAL DENTAL HOSPITAL**, 149, Great Portland Street, W.—Anaesthetist. Applications by November 7th to the Secretary.

**NATIONAL DENTAL HOSPITAL**, 149, Great Portland Street, W.—Assistant Dental Surgeon. Applications by November 7th to the Secretary.

**NORTH DEVON INFIRMARY**, Barnstaple.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications by November 16th to the Secretary.

**NORTH-WEST LONDON HOSPITAL**, Kentish Town Road, N.W.—Junior Resident Medical Officer. Applications by November 4th to the Secretary.

**PERTH DISTRICT ASYLUM**.—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications by November 14th to the Medical Superintendent.

**PUBLIC DISPENSARY**, 59, Stanhope Street, Clare Market.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £105 per annum, with furnished apartments, etc. Applications on or before November 6th to the Secretary.

**SALOP INFIRMARY**, Shrewsbury.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and residence. Applications by November 2nd to the Board of Directors.

**SHEFFIELD GENERAL INFIRMARY**.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £120 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications by November 2nd to the Medical Staff of the Sheffield General Infirmary to the care of the Secretary.

**SHEFFIELD GENERAL INFIRMARY**.—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications by November 2nd to the Medical Staff of the Sheffield General Infirmary to the care of the Secretary.

**VICTORIA HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN**, Queen's Road, Chelsea.—Ophthalmic Surgeon. Applications by November 18th to the Secretary.

#### MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

**BAYS**, James, M.B.Lond., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., appointed House-Physician to the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street.

**BEAVER**, R. A., M.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P.Lond., L.M.S., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Lancashire County Asylum, Rainhill, vice F. H. Barendt, M.D.Lond., resigned.

**BENTLEY**, P. B., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., appointed Honorary Medical Officer to Jersey Infirmary and General Dispensary, vice W. Peel Yates, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., resigned.

**BRISCOE**, J. E., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., appointed House-Surgeon to the Clayton Hospital and General Dispensary, Wakefield, vice R. E. Williams, L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng., resigned.

**BROOK**, W. F., F.R.C.S., L.S.A., appointed House-Surgeon to the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, vice C. Batchelor, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., resigned.

**CADDY**, A., M.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P.Lond., appointed House-Surgeon to the General Infirmary, Leeds, vice W. Thompson, L.R.C.P.Lond., resigned.

**COOPER**, E., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., appointed Assistant House-Surgeon to the Royal Portsmouth, Portsea, and Gosport Hospital.

**DENNISON**, T. S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Resident Obstetric Officer to the General Infirmary, Leeds, vice J. E. Briscoe, M.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P.Lond., resigned.

**DOBBS**, C. J., M.R.C.S., appointed Junior Assistant Medical Officer to the Hants County Asylum, vice M. I. Finucane, L.S.A., M.R.C.S.E.

**DUNLOP**, T. Cameron, M.D., appointed Surgeon to the Sick and Accident Society Steel Company of Scotland, Blochairn, Glasgow.

**ELAM**, George, appointed Casualty House-Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital.

**GIBSON**, L. P., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., appointed House-Surgeon to the Royal Portsmouth, Portsea, and Gosport Hospital, vice J. O'Connor, M.B., resigned.

**GODFREY**, T. H., M.B., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the General Dispensary and Infirmary, Jersey, vice J. Melhuish, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond.

**HAWKES**, L. A., M.B., C.M., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Royal National Hospital for Consumption, Ventnor.

**LIGHT**, E. M., M.B., L.R.C.P.Lond., appointed House-Physician to the General Infirmary, Leeds, vice R. Walker, M.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P.Lond., resigned.

**MCLEAN**, W. W. L., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator to the Stickney District of the Spilsby Union; and Medical Officer to the Colman Lodge of Odd Fellows, and Keal Cotes Lodge of the Ancient Order of Foresters, vice J. A. MacLaren, M.B., C.M., resigned.

**PORTER**, W. R., M.D., C.M. Edin., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Medical Officer to the Royal Masonic Institute for Boys, Wood Green, vice W. Hall, resigned.

**SELLERS**, A. E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed House-Surgeon to the Leeds General Infirmary.

**TURNICLIFFE**, F. W., M.B.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., appointed House-Surgeon to the Paddington Green Children's Hospital, vice A. E. Hensley, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.

**WOOD**, H. M., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed Assistant Resident Medical Officer to the Royal National Hospital for Consumption, Ventnor.

**YEOMAN**, W. M., M.B., M.R.C.S., appointed Medical Officer to the Stokesley Union, vice W. G. Forbes, M.B., M.S., deceased.

#### 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 announcement. The first post on Thursday mornings is the latest by which advertisements can be received.*

##### BIRTHS.

**JACKSON**.—October 25th, at 7, Buckland Terrace, Plymouth, widow of Louis Pilkington Jackson, of a daughter.

**MASON**.—On October 23rd, at Rosemont, Maidenhead, the wife of David James Mason, M.D. Edin., of a son.

##### MARRIAGES.

**LESLIE**—ALEXANDER.—October 24th, at Rutland Square Church, Dublin, by the Rev. J. D. Osborne, M.A., assisted by the Rev. John Knox Leslie, Cookstown (the father of the bridegroom), Richard Whytock Leslie, M.D., M.Ch., Strandtown, Belfast, to Rosa, eldest daughter of the late Robert J. Alexander, Londonderry.

**MOIR**—ALLAWAY.—On October 24th, at All Saints', Cheltenham, by the Rev. J. W. Goodall, M.A., Vicar of Dalton, Surgeon John Drew Moir, Army Medical Staff, youngest son of the late Rev. Charles Moir, M.A., of Chatham, to Constance, only daughter of the late W. A. H. Allaway, Esq., of Craig-y-Nos Castle, Brecknockshire.

##### DEATHS.

**CASKIE**.—On October 28th, John Boyd Caskie, M.D., of 19, Tyndale Place, N., and 89, Goswell Road, aged 52.

**IMLACH**.—October 26th, at 30, Hope Street, Liverpool, Amy, wife of Francis Imlach, M.D., aged 35. Friends will please accept this, the only intimation.

**JOHNSON**.—On October 5th, at his residence, Montserrat, West Indies, the Honourable Burdett Johnson, M.R.C.S.E., L.S.A.Lond., J.P., for over twenty years member of the Executive and Legislative Councils of the Island of Montserrat and senior medical officer, aged 54. Beloved and respected by all who knew him.

#### DIARY FOR NEXT WEEK.

##### MONDAY.

**ODONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN**, 8 P.M.—Dr. Felix Semon: On some Points in the Etiology, Diagnosis, and Treatment of Empyema of the Antrum.

**MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON**, 8.30 P.M.—Sir Joseph Lister: A New Antiseptic Dressing.

##### TUESDAY.

**PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON** (20, Hanover Square), 8.30 P.M.—Dr. F. J. Smith: Hypertrophic Cirrhosis in a Child. Mr. D'Arcy Power: An Unusual Case of Cirrhosis of the Liver. Dr. Samuel West: Addison's Disease in a Diabetic. Mr. Barwell: A Singular Cyst of Unknown Nature removed from the Groin of a Woman. Dr. Norman Moore: Cases of Congenital Heart Disease. Dr. F. W. Mott: Pernicious Anæmia. Mr. Stephen Paget: Occipital Meningocele with Cleft Palate and Talipes Calcaneus.

##### WEDNESDAY.

**MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND**, Bethlehem Royal Hospital, 4 P.M.—Drs. Dodds, Strahan, and Greenlees: Assistant Medical Officers in Asylums; their Status in the Speciality. Appliances and Pathological Specimens will also be exhibited.

**OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON**, 54, Berners Street, 8 P.M.—Specimens will be shown. Dr. Cullingworth: Case of Vesico-Utero-Vaginal Fistula. Dr. Rasch: Case of Large Chylous Cyst of the Mesentery. Dr. Lewers: Case of Lupus of the Vulva. Dr. Braxton Hicks: Case of Inversion of the Uterus.

##### THURSDAY.

**CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST**, Victoria Park, E., 4.30 P.M.—Dr. Thorowgood: On Basic Disease of the Lung.

**HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON**, 8.30 P.M.—Dr. Cagny: The Administration of Drugs by the Aid of Electricity. Mr. A. P. Luff: The Antifermentative Treatment of Infantile Diarrhoea. Mr. J. T. Clarke: A Specimen of Abnormality of the Spinal Cord associated with Club Foot.

##### FRIDAY.

**CLINICAL SOCIETY**, 20, Hanover Square. — Living specimens at 8 o'clock.—Mr. Macnamara: (1) Excision of Head and Neck of Humerus for Myeloid Sarcoma: no recurrence of disease. (2) Removal of Testicle for rapidly growing Round-Cell Sarcoma; patient free from disease after two years. Dr. Handford: Unilateral Myositis and Neuritis in a Man aged 48. Dr. Abercrombie: Myxœdema in a Young Subject. Mr. G. H. Makins: Rheumatoid Arthritis in a Child. Mr. C. B. Lockwood: Hip-Joint Disease, Anterior Incision. Papers 9 P.M.—Mr. W. Rivington: Case of Pott's Fracture with Fracture and Displacement of Astragalus followed by Symptoms of Tetanus, which subsided after Removal of Displaced Fragment. Mr. W. G. Spencer: Case of recent Dislocation Backwards at the Elbow of both Bones of the Forearm, Irreducible from the Lower End of the Humerus being held like a Button by a Rent in the Anterior Ligament. Mr. E. A. Barton: Case of Paroxysmal Hemoglobinuria.

the Sun, we find that this well-known lady doctor considered herself a seer and a prophetess, and accordingly the sub-title of the book indicates that it is composed of her "illuminations." Her "priceless insights," it appears, were acquired by the "means of dreams." We should have imagined, were it not for this assurance, that the study of the *Kabbalah* and the works of Madam Blavatzky, acting upon a poetical and mystical nature, would have accounted for most of the strange theories concerning soul and body with which the work is filled. The origin of the soul is a question not at all difficult to an "illuminated" M.D., and we accordingly give the authoress's account of it for the benefit of our unilluminated readers: "When two persons ally themselves in the flesh and beget a child, the moment of impregnation is usually—though not invariably—the moment which attaches a soul to the newly-conceived body. Hence, much depends upon the influences, astral and magnetic, under which impregnation and conception take place. The pregnant woman is the centre of a whirl of magnetic forces, and she attracts within her sphere a soul whose previous conduct and odic condition correspond either to her own or to the magnetic influences under which she conceives. Sometimes, however, the moment of impregnation or conception passes without attracting any soul, and the woman may even carry a false conception for some time, in which cases abortion occurs." Plants and animals have souls, but metals have none, according to Dr. Kingsford. Molecules are regenerate and unregenerate; nucleus and nucleolus correspond to soul and spirit in her "illuminated" physiology, all which goes to show that no amount of learning and natural science will prevent a prophet or a seer from talking, dreaming, and writing the sheerest nonsense.

#### INSURANCE POLICIES.

Mr. C. J. RADLEY, Secretary of the Medical Sickness, Annuity, and Life Assurance Society (28, Wynne Road, Brixton) writes: In the JOURNAL of October 12th, Mr. Colin G. Campbell (Saddleworth) calls attention to the numerous "exceptions" under which no claim can be made by persons holding an ordinary accident policy. Without remarking on this, may I be allowed to point out that no such distinctions are made by the Medical Sickness, Annuity, and Life Assurance Society, which makes payment in all cases where its members are compelled to cease professional work from illness or the results of accidents, excepting only incapacity arising from "intemperance, immorality, or misconduct?"

Dr. R. A. BRANNIGAN (Liverpool) writes: I would like to add my testimony to that of your correspondent, Dr. George C. Kingsbury, with regard to the promptness which the "Sickness and Accident Assurance Company" of St. Andrew's Square, Edinburgh, shows in paying the claims upon it. I was first insured against accident, and happened soon after during my holidays to sprain my ankle. For this I received £10. I then insured against sickness, and within a year was attacked by typhoid fever. The company very promptly paid me £60 in three remittances of £20, being at the rate of £4 weekly for thirteen weeks, and £2 weekly for four weeks more. My premium, I may add, was £7 4s. 8d.

Mr. JAMES FERGUSON (Perth) writes: In reference to Mr. Colin Campbell's letter on the above subject, and the letters of subsequent correspondents on this matter, I have examined the policy which I hold in the General Accident and Employers' Liability Assurance Association, Limited, of this city, and 4, Abchurch Yard, London, E.C., and I find that the conditions are in every respect most liberal to the assured; it does not exclude unprovoked assaults; its limit of time for giving notice of an accident is extended to twenty-one days; blood poisoning is not excluded; nor are there any of the little vexatious restrictions in the policy which was the case with the majority of accident insurance companies some years ago. In my opinion it is to some of the younger offices we now have to look for liberal conditions of assurance and generous and prompt treatment in the settlement of claims.

**ERRATA.**—In the JOURNAL for October 26th, page 921, column 1, line 13, from bottom, for "seized it with the other hand," read "seized it together with the other foot;" and on page 951, column 2, line 45, for "latent" read "fatal."

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

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