

effluent nerve governing the periodicity of the phenomena of menstruation. The evidence of the whole series is certainly entirely without exception in favour of the view which I have held almost ever since I began to study the question of the Fallopian tube as having more to do with the function of menstruation than the ovaries, that in fact the ovaries have nothing whatever to do with it at all, and the tube has this at least, it is the subject in which the initial phases of the phenomena occur.

[NOTE.—The detailed statement of cases which accompanied this paper is omitted for want of room. It is Mr. Tait's intention to republish this article, together with the cases, in a pamphlet which will shortly be issued.]

Dr. LAWRENCE considered that the electric treatment should be tried in every case of myoma uteri before any surgical proceeding, if there was no pelvic disease besides the myoma uteri to contraindicate the necessary manipulation. In cases where, after a trial of six to eight applications, the bleeding still continued excessive, or the tumour continued to grow, then he would proceed either to removal of appendages or the uterus itself.—Dr. BANTOCK had great pleasure in supporting Mr. Lawson Tait in his advocacy of this method of treatment. One point omitted by him was that there seemed to be two forms of myoma, in one of which the operation was of eminent service, the other in which it appeared to be of little use. The first was the hard variety, and the second was the soft. Experience had now taught him to set aside the latter class for absolute removal. One advantage of this operation over the electrolytic treatment was that when the tumour disappeared it did so by an imitation of Nature's process; whereas in the case of the disappearance of a tumour by the electrical treatment, in the majority of cases the process had been characterised by the most serious symptoms arising from a destructive process of acute degeneration.—Dr. HAYWOOD SMITH did not desire to make any remarks on the main subject of Mr. Lawson Tait's paper except to observe that by his brilliant results, not only in the very small mortality, but also in the permanent results, Mr. Tait had established this operation for fibroids. He (Dr. Smith) wished to call attention to what Mr. Tait had said on cases of insanity, and quite thought that it was desirable to appoint a gynaecologist to all lunatic asylums. He wished to refer to a recent case, which he hoped at some future time to relate more in detail and after a longer interval had elapsed since the operation. This patient had been under an alienist for more than a year with, as was said, "intermittent melancholia." These attacks lasted often some months, during which she was wholly unfit to go into society, and though when she came out of them she was a bright lively girl, yet she was in continual apprehension of a recurrent attack. He removed the ovaries in February, since which time she had been perfectly free, and had gone home well.

MEMORANDA: MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL, THERAPEUTICAL, PATHOLOGICAL, ETC.

PLACENTA PRÆVIA: RECOVERY.

S. A. B., aged 26, third pregnancy. Six weeks ago "flooding" set in, and continued in small quantities from that time till the date of her confinement, Saturday, August 23rd, with the interval of two days between each attack. In addition to the usual symptoms indicative of loss of blood she suffered from severe and violent vomiting each time flooding came on, and on these occasions was completely unconscious. For the flooding she was attended by a local medical gentleman; in the absence of this gentleman from home I was sent for on the above date.

On examination, I found the os fairly well dilated, soft and yielding; placenta adherent to posterior left and anterior border of internal os; hæmorrhage rather free. She was exceedingly feeble, and was unconscious for a considerable time before my arrival. The pulse was scarcely perceptible, and the face was deadly pale. Seeing the condition of things, and believing that delay would seriously imperil her life, I determined to deliver with all possible despatch. With this view I introduced my right hand into the vagina (having rendered it, of course, aseptic), and with the middle and index finger completely separated the placenta from its attachment; I then forcibly dilated the os. A strong and

vigorous contraction set in while dilating the os, which produced the expulsion of the placenta into the vagina. During all this time brisk friction was maintained at the fundus of the uterus. After rupture of the membrane I applied the short forceps as soon as the os was sufficiently dilated to admit of its passage, and immediately delivered the child, needless to say stillborn.

What struck me most in this case was the complete cessation of hæmorrhage after separation of the placenta. I have thought it well to report this case, as the above treatment may prove serviceable to young practitioners who may have to deal with similar ones. The great thing for the young physician in those cases is to keep his eyes open and his head clear.

Macclesfield. W. A. MACMAHON GARRY, L.R.C.P.I., etc.

PROLAPSE OF THE URETHRA IN FEMALE CHILDREN.

Not long ago this condition, and its treatment, were discussed in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL. A case which was under my care in the Hospital for Sick Children may serve as an illustration.

A child, then aged about 9 years, was brought to me on account of an abnormal appearance of the orifice of the urethra, which the mother had observed. There was some muco-purulent discharge, but no pain. On examination, I found what appeared to be a growth about the size of a cherry stone. It was brighter red than the surrounding mucous membrane. The urethral canal was in the centre of it. It was clearly made up of the mucous membrane of the urethra, protruded and swollen.

The treatment was simple. Under chloroform, as much as seemed necessary of the prolapsed mucous membrane was removed with scissors, the cuts being made in a direction radiating outwards from the meatus. The cautery was lightly applied to stop bleeding. From fear of producing stricture, rather too little tissue was removed at first. After a few weeks it was found necessary to put the child under chloroform again, and remove a little more of the mucous membrane. This was done in January last, and apparently the result is entirely satisfactory. I had lately an opportunity of examining the child. There was no return of the prolapse, and there has never been any difficulty in micturition.

FREDERIC C. COLEY, M.D.,

Physician to the Hospital for Sick Children, and to the Northern Counties Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

TWO CASES OF CHOLERA NOSTRAS.

I. On Saturday, August 23rd, 1890, E. H., aged 67, farm labourer, Greetland, near Halifax, was mowing corn all day from 9 A.M. until 6 P.M. He then returned home, washed and dressed himself, and set off to West Vale, about three-quarters of a mile, for his week's provisions. About 10 o'clock on the same night he had a copious watery evacuation, nothing, as he said, like what he had ever had before. A second motion occurred soon after, and after returning to the house this time he began to vomit, these calls becoming so frequent he was unable finally to leave the house. After continuing for an hour and a half or two hours cramp of the buttocks, thighs, and legs set in. These symptoms continuing all night, I was called in on Sunday morning, August 24th, and found him in a state of collapse, pulseless, and only able to speak in whispers. There was lividity, cold skin and breath; the tongue was white, the cramps were now extending to the arms, there were rice-water evacuations, excessive thirst, he was complaining of great heat, and vomiting was continuous.

I pronounced it a case of cholera. Brandy was injected hypodermically and hot bricks were placed at his side, and a good strong dose of sp. ammon. co. was given every half hour. He rallied a little—at least, he was warmer on my return later in the day. As he was still pulseless, I injected brandy again, with half a grain of morphine this time. The cramps partly abated then, and he felt somewhat easier. I ordered a large bran poultice over abdomen and chest, which gave great relief.

On Sunday night he began to ramble. On Monday morning, however, he was better, and the pulse could now be felt, 136 a minute, and the spasms had entirely ceased for some hours. I then wired to Dr. Hime, Bradford, and he came out and confirmed my diagnosis, at the same time taking some of the dejecta with him for further examination.

On Tuesday morning he was still improving, pulse now 96, and feeling better himself. This improvement lasted until Tuesday night, about 6 o'clock, when he began to get worse, subsultus tendinum, etc.

On Wednesday morning he was unconscious when I saw him, and died at 11 A.M. I could find no cause for this man's illness. His temperature ranged from 96° F. to 98° during his illness. I have since heard from Dr. Hime, of Bradford, and he could find no bacilli of Asiatic cholera in the sample he took for examination.

II. T. B., aged 60, dyer's labourer, was at his work all day on Monday, September 22nd, but did not feel well. On returning home, diarrhoea (as he thought) began, and continued all night and all the next day, the 23rd; towards evening cramps began, but I was not called in until the morning of the 24th, when I found him in the following condition: Severe cramp of legs, extending to arms; collapse, speechlessness, lividity, pulselessness, copious rice water evacuations, cold body and breath, suppression of the urine; temperature barely 97°.

I gave him brandy and morphine hypodermically, wrapped him in blankets wrung out of hot water, with hot bricks up each side, and ammonia internally. He was never left one minute, and, although everything possible was done, he never rallied, but gradually sank and died on the morning of the 25th. He was quite conscious up to the last, and within five minutes of death whispered to me to visit next door.

JAMES GIBSON, M.B., C.M., M.O.H. Greetland.

DERMOID TUMOUR OF THE RIGHT OVARY CAUSING RETENTION OF URINE: OVARIOTOMY.

C. A., aged 34, single, was sent to me for treatment on account of a gradually increasing difficulty in passing water. She complained that the urine was constantly dribbling away, and that, though she experienced pain in her bladder and a desire to micturate, yet she could not pass water in any quantity unless she lay on her face or on her right side. On examining the patient's abdomen a central swelling was noticeable. It extended to the umbilicus, was movable from side to side, fluctuated freely, and was dull on percussion. Pressure on the swelling caused uneasiness, but there was no actual tenderness. It being obviously a case of distended bladder, a catheter was passed and over two pints of urine were drawn off, to the immense relief of the patient. The bladder was then explored, but no stone or growth could be detected. On proceeding to further examine the pelvis bimanually, I discovered an elongated hard tumour lying in front of the uterus, and pressing on the bladder. The tumour was easily dislodged from its position, and when pushed aside fell back into the right iliac fossa. The uterus was enlarged, its cavity measuring three inches, and the patient declared that she lost freely at each period. Otherwise she was in fair condition of health, and was unaware of the existence of any abdominal tumour up to the time of her examination.

It was evident that the tumour was the cause of the patient's symptoms, therefore I opened her abdomen a few days later and removed a kidney-shaped dermoid tumour of the right ovary, which contained hair, bone, and two teeth. The operation was a simple one, and the patient made an uninterrupted recovery, being able to go home at the end of the month completely cured of her bladder troubles.

At the time of the operation the uterus was noticed to be enlarged, but there did not seem to be any indication sufficient to justify the removal of the other ovary. Within a year, however, the patient returned, complaining of a small lump in her abdomen, which was so tender that she could not fasten her clothes at the waist owing to the agony produced by the pressure. The lump, she said, increased in size and became exquisitely painful about the time of her monthly periods, and these lasted a fortnight or three weeks, so that she was hardly ever clear. The uterus now reached to the umbilicus, its cavity measuring four inches. The lump, which was evidently the left ovary drawn up and twisted forward by the uterine growth, could be felt in the middle line about three inches above the pubes. Pressure on it caused excessive pain and faintness.

It was decided to remove the ovary, and, the patient consenting, the operation was performed without any special difficulty; her convalescence was uninterrupted. A metrostaxis set in a week after the operation and lasted about two days. From that date the patient has never menstruated. Seven months after the second operation I examined her pelvis and found the uterus much reduced in size, the probe passing three inches and a quarter. In February, 1890, the patient's

uterus was normal and no trace of the uterine growth could be detected. She is now in excellent health.

A. C. BUTLER-SMYTHE, F.R.C.S.Ed.

Surgeon to the Grosvenor Hospital for Women, Westminster.

REPORTS

MEDICAL & SURGICAL PRACTICE IN THE HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS OF GREAT BRITAIN, IRELAND, AND THE COLONIES.

NORFOLK AND NORWICH HOSPITAL.

A CASE OF LIGATURE, BUT NOT REMOVAL, OF THE APPENDAGES FOR THE TREATMENT OF EXCESSIVE HÆMORRHAGE FROM UTERINE MYOMA.

(Under the care of MICHAEL BEVERLEY, M.D.)

J. S., aged 34, a widow, dressmaker, was admitted for profuse menorrhagia on April 5th, 1890.

On examination a swelling could be felt externally, about the size of a cricket ball, in the left hypogastric region; it was movable and painful. External examination produced rather profuse loss. A tumour could be felt by vaginal and rectal examination; it moved with the uterus, which admitted the sound to 2½ inches. Diagnosis of uterine fibroma was made. The patient, who was anæmic and weak, complained of bearing down, and some difficulty in defæcation; she had been twice married, and had had one child and several miscarriages. Her second husband died twelve months before admission, so that she had to earn her own living; this has been lately impossible owing to constant uterine hæmorrhage.

At a consultation of the staff Dr. Beverley proposed removal of the appendages; this was assented to, and attempted on April 30th. The ovaries were, however, found to be so firmly bound down by adhesions, within the pelvis, that their removal appeared to be almost impracticable; consequently the operator raised the uterus partly out of the abdominal incision, and applied two ligatures round the Fallopian tube and broad ligaments on each side, close to the uterus, and divided the tubes between the ligatures. The operation was performed under the carbolic spray.

The patient made a rapid and uninterrupted recovery. Her only complaint after the operation was pelvic pain, which required the use of hypodermic injections of morphine to allay it. The temperature chart was very even, 99.50° F., being the maximum. There was no uterine hæmorrhage nor discharge after the operation, and she left the hospital quite well, on May 24th, twenty-four days after the operation. Her medical adviser, Mr. Shann, of Lowestoft, informed Dr. Beverley, in July, that up to that date she had had no recurrence of her symptoms, and remained well.

REMARKS BY DR. BEVERLEY.¹—This case is recorded for the purpose of eliciting an expression of opinion, for future guidance, under similar circumstances. Removal of the appendages for the arrest of uterine hæmorrhage in fibromyomata of that organ is now become a recognised mode of treatment (in otherwise suitable cases). In most provincial hospitals, every now and then, must occur cases similar to this now recorded, in which the removal of the ovaries appears to be almost impracticable to the ordinary hospital surgeon. What in these cases do the specialists recommend? Are the ovaries to be pursued to their hiding places and shelled out of their nests? or is it sufficient to ligature the tubes as I elected to do in my case? And, if so, what will become of the cut off ovaries; and what chances has the patient of ultimate cure? I know of no place where these questions can be so appropriately asked as at Birmingham; nowhere else are they so likely to receive satisfactory solution.

SOUTHPORT INFIRMARY.

CASE OF HODGKIN'S DISEASE: TEMPORARY CURE.

(By A. H. BAINES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., Surgeon to the Infirmary.)

THE following case is interesting, owing to the rapid manner in which the glandular masses began to diminish in size, and finally,

¹ Made in the Section of Obstetric Medicine and Gynecology, at Birmingham, to which the case was reported, in the discussion which followed the reading of Mr. Tait's paper (p. 1005).

MEDICAL DEFENCE UNION, LIMITED.

A COUNCIL meeting was held at the Euston Hotel, on October 22nd, Mr. LAWSON TAIT in the chair.

The opinion of the solicitors on the claim by the Receiver of Police to the penalties imposed under the Medical Act in the metropolitan area was read. This opinion contained the following: "We are clearly of opinion that the claim of the Receiver of Police is, in point of law, well founded, and that unless and until the existing statutory enactments are altered, it is hopeless to attempt to prevent the Receiver from obtaining penalties imposed under Section 40 of the Medical Act by any metropolitan police magistrate."

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

That seeing that the rights purporting to be given to the General Medical Council by the 42nd Section of the Medical Act, 1858, are negatived in the metropolitan area by the Metropolitan Police Act, 1839, this Council respectfully represents to the General Medical Council the urgent necessity of obtaining an alteration of the law of the kind suggested in the report of their own Special Committee on the subject in 1877—*indulget*—"The Committee suggests that the Council should move Her Majesty's Government to procure the required change in the law."

The Secretary reported that since the last Council meeting he had received twenty-five new applications for membership. It was resolved that, "in accordance with Article vi, all applications for membership up to and including No. 605, be and are hereby accepted, and the names entered on the register of members."

The conduct of an L.S.A. in illegally assuming major titles was considered, and the secretaries were requested to instruct the solicitors to point out to the gentleman the illegality of his proceeding.

The report of the Special Committee on the Duties of Divisional Secretaries was received and approved.

A member in the north of England desired the assistance of the Union under the following circumstances: He himself and his patients were constantly receiving anonymous letters of a scurrilous and filthy character—a systematic attempt apparently being made to ruin the practice of the applicant by sending letters accusing him of improper relations with ladies he attended professionally. Dr. Leslie Phillips reported that he had already communicated with the Postmaster-General, who had promised to co-operate in the matter. The solicitors were instructed to deal with this matter, and to take all necessary steps for the detection of the offender.

A member in the Black Country asked for assistance on the ground of improper dismissal from a club appointment. The matter was referred to the solicitors, with instructions to act.

A communication was received from the Metropolitan division, asking for the consideration by the Council of the suggestions made by Surgeon-Major Evatt in urging the reform of the *Medical Register*. It was determined that it was not expedient to take active steps in this matter.

A request was made by a member that the Union should bring, on his behalf, an action for libel. The application was refused, on the ground that the cause of the matter was not professional.

A complaint was received from a member in Birmingham of a case in which an unqualified assistant was placed in charge of a branch, and practically amounting to covering. The secretaries were instructed to write to the offender, pointing out the illegality of his conduct, and in case the reply was not satisfactory to report him to the General Medical Council.

A letter was received from the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh thanking the Union for its assistance in the matter of *Boyle v. Simpson*.

A communication was received from the South Wales division again pointing out the defects in the Indecent Advertisements Act, 1889. It was moved by Dr. G. Brown, seconded by Dr. Bancock, and resolved:

That the secretaries are hereby directed to direct the attention of the Home Secretary to the defects in the Indecent Advertisements Act, 1889; to forward a copy of such letter to the Chief Commissioner of Police, and to publish the correspondence in the medical papers.

The secretaries were instructed to prepare and publish a list of the members of the Union on December 31st, 1890. The secretary reported that at the present time the numerical strength of the Union was 1,438.

It was resolved that the annual meeting of the Union should, subject to the kind permission of the authorities, be held in the Council Room of the British Medical Association on the fourth Wednesday in January, 1891, at 5 P.M., and the secretaries were requested to draw up the annual report and submit it to a Council meeting previous to the annual meeting.

[All particulars of the objects, etc., of the Medical Defence Union may be obtained from the honorary secretaries, or from Dr. Leslie Phillips, 393, Moseley Road, Birmingham.]

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.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST AND WEST KENT DISTRICT.—A conjoint meeting of these Districts will take place on Thursday, November 20th, at Maidstone; Mr. A. H. B. Hallows in the chair. Gentlemen desirous of reading papers or exhibiting specimens are requested to inform one of the District Secretaries, Dr. Tyson, Folkestone, or A. W. Nankivell, F.R.C.S., St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Chatham, not later than October 31st, 1890. Further particulars will be duly announced.—W. J. TYSON, A. W. NANKIVELL, Honorary Secretaries of the Districts.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT.—The next meeting will be held at the Queen's Hotel, Eastbourne, on Thursday, November 20th, at 3.30 P.M., Mr. J. H. Ewart in the chair. Dinner at 5.30 P.M.: charge 6s., exclusive of wine. Dr. Adams will read a paper on Congenital Occlusion of the Urethra. —Notice of papers or cases should be sent to the Honorary Secretary, T. JENNER VERRALL, 97, Montpellier Road, Brighton.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.—The autumnal meeting of this Branch will be held at the Railway Hotel, Taunton, on Thursday, November 6th, at 5 o'clock. Dinner (5s. a head, exclusive of wine) at 5.30. A discussion will take place on the Use of Ergot in the Second Stage of Labour. The titles of any paper or communication to be brought before the meeting must be sent to W. M. KELLY, M.D., Honorary Secretary, Taunton.

SOUTHERN BRANCH.—An ordinary meeting will be held at the Grosvenor Hotel, Queen's Gate, Southsea, on Thursday, November 13th. The chair will be taken by the President, Dr. A. M. Garrington, at 4.30 P.M. Gentlemen who are desirous of introducing patients, exhibiting pathological specimens, or making communications, are requested to signify their intention at once to the Honorary Secretary. Dinner will be provided at 6.30 P.M.; charge, 5s., exclusive of wine, etc.

SOUTHERN BRANCH: SOUTH WILTS DISTRICT.—The next meeting will be held at the Angel Hotel, Salisbury, on Wednesday, November 5th, at 2.30, preceded by luncheon, the charge for which will be 3s. 6d. a head, exclusive of ale or wine. Papers or cases will be read by Mr. Luckham, Mr. H. Coates, and Mr. Stratton. A discussion on Rheumatism will be opened by Mr. Kelland. Members intending to be present to give notice to the Honorary Secretary, H. J. MANNING, Laverstock, Salisbury.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH.—The next Branch meeting will be held at Abergavenny on Thursday, November 6th. Members wishing to read papers, etc., should send titles to Dr. Sheen before the 22nd inst.—A. SHEEN, Cardiff, and D. A. DAVIES, Swansea, Honorary Secretaries.

THAMES VALLEY BRANCH.—A meeting of the Branch will be held at the Talbot Hotel, Richmond, on Wednesday, November 5th, at 6 P.M., Dr. Wadd in the chair. Agenda: 1, President's Address; 2, Consideration of the Midwives Registration Bill; 3, a paper on Diphtheria will be read by Horatio Bryan Donkin, M.B., F.R.C.P. Dinner at 7.30 P.M.—CHARLES C. SCOTT, M.B., Honorary Secretary, St. Margarets, Twickenham.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.—The next meeting will be held at the Hackney Town Hall on Thursday, November 20th, at 8.30 P.M. It will be devoted to papers, not exceeding ten minutes in length, by local practitioners. Members wishing to read papers will kindly communicate with the Honorary Secretary, Dr. J. W. HUNT, 101, Queen's Road, Dalston, N.E.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.—The autumn meeting of this Branch will be held in the Assembly Room, Town Hall, Macclesfield, on Friday, November 14th, at 1.30 P.M. Agenda: Dr. R. B. Rentoul will read a paper on the Amended Midwives Registration Bill. Dr. Carter will present a Statement from the Parliamentary Bills Committee on the Amended Midwives Registration Bill, and lay a copy of the Bill before the meeting. Dr. Walter will show a patient from whom he removed a Kidney fixed in the hollow of the Sacrum. Mr. Taylor will exhibit a Uterus from a successful case of Caesarean Section, and remark on the case. Mr. Stanmore Bishop will read a paper on Modern Methods of Treatment in Morbus Coxæ, with demonstration of a new Cot. Dr. Kingsbury will read a paper on the Dangers of Hypnotism and How to Avoid

Them, followed by a demonstration of Therapeutic Hypnotism. Dr. McNaught will read a paper on Acid Dyspepsia. Mr. Dambrell-Davies will read a communication on a case of Strangulated Hernia. Dr. Brooke will read a paper entitled a Modern Conception of Measles. Luncheon.—A light luncheon, kindly provided by the members of the profession resident in Macclesfield and district, will be served in No. 1 Committee Room, Town Hall, from 12.30 to 1.30 P.M. Dinner.—Arrangements have been made for a dinner in the Town Hall at 5 P.M. Tickets, wine not included, 7s. 6d. each. As more than fifty persons cannot be comfortably seated, it is specially requested that early applications be made for tickets.—CHARLES ED. GLASCOTT, Honorary Secretary, 23, St. John Street, Manchester.

ADELAIDE AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch was held at the Adelaide Hospital on June 26th, 1890. Present: Dr. CLELAND, President, in the chair; Professor Watson, Drs. Clindenning, McIntosh, Perks, A. A. Hamilton, Hayward, J. A. G. Hamilton, T. K. Hamilton, London, Leschen, Gregerson, Symons, and Lynch as Acting Secretary. An apology was received from the Honorary Secretary, Dr. Poulton.

Exhibits.—Dr. T. K. HAMILTON: (1) Operation for Complete Ptosis (Right Eye) with Good Result; (2) Two Cases of Concussion Cataract.—Professor WATSON: Carcinoma of Suprarenal Body.—ASSISTANT SECRETARY (for Dr. POULTON): Urino-genital Apparatus of a male, 22 years, operation for Nephro-lithotomy. The opposite kidney was converted into a large multilocular cyst.

Proposed Alteration of Night of Meeting.—Dr. T. K. HAMILTON proposed: "That the night of meeting be altered from the last Thursday in each month to the last Thursday but one." Dr. CLINDENNING seconded. After some discussion the motion was put, and carried by a majority of 1.

New Members.—Dr. Altmann and Dr. Hamilton were unanimously elected.

Report of Council.—The ASSISTANT SECRETARY then read the annual report of council and treasurer's report, which showed that the numerical and financial position of the Branch was satisfactory. Eight new members had been elected, three had retired; death had removed one in the person of Dr. A. W. Walls, of Manum. The roll now contained eighty-three names, among whom for the first time they were glad to welcome graduates of the Adelaide University. The Branch had held nine meetings, and the following papers had been read:—Dr. J. A. G. Hamilton, Notes on Cases of Intestinal Obstruction; Dr. Hayward, a case of Hæmatemesis Neonatorum and a case of Yellow Atrophy of the Liver; Dr. A. A. Hamilton, on Puerperal Temperatures; Dr. Verco, on a case of Hydrocele with Milk-like Contents, and on a case of Tumour of the Brain; Dr. Gardner and Dr. R. H. Marten, on Loreta's Operation; Dr. J. D. Thomas, on a case of Spinal Injury and cases of Hydatid Disease; Dr. W. Ansley Giles, on a case of Knee-joint Disease; Dr. E. W. Way, Dr. Swift, and Dr. Marten, on Extrauterine Pregnancy; Dr. R. H. Marten, on a case of Congenital Malformation of the Oesophagus; Dr. B. Poulton, on the Surgical Treatment of Hydatid Cysts of the Liver; and Dr. M. Jay, Dr. Verco, and Dr. Bickle, on the Epidemic of Influenza. The receipts for the year amounted to £193 17s. 11d., and the expenditure to £155 5s. 10d. There was to the credit of the Branch in the Savings Bank a sum of £155 14s. 3d. It was moved by Dr. HAYWARD, seconded by Dr. CLINDENNING, and carried, that the report be adopted.

Election of Officers.—The following gentlemen were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year:—*President:* Dr. J. A. G. Hamilton. *Vice-President:* Dr. Symons. *Treasurer:* Dr. Corbin. *Secretary:* Dr. Poulton. *Members of Council:* Drs. Way, Cleland, and T. K. Hamilton.

President's Address.—The President, Dr. W. L. CLELAND, Resident Medical Officer of the Parkside Lunatic Asylum, delivered an address on "Lunacy Legislation," which will be referred to elsewhere.

Installation of New President.—After delivering his address Dr. CLELAND resigned the chair to his successor, Dr. J. A. G. HAMILTON, who thanked the members for having elected him.

Vote of Thanks to Retiring President.—A vote of thanks to the retiring President for his address and for the able manner in which he had discharged the duties of his office was moved by Dr. MCINTOSH, seconded by Dr. HAYWARD, and carried by acclamation. Dr. CLELAND briefly replied.

MEDICAL MAGISTRATE.—Dr. Henry Weekes, Brompton, Chatham, an alderman of Kent County, has been appointed by the Lord Chancellor a justice of the peace for the county of Kent.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Council held at the offices of the Association 429, Strand, London, W.C., on Wednesday, October 15th, 1890:

Present.

Dr. WITHERS MOORE (President of Council), in the Chair.

Dr. W. F. WADE, (President) Birmingham.

Mr. H. T. BUTLIN (Treasurer), London.

Dr. B. ANNINGSOON, Cambridge	Dr. H. HANDFORD, Nottingham
Dr. H. BARNES, Carlisle	Mr. J. H. HEMMING, Kimbolton
Dr. G. B. BARRON, Southport	Mr. G. F. HODGSON, Brighton
Dr. F. BATEMAN, Whitechurch	Dr. HOLMAN, Reigate
Dr. T. BRIDGWATER, Harrow-on-the-Hill	Mr. T. VINCENT JACKSON, Wolverhampton
Dr. J. S. BRISTOWE, F.R.S., London	Mr. T. R. JESSOP, Leeds
Dr. J. S. CAMERON, Leeds	Dr. W. M. KELLY, Taunton
Dr. A. CARPENTER, Croydon	Mr. JORDAN LLOYD, Birmingham
Dr. WILLIAM CARTER, Liverpool	Mr. C. MACNAMARA, London
Surgeon-General W. R. CORNISH, London	Mr. W. JONES MORRIS, Portmadoc
Dr. J. WARD COUSINS, Portsmouth	Dr. F. NEEDHAM, Gloucester
Dr. H. R. CROCKER, London	Mr. C. H. W. PARKINSON, Wimbome Minster
Mr. T. W. CROSSE, Norwich	Dr. C. PARSONS, Dover
Dr. G. W. CROWE, Worcester	Dr. R. SAUNDY, Birmingham
Dr. P. M. DEAS, Exeter	Dr. A. SHEEN, Cardiff
Dr. J. L. H. DOWN, London	Mr. S. W. SIBLEY, London
Dr. D. DRUMMOND, Newcastle-on-Tyne	Dr. E. MARKHAM SKERRITT, Clifton
Mr. GEORGE EASTES, M.B., London	Mr. NOBLE SMITH, London
Dr. W. A. ELLISTON, Ipswich	Dr. W. STRANGE, Worcester
Sir B. W. FOSTER, M.D., M.P., Birmingham.	Mr. T. SYMPSON, Lincoln
Mr. R. S. FOWLER, Bath	Mr. LAWSON TAIT, Birmingham
Dr. J. H. GALTON, Upper Norwood	Mr. J. TAYLOR, Chester
Dr. C. E. GLASCOTT, Manchester	Dr. T. W. TREND, Southampton
Dr. BRUCE GOFF, Bothwell	Dr. A. R. URQUHART, Perth
Dr. O. GRANT, Inverness	Mr. F. WALLACE, Upper Clapton
Dr. T. W. GRIMSHAW, Carrickmines	Dr. E. WATERS, Chester
	Mr. C. G. WHEELHOUSE, Filey, Yorks
	Dr. G. E. WILLIAMSON, Newcastle-on-Tyne

The minutes of the last meeting having been printed and circulated, and no objection having been made, were signed as correct.

Read letters of apology for non-attendance from Dr. J. W. Byers, of Belfast, Professor Gairdner, of Glasgow, Mr. Evan Jones, of Aberdare, and Dr. William Russell, of Edinburgh.

Read abstract of letter from Surg. M. Collie, of which the following is a copy:

Bombay Branch of the British Medical Association,

Bombay, September 5th, 1890.

[Abstract of letter from Surgeon M. Collie, Honorary Secretary to the Bombay Branch.]

Your decision that the two lady doctors could not be admitted as members of the Association I communicated to Mrs. Phipson and Miss Macdonald. Personally, I scarcely think that a *plébiscite* taken in 1878 can be regarded as representative of public professional opinion in 1890. That *plébiscite* was taken when party feeling ran high, and the conservative feelings of the profession were wounded by the proposal to admit women to the ranks of the profession. Within the last decade the admission of women into occupations which were formerly reserved for men has become an accomplished fact, and much of the opposition has passed away—as all opposition does when a reform has been successfully carried out. In these twelve years new generations of medical men have entered the profession, who, either by having sisters or female relatives in the profession, or by force of circumstances, have come to regard lady doctor without (to say the least) active opposition. I would suggest that another *plébiscite* be taken; and, in making this suggestion, I do so as an individual, not as a representative of this Branch. Inasmuch as both Mrs. Pechey Phipson and Miss Macdonald were elected without opposition, I assume the other members would support my proposal.

Resolved: That the Council begs to inform Surgeon Collie that this question cannot be decided by the Council, and suggests that the proper course would be to bring it before the next annual meeting.

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

The election of members was then considered.

Resolved: That 87 of the 89 candidates whose names appear on the circular convening the meeting, together with the 12

gentlemen provisionally elected at the General Meeting at Birmingham, and the 19 names that arrived after the usual list was circulated, be and they are hereby elected members of the Association, and the election of foreign candidates be deferred till the question of the last meeting on the election of foreigners is decided.

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 minutes of the Journal and Finance Committee contain the report on the accounts for the quarter amounting to £7,256 8s. 6d., auditors' quarterly report, and editorial matters.

Resolved unanimously: That the Council of the British Medical Association having heard of the death of their esteemed colleague Dr. Webb, beg to express their sense of the great loss thereby sustained both by the Association and by the profession, and to sympathise very deeply with the widow and son of Dr. Webb in their grievous bereavement.

Read resolution of the Annual General Meeting, of which the following is a copy:—

At the fourth general meeting of members held at Birmingham on Friday, August 1st.

Resolved: "That it be an instruction to the Council to use the whole influence of the Association to secure the increased direct representation of the profession on the General Medical Council, and report to the next general meeting."

Resolved: That the elected members of the General Medical Council be respectfully requested to move that Council to represent to the Privy Council the desirability of exercising the powers conferred by Section 1c, Clause 10, of the Medical Act, 1886, and to increase the number of elected representatives.

Resolved: That a copy of this resolution be sent to each of the five elected members of the General Medical Council.

Read resolution of the annual meeting held at Birmingham, of which the following is a copy:—

At the second general meeting of members held at Birmingham on Wednesday, July 30th, it was

Resolved: "That the Council be empowered to arrange for a place of meeting for 1891, and further to appoint President-elect."

The General Secretary reported that deputations from Scarborough and one from Bournemouth had attended in order to present invitations from those towns.

The deputation from Scarborough consisting of Mr. James Harvey, Mr. F. W. A. Godfrey, Dr. C. F. Hutchinson, Mr. W. J. Teale, Dr. Robert Cuff (Scarborough), and Dr. Clifford Allbutt (London), was then introduced.

Mr. John Teale presented a cordial invitation to hold the annual meeting at Scarborough, and reported that the invitation had been signed by a very large number of resident practising medical men.

Mr. Hutchinson, of Scarborough, supported the invitation.

The President, on behalf of the Council, thanked the deputation from Scarborough for presenting so cordial an invitation to hold its meeting there.

The deputation then withdrew.

The deputation from Bournemouth consisting of Dr. J. Roberts Thomson, Dr. Davison, Dr. Douglas, Dr. Frazer, Dr. Greves, Mr. Nunn, Dr. Snow (Bournemouth), Dr. Childs (Weymouth), Dr. Daniell (Blandford), Dr. Dyer (Ringwood), Dr. Leach (Sturminster-Newton), and Mr. Parkinson (Wimborne Minster) was then introduced.

Dr. Thomson offered, on behalf of the medical men of Bournemouth and members of the Dorset Branch, a warm invitation to hold the annual meeting at Bournemouth in 1891.

Dr. Child, of Weymouth, also supported the invitation.

The President then thanked the deputation on behalf of the Council and Association for attending and presenting so cordial an invitation.

The deputation then withdrew.

Dr. Ward Cousins presented a cordial invitation from Portsmouth to hold the annual meeting at Portsmouth, and apologised for not being accompanied by a deputation. He stated that at a very large meeting of the profession he had the pleasure of seeing fifty gentlemen sign a requisition for presenting the invitation that day.

Read invitation from the Town Association of Torquay asking the Association to hold its annual meeting in that town for next year.

Resolved: That a show of hands be taken for each place.

A show of hands being taken, the votes were declared in favour of Bournemouth.

Resolved: That the invitation to Bournemouth be accepted with thanks.

Resolved: That Dr. J. Roberts Thomson be appointed President-elect, in accordance with the minute of the annual meeting.

Resolved: That the cordial thanks of the Council be given to the gentlemen who have attended and presented invitations from Portsmouth and Scarborough, and that they be informed that the Council hopes that a renewal of the invitations will enable the Association to visit those towns at no distant date.

Read reference from the annual meeting respecting a motion of Surgeon-General Ince.

Resolved: That in the opinion of the Council it is inadvisable to revert to the principle of co-optative members.

The second motion of Surgeon-Major Ince was then considered.

Resolved: That the arrangements proposed by Surgeon-Major Ince appear to this Council to be impracticable.

Read letter from Dr. Carline, Secretary to the Midland Branch, intimating that at a special meeting of the Midland Branch it was unanimously resolved to invite the Association to Nottingham in 1892, also reporting the election of Dr. Handford, of Nottingham, as a representative on the Council in place of the late Dr. Webb.

Resolved: That the letter be received and entered on the minutes.

Dr. Needham then reported the resolutions of the annual meeting, passed in the Psychology Section, upon hypnotism, held at Birmingham, on Wednesday, July 30th, 1890, and asked that a grant of £100 might be made to the expenses of the Committee.

Resolved: That the Committee, as nominated, be appointed, and that a grant, not exceeding £100, be made to the Committee.

The minutes of the meeting of the Irish and Scotch Diplomates Committee of October 14th were read, received, and adopted.

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

Resolved: That Dr. Rantoul's communications be laid on the table.

Read minute of the Scientific Grants Committee upon the Committee of Investigation into the mental state and fitness of School Board children.

Resolved: That the President, the Treasurer, and Dr. Bridgewater be appointed the three representatives of the Council on the Committee.

Resolved: That there be three addresses at the annual meeting.

Resolved: That the addresses be Medicine, Surgery, and Public Medicine.

That the annual meeting be held on the 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st of July.

Resolved: That the gentlemen whose names are as follows be appointed an Arrangement Committee for the annual meeting at Bournemouth: The President, the President-Elect, the President of Council, the Treasurer, Dr. Bridgewater, Dr. Ward Cousins, Dr. Davison, Dr. Douglas, Sir Walter Foster, Dr. Frazer, Dr. Vawdrey Lush, and Mr. Parkinson.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

BIRMINGHAM.

Hospital Reform Committee.—Hospital Sunday Collection.

A MEETING was held on October 22nd, at which Mr. H. Griffiths, Chairman of the Committee of the Birmingham Charity Organisation Society, gave evidence. He first of all put in a scheme of reform which he had drawn up, the outline of which is as follows. He divided the community into four classes: (1) Paupers, who would be cared for by the Poor-law authorities. (2) The poor, who were unable from their scanty earnings to provide for medical attendance. (3) The self-supporting, who could by small weekly contributions provide for their own medical attendance. (4) The well-to-do and wealthy. Only those in class 2 should be treated at hospital except in cases of accident and urgency. At present a few of class 1, a large number of class 3, and occasionally members of class 4 obtained relief at hospital. He objected to the system of subscriber's notes, because, if a person belonged to the eligible class (2), it was wrong to compel him to start on a begging expedition to secure the necessary passport into a hospital, his qualification was that he was unable to pay for medical attendance; and he also objected to the registration fee, which

tional needs of the blind among the middle classes, Dr. Armitage became one of the originators of the Royal Normal College for the Blind, at Upper Norwood, and has been one of its most staunch supporters, his pecuniary gifts alone having amounted to nearly £40,000. He spared neither time nor trouble in promoting the work of the college; and it was largely by his help that it attained its present position. His leading idea was to render the education of the blind as much as possible like that of sighted persons, to teach the blind to be self-reliant, and to fit them for earning their bread by their own exertions. Music was found to be especially suited to their condition; and many pupils of the Normal College have attained high distinction as instrumentalists, while many others have obtained permanent salaried positions as tuners in large firms. Dr. Armitage was the chief introducer and promoter in this country of the Braille method of writing and printing and of maps with raised characters, and most of the improvements in the manufacture of these were originated or fostered by him. He visited most European countries, the United States, and recently Egypt, with a view of ascertaining personally the condition of the blind in each. He was an active member of the recent Royal Commission on the Education of the Blind and Deaf and Dumb, and he took part in international congresses on the subject both in Paris and Germany. Latterly, in addition to almost complete blindness, he became very deaf; but his infirmities diminished neither his benevolence nor his cheerfulness; and his interest in the good works in which he was engaged continued unabated to the last. His funeral was held at Noan on October 28th.

THOMAS FROST, M.R.C.S.ENG.

MR. THOMAS FROST has died at his residence, 5, Cambridge Street, Sheffield, after an illness of a few weeks' duration. He was a native of Hucknall Torkard, where his father had practised as a surgeon for many years. He became M.R.C.S.Eng. in 1852, and was shortly afterwards detailed for service in the Crimea, but for some reason was not sent out. During his forty years' residence in Sheffield, though he took no active part in political or municipal affairs, he was well known and much respected. He filled the post of assistant surgeon to the local volunteer corps; he took great interest in the work of friendly societies, and was one of the original fifty founders of the British United Order of Oddfellows. Mr. Thomas Frost, who was 63 years of age, was married twice. He leaves a widow, four daughters and a son.

ROBERT M'CORMICK, F.R.C.S., R.N.

WE regret to announce the death of the well known Arctic explorer and naturalist, Robert M'Cormick. He died on Tuesday morning at Hecla Villa, Wimbledon, in his 91st year. He was born on July 22nd, 1800, and was a pupil of Sir Astley Cooper at Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals. In 1822 he became a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, and in 1844 an Honorary Fellow. He entered the navy in 1823, serving on board the flagship of the late Sir James H. Whitshed, at Portsmouth. He served three times on the West India Station, and accompanied Sir E. Parry in Her Majesty's ship *Hecla*, in his attempt to reach the North Pole. Sir Edward gave him the charge of the ornithological collection and of a lieutenant's watch. In 1836 Mr. M'Cormick joined Her Majesty's ship *Terror*, commissioned for the relief of the ice-bound whale-ships; and in 1839 Her Majesty's ship *Erebus*, employed with the *Terror* in the Antarctic expedition on a voyage for magnetic observation and discovery in the South Polar regions; and, after a perilous voyage of four years, with the onerous duties of geologist and zoologist, in addition to his medical duties as chief medical officer of the expedition, he was on his return the only officer (eligible for promotion) left unpromoted. From 1845 to 1848 he was surgeon of Her Majesty's yacht *William and Mary*, at Woolwich. He was one of the first, in 1847, to call the attention of the Admiralty to the fate of Sir John Franklin, and his long experience in Polar service enabled him to lay before the Board plans of search for the missing ships. But it was not until 1852 that his overtures were accepted, and he was sent out in the *North Star*, being given the command of an open boat, called the *Forlorn Hope*, manned by six volunteers. After a three weeks' exploration, amid tempestuous weather, he set at rest the moot question of the opening between Baring Bay and Jones's Sound.

In 1857 he was awarded the Arctic medal, and in 1876 the Greenwich Hospital pension, having been placed on the retired list in 1865. He was the author of several works, including *Boat Voyage up the Wellington Channel; Plans of Search in the Arctic*

Ocean; Geology of Tasmania, New Zealand, Antarctic Continent, and Isles of the South; Voyage of Discovery in the Arctic and Antarctic Seas; and Round the World, with an Open Boat Expedition, in the Forlorn Hope, in Search of Franklin, in two volumes—books which showed him to possess a literary faculty often conspicuously absent in men who have won fame in the Arctic Seas.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES.

OXFORD.

ADMISSION OF WOMEN TO THE M.B. EXAMINATION.—The proposed statute for admitting women to the examination for the degree of Bachelor of Medicine (though not to the degree) was under discussion in Congregation on October 28th. Professor Case objected to leaving it to the judgment of the delegates of local examinations to decide what examination should be accepted as the equivalent of Responsions; he proposed that the permissible equivalents should be only those allowed by the statutes of the University. In other words, he objected to the substitution for women as medical students of modern languages in place of Greek and Latin. There was an extreme danger that the easiness of women's examinations would react upon those of the men, who would certainly demand admission to examinations on the same terms. He insisted upon the necessity of Greek and Latin as a preliminary to the study of medicine, both as involving a general education and also as required by the scientific terminology; and he warned the University, as he had done in discussing the preamble, that the delegates would be able *proprio motu* to give licences qualifying women to practise. On a division, Mr. Case's proposed amendment was rejected by a majority of one, the numbers being—for the amendment 33, against 34.

CAMBRIDGE.

SURGEON PARKE was present in the Senate House on October 23rd when Mr. Stanley was admitted to the honorary degree of LL.D. He received a warm greeting from the assembled graduates and undergraduates, which was renewed when Dr. Sandys, the Public Orator, referred to Stanley's "comites fortes et fideles."

DEGREES.—The following degrees were conferred at the same congregation:—M.D.: F. C. Holman Piggott, M.A., M.B., Emmanuel College (thesis, *The Physiology and Pathology of Bodily Heat*). M.B.: Michael George Foster, M.A., Trinity College (thesis, *Some Practical Points in the Climatic Treatment of Pulmonary Complaints*). Mr. Foster is the son of the Professor of Physiology.

PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.—At the meeting on Monday, October 27th, Arthur Gamgee, M.D., F.R.S., read a paper on *The Principle on which Fahrenheit constructed his Thermometrical Scale*.

SCHOLARSHIPS, ETC., IN SCIENCE.—Trinity: Major scholarships of £80 for two years, minor scholarships and exhibitions of £75 and £50 for two years, and sizarships of £80 for three years. Subjects: Those of the Natural Sciences Tripos, with general questions in English and an English essay. Examination begins December 9th. Apply to one of the tutors. Downing: Minor scholarships of £50 for one year. Subjects: Chemistry, Physics, Physiology, Comparative Anatomy, Botany, Human Anatomy. Examination begins July 8th, 1891. Apply to the Rev. J. C. Saunders, tutor.

EDINBURGH.

GENERAL COUNCIL.—The statutory half-yearly meeting of the General Council of the University of Edinburgh will be held in the Examination Hall this day (Friday). As far as the Medical Faculty is concerned, the most important business will be: 1. Regulations as to the retirement of assessors. 2. Report of the Committee appointed for the consideration of communications to be made to the Universities Commissioners on: (a) readjustment of courses of study qualifying for graduation; and (b) arrangements for teaching, both professorial and non-professorial. Under subdivision (a) a suggestion is put forward with regard to the propriety of elevating the degree of Master of Surgery to the level of that of Doctor of Medicine, and instituting a bachelorship in surgery parallel to that in medicine. This proposal the Committee thinks judicious. The suggestion that encouragement to graduate in arts should be given to medical candidates by means of options is also strongly approved of by the Committee. The Committee further urges that steps ought to be taken to enforce more rigidly than at present the conclusion of the general educational course before the student enters on the study of medicine, inasmuch as it is injurious to the thorough education of the student that he should be allowed to attend in a perfunctory way medical

classes while still a candidate for the preliminary examination. Under subdivision (b) the report bears that: "In the Faculty of medicine it is generally recognised that some additions to the teaching staff in several of the subjects are necessary, but the number of such additions, and the question how far they should take the form of new professorships, lectureships, or assistantships are points which do not appear to have been as yet dealt with by the medical faculty, and the committee think it advisable to postpone consideration of this subject until it is seen what proposals are made by the Faculty. The General Council also gives expression to its opinion that in the department of medicine extra-mural teaching might receive a further recognition; that the better use of the clinical material of the infirmary ought to be carefully considered, and that lectureships for the teaching of special subjects, for which it is proposed to grant diplomas, will require to be instituted.

STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL.—The first statutory meeting for the session was held on Friday, October 24th, when the annual report and financial statement were laid on the table. From these it appeared that there was a loss of £26 14s. 1d. on *The Student*, the journal of the society; but as there was a surplus on the Council's ordinary funds, the absolute deficit was reduced to £8 15s. 10d.

INDIA AND THE COLONIES.

INDIA.

THE TRADE IN NARCOTICS.—The East is known to be the great home of opium eating and smoking, and other forms of what Théophile Gautier calls *paradis artificiels*, but probably few Englishmen are aware of the extent to which the traffic in narcotics is carried on under the direct sanction of Government. A return recently made by the India Office at the order of the House of Commons gives the following statistics of the number of shops licensed to sell opium, *ganja* (leaves of *cannabis indica* rubbed up and smoked with or without tobacco), *madjoun* or *bang* (the same as *haschish*, an electuary of Indian hemp), and *charas*:

Madras	...	1,172	Burmah	...	30
Bombay	...	1,295	Central Provinces	...	2,416
Bengal	...	5,631	Assam	...	1,358
N.W. Provinces and Oudh	4,962		Berar	...	604
Punjaub (about)	...	2,956			

20,424

These figures, however, probably do not show the whole magnitude of the evil; thus, while the number of shops in the whole of Burmah is given as 30, Upper Burmah alone is credited, in other tables, with no fewer than 1,067. Nothing is said as to clandestine traffic, but it may be safely assumed that this exists to a very considerable extent.

FEMALE PRACTITIONERS AND INDIAN WOMEN.—Referring to a quotation in the *Madras Mail* from an official report of the present Surgeon-General of India (Dr. Rice), that the ladies of Lucknow, in regard to surgical practice, show a decided preference for operators of the male sex, a correspondent writes, pointing out that the practice of *gosha*, or seclusion of women in their home circles, is one which largely prevails in the city of Lucknow, which has a very considerable population of Mahomedans, amongst whom this custom is almost universal. This preference referred to in Dr. Rice's report is, says our correspondent, perhaps scarcely to be wondered at, for where people have to submit to painful and alarming operations they think more of the nerve, skill, and experience of the operator than of caste or race prejudices. The fact that women of Lucknow prefer to have their surgeons of the male sex speaks volumes for the professional ability and tact of the civil surgeon of Lucknow and his staff of assistant surgeons. The *Madras Mail* need not, our correspondent points out, have looked so far for an instance of the confidence of Indian women in the male physician or surgeon. In its own Presidency town there are two lying-in hospitals, both under the administration of medical officers of the Establishment and officered by male subordinates. These institutions receive on the average about 2,500 patients a year for delivery. There is of course a large proportion of difficult or complicated labour, inasmuch as many of the cases are brought in only when the local midwife has failed and the friends have become frightened. Yet such is the confidence of the women who have been treated in these hos-

pitals that in future pregnancies they come in by shoals and await their confinement. They show no repugnance to the male officers. On the contrary, by repeated returns, they testify how high is their confidence in the skill and ability of the surgeons to bring them through their troubles. The Madras lying-in hospitals are most excellent schools of practical midwifery, fully utilised by the students, male and female, of the Medical College, as well as by a special class of nurses who, on the completion of their training, are certified, after examination, as competent midwives. These institutions certainly have prospered exceedingly under male supervision. But, from what we hear, the Victoria Caste Hospital of Madras, which was founded especially for the benefit of caste or *gosha* women about six years ago, and officered entirely by lady doctors, is not so highly esteemed by the native public. A considerable sum of money was raised to build and support this institution, and the Government has contributed liberally towards its support, but it is stated in the Madras papers that the native subscriptions are falling off, inasmuch that while the expenditure of the hospital amounts to 11,000 rupees a year the subscriptions realise only 1,500 rupees. There may be causes for this apathy of the native community of Madras in supporting a caste hospital which are not apparent, but, judging from the subscription list, it may be assumed that those who have talked so much about the necessity of female medical practitioners in India are scarcely prepared to back their opinions by pecuniary aid.

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY MANAGEMENT.

THE LONDON HOSPITALS AND THEIR NURSES.

In a paper recently read before the Balloon Society of Great Britain, Mr. H. Nelson Hardy, F.R.C.S.Ed., after paying a high tribute to the work done by the great London hospitals, went on to say that for twenty years or more a feeling of dissatisfaction had arisen on the part of the public with the management of our London hospitals, the expression of which, at first confined to writers in the medical press and some of the magazines, had at length extended to the daily papers and the public generally. This had led to the appointment, early in the present year, of a Select Committee of the House of Lords to make inquiry with regard to endowed hospitals and provident and other dispensaries in the metropolis, the importance of which inquiry would appear if it was remembered that the estimated value of the sites and endowments of some of the principal hospitals amounted to five or six millions sterling, and that, in addition to this, a number of hospitals, large and small, general and special, spent every year over £300,000, and were continually, like *Oliver Twist*, asking for more.

The work done in these hospitals was not confined to the original purpose for which they were built—that is, the care and cure of in-patients—but included also in most large hospitals the treatment of out-patients, the training of nurses, and the education of medical students. Whether all these diverse objects could be as well performed by one institution as they would be by several—whether, for instance, out-patients could be as well treated in a few big hospitals in the City and at the West End as they could be by dispensaries scattered all over London; whether medical students could be better taught in two or three good central schools than in the present eleven—these were questions towards the solving of which it was to be hoped the Select Committee would afford some help; while as to the nursing question, the evidence which had already been given before that Committee showed how much need there was of probing it to the bottom. Out of the twenty-two meetings of the Committee, the greatest portion of ten had been taken up in hearing evidence about the nursing arrangements at one particular hospital. Having quoted from the evidence given by nurses and others from Miss Eva Lückes's article on the subject in the *New Review*, and from the letters of house-surgeons in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, Mr. Hardy said the matter as regarded that particular hospital might safely be left in the hands of the Select Committee. The reforms which were needed appeared to him to be: (1) The establishment of a Central Board, to control the present hospitals and dispensaries, and to prevent the undue multiplication of new ones; (2) the separation of the medical schools from hospitals and their reduction in number

These hospitals contained, however, 1,886 scarlet fever patients on the same date, against numbers increasing from 1,373 to 1,887 at the end of the nine preceding weeks; 185 cases were admitted during the week, against 241, 216, and 190 in the three previous weeks. The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs in London was equal to 4.7 per 1,000, and slightly exceeded the average.

HEALTH OF SCOTCH TOWNS.

DURING the week ending Saturday, October 25th, 748 births and 545 deaths were registered in eight of the principal Scotch towns. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had risen from 18.0 to 19.4 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, further rose to 21.1 during the week under notice, and exceeded by 0.5 per 1,000 the mean rate during the same period in the twenty-eight large English towns. Among these Scotch towns the lowest death-rates were recorded in Paisley and Edinburgh, and the highest in Aberdeen and Glasgow. The 545 deaths registered in these towns during the week included 80 which were referred to the principal zymotic diseases, equal to an annual rate of 3.1 per 1,000, which was slightly below the mean zymotic death-rate during the same period in the large English towns. The highest zymotic death-rates in these Scotch towns were recorded in Edinburgh, Perth, and Greenock. The 248 deaths registered in Glasgow included 8 which were referred to whooping-cough, 7 to diphtheria, and 5 to different forms of "fever." Five fatal cases of diphtheria were recorded in Edinburgh, 3 of scarlet fever in Aberdeen, and 4 of measles in Greenock. The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs in these towns was equal to 5.0 per 1,000, against 4.7 in London.

HEALTH OF IRISH TOWNS.

IN the sixteen principal town-districts of Ireland, the deaths registered during the week ending Saturday, October 18th, were equal to an annual rate of 20.1 per 1,000. The lowest rates were recorded in Lurgan and Armagh, and the highest in Drogheda and Waterford. The death-rate from the principal zymotic diseases averaged 3.0 per 1,000. The 144 deaths registered in Dublin were equal to an annual rate of 21.3 per 1,000 (against 19.4 and 19.5 in the two preceding weeks), the rate for the same period being 20.5 in London and 19.6 in Edinburgh. The 144 deaths registered in Dublin included 23 which were referred to the principal zymotic diseases (equal to an annual rate of 3.4 per 1,000), of which 13 resulted from diarrhoea, 6 from different forms of "fever," and 4 from whooping-cough.

NOMADS AND THE HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT.

DR. ALFRED ASHBY (Town Hall, Reading) writes: If your correspondent "M. O. H." will refer to the seventh schedule of the Act of 1890, he will find that the extent of the repeal of the Act of 1885 is "the whole Act except Sections 3 and 7 to 9, and except Section 10 so far as it relates to by-laws authorised by those sections." So the old provisions respecting tents, vans, sheds, etc., are retained by the new Act.

ADULTERATED DRUGS.

MR. WM. BEATON, chemist, of 20, Sussex Street, Pimlico, and Mr. E. J. Wall, chemist, of 44, High Street, Pimlico, were summoned on October 22nd, by the Vestry of St. George Hanover Square, for selling a drug—to wit, precipitated sulphur—which was not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded by the purchaser. The sample obtained from the first-named defendant was certified to contain 43.8 per cent. of sulphate of lime, and the other 39.5 per cent. of the same substance.

Mr. Cassal, the public analyst, was called, and stated that such a quantity of sulphate of lime in precipitated sulphur must be regarded as "injurious to health," either if taken internally or used externally. Such beneficial action as the sulphur might possess in certain cases would be lessened by the admixture, apart from its probably irritating effect.

It was urged on behalf of one of the defendants that the manager had served milk of sulphur by mistake; and on behalf of the other defendant that he had served from part of an old stock coming from a former proprietor.

Mr. Cassal, replying to Mr. De Rutzen, the magistrate, said that there was no such thing as milk of sulphur recognised by the *British Pharmacopœia*. When people ask for it he considered that they ought to be supplied with pure sulphur, such as the precipitated sulphur of the *Pharmacopœia*.

Mr. De Rutzen said that it was of the utmost importance that the public should be supplied with pure drugs, and fined each of the defendants £5 and costs. The penalties were paid.

RESIDENCES OF UNION MEDICAL OFFICERS.

SUBSCRIBER writes to ask whether it is necessary for a medical officer of a union to live "in the parish in which the union is situate."

*** We understand our correspondent to refer to a district medical officer and not to a medical officer of a workhouse, and we believe he intends to ask whether it is necessary for such officer to live in the union in which the parish is. It is not necessary for a district medical officer to live either in the district for which he officiates, or even in the union in which his district or parish is, but in such case his appointment would be only temporary, and he would consequently be subject to annual or triennial re-election.

INCUBATION AND ISOLATION IN SCARLET FEVER.

C. T. E. writes: Two cases of scarlet fever occur in a family of ten children, several of whom are attending day schools; the two cases are removed to another house and no direct communication is allowed. The other children are placed in quarantine, the house thoroughly disinfected (twice). How long a time should elapse before it would be considered perfectly safe for the children non-infected to return to school?

*** The rule among most medical officers is to require eight days to elapse; some authorities think fourteen days is safer.

THE new Accident Hospital erected at Mansfield, at a cost of £2,595, was opened on October 27th by the Duke of Portland.

MEDICAL NEWS.

THE foundation stone of the new cottage hospital at Bromsgrove was laid on October 22nd by Mr. Corbett, M.P.

HYGIENIC INSTRUCTION IN SCHOOLS.—The French Minister of Instruction has directed that twelve lectures on Hygiene are to be given to the more advanced pupils in all *Lycées*.

PROFESSOR HEINRICH WILLE, who succeeded Liebig in the Chair of Chemistry in the University of Giessen, died recently, at the age of 78.

THE municipal authorities of Odessa have voted an award of 2,000 roubles to Dr. K. Henrichson in recognition of his labours in compiling the weekly bills of mortality of that city.

A NEW LONDON PARK.—Maryon Park, the new recreation ground at Charlton, the gift of Sir S. Maryon Wilson, was on October 25th formally handed over to the London County Council for the public use.

A NEW sanatorium for the air-cure, so-called—the first of the kind in France—has just been opened with some ceremony at Vernet, in the Pyrenees. The site is said to combine the advantages of a mountain and of the Mediterranean climate.

UNIVERSITY OF PRAGUE.—The number of medical students who have entered the University of Prague this winter semester is about 1,600: of these more than 1,000 belong to the Czech, and nearly 600 to the German, Faculty.

POST-GRADUATE courses of instruction in eye diseases were instituted in the St. Petersburg Ophthalmic Hospital at the beginning of the present winter session. Each course is to last six weeks.

MR. LAWSON TAIT has been elected an Honorary Fellow of the Edinburgh Obstetrical Society, an Honorary Fellow of the Glasgow Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society, and also Honorary President of the latter Society.

THE park presented to Bolton by Mr. John Pennington Thomasson, ex-M.P. for Bolton, was opened on October 23rd; it includes recreation grounds, tennis lawns, bathing ponds, and playgrounds, and will ultimately include a library and museum.

DR. K. J. SMIGROSKI has undertaken, with the assistance of several collaborators, the compilation of an *Index of Russian Medical Literature*, which is to be published in fasciculi which will appear every three or six months.

SUCCESSFUL VACCINATION.—Dr. Philip L. Benson, of Steeple Claydon, Bucks, public vaccinator of the third district of the Buckingham Union, has received for the third time in succession a grant for successful vaccination.

THE Chicago Academy of Medicine, which has for its object "the encouragement of pure and applied medical science," was incorporated on August 2nd. At the organisation meeting held on September 21st, an address was delivered by Dr. S. V. Clevenger.

THE Protestant Hospital for Insane in Montreal was formally opened not long ago, and up to the end of August thirty patients were admitted. Dr. Burgess, who is favourably known for work in the department of lunacy in Ontario, has been appointed superintendent.

AN Association of Medical Assistants (*Feldschern*) has been formed at Moscow, with the object of affording help to members in sickness and old age, and, in case of death, to their families. Both male and female assistants can join, and the yearly payment is fixed at 9 roubles.

It is stated that the German Hospital which is to be established in East Africa, and which it was originally intended to build in Zanzibar, will be situated in the German territory on the mainland, probably at Dar-es-Salaam, where there is already a large mission house.

DR. BAZKEWITSCH has been appointed to give lectures and demonstrations in obstetrics to midwives in St. Petersburg. Each course will comprise fifty lectures, with the necessary demonstrations, and the fee is 5 roubles. The number of women attending each course is limited to fifty.

A PETITION, influentially signed, has been addressed to the United States Government, praying that a charter may be granted

to the National Women's Health Association of America, the object of which is the furtherance among its members and among the public generally of a knowledge of the laws of health.

We are asked to state that the first exhibition of the St. George's Hospital Graphic Society will be open on November 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 10th, and 11th, after 3 P.M. on each day in the board room of the hospital, which has been kindly placed at their disposal by the board.

BEQUESTS.—The following medical charities have benefited under the provisions of the will of Mr. Abram Brooksbank, J.P., late of Southborne, Sheffield:—To the Sheffield General Infirmary he bequeaths £100; to the Public Hospital and Dispensary, £50; to the Jessop Hospital for Women, £50; to the Sheffield Children's Hospital, £50.

REGISTRATION OF DOGS.—Owing to the entire absence of rabies in Middlesex during the quarter ended on September 30th last, the County Council have recommended the Board of Agriculture to withdraw the muzzling order, and have appointed a committee to draw up regulations (in case the Board agree to the proposal) for the registration of all dogs in the county.

PRESENTATION.—The officers and nursing staff of the Salford Union Infirmary at Hope have presented Dr. Conry, the medical superintendent, with a pair of bronze figures and marble clock "in recognition of his never-failing kindness to the donors, and of eight years' conscientious and untiring discharge of duty to the patients."

The first scientific meeting of the Zoological Society of London for the session will be held on Tuesday next, at 8.30 P.M. in the Society's house in Hanover Square. Subsequent meetings will be held on the first and third Tuesdays in each month up to and including June, with the exception of December and May, in which months only one meeting will be held—on the first Tuesday.

PRECOCIOUS MATERNITY.—Dr. A. T. Evans, of Alto, Louisiana, reports in the *St. Louis Weekly Medical Review* of October 11th, that on September 21st of this year he was called to a negro girl, aged 11 years and 8 months, who had been in labour twenty-four hours. She was delivered of a healthy female child, and at the time of the report both mother and child were doing well.

ROYAL MATERNITY AND SIMPSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, EDINBURGH.—Dr. Halliday Croom, who has been the medical officer on duty since August 1st, will be succeeded on November 1st by Professor Simpson, and Dr. A. H. F. Barbour will succeed Dr. Milne Murray as assistant-physician. The present house-surgeons, E. F. Armour, M.A., M.B., C.M., and J. Lawson Williams, M.B., C.M., will be succeeded by William Paterson, M.B., C.M., and Alexander Scott Duncan, M.B., C.M.

A NEW MEDICAL LIBRARY FOR BRISTOL.—The Bristol Medico-Chirurgical Society has decided to establish a medical library and reading room for the use of its members. Convenient accommodation has been secured in the Club House of the Literary and Philosophic Club just formed at 28, Berkeley Square, Bristol. The social and other advantages of such a club will thus be easily obtainable. The establishment of the library has been much facilitated by the *Bristol Medico-Chirurgical Journal*, of which Dr. J. Greig Smith has been the editor from its commencement in 1883. Mr. L. M. Griffiths, the assistant-editor of the *Journal*, who has been appointed honorary librarian, will be glad to receive the co-operation of authors, publishers, and others in making the library a success. The subscription to the Society is only half-a-guinea.

WEST LONDON MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.—The following is the list of officers of the West London Medico-Chirurgical Society for the session 1890-1891:—*President*: Mr. T. Gunton Alderton. *Vice-Presidents*: Edward Hart Vinen, M.D. (Honorary); F. Lawrence, T. H. Alderson, M.D.; C. B. Keetley, William Travers, M.D.; H. Campbell Pope, M.D.; F. F. Schacht, M.B.; H. Percy Dunn, S. D. Clippingdale, M.D.; Phineas S. Abraham, M.D. *Council*: E. C. Barnes, R. F. Benham, W. P. Mallam, J. B. Ball, M.D.; W. H. Blenkinsop, M.B.; James Crombie, M.B.; Richard W. Lloyd, F. Swinford Edwards, A. H. W. Clemow, M.D.; Rayner D. Batten, M.D.; T. Pickering Pick, J. H. Menzies. *Treasurer*: Chas. Wells, M.D. *Secretaries*: Leonard P. Mark, and A. S. Eccles, M.B. *Librarian*: F. F. Schacht, M.B. The total number of members of the Society is now 314, of whom 27 were admitted during the session 1889-1890. The average attendance at the meetings last year was 33. The library now contains nearly 300 volumes.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following Vacancies are announced:

- ANCOATS HOSPITAL, Manchester.**—Honorary Physician; in-patients and out-patients. Applications to the Honorary Secretary by November 1st.
- APPLECROSS DISTRICT OF THE PARISH OF APPLECROSS.**—Medical Officer and Vaccinator. Salary, £95 per annum, with free house and garden. Applications to Mr. D. Bain, Estate Manager, Applecross, Ross-shire, by November 10th.
- BELGRAVE HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, 79, Gloucester Street, S.W.**—Surgeon. Candidates must be Fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. Application, endorsed on envelope "Surgeon," to the Honorary Secretary by November 15th.
- BRADFORD MEDICAL AID ASSOCIATION.**—Outdoor Assistant; qualified. Salary, £121 per annum (*net*). Address Resident Medical Officer, 38, Little Horton Lane, Bradford, Yorkshire.
- BRISTOL DISPENSARY, Castle Green.**—Two Members on the Medical Staff; double qualifications. Applications to the Secretary, Edward Stock (from whom full particulars as to salary, etc., can be obtained) by November 18th.
- CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.**—Bacteriologist, to investigate diseases of domestic animals, supposed to be caused by germs. Salary, £500 a year. Free first class passage. Applications, with copies of any scientific publications, to Charles Mills, Agent-General, Cape of Good Hope Government Agency, 112, Victoria Street, London, S.W., by November 15th.
- CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.**—Toxicologist, to attend forensic cases and investigate South African plants. Salary, £400 a year, and free first class passage. Applications, with copies of any scientific publications, to Charles Mills, Agent-General, Cape of Good Hope Government Agency, 112, Victoria Street, S.W., by November 15th.
- CARNARVONSHIRE AND ANGLESEY INFIRMARY, Bangor.**—House-Surgeon; double qualifications; must be acquainted with the Welsh language. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications to the Secretary by November 15th.
- CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST, Victoria Park, E.**—Pathologist; must be registered and not engaged in private practice. Salary, 100 guineas per annum. Applications to the Secretary, T. Storrar-Smith, 24, Finsbury Square, E.C., by November 6th.
- CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST, Victoria Park.**—House-Physician. Board and residence and allowance for washing provided, but no salary. Applications to the Secretary, T. Storrar-Smith, 24, Finsbury Circus, E.C., by November 7th.
- CLINICAL HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, Manchester.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80, with apartments and board. Applications stating age to Mr. Herbert Teague, Secretary, 38, Barton Arcade, Manchester.
- COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS.**—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £280, and £20 for attending patients at the Infectious Hospital. Must devote his whole time. Applications endorsed "Application for Appointment of Medical Officer of Health" to J. M. Moore, Clerk, 35, Market Place, South Shields, by November 24th.
- DEVON AND EXETER HOSPITAL, Exeter.**—House-Surgeon; double qualifications, unmarried. Salary, £120 per annum, increasing £10 per year up till £150, with board and lodging, not including alcoholic drinks and aerated waters. Applications to the Secretary, George A. Townsend, by November 22nd.
- GLAMORGAN AND MONMOUTHSHIRE INFIRMARY, Cardiff.**—Assistant House-Surgeon. Board, lodging, and washing provided. Applications to the Secretary, George T. Coleman, by November 11th.
- GLASGOW MATERNITY HOSPITAL.**—Indoor and Outdoor House-Surgeons. Applications from young graduates to be sent to the Secretary, Arthur Forbes, 145, Buchanan Street, Glasgow, by November 5th.
- GLASGOW MATERNITY HOSPITAL.**—Assistant Obstetric Physician. Applications to the Secretary, Arthur Forbes, 145, Buchanan Street, Glasgow, by November 19th.
- HOSPITAL, KING'S LYNN.**—House-Surgeon and Secretary; doubly qualified. Salary, £80, rising annually to £100 per annum, with residence, board, washing, and attendance. Applications to the Chairman of the Weekly Board by November 1st.
- KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL.**—Assistant Physician. Applications to J. W. Cunningham, Esq., King's College, London.
- PARISH OF PORTREE, Isle of Skye.**—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator. Salary from Parochial Board, £71 per annum; other emoluments value over £27. To commence duties about November 26th next. Applications to R. Macmillan, Inspector of Poor, Portree.
- RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY, Oxford.**—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80, with board, lodging, and washing; double qualifications. Appointment tenable for two years. Applications to the Secretary by November 14th.
- SCARBOROUGH FRIENDLY SOCIETIES MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.**—Medical Officer (out-door); doubly qualified; not over 35 years of age. Salary, £140 first year, £150 second year, if satisfactory, and allowance for midwifery cases. Applications to the Secretary, H. Watson, St. Mary's Walk, Scarborough, by November 5th.
- SICK CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, Newcastle-on-Tyne.**—Resident Medical Officer; double qualifications. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, lodging, and laundry. Applications to the Honorary Secretary by November 1st.
- UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, London.**—Jodrell Professorship of Comparative Anatomy and Zoology. Applications to J. M. Horsburgh, M.A., Secretary, up to November 17th.
- VICTORIA HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Chelsea.**—Assistant-Surgeon in charge of out-patients. Fellows or Members R.C.S. Eng. Applications to Commander W. C. Blount, R.N., Secretary, by November 12th.
- VICTORIA HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Chelsea.**—Assistant-Physician. Fellows or Members of one of the British Colleges of Physicians. Applications to Commander W. C. Blount, R.N., Secretary, by November 12th.

WALSINGHAM UNION.—Medical Officer for the Raynham District. Salary, £38 per annum, exclusive of extra medical and vaccination fees. Applications to W. M. Humbelow, Clerk, Bridge Street, Fakenham, by November 4th.

WESTERN DISPENSARY, Rochester Row, Westminster.—Resident Medical Officer, unmarried, double qualifications. Salary, 100 guineas per annum, with furnished apartments, coals, gas, and attendance. Applications, stating age, etc., to the Secretary by November 10th.

WILTS COUNTY ASYLUM.—Assistant Medical Officer, unmarried, and duly qualified and registered. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, residence, attendance, and washing. Applications, endorsed "A. M. O.," to the Medical Superintendent, Wilts County Asylum, Devizes, by November 11th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

ALFORD, Henry Jas., M.D., M.R.C.S., appointed Honorary Consulting Physician to the Taunton and Somerset Hospital.

ASHWORTH, Percy, M.D., F.R.C.S., appointed Honorary Assistant Surgeon to the Clinical Hospital for Women and Children, Cheetham, Manchester.

BIBBY, J. R., M.B., M.S. Edin., appointed Visiting Medical Assistant to the Newcastle-on-Tyne Dispensary.

BROWN, John, M.D., B.S., Dip. San. Sci. Vict., reappointed Medical Officer of Health for the Bacup Urban Sanitary District; also reappointed Physician to the Sourhall Fever Hospital.

BRUCE, Alexander, M.D. Edin., appointed Assistant Physician to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

BUNTING, T. L., M.B., M.S. Edin., appointed Visiting Medical Assistant to the Newcastle-on-Tyne Dispensary.

COOK, John W., M.D., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Medical Officer of Health to the Rural Sanitary Authority of Lexden and Winstree.

CURRIE, J., M.D. Glas., L.R.C.S. Edin., appointed Honorary Physician to the Taunton and Somerset Hospital, *vice* Dr. W. M. Kelly, resigned.

DALGLEISH, Dr., appointed House Physician to the General Infirmary, Leeds.

DEWAR, John, M.B., C.M., appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator to the parish of Portree, Isle of Skye, *vice* John B. Thackwell, M.B., C.M.

DICKINSON, Frances May, M.B. Lond., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the new Hospital for Women, *vice* Miss A. Knight, M.B., resigned.

DUNN, Edwin Lindsay, M.B., B.Ch. T.C. Dubl., appointed Fourth Assistant Medical Officer to the West Riding Asylum, Wakefield.

ECCLES, H. S. W. McAdam, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed House-Surgeon to the West London Hospital, Hammersmith Road, *vice* Olaf Kloster.

EDWARDS, Harford N., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed House-Physician to the East London Hospital, Shadwell, *vice* Mr. Ludford Cooper.

GALE, Arthur K., L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Medical Officer for the No. 1 District of the Ecclesall Union.

GEMMELL, William, M.B., Senior Assistant Physician, Belvidere, appointed Resident Medical Officer, City of Glasgow Fever Hospital, Parliamentary Road, Glasgow.

GIBSON, Geo. Alex., M.D. and C.M. Edin., appointed Assistant Physician to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

GORDON, James, L.R.C.P. and S. Edin., L.F.P.S. Glas., and L.M., appointed Medical Officer of Health, Kilkeel No. 1 Dispensary; also appointed Medical Officer of Workhouse and Fever Hospital, Kilkeel Union.

HALL, Mr., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. Lond., appointed House-Surgeon to the General Infirmary, Leeds.

HEATHCOTE, Bernard Allen, M.B. and C.M. Aber., appointed Medical Officer for the Sandal Magna District of the Wakefield Union.

HOWELL, Dr., appointed House-Physician to the General Infirmary, Leeds.

HUGHES, C., L.R.C.P. and L.R.C.S.I., late Senior Resident Surgeon, Jervis Street Hospital, appointed Assistant Master to the National Lying-in Hospital, Holles Street, Dublin.

KELLY, W. M., M.D. Edin., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Honorary Consulting Physician to the Taunton and Somerset Hospital.

LING, H. C., L.R.C.P. and L.M. Edin., appointed Medical Officer of the North Keighley District of the Keighley Union.

MCGAURAN, Arthur, L.R.C.S.I., L.R.C.P.I., appointed Medical Officer to the Bawnboy Union Workhouse, *vice* Dr. G. M. Hearn, deceased.

MARGRAYE, H. P. Malcolm, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., appointed House-Physician to the West London Hospital, Hammersmith Road, *vice* G. H. Drummond Robinson.

MARVIN, Harry F. C., L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Whitechapel Union Infirmary.

MASON, H. W., L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Medical Officer for the Sollershop District of the Ross Union, *vice* Dr. Fernandez.

OWEN, S. Holgate, M.D. Qu. Univ. Ire., M.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Honorary Assistant Physician to the Manchester Clinical Hospital.

PEACHEY, George Charles, L.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P. Edin., etc., appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator to the Brightwalton District of the Wantage Union, *vice* William James Wood, deceased.

PHILIP, Robert Wm., M.A., M.D. Edin., appointed Assistant Physician to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

RUTHERFORD, Henry, M.B., C.M. Glas., appointed Extra Surgeon to the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow.

STOKES, John, M.B. Durh., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Medical Officer for the No. 1 District of Ecclesall Bierlow Union.

STOTT, Mr., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. Lond., appointed Resident Obstetric Officer to the General Infirmary, Leeds.

TEMPEST, Mr., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. Lond., appointed House-Surgeon to the General Infirmary Leeds.

WELLBURN, Edgar D., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin., and L.M., reappointed Medical Officer for the Sowerby District of the Halifax Union.

WHITLA, William, M.D., appointed Professor of Materia Medica at Queen's College, Belfast, *vice* J. Seaton Reid, M.D.

WILLIAMS, Henry H., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin., and L.M., appointed Medical Officer for the Fourth District of the Chipping Sodbury Union.

WILLIAMS, John David, C.M., M.B. Edin., appointed Assistant Medical Officer at the Cardiff Union Workhouse.

YEOMAN, Dr., appointed Medical Officer of the Thornton District of the North Brierley Union.

DIARY FOR NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.

LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, Moorfields, 1 P.M.—Mr. W. Lang: On External Diseases of the Eye. New Infirmary, Paddington, 4 P.M.—Dr. J. S. Bristowe: Clinical Lecture on Medical Cases. 5 P.M.—Dr. Savill: Pathological Demonstrations.

ODONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN, 8 P.M.—Mr. Leonard Matheson: On Some Practical Points in the Relation of the Upper to the Lower Teeth. Mr. Storer Bennett: A Description of some interesting Specimens of Comparative Pathology at present in the Society's Museum. R. H. Woodhouse, C. V. Cotterell, and J. Ackery: Casual communications.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.—Mr. McGill (Leeds): An operation for Vesico-Vaginal Fistula through a Suprapubic Opening in the Bladder. Dr. Whipple: A Case of Rheumatism—Hæmorrhagic.

TUESDAY.

LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, Blackfriars, 4.30 P.M.—Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson: On the Pathology and Treatment of Diseases of the Skin.

PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.—Dr. Phineas Abraham: Supposed Indigenous Leprosy. Dr. Rolleston: Gumma of the Lung. Dr. Delépine: Gummatus Infiltration of the Liver. Dr. Joseph Griffiths: Osteitis Deformans. Dr. Wheaton: External Hydrocephalus. Mr. L. Bidwell: Fibroid Polypus of Trachea. Mr. Edgar Willett: Soft Parts and Pelvis of an Adult with Ectopia Vesicæ. Dr. Hurry Fenwick: Hydatid Sac in Pelvis Obstructing both Ureters. Card Specimens: Dr. Rolleston: Rupture of Heart and of the Ascending Arch and Descending Aorta.

WEDNESDAY.

LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, Brompton, 4 P.M.—Dr. Hector Mackenzie: Clinical Demonstration on Cases of Aortic Valvular Diseases. Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, Moorfields, 8 P.M.—Mr. A. Quarry Silcock: Ophthalmoscopic Cases.

OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, 20, Hanover Square, W., 8 P.M.—Specimens will be shown by Mr. J. Bland Sutton, Dr. John Phillips, Dr. William Duncan, Dr. Amand Routh, and others. Dr. Herman: Four Cases of Bright's Disease (continued). Dr. Lewers: On Plugging the Uterus in Severe Cases of Post-Partum Hæmorrhage.

THURSDAY.

LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, National Hospital for the Paralysed and the Epileptic, 2 P.M.—Dr. Buzzard: Selected Cases of Diseases of the Nervous System. Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, 4 P.M.—Mr. Edmund Owen: On Early Diagnosis and Treatment of Joint Diseases in Children.

HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.—Dr. Rayner D. Batten: Some Points in the Relationship of the Eye to the Cardio-Vascular System. Mr. Henry Davis: On Anæsthetics.

FRIDAY.

LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, 4 P.M.—Dr. Hector Mackenzie: Clinical Demonstration on Cases of Hæmic Murmurs.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 5s. 6d., which sum should be forwarded in Post Office Order or Stamps with the notice not later than Wednesday Morning, in order to insure insertion in current issue.

BIRTHS.

BATEMAN—On October 24th, at Wells, Somerset, the wife of Frederic J. Brownfield Bateman, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Edin., of a daughter.

MACROBY—On October 29th at Clifton House, Battersea Park, the wife of Louis G. Macroby, M.B., etc., of a son.

MARRIAGE.

CARTER—KING.—On October 23rd, at Pedmore, by the Rev. W. A. Jones, M.A., Rector, assisted by the Rev. F. B. Carter, Canon of Truro Cathedral, brother of the bridegroom, Alfred Henry Carter, M.D. Lond., of Temple Row, Birmingham, to Elizabeth Marian (May), eldest daughter of William H. King, of Pedmore House, near Stourbridge.

DEATHS.

DEEBLE.—On October 20th, at Netley Lodge, Netley, Stephen Lawson Deeble, Surgeon, Medical Staff, youngest son of the late Surgeon-Major Deeble, 56th Regiment, aged 28.

WYBRANTS.—On October 24th, at Hillside, Wincanton, Robert Bath Wybrants, M.A. Cantab., M.R.C.S. Eng., L.K.Q.C.P.I., aged 42.

HOURS OF ATTENDANCE AND OPERATION DAYS AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

- CANCER, Brompton (Free).** *Hours of Attendance.*—Daily, 2. *Operation Days.*—Tu. S., 2.
- CENTRAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC.** *Operation Days.*—Daily, 2.
- CHARING CROSS.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, M. 1.30; Dental, M. W. F., 9. Throat and Ear, F., 9.30. *Operation Days.*—W. Th. F., 3.
- CHELSEA HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Daily, 1.30. *Operation Days.*—M. Th., 2.30.
- EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN.** *Operation Day.*—F., 2.
- GREAT NORTHERN CENTRAL.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, M. Tu. Wed. Th. F., 2.30; Obstetric, W., 2.30; Eye, Tu. Th., 2.30; Ear, M. F., 2.30; Diseases of the Skin, W., 2.30; Diseases of the Throat, Th., 2.30; Dental Cases, W., 2. *Operation Day.*—W., 2.
- GUY'S.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, M. Tu. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; Ear, Tu., 1; Skin, Tu., 1; Dental, daily, 9; Throat, F., 1. *Operation Days.*—(Ophthalmic), M. Th., 1.30; Tu. F., 1.30.
- HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, SOHO.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Daily, 10. *Operation Days.*—M. Th., 2.
- KING'S COLLEGE.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical, daily, 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, daily, 1.30; o.p., Tu. W. F. S., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 1.30; Ophthalmic Department, W., 2; Ear, Th., 2; Skin, F., 1.30; Throat, F., 1.30; Dental, Tu. Th., 9.30. *Operation Days.*—Tu. F. S., 2.
- LONDON.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical, daily, exc. S., 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30, and 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 1.30; o.p. W. S., 1.30; Eye, Tu. S., 9; Ear, S., 9.30; Skin, Th., 9; Dental, Tu., 9. *Operation Days.*—M. Tu. W. Th. S., 2.
- METROPOLITAN.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, daily, 9; Obstetric, W., 2. *Operation Day.*—F., 9.
- MIDDLESEX.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, M. Th., 1.30; o.p., M. F., 9, W. 1.30; Eye, Tu. F., 9; Ear and Throat, Tu., 9; Skin, Tu., 4, Th. 9.30; Dental, M. W. F., 9.30. *Operation Days.*—W., 1, S., 2; (Obstetric), W. 2.
- NATIONAL ORTHOPÆDIC.** *Hours of Attendance.*—M. Tu. Th. F., 2. *Operation Day.*—W., 10.
- NORTH-WEST LONDON.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, daily, 2; Obstetric, W., 2; Eye, W., 9; Skin, Tu., 2; Dental, F. 9. *Operation Day.*—Th., 2.30.
- ROYAL FREE.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, daily, 2; Diseases of Women, Tu. S., 9; Eye, M. F., 9; Dental, Th. 9. *Operation Days.*—W. S., 2; (Ophthalmic), M. F., 10.30; (Diseases of Women), S., 9.
- ROYAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Daily, 9. *Operation Days.*—Daily, 10.
- ROYAL ORTHOPÆDIC.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Daily, 1. *Operation Day.*—M. 2.
- ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Daily, 1. *Operation Days.*—Daily.
- ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., W. S., 9; Eye, W. Th. S., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 2; Skin, F., 1.30; Larynx, F., 2.30; Orthopædic, M., 2.30; Dental, Tu. F., 9. *Operation Days.*—M. Tu. W. S., 1.30; (Ophthalmic), Tu. Th., 2.
- ST. GEORGE'S.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, M. Tu. F. S., 12; Obstetric, Th. 2; o.p., Eye, W. S., 2; Ear, Tu., 2; Skin, W., 2; Throat, Th., 2; Orthopædic, W., 2; Dental, Tu., S., 9. *Operation Days.*—Th., 1; (Ophthalmic), F., 1.15.
- ST. MARK'S.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Fistula and Diseases of Rectum, males, W., 8.45; females, Th., 8.45. *Operation Days.*—M. Tu., 2.30.
- ST. MARY'S.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.45, o.p., 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.45; Eye, Tu. F. S., 9; Ear, M. Th., 3; Orthopædic, W., 10; Throat, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, M. Th., 9.30; Electrotherapeutics, Tu. F., 2; Dental, W. S., 9.30; Consultations, M., 2.30. *Operation Days.*—Tu., 1.30; (Orthopædic), W., 11; (Ophthalmic), F., 9.
- ST. PETER'S.** *Hours of Attendance.*—M., 2 and 5, Tu., 2, W., 2.30 and 5, Th., 2, F. (Women and Children), 2, S., 3.30. *Operation Day.*—W. 2.
- ST. THOMAS'S.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, daily, except Sat., 2; Obstetric, Tu. F., 2; o.p., W., 1.30; Eye, M. Tu. W. Th., F., 1.30; o.p., daily, except Sat., 1.30; Ear, M., 1.30; Skin, F., 1.30; Throat, Tu. F., 1.30; Children, S., 1.30; Dental, Tu. F., 10. *Operation Days.*—W. S., 1.30; (Ophthalmic), Tu., 4, F., 2.
- SAMARITAN FREE FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Daily, 1.30. *Operation Day.*—W., 2.30.
- THROAT, Golden Square.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Daily, 1.30; Tu. and F., 6.30. *Operation Day.*—Th., 2.
- UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetrics, M. W. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 2; Ear, M. Th., 9; Skin, W., 1.45, S., 9.15; Throat, M. Th., 9; Dental, W., 9.30. *Operation Days.*—W. Th., 1.30; S., 2.
- WEST LONDON.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, daily, 2; Dental, Tu., F., 9.30; Eye, Tu. Th. S., 2; Ear, Tu., 10; Orthopædic, W., 2; Diseases of Women, W. S., 2; Electric, Tu., 10, F., 4; Skin, F., 2; Throat and Nose, S., 10. *Operation Days.*—Tu. F., 2.30.
- WESTMINSTER.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Ear, M., 9; Skin, W., 1; Dental, W. S., 9.15. *Operation Days.*—Tu. W., 2.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE CURRENT WEEK'S JOURNAL SHOULD REACH THE OFFICE NOT LATER THAN MIDDAY POST ON WEDNESDAY. TELEGRAMS CAN BE RECEIVED ON THURSDAY MORNING.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor, 429, Strand, W.C., London; those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the JOURNAL etc., should be addressed to the Manager, at the Office, 429, Strand, W.C., London.

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

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are requested to communicate beforehand with the Manager, 429, Strand, W.C.

CORRESPONDENTS who wish notice to be taken of their communications should authenticate them with their names—of course not necessarily for publication. CORRESPONDENTS not answered are requested to look to the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

MANUSCRIPTS FORWARDED TO THE OFFICE OF THIS JOURNAL CANNOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES BE RETURNED.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.—We shall be much obliged to Medical Officers of Health if they will, on forwarding their Annual and other Reports, favour us with Duplicate Copies.

Queries, answers, and communications relating to subjects, to which special departments of the JOURNAL are devoted, will be found under their respective headings.

QUERIES.

CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL IN ASYLUMS.

C. C. writes: At a county asylum with about 450 patients and 50 attendants and nurses, 13,474 ounces (wines and spirits) and 33,531 quarts of beer is the average annual consumption. Is this excessive, moderate, or beyond what is usual or desirable?

ANSWERS.

F.R.C.S. (Southsea).—The only places available for the cases mentioned are the county lunatic asylums.

"RUSTIC" will find the information he requires in the Students' Number of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, issued on September 6th.

M. R. CANTAB.—According to the *Student's Guide to the University of Cambridge*, a bachelor of medicine is styled "Dr." by courtesy. M.B.'s of the University of London are in the *University Calendar* informed that they have no right to the title of "Doctor."

VALUE OF PRACTICE.

INQUIRER.—The question ought to be submitted to an experienced medical agent.

FLEAS.

DR. H. ACHESON (Gorey) writes: In answer to "Naval Member R.M.A." I would recommend him to try a few drops of oil of eucalyptus to be rubbed into legs, arms, and parts most bitten by the fleas.

CURE OF STAMMERING.

MR. T. S. ELLIS, of Gloucester, writes to recommend Miss Arkell, 84, Auckland Road, Upper Norwood, S.E., as a teacher of stammering children.

DR. GEORGE A. DAVIES, of Newport, Mon., recommends Mr. and Mrs. Behnke, 18, Earl's Court Square, London, S.W., and offers to answer inquiries.

DR. M. R. HARGREAVES notes that Dr. Bisstowe's article on stammering, in Dr. Quain's *Dictionary*, will be found useful.

TREATMENT OF INCONTINENCE OF URINE IN CHILDREN.

DR. D. CAMPBELL BLACK, Assistant Physician to the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, writes: I had recently under my charge in the Glasgow Royal Infirmary an obstinate case of enuresis in a boy of from 12 to 13 years of age. There was no preputial irritation, as the glans was naturally uncovered, nor any evidence of other peripheral irritation. Bromide of potassium and belladonna, from which combination I have often observed the happiest results in many forms of genito-urinary irritation, was fairly tried to no purpose. The case was one evidently of spinal origin, and remembering that in one of the numerous medical journals which I read more or less, a solution of sulphate of atropine, in the strength of 1 grain to the 3 ounces of water, was recommended by some authority, in the dose of 1 drop for every year of age, the boy was put under this treatment, and the enuresis immediately disappeared.

SICKNESS ASSURANCE AND INCOME TAX.

DR. W. PIERCE FOX.—The point raised has been submitted to the Board of Inland Revenue, and legal opinion was taken by them on the question. The result is, they are of opinion that the strict construction of the terms of the statute extending exemption from income tax to the premiums paid to registered friendly societies only gives the same privileges as are conferred on assurance companies. These only cover exemption on premiums paid for deferred annuities or life assurances. There is little doubt that this is due to a legislative oversight, and that the true intention was to grant complete exemption. Steps are to be taken, we understand, to secure this. It is very doubtful whether the premiums would be allowed to be placed under the heading of expenses in connection with the business.

write at least one entertaining novel, for no one has the privilege of seeing human nature both at its best and worst as he has. Every man, Froude tells us, ought to be able to write a novel after his experience."

THE USE OF ERGOT IN TREATMENT OF LINGERING LABOUR.

DR. THOMAS MORE MADDEN (Dublin) writes: I need hardly point out that the necessary brevity of the published report of the debate on Dr. Playfair's paper did not permit of more than a brief summary of the opinions advanced by those who, like myself, took part therein. At the same time, however, I trust that even in the published abstract, as well as at the meeting, I succeeded in giving expression to my firm faith, founded on long clinical experience, in the value of ergot as a stimulant to uterine action when judiciously administered in efficient doses and in suitable cases. The instances of lingering labour which I specified as thus suitable for its exhibition were those in which the second stage was delayed by inertia of the uterus, the presentation being natural, and no other impediment to delivery existing. That the utility of ergot under such circumstances should be for a moment questioned by any practical obstetrician appears to me wholly inexplicable.

As to the fetal dangers which are now held by some eminent authorities to contraindicate the administration of this drug under almost any circumstances, I can only say that in a lengthened experience of the employment of ergot in midwifery practice I have not myself as yet observed those disastrous effects in any single instance. And hence I am inclined to think that the foetidal potency ascribed to ergot is more properly attributable to the abuse than to the use of this remedy. Thus, if any active preparation of ergot be given, as too often is the case, in small or insufficient and, above all, because insufficient therefore frequently repeated, doses, during labour, a state of tonic spasm or contraction of the uterus is likely to be produced, by which the circulation of the fœtus may be imperilled or arrested. Whilst, on the other hand, if ergot or ergotine be given in those bold, full, and effective doses which I recommended at the Birmingham meeting and elsewhere, the result in the great majority of cases will be the speedy establishment of that clonic or intermittent uterine action, the temporary cessation of which, or inertia of the womb, is the most frequent cause of delay in the second stage. This re-establishment of uterine action will then, of course, be followed not only by delivery but also by a subsequent contraction, which will ensure the patient against the probability of post-partum hæmorrhage.

Having been taught these views in my earliest professional life, and having acted on them ever since in my own practice and clinical teachings, I should have deemed it superfluous at the present time to discuss again a question which—to say nothing of older authorities—was, so far back as my student days, elaborately investigated and, as I thought, settled beyond possibility of further controversy by the careful experiments of the late Dr. Denham and others, were it not that this very same question has once more been now re-opened. Thus, at the meeting already alluded to, some astonishment, or, rather, reproval, was expressed by more than one speaker at the full doses of ergot which, as I may here repeat, I have found safe and successful in the treatment of uterine inertia in labour and in the prevention of flooding after childbirth. Moreover, as an examiner in midwifery, I have lately had experience of the ignorance of too many embryo surgeons concerning the proper use of ergot in midwifery practice. This matter is one of too much importance to be left undetermined, and I would therefore hope that other obstetricians may be induced to contribute their clinical experience towards its final settlement.

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

Dr. Mickle, London; Dr. J. Campbell Black, Glasgow; Dr. Seaton, London; Messrs. R. Black and Son, Inverness; Dr. T. Cranston Charles, London; Fleet-Surgeon J. N. Stone, Plymouth; Mr. F. L. Nicholls, Gloucester; Surgeon L. Deeble, Netley; Dr. R. Bell, Glasgow; Mr. R. T. Richardson, Trowbridge; Dr. Burdon Sanderson, Oxford; Dr. Ireland, Prestonpans; Dr. A. L. Myrtle, Harrogate; Mr. B. Allsop, Shipley; Mr. G. Dalziel, London; Messrs. Byre and Spottiswoode, London; Mr. C. Grimsby, St. Asaph; Messrs. H. Alexander and Co., London; H. L. Evans, M.B., Goring; Mr. H. W. Crosse, Putney; Dr. D. J. Mackenzie, Glossop; Dr. T. W. Bagshaw, Plymouth; E. A. Shaw, M.B., Pendleton; Mr. H. G. Deedes, London; Dr. H. S. Morrison, Coleraine; Major L. Flower, London; Mr. E. S. Warburton, Treherbert; The Secretary of the Royal Hants County Hospital, Winchester; Temperance; Mr. A. Jackson, Sheffield; Rustie; The Secretary of the Society of Apothecaries, London; Mr. H. Acheson, Gorey; Mr. H. Collier, London; Dr. W. P. Fox, London; Dr. W. B. Dewees, Salina, Kansas; Mr. C. Hughes, Dublin; Mr. R. W. Pendleton, London; Mr. A. G. Hays, West Bromwich; Dr. T. Oliver, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. R. Pennefather, Clifton; Dr. William Hunter, London; T. F. Tannahill, M.B., Borstal; J. R. Phillips, M.B., Christchurch, Barbadoes; Microbe; Mr. A. Spencer, London; Dr. R. Neale, London; Justice; Dr. J. F. Goodhart, London; Messrs. Hazell, Watson, and Viney, London; Dr. O. Wood, London; Dr. Sykes, Mexborough; W. H.; Dr. E. Casey, Windsor; Messrs. C. Griffin and Co., London; Medicus; Dr. Maguire, London; Dr. F. Beach, Dartford; T. N. Kelynack, M.B., Manchester; Mr. D'Arcy Power, London; Surgeon R. Melvor, Esquimalt; Mr. R. G. Naylor, Andlem; Mr. J. Morgan, London; Dr. F. Warner, London; Messrs. Bates, Hendy, and Co., London; Mr. E. H. Hick, Bogota; Mr. W. A. Ellis, London; Dr. J. Cross, London; Dr. W. Bernard, Londonderry; Mr. P. J. Deas, Oxford; Dr. G. Harley, London; Mr. R. Mitchell, London; Dr. Bronner, Bradford; R. S. Black, M.B., Whittingham; W. G. Barras, M.B., Govan; Dr. A. W. Edis, London; Dr. G. H. Philipson, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Dr. J. P. Topping, Forest Gate; Dr. Leslie Phillips, Birmingham; Mr. Lawson Tait, Birmingham; Mr. B. G. Drew, Tetbury; M.D. Surgeon-General (Retired); Mr. N. E. Yorke-Davies, London; Dr. H. Fox, London; Dr. M. W. Taylor, London; R. Farrar, M.B., Stamford; Dr. W. Chapman, Hamptead; Dr. D. James, Bingley; Dr. J. R. Lunn, London; A.M.D.; Mr. E. B. Denton, London; The Secretary of the

Sheffield Medico-Chirurgical Society, Sheffield; Mr. J. Lawrence-Hamilton, Brighton; Messrs. Allen and Hanbury, London; Dr. Louis Parkes, London; The Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, London; Mr. T. Readman, Wetherby; Dr. S. Mackenzie, London; A. S. Marshall, M.B., London; Mr. C. J. Radley, London; Our Birmingham Correspondent; Surgeon Major N. A. Stevenson, Netley; Dr. W. Strange, Worcester; Mr. F. J. B. Bateman, Wells; Mr. W. McAdam Eccles, London; Mr. G. S. Ware, Fakenham; W. Gemmell, M.B., Glasgow; Dr. P. L. Slater, London; Mr. L. M. Griffiths, Clifton; Our Paris Correspondent; Mr. A. E. L. Charpentier, Uxbridge; Dr. C. R. Illingworth, Accrington; Mr. H. T. Butlin, London; Dr. E. Berdoe, London; Dr. W. Walter, Manchester; Dr. Rentoul, Liverpool; Dr. E. Seaton, London; An Ex-A.M.D.; Mr. J. A. E. Stuart, Dewsbury; Dr. A. Ashby, Reading; Dr. A. Matheson, Edinburgh; Mrs. Wybrants, Wincanton; B. J. Leapingwell, M.B., Cheadle; Enquirer; A Country Practitioner; Dr. S. M. Copeman, London; Dr. James Adams, Glasgow; Mr. A. Wattle, Falmouth; Mr. F. W. Clark, Staithes; Mr. John Poland, London; Dr. T. Luson, Cromer; Dr. E. D. Mapother, London; Dr. P. L. Benzon, Winslow; Mr. H. T. Roxby, Walthamstow; Dr. Savage, London; Dr. R. Jardine, Glasgow; Mr. F. E. Hare, Aberdeen; Dr. Gordon, Warrenpoint; Mr. T. J. Walker, Peterborough; A.M.C.; Dr. Balding, Royston; Miss F. Peake, Leeds; Mr. W. M. Halley, Newport Pagnel; Dr. Pope, Grantham; A. C. Hartley, M.B., Liscard; Mr. W. S. Armitage, Thurles; Dr. E. Penny, Marlborough; Dr. A. Kempe, Exeter; Our Liverpool Correspondent; Our Manchester Correspondent; Mr. E. Child, New Malden; Mr. C. Pinkerton, Southport; Surgeon J. E. Trask, Aldershot; Dr. Hale White, London; Mr. G. T. Coleman, Cardiff; Mr. T. H. Reed, Sunderland; Messrs. W. Wilson and Sons, Manchester; Dr. W. A. Carline, Lincoln; The Secretary of the Church of England Burial and Funeral Reform Association, York; Dr. Halliburton, London; Night Bell; J. J. Bennetts, M.B., London; No Name; H. Rutherford, M.B., Glasgow; Mr. J. Hutchinson, jun., London; F. M. Dickinson, M.B., London; The Medical Officers of the Local Government Board, London; G. G. Macrory, M.B., Battersea; Dr. C. C. Scott, St. Margarets; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

- The Medical Student's Manual of Chemistry. By R. A. Witthaus, A.M., M.D. Third edition. New York: William Wood and Co. 1890.
A Compend of Dental Pathology and Dental Medicine. By G. W. Warren, D.D.S. Edinburgh: Young J. Pentland. 1890.
Bacteriological Technology for Physicians. By Dr. C. J. Salomonsen. Authorised translation from the second revised Danish edition. By William Trelease. New York: William Wood and Co. 1890.
A Compend of Equine Anatomy and Physiology. By William R. Ballou, M.D. Edinburgh: Young J. Pentland. 1890.
Medical Diagnosis, with Special Reference to Practical Medicine. By J. M. Da Costa, M.D., LL.D. Seventh edition; price 24s. London: Smith Elder and Co. 1890.
Quain's Elements of Anatomy. Edited by Edward Albert Schäfer, F.R.S., and George Dancer Thane. In three volumes. Tenth edition. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1890.
A Zoological Pocket Book. By Dr. Emil Selenka. Translated from the third German edition. By J. R. Ainsworth Davis, B.A. London: Charles Griffin and Co. 1890.
Theory of Physics. By Camilo Calleja, M.D. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner and Co. 1890.
Descriptive Catalogue of the Specimens illustrating Medical Pathology in the Museum of University College, London. By Charles Stonham, F.R.C.S. Published by the College. 1890.

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