We can only judge of tension by its phenomenon hardness; and to say that all inflamed eyes which are harder than natural are to be subjected to iridectomy, will be to inflict that operation upon numberless cases of iritis, keratitis, etc., which can be perfectly and readily cured I am, etc., by judicious medical means.

JAMES DIXON.

Portman Square, Dec. 18, 1863.

Medical Aews.

BIRTHS.

At Llanfair Caereinion, on December 16th, the wife of THOMAS.

*W. W. Thomas, Esq., of a son.
WILLIAMS. At Birmingham, on December 16th, the wife of *T.
Watkin Williams, Esq., General Secretary of the British Medical Association, of a son.

DEATHS.

BLOUNT, Samuel, Esq., Surgeon, at Offord Road, Barnsbury Park,

aged 73, on December 16.
Brydon. On December 14th, at Pau, Eliza Home, widow of the

BRYDON. On December 14th, at Pau, Eliza Home, widow of the late James Brydon, M.D., Bombay Artillery.

HARRISON. On Outober 31st, at Krasolie, North Western Provinces, India, Emilie Louisa, wife of J.B. Harrison, M.D., Surgeon 27th Bengal Native Infantry.

HISLOP. On December 17th, at Stepney, aged 67, Selina, widow of Thomas Flislop, M.D.

*Keal, J. T., Esq., at Oakham, aged 31, on December 13.

KENDALL. At King's Lynn. on December 4th, aged 7 months, Sarah, infant daughter of *Thomas M. Kendall, Esq.

MCCLURE. On October 17th, at Invercargill, New Zealand, Lydia Le Mesurier, wis of William G. McClure, M.D.

PRIEST. On December 16th, at Waltham Abbey, Essar, aged 12, Arthur A. H., eldest son of Arthur Priest, Esq., Surgeon.

COMPULSORY VACCINATION. On January 1st, 1864, an

Act of Parliament will come into force, making it compulsory in Ireland to have all children born after that day vaccinated within six months, under a penalty of ten shillings.

THE MEDICAL ACT. A numerously attended meeting of owners of proprietary medicines was held on Tuesday week, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, for the purpose of adopting measures for opposing in the ensuing session of Parliament the insertion of clause 57 in the Medical Act. Mr. R. Barelay occupied the chair, and stated that if the General Council of Medical Education succeeded in engrafting upon their present Act the contemplated clause, its effect would be to render valueless some £2,000,000 of invested property now regarded as a sort of copyright, and which, in fact, is the sole maintenance of some thousands of persons. A committee was appointed armed with the necessary powers for resisting the passing of the proposed bill, and nearly £3,000 was subscribed towards raising a fund for defray. ing the expenses.

ALKALI Works. On January 1st, an Act passed in the late Session for the more effectual condensation of hydrochloric acid gas in alkali works will take effect. The term "alkali" is to mean every work for the manufacture of alkali, sulphate of soda, or sulphate of potash in which hydrochloric gas is evolved. The object of the statute is to secure the condensation of the gas to the satisfaction of the inspector or subinspector appointed under the Act. If it should appear to the Court before whom any proceeding for the recovery of a penalty is instituted that 05 per cent. at least of the hydrochloric acid gas evolved has not been condensed, a penalty not exceeding £50 will be levied, and for a second offence £100. The owner is to be liable for the offence in the first instance, unless he prove that the offence was committed by some agent without his knowledge, in which case the agent is to be liable. The Board of Trade is to appoint inspectors, and alkali works are to be regis-

THE LIBRARY OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL. Within the last week, Dr. Latham has performed an act of generosity which is so full of suggestion for those who, like him, have retired from the public duties of their profession that it seems well worthy of being publicly recorded. He has presented to the library of St. Bartholomew's between fifty and sixty volumes of manuscript notes of cases which were under his charge during the seventeen years in which he occupied the post of physician to the hospital: The notes were taken by his clinical clerks, many of whom are medical officers of St. Bartholomew's and other hospitals, whilst others, as Dr. Roupell and Dr. Baly, are now dead. The chief present value, however, of these notes consists in the fact of each volume, as it was finished, having been carried home by Dr. Latham, who just studied it, and then wrote an index to it-a work which must have cost very much time and trouble, but not too much for the object in view, namely, that it should present an accurate epitome of the facts which each volume contained, and make all of them, pathological and practical, of easy reference. is much to be hoped that the example thus set by Dr. Latham may be followed by others who have the opportunity of doing the like, and remembered also by those who are now doing what he did, so long and faithfully, in the wards of St. Bartholomew's. The value of such records as these-stamped, as they are, by the master's hand-cannot be over-rated; they form a store of knowledge not easily to be exhausted; and will stand a fitting memorial of well done work, long after the generation of those who wrote them has passed away.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

Monday......Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 1.15 r.m. -Samaritan, 2.80 P.M.

Tuesday. Guy's, 12 P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.

Wednesday... St. Mary's, 1 p.m.—Middlesex, 1 p.m.—University College, 2 p.m.—London, 2 p.m.

THURSDAY.....St. George's, I P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic,
1 P.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—London Surgical
Home, 2 P.M.—Royal Orthopædic, 2 P.M.

FRIDAY. Westminster Ophthalmic, 1'80 P.M.

SATURDAY..... St. Thomas's, 1 P.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1'80 P.M.— King's College, 130 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Lock, Clinical Demonstration and Operations, I P.M.— Royal Free, 1.30 P.M.

T O CORRESPONDENTS.

*** All letters and communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the Editor, 37, Great Queen St., Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

CORRESPONDENTS, who wish notice to be taken of their communications, should authenticate them with their names-of course not necessarily for publication.

IRIDECTOMY.—The letters of Mr. Critchett, Mr. Bowman, and Mr. J. E. Smith, are unavoidably delayed. They shall appear next week.

LUB APPOINTMENTS.—SIR: Knowing your willingness at all times to advocate the claims of medical men in your valuable Journal, I send you the facts of a case which has just occurred in my neighbourhood. A branch of the Rational Sick and Burial Association, at their annual meeting held last night, though contrary to law, thought proper to elect two medical men to attend its members, subject to the approval of the Executive Board at Manchester. I therefore declined to act, should there be two medical men, more than two secretaries or two treasurers, etc.?

I should be glad to know the opinion of my brethren on the point, which must be my apology for thus troubling you.

I am, etc., A Poor Club Doctor. CLUB APPOINTMENTS .- SIR: Knowing your willingness at all times

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from: —Dr. Edward Meryon; Mr. Brodhurst; Mr. T. M. Kendall; Mr. William Copery; Mr. W. R. Cooke; Dr. Girbon: Mr. Wm. Bowman; Dr. F. J. Brown; Dr. Routh; Mr. W. M. Baker; Mr. J. Vose Solomon; Dr. Weters; Mr. Humphreys: Mr. Lawrence; Dr. Wollaston; Mr. Fugh Robinson; and Mr. J. E. Smith.

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