

gas, or an average of but little more than 1 in each year. In the seven years and six months following its introduction the deaths from this cause in these cities were 120, or 16 per year. The number of deaths from this cause in New York in later years is about 25 or 30 annually.

From the replies which were made to the circulars issued by the Health Department of Massachusetts in 1884, similar results were obtained from other and smaller cities throughout the country. Replies were received from 108 cities and towns.

The advocates of water gas endeavoured to secure the repeal of the 10 per cent. law, and persistently pressed their appeals, until after five or six years the Legislature unwisely yielded to their demands. The law was repealed, and now water gas is being introduced in several of the cities and towns. In some places coal and water gas are mixed in varying ratios.

As a result of this repeal of the law, in the city of Boston alone, having about 450,000 population, the number of deaths from this cause in the single year 1890 was greater than the entire number of deaths from the same cause in the fifty years previous to the introduction of water gas.

Since the establishment of a Gas Commission in Massachusetts in 1885, that Board has collected information upon this subject; and I gather the following facts from their fifth and sixth annual reports.

In the year 1889 the number of deaths which the Commission had found to have occurred in the United States was 107,<sup>2</sup> of which number 30 were probably suicides and 77 were accidental. These latter occurred in twenty-two cities and towns, of which New York city contributed 24, Baltimore 7, San Francisco 7, and Chicago 5. The greater number occurred in the winter months; 46 of these occurred in hotels. In 18 the gas was blown out by ignorant persons; in 46 it was found turned on without satisfactory cause; in 8 cases death was caused by gas stoves; 25 of the victims were females and 52 were males.

In 1890, as we learn from the Sixth Report of the Gas Commission, the reported cases of death from the same cause had increased to 174, of which 35 were known to be suicides and 139 were accidental; of the latter, 31 occurred in New York city, 17 in Philadelphia, 31 in Chicago, and 15 in San Francisco. To these should be added 10 deaths which occurred in Massachusetts in the same year, among whom were the wife and daughter of the president of a new university in Worcester. And finally, 100 cases of death were known to have occurred from the same cause in the United States in the six months of 1891, prior to the time of my leaving home.

And so the death-roll continues, and serves as a warning that greater restrictions should be placed upon the manufacture of this intensely noxious agent. It is quite true that the indirect causes which lead to a fatal result are too often intemperance, ignorance, carelessness, faulty or no ventilation of sleeping rooms, etc. In a personal inspection which was made by the writer in 1884 of places in New York city where deaths of this kind had occurred, it appeared that many such apartments had no more than 600, 700, or 800 cubic feet of air space in each, and in some of them two persons had been found dead in a single bed. In some hotels of the poorer sort a man is detailed at night to keep up a constant inspection at keyholes or transoms in search of the smell of escaping gas.

Certain experiments which were made upon animals by the Health Department of Massachusetts in 1884 are worthy of record. In one small town of the State water gas was then made in defiance of the law. Experiments were conducted in that town and also in a city using coal gas only. About 40 animals in all were employed. The results may be summed up as follows: Two chambers were constructed of about the size of a small sleeping apartment, 725 cubic feet in each. A single gas burner, allowing a flow of about 6 feet per hour, was opened, lighted, and then the flame was blown out and the unconsumed gas allowed to escape. In the chamber in the coal gas city 8 animals were placed at the beginning of the experiment—2 dogs, 2 rabbits, 2 cats, and 2 pigeons. At the end of eight hours 1 of the cats and 1 of the dogs ap-

peared ill and the rest were unaffected. At the end of twenty-four hours the cat and 1 rabbit were dead. In the experiment with water gas 7 animals were used—3 dogs, 2 cats, and 2 rabbits. At the end of eight hours all of the animals were dead.

These two experiments, together with others which were made about the same time, are fully detailed in the Sixth Supplement to the Report of the State Board of Health, Lunacy, and Charity of Massachusetts. They only confirm the conclusions which had previously been derived from the greatly increased mortality from this cause. The repeal of the carbonic oxide limit was vigorously opposed by the medical profession throughout the State, and at least 100 prominent chemists, medical examiners—that is, coroner physicians—and other medical men signed the protest against such repeal.

## 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.

### COUNCIL.

#### NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the Council will be held in the Council Room of the Association, at No. 429, Strand (corner of Agar Street), London, on Wednesday, the 21st day of October next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary.*

October 1st, 1891.

### BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

DORSET AND WEST HANTS BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held at Wimborne on Wednesday, October 14th, 1891. The business meeting will be held at the Board Room of the Union, by permission of the guardians, at 2.30 P.M. Agenda: Election of officers for 1892. Place of the May meeting. Election of new members of the Branch. The President to move: "That a donation of five guineas be granted to the British Medical Benevolent Fund." Discussion: Common Affections of the Cornea. Communications:—Dr. Lush: Case of Infective Endocarditis. Mr. W. Wyke-Smith: Case of Excision of Knee-Joint. Dr. Lawrie: 1. Case of Polypus of the Uterus; 2. Case of Ovariectomy with Complications. Mr. D. Curme: Case of Ossification of the Falx Cerebri. Mr. T. W. Blake: Case of Lupus—photographic representations. Dr. Childs: Case of Hemoglobinuria. Dinner at the King's Head Hotel at 4.45 P.M.; charge, 6s. each, without wine. Members intending to be present are requested to communicate with Mr. Parkinson by Monday, October 12th.—WILLIAM VAWDREY LUSH, M.D., Weymouth; C. H. WATTS PARKINSON, Wimborne, Honorary Secretaries.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH.—The eighteenth annual general meeting of this Branch will be held at the Swan Hotel, Stafford, on Thursday, October 29th, at 3.45. An address will be delivered by the President, Dr. Clarke.—GEORGE REID, Honorary Secretary, Stafford.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.—The inaugural meeting of the session will be held in the Town Hall, Mare Street, Hackney, on Thursday, October 15th, at 3.30 P.M. The chair will be taken by Dr. Cleveland, the President of the Branch. An address will be given by Mr. Lawson Tait, entitled New Views concerning the Pathology and Treatment of Displacements of the Uterus. All medical practitioners, whether members of the Association or not, will be welcomed.—H. E. POWELL, Honorary Secretary, Glenarm House, Upper Clapton, N.E.

OXFORD AND DISTRICT BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, on Friday, October 30th, at 3.15 P.M. Gentlemen are requested to send notice of papers, etc., to W. LEWIS MORGAN, Honorary Secretary, on or before October 16th.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held at Pontypool on Thursday, October 20th. Members desirous of reading papers, etc., are requested to send titles to Dr. Sheen, Cardiff, before October 13th.—A. SHEEN, M.D., Cardiff; D. ARTHUR DAVIES, M.B., Swansea.

<sup>2</sup> See Fifth Report of the Gas Commission of Massachusetts, page 11. As these were all from voluntary reports, it is quite possible that there may have been many more deaths from the same cause. In many States of the Union there is no compulsory registration of deaths.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT.**—The next meeting of this District will take place at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, on Thursday, October 29th, Mr. F. W. Penfold, in the chair. Gentlemen desirous of reading papers or exhibiting specimens are requested to inform the Honorary Secretary of the District, A. W. Nankivell, F.R.C.S., St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, not later than October 10th. Further particulars will be duly announced.—A. W. NANKIVELL, Honorary Secretary.

**WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.**—The autumnal meeting of this Branch will be held at the Railway Hotel, Taunton, on Thursday, October 15th, at 5 o'clock. Dinner at 5.30. The subject settled by the Council for discussion is Antipyretics. Dr. Mead will open the discussion. Any member having a paper or communication to bring before the meeting should send notice of its title, and also give early notice if he purposes being at the dinner, that the necessary arrangements may be made.—W. M. KELLY, M.D., Honorary Secretary.

**SOUTH-WESTERN BRANCH.**—An intermediate meeting of the Branch will be held at the Devon and Exeter Hospital, Exeter, on Friday, October 16th, 1891, at 4 P.M. Notices of papers to be read, or of cases, specimens, etc., to be shown, to be intimated to the Honorary Secretary. The annual medical dinner for Exeter and district is fixed for the same day, at the New London Hotel, at 6.45 P.M., at which the Dinner Committee will be very glad to see any members of the Branch. The Honorary Secretary, Mr. L. H. Toswill, 28, West Southernhay, will forward a ticket to any member applying on or before October 13th. Price of dinner ticket, 7s., exclusive of wine.—P. MAURY DEAS, Honorary Secretary, Wonford House, Exeter.

**NORTH OF IRELAND BRANCH.**—The autumn meeting will be held in the Royal Hospital, Belfast, on Wednesday, October 28th, at 4 o'clock P.M. Gentlemen wishing to read papers, show cases or specimens, will kindly communicate, as early as convenient, with the Honorary Secretary, JOHN W. BYERS, M.D., Lower Crescent, Belfast.

#### NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH.

The autumnal meeting was held at the Erimus Club, Middlesbrough, on September 29th, Dr. DRUMMOND, President, in the chair. Twenty-three members were present.

**Specimens, etc.**—Dr. HERBERT BRAMWELL showed a specimen of Fracture through the Anatomical Neck of the Humerus. Dr. DESTER showed a Skull Perforated by a Bullet, and Mr. WILLIAMSON brought forward a similar specimen.—Dr. BENINGTON exhibited Drawings illustrating the direction of the uterine axis in foetal life, together with some Dermoid Cysts.

**Address by President.**—The PRESIDENT delivered an address on the treatment of pneumonia, which excited much interest; and was discussed by Drs. PHILIPSON, HEDLEY, WALKER, WILLIAMS, SMITH, BRAMWELL, EASTWOOD, BEVERIDGE, WATSON, BEATTIE, RIDLEY, and MURPHY.

**Papers.**—Dr. MURPHY read a paper on a case of Porro's Operation, in which both mother and child were saved.—Mr. WILLIAMSON followed with an account of the successful removal of a Cancerous Uterus *per vaginam*, at the fourth month of pregnancy.—Dr. ELLIS read a paper on a Visit to the Pine and Mud Baths of Laurvick, Norway.

**Dinner.**—The dinner after the meeting took place at the Erimus Club. There were no speeches.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT.** A MEETING of this Branch was held at the Station Hotel, Hayward's Heath, on September 24th, Mr. R. GRAVELY in the chair.

**Communications.**—Dr. NEWTH read a paper on the Hospital Treatment of Insanity. He alluded to the increase of lunacy, and laid stress on the need for its early treatment. For this purpose the large asylums, where old and recent cases were mixed, were inappropriate. The superintendents of these institutions were too busy with administrative details to study and treat their patients. Years ago it had been urged that in "each county hospitals should be built for the treatment of curable cases." These establishments would be valuable for clinical study, and Dr. Newth thought the medical staff might consist partly of general physicians, partly of specialists. Admission to these would be for a limited period, and might perhaps be carried out without the signing of certificates, or such certificates might be given only by the hospital staff in consultation. This, together with the absence of the feeling of imprisonment, would make patients less unwilling to become inmates of the special hospitals. There might also be out-patient departments, in which many cases could be adequately treated. Dr. Newth dwelt on a few points in the construction of such buildings, and concluded

by showing that part of the expense should be met by admitting paying patients.—Dr. NEWINGTON said it was a mistake based on faulty statistics to suppose that lunacy was increasing. Financial considerations had led to the placing more senile demented in the county asylums than formerly. In the special hospitals a moderate accommodation would suffice—not more than 1-15th of that given by the county asylums. These new institutions should be kept separate from those where clinical instruction was given, or picked cases admitted for that purpose. The plan of a mixed staff of general and special physicians had worked and would work badly. He did not think they need look for any large increase in the curability of insanity.—Mr. HODGSON supported and Dr. EWART opposed the view that superintendents did not know about and treat those under their care.—The CHAIRMAN and Mr. PORTER also took part in the discussion.—Mr. VERRALL read notes (1) on a Case of Suprapubic Cystotomy; (2) on a case of Ruptured Urethra.

**Exhibit.**—The CHAIRMAN showed an apparatus of coiled tubes in the shape of splints for the application of heat or cold.

**Next Meeting.**—The next meeting will be held at Tunbridge Wells in November.

#### SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.

The autumnal meeting of this Branch was held at the General Infirmary, Northampton, on October 6th, 1891; Mr. G. H. PERCIVAL, Senior Surgeon, and President of the Branch, in the chair.

**Luncheon.**—Thirty-six gentlemen were present, and before the meeting were entertained at luncheon by the President.

**Minutes.**—The minutes of the last annual meeting, held at Cambridge, were read and confirmed.

**New Members.**—Mr. H. C. Pauli (Luton) and Mr. Wm. Phillips (Northampton) were elected members of the Association and Branch; Mr. Andrew Aikman (Northampton) of the Branch only; and Mr. Robert Stuart (the Infirmary) of the Association only.

**Alteration of By-law.**—The PRESIDENT having made some introductory remarks, chiefly in allusion to the combined meeting at Cambridge, Mr. EVANS proposed the following alteration of No. 3 of the Branch by-laws: "That, in order to carry out the objects of the Branch, there be appointed annually, at a general meeting to be held in the spring, a president, a president-elect, an honorary secretary, an honorary treasurer, and a representative on the General Council and Parliamentary Bills Committee; also eight other members (to be elected by ballot), who shall retire annually but be eligible for re-election, to constitute a committee of management." Considerable discussion ensued, in which many members took part, and the opinion was expressed that no extra meeting was feasible—that no third general meeting could be got together. The following amendment was ultimately carried: "That the spring Committee meeting be done away with, and that the Committee of Management and other officers be elected at the annual meeting, the said officers to form a part of the Committee." It was further proposed and carried: "That the present Committee should meet at the usual time, and suggest rules for the conduct of the ballot, and report to the next annual meeting."

**Communications.**—Dr. JONES read a paper entitled A Short Study of Epilepsy from a Practical Standpoint, discussing *ptit mal* and complete epilepsy, pointing out the diagnostic marks from angina, vertigo, hysteria, etc., and alluding to the various methods of treatment, bromide of potassium and iodide of potassium being especially mentioned among the drugs. A discussion ensued, in which the PRESIDENT, Dr. BUSZARD, Dr. GREENE, and others took part. Dr. BUSZARD considered a bromide was the best form of drug, and insisted on the great importance of large doses being used and of the treatment being continued for a long period. Dr. GREENE stated his opinion that epilepsy when combined with insanity was incurable. Dr. JONES replied.—Dr. WALKER (Peterborough) read notes of three cases: (a) Bullet Wound of Brain, followed by Recovery, with Specimen; (b) Case of Severe Pylalism following Use of Lotio Hydrarg. Nigra; (c) Case of Severe Poisoning (almost fatal) from Absorption from a Belladonna Plaster. Dr. Walker remarked on the irritating nature of many plasters supplied by chemists at

the present day.—Mr. MILLIGAN read a short paper on The Immediate Suture of Ruptured Perineum, with cases.—Mr. DURRANT related three cases of Cerebellar Disease, with the post-mortem appearances in each, and compared their distinctive symptoms. Dr. JONES made remarks.—Other papers were postponed to the next meeting, owing to want of time.

*Specimens, etc.*—Dr. NEWMAN showed a Guttapercha Pessary worn uninterruptedly for sixteen years.—Dr. MAGUIRE exhibited a Medical Register for 1780, and read a few amusing extracts therefrom.—Dr. SYMINGTON showed a specimen of Monstrosity, and made remarks on maternal impressions.—Messrs. LYNCH and Co. displayed a small selection of Surgical Instruments, etc., in an adjoining room.

*Votes of Thanks.*—Cordial votes of thanks were passed to the ex-President for his conduct of the Branch during his year of office; to the President for his conduct in the chair and for his hospitality; to the Committee of the infirmary for the use of the rooms; and to the readers of papers.

## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

### PARIS.

*Outbreaks of Typhoid Fever.—Poisonous Crabs.—Proposed Institute for the Study of Malignant Disease.*

THE Roubaix Unhealthy Dwellings Committee have investigated the cause of the recent outbreak of typhoid fever in that place, and they state in their report that the houses are well built, but the water closets and the water supply are decidedly bad. Typhoid fever not long ago broke out at Verdun among the soldiers garrisoned there. The military authorities immediately evacuated the barracks, and the men camped in tents.

At Rouen several people have been poisoned by eating crabs, and two deaths have occurred. One person only sold the crabs supplied to different families; he had bought them from a *commissionaire*, who had received them direct from Honfleur. An inquiry proved that the crabs had not been cooked in a copper vessel, and the only conclusion possible was that the crabs were in an advanced state of putrefaction.

Dr. Bonnard, of Paris, suggests that an institution should be created for the purpose of studying malignant tumours.

### BERLIN.

*The Proposed New Law for the Suppression of Drunkenness.—“Commers” in Honour of Virchow and Von Helmholtz.—Public Disinfection in Berlin.*

THE draft of the new German Bill for the Suppression of Drunkenness (published last August) is being much discussed at present both in legal and in medical circles. The Congress of Lawyers disposed of it in a very jocular fashion a few weeks ago, and since then it has been more seriously discussed at the annual meeting of Prussian medical officials, held in Berlin last week. The chief provisions of the new draft are:—(1) In Paragraph 9. “Spirituous liquors may not be sold for consumption on the premises to persons under 16 years of age, if unaccompanied by grown-up persons. (2) In Paragraph 11. “Spirituous liquors for consumption on the premises may not be sold on credit.” (3) In Paragraph 12. “Whoever, through continued inebriety (dipsomania) is unable to attend to his or her affairs, or is in danger of exposing himself or herself, or his or her family to want, or endangers the safety of others, may be treated as a minor. A person treated as a minor is put under the care of a guardian ..... A guardian may, with the permission of the guardianship authorities, remove the person treated as a minor to an asylum for inebriates.” (4) In Paragraph 18. “Whoever is found in a public place in a condition of self-caused inebriety amounting to a public nuisance, will be punished either by a fine up to 100 marks (£5) or by four weeks’ imprisonment. If the culprit be a habitual drunkard, the punishment is imprisonment.” Dr. Siemens, director of the provincial lunatic asylum in Lauenburg, who introduced the discussion, said that in his opinion before

an inebriate is put under guardianship, medical aid should be invoked, dipsomania being a disease, or due to disease. For the same reason he thought asylums for inebriates should be placed under the supervision of a medical man, and not of a clergyman as hitherto. He also strongly opposed the imprisonment of inebriates, which he thought likely to strengthen, not weaken, the fatal habit.

The students of the Berlin University intend to celebrate the birthdays of Professors v. Helmholtz and Virchow, by a grand “Commers,” to be held on the evening of November 8th.

The first municipal disinfection institution in the Reichenberger Strasse, which has been in use since 1886, will have to be enlarged very shortly. A piece of land close to the present institute has been bought for the purpose. The general public, it is satisfactory to know, is learning more and more to take advantage of this excellent institution.

### BIRMINGHAM.

*The Vacancy in the Office of Coroner.—Professorship of Operative Surgery at Queen’s College.—The Musical Festival.*

THE death of Mr. H. Hawkes creates a vacancy in the office of coroner for the city of Birmingham, and owing to the anomalous state of the law some immediate inconvenience has resulted. The coroner being dead, the appointment of his deputy immediately lapses, so that no inquests can be held until a new appointment has been made, which must be done within ten days. Obviously the law needs altering so as to allow of the deputy continuing in office until a new coroner can be chosen. The City Council got over the difficulty by appointing a neighbouring coroner *pro tem.*; he not being a candidate for the vacancy, will retire after the election of a successor, early in December. A provision in one of the local Acts enables the Council to fix a salary for the new coroner, instead of paying him by fees as formerly, and £1,000 is to be the remuneration, which, after payment of certain personal expenses, means a net income of about £800. Several candidates are mentioned, among them Mr. Oliver Pemberton, Senior Surgeon to the General Hospital; and Mr. Wilders, Senior Surgeon to the Queen’s Hospital; but it is rumoured that the latter will retire if Mr. Pemberton pursues his candidature, so as to concentrate all the votes possible in favour of one medical applicant for the post. There is a general feeling in medical circles that Mr. Pemberton’s would be an excellent appointment, as indeed would that of Mr. Wilders.

The appointment of Professor of Operative Surgery at Queen’s College, vacant by the death of the late Mr. T. H. Bartleet, has been filled by the election of Mr. Jordan Lloyd. The choice is one which commends itself to all connected with the school, as Mr. Lloyd’s ability as a teacher is highly regarded.

The musical festival about to be held, the profits of which go to the funds of the General Hospital, promises to be one of the most successful, both musically and financially, ever undertaken. It is interesting to know that Dr. Wade, ex-president of the British Medical Association, is Chairman of the Managing Committee.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### LONDON DIPLOMATES AND THE NEW DEGREE.

SIR,—A number of letters calling attention to the position in which London students who have obtained the diplomas L.R.C.P. and M.R.C.S. are likely to find themselves when the new university is constituted, have appeared in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL during the last few weeks. None of the many schemes have contained any provision in their favour. The student who enters a metropolitan medical school in 1892 will be able to obtain an M.D. degree, while the man who has already passed the Conjoint Board will be left to “go to Durham,” or elsewhere, as before. The injustice of this has been sufficiently proved by other writers, and I need not en-

## CLUB RATES.

**RUSTIC.**—It is very doubtful whether patients can be conscientiously attended to and suitable medicines supplied at the rates quoted by our correspondent.

1. One shilling per quarter is the common club rate for healthy adult males, and the only chance of any margin of profit accruing to the practitioner who is the surgeon to such a club will probably depend on some such conditions as the following: (1) The club must consist of a considerable number of members. (2) The surgeon must examine every candidate previous to admission, for which examination he should, of course, be paid. In large towns where many of the serious cases drift into hospitals, especially those requiring surgical attention, and where, moreover, a considerable number of the members do not call in the club surgeon owing to their not residing within a reasonable distance of his residence, preferring to pay for the services of some other practitioner, we can understand there may be a certain margin of profit.

2. In the case of women and children, even at the rate of 1s. a quarter a member, it is difficult to understand how any profit is possible; it would be wiser to refuse any such terms; clubs of women and children stand on a very different footing from those containing only adult males.

3. We are not quite sure what the "private medical club system" is, unless it be another name for a form of cheap dispensary which flourishes in the large towns, and which ought to be condemned.

4. It is impossible to say what would be a fair rate at which to attend agricultural labourers and their wives and children, as the conditions of labour vary so much in different parts of the country; in many cases, doubtless, the poverty of this class is such that only very small fees could possibly be obtained; under such circumstances, little profit could be expected from such practice, but it might be a fair question, when the poverty is extreme, whether it would not be for the mutual good of the labourers and the Poor-law district medical officers to form clubs on the provident principle at rates which could not be called remunerative in the ordinary sense, but which might, in the case of the former, preserve them from the stigma of pauperism, and in the case of the latter add somewhat to the miserable stipends paid by many country boards of guardians, with little, if any, appreciable increase of work, especially where the Poor-law medical officers have themselves to find most of the drugs.

## UNIVERSAL MEDICAL AID SOCIETY.

A CORRESPONDENT has forwarded a circular of the above Society. It hails from the East End of London, and the Society to which it refers is, we hope and trust, unique in its kind. One penny per week for husband, wife, and one child, must surely "break the record," even in these days of cheap medical attendance. Is it issued by a *bona fide* public society? It reads more like a private venture, and a particularly undesirable one from a professional point of view.

**HORS DE COMBAT.**—In the absence of any understanding beforehand, the result must depend upon the mutual goodwill of the parties.

## OBITUARY.

## WALTER ERNEST WALTER, M.R.C.S.ENG., L.S.A.

WE regret to record the premature death of Mr. W. Ernest Walter under painful circumstances, at his residence at Marshfield, situated at the extreme end of the Cotswold Hills in Gloucestershire. He was descended from an old Somersetshire family, and was born at Stoke-under-Ham in 1859, where his father, Mr. Walter Winter Walter has conducted an active practice as surgeon for forty-five years. His mother, Helen Norris, was a niece of the well-known linguist of that name.

Mr. Walter was educated at Epsom College, and subsequently matriculated at the London University, obtaining a first class in his final examination. Thence he entered at Charing Cross Hospital, where he became demonstrator of anatomy, and was appointed clinical assistant at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street. After qualifying as M.R.C.S. and L.S.A. in 1883, he was appointed resident surgeon to the Severn Tunnel Works, where he obtained much and varied experience. In 1886 he purchased a small practice at Marshfield, and speedily acquired a large and lucrative practice. The deceased filled the office of medical officer and public vaccinator to the fifth district of the Chipping Sodbury Union. His undoubted ability, coupled with his genial manner and patient attention, won the confidence and respect of all with whom he was brought into contact. Being of an extremely nervous and sensitive temperament, and having small power of physical endurance, it is feared that the exigencies of a largely increased practice, with exposure during a more than ordinarily severe winter, proved too great a strain for him, so that not only did his health materially suffer, but his nervous system entirely gave way. To what an extent this was so none but his nearest relations knew, and the intelligence that the deceased had on Septem-

ber 20th, in a fit of despondency, put an end to his life, was received with a thrill of consternation and grief by his many friends, who paid their last tribute of respect by following his body to the grave.

The deceased married the daughter of Mr. Henry Montagu Champneys, F.R.C.S., of Penge, whom he leaves a widow with two children to mourn his loss.

## JOHN HARRISON, M.R.C.S.ENG., L.S.A.

THE deceased gentleman, who died in the house in which he was born, at Braintree, in his 71st year, was a descendant of an old and highly-respected Essex family. The son of Mr. John Sweeting Harrison, to whose practice he succeeded in 1865, he was educated first at Sudbury and subsequently at Cambridge. Thence he proceeded to King's College, London. He subsequently joined Mr. Symonds at Oxford, and a few years later entered upon practice at Bocking, where he was appointed Poor-law medical officer. After his removal to Braintree, he filled for a few years the posts of medical officer to the Braintree Urban and Rural Sanitary District, and was, up to the time of his death, medical officer to the Union. Mr. Harrison actively pursued his profession until about a year ago, when his health began to fail him, and he had decided some months since to retire altogether from practice, and with his wife and daughters to remove to Folkestone. By the poor in the locality his loss will be especially felt.

## UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES.

## EXAMINING BOARD IN ENGLAND BY THE ROYAL COLLEGES OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.

—The following gentlemen passed the Second Examinations of the Board in *Anatomy and Physiology* at a meeting of the Examiners on October 5th: H. Alston, student of Sydney University; C. H. Caldicott, A. E. Tonks, R. F. Ryland, H. B. Minshull, M. L. G. Hallwright, and W. Chapman, of Queen's College, Birmingham; W. E. Evans, of Dublin; W. T. Lydall, of Bristol Medical School; R. Crossley, of Owens College, Manchester; W. J. Boyes and W. J. Gregerson, of Melbourne University; W. A. Michie, of Aberdeen University and Guy's Hospital; H. M. Williamson, of McGill College, Canada; and L. A. Smith, of London Hospital.

*Passed in Anatomy only:* D. Maguire, of Queen's College, Galway; W. Mansergh, of Owens College, Manchester; H. C. W. Wood, of Queen's College, Birmingham; R. G. Worger, of Bristol Medical School and Mr. Cooke's School of Anatomy and Physiology; and J. A. W. Pereria, of Grant Medical College, Bombay.

*Passed in Physiology only:* W. J. Bowden, H. H. Oram, and G. G. Joynson, of Owens College, Manchester; F. Husband and J. H. R. Pigeon, of Bristol Medical School; W. Mettam, of Sheffield Medical School; and W. V. P. Teague, of London Hospital.

*Passed in Anatomy and Physiology on October 6th:* B. L. Abraham, of University College.

*Passed in Anatomy only:* T. B. Abbott, of Yorkshire College, Leeds; L. Bostock, of Owens College, Manchester; W. C. Pitt and W. E. Pain, of Guy's Hospital; R. Slocock, C. F. Poole, and A. McD. Cowie, of St. Thomas's Hospital and Mr. Cooke's School of Anatomy and Physiology; O. O. Williams, J. E. S. Old, and G. Lewis, of London Hospital; F. P. Rose, of London Hospital and Mr. Cooke's School of Anatomy and Physiology; C. W. Lamphier, of Charing Cross Hospital; H. W. Armit and R. W. Gilmour, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

*Passed in Physiology only:* S. C. Legge, G. R. Northwood, and L. Low, of Queen's College, Birmingham; M. C. Barber and A. T. Morgan, of Bristol Medical School; G. A. Child, of Oxford University; I. Watts, of Owens College, Manchester; F. W. Bailey, of University College, Liverpool; H. W. Carson and A. C. B. Casson, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; A. Emlyn and W. Drake, of University College; E. Moore, of St. Thomas's Hospital and Mr. Cooke's School of Anatomy and Physiology; L. J. Miskin, of St. Thomas's Hospital; H. F. Humphreys, of Guy's Hospital; E. R. Badcock, and R. G. Jones, of London Hospital; W. H. Reed, of King's College; and F. L. Watkins-Williams, of Middlesex Hospital and Mr. Cooke's School of Anatomy and Physiology.

## UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

**THE WINTER SESSION.**—The classes in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Edinburgh open on October 13th. The Preliminary Examinations in Arts for medical degrees were held this week. Those who have been privileged to have "Special" Examinations in the First, Second, and Final Professionals, after having been "referred" at previous examinations, are also appearing, and finally, the University Court holds its first meeting for the session (to-day), Saturday, at 4 P.M.

## VICTORIA UNIVERSITY.

THE following important alterations in the regulations for graduates in medicine and surgery in Victoria University have just been announced:

In the Entrance Examination in Arts, introductory to the Faculty of Medicine, on and after June, 1892, candidates will be required to satisfy the examiners in English, Latin, Mathematics, and Mechanics, and in one (instead of two as heretofore) of the following: French, German,

Greek, Mathematics (more advanced), English History, and Elements of Modern Political Geography. It is also announced that after October 1st, 1891, distinction in special subjects shall be no longer awarded in connection with the Second and Final Examinations for the Degrees of M.B. and Ch.B. That after October 1st, 1891, candidates who have satisfied the Examiners in the Final Examination for the Degrees of M.B. and Ch.B. shall be classed as follows: 1. Those awarded first class honours. 2. Those awarded second class honours. 3. Those who have satisfied the examiners. The names being in alphabetical order in each case. That in the award of honours the results of the Second as well as the Final Examination shall be taken into account.

ERRATUM.—In the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of October 3rd, page 775, in the pass list of the University of Durham for practitioners of 15 years, the name of E. A. Austin, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Ed. should have been Edward Austin Fox, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Ed.

## PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

### THE DRAINAGE OF SOUTHEAST-ON-SEA.

THE Southend Local Board having made an application to the Local Government Board for power to borrow £7,240 for purposes of drainage, an inquiry was held by Mr. Thornhill Harrison, C.E., on September 23rd. The scheme propounded by the Local Board, and devised by their surveyor, was subjected to sharp criticism, and at the suggestion of Mr. Thornhill Harrison it was ultimately withdrawn for reconsideration. It was proposed to discharge the sewage about two hundred yards from the shore, on the eastern side of the town. The evidence, as reported in the *Southend-on-Sea Observer*, went to show that the point of outfall was ill-chosen, and that the sewage would be liable to pollute the foreshore and destroy certain oyster beds. Not long ago Dr. Thresh, the medical officer of health to the Essex County Council, made a full and special investigation of this very matter, but his report was, we believe, suppressed by the Local Board, who, for some reason not stated, also omitted to call their own medical officer of health to give evidence. Altogether, the scheme seems to have deserved its fate; but, meanwhile, Southend remains as it was in the matter of sewerage, and the migratory portion of the public will, doubtless, take some note of that fact. It was stated, in the course of the inquiry, that 30 to 50 per cent. of the oysters deposited at certain parts of the foreshore were killed, apparently by the sewage carried from the present outfall. The survivors, it is reassuring to hear, are not eaten raw. "They are used for sauces and cooking purposes," with what consequences was not mentioned.

### DIPHTHERIA IN THE THAMES VALLEY.

A FRESH outbreak of diphtheria is reported at Esher, in the Thames Valley (which has been the centre of much opposition to notification), and several cases have been removed to hospital. In bringing the matter before the Kingston rural sanitary authority, Dr. Gibbes, the medical officer of health, called attention to the culpable indifference to infection among the poorer classes. No medical advice was sought, no notification given, and no precautions adopted until the cases came to his knowledge indirectly, and even then the parents refused to isolate in one instance, where he had found the sick child at dinner with the rest of the family. Some at least of these offenders must bring themselves within the penal provisions of the Public Health and Notification Acts, and there should be no hesitation in making a salutary example of them, and with this opinion probably even Dr. Biddle will agree.

### HORNSEY GRAVEYARD.

At the last meeting of the Hornsey Local Board it was decided by a majority of 1 to close the churchyard belonging to the parish church. From a statement made by the chairman in proposing the resolution, it appears that no record of the number of burials exists except during the last hundred years. A careful count of the burials from the parish books shows that no fewer than 15,000 persons have been buried in the churchyard during this period. The original church, on the same site, was built about 1290, from which time burials have taken place in a graveyard only 3 acres in extent. In 1851 the churchyard was partially closed, but within the last ten years 215 persons have been buried there. On a piece of glebe land immediately adjoining the churchyard 200 houses are to be erected next year; it is, therefore, somewhat surprising to find that a "sanitary authority" for so populous a district as Hornsey should have as its members persons who could vote for a continuance of so scandalous a danger to the health of the community. A resolution to put an end to such a state of things ought to have been carried unanimously instead of by a majority of 1.

### TENURE OF OFFICE OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

UP to the present time Beckenham has formed part of the West Kent Combined Sanitary District, of which Mr. Butterfield is the medical officer of health. The term of his appointment having expired, the other boards renewed it for a further term of five years, but the Beckenham authority stood aloof, and insisted that, so far as they were concerned, the appointment should be for one year only. The result is that Beckenham falls out of the combined district, and loses the services of Mr. Butterfield. From every point of view this is to be regretted. In the first place, the withdrawal of Beckenham without any ground of complaint is, *prima facie*, an injustice to Mr. Butterfield, and a breach of the implied understanding upon which he, an able and experienced health officer, was induced to take the West Kent appointment. The local board cannot be unaware of the growing feeling in favour of appointing specially trained health officers, unfettered by the ties of private practice—a feel-

ing which of late years has gained greatly in strength, and especially now that compulsory notification is becoming general. It would seem, however, from a report of their proceedings in the *Beckenham Journal*, that the board contemplate appointing Mr. Butterfield's successor upon conditions which permit him to engage in general practice. This having been decided, the report goes on to state that a medical member of the board at once resigned his seat, intimating that he was about to become a candidate for the vacant appointment. If this is the case, some explanation appears to be due from him to Mr. Butterfield and to the profession.

### AN INSANITARY AREA.

THE value of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, becomes more evident each week. The London Council would have been still more hampered in its actions if this Bill had not become law. A most important scheme is now under their consideration in the neighbourhood of Holborn, known as the Brooke's market area. This area, about a quarter of an acre in extent, is situated between Gray's Inn Road and Leather Lane. Here may be seen a group of dilapidated houses and sheds in the midst of many narrow courts and alleys. As long ago as 1883 the late Board of Works was asked to take the matter in hand under Cross's Act, but no action was taken because the area was regarded as too small to be treated as a metropolitan scheme under that Act. In 1884 Gray's Inn Road was widened, causing the displacement of 3,400 persons of the working class. The main thoroughfare was improved but the adjoining courts suffered. The people crowded into them. There is no adequate provision in the way of yards or open spaces although the area literally swarms with people. Some of these tenements have recently been demolished, and all would have been down by now had it not been that the magistrate at Clerkenwell Police Court adjudged them as not unfit for human habitation, and consequently refused the application for a closing order against them, under the Act of 1890. The number of persons who would be displaced if these five remaining ruins were pulled down would be 60. The Council hope to deal with the area under Part II of the Housing Act, and let one end be sold for the erection of dwellings sufficient to accommodate the 60 persons displaced, with provision for costers' barrows, and the remainder paved and left open, so as to form a breathing space for the inhabitants of the district.

### A MODEL SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

A NEW central slaughterhouse has recently been opened at Nuremberg. It is situated in the south-western part of the town, and is constructed according to the most advanced scientific principles. It includes a special slaughterhouse entirely isolated from the other parts of the establishment for the slaughter of animals either obviously diseased or of doubtful soundness; there is also a separate place for animals suffering from cattle plague, and a cool air chamber kept at a temperature of 4° to 5° C. for the storing of meat. In connection with the slaughterhouse is a building where animal vaccine lymph is prepared, and where the calves used for the purpose are kept under observation.

### HEALTH OF ENGLISH TOWNS.

IN twenty-eight of the largest towns, including London, 5,561 births and 3,315 deaths were registered during the week ending Saturday, October 3rd. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had increased from 16.8 to 19.0 per 1,000 in the preceding three weeks, declined again to 18.4 during the week under notice. The rates in the several towns ranged from 12.4 in Portsmouth and in Brighton, 11.4 in Cardiff, and 15.1 in Halifax to 25.3 in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 26.5 in Plymouth, 27.0 in Liverpool, and 32.4 in Preston. In the twenty-seven provincial towns the mean death-rate was 20.6 per 1,000, and exceeded by 4.9 the rate recorded in London, which was only 15.7 per 1,000. The 3,315 deaths registered during the week under notice in the twenty-eight towns included 502 which were referred to the principal zymotic diseases, against numbers increasing from 456 to 600 in the preceding three weeks; of these, 308 resulted from diarrhoea, 53 from whooping cough, 45 from "fever" (principally enteric), 39 from diphtheria, 31 from scarlet fever, 26 from measles, and not one from small-pox. These 502 deaths were equal to an annual rate of 2.8 per 1,000. In London the zymotic death-rate was 2.1, while it averaged 3.4 per 1,000 in the twenty-seven provincial towns, and ranged from 0.0 in Halifax, 0.9 in Bristol, and 1.6 in Huddersfield and in Birkenhead to 4.9 in Hull, 6.2 in Norwich, 7.5 in Sunderland, and 8.8 in Wolverhampton. Scarlet fever caused the highest proportional fatality in Huddersfield; whooping-cough in Hull and Norwich; "fever" in Portsmouth, Norwich, and Birkenhead; and diarrhoea in Hull, Plymouth, Blackburn, Leicester, Salford, Preston, Sunderland, and Wolverhampton. The mortality from measles showed no marked excess in any of the large towns. Of the 39 deaths from diphtheria registered in the twenty-eight towns, 32 occurred in London. No fatal case of small-pox was recorded either in London or in any of the twenty-seven provincial towns; and no cases of this disease were under treatment in any of the Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals on Saturday, October 3rd. The number of scarlet fever patients in these hospitals and in the London Fever Hospital on the same date was 1,145, against numbers increasing from 917 to 1,054 at the end of the preceding four weeks; 169 new cases were admitted during the week under notice, against 157, 137, and 122 in the previous three weeks. The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs in London was equal to 2.1 per 1,000, and was considerably below the average.

### HEALTH OF SCOTCH TOWNS.

DURING the week ending Saturday, October 3rd, 789 births and 450 deaths were registered in eight of the principal Scotch towns. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 15.4 and 18.8 per 1,000 in the preceding two weeks, declined again to 17.5 during the week under notice, and was 0.9 per 1,000 below 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 Leith, and the highest in Dundee, Greenock, and Perth. The 450 deaths in these towns included 71 which were referred to the principal zymotic diseases, equal to an annual rate of 2.8 per 1,000, which corresponded with the mean zymotic



death-rate during the same period in the large English towns. The highest zymotic death-rates were recorded in Aberdeen, Perth, and Greenock. The 189 deaths registered in Glasgow included 12 from diarrhoea, 8 from measles, 6 from scarlet fever, and 5 from "fever." The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs in these towns was equal to 2.6 per 1,000, against 2.1 in London.

#### HEALTH OF IRISH TOWNS.

In sixteen of the principal town districts of Ireland, the deaths registered during the week ending Saturday, September 26th, were equal to an annual rate of 21.3 per 1,000. The lowest rates were recorded in Newry and Drogheda, and the highest in Lisburn and Lurgan. The death-rate from the principal zymotic diseases averaged 3.0 per 1,000. The 188 deaths registered in Dublin were equal to an annual rate of 27.5 per 1,000 (against 22.1 and 21.0 in the preceding two weeks), the rate for the same period being 16.3 in London and 16.5 in Edinburgh. The 188 deaths in Dublin included 28 which were referred to the principal zymotic diseases (equal to an annual rate of 4.1 per 1,000), of which 20 resulted from diarrhoea, 5 from whooping-cough, and 3 from typhoid fever.

## HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY MANAGEMENT.

#### SUNDERLAND INFIRMARY.

Last week the Bishop of Durham laid the foundation-stone of a new isolation ward for the Sunderland Infirmary. Next to Newcastle this is the most important and largest hospital in the North, and one which has been most excellently managed. In his address the Bishop said he was struck by many features of the institution—that it was a free hospital; that nearly one-half of its income was subscribed by working men; that the amount spent in stimulants was only 3d. per patient; and that the institution could boast of a large balance (some £3,000) after paying its working expenses for the year. The annual report has just been issued. The number of patients treated during the year was 4,860; the in-patients being 2,159, the out-patients 2,701; 1,257 in-patients were surgical, 902 medical. The average duration of treatment in the surgical wards was 30.8 days, in the medical 31.8, and in the children's wards 38.4 days. The average cost of each patient was £3 8s. 6d.; inclusive of fittings, repairs, etc., it was £3 11s. 6d. The average cost per occupied bed was £10 2s., plus fittings and repairs it was £11 17s. 6d.

#### ADDENBROOKE'S HOSPITAL, CAMBRIDGE.

The Weekly Board of Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, have issued a circular to the subscribers, calling their attention to the fact that letters are often given to persons who are able to pay for medical assistance themselves. This is in contravention of one of the standing rules of the hospital. "As there are," the circular states, "various sick benefit clubs and also provident medical associations at Cambridge which persons who can pay for medical aid can readily join; and as exceptions may be made whenever special or immediate aid is needed, and also in cases where the applicant, having obtained medical aid, is not able through straitened circumstances to continue it, the Weekly Board believe that a stricter observance of Rule 81 will inflict no hardship on proper applicants for recommendation papers, and will help to maintain the present efficiency of the hospital." It will be interesting to know what influence this circular will have upon the subscribers, and whether it will have any effect in checking the increase in the number of patients which has been noted in recent years.

#### THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNTY AND CITY ASYLUM OF WORCESTER.

This important institution, containing 912 inmates, seems to be suffering from over-crowding, and like many other asylums is undergoing the inevitable process of extension. We are glad to observe, however, that there appears to be a settled opinion among the authorities that there shall be a limit to the number of patients to be provided for, and this the committee have decided shall not exceed 1,200. In this they have acted wisely, for, as Dr. Marriott Cooke, the able superintendent, states with much truth, "if enlarged beyond this limit it would be an impossibility for the superintendent to maintain that intimate knowledge of his patients and grasp of the details of management which are so essential." The number of patients during the year was greater than in any previous year since the opening of the asylum, and in over 58 per cent. of these admissions there was not at the time of admission the slightest prospect of recovery.

The large number of incurably insane patients sent to asylums who have filtered through the hands of the medical profession on their journey thither seems to be lost sight of by those who seem to take pleasure in quoting statistics to prove that the treatment of the insane by our asylum medical officers does not keep pace with the treatment of other diseases. The recovery-rate is given as 36.3 per cent., the mortality 7.9 per cent., and this is nearly the lowest death-rate in the history of the asylum. The cost of maintaining the patients was fixed at 7s. 7d. per head per week.

**ERRATUM.**—Dr. J. D. McFeely writes: In your report on Hospital and Dispensary Management in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of October 3rd, p. 777, col. 2, line 12, the word "Skin" should read "Sheil," from the founder, Dr. S. Sheil.

The Secretary of the Iowa State Board of Health has made an official announcement that habitual inebriety on the part of a medical practitioner shall be held as "palpable evidence of incapacity," rendering the delinquent liable to the revocation of the certificate entitling him to practise in the State of Iowa.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

THE Municipality of Seville has decided to establish two public pharmacies where poor patients may have prescriptions made up for nothing. The local druggists are up in arms against the proposal.

**MEDICAL MAGISTRATE.**—Mr. G. T. Schofield, L.R.C.P. & S.E., Medical Officer of Health for the Mossley Urban Sanitary District, has been placed on the Commission of the Peace for that borough.

THE current number of *Mind* contains a valedictory address by Professor Croom Robertson, who retires from the post of Editor. His successor is Mr. G. F. Stout, of St. John's College, Cambridge. An index to volumes 1 to 16 is also given in the same part. The next issue will begin a new series.

THE Town Council of Cambridge have proposed to adopt the scheme of Mr. J. T. Wood, for the re-drainage of the borough at an approximate cost of £100,000. It is stated that the Chesterton Local Board are desirous of joining the Cambridge scheme.

THE inaugural meeting of the Medical Society of King's College (Session 1891-92) will be held in the Marsden Library, King's College, on October 19th, at 8 p.m., when an address will be delivered by Mr. Henry Smith, F.R.C.S., on *Reminiscences of King's College*.

THE *conversazione* at the Hospital for Consumption, Brompton—which has now become an annual institution—was held on October 2nd. The guests were received by the medical staff, and during the smoking concert the hall presented a very animated appearance.

THE Congress of Alienist Physicians which recently met at Weimar has passed a resolution approving of the Bill for the repression of drunkenness. The clauses making confirmed drunkenness a punishable offence were, however, disapproved of. Such persons, it was recommended, should be treated as diseased, and as such placed in proper asylums.

At last the question of the pollution of the Mersey and Irwell is being taken up in earnest. A joint committee, composed of representatives of the county councils of Lancashire and Cheshire and representatives of Manchester and other towns interested, held its first meeting in Manchester, under the presidency of Mr. Hibbert, on October 5th.

**HUNTERIAN SOCIETY.**—Two Hunterian Lectures will be delivered during the course of the session 1891-92, and will for the first time be free to members of the profession. The first lecture of the Society will be delivered at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, on October 14th, at 8.30 p.m., by Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, F.R.S., on the "Laws of Partnership in Disease."

**AN OVERDOSE OF COCAINE.**—We regret to announce the death of Dr. Eustace Frederick Bright, aged 29, who has lately practised at Bournemouth. His decease was due, according to the finding of the jury at the inquest, to an overdose of cocaine taken inadvertently for the purpose of relieving pain. The deceased, it appears, had been suffering severely from toothache.

**AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN UNIVERSITIES.**—The total number of students in the University of Innsbruck in the summer semester of 1891 was 846, of whom 253 belonged to the Faculty of Medicine. The number of new students who have entered for the winter semester in the Medical Faculty of Buda-Pesth is 170, which shows a considerable decrease as compared with former years. Four years ago the number of entries was 280.

**GRANTS FOR SUCCESSFUL VACCINATION.**—Mr. Edward Thew Turnbull, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin., L.F.P.S. Glas., Public Vaccinator for the North-East District of the Pattrington Union, has received the Government grant for successful vaccination.—Mr. Percy Howard Day, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., public vaccinator for the Stalmine district of the Garstang Union, has for the second time received the Government grant for successful vaccination.

Dr. Louis Levy, residing at Metz, recently shot his uncle, Dr. Michel Levy, of Nancy. Madame Levy, on hearing the noise of firearms, appeared, and was aimed at by the murderer. He immediately drew from his pocket a packet of morphine, but only succeeded in swallowing part of it. He is supposed to be a morphinomaniac. He declares that he does not remember anything that has occurred. This is not the first instance of medical men—morphinomaniacs—obtaining notoriety as criminals.

**A CENTENARIAN.**—The death is reported at Mexborough of a woman at the advanced age of 103. Our Sheffield Correspondent in March last stated that she was then hearty and vigorous, and had apparently, as the press said, "a long lease of life before her." She died on September 16th. The registers were carefully searched some few years ago by a local clergyman, and her age has therefore been verified. She was born on March 2nd, 1788. She lost her mother 100 years ago. Her mental faculties are stated to have remained unimpaired.

**DEATH OF A CYCLIST.**—Cycling, like other exercises, is claiming victims from the over-zealous. A Sheffield man, aged 29, after riding in a twenty-five mile race at Doncaster, became unconscious, never recovered, and died the next day. He was stated to have been all right at the time of starting. When near the winning-post the mechanical way he was riding and the manner in which the machine veered attracted attention and he was taken off it. The medical evidence was that death had resulted from exhaustion.

**DEATHS IN THE PROFESSION ABROAD.**—Among the members of the medical profession in foreign countries who have recently died are Dr. Leonardo Chetoni, Surgeon and Director of the Ospizio di Mendicita di Pisa since its foundation thirty years ago, aged 74; Dr. Johann Rottenbiller, Chief Physician of the Engelsberg (Austria) District Lunatic Asylum, aged 40; and Dr. S. Theodore Stein, of Frankfort-on-the-Main, well known by his writings on purely medical subjects, but better still by his monograph on the Cestoidea, and his inventions and improvements in electro-therapeutic and optical apparatus, aged 51.

**A MEDICAL FACULTY AT CONSTANTINOPLE.**—It is announced that a Faculty of Medicine is about to be established at Constantinople, which will be the first institution of that kind founded in Turkey. The Sultan has sent Nafiliam Andan Pacha to Paris to collect information and to invite several representatives of the medical profession of France to proceed to Constantinople to assist in the organisation of the new faculty. His Majesty is said to take a keen interest in the matter, and he has already shown his zeal for the medical advancement of his country by introducing important reforms in the working and management of hospitals, not only in his capital, but throughout the whole of his empire.

**PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY'S SCHOOL.**—On October 7th the introductory address to the students in the Pharmaceutical Society's School of Pharmacy was delivered by Mr. Gainsford Bruce, M.P., D.C.L., who observed that the interests of the public were not at variance with the advancement of the status of pharmacists, as the "apothecary in penury" was not likely to minister honestly or efficiently to the public wants. He referred at some length to the valuable service being rendered to the public in the Society's Research Laboratory, under the direction of Professor Dunstan, references being made specially to the researches upon the presence of hyoscyamine in *Scopolia carniolica*, the impurities in artificial salicylic acid, the nitrite of amyl of the *Pharmacopœia*, aconitine, and cyanide of mercury and zinc.

**SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF INEBRIETY.**—At the quarterly meeting held on October 6th, the President, Dr. Norman Kerr, called attention to the remarkable growth of public opinion in favour of compulsory power to receive and detain such as have lost all power of voluntary application for admission to a home for inebriates for curative purposes. Several of our colonies had enacted such a compulsory provision, and some other countries possessed it. On the motion of Dr. Kerr seconded by Dr. Henry Rayner, it was resolved to invite an expression of opinion in favour of compulsion by individuals and by medical and other associations, and to urge the presentation of petitions to Parliament. A paper was read by

Dr. Wynn Westcott, Deputy Coroner for Central London and Middlesex upon Alcoholic Poisoning in London and Heart Disease as the Fatal Result. After referring to two previous sets of statistics compiled by him, one on alcohol in relation to the general mortality, and the other in special reference to alcohol as a cause of sudden death, Dr. Wynn Westcott gave a summary of the results of a tabulation of 1,900 inquests held in London by himself. Of these cases, two-fifths were children and young persons under 16 years of age; the remaining three-fifths, or 1,150, supplied 255 cases in which medical evidence testified to alcohol as a direct factor in causing the death; this gives a proportion of 1 death due to alcohol in every 4.6 cases, a rise in percentage since 1888, when the proportion was 1 in 5.25 cases in the same district of London. Of these deaths due to alcohol, 38 were suicidal, 47 accidental, and 170 from natural, or unnatural, causes. The point especially dwelt upon was that of this class 73 died of syncope, due to fatty disease of the heart, leaving 97 to the account of all other diseases. And again of all the deaths due to syncope there was proved alcoholic excess in more than one-third of the cases. Dr. Wynn Westcott looked upon alcoholic intemperance as the most frequent and important of all the causes of fatty degeneration of the heart, which is a disease very difficult to diagnose, and still more difficult to cure. Mr. F. A. A. Rowland read a paper on the Principle of Compulsion as Relating to Inebriety. A discussion followed, in which Dr. Arthur Jamison, Dr. H. Rayner, Mr. Jabez Hogg, Mr. N. T. Gray, Mr. Joseph Smith, and others took part.

#### MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following Vacancies are announced:

- BECKENHAM LOCAL BOARD.**—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £125 per annum. Must reside within the parish or within 12 miles thereof. Applications to F. Stevens, Clerk to the Board, by October 10th.
- BROMPTON AND KNIGHTSBRIDGE DISPENSARY.** 28, Fulham Road, S.W.—Medical Officer. Applications to the Committee under cover to the Senior Medical Officer by October 24th.
- CHELTEMHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL.**—House-Surgeon; doubly qualified; unmarried. Salary, £80 per annum, with board and apartments. Applications to Lieutenant-Colonel Croker-King, Honorary Secretary, by October 12th.
- CHESHIRE COUNTY ASYLUM,** Upton, near Chester.—Junior Assistant Medical Officer; fully qualified and unmarried. Salary, £120 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to Medical Superintendent by October 14th.
- CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST,** Victoria Park, E.—Assistant Physician; must be F.R.C.P. Lond. Applications to the Secretary, 27, Finsbury Circus, E.C., by October 27th.
- COUNTY DOWN INFIRMARY.**—Registrar, Compounder, and Assistant to Surgeon. Salary, 60 guineas, board, fuel, and washing. Election on October 10th.
- EASTERN COUNTIES ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS,** Colchester.—Resident Medical Attendant; doubly qualified, unmarried. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, board, and washing. Applications to J. J. C. Turner, Secretary, by October 27th.
- GREAT NORTHERN CENTRAL HOSPITAL,** Holloway Road, N.—Casualty Officer, who will be required to act as Registrar and Assistant Anesthetist; must reside in the neighbourhood. Honorarium of 50 guineas per annum. Applications to Wm. T. Grant, Secretary, by October 26th.
- HAMPSTEAD PROVIDENT DISPENSARY.**—Medical Officer; doubly qualified. Applications to the Secretary, 23, High Street, Hampstead, before October 10th.
- HARROW LOCAL BOARD.**—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications, marked "Medical Officer," to R. E. H. Fisher, Clerk, by October 14th.
- HASTINGS, ST. LEONARD'S, AND EAST SUSSEX HOSPITAL.**—Honorary Assistant Physician. Applications to the Secretary by October 24th.
- MANCHESTER SOUTHERN AND MATERNITY HOSPITAL.**—Resident House-Surgeon; must reside near the hospital. Applications to Geo. W. Fox, 53, Princess Street, Manchester.
- PADDINGTON GREEN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL,** London, W.—House-Surgeon. Appointment for six months, from November 1st. Salary, £50 a year, with board, lodging, and an allowance of £2 12s. 6d. in lieu of beer. Applications to the Secretary, at the Hospital, by October 19th.
- RIPON DISPENSARY AND COTTAGE HOSPITAL.**—Resident House-Surgeon and Dispenser; unmarried. Salary, £70 per annum, with board and lodging. Duties to commence December 1st. Applications to F. D. Wise, Honorary Secretary.
- ROYAL ISLE OF WIGHT INFIRMARY AND COUNTY HOSPITAL,** Ryde.—House-Surgeon and Secretary; doubly qualified. Salary, £90 per annum, with board, lodging, etc. Applications to the Secretary, by October 17th.
- SALFORD ROYAL HOSPITAL.**—Honorary Surgeon. Applications to the Secretary by October 17th.

**SALFORD ROYAL HOSPITAL.**—Honorary Medical Officer for the Pendleton Branch Dispensary; doubly qualified. Applications to the Secretary by October 17th.

**SALFORD UNION.**—Assistant Medical Officer for the Union Infirmary, Hope, near Eccles; doubly qualified. Salary, £130 per annum, with furnished apartments in the Infirmary. Applications, endorsed "Assistant Medical Officer," to T. H. Bagshaw, Clerk, Union Offices, Eccles New Road, Salford, by October 20th.

**SHILLELAGH UNION, Hacketstown and Coolkenno Dispensary.**—Medical Officer. Salary, £135 per annum and fees. Applications to Mr. William Jones, Honorary Secretary, Woodside, Hacketstown. Election on October 15th.

**WARRINGTON INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY.**—Junior Resident Surgeon; unmarried. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished residence and board. Applications to the Honorary Secretaries by October 22nd.

**WEST RIDING ASYLUM, Wakefield.**—Two Resident Clinical Assistants. Appointment for six months. Board and lodging provided. Applications to the Medical Director.

### MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

**BERRY, Mr. Alfred,** appointed Resident Dispenser to the Hereford General Infirmary, *vice* T. Clough, resigned.

**BIDWELL, L. A., F.R.C.S.,** appointed Consulting Surgeon to the City Dispensary, London.

**BRIDGFORD, J. S., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin.,** appointed *pro tem.* Medical Officer for the Felton Sanitary District of the Alnwick Union.

**BUTTERFIELD, Harris, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.S.A.,** reappointed Medical Officer of Health for the Urban Sanitary District of Tenterden.

**DAVIES, John Charles, L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S., L.S.A. Lond.,** appointed Medical Officer for the No. 3 District of the Wrexham Union, and Public Vaccinator for the Parish of Ruabon.

**DOUGLAS, K. M., M.D., F.R.C.S. Edin.,** appointed Surgical Registrar to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

**DRAPER, M. Ryder, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin., L.S.A.,** appointed Medical Officer to the Luton Workhouse, *vice* Dr. Rankin, deceased; and Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator of the West Ward of the Luton Union.

**DREW, Joseph B., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin.,** appointed Medical Officer to Court "Framlingham Castle" of the Ancient Order of Foresters, *vice* George Jones, deceased.

**GILLESPIE, A. L., M.B., C.M. Edin.,** appointed Medical Registrar to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

**HIRST, S. C., M.D. St. And., M.R.C.S.,** appointed Medical Officer for the 13th Sanitary District of the North Bierley Union, *vice* Dr. Lambert, deceased.

**JOHNSON, F., L.R.C.P. Irel., M.R.C.S.,** appointed Medical Officer for the Hedgerley Sanitary District of the Eton Union, *vice* F. R. H. Potts, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

**KERR, W. J., M.B., B.Ch. Vict., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,** appointed Resident Medical Officer to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, and the Manchester and Salford Lying-in Hospital, *vice* R. Alcock, M.B., B.Ch., resigned.

**KNOWLES, F. J., L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S.,** appointed Deputy to the Public Vaccinator for the St. Helen's District, Liverpool.

**LLOYD, Evan, M.B., C.M. Glas.,** appointed Medical Officer for the Lower Sanitary District of the Tregaron Union, *vice* Dr. Rowland, deceased.

**LUCAS, Herbert, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.S.A.,** reappointed Medical Officer of Health to the Godmanchester Urban Sanitary District.

**MALCOLM, W. A., M.B., C.M. Edin.,** appointed Anaesthetist to the Great Northern Central Hospital, Holloway Road, N., *vice* Irwin Palmer.

**MANSFIELD, Gerald, M.B., C.M. Edin.,** appointed Senior Resident Medical Officer to the London Temperance Hospital, Hampstead Road.

**MORGAN, J., M.R.C.S.,** appointed Medical Officer for the Upper Sanitary District of the Tregaron Union.

**MUIRHEAD, Claud, M.D., F.R.C.P. Edin.,** appointed Consulting Physician to the City Fever Hospital, Edinburgh.

**MUSGROVE, Charles David, M.B., C.M. Edin.,** appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Plymouth Borough Asylum, Blackadon, Ivybridge.

**NICOLL, James H., M.B. Glas.,** appointed Dispensary Surgeon to the Glasgow Western Infirmary.

**PENFOLD, F. W. H., M.R.C.S.,** appointed Medical Officer for the Rainham Sanitary District of the Milton Union, *vice* H. Penfold, deceased.

**PENNY, Henry J., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Irel.,** appointed Officer of Health for the Shire of Belfast, Victoria, Australia.

**PORTER, Thomas, M.B., B.Ch. Vict.,** appointed House-Surgeon to the Ancoats Hospital, Manchester, *vice* J. Simcock, M.B.

**QUENNEL, John Cooper, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.S.A.,** reappointed Medical Officer of Health of the Ongar Rural District.

**REDDING, J. H. D., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin., L.F.P.S. Glas.,** appointed Medical Officer for the Ramsey Sanitary District of the Huntingdon Union, *vice* C. P. Bates, M.R.C.S., resigned.

**SCOTT, George, M.B., C.M. Glas. Univ.,** appointed Medical Officer to the Parish of Inch, Wigtownshire.

**SHEILD, A. Marmaduke, B.M., B.S., F.R.C.S.,** appointed Assistant Surgeon to the Royal Hospital for Children and Women, Waterloo Bridge Road, *vice* E. Overman Day, M.R.C.S.

**SIMCOCK, J., M.B., B.Ch. Vict.,** appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Ancoats Hospital, Manchester, *vice* H. T. Mursell, resigned.

**SINCLAIR, Dr.,** appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator of the Chipping Sodbury Union, *vice* Dr. Walter.

**SMITH, J. W., M.B. Edin., F.R.C.S. Eng.,** appointed Resident Surgical Officer to the Manchester Royal Infirmary.

**STEPHEN, William, M.D. Aberd., L.F.P.S. Glas., L.M.,** appointed Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator to the Parish of Duirnish, Skye, *vice* Robert Brown, M.B., C.M. Edin.

**WESTWOOD, H. O., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin.,** appointed Public Vaccinator for the Bingham Sanitary District of the Bingham Union, *vice* H. Wotton, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., resigned.

**WHITEHEAD, Surgeon-Captain H.,** Army Medical Staff, appointed Assistant Professor of Surgery at the Army Medical School at Netley.

### DIARY FOR NEXT WEEK.

#### MONDAY.

**LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, 1 P.M.**—Mr. R. Marcus Gunn: On External Diseases of the Eye. Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, 4 P.M.—Dr. W. Cheadle: On the Medical Disorders associated with Rickets. Great Northern Central Hospital 8 P.M.—Dr. Galloway: On the Heart—Valvular Lesions.

#### TUESDAY.

**LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, Bethlem Hospital, 2 P.M.**—Dr. Theo. B. Hyslop: On Melancholia. Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, 4 P.M.—Mr. J. Hutchinson, F.R.S.: On Exceptional Forms of Syphilis.

#### WEDNESDAY.

**LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, Hospital for Consumption, Brompton, 4 P.M.**—Dr. C. Theodore Williams: On Varieties of Pneumonia. Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, Moorfields, 8 P.M.—Mr. A. Quarry Silcock: On Glaucoma.

#### THURSDAY.

**HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON, 8.30 P.M.**—Mr. Juler, F.R.C.S.: The Pathology and Treatment of Chief Forms of Ophthalmia (with lantern illustrations).

**LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, National Hospital for the Paralysed and the Epileptic, Queen Square, 2 P.M.**—Dr. Tooth: On Atrophic Palsies. Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, 4 P.M.—Dr. W. B. Cheadle: On Diphtheria and its Treatment. London Throat Hospital, Great Portland Street, 8 P.M.—Mr. W. R. H. Stewart: On the Examination of Ear Cases.

**OPHTHALMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, 8.30 P.M.**—Patients and card specimens at 8 P.M. Report of Committee on Mr. E. Treacher Collins's case of Intra-ocular Neoplasm. Mr. G. Anderson Critchett: A case of Double Subacute Glaucoma in a Patient aged 29. Mr. Treacher Collins: Magic Lantern Demonstration of Lesions in Three Eyes Lost by Concussion. Mr. W. M. Beaumont (Bath): Notes of a Case of Exostosis of the Orbit, etc.

#### FRIDAY.

**LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, Bacteriological Laboratory, King's College, 11 A.M. to 1 P.M.** in Professor Crookshank. Lecture: The Microscope and how to use it. Practical work: Examination of Micrococci, Bacilli, and Spirilla. Hospital for Consumption, Brompton, 4 P.M.—Dr. C. Theodore Williams: On Prognosis and Treatment of Pneumonia.

#### SATURDAY.

**LONDON POST-GRADUATE COURSE, Bethlem Hospital, 11 A.M.**—Dr. Theo. B. Hyslop: On Hypochondriasis.

### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

*The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 3s. 6d., which sum should be forwarded in Post Office Order or Stamp with the notice not later than Wednesday morning, in order to insure insertion in the current issue.*

#### BIRTHS.

**ARNISON.**—At 11, Eldon Square, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 2nd inst., the wife of W. C. Arnison, M.D., of a daughter.

**BOXALL.**—On October 4th, at Rudgwick, Sussex, the wife of Frank Boxall, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of a daughter.

**EDWARDS.**—On the 29th ult., at Banbury, Oxon., the wife of Henry J. Edwards, L.R.C.P. & S. Ed., of a son.

**LOWRY.**—At Wenchow, China, on September 23rd, the wife of John H. Lowry, M.B., I.M. Customs, of a daughter.

**O'CONNOR.**—On October 5th, at Market Deeping, the wife of E. M. H. O'Connor, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.I., etc., of a daughter.

#### MARRIAGES.

**GRATTE—HIBBARD.**—On September 22nd, at St. Saviour's, Redland, Bristol, Charles Brooke Gratte, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (London), of Newport, Mon., to Ethel Mary, second daughter of the late Edwin Hibbard, of Newport, Mon.

**SANDWITH—SANDWITH.**—On October 3rd, at St. Mary Abbot's Church, Kensington, by the Rev. C. G. Harvey, Rector of Peper Harow, assisted by the Rev. G. S. Pownall, Fleming M. Sandwith, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of Cairo, Egypt, to Gladys, youngest daughter of the late Humphrey Sandwith, C.B., M.D.

**WALLACE—WALSH.**—On September 10th, at All Saints' Church, Worcester, by the Rev. F. C. Walsh, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Rev. B. Arthure, Rector of the Parish, the Rev. W. Allin, Curate of the Lickey, Bromsgrove, and the Rev. S. Burn, Curate of the Parish, Richard Teale Wallace, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., of Eltham, Kent, only son of Dr. R. U. Wallace, of Cravenhurst, Stamford Hill, London, to Grace Roy, fourth daughter of T. W. Walsh, F.R.C.S., of Worcester.



## 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. W. 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.
- LONDON TEMPERANCE HOSPITAL.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical, M. Tu. F., 2; Surgical, M. Th., 2. *Operation Days.*—M. Th., 4.30.
- 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; (Obstetrical), W., 2.
- NATIONAL ORTHOPEDIC.** *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 ORTHOPEDIC.** *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; Orthopaedic, 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; Orthopaedic, W., 2; Dental, Tu. S., 9. *Operation Days.*—Th., 1; (Ophthalmic), F., 1.15.
- ST. MARK'S.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Fistula and Diseases of the Rectum, males, W., 8.45; females, Th., 8.45. *Operation Day.*—Tu., 2.
- ST. MARY'S.** *Hours of Attendance.*—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.45; 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.45; Eye, Tu. F. S., 9; Ear, M. Th., 3; Orthopaedic, W., 10; Throat, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, M. Th., 9.30; Electro-therapeutics, Tu. F., 2; Dental, W. S., 9.30; Consultations, M., 2.30. *Operation Days.*—Tu., 1.30; (Orthopaedic), 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, exc. W. and S., 2; Obstetric, Tu. F., 2; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, Tu., 2; o.p., daily, exc. S., 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; (Gynaecological), Th., 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; Orthopaedic, 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 BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are devoted, will be found under their respective headings.*

### QUERIES.

P. M. asks to be recommended a thoroughly reliable protective ointment for the hands during *post-mortem* work.

DR. J. H. SOMERVILLE (Highfield, Bloxwich) asks for the address of any schools in the Midlands for the daughters of medical men.

NEWS asks to be advised where to place a youth, aged 19 (who has failed to pass the last preliminary examination at the College of Preceptors), to be "coached" for the next preliminary examination.

MEMBER asks to be recommended an establishment or invalids' home where an elderly gentleman (72) could be received; he is quite right mentally, but is getting rather infirm. He could afford to pay about £120 per annum.

ENQUIRER asks: Will any of your correspondents inform me what is the result of putting, as is frequently done, in stomach mixtures hydrocyanic acid (diluted) and soda or potash bicarb.? I have always understood that carbonic acid could be displaced by every other acid. If that be the case, then in the above mixture there is cyanide of potassium.

### NEURALGIA AFTER ZOSTER.

JUNIUS asks for suggestions as to the treatment of a case of severe neuralgia following herpes zoster.

### DENGUE.

D. asks: Of what language is this word? And how is it to be pronounced? Will someone who really knows kindly inform me?

### THE OPIUM HABIT.

M.D. asks for information on the opium habit. He has a patient who has been taking opium in increasing doses for twelve years. What is the prognosis? Apparently he is in good health. Will not the habit shorten life? Does it tend to imbecility? He asks to be recommended a reliable treatise on the subject.

### TO EXTERMINATE COCKROACHES.

A PUZZLED MEMBER writes: I am in medical charge of a man-of-war which is infested with cockroaches. Scrupulous attention to cleanliness, whitewashing, painting, syringing out all crevices with strong boiling solutions of carbolic acid, perchloride of mercury, etc., have all been tried in vain. The eggs survive and are hatched by the thousand in warm weather. Can any of your readers kindly suggest a radical remedy?

### ANAL WARTS.

N. B. asks for suggestions for the treatment of warts surrounding the anus. They form a complete circle an inch in breadth at the junction of the skin and mucous membrane, and are of various sizes and shapes, some being filiform and some broad at the base. The larger ones have been snipped off with scissors and the smaller treated with nitric acid repeatedly, and this has always left a smooth surface, but the growths reappear as bad as ever in less than a fortnight. The patient cannot be seen oftener than three times in a week.

### DISEASES OF CHINA.

H. N. asks for a good, trustworthy, book on diseases, etc., in China.

\* \* The only medical book on China is one published thirty years ago by Surgeon-Major Gordon, C.B.—*Gordon on China*—dealing mostly with regimental statistics, records of temperature, etc. The same gentleman has edited an Epitome of the Reports of Medical Officers to the Chinese Customs, and this is the book our correspondent should consult.

# THE TREATMENT OF SCARLET FEVER AND DIPHTHERIA BY THE BINIODIDE OF MERCURY.

DR. C. R. ILLINGWORTH (Clayton-le-Moors) writes: Permit me to quote one or two opinions upon this treatment, and to make one or two remarks. "I have now given the HgI<sub>2</sub> in several cases of scarlet fever, with this result, that it not only arrests the fever, but it prevents the desquamation of the skin, or arrests it to such an extent that only slight scurfiness of the skin of the hands and feet arises" (Dr. Clement Dukes, Physician to Rugby School, *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, July 9th, 1887). "In a case of diphtheria, temperature 104°, with very rapid pulse, and the fauces covered with false membrane, I prescribed the biniodide every two hours. The next day the temperature was 100°, the pulse 90, the throat was clearing and swelling of glands subsiding. The father of the patient was much struck with the improvement. In other forty-eight hours the temperature was subnormal and the exudation gone. I then gave iron and chlorate of potash" (Dr. H. Gabb, *JOURNAL*, July 21st, 1888). "I have successfully treated about two hundred cases of scarlet fever and a few cases of puerperal fever by the biniodide" (Dr. Sexton, Kilrush, co. Clare, Ireland). "Dr. Purdy treated fifty cases by the biniodide, and believed it hastened a fall in the temperature, lessened the chance of lingering sequelæ, and diminished the mortality. Dr. Mayo also thought the treatment beneficial in some cases; but Dr. Jacob, Mr. Rumbold, Dr. Swann, and Mr. Hick, who had all tried the method, were not in favour of it, and it was thought by Mr. Hick that the tendency to nephritis was rather increased by pursuing it" (*JOURNAL*, January 19th, 1889). "This method has been tried at the London Fever Hospital without beneficial results" (Dr. Sidney Phillips, *Yearbook of Treatment*, 1890, p. 140). "The salicylate of soda is valueless in the graver forms of diphtheria, and especially when there is exudation either in the nostrils or larynx. In these cases biniodide of mercury with bark is the remedy I now employ" (Mr. Lennox Browne, *JOURNAL*, August 1st, 1891).

Now since May, 1886—on the first day of which month I published the discovery I had made regarding the potency of this drug against the scarlatinal and diphtheritic poisons—I have over and over again proved to my own satisfaction and that of others who have watched my practice that, used as I have directed, it promptly arrests these fearful disorders. In the case of scarlet fever the desquescence begins on the first day, and the rash has disappeared by the fifth instead of being at its height. I have also proved that when given as I direct, and used as I have prescribed, nephritis in no single instance has followed" (*vide Treatment by Biniodide of Mercury*, H. K. Lewis, London).

In conclusion, therefore, I beg to submit that Drs. Jacob, Rumbold, Swann, Hick, and Phillips have erred in their methods of administering and applying the remedy, and this most probably from insufficient knowledge of my method, because none of them ever communicated with me upon the subject, and it was only a few months ago that I became aware of the fact of the treatment having received the favour of a trial in the London Fever Hospital.

## LETTERS, COMMUNICATIONS, ETC., received:

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## BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

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