

THE  
BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL,

BEING THE

53731

JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY

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## Association Intelligence.

### BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Thirty-second Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held at Cambridge, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 3rd, 4th, and 5th days of August next.

Gentlemen intending to read papers, cases, or any other communications, are requested to furnish, at their earliest convenience, the titles thereof to the General Secretary.

T. WATKIN WILLIAMS, *General Secretary.*

13, Newhall Street, Birmingham, May 10th, 1864.

### BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

| NAME OF BRANCH.                  | PLACE OF MEETING.                  | DATE.                           |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| NORTH WALES.<br>[Annual.]        | Black Lion Hotel,<br>Mold.         | Tuesday, July 5,<br>1.30 P.M.   |
| WEST SOMERSET.<br>[Annual.]      | Clarke's Castle<br>Hotel, Taunton. | Wednesday,<br>July 6, 2.30 P.M. |
| BATH AND BRISTOL.<br>[Annual.]   | Mineral Water Hos-<br>pital, Bath. | Thurs., July 7,<br>4.30 P.M.    |
| METROPOL. COUNTIES.<br>[Annual.] | Crystal Palace,<br>Sydenham.       | Tuesday, July 12,<br>3.30 P.M.  |
| READING.<br>[Annual.]            | George Hotel,<br>Reading.          | Wednesday, July<br>20th, 4 P.M. |

### NORTH WALES BRANCH.

THE Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the North Wales Branch will be held at the Black Lion Hotel, Mold, on Tuesday, July 5th, at 1.30 P.M., under the presidency of W. WILLIAMS, M.D.

Gentlemen having papers or cases to communicate, will please to forward the titles of the same to Mr. Kent Jones, Beaumaris.

Luncheon at 12.30, at the house of Dr. Hughes.

Dinner at the Black Lion Hotel, at 4 P.M.

D. KENT JONES, *Hon. Secretary.*

### SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of the South-Eastern Branch was held at Brighton, on Thursday, June 16th. Luncheon was first of all partaken of at the Town Hall, through the hospitality of Dr. Ormerod; after which, the members adjourned to the Council Chamber for business. The chair was taken by the retiring President, JOHN ARMSTRONG, M.D.; and there were also present, besides the President-elect, E. L. ORMEROD, M.D., the following gentlemen: Drs. Armstrong (Gravesend); Carpenter (Croydon); Collett (Worthing); Cunningham (Hailsham); Hall (Brighton); Holman (Reigate); R. Martin (London); W. W. Moore (Brighton); Stephens (Brighton); Taaffé (Brighton); Tyacke (Chichester); and Messrs. Aldersey (Brighton); Blaker (Sussex County Hospital); Bottomley (Croydon); Cordy Burrows (Brighton); Furber (Maidstone); R. Gravely (Newick); Hodgson (Brighton); Hollis (Brighton); Holman (East Hoothly); Humphry (Brighton); A. B. Jones (London); W. Martin (Hammersmith); R. Pearce (Brighton); Philpott (Brighton); R. J. Rogers (Brighton); Sankey (Dover); S. K. Scott (Brighton); Sisson (Reigate); Heckstall Smith (Hove); J. P. Smith (Brighton); Steele (Reigate); Tatham (Brighton); Trustram (Tunbridge Wells); Whately

(Brighton); T. Watkin Williams (Birmingham); Winter (Brighton); Wooldridge (Brighton); and Wordsworth (London).

THE PRESIDENT said that, as there was a good deal of business to be done, he hoped it would be done well, and as worthily became the great town in which they were assembled. His year of office was closing, and he felt, in reviewing that year, that there were associations connected with it, some of a pleasing, some of a painful character—a painful feeling arising from the remembrance that during his year of office they had lost the services of their esteemed secretary, a man memorably associated with the South-Eastern Branch of the British Medical Association. The first intimation we received of his death was from a member resident in Brighton, who suggested the propriety of paying such a mark of respect as became the Association. He (the President) issued a circular, and it was a matter of some consolation to know that nearly forty members of the Association left their homes and practices to attend the funeral. He knew and felt, and it was suggested to him also at the time, that something more than that ought to be done—though, as a mark of respect, perhaps it had not been surpassed at any time during the existence of the Association, not even excepting Sir Benjamin Brodie's funeral. He felt that it would be an act unbecoming of him to assume to himself and determine what the character of the memorial to Mr. Peter Martin should be. Various things had been suggested to him in his endeavours to find out the feeling of his brethren throughout the district; but the result was, that he thought the character of the memorial should emanate from their present meeting. There was one circumstance that gave him considerable pleasure. During his presidency, he had been brought into connection with a large number of his professional brethren throughout his district, and he found that, through this Association, a feeling of friendliness and brotherliness had sprung up amongst them, and a desire to support one another; that discourtesy and party feeling were being obliterated; and that the Association was producing some great fruits which should make them rejoice, and hope for still further better things than they had been accustomed to see. The chair was now about to be filled by a gentleman whose social position, moral character, and professional reputation, would shed a lustre on the office. He thanked the members for the kindness they had shown him during his tenure of office, and introduced the new President, Dr. Ormerod. [*Applause.*]

Dr. ORMEROD then took the chair amidst renewed applause, and delivered an address, which will be found at page 3.

*Report of Council.* The Honorary Secretary, Dr. C. HOLMAN, read the following report.

"The Council of the South-Eastern Branch are pleased to report that the Branch still maintains its numbers.

"The few withdrawals have been compensated by the accession of new members, and the total number now on the roll is rather more than two hundred; a result especially due to the exertions of the members resident in Kent, where the district meetings have been carried on with great zeal, and with ever increasing professional and social success.

"The general condition of the Association affords great cause for congratulation. The finances are rapidly improving, and when it is understood that some of the greatest difficulties the Association has had to contend with have been want of funds, caused by the remissness of members in sending their subscriptions, it will not be necessary to adduce any

argument on the part of the Council to ensure the discontinuance of such arrears amongst the members of the South Eastern Branch.

"The JOURNAL, under its present management, bids fair to become a true and able exponent of the opinions of the large majority of the profession, and in its onslaughts on all species of charlatanry, and in its observations on the conduct of medical witnesses in cases of professional prosecution, has rendered good service to medicine; whilst the papers appearing in its pages have been of augmented value and interest.

"It is, however, still matter for regret that gentlemen belonging to provincial hospitals do not send more frequent contributions to its weekly issue. A very large amount of most useful information is lost, or lies hid in the note-books of practitioners, who, from their status and ability, are well able to give their quota to the ever accumulating mass of well observed facts, from which deductions may be drawn of untold value, to exercise important influence on the future theories and practice of medicine and surgery.

"Whilst congratulating the members on the prosperous condition of the Association, the Council must draw attention to the large number of the professional body who are not included within its sphere.

"Few medical practitioners can be satisfied with the present condition of the profession, in its social or political aspect. The great question of education has been under the discussion of the Medical Council, but with the result only of issuing a code of suggestions, whose chief features had years since been adopted in the reports of the various Branches of the Association.

"The Army Medical Warrant, which was received with such satisfaction in 1858, has proved a failure, mainly because its provisions have not been carried out in their integrity. A parliamentary return, just issued, states that the number of medical officers who have retired from the army, under the provisions of the Royal Warrant of October 1858, include three inspectors-general, four deputy inspectors-general, and four regimental surgeons-major. In addition fourteen regimental assistant-surgeons, and thirteen staff assistant-surgeons, have resigned since January 1st, 1862. Amongst the vacancies now existing in the various grades of the army medical department, there are twenty-six regimental surgeons, and sixty-four assistant-surgeons still required.

"Until the authorities can give that position to their medical officers which is their due, it will be impossible to secure any number of professional men to enter the service, much less to attract to it the best educated and the best qualified members of our body.

"Whilst the necessity for improvement in the preliminary education of gentlemen intending to practise medicine, is most fully recognised, the Council contend that the present army medical officer is fully qualified to be placed on the most perfect terms of equality with all the other officers of the service.

"To secure, however, any efficient medical reform, it is absolutely necessary that some sufficiently powerful organisation should exist capable of representing the voice of the great body of the profession. This is to a considerable extent afforded by the British Medical Association, and its Branches; the Council therefore cannot too earnestly impress upon its members how large a field for extension there is, even in the South Eastern Counties. We have now rather more than two hundred members, and only one regular annual meeting; but if the numerous and influential members of the profession in Surrey, Kent, and Sussex, who are not yet enrolled, could be induced to join the Association and Branch, and if the plan of local meetings were carried

out in the same admirable spirit as is shewn in the district meetings in Kent, we should have an organisation for purposes of utility, social, scientific and political, which could not fail to carry due weight with the public, with government, with the Medical Council, and with the various medical corporate bodies.

"Mr. Villiers, the chairman of the Poor-Law Relief Committee, has stated in the House of Commons, that he believed the report of the committee would be presented ere long, and in time for legislation this session. Amongst the subjects on which it is understood they have come to resolutions, are *medical relief*; power of Poor-Law Board to dismiss officers; and *superannuation of paid officers*. The medical officers of unions will therefore anxiously await the conclusions at which the committee have arrived.

"Before concluding the report, the Council have to record their bitter sorrow at the loss of their able and well-loved secretary, Mr. Peter Martin. A memoir of him appeared in the JOURNAL of November 21st, 1863, written by one who knew and loved him well. In it his character has been so perfectly portrayed, that the Council make no apology for transferring some portions of it in their integrity to the report.

"Following the bright example set before him in the daily life of one who survives in a green old age, at 84, to mourn and feel but too acutely the loss of his son, Peter Martin was not content to be useful to himself alone—his was a nobler nature. In the midst of the anxious and harassing duties of a large practice, he found time to study how best he might improve the condition of his fellow-workers in the medical profession (the proceedings of the Poor-Law Medical Reform Committee testify to his labours in one direction), and, not less anxiously, how to contribute to the intellectual and social well-being of his fellow-townsmen. Following his father (the founder of both Associations), he became secretary to the Surrey Medical Benevolent Society, and secretary and treasurer of the South Eastern Branch of the Provincial Medical and Surgical (now 'British') Association; and to the ability, tact, and judgment with which he introduced and conducted the business of these bodies is doubtless owing, in great measure, their present flourishing and influential position.

"Few men have left behind them so many sorrowing friends. And this is no mere figure of speech. Gifted by nature with an attractive person; with all good qualities, intellectual and social, looking out through his clear blue eyes, and beaming in his expressive face and winning smile, there was that about him which to the merest stranger was irresistibly attractive. But this was not all. By those who had the privilege of knowing him intimately will be long cherished the remembrance of those more solid attributes of that inner life, to which the access was not so easy; and when to these are added his uncompromising honesty, his fearless candour, and his gentle charity, all nurtured and harmonised and hallowed by faith, a more complete and noble character could scarcely be imagined or portrayed."

"Dr. Armstrong, your president, summoned the members of the Branch to pay the last sad tribute of respect to departed merit. A considerable number responded to his call, and followed Peter Martin's remains to their last resting place, whilst many busy, hardly worked practitioners sent letters of affectionate regard, expressive of regret at their inability to attend. A proposition will be brought forward at this meeting for perpetuating in some fitting yet simple manner, the memory of one who laboured with no common zeal, and with rare ability in everything connected with the best interests of the Branch, and the profession to which he belonged."

Mr. SANKEY (Dover) moved a vote of thanks to the President for his able address, coupling with it the thanks of the Branch to Dr. Armstrong for the efficient manner in which he had discharged his duties during his term of office.

Mr. J. CORDY BURROWS seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. SANKEY moved, "That the report be received and adopted." The remarks of their worthy and esteemed President had his entire concurrence. With regard to gratuitous services, alluded to by the President, there were one or two points which ought to be mentioned. It was the privilege of the medical profession to exercise itself gratuitously. No one with a spark of humanity in his bosom would hesitate to give his gratuitous services when needed; but it had now not only become a request, but a demand, on some persons' part; and this must be met. With regard to apprenticeships, he had had a few colts to break in, and for his own part could bear testimony to the advantages to be derived from apprenticeship. In two years, the young men should be qualified to go to London to attend lectures, and instructed in the elements of pharmacy and medicine and botany, and afforded every opportunity of seeing cases. At the time when he had apprentices, he was the sole surgeon of a dispensary, and had ample opportunity of seeing two or three hundred patients in the course of a week; and many of his pupils have said that they esteemed most highly the advantages which they derived in compounding medicines in his surgery. With regard to their late friend Peter Martin, he concurred most heartily in the proposal for a memorial to his memory, whatever that memorial might be. With regard to the Army Medical Department, he had just been in conversation with an army surgeon, who said, "our profession will go to the dogs before long; they treat us in such a way, that we can't stand it, and they are now calling in the aid of civil practitioners."

Mr. C. TRUSTRAM (Tunbridge Wells) seconded, and said he was quite sure they would join in the expressions contained in the report. With respect to their Secretary, they might have gone further and fared worse. There was a time when he threatened to withdraw, on account of the labour attaching to the office; but they were all unanimous in their wish for him to remain in office, and he did so. With respect to what had been said about his character, all the members of the Association could endorse them. He was a man whom nobody could hesitate to like, nobody hesitate to admire—a gentleman in his deportment, a man of intellect, high character, and sterling honesty. He was quite sure that less could not be done than to express their regret at his loss by perpetuating his good deeds, not only through their own generation, but to their children. The more modest the tribute, the greater and more lasting the benefit. It was not by costly structures that the feelings of mankind were perpetuated; but it was the solemn terse sentence that expressed the man. He had gone to a better rest, but they would every one of them never forget his kindness or his worth. He trusted their present Secretary would follow in his steps; surpass him, he could not. Their report contained two or three points to which it was very desirable for him to advert. That the district meetings were doing good service, those who were living in the eastern part of Kent could testify. He had had much pleasure at being at some of these meetings, and more friendly and intellectual meetings he had never attended. He lived as it were isolated from his neighbours; but he was quite sure their Society numbered sufficiently strong for them to hold district meetings in other parts. They were working

good effect amongst themselves; and so long as they agreed together, they could make their power felt. That their profession had been neglected, every one knew and every one felt; they were called upon to do acts of charity which no other profession would do. They gave full credit for what other professions did; but he said it advisedly and boldly, that where their charity, using the decimal system, was counted by one, the medical profession's charity should be counted by hundreds. He was glad that the Association was increasing in numbers, but he hoped it would still further increase. He trusted they were coming to a better time when they would be all of one body; and he trusted the day was fast passing when they would need a medical assessor. He hoped the day would come when the country would not need the coroner's court.

The motion was then put, and unanimously carried.

*The late Mr. Peter Martin.* Dr. ARMSTRONG moved—"That the members of the South-Eastern Branch of the British Medical Association, at their first meeting, beg to express their sincere condolence with Mrs. Martin and her family upon the irreparable loss which they have sustained in the death of Mr. Peter Martin. The Branch holds his memory in affectionate regard, and his services to the Association in grateful and lasting remembrance."

During the time when the question of a memorial was first mooted, he received a considerable number of letters (some of which he had with him), expressive of the strongest condolence, and also of a desire that something of a permanent character should be associated with the name of their esteemed Secretary. Mr. Martin's worthy successor gave great promise, and would, no doubt, prove a most efficient secretary.

Mr. SANKEY seconded the motion, and said that, although there was great disparity in their ages, it did not lessen the affection between them; for Mr. Martin had always been to him as a son. He only regretted that the English language could not sufficiently express the feelings which actuated him at that moment.

The motion was carried.

Mr. J. CORDY BURROWS said that it was a question among many men and many minds how they could best testify in a lasting and memorable manner to their affectionate regard for the late Mr. Martin, and shew their grateful recollection of his services. He had a resolution which he would read, and then he would explain why he thought it was a proper mode of carrying out that which he was quite sure they all desired to do—which was, to testify that Mr. Peter Martin did not live in vain, and that in his death his good deeds did not die with him, and that in perpetuating his memory they wished others to follow his example. [*Applause.*] Having been a member of that Branch almost from its commencement, he had been brought continually into communication with Mr. Martin and his worthy father; and it was mainly owing to the efforts of the latter that this Branch was established. The mantle descended to the son, a worthy successor, a man esteemed in Reigate and its neighbourhood, and held in affectionate regard by every one who knew him. Throughout his career, he was very anxious that the South-Eastern Branch should do something specially to advance the profession of which he was such an honourable member. The motions which he (Mr. Burrows) had to propose, were as follows:—

"That in grateful and lasting remembrance of the services of the late Mr. Peter Martin to this Branch of the Association, a subscription be made by the members to establish one or more prizes to be given

annually or otherwise to the most deserving students at the Medical Benevolent College at Epsom.

"That a committee be formed to carry out the above, consisting of Dr. Ormerod, Dr. Armstrong, Mr. Cordy Burrows, Dr. Collet, Dr. Carpenter, Dr. Hall, Mr. Sisson, Mr. Trustram, Mr. T. Heckstall Smith, Mr. Hodgson, and Mr. Humphry."

Mr. Martin took great interest in the Medical Benevolent College; and he (Mr. Burrows) was told by more than one gentleman whose sons had been educated there, that a prize, such as the one contemplated, would be a great incentive to study, and would be of the greatest advantage to the institution. He was quite sure that, if they could have the opinion of their departed friend, he would have been the first to support such a resolution, if carried out under similar circumstances. Mr. Peter Martin's father had told him that he thought it would be a proper mode to carry out the affection shown towards his son, but he considered that it would tax too heavily the purses of the medical profession. But, if a certain sum was placed in the hands of trustees, to raise an amount of about £7 or £8 a year, it would be sufficient to provide for a prize or prizes; and it appeared to him that whilst they ought to do honour to their departed friend, they ought also to stimulate the desire for knowledge among the young in the profession. After striving for the prizes, the young men would leave the college imbued with a love for his memory, and with the earnest desire to be as good as he was; for, after all, the real intent of the monument was or should be to point out an example to those who follow after. A tablet in a church was a testimony to a man's goodness and greatness; and it was, as it were, a sermon to those who saw it. But he considered mural tablets to be out of place. If his resolution was adopted, the Branch would take the best possible course to perpetuate their love and esteem for their good and kind friend. [*Applause.*]

Mr. SANKEY seconded the motion. He said that the subscriptions need not be confined to the Branch, but it might be thrown open to the whole Association. Let all contribute to the fund, so that instead of having a prize of £8, they might have one of £80.

Mr. TRUSTRAM suggested that, whatever might be done in the way of prize, a very small part of the sum contributed for the object should be expended in the erection of a tablet to be placed in the parish church of Reigate.

Dr. COLLET had been under the impression that Mr. Martin's friends were adverse to a memorial to his memory; but, after the remarks of Mr. Cordy Burrows, he was relieved on that point, and he hoped the meeting would be unanimous in sanctioning such a memorial as might be worthy of the deceased gentleman. With regard to the question that it would press too heavily upon the pockets of some members of the Association, he would only say this, that he hoped those who were able would contribute largely, and that those who could contribute but little, let them contribute that little cheerfully and without hesitation. [*Hear, hear.*]

The PRESIDENT said he would like to know from Dr. Martin what his uncle's wishes were?

Dr. MARTIN said he had been in communication with his uncle, and he happened to know that he had written to Dr. Ormerod exactly to the effect of that gentleman's address.

Dr. CARPENTER supported the proposition. There was nothing in it which could fail to satisfy the feelings of the deceased gentleman's family. It was as free from ostentation as it was possible for anything to be; and, if they could have had Peter Martin's own opinion, he would have said, "Support the Medical Benevolent College." Mr. Martin had his heart

in the work, and did all he could to support it. It would be all very well of them to place a mural tablet in Reigate Church, to do honour to his memory. But the men of Reigate had anticipated their wish in this respect, and had placed a tablet there; but by whom would the inscription on it be read? Not by the medical profession of England, to whom Mr. Martin had set so excellent an example. If a medal were instituted, it would lead to the inquiry, "Who was Mr. Martin? and why was the medal founded?" If the meeting did what Mr. Burrows had proposed, they would have the good wishes of the late Mr. Peter Martin's best friends, and would be doing no violence to the feelings of the members of his family.

Dr. ARMSTRONG said that, while he was in office, there were three propositions placed before him with respect to honouring the memory of Mr. Peter Martin. One was the erection of a tablet; but the general feeling among those by whom it was discussed was against it, as it would be confined to the church of Reigate, where already there was a monument. Another suggestion was, that a fund should be collected, and invested in Government securities; so that every year a prize might be awarded to the most successful essayist among the medical profession of the Branch. There were many supporters of this scheme. Then came the proposition of Mr. Burrows; and, as far as he (Dr. Armstrong) was able to judge, there seemed to be fewer objections to it than to any other plan. It commended itself to them, because it gave a stimulus to young men to act uprightly, earnestly, and perseveringly.

Dr. HALL suggested that a gold medal, of about £10 value, should constitute one of the prizes, if the funds allowed it, to be given to the student of the highest moral conduct, chosen by the students of the Benevolent College themselves.

Mr. HODGSON and Mr. STEELE also supported the proposition, which was put, and carried unanimously.

*Army Medical Service.* The SECRETARY read the following memorial on this subject.

*"To the Right Honourable Viscount Palmerston, First Lord of Her Majesty's Treasury,*

"The memorial of the members of the South-Eastern Branch of the British Medical Association sheweth,—

"That your memorialists, being medical practitioners in Surrey, Kent, and Sussex, have to request the attention of Government to the present condition of the Army Medical Service—a condition unparalleled in time of peace.

"That, during the Crimean War, the Army Medical Service *proper* confessedly broke down.

"That the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons in 1856 recommended that the pay and position of the Medical Officer should be improved; and that the necessity for employing civil Assistant-Surgeons should, if possible, be avoided.

"That the Warrant of 1858 contained important concessions to the Medical Officers, and ordered that they should have a certain rank relative to other officers; and that this rank should carry with it all precedence and advantages, except the presiding at Courts-martial.

"That these concessions brought such a number of candidates, that the authorities were enabled to raise the standard of examination and qualification.

"That it soon appeared that the provisions of this Warrant, especially as regards relative rank, were systematically disregarded.

"That the Warrants of 1861 and 1862 contained provisions in direct contravention of the Warrant of 1858 and the recommendations of the Select Committee of 1856.

"The result of this has been, that educated members of our body cannot be found to present themselves for commissions; and that the very evil sought to be set aside by the Committee of 1856, of employing civil Assistant-Surgeons is now, even in time of peace, obliged to be had recourse to; whilst the engagement of these gentlemen is attempted on the derogatory terms of *temporary hiring*, with the prospect of discharge without notice.

"The Parliamentary return just issued shows a state of the Service calculated to cause just alarm to those serving in the Army and to the Public; and your Memorialists would request that due inquiry should be made by Government into the evils complained of.

"Your Memorialists feel assured that, as long as the proper position is denied to gentlemen qualified by their preliminary and professional education to be placed on terms of equality with all the other Officers of the Service, so long will those Practitioners be wanting who ought, in justice to the Country and the Army, to have charge of the lives of our Soldiers, and fulfil the responsible duties of Army Medical Officers."

Mr. W. MARTIN, after a brief address, moved—

"That the memorial be presented to Viscount Palmerston, the First Lord of Her Majesty's Treasury, praying the attention of Government to the condition of the Army Medical Service."

Dr. TAAFFE seconded, and Mr. J. C. BURROWS supported, the motion. The SECRETARY urged upon the members present to press the subject upon the representatives of either House with whom they might come in contact.

The motion was then carried; and the memorial was ordered to be signed by the President on behalf of the Branch.

*New Members.* The following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Branch:—J. Deans, Esq. (Cranbrook); Philip Whitcombe, Esq. (Gravesend); Albert Hind, Esq. (Gravesend); Arthur Kelsey, Esq. (Reigate); John Newman Winter, M.B. (Brighton); J. K. Tuke, Esq. (Brighton); Athol A. Johnson, Esq. (Brighton); David Richards, Esq. (Brighton); W. Kebbell, M.D. (Brighton); F. J. Money, M.D. (Brighton); John Walters, M.B. (Reigate).

*Council of the Branch.* The following gentlemen were elected members of the Council of the Branch:—W. Addison, F.R.C.P., Brighton; W. Aitken, M.D., Southampton; J. Armstrong, M.D., Gravesend; F. J. Brown, M.D., Rochester; J. M. Burton, Esq., Blackheath; C. Chaldecott, Esq., Dorking; J. Dulvey, Esq., Brompton; W. Hoar, Esq., Maidstone; G. Lowdell, Esq., Brighton; E. Ray, M.D., Dulwich.

*Representatives in the General Council.* The following gentlemen were elected representatives of the Branch in the General Council of the Association:—J. Armstrong, M.D.; G. Bottomley, Esq., Croydon; T. Boycott, M.D., Canterbury; J. C. Burrows, Esq., Brighton; A. Carpenter, M.D., Croydon; H. Collet, M.D., Worthing; F. Fry, Esq., Maidstone; W. Sankey, Esq., Dover; T. Heckstall Smith, Esq., St. Mary Cray; C. M. Thompson, Esq., Westerham; and E. Westall, M.D., Caterham.

*Place of Next Meeting.* Dr. HALL (Brighton) proposed that the next meeting of the Branch be held at the Crystal Palace.

Mr. STEELE (Reigate) seconded the motion, which was carried.

*Officers for the Ensuing Year.* The following gentlemen were unanimously elected officers for the year 1865:—*President*: E. Westall, M.D. (Caterham). *Vice-Presidents*: Albert Napper, Esq. (Cranley); and A.

Sisson, Esq., Reigate. *Secretary*: C. Holman, M.D. (Reigate).

*The Martin Fund.* Dr. ORMEROD, the President, was requested to act as Treasurer of the "Martin Fund".

*Balance-Sheet.* The balance-sheet showed a sum of £30:11 in hand in favour of the Branch, which was the subject of much congratulation; and a donation of £10:10 was voted to the Benevolent Fund.

As the hour had now somewhat progressed, two papers on the programme were necessarily left unread; but it was stated that they would be forwarded to the JOURNAL for publication. At the close of the meeting, the sum of £75 was collected towards the "Martin Fund". The company then adjourned to the Old Ship Hotel to dine, and a convivial evening was spent.

#### SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE eighth annual meeting of this Branch was held at Woburn, on Thursday, June 23rd, at 2 P.M.; H. VEASEY, Esq., President, in the Chair. There were also present, Drs. Barker (Bedford); Bryan (Northampton); and Francis (Northampton); and Messrs. Ashdown (Northampton); J. Carter (Bedford); Hemming (Kimbolton); T. Heygate (Hanslope); Hochee (Fenny Stratford); Matthews (Ampthill); Moxon (Northampton); C. Terry (Newport Pagnell); H. Terry, jun. (Newport Pagnell); J. F. Williams (Cranfield); J. Williamson (Bedford); and as visitors, Drs. Graily Hewitt and Thudichum (London); and Messrs. R. McCormick (Aylesbury); T. Miller (Woburn); and J. Prichard (Aspley). All these gentlemen were entertained at luncheon at Mr. Veasey's, and then adjourned to the Town Hall at 2 P.M.

On taking the chair, Mr. VEASEY made a short speech; after which, the minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

*Officers and Council.* The officers of the Branch were elected unanimously as follows; viz.: *President-elect*: G. Ashdown, Esq., Northampton. *Committee of Management*: W. C. Daniell, Esq.; D. J. T. Francis, M.D.; W. H. Gatty, Esq.; E. Lawford, M.D.; J. F. Morgan, Esq.; W. Moxon, Esq.; W. Paley, M.D.; H. Terry, jun., Esq. *Representatives in the General Council*: R. Ceely, Esq.; F. Duke, Esq.; J. G. Leete, Esq.; Jas. Mash, Esq. *Honorary Secretaries and Treasurer*: J. M. Bryan, M.D.; G. P. Goldsmith, Esq.

*Autumnal Meeting.* It was decided that the next autumnal meeting be held at Buckingham, in October.

*New Members.* The following gentlemen were admitted as members of the British Medical Association and South Midland Branch:—Chas. Bennett, Esq. (Braunston); F. Buszard, Esq. (Northampton Infirmary); Jabez Carter, Esq. (Bedford); James Matthews, Esq. (Ampthill); Eustace Olive, Esq. (Northampton).

Several interesting papers were brought forward, but most of them were postponed to the next meeting, thereby enabling the gentlemen present to make a pleasant tour of the Duke of Bedford's House and Park, which were kindly thrown open to them specially by the Duke.

Specimens of the Trichina Spiralis were exhibited by Drs. Barker and Thudichum.

*Dinner.* About eighteen gentlemen met at the Bedford Arms Hotel, Woburn, and partook of a dinner.

# BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of this Branch was held at the Hen and Chickens Hotel, Birmingham, on Friday, June 17th; HENRY DOUGLAS CARDEN, Esq., of Worcester, President, in the chair. There were also present Sir Charles Hastings, M.D., and thirty-eight members. Dr. Seaton (Sunbury) and Mr. J. Wyman (Alcester) attended as visitors.

The retiring President (Alfred Baker, Esq.), after thanking the members for the kindness and courtesy shown to him during his presidentship, introduced Mr. Carden as his successor.

*Vote of Thanks to the Retiring President.* It was moved by Mr. BARTLETT, seconded by Mr. SOLOMON, and carried unanimously—

"That the best thanks of this meeting be presented to Alfred Baker, Esq., for his courteous conduct as President during the past year."

*Report of Council.* Mr. OLIVER PEMBERTON (HONORARY Secretary) read the following report.

"The Council of the Birmingham Branch of the British Medical Association feel much satisfaction in laying before the members a statement of the transactions of the past year.

"For the first time since the formation of the Branch, monthly meetings have been held, in accordance with the wishes of the members as unanimously expressed at a meeting of the Society held towards the close of the last session. Several highly important papers have been read and discussed at these successive meetings; and various cases of scientific interest have been submitted for consideration. The number of notices of papers on the list, and the good attendance at the discussions, abundantly establishes the success of this movement.

"The papers and cases are comprised in the following list.

"1. A successful case of Ovariectomy; with remarks on the selection of Cases, and on certain Details in the operation. By Mr. F. Jordan.

"2. Some Observations on Trusses; with a Description of a new one recently invented by Mr. T. P. Salt. By Mr. Oliver Pemberton.

"3. Therapeutical Inquiries: III. Oil of Male Fern in Tapeworm. By Dr. Fleming.

"4. The two Circles of the Blood, historically considered. By Mr. Gamgee.

"5. A case of Hæmorrhage from Retained Placenta after Abortion, terminating fatally. By Mr. Lowe.

"6. Prolapsus Uteri; its Treatment by Operation and Mechanical Means. By Mr. Redfern Davis.

"7. Successful Case of Ovariectomy; with Observations. By Mr. J. Clay.

"8. On Amputation by a Single Flap. By Mr. Carden.

"9. The Origin of Bright's Disease of the Kidney. By Dr. Russell.

"The last meeting of the session was occupied in discussing the merits of a charge of neglect of professional duty preferred by the coroner for the district of West Bromwich, in the Southern Division of the county of Stafford, against Mr. John Manley, surgeon. Your Council, in expressing their concurrence with the resolutions which were unanimously passed, exonerating Mr. Manley from all discourteous or unprofessional conduct on the occasion in question, cannot but record their regret at the existence at any time of unpleasant feelings between any medical gentleman and an officer holding so important a position as that of a coroner; the most cordial relations between the profession on the one hand, and

the coroner on the other, being at all times essential to the due fulfilment of the duties of so responsible a court.

"The inefficiency in the last legislative Act relating to compulsory vaccination has been recognised for a long time past by the profession; and now that the public take alarm at the extension of the present epidemic of small-pox, it may be fairly expected that the earnest warnings that have been expressed by medical men on the subject will, at length, receive that consideration which their importance demands. In the opinion of your Council, the recognition by Poor-law unions of all medical practitioners, as public vaccinators of persons unable to pay for themselves, would be a pre-eminently salutary step, and would tend more to diminish the number of unvaccinated children than almost any other measure. At the same time that this great change is effected, an adequate remuneration should be made to all members of the profession who may desire to undertake such duties.

"In the Queen's service, the paucity of applications for medical employment, especially in the army, has led the Director-General of that Department to offer temporary appointments to any who may be willing to accept them. But the profession feel deeply on this matter, and can only point out to its members that a continued persistence in refusing to apply under the existence of unfair regulations, will alone accomplish, in the end, the attainment of the great object which all who are acquainted with the medical service have so long desired—a ratio of rewards and a status of relative rank proportioned to the dangers and responsibilities which have to be met by the non-combatant officers. On this subject, however, the Metropolitan Counties Branch have so recently as Monday last held an important meeting, adopting a series of resolutions which, should they meet with your approval, would receive additional effect by being supported by a special vote of the members who may be present at this annual gathering of the Branch.

"The reply of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England to the memorial of the President and Members of the British Medical Association, requesting the Council to take into consideration the propriety of altering its bye-laws, so that non-resident Fellows of the College may be enabled to vote by proxy at the annual election of Members of Council; viz., 'that it is not thought expedient, by applying for a new or supplementary charter, to endeavour to effect the object to which their memorial relates', is, in the opinion of your Council, eminently unsatisfactory, and calls for the exercise of prompt and strenuous action on the part of the country fellows, in order to obtain, with the least possible delay, this most necessary privilege.

"Referring more nearly to the prosperity of the Branch itself, your Council have to record the addition of a very large number of fresh members from various towns in the Central District, far more than compensating the absence of those who, from change of residence or other circumstances, have withdrawn their names, whilst, happily, none have been removed by death."

Dr. WOLLASTON moved, Mr. F. JORDAN seconded, and it was resolved—

"That the report of the Council now read be received, approved, and entered on the minutes."

*Treasurer's Account.* The account for the past year, read by Mr. T. W. WILLIAMS (Treasurer), showed a balance in hand of £36:13:6.

On the motion of Mr. COLEMAN, seconded by Dr. RUSSELL, it was resolved—

"That the financial statement of the Treasurer



now read be received, approved, and entered on the minutes."

*Election of Officers and Council.* Mr. CLAYTON moved, Mr. DOWNES seconded, and it was resolved—"That Dr. James Russell of Birmingham be the President-elect for the ensuing year."

The voting-lists having been handed in to the President, and examined, the following gentlemen were elected members of Council for the ensuing year: *Country Members*—E. H. Coleman, Esq. (Wolverhampton); D. Everett, Esq. (Worcester); G. Fayrer, M.D. (Henley); J. S. Gaunt, Esq. (Alvechurch); S. J. Jeaffreson, F.R.C.P. (Leamington); G. Lowe, Esq. (Burton-on-Trent); S. Roden, M.D. (Droitwich); H. E. F. Shaw, Esq. (Sutton Coldfield). *Town Members*—A. Baker, Esq.; M. H. Clayton, Esq.; J. Clay, Esq.; J. S. Gamgee, Esq.; F. Jordan, Esq.; J. B. Melson, M.D.; J. V. Solomon, Esq.; W. F. Wade, M.D.

The following gentlemen were unanimously elected Representatives of the Branch in the General Council of the Association: Alfred Baker, Esq.; E. Bartleet, Esq.; H. D. Carden, Esq.; M. H. Clayton, Esq.; G. Fayrer, M.D.; J. S. Gaunt, Esq.; J. B. Melson, M.D.; W. F. Wade, M.D.; O. Pemberton, Esq. (*ex officio*).

*New Members.* The following gentlemen, members of the Association, were elected members of the Branch: 1, E. T. Griffiths, Esq. (Birmingham); 2, J. Butler, Esq. (Great Bridge); 3, Joseph Smith, Esq. (Lozells); 4, J. H. Thornhill, Esq. (Willenhall); 5, G. Wyman, Esq. (Alcester); 6, Alex. M. Inglis, M.D. (Worcester).

*President's Address.* Mr. CARDEN delivered an address, embracing a consideration of various points of interest in connection with surgery, and especially with the operation of ovariectomy.

At its close, it was moved by Sir CHAS. HASTINGS, seconded by Dr. RUSSELL, and carried by acclamation—

"That the best thanks of this meeting be given to Henry Douglas Carden, Esq., for his admirable address, and for his considerate attention to the business of the day."

*Dinner.* The members afterwards dined together at the hotel, under the presidency of Mr. Carden; Dr. James Russell occupying the vice-chair. The usual loyal and professional toasts were given and responded to.

## Correspondence.

### TYPES OF FEVER AND BLOOD-LETTING.

LETTER FROM G. BOTTOMLEY, ESQ.

SIR,—In the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of the 4th of June is a letter from Mr. Allison, written in a scientific and gentlemanly style, without a single word that could possibly be construed to cast unprofessional reflection upon any member of the medical profession. From the early date of his career down to the present time, I presume there can be but few, like myself, who are able to compare notes with him; for I see Mr. Allison's diploma is dated 1817, my own 1811; so that both Mr. Allison and myself have had a long period of active practice; and I hope those who were in practice at that time, and are living, and willing to support Mr. Allison's statements, will do so at once.

I quite agree with every statement made by Mr. Allison, who, I have no doubt, carefully diagnosed every case that came under his treatment; bled when

he found bleeding necessary, and to the extent the case demanded, and not, as has been stated, according to fashion or custom, but treated every case upon scientific grounds. I could give very many similar cases to those related by Mr. Allison, but they would be merely repetitions. From about the year 1822 to the year 1832, diseases of all kinds assumed the sthenic type; and during that period it was my practice to let the blood flow from the arm into various cups or basins, with a view of ascertaining its inflammatory condition, both from the thickness of its buff coat and its cupping; and as soon as its buff coat and cupping disappeared, further bleeding was discontinued; and if the inflammatory symptoms and pain had not completely subsided, then leeches were applied; and, after that, blisters, etc.; and I am quite satisfied that, if that mode of treatment had not been steadily carried out, many more deaths would have occurred. That treatment, and that treatment alone, saved many from a premature grave.

I above stated the year 1832 as the period when the altered character of disease took place from the sthenic to the asthenic form. The year 1832 was the year of Asiatic cholera; and at the same time a low type of influenza prevailed. From that time to the present, very few acute inflammatory affections have prevailed; consequently, bleeding from the system has been almost abandoned. Its discontinuance has not arisen from fashion, or that the public opinion has been opposed to bleeding, which deterred medical practitioners from doing their duty. Such arguments only give encouragement to such men as the author of the *Fallacies of the Faculty* and homœopaths, who say that they, by their writings and doings, brought about the change in the treatment of disease, and were the cause of putting a stop to bleeding.

The bulk of the medical practitioners of the present day came into practice since the year 1832, now thirty-two years since; consequently, they could not have witnessed the sthenic character of disease that existed at that time, and are now led into the error that no such form of disease ever existed.

*Facts*, according to the old saying, are stubborn things; and seeing is believing; and, as Mr. Allison justly observes, "various phases of fever and inflammations have taken place from the year 1814 to the present day."

I recollect well the time when George the Fourth (who, I believe, was then Regent) had an inflammatory attack when at Brighton. He was ordered to be bled by his physicians, who believed he had been bled quite enough. But His Majesty thought otherwise; and he sent for the assistant-surgeon of an Irish militia regiment that happened to be quartered at Brighton at the time, who took more blood from His Majesty. His Majesty afterwards made a good recovery. I need not say (for, no doubt, it is still in the recollection of many) that the militia assistant-surgeon became a leading physician. And, as Mr. Allison further states, "however that might be, George the Fourth's illness required a very different mode of treatment from that which destroyed the life of the Prince Consort."

I sincerely hope a different feeling will prevail in the treatment of disease, and that every medical practitioner will treat disease as he finds it, and not empirically; that he will bleed when required, and act diametrically opposite when necessary; not being led away, as it has been said, either by fashion or public opinion. Changes in the form of diseases have been going on, and no doubt will go on, in this country. The change from the asthenic to the sthenic form may take place again; and, instead of the non-bleeding and stimulating mode, the opposite may be



tendinum, and he passed his evacuations involuntarily. Mr. Carden prescribed digitalis with ammonia and salines with great benefit. The patient recovered in due time. He had sustained a fractured leg in addition to the concussion.

CASE IV. January 1864. Miss E., aged 57, had bronchitis, with congestion of the lungs; the pulse 20, soft; respiration hurried; expectoration difficult with wheezing; no pain; countenance congested. Leeches, blisters, calomel, and expectorants were the remedies used. On the fourth day the respiration was so embarrassed, that I felt assured she could not live unless the lungs were relieved. I took twelve ounces of blood from the arm, which gave much relief. The following day, Sir Charles Hastings came to see her. The gums were tender, and he urged a persistence in the expectorants, with the aid of blisters, and the free administration of wine. She was in a precarious state for several days; the pulse continued rapid, and the expectoration difficult. Sir Charles Hastings suggested digitalis; this had a very salutary effect, and she recovered.

During the last twenty years, I have not so frequently met with cases requiring depletion to the same extent as in former years; from which I infer a change of type.

I am, etc.,

WILLIAM WEAVER JONES.

Cleobury Mortimer, Salop, June 13th, 1864.

#### GRIFFIN TESTIMONIAL FUND.

LETTER FROM ROBERT FOWLER, M.D.

SIR,—At a meeting of the Committee of the Metropolitan Poor-law Medical Officers, held on the 24th instant, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted.

"1. That, in the opinion of this Committee, the Poor-law medical officers of England are under a deep debt of gratitude to Richard Griffin, Esq., of Weymouth, for the untiring zeal, energy, and time, which, for nearly ten years, he has bestowed upon the cause of Poor-law medical reform. That the concession to the Poor-law medical service recommended by the Select Committee on Poor Relief (England) is doubtless, in a very great measure, due to the perseverance and forbearance with which Mr. Griffin has invariably advocated the claims of his Poor-law medical brethren. That, therefore, it is hoped the whole Poor-law medical staff of England will unite with a view to some suitable acknowledgment of his past laborious services.

"2. That the present Committee of the Metropolitan Poor-law Medical Officers, with power to add to their number, do form themselves into a Committee for the purpose of giving practical effect to the above resolution.

"3. That Dr. Robert Fowler, of 145, Bishopsgate Street Without, be appointed Treasurer and Honorary Secretary to the Griffin Testimonial Fund.

"4. That the Honorary Secretary do issue printed circulars to all the metropolitan Poor-law medical officers, soliciting their active co-operation and subscription for the object of, firstly, defraying the outstanding expenses pertaining to Mr. Griffin's Poor-law Medical Reform Fund; and, subsequently, enabling the whole body to present him with such a testimonial as may hereafter be determined upon."

I trust to have a handsome response to this appeal. The Poor-law medical officers will, I am sure, acknowledge, not only that our indefatigable champion must not be out of pocket by his exertions in our behalf; but, also, that he deserves something more than bare

thanks at our hands. I beg, therefore, the means to give him a practical expression of our gratitude.

I am, etc., ROBERT FOWLER, M.D.,  
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

145, Bishopsgate Street Without, June 25, 1864.

## Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON. At a general meeting of the Fellows, held on Saturday, June 25th, the following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examination, were duly admitted members of the College.

Fagge, Charles Hilton, M.D. Lond., 43, Trinity Square  
Harrington, James Douglas, M.B. Oxon., The College, St. Bartholomew's Hospital  
Lattey, Abraham H. H., 4, Gloucester Gardens, Hyde Park  
Mackenzie, Morell, M.D. Lond., 13, Weymouth St., Portland Pl.  
Murray, William, M.D., Durham, Newcastle-on-Tyne

APOTHECARIES' HALL. On June 23rd, the following Licentiatees were admitted:—

Bradley, Charles, Nottingham  
Smith, Thomas Haywood, Alcester, Warwickshire

At the same Court, the following passed the first examination:—

Adams, Frederick William, Bristol Medical School

#### APPOINTMENTS.

##### ARMY.

BARNETT, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon O., to be Assistant-Surgeon 12th Lancers, *vice* C. J. White.

CRERAR, Staff-Surgeon J., to be Surgeon 106th Foot.

DAVIE, Assistant-Surgeon G. S., M.D., 79th Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, *vice* T. Dolan.

DOIG, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon A., to be Assistant-Surgeon 79th Foot, *vice* G. S. Davie, M.D.

FRASER, Staff-Surgeon D. A. C., M.D., to be Surgeon 103rd Foot.

GILLESPIE, Assistant-Surgeon F., M.D., 35th Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, *vice* D. S. Skinner.

GILLESPIE, Assistant-Surgeon R., M.D., 74th Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, *vice* A. Doig.

McGOWAN, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon A. T., to be Assistant-Surgeon 63rd Foot, *vice* W. W. Mills.

MADDEN, Assistant-Surgeon F., 69th Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, *vice* W. M. Webb.

MEIKLEHAM, Surgeon-Major G. C., M.D., 70th Foot, to be Staff-Surgeon-Major, *vice* D. D. McDonald.

MILLS, Assistant-Surgeon W. W., 63rd Foot, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* D. A. C. Fraser, M.D.

READ, Surgeon R. W., 30th Foot, to be Surgeon-Major, having completed twenty years' full-pay service.

SINCLAIR, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon E. M., M.D., to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* J. Crerar.

SKUES, Staff-Surgeon W. M., M.D., to be Surgeon 109th Foot.

WEBB, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon W. M., to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* D. C. Wodsworth.

WHITE, Assistant-Surgeon C. J., 12th Lancers, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* W. M. Skues, M.D.

WODSWORTH, Staff-Surgeon D. C., to be Surgeon 70th Foot, *vice* G. C. Meikleham, M.D.

VOLUNTEERS. (A.V. = Artillery Volunteers; R.V. = Rifle Volunteers):—

HILL, F. R., Esq., to be Assistant-Surg. 1st Cambridgeshire R.V.

#### DEATHS.

ECOTE, Richard F., M.D., at 16, Blomfield Street, Westbourne Terrace, aged 37, on June 16.

LINGEN. On June 8th. at sea, aged 20, Charles James, eldest son of Charles Lingen, M.D., of Hereford.

SQUIRE. On June 27th, at Portland Cottage, Studley Road, aged 68, Charlotte, widow of the late William Squire, Esq., Surgeon, Vandsworth Road.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES have done Dr. Sieveking the honour of standing sponsors at the christening of his child. The christening took place at St. Thomas's Church, Marylebone, the Prince and Princess being represented by the honourable Mrs. Stenor and Mr. Wood of the household. A gift

of a fine gold cup, with spoon, knife, and fork, were presented, bearing the inscription "Alexander Edward Sieveking, from his godfather and godmother, Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, and Alexandra, Princess of Wales. June 24th, 1864."

**POISONING BY BUTTERCUPS.** At Dartford lately a child was poisoned through eating buttercups.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.** The following gentlemen were on June 25th, elected officers of the Royal College of Physicians. *Censors:* P. Black, M.D.; C. West, M.D.; C. H. Jones, M.B.; W. R. Basham, M.D. *Treasurer:* J. Alderson, M.D. *Registrar:* H. A. Pitman, M.D. *Examiners:* a—on the *Subjects of General Education:* F. Hawkins, M.D.; J. Spurgin, M.D.; H. Thomson, M.D.; b—on the *Subjects of Professional Education. Anatomy and Physiology:* W. O. Markham M.D.; W. S. Kirkes, M.D. *Materia Medica, Chemistry, etc.:* G. O. Rees, M.D.; W. Odling, M.B. *Principles and Practice of Medicine:* T. A. Barker, M.D.; J. R. Bennett, M.D. *Principles and Practice of Surgery:* F. Le Gros Clark, Esq.; C. G. De Morgan, Esq. *Midwifery and the Diseases peculiar to Women:* A. Farre, M.D.; R. Barnes, M.D. *Librarian:* W. Munk, M.D. *Curators of the Museum:* J. Alderson, M.D.; G. H. Roe, M.D.; W. Wegg, M.D.; F. Sibson, M.D.

**DR. A. MACDOWALL,** of Helensburgh, died at Helensburgh on June 10th, after a long and tedious illness, at the early age of 33. On the breaking out of hostilities in the Crimea, he volunteered as surgeon in the Turkish Contingent force, which was quartered at Kertch and Yenikale. In his capacity of regimental surgeon, Dr. Macdowall distinguished himself by his exertions in promoting the sanitary condition of the troops. For these duties he was specially mentioned in the despatches of the Director-General, and was among the few who were selected to receive from the Sultan the decoration of the Order of the Mejidie. He afterwards settled at Helensburgh.

**SUPERANNUATION OF UNION OFFICERS.** A Bill to provide for Superannuation Allowances to Officers of Unions and Parishes has been printed by order of the House of Commons. Under this Bill, the guardians may, with the consent of the Poor-law Board, grant to any officer in their service who shall become incapable of discharging the duties of his office with efficiency, by reason of permanent infirmity of mind or body, or of old age, upon his resigning or otherwise ceasing to hold his office, an annual allowance not exceeding in any case *two-thirds* of his then salary. No officer shall be entitled to such allowance on the ground of age who shall not have completed the full age of sixty years, and shall not have served as an officer of some union or parish for twenty years at the least.

**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.** On Friday June 14th, Lord Palmerston received a deputation from the University of London, to urge the claims of the university to a distinct and appropriate building, if possible, upon the northern part of the Burlington House site. It was urged upon Lord Palmerston, not only that the claims of the university had been admitted by past governments of both political parties, but that the largely increased number of candidates, which now exceeded 1,000 annually, rendered at the present time a larger amount of space indispensable for the conduct of the examinations, and particularly of those in the practical department of anatomy in such a manner as to secure a continuance of the confidence the public at large had shown in the university. Sir F. Goldsmid particularly reminded his lordship that

there was an implied undertaking on the part of the government of which Mr. Spring Rice was Chancellor of the Exchequer, when University College surrendered the charter empowering it to grant degrees in favour of a wider and more truly national institution, that a building adapted to the wants and position of the university should be provided for them. Lord Palmerston expressed the favourable view he took of the claims of the university, and begged that plans should be laid before the government showing clearly the amount of space required. Earl Granville (Chancellor of the University) stated that the registrar was in communication for that purpose with the architect of the Board of Works.

**THE SURGEON OF THE ALABAMA.** A meeting of the students of the Charing Cross Hospital was held on the 27th ult., for the purpose of considering what steps should be taken to erect a memorial to the late Mr. David Herbert Llewellyn, surgeon to the *Alabama*, and formerly a student and silver medallist of the school. Mr. Travers, having been called to the chair, said that as at a former meeting of the students it had been resolved to open a list for subscriptions, so that a suitable memorial might be erected to the memory of their late fellow-student, of whose noble disinterestedness so much had already been said, on the present occasion he wished only to state that the medical and surgical officers of the hospital were desirous of cooperating with the students in the matter, and that Dr. Headland had kindly consented to act as treasurer. A committee of six gentlemen was accordingly chosen. It was resolved that, with the concurrence of the latter committee, advertisements should be inserted in the morning papers and the weekly medical journals, so that former students might know of the movement, and the public generally join in erecting some kind of memorial to mark their estimation of the late Mr. Llewellyn's noble disinterestedness in sacrificing his life rather than imperil the lives of the wounded sailors in the sinking *Alabama*.

**MILLINERS AND TAILORS.** In the House of Lords on June 16th, the Earl of Carnarvon said that, some time ago, a commission was appointed, in consequence of the death of a milliner's workwoman under painful circumstances, to inquire into the state of the rooms in which they worked and into their hours of labour. He wished to know when the report of that commission would be produced. He also wished the noble earl to accelerate the production of the report of the commission with respect to tailors' working rooms. Earl Granville was understood to say that there could be no objection to do what the noble earl had suggested; and as to the report of the commissioners he had made inquiries and he found that it would be presented before the end of the present session. The Earl of Shaftesbury thought the commissioners had formed a wrong judgment in not presenting their report in reference to the milliners and dressmakers at the beginning of the session. But he understood that instead of doing that the commissioners had waited to combine with it their report on the needle and slop women working at the East-end of London. He was glad his noble friend had called attention to the case of the tailors; for, although they did not come within the classes to be inquired into, yet the waste of life amongst them was such as to make it of the greatest importance to them and their families that the evils which affected them should be redressed. The great importance of the matter could not be measured only by the waste of life, but by the waste of health also, which every year threw thousands upon the poor rates.

## OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 1.30 P.M.—Samaritan, 2.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

TUESDAY.....Guy's, 1½ P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

WEDNESDAY...St. Mary's, 1 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.

THURSDAY.....St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic 1 P.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—London Surgical Home, 2 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

FRIDAY.....Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

SATURDAY.....St. Thomas's, 1 P.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Lock, Clinical Demonstration and Operations, 1 P.M.—Royal Free, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

## MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY. Epidemiological Society, 8 P.M. Dr. Francis Bowen, "On the Results of Re-Vaccination in the British and some of the Continental Armies."—Entomological.

TUESDAY. Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8 P.M. Extra Meeting: "Report of the Scientific Committee on the Uses and Effects of Chloroform."

WEDNESDAY. Obstetrical Society of London, 8 P.M. Adjourned Discussion on Dr. Greenhalgh's paper on "Placenta Prævia": Mr. Gant, "Dissection of the Uterus in a Case of Placenta Prævia"; Dr. Wynn Williams, "On Missed Labour."—Association Medical Officers of Health (Anniversary).

## TO 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.

DR. BROPHUS.—We regret that we cannot answer our correspondent's question.

F. T.—The Archbishop of Canterbury still has the power of granting medical degrees; but his degrees can claim no insertion in the *Medical Register*. What honour and dignity his degrees confer on the individuals who accept them, our correspondent can himself decide from a consideration of their nature.

ACADEMIC DRESS.—SIR: At the forthcoming meeting of the British Medical Association at Cambridge, would it not be worth while for the university members to appear in academic dress. Why should a body of learned men meet in the very centre of academic distinction, and yet abandon all attention to the dress which properly marks their scholastic position. Late in last year, a valuable contemporary had several forcible and well written articles on this subject. Hitherto, but little practical notice has been taken, not because a large majority are careless about the matter, but I fancy because there has lacked a good opportunity of ascertaining what the real feeling of the profession is on this question. It has occurred to me and to several with whom I have conversed, and who will take part in the proceedings at Cambridge, that the approaching festival of the Association will afford an excellent and fitting opportunity for assuming those academic distinctions which properly belong to so many who form members of the British Medical Association. At any rate, I think the question is worth consideration and discussion. I am, etc., M.D.

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Mr. OLIVER PEMBERTON; Mr. G. MAY, JUN.; THE HONORARY SECRETARY OF THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY; Mr. T. HOLMES; Mr. JOSEPH WHITE; Dr. ROUTH; Dr. ORMEROD; Mr. W. W. MORRIS; THE HONORARY SECRETARY OF THE ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY; Mr. FEARN; Dr. KIDD; Dr. FOWLER; Mr. WILLIAM CORNEY; Dr. CHEVALIER; Mr. THOMAS MARTIN; Mr. RICHARD GRIFFIN; Mr. R. HARRISON; Mr. R. B. CARTER; Dr. J. HATTON; Mr. H. DAYMAN; Dr. I. MACKENZIE; THE HON. SECRETARY OF THE OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY; Dr. HOLMAN; Mr. HORNEY; and Dr. PAGET.

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