

Association Intelligence.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of the Yorkshire Branch was held in the Philosophical Hall, Leeds, on June 30th; SAMUEL HEY, Esq., President, in the Chair. There were present about thirty members.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the retiring President, J. HAXWORTH, Esq.

Report of Council. The SECRETARY read the following Report.

"The Council of the Yorkshire Branch of the British Medical Association have much pleasure in again meeting their fellow-associates in Leeds; and would, in the first place, congratulate them on the absence of any exciting subject in connexion with medical politics, requiring notice in this report, and subsequent discussion in the meeting. Your Council feel glad in being able to place the time, thus saved, at the service of the members who have kindly promised communications.

"Your Council, however, consider they would be neglecting their duty, if they failed to call your attention to the unsatisfactory condition of the Medical Departments of the Army and Navy. They would suggest that some expression of opinion should go from this meeting, which, together with the efforts made by members of the profession elsewhere, may assist in obtaining the removal of the grievances to which the medical officers of the army are subjected, and of which they so justly complain; viz.: 1. The uncertainty as to rank, by the several alterations of the Warrant of 1858; 2. The slowness of promotion, on account of vacancies not being filled up; 3. The difficulty of obtaining leave of absence, or even *sick leave*; 4. The objectionable position of the medical officer, when called upon to superintend the branding of deserters.

"Your Council, feeling assured that the vacancies in the Medical Department of the Army will not be filled up with a right class of men so long as these grievances exist, strongly urge the necessity of aiding every effort to remove them."

MR. NUNNELEY moved, MR. GARLICK seconded, and it was resolved—

"That the Report be received and adopted."

Branch Council for 1864-5. The following members were elected to form the Council of the Branch for the ensuing year:—W. E. Swaine, M.D.; G. Shann, M.D.; B. Dodsworth, Esq.; W. D. Husband, Esq.; W. Matterson, Esq.; and H. Keyworth, Esq. (York); J. P. Garlick, Esq.; W. Hey, Esq.; T. Nunneley, Esq.; T. P. Teale, Esq.; S. Smith, Esq.; C. Chadwick, M.D. (Leeds); H. Jackson, Esq.; J. Haxworth, Esq.; J. C. Hall, M.D. (Sheffield); John Ness, Esq. (Helmsley).

Representatives in the General Council. W. D. Husband, Esq.; W. Matterson, Esq. (York); T. P. Teale, Esq.; T. Nunneley, Esq.; S. Hey, Esq.; C. G. Wheelhouse, Esq. (Leeds); and H. Jackson, Esq. (Sheffield),—were elected representatives in the General Council of the Association.

Place of Meeting in 1865. It was unanimously resolved—

"That the next annual meeting be held in York; and that B. Dodsworth, Esq., be the President-elect."

The Public Medical Services. It was resolved unanimously, on the motion of MR. NUNNELEY—

"That the Council be requested to prepare and transmit to the proper authorities a memorial em-

bodiment of the various grievances of which the medical officers of the army and navy have so just ground of complaint, and pointing out their injurious effect on the present and future efficiency of the Army and Navy Medical Departments."

Communications. The following communications were read.

1. The President communicated an interesting case—probably Congenital Dropsy of the Ethmoidal Cells.

2. Symblepharon. By T. P. Teale, jun., Esq.

3. Practical Remarks on Cases of Tumour obstructing Parturition. By S. Smith, Esq.

Dinner. The members and visitors afterwards dined together at the Queen's Hotel.

Reports of Societies.

OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1ST, 1864.

H. OLDHAM, M.D., President, in the Chair.

THREE gentlemen were elected Fellows of the Society.

Craniotomy Forceps. DR. HALL DAVIS showed a Craniotomy Forceps, with a fenestrated blade, of the form of a very elongated horse-shoe. It was composed of two parts, male and female; the former was serrated deeply, the serrations pointing backwards, and fitting into the depression in the female part. The lock was like Naegle's, and the handles fastened by a spring and rack at their extremities. This instrument he had tested practically, and found it answered admirably.

Bandage After Labour. DR. MEADOWS exhibited a Bandage, which he recommended in place of the jacket usually applied after labour. It was made of stout calico, shaped to the abdomen and hips, having one bone for extra support in front. When adjusted, it could be fastened firmly, either by bracket, or laced like a corset. The advantages were facility of application, combined with comfort and greater efficiency.

DRS. ROUTH, OLDHAM, ROGERS, GRAILY HEWITT, and MEADOWS, discussed some points connected with bandaging after labour.

ON IMMEDIATE TRANSFUSION.

BY J. H. AVELING, M.D., SHEFFIELD.

The author stated that transfusion had been performed now for two hundred years, and that for the first hundred and sixty years of that time the immediate method had been solely employed. He described the numerous forms of immediate apparatus hitherto used, and pointed out their faults and advantages. He also exhibited an instrument of his own, which consisted of two small silver tubes to enter the recipient and emittent vessels, and of an India-rubber tube to connect them. This had in its centre a small elastic receptacle holding about two drachms, by compressing and relaxing which the blood was made to circulate through the tube, and the quantity passing was measured. He believed that there was less chance of coagulation by the immediate method, and that it had advantages over the mediate mode. The blood was not exposed to the air; the operation was uninterrupted and the closest imitation of nature.

DR. CLEVELAND thought there would be danger of introducing air in the apparatus shown by Dr. Aveling, which was not transparent.

DR. GRAILY HEWITT said that, in the course of last year he had brought the subject of transfusion before the profession, in a paper read at the annual meeting of the British Medical Association held at Bristol;

acted on the same principle, or rather required the same method of manipulation. They were all to be held firmly between the thumb and second finger; so that the index finger is left free, to press down a spring on the upper part of the instrument. In this way, the position of the point of the instrument was scarcely altered at all; and where one was, in fact, aiming at an image, that was of the greatest importance. In Dr. Mackenzie's forceps, the closure of the blades is effected by means of a hollow which is made to inclose them, so that the blades themselves do not move. The merit of the instrument consisted in the great number of indications it fulfilled; in fact, it was adapted for operating in any case, in any larynx, in any part, from considerably below the vocal cords to the lingual surface of the epiglottis. 1. The blades of the instrument turned round, and could be directed to either side of the larynx, or anteriorly and posteriorly. 2. The instrument was provided with tubes curved at different angles—an arrangement adapted for overcoming the difficulty arising from the varying inclination of the laryngeal opening in the pharynx. 3. The instrument could be made shorter or longer, according to the circumstances of the cases. 4. Different kinds of blades could be used; the teeth could be either at the side or the extremity; and the blades could be either long or short.

The tube which passed over the forceps was made in two pieces, united by bayonet joints. By this means the instrument could easily be kept clean—a matter of great importance, as regards the safety of an instrument employed in the larynx. The author observed, that with this instrument he had operated on more than a dozen cases. In nine, the growths had been completely removed; and in most of them, aphonia of many years' standing had been relieved. The author said that the great ingenuity of this instrument was due to the mechanical skill of Mr. Krohne of the Whitechapel Road, who made the forceps, as well as the other instruments.

In conclusion, the author exhibited several patients suffering from rare morbid conditions. One was a case of aphonia, of eleven years' standing. In this case, the anterior two-thirds of the vocal cords were completely atrophied, so that only the posterior intercartilaginous portions approximated. Another was a case of aphonia which had existed for fourteen years; it was caused by adhesions of the inner surfaces of the true vocal cords. The two cords were adherent for about a quarter of an inch from their anterior insertion; their posterior three-fourths scarcely moved at all. In a third case, in which there was a shrill voice and stridulous breathing, the symptoms depended on spasm of the left vocal cord, probably arising from pressure on the recurrent nerve. The cause of the pressure was not determined.

DEATH FROM HYDROPHOBIA. A case of death from hydrophobia took place on the 28th ult., at Stockport. Early in June, the deceased, a boy aged 16, was attacked by a strange large dog. Three persons were bitten—the boy, his father, and a younger brother; the father in his arm; the youngest boy, Jacob, on his thumb, drawing blood; and the deceased, Job, on his thumb—slightly, a mere scratch. The father and youngest boy had their wounds attended to by a surgeon; but it does not seem that the scratch on the hand of the elder boy was thought to require such treatment. On July 26th, the boy was taken ill with symptoms of hydrophobia, which rapidly developed. The attack lasted three days from its commencement.

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND. The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted members of the College at a meeting of the Court of Examiners, on July 26th.

Blair, Charles Edward, Wandsworth
Brewer, Alexander Hampton, Victoria, Monmouthshire
Collier, Thomas, Bridgend, Glamorganshire
Covey, George, Basingstoke
Craigie, John Hamilton, Finsbury Square
Daglish, Richard Rothwell, Wigan
Davies, Thomas Henry Whitehouse, Stroud
Develly, Henry James, Wandsworth
Duke, John Challen, Leonminster, Sussex
Fisher, John Moore, Hull
Gill, George, Liverpool
Gornall, John Hankinson, Liverpool
Hedley, John, Newcastle
Hills, George Henry, Old Kent Road
Laffan, Thomas, Dublin
May, Augustus Square, Plymouth
More, James, Rothwell, Northamptonshire
Morris, Thomas Henry, Spalding
Reed, Walter Hugo, Tiverton, Devon
Renton, William Matthew, Shotley Bridge
Roberts, John Coryton, Peckham
Savage, George Henry, Brighton
Turner, Frederick, Buxton
Vise, William Foster, Spalding
Wraith, John Hargreave, L.S.A., Over Darwen

Admitted on July 27th—

Bailey, William, L.S.A., Tipton, Staffordshire
Barnes, Henry, Wigton, Cumberland
Collingwood, Joseph Edward, Corley, Lincolnshire
Fairbank, Thomas, Islington
Fyson, Ernest East, Exning, near Newmarket
Goddard, Richard Carter, Stockport
Harding, William Henry, Wormley, Herts
Lawrence, Henry Cripps, Surbiton
Martin, Paulin, L.S.A., Abingdon
Morgan, Lewis Wayne, Hafod, Glamorganshire
Nivison, Thomas Benny Strachan, Edinburgh
Renton, David, M.D., Edin., Madeira
Richardson, James Francis Hamilton, Down, Kent
Roberts, Thomas Edward, Gibraltar
Rogers, Charles Edward Heron, Westmeon, Hants
Shearwood, Joseph Hiram, Spilsby
Turner, Ebenezer Fulham, Upper Clapton
Wilnot, Alfred Edward, Ryde
Wilson, Stephenson Moreton Wightman, Mowsley, Leicestersh.
Wood, William Thomas Hurd, Notting Hill
Wright, Charles James, Wakefield

APOTHECARIES' HALL. On July 28th, the following Licentiates were admitted:—

Best, Frederick Arthur, Cambridge Street, Hyde Park
Brown, George Arthur, Welchpool, Montgomeryshire
Byles, James Cotton, Victoria Park Road, Hackney
Evans, Alfred Paget, West Bromwich
Haigh, Thomas Hinchliffe, Golear, near Huddersfield
Jones, John Foulkes, Dolgelly, North Wales
Lavin, Michael Drury, Busby, Herts
Lawrence, Frederick George, Malmesbury, Wilts
Lawrence, George Richard, Wantage, Berks
Martin, James Hamilton, Tregoney, Cornwall
Morris, Griffith Davies, Dyffryn, North Wales
Quick, John Roy, Old Kent Road
Taylor, James, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire
Turner, John Sidney, Guy's Hospital
Watts, William Frederick, Dewsbury, Yorkshire
Wearing, Allen, Lancaster

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

Berry, Other Windsor, Charing Cross Hospital
Clothier, Henry, University College Hospital
Flint, Frederick, King's College Hospital
Haydon, Nathaniel Thomas John, St. Mary's Hospital
Hembrough, John William, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Hughes, John Pearson, University College Hospital
Marsh, William Joseph, Guy's Hospital
Taylor, Theodore Thomas, St. Mary's Hospital

APPOINTMENTS.

ARMY.
JOHNSTON, Surgeon J. W., M.D., 85th Foot, to be Surgeon-Major, having completed twenty years' full-pay service.
MEADE, Assistant-Surgeon R. W., 88th Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, *vice* H. P. Gregory.

ROYAL NAVY.

GRANT, William Esq., Acting Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Warrior*.
HURLEY, Francis N., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Meander*.

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

ALLAN, P. M., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 1st Forfarshire R.V.
DOWNES, P., M.D., to be Hon. Assistant-Surg. 28th Cheshire R.V.
KENNEDY, J. B., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 3rd Essex A.V.
MORRIS, S., Esq., to be Hon. Assistant-Surg. 48th Lancashire R.V.

BIRTH.

RICHARDSON. On August 1st, at 12, Hinda Street, the wife of
*Benjamin W. Richardson, M.D., of a daughter.

DEATHS.

*BELL, W., M.D., at 33, George Street, Hanover Square, on July 23.
DON, James, M.D., Retired Surgeon-General, Bombay Army, at
Bearehill, Brechin, on July 18.
FURBER, George, Esq., Surgeon, at Torriano Avenue, Kentish Town,
aged 70, on July 25.
GIBBS. On July 24th, at Westbury, Wilts, aged 48, Amelia Jane,
wife of J. H. Gibbs, M.D.
RAY. On July 25th, at Lowestoft, Kate, wife of James Ray, Esq.,
Surgeon.
WILDBORR, Daniel H. G., M.D., at 2, Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square,
on July 27.
WILKIN, Henry, Esq., late of 33, Connaught Terrace, aged 62, on
July 26.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION. The next meeting of
the British Association for the Advancement of Science
will be held at Bath, on September 14th; Sir
Charles Lyell being President.

PUNISHMENT FOR STRIKING AN ASSISTANT-SURGEON. At Jullundar, in India, a private in the 19th
Regiment has been sentenced to penal servitude for
life for striking an assistant-surgeon.

PUTRID MEAT. In the House of Commons, lately,
Mr. Crawford said it appeared from the report of the
Sanitary Committee of the city of London that in
the twelve months ending September 1863, not less
than 114,000lbs. of diseased, and 76,000lbs. of putrid
meat, were seized and condemned in the city of London.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, BELFAST. The report of the
President shows that the institution is increasingly
prosperous. Since 1852, the number of students has
risen from 154 to 388. The Medical School of the
Belfast College is highly prosperous, the number of
students having increased, since 1850, from 55 to 143.
Dr. Henry ascribes the success of the College, and
the honour which the students confer upon it, to the
great ability, zeal, and unity, of the distinguished
corps of professors.

DEATH FROM UNSKILFUL INOCULATION. On the
calendar, at the late assizes at Donegal, were five
cases of homicide, in four of which young children
lost their lives from being inoculated by unprofes-
sional and unskilful persons. It would seem that
this mischievous practice is prevalent in that county.
It was a matter of amazement, Judge Monaghan
said, that the peasantry allowed themselves to be
duped by ignorant impostors, seeing the care the
legislature had taken to place at their very doors the
gratuitous services of skilled practitioners.

DEATH FROM MORPHIA. An inquest was held on
the 29th ult., at Hoxton, on Richard Tuckwell. The
deceased gentleman was visiting London, for the pur-
pose of passing his examination at Apothecaries'
Hall. He had been studying hard lately, and com-
plained of being unable to sleep at night. On Mon-
day night, he took a dose of morphia in order to
sleep, and retired to bed at half-past nine o'clock.
He was heard breathing heavily, and could not be
aroused. Remedies were applied without effect, and
he died in five hours.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MEDICAL MEN. At
Shrewsbury, last week, a plate-layer of Stourbridge
brought an action against a medical man, to recover
damages for negligence in the treatment of the dis-
located shoulder of the plaintiff. In March, the
plaintiff dislocated his shoulder, and was attended by
the defendant; but whether the latter set the joint
or not was the point in dispute. In the middle of
April, the plaintiff began to experience serious sym-
ptoms in his shoulder, and was at length compelled to
go to the Birmingham Hospital, where he was put
under the influence of chloroform, and his shoulder
set; but he would never be able to work with the arm
again. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff;
damages, £50.

THE DISEASES OF CATTLE. The Select Committee
to whom the Cattle Diseases Prevention Bill and the
Cattle, etc., Importation Bill were referred, con-
sidered the Bills, and took evidence thereon; and
went through the Cattle Diseases Prevention
Bill, and made amendments thereunto; and with
respect to the Cattle, etc., Importation Bill came
to the resolution that it is inexpedient to proceed
with the same. The committee recommended that
when foreign cattle are imported affected with pleu-
ropneumonia, scab, or foot-and-mouth disease, only
the animals actually at the time affected with these
diseases should be detained or slaughtered, and that
the remainder of the cargo should be allowed to pass
without being detained.

LUNATICS IN GAOLS. Judge Monaghan stated, at
the recent Donegal assizes, that there were in the
prison of the county forty lunatics, all in charge of
an ordinary turnkey, assisted by persons who are
undergoing their sentences of imprisonment with
hard labour. The prisoners were thus transferred into
keepers or warders. Nothing worse than this state
of things could be conceived. It virtually set aside
the sentence of hard labour; it prevented the cura-
tive treatment of the lunatics; and it was subversive
of prison discipline. If a gaol were to be converted
into a lunatic asylum, care should be taken that the
lunatics should not be left in charge of an inefficient
staff of officials. There is, however, a lunatic asylum
for the district in course of erection, and some months
hence the poor lunatics of Donegal will have a chance
of proper treatment.

BAD MEAT IN LONDON. The officers have con-
demned 60,823 lbs., or rather more than 27 tons of
meat, as unfit for human food, during the last quar-
ter. The chief increase was in the quantity of putrid
meat, and of meat from animals that had died from
accident or disease; for the former rose from an
average of 6,503 lbs. in the quarter, to 28,186 lbs., and
the latter from 4,887 lbs. to 11,058 lbs. Nearly half
of the putrid meat was condemned in the third week
of May, when the temperature suddenly rose to
above 77° Fahrenheit. Amongst the items which
contributed to this amount were 60 prairie-birds.
Prairie-birds are largely imported from America;
and although they come here in apparently good con-
dition, yet there is at times something about them,
either in the nature of the food which they have
eaten or in the manner of their preservation, which
makes them unwholesome. Again and again, it was
reported that persons who had eaten the birds had
been made ill by them, and had been affected with
sickness and diarrhoea. Dr. Letheby, however, failed
to discover anything of a poisonous nature in the
food or flesh of the birds; and was, therefore, dis-
posed to think that, like German sausages, they are
occasionally subject to some peculiar kind of putre-
factive change from the manner in which they have
been kept.

DUBLIN DRAINAGE. The Registrar-General for Ireland, in his weekly report for Dublin, ending July 16th, says: "The Registrar of No. 3 North District, City, states 'that no house drains exist in Greek Street, although a main sewer runs through it!' He adds that 'Bull Lane is a filthy alley, ill-ventilated and overcrowded;' and that 'cases of small-pox, fever, and scarlatina have occurred in the house, 39 Bow Street, since January 1st, 1864.'"

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. W. J. CLEMENTS. On the 19th ult., a magnificent testimonial was presented to Mr. W. J. Clements of Shrewsbury, amidst the applause of hundreds of his fellow-townsmen. The testimonial consisted of a magnificent silver table ornament, weighing 1,000 ounces. On it was inscribed as follows: "This testimonial is presented to W. J. Clements, F.R.C.S., by the members of the Council of the Borough of Shrewsbury, and by a large number of his professional brethren and other friends, as an acknowledgment of the munificent and graceful manner in which he discharged, during the past year, the duties of Mayor and Chief Magistrate of Shrewsbury; as a memorial of sincere respect for his distinguished professional talents; and as a tribute of esteem for his earnest zeal, ability, and generous aid in promoting works of usefulness and charity. July 19, 1864." This was accompanied with a handsome book, containing the names of the subscribers. Acts of this kind are happy testimonials of respect shown to the whole profession; and the profession cannot but feel deeply indebted to those of its members who, like Mr. Clements, have so lived and acted as to excite and gather the applause of those amidst whom they live.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON. On the 29th ult., the distribution of medals and certificates of honour to the students of the Faculty of Medicine for the summer term, took place; Professor Sharpey, M.D., F.R.S., presiding. Medals and certificates of honour were awarded as follows. *Pathological Anatomy.* Gold medal, Philip Brookes Mason, of Burton-on-Trent; 2, George W. Rigden, of Canterbury. *Medical Jurisprudence.* Gold medal, Philip Brookes; Certificates—2, George Jackson, of Beeralston, Tavistock; 3, Geo. W. Rigden. *Practical Chemistry.* Gold medal, Thos. B. Hay, of London; Certificates—Ethelred Dessé, of the West Indies; 3, Wm. R. Gowers, of Coggeshall, Essex; 4, Nicholas Marshall, of St. Austell; 5 (equal), T. R. Loy, of Stokesley, Yorkshire, and Thomas Hopgood, of Chipping Norton; 6, Robert C. Joy, of London. *Midwifery.* Gold medal, William Spooner, of Southampton; First silver medal, Bryan H. Allen, of London; Second silver medal, William Hoffmeister, of West Cowes; Certificates—4, George Crowe, of London; 5, William A. Stuart, of Barbadoes; 6, Joseph Thompson, of London; 7, Francis J. Grose, of Dinapore, Bengal; 8, J. N. S. Shrapnell, of Isle of Wight; 9, John D. Wathen, of Fishguard; 10, Wm. C. Cass, of Cowes; 11, Richard D. Logg, of Agra. *Botany.* Gold medal, W. R. Gowers; Silver medal, Ughtred J. Kay Shuttleworth, of London; Certificates—3 (equal), J. Wreford Langmore, of London, and Henry Cass, of Isle of Wight; 4, William B. A. Scott, of London.

POISONED FLESH PROHIBITION, ETC., BILL. On the motion in the House of Lords for the second reading of this Bill, Lord Wodehouse observed that it was necessary in the country to use poison for the destruction of rats, but if the Bill passed no poison could be laid for rats outside a dwelling house, not even in a garden. The Duke of Buccleuch remarked that the custom of throwing strychnine about for vermin led to the destruction of shepherd's dogs, which ate the poisoned vermin. The Marquis of Clan-

ricarde observed that pheasants were poisoned by eating worms generated in the bodies of poisoned animals. It was a curious but well known fact in natural history that though those worms did not die from the effects of the poison, they communicated it to birds. Lord Wodehouse was certainly not in favour of laying poison for small birds, which, so far from being noxious, were extremely useful. Lord Portman supported the Bill. The practice was for keepers to poison rabbits with strychnine and then use the rabbits to poison other things. But if one of these rabbits was found by any passers-by and eaten the result would be deplorable. The Bill was read a second time.

CRIMINAL LUNATICS. At Michaelmas, 1863, there were 929 criminal lunatics or insane persons under detention in asylums and licensed houses in England and Wales, 717 males and 212 females. Their offences have been various—from murder down to that of being a wandering lunatic. The number in custody in the course of the year is stated at 817 males and 331 females, but it is probable that nearly 100 of the latter are counted twice over—namely, in Broadmoor Hospital, to which they were removed, and also in the asylums from which they were brought. Only a small proportion of these prisoners were acquitted on the ground of insanity; the majority became insane after trial, and many were committed being found insane. Nearly half have been more than four years in custody, several more than twenty years. In the course of the year 137 men and 40 women were added to the number; on the other hand, 53 died, six escaped, and 45 (32 men and 13 women) having become sane, were either discharged or removed for trial or punishment. It is stated that in 37 county asylums the average cost per head for the year was £23:5s.; that at Bethlehem Hospital the charge payable from the public funds gave an average of £46:14s:2d., and at Fisherton £30:14s:1d.; and that in some of the licensed houses individual cases will be found where the costs, defrayed from private funds, amount to £150, £200, £400, £480, and even £530.

A CAUTION TO SURGEONS WANTING ASSISTANTS. On Friday, July 8th, before Mr. Justice Erle and a special jury in the Court of Common Pleas, Thomas Nicholas Gray, who described himself as "late of the Federal army" and of Dublin, sued Mr. E. J. Morris of Adelaide Terrace, Barking Road, for £52 or a year's salary at £1 per week. The plaintiff swore that he had applied for a situation through Mr. Langley of Lincoln's Inn Fields, and had been put into communication with Mr. Morris on April 4th; that Mr. Morris had said that he would engage him, but would write to his references, who, the plaintiff admitted, were not professional men. After a lapse of three weeks the defendant sent him a letter stating that he would not require the plaintiff's services. He further alleged that his references had been written to; and that, as he was satisfied their replies were satisfactory, he claimed a year's salary for non-fulfilment of contract. The defendant being sworn, declared that Gray did not come to him until April 28th, and that he had written to a medical man of standing who had been mentioned by Gray as a reference, but who had advised him to have nothing to do with the plaintiff. He declined to engage Gray because this reference was unsatisfactory. Mr. Langley corroborated Mr. Morris as to the date of the application. He proved also that a month's salary only could be claimed according to custom; and further that, if an engagement had been concluded, there would have been a fee due to him (Langley) which had never been tendered or paid, and which he had never considered to be due, and had never applied for

or entered on his books. The Judge pointed out that, if such an action as this could be sustained, no employer of any kind—even a lady engaging a maid—would be safe. The jury after a brief consultation, returned a verdict for the defendant. The defence of the action has cost Mr. Morris a considerable sum of money; and there is no probability of his recovering the costs.

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL. The distribution of prizes took place on July 25th, Lord Radstock in the chair. The following prizes and certificates of honour were awarded. *First Year's Students*:—*Summer Session, 1863. First Prize*, Mr. Charles Wills; *Second Prize*, Mr. Vincent E. Noel. *Certificates of Honour. Materia Medica.* Mr. C. Wills; Mr. John Swindale; Mr. V. E. Noel; Mr. Alfred Jones. *Botany.* Mr. C. Wills; Mr. V. E. Noel. *Prize for Herbarium.* Mr. James Worthington. *Practical Chemistry.* Mr. V. E. Noel; Mr. C. Wills; Mr. J. Swindale; Mr. James F. Cadle. *Winter Session, 1863-64. First Prize*, Mr. John C. Bailey; *Second Prize*, Mr. John H. Casson. *Certificates of Honour. Anatomy.* Mr. John R. James; Mr. J. C. Bailey; Mr. J. H. Casson; Mr. Horace Chaldecott; Mr. William Draper. *Physiology.* Mr. J. C. Bailey; Mr. J. H. Casson; Mr. William W. Smith; Mr. W. Draper. *Chemistry.* Mr. J. R. James; Mr. J. H. Casson; Mr. J. C. Bailey; Mr. H. Chaldecott; Mr. W. Draper. *Second Year's Students*:—*Summer Session, 1863. First Prize*, Mr. Henry W. Freeman; *Second Prize (equal)* Mr. George Clements; Mr. Robert King. *Certificates of Honour. Midwifery.* Mr. H. W. Freeman; Mr. G. Clements; Mr. R. King; Mr. Horace Basan. *Medical Jurisprudence.* Mr. G. Clements; Mr. R. King; Mr. H. W. Freeman; Mr. H. Basan. *Winter Session, 1863-64. First Prize*, Mr. C. Wills; *Second Prize*, Mr. J. Swindale; *Third Prize*, Mr. V. E. Noel. *Certificates of Honour. Medicine.* Mr. C. Wills; Mr. E. Noel; Mr. J. Swindale. *Surgery.* Mr. J. Swindale; Mr. C. Wills; Mr. V. E. Noel; Mr. Henry S. Shaw. *Anatomy.* Mr. C. Wills; Mr. V. E. Noel; Mr. J. Swindale; Mr. Richard M. Williams. *Physiology.* Mr. C. Wills; Mr. V. E. Noel; Mr. J. Swindale; Mr. R. M. Williams. *Pathology.* Mr. J. Swindale; Mr. V. E. Noel; Mr. C. Wills. *Prize offered by the Medical Society for the best Paper of the Session.* Mr. H. W. Freeman. *Third Year's Students*:—*Clayton Prize for Comparative Anatomy (equal)* Mr. Charles Wightwick Pitt; Mr. V. E. Noel. *Clinical Medicine. First Prize*, Mr. George Clements; *Second Prize*, Mr. Edward Norton. *Clinical Surgery. First Prize*, Mr. G. Clements; *Second Prize*, Mr. E. Norton. *Governor's Prize for the best Reports in Clinical Medicine and Surgery and for General Excellence.* Mr. H. W. Freeman. *Honorary Certificates of General Good Conduct and Diligence.* Messrs. H. Basan; Alfred Bick; Henry P. Chandler; G. Clements; Henry Cribb; John S. Dickenson; H. W. Freeman; R. King; Anthony J. Newman; E. Norton; John Ring; Charles E. H. Rogers; Ebenezer Snell; William F. Vise; Albert Waymouth; and William J. Wey.

CURIOUS LEAD-POISONING. Mr. Tuson, of the Royal Veterinary College, writes that in May three cows died at Rugby, with obscure symptoms. On making a *post mortem* examination, fragments of lead were found in their alimentary canals, especially in the paunches. It was then remembered that the cows had been kept in fields immediately adjoining the butts of the rifle volunteers. Among the herbage were discovered fragments of lead which corresponded very closely with those found in the stomachs of the cows. The lead here referred to is called "bullet spray." Some of this spray had been evidently picked up by the cows, and doubtless, poisoned the animals.

Since the death of the three cows, the owner has lost two more under precisely the same circumstances. The viscera of one of the cows which died last were sent to Mr. Tuson for analysis, and he was enabled to demonstrate the presence of lead, not only in the coats of the stomach and intestines, and in their contents, but likewise in the liver and kidney. [From another source, we learn that the symptoms for above a fortnight before death, as described by the owner of the cows, were entire loss of appetite, great thirst, violent purging, increased respiration, grunting as though in considerable pain, indisposition to move, etc. The cows had not been in the field where the lead was, since November; hence it is supposed to have lain in their stomachs for several months.]

A PROTEST. The following has appeared in the daily journals. "We have been much surprised at the assertion made by Dr. Hanks at an inquest held by Mr. Humphreys at the Three Cups Tavern, Bow, on July 21st, 'that it was a common practice for medical men to let the bodies of still-born children be buried in back gardens.' Knowing such a statement to be contrary to the fact, and likely to lead to serious consequences if not contradicted, as medical men of the East-end of London we beg to enter our indignant protest against such a charge, medical men having long known that a certificate was necessary in all cases of still-born children. Dr. Hanks's statement that 'the medical profession wished particularly to know whether still-born children required certificates,' and 'that after the verdict they would know what to do,' was quite uncalled for. E. M. Davey; G. Rogerson; Raphael Meldola; J. G. Massingham; Fredk. J. Reilly; B. T. Shaw; Samuel Thompson; L. Llewellyn; C. Rose; Ben. B. Lyel; Geo. Davies; W. Nix; W. R. Goodfellow; Chas. Hawker; E. Moore; J. B. Hamilton; A. Atkins; A. Nelham."

WAR. A special correspondent of the *American Medical Times* writes as follows from Fredericksburg, on the state of the wounded of Grant's army: "The disposition of the wounded throughout the city is the most available that can be made under the circumstances. Old stores, warehouses, printing-offices, etc., without ventilation, and filthy and musty in the extreme, were occupied. As there were no bedsteads or bedsacks, the patients were laid on the uncleaned floors on their wet and soiled blankets. Being impressed with the importance of keeping their wounds constantly wet, each wounded man carried his canteen well filled with water, and every few minutes deluged his limb. The effect was to render their clothing wet, and oftentimes to flood the floor with water. It was very evident that the gathering of so many patients upon the floors of old, deserted, filthy, and confined buildings, having wounds that must lead to enormous suppuration, would result in a fearful mortality. Nor has that anticipation been unfilled. Pyæmia, erysipelas, etc., promptly occurred, with all their destructive results. Tetanus also appeared, and has prevailed to an alarming extent. Much as the sympathy of the people may be excited by the long exposure of the wounded upon the field before they are placed in hospitals, there is no doubt in my mind that in this pleasant weather such exposure to the elements is infinitely less dangerous than exposure to the poisonous atmosphere of old deserted buildings. It was a frequent remark that the wounds of those who had lain two or three days on the field were in a perfectly healthy condition. The wounds were of every conceivable kind. The severest wounds were received in the head, neck, and upper part of the chest, which, for the most part, took an oblique direction from before, downwards, and backwards.

This direction of the track of the ball was due to the fact that much of the fighting was done by both armies while lying upon their faces. In some instances, the ball penetrated the supraclavicular region, and lodged deeply among the viscera. There was, also, the usual number of compound fractures of the lower extremities, in which the limbs had not been amputated. But, under the circumstances of their admission to the Fredericksburg hospitals, they admitted of only palliative treatment. The period for primary amputation was past, and the period for secondary amputation had not arrived. Permanent dressings for union of the fractures were wanting; and, besides, these hospitals were only temporary stopping-places, and a long and tedious transportation awaited them. We could only place these patients upon 'bunks', adjust the limb, attach a suitable weight to the foot, and place sand-bags upon the sides of the fractured portion to retain it upon its posterior surface."

Varieties.

WOUND OF THE HEART. Dr. L. G. Hicks of Simpsonville, Kentucky, mentions in a business note, a remarkable case of wound of the heart which came under his observation. He says: "A man shot through the left ventricle of the heart *was moved four miles and lived forty-eight hours*, and was perfectly rational." The nature of the wound was revealed by a *post mortem* examination. (*Med. and Sur. Reporter.*)

SMALLEST BRAIN ON RECORD. In the transactions of the Anthropological Society, Dr. Gore furnishes an account of a female aged forty-two years, whose brain without the membranes weighed two ounces and five grains, it being the smallest mature human brain on record. She was five feet high and her intellect was infantile. The brain of the adult male averages forty-nine ounces; in females it averages forty-three and a half ounces; giving forty-six ounces as the general average of the human brain.

DIABETES IN A MONKEY. M. Berenger-Feraud brought two monkeys from Algiers; and, in the hope of saving them from pulmonary consumption, tried to persuade them to live on a mixed diet of animal and vegetable food. One positively declined, and soon died of acute tuberculosis. The other adopted the mixed diet, and stood the cold well for a time; but unmistakable symptoms of diabetes manifested themselves, and this monkey also died after a residence of nine months in France.

PLASTICITY OF BLOOD-CORPUSCLES. In the proceedings of the Royal Society, Dr. Sharpey remarks: "The plasticity of the blood-corpuscle is unrivalled by any other physical body. It will assume all sorts of protean shapes under the slightest influences, elongating to a mere thread; it will pass through a narrow chink; it will enwrap itself round an acute projecting angle, or protrude feelers and tails under the influence of currents. In its natural state, it possesses sufficient elasticity to resume its original shape on the cessation of the modifying influences; but when gum or gelatine has been added, or when the plasma has been permitted to thicken spontaneously, the corpuscle retains any form it may have assumed, till again altered by fresh influences."

POISON-BOTTLES. Poison-bottles and poison-corks, poison-caps and poison-stoppers, have all successively been tried, with the object of preventing careless or sleepy nurses from giving medicines out of the wrong bottles and thereby poisoning their patients; but

they are all open to the objection that when the liquid for which they have been originally used is exhausted, the very nice-looking bottle is generally replenished with eau de-Cologne, tincture of senna, or such like innocent compounds, and the object of having a peculiarly contrived bottle is thereby defeated. Perhaps the most unobjectionable of all these attempts to substitute a mechanical contrivance for ordinary caution and common sense, has been brought forward by Mr. Thonger before the Pharmaceutical Society. It consists of a patent label having a border of sand-paper round it, thus appealing strongly to the sense of touch, which is presumed will warn the holder that danger is near. These labels are applicable to dispensing bottles and to the smallest phials, and possess an advantage over any other contrivance, as they can be stuck on any vessel, and as readily removed when the poisonous contents are done with, and the bottle is required for something else. (*Quarterly Journal of Science.*)

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 Orthopædic, 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.

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.

THE crowded state of our columns prevents the insertion of many of our correspondents' communications this week.

M.D. has no right to complain that his anonymous note has not been noticed.

THERAPEUTICAL INQUIRY. NO. IV. SCARLATINA.—SIR: I am sorry to say that only the following gentlemen have sent me Schedules.

	No. of cases.
T. J. Dyke, Esq. (Merthyr Tydfil)	24
Charles Steele, Esq. (Clifton)	102
Edward Procter, Esq. (Strood)	21
W. G. Walford, Esq. (Hertford)	15
Vincent Jackson, Esq. (Wolverhampton)	3
Wm. Soper, Esq. (Stockwell Road, Surrey)	28
R. W. Watkins, Esq. (Towcester)	7
J. K. Spender, Esq. (Bath)	15
Dr. Kelly (Taunton)	3
Dr. Coates (Bath)	2
Dr. J. Hughes Bennett (Edinburgh)	4
C. F. Hodson, Esq. (Bishops Stortford)	34

258

The aggregate, as you will see, is far too small to serve any of the purposes for which the inquiry was instituted. I will preserve these Schedules, in the faint hope that, during the ensuing year, this branch of the Therapeutical Inquiry may yet receive at the hands of our members the attention it merits. Sincerely thanking those gentlemen who have been at the trouble to send me their Schedules, I am, etc., CHARLES F. HODSON.

The Chantry, Bishops Stortford, July 27th, 1864.

AN APPEAL.—The Rev. H. Bromfield, vicar of Blockley, Worcester-shire, begs to call the attention of the members of the medical profession to a case of great destitution; and to solicit their contributions on behalf of the bereaved widow and children. Mr. Edgar Bull, surgeon, etc., resided and practised for several years in the village of Blockley. In January 1863, on his way home at night from visiting a patient, he fell from a bank and sustained a bad fracture of the leg. A long confinement to his bed, and the consequent loss of income, preyed heavily upon his mind; and, although he partially regained the use of his limb, the constitution had received so severe a shock, that his mind gave way, and in a paroxysm of mental aberration he precipitated himself from a window, and was killed. Mr. Bull has left a widow and four children. The eldest son, aged 19, is an assistant in a draper's shop; but two daughters, a son, and the widow, are utterly destitute. The money collected will be applied to establish the widow in a grocery business, in the hope that she may support herself, and keep a home for her children, until some provision can be made for them. Contributions will be received by—Rev. Henry Bromfield; or Admiral Collier, C.B., Blockley; Dr. Kingsley, Stratford-on-Avon; Dr. Moore, 15, Charles Terrace, Victoria Park, London; or Charles W. Morris, Esq., Surgeon, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND THE TITLE OF DOCTOR.—Sir: The recent resolution of the College of Physicians to address some of its members by the title of Dr., induces me to inquire how far, consistently with the terms and spirit of the Charter of the College, the title can be extended to all physicians.

I find the following remarkable passage in the Charter: "Doctoribus Joan. Chambré, Thomæ Linacre, Ferdinando de Victoria, Medicis Nostris, Nicholao Halsewell, Johanni Francisco, et Rob. Yaxley, Medicis."

Considering that not one of these gentlemen was a Doctor of Medicine of an English university, that they must have been qualified physicians under Act 3 of Henry VIII, and that they are named physicians, and not doctors of physic (in fact, the expression doctor of physic does not once occur in the Charter), I think we are justified in concluding that the founders of the College were entitled doctors on the ground of their being qualified English physicians, and not because some of them happened to be graduates of foreign universities. The fact that just before the very same names in the same order, with the same affix, are mentioned with this difference, only that the prefix "*doctorum*" is used instead of "*doctoribus*", strongly supports the view that the substantive and adjective are used much in the same sense, and are given on the same grounds. It would thus seem that all physicians are *ipso facto* "doctors", just as the clergy are reverend, and barristers are esquires.

I have pointed out the passage to several legal friends, and they are all confident that the prefix could only have been given on the grounds stated, and that it recognises and sanctions the claim of all physicians to the prefix doctor.

I am, etc., JAMES GAGE PARSONS, Physician.
Bristol, July 23rd, 1864.

OPHTHOPIUM FRAGATULI.—Sir: I believe that, in considerable collections of that class of persons in whom the stamina of health is somewhat below par—I mean those who are generally admitted into our workhouses and workhouse schools—many are very liable to become the subjects of strumous ophthalmia; perhaps not of a very severe type, yet sufficiently so to become very troublesome. Many, especially children, have it in succession; and some several times over. The usual remedies are generally successful, in apparently curing the disease; but no known means have as yet been found successful in rooting it out of the establishment. The workhouse school in which I am interested has been subject to it for several years; in fact, is never without it. All ordinary means have been perseveringly tried, such as good diet, plenty of air, and out-door exercise, cleanliness and cold bathing. The persons affected are carefully kept separated, and that for a considerable time. I have suggested in addition, quinine and cod-liver oil.

If any of your correspondents, who may have had experience of this kind, would obligingly furnish me with any means or suggestion that may have been successful in their hands, I shall feel greatly obliged, and they will be conferring a great boon on a considerable number of poor suffering children.

I am, etc., M.D.

GRIFFIN TESTIMONIAL FUND.—Sir: The following subscriptions have been further received on behalf of the above Fund:—H. Olivey, Esq. (Taunton), 5s.; C. H. C., 2s. 6d.; R. M., 1s.; Dr. Harts-horne (Maddely), £1 1; Messrs. Howell and Kingsford (Clapton), £1 1; Messrs. Bush and Parsons (Frome), £1; Thomas Hewlett, Esq. (Harrow), £1 1.

Amount previously announced, £43 11 6. Received at the Lancet office, £2 18.

I am, etc., ROBERT FOWLER, M.D.,
Treasurer and Hon. Sec.
145, Bishopsgate Street Without, August 3rd, 1864.

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Dr. GEORGE E. PAGER; Dr. ORMEROD; Dr. G. M. HUMPHRY; Mr. TIMOTHY HOLMES; Mr. CLEMENTS; Dr. KITCHING; Mr. T. M. STONE; Dr. RICHARDSON; and Dr. FOWLER.

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