

Association Intelligence.

SHROPSHIRE SCIENTIFIC BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the above Branch will be held in the Museum of the Natural History Society, Shrewsbury, on Wednesday, October 24, at 3 o'clock. The general business will be then transacted, and several interesting papers read, etc. Edward Burd, M.D., President; William Newman, M.D., St. Martin's, Stamford, Vice-President. The members will dine together at the Raven Hotel at 5.30 p.m.

SAMUEL WOOD, *Honorary Secretary.*

Shrewsbury, October 8th, 1866.

SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT MEETINGS.

The next meeting is appointed to be held at the West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone, on Friday, October 26th, at 2.30 p.m. Frederick Fry, Esq., will take the chair, and will be pleased to see his numerous friends.

Dinner will be provided at the Star Hotel, at 4.45.

Papers have been promised by Dr. J. V. Bell, "Ague in connection with Gout"; by Dr. S. Monckton, "On Brain Disturbance in the course of Rheumatic Pericarditis".

FREDERICK J. BROWN, M.D., *Hon. Sec.*

Rochester, October 9th, 1866.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

The first ordinary meeting of the session will be held at the Victoria Rooms, Clifton, on Thursday evening, November 1st, at 7.15 p.m.; J. S. Bartrum, Esq., F.R.C.S., President, in the chair.

The following papers are expected:—T. Green, M.D., "Delirium Tremens"; A. Prichard, Esq., "Case of Gonorrhoeal Rheumatism"; W. B. Herapath, M.D., F.R.S., "On the Use of the Spectroscope and Micro-spectroscope in the discovery of Blood Stains"; "On some Cautions arising out of the recent Sudden Deaths at Cardiff Union Workhouse"; F. Poole Lansdown, Esq., "Case of Excision of the Knee-Joint".

C. STEELE, } *Hon.*

R. S. FOWLER, } *Secs.*

12, Meridian Place, Clifton, October 1866.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH: GENERAL MEETING.

The first General Meeting of the present session was held at the Midland Institute on October 11th; Dr. CARTER, President, in the chair. Twenty-six members and visitors were present.

Communications. 1. Mr. FURNEAUX JORDAN exhibited a specimen of Chronic Rheumatic Arthritis of the Hip-joint removed from a woman a little beyond middle age.

2. Mr. ALFRED BAKER read a paper on Recurrent Fibroid Tumour; illustrated with specimens and cases.

Several of the cases mentioned by Mr. Baker were typical of this affection; but the last case brought before the Society was remarkable; inasmuch as a tumour of the arm which, previous to and after removal, presented all the general and microscopic characters of a fibrous tumour, was followed, about a year after removal, by a tumour at the cicatrix, of

undoubtedly malignant character, as evidenced by its rapidity of growth and its general and microscopic appearances.

An interesting discussion followed, in which Mr. Gamgee, Mr. Furneaux Jordan, Dr. Steell, and Dr. Russell, took part.

Correspondence.

ON MANAGEMENT OF THE PEDICLE IN OVARIOTOMY.

LETTER FROM JOHN CLAY, ESQ.

SIR,—Having a great objection to discuss personal matters in the public papers, I had hoped to have avoided the necessity of saying anything about the "due credit" which Mr. Spencer Wells says in his lecture at Chester, has, he thinks, not been given to me with regard to the introduction of the principles of combining compression with cauterisation in ovariectomy. But, after the letter which you published last week from Mr. I. B. Brown, I am induced to submit to you the following plain statement in the hope that it may lead to a proper understanding of the facts of the case—at least, so far as I am concerned.

Mr. Brown states, in your impression of Saturday last, "I must claim for myself whatever credit is due for being the first to use a particular kind of clamp along with the actual cautery to the pedicle. This clamp has been described in the *Lancet*, and is similar to the clamp used in the spaying of sows." If Mr. Brown had added that the instrument he describes was a modification of my "clam", no further explanation would have been necessary. That this is the fact, is proved in that number of the *Lancet* to which Mr. Brown refers, when he says, "This instrument is, I think, an improvement on the 'adhesion clam' of Mr. John Clay." Again, when Mr. Brown narrated the case to the Obstetric Society where he first applied the actual cautery to divide the pedicle, he styled me "Dr." (not Professor, as he states in his last letter); whereupon I wrote to him to ask if he referred to myself, and he frankly acknowledged that he did, and that it was my instrument to which he referred, and that he had from the first used a modification of it to divide adhesions, and that now he employed it to divide the pedicle, and that I was fully entitled to the credit of first bringing out the instrument, etc.; and he authorised me to publish his letter, which I did in some of the medical periodicals for April 1865.

My instrument differs from that used in the spaying of the sow in three particulars.

1. In consisting of two blades, which are connected by the male blade being pushed into a "notch" in the female one.

2. In having a narrow groove in which to run the cautery.

3. In the handles being slightly separated, so as to add to the compressing power of the instrument.

Mr. Brown's modification consists—

1. In making the male portion, for sliding into the notch, curved, instead of being nearly straight.

2. In making the groove for the cautery wider, moveable, and roughened.

3. The compressing power he applies by means of a screw.

I make no other comments upon these alterations than this, that, in my opinion, they do not affect the principles which I claim for my instrument. The "particular kind of clam" to which Mr. Brown refers

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON. At a general meeting of the Fellows, held on Wednesday, October 17th, the following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examination, and satisfied the College of their proficiency in the science and practice of medicine, surgery, and midwifery, were duly admitted to practise physic as Licentiates of the College:—

Barriek, Eli James, M.D. Vict. Coll., Canada
Coleman, Alfred, Dulwich
Denne, Henry, Guy's Hospital
Gouillet, Arthur, New Wimbledon
O'Sullivan, Thomas George, Limerick
Taylor, James Mare, Hanley, Staffordshire
Williams, Joseph Arthur, M.D. Vict. Coll., Canada

APPOINTMENTS.

*SWALES, Edward, Esq., appointed Inspector of the Government Hospital established at Sheerness for the reception of patients under the Contagious Diseases Prevention Act.

ARMY.

ATKINSON, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon J., to be Assistant-Surgeon 3rd Foot, *vice* T. Teevan.
CHABBERS, Surgeon J. S., 100th Foot, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* R. W. Jackson.
CROKER, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon A., to be Assistant-Surgeon Royal Regiment of Artillery, *vice* A. D. Gulland, M.D.
GULLAND, Assistant-Surgeon A. D., M.D., Royal Artillery, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* J. J. Mulock.
JACKSON, Staff-Surgeon R. W., to be Surgeon 100th Foot, *vice* J. S. Chabbers.
MOULT, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon G. B., M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon 73rd Foot.
TEEVAN, Staff-Surg. T., to be Surgeon 3rd Foot, *vice* E. Touch, M.D.
TOUCH, Surgeon E., M.D., 3rd Foot, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* J. Davys.

ROYAL NAVY.

KROGER, Archibald L., M.D., Surgeon, to the *Ohio*.
BENNETT, William R., M.D., Surgeon, to the *Star*.
BOGGS, E. W., M.D., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Duke of Wellington*.
COLAHAN, Thomas N. W., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Egmont*.
ELLIOTT, J., Esq., Surgeon, to be Staff-Surgeon.
MACDONALD, J. D., Esq., Surgeon, to be Staff-Surgeon.
M'SWINEY, J., Esq., Surgeon, to be Staff-Surgeon.
MORGAN, D. L., M.D., Surgeon, to the *Sylvia*.
MURPHY, John, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Vindex*.
ROBERTSON, Adam, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Vindex*.
SLOGGETT, W. H., Esq., Staff-Surgeon (additional), to the *Fisgard*.

YEOMANRY CAVALRY.

JAMES, D., M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon East Lothian Yeomanry Cavalry.

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

CHALDECOTT, T. A., Esq., to be Honorary Assistant-Surgeon 15th Surrey R.V.
HARGOURT, G., M.D., to be Captain 15th Surrey R.V.
LOVE, J. H., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 5th Suffolk R.V.
RAWDON, H. G., M.D., to be Honorary Assistant-Surgeon 1st Lancashire Engineer Volunteers.
RICHMOND, S., Esq., to be Honorary Assistant-Surgeon 19th North York R.V.
WATERS, J., Esq., to be Hon. Assistant-Surgeon 5th Surrey R.V.
WELLS, C., Esq., to be Hon. Assistant-Surgeon 2nd Surrey A.V.

DEATHS.

WALNE, D. Henry, Esq., Surgeon, of 72, Guildford Street, on Oct. 3.
WALTER. On October 11, at Dover, aged 92, Anne, widow of the late John Walter, Esq., Surgeon, of Romney, and afterwards of Dover.

DR. BARNES has resigned the office of Medical Officer of Health for Shoreditch.

DR. LAYCOCK. We are glad to hear that Professor Laycock has so far recovered as to be able to drive out in a carriage.

THE METROPOLITAN POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS ASSOCIATION have elected Drs. Burrows, Jenner, and Sieveking honorary members.

SEWERAGE OF LIVERPOOL. The borough engineer of Liverpool has been authorised to expend £2,000 per month, in ventilating the sewers of that town.

COWHOUSES. A cow-keeper was last week refused a licence to keep a cowhouse near Drury Lane, at which he intended keeping some fifty cows.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. Last year, *mirabile dictu*, only two candidates presented themselves at the College of Surgeons for the dental diploma.

HORNETS AND WASPS, says Dr. Crisp, do a vast deal of good by destroying insects in all stages of development.

THE QUARANTINE. Surgeon Negus, R.N., appointed to the *Hibernia*, at Malta, arrived with his family on September 29th, but would have to perform fifteen days' quarantine.

CHOLERA. Mr. J. N. Radcliffe is engaged under the direction of the Privy Council in drawing up a report touching the origin and spread of the present epidemic of cholera.

THE GREENWICH HOSPITAL PENSION of £80 a year, for a deputy inspector of hospital and fleets, vacant by the death of Dr. T. R. Dunn, has been awarded to Mr. John Watson, retired inspector-general.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACT. Mr. Sloggett and Dr. Peter Leonard have been appointed inspectors and visiting surgeons of certified hospitals under the Contagious Diseases Prevention Act.

DR. GIBBON objects to the removal of cholera patients to hospitals. He considers that thereby the spread of the disease is increased. The patients should be kept at home and their discharges disinfected.

SCOTCH MEDICAL STUDENTS complain that the army medical competitive examination takes place in March. If it took place in April many, they say, would be able to offer themselves that now cannot do so, as they are unable to graduate before April.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. From a short account of the library of this institution published in the last Calendar of the College it appears that there are now 31,157 volumes, comprising 13,076 works and 34,373 tracts, pamphlets and theses.

THE CATTLE-PLAGUE entered upon its second year in Great Britain in the third week of June. The general result of the sixteen weeks' review is a decrease of 11,760 cases of cattle-plague as compared with the corresponding period of 1865. The cattle-plague has now entered upon its seventieth week in Great Britain.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL. Dr. John Clarke, son of the late Sir Charles Clarke, has been appointed Lecturer on Midwifery and Obstetric Physician to St. George's Hospital. The very valuable museum, formed by Sir Charles Clarke and his brother Dr. John Clarke, was presented to the hospital some years back by the late Mr. Stone.

FATAL GUN ACCIDENT. At an inquest held at Bletchingly, it appeared that the deceased, Mr. William Thomas Sargeant, surgeon to the 17th Surrey Rifles, and also to the Reigate Union, was in the act of stepping into a friend's vehicle, an Irish car, for the purpose of changing his shooting ground, and while taking his gun, one lock of which was defective, after him, the hammers must have caught the footboard of the car and caused the explosion. The charge entered the left breast, and penetrated the lungs, causing death in about two hours. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. The sad event has caused deep regret throughout the whole neighbourhood of Reigate, where the deceased was so well known and so highly respected.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES IN THE METROPOLIS. At a special session of the Strand Union, several applications were made for renewal of licences for slaughterhouses within the districts. There was no opposition; the parties had not obtained other places for the slaughter of cattle, and wished the licences to be continued. The chairman said the licences would be granted; but he believed that the legislature intended to deal with the matter in the next session, and he had no doubt that all slaughterhouses would be prevented being licensed within the metropolitan district.

SANITARY IMPROVEMENT OF EDINBURGH. At a meeting of the town council it was agreed to proceed with the scheme of sanitary improvement promoted by Lord Provost Chambers. The scheme involves an expenditure of about £200,000. The improvements proposed include the clearing out of old properties in some of the more densely crowded localities, and the opening up of other portions by cutting new streets through them. It also includes the formation of a wide street to the north of the University, by which the Museum of Science and Art, recently inaugurated by his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, will be thrown open to better view.

THE VALUE OF A TOOTH. In the Manchester County Court, an action was brought against a druggist to recover the sum of £5:5 damages alleged to have been sustained by the plaintiff, in consequence of the defendant, who professes to extract teeth, having pulled out one of the plaintiff's sound teeth instead of extracting a decayed one. The defence was, that the plaintiff first pointed out the sound tooth as the one he wished extracted, but this was denied by the plaintiff. His Honour said that the defendant ought to have used a little more care in ascertaining for himself which tooth he ought to extract. He should give a verdict of £2:2.

DEATH FROM AN OVERDOSE OF GOUT MEDICINE. The deputy coroner for Westminster has held an inquiry into the death of Dr. Thomas Hall, inspector-general of hospitals, who died at a lodging-house, No. 3, Northumberland Court, Strand. Evidence having been given, after considerable deliberation the following verdict was returned: "We find that the deceased, Thomas Hall, died from the effects of purging produced by an overdose of Saviile's mixture, kilo colocynthis, and we are of opinion that the medicine was taken while the said Thomas Hall was in a state of unsound mind." The Deputy Coroner. You think he took it by mistake? The Foreman.—Yes, we think so.

INFANTICIDE. Dr. Lankester read a paper on Infanticide at the Social Science meeting in Manchester. A great majority of the mothers who gave birth to illegitimate children in London were, he said, domestic servants. Nine out of every ten of the children that were killed were destroyed within two hundred yards of the houses in which they were born. It was also a startling fact, that of the unfortunate mothers who murdered their infants one in six died. A prominent part in the discussion which followed Dr. Lankester's paper was taken by Dr. Mary Walker of New York. This lady attributed child-murder very much to the desire of mothers to hide their shame, and this arose in a great measure from the want of sympathy on the part of their own sex. One great thing would be accomplished when the seducer was regarded with as much scorn as his victim was now. There was not so much infanticide in the United States as there was in this kingdom—at least, she judged so from the accounts she had read. She accounted for this by the fact that in America they were more temperate. Her observation of immoral

men and women was, that the large majority of them were habitual drinkers. In America, children were not looked upon as responsible for the acts of their parents; and the speaker quoted instances to prove that illegitimacy was no bar to social position. Neither were children unduly respected because their parents happened to be very well-to-do. The lady concluded by laughingly saying that she did not wish to talk politics, but that such was the effect of republican institutions.

SEWAGE GASES. A "Civil Engineer" gives reasons in the *Builder* for the excessive death-rate in Liverpool, as compared with London, reasons which, right or wrong, are at any rate sufficient to account for the uncomfortable fact. In London the "main sewers are abundantly ventilated." Bad gases arise, but we get them continuously and largely diluted. "This," the "Engineer" asserts, "has been the salvation of London," i.e., it has kept it from much acute disease, while inducing all through the metropolis a low type of vitality, except in those whose "comforts" render them more or less independent of outward influences. In Liverpool sewage gases are concentrated till a deadly strength is attained. Then, again, in all the better parts of London cess-pools are universally done away with; they are the rule in Liverpool, and in several other northern towns. Liverpool, again, is very short of water; the whole stock in the Rivington reservoirs would supply London for about six days. Yet Liverpool was the first town in England to provide itself with sanitary laws, and if expenditure on sewers and waterworks were enough, it ought to be the healthiest large town in Europe. Liverpool spends a little fortune every year in passing local Acts through Parliament. Yet nothing comes of them but a steadily increasing death-rate. Dr. Trench's report gives overcrowding and drunkenness as the chief causes of the excessive mortality. Some years ago the corporation bought a plot of ground at the north end of the town, intending to let it at low rates for the erection of improved labourers' dwellings. Nothing has yet been built upon it; and that fabulously rich body is talking of applying to the Public Loan Commissioners for £13,000 at 4 per cent., to be spent in building a block of model lodgings. Things of this kind seem to move slowly in Liverpool. Moreover, the mayor's "regulations as to lodging-houses" have been sent back by Mr. Walpole, with the remark that "the maximum cubic space fixed is as small as, or smaller than, the minimum in other regulations submitted to the Secretary of State, and that it cannot be accepted, even in the face of the practical difficulties which exist, as more than a minimum space."—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY......Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 9 A.M. and 1.30 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.—St. Thomas'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, 9.30 A.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.