

Association Intelligence.

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL: NOTICE OF MEETING.

THE Committee of Council will meet at the Queen's Hotel, Birmingham, on THURSDAY, the 22nd day of November, 1866, at 3 o'clock P.M. *precisely*.

To elect an Editor of the JOURNAL, in the place of Dr. Markham; and other important business.

T. WATKIN WILLIAMS, *General Secretary*.

13, Newhall Street, Birmingham, November 6th, 1866.

MEDICAL BENEVOLENT FUND.

At a Special General Meeting of subscribers to the Medical Benevolent Fund, held on Tuesday, October 30th, the following gentlemen were elected to the office of Trustee.

H. W. Acland, M.D., F.R.S., Regius Professor of Medicine in the University of Oxford.

James Paget, Esq., F.R.S.

Edward H. Sieveking, M.D., Physician to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

The following Biennial Appeal has been issued.

"The time has arrived at which the Committee of the Medical Benevolent Fund usually address their professional brethren for renewed aid in carrying on the charitable work in which they are engaged, and they adhere to the plan of circulating an appeal as more consistent with the unobtrusive character of their operations than a public dinner.

"The Committee believe that no stronger claim for support can be urged than a simple statement of what the Fund is doing. There are now thirty annuitants between 67 and 88 years of age, and in most instances in feeble health, who are saved from want in their declining years. In addition to these, in the year 1865, £770 was distributed among eighty-eight cases of distress, some being of the most painful and urgent character; and already in the first seven months of 1866, sixty-five applicants have received relief amounting in the aggregate to £680. Very few of these could have been reached by any other existing charity; and, besides the alleviation of misery, it has frequently happened that the grants have been the means of enabling the recipient to regain a self-supporting position.

"The Committee would, as on previous occasions, call attention to the inexpensive mode in which the charity is administered. All its agencies are voluntary, all its offices honorary, a room for the meetings is generously furnished by a member of the Committee, and the only expenses are the indispensable ones attending the collecting of subscriptions, the printing, and postage. Thus, the money goes directly to those for whom it was intended, without the heavy deductions too frequently witnessed.

"Again, the applicants are put to no expense beyond such as is necessary to furnish evidence of their need and worth. They have not to parade their poverty by a public canvass. The relief reaches them promptly, and is proportioned, as far as the means at the disposal of the Committee will permit, to their necessities.

"At the present moment, the Medical Benevolent Fund has a special claim upon the support of the profession, inasmuch as it has been recently deprived of several of its warmest friends. The names of Mr. Newnham, Mr. Toynbee, and Sir Charles Hastings, have long been identified with this

charity, and their loss is felt to be a serious drawback to its prosperity. The sudden and untimely death of Mr. Toynbee especially demands a tribute from all friends of the Fund. The Committee are fortunate in having obtained the consent of Dr. Sieveking to act as Treasurer; and they hope for a continuance of the generous support which has placed the Fund in its present position. Great as its usefulness now is, it is still far short of the limits of its application. As the area of its operations is extended, more cases of distress are brought within its sphere, and the demands for assistance multiply, rendering necessary an increase in the number of subscribers. It is impossible to imagine more legitimate objects of charity than the aged, afflicted, or unfortunate of one's own profession, and on their behalf the Committee again invoke the sympathy and aid of their brethren."

SHROPSHIRE SCIENTIFIC BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Annual Meeting of this Branch was held in the Museum, Shrewsbury, on October 24th; EDWARD BURD, M.D., President, in the Chair; WILLIAM NEWMAN, M.D., Vice-President.

The Secretary read the minutes of the quarterly meetings.

Election of Officers. Samuel Wood, Esq., was elected Vice-President for the ensuing year; Dr. Oakley, Treasurer; Dr. Burd, Dr. Johnson, and the Honorary Secretary, Representatives on the General Council.

President's Address. The PRESIDENT then delivered an eloquent address, reviewing the more recent advances in medical and surgical science; and showed that a steady onward progress characterised the work of the profession at large; that although to the metropolitan schools and workers new theories and proposals of fresh treatment were mostly due, the provincial men were not wanting in fruit, gathered from the vast fields of research which were being explored; whilst the busy country practitioner was, from his daily familiarity with disease occurring in denizens of towns and country districts, the most fit arbiter of their value. Submitted to the touchstone of practical experience, the worthier were either welcomed with avidity or laid aside with regret.

Contributions. 1. Dr. NEWMAN read a very practical paper on a singular Case of Hernia occurring in his practice.

2. Mr. HOLMES COOTE contributed a series of skulls and casts of brains, accompanied by an explanatory paper.

3. Mr. MORRIS and Mr. WOOD contributed papers.
5. A number of new instruments, including the Sphygmograph, were exhibited.

Several papers had to be omitted from want of time, among which was a valuable one on Water and its Impurities, by Mr. T. B. Blunt, M.B.Oxon. These and others will be read at the January quarterly meeting.

New Members. Mr. Holmes Coote was elected an honorary member. Four new members were balloted for and elected.

Dinner. The members and visitors then adjourned to the Raven Hotel at six o'clock, where thirty-four sat down to an excellent dinner, and a most agreeable evening concluded the meeting.

A NEW VILLAGE HOSPITAL, called the Capel, has been established by the liberality of Mrs. Broadwood. It is fitted up for the accommodation of five males and five females.

attention of your readers and yourself, and that a fair trial may be given to the plan.

I am, etc., JOHN COCKLE.

TREATMENT OF CHOLERA.

LETTER FROM J. J. D. BURNS, M.D.

SIR,—From the varied remedies, and the unsatisfactory reports of the treatment of cholera, I am induced to send you a few remarks, which, I trust, may interest the profession, anxious as we must all feel to discover some reliable course to be pursued to check the fatal progress of the epidemic, when every known remedy is reported to have been tried in vain.

During the epidemic of 1849, I had opportunities of trying the treatment proposed by Dr. Ayre, of repeated doses of calomel, but without any marked success. I then tried large doses of calomel, with an equally unsatisfactory result. The saline treatment was then employed, and then sulphuric acid. The latter was found to be most objectionable, from precluding the use of other remedies, when stimulants seemed so urgently called for, though I have known cold water alone restore the circulation. The combination of opium in the remedies was decidedly injurious, and nearly every case proved fatal in which it was employed. I may also mention that the use of the warm bath was found to be prejudicial, from its debilitating effect, which was manifest in all cases in which it was employed, as well as from the exertion and exposure which it involved.

Finding the ordinary remedies useless, chiefly from the difficulty of getting them retained on the stomach, on the recurrence of the epidemic in 1854, towards its close, I adopted the following treatment; and from those to whom I suggested it a most favourable report was given. I visited five patients consecutively under the care of Dr. Richardson of Woolwich (who was a strong advocate of the calomel treatment), who all died; and, from witnessing my success, he was induced to change his treatment for mine; and he told me he never after had a fatal case.

The treatment I adopted was this: I placed the patient in bed between the blankets, applying hot bottles to the surface of the body and extremities, using a hot-air bath by covering the body with a wicker frame, and using a spirit of wine lamp with a tube entering at the foot of the bed between the blankets; administering a scruple of carbonate of ammonia in an ounce of water. After vomiting, I gave a mixture containing a drachm of aromatic spirits of ammonia, two drachms of compound tincture of lavender, and six ounces of water: one-sixth part to be given every half-hour. Then mustard applications to the calves of the legs, dry rubbing having been previously used; and also to the inner side of the thighs and abdomen, if necessary. As soon as the stomach can retain it, arrowroot and brandy. As soon as there is any secretion of urine, or even before, I give five grains of calomel.

In the use of this treatment I was rarely unsuccessful. Though the epidemic was rather on the decline, and the virulence of the disease might have in some degree abated, yet it gave me every inducement to rely on it for the future, and I beg most strongly to recommend it for a fair trial.

The object of this mode of treatment was to rouse the system by an emetic, which should stimulate rather than weaken the vital powers, and procure heat on the surface by restoring the circulation; to introduce an alkali as a substitute for the bile, and keep the blood fluid, that, when reaction is produced, the natural secretions may be facilitated. I may

add, that the stomach would retain the carbonate of ammonia in a state of effervescence with citric acid, when it rejected everything else, given in six-grain doses. Cold or iced water was given as a drink, to relieve thirst.

I am, etc.,

JOHN J. D. BURNS, M.D.

New Brompton, Kent, November 1st, 1866.

In 1849, we had 27 deaths in about 30 cases. In 1854, we had 38 cases and 13 deaths.

Medical News.

APOTHECARIES' HALL. On November 1st, 1866, the following Licentiates were admitted:—

Bonner, Wm. Augustus, Elm House, Queen's Elm, Brompton
Crew, Eli. Tetbury, Gloucestershire
Dyer, Thomas Birch, Guy's Hospital
Ireland, Edward, Kendal, Westmoreland
Stokell, George, Guy's Hospital

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

Littell John, Saltern G., St. Thomas's Hospital
Maybury, Augustus Constable, St. Thomas's Hospital
Molecey, Octavius Twigg, King's College Hospital
Munden, Charles, Guy's Hospital
Weldon, Richard, St. George's Hospital

APPOINTMENTS.

EVANS, George, Esq., elected Surgeon to the Hospital for Diseases of the Throat.

ARMY.

SPARROW, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon J., to be Staff-Surgeon.

ROYAL NAVY.

BARTLETT, Walter F. C., Esq., Surgeon (additional), to the *Cumberland*.
BEAMISH, Richard, Esq., Acting Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Rinaldo*.
BREAKEY, John, M.D., Surgeon, to the *Rinaldo*.
DANN, Edward, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Reindeer*.
DICK, James N., Esq., Surgeon, to the *Satellite*.
DUNN, Edward, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Reindeer*.
EASTGATE, James C., Esq., Surgeon, to the *Reindeer*.
EASTCOTT, James G., Esq., Surgeon, to the *Reindeer*.
FARKER, William, M.D., Surgeon, to be Staff-Surgeon.
FINNKUHL, David, M.D., Surgeon (additional), to the *Royal Adelaide*.
FINUCANE, D. M.D., Surgeon (additional), to the *Royal Adelaide*.
HUMPHREYS, Robert, Esq., Surgeon (additional), to the *Frederick William*.
LAURKINSON, George R., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Medusa*.
MEADE, Edward, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Satellite*.
NOBLE, John, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Cumberland*.

BIRTHS.

WARDEN. On Oct. 31st, at Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, the wife of Charles Warden, M.D., of a son.
WESTMACOTT. On November 1st, at St. Mary's Terrace, Malda Hill, the wife of John G. Westmacott, M.D., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BECKER, Herman F. V. J., M.D., of Carthillan House, the Lizard, Cornwall, to Mary Julia, daughter of the late John Kirby, Esq., of Talgarth, Monmouthshire, at Chesham, on October 25.
BICK, Alfred, L.R.C.P.Ed., to Mary Harriet, only daughter of W. S. FLINDERS, Esq., of Dalston, at Hackney, on October 31.
SHAFLAND, John Dee, Esq., Surgeon, of Croydon, to Mary Anna, eldest daughter of G. WESTACOTT, Esq., of St. Mary Axe and South Norwood, on November 1.
SMITH, James Thomas, Esq., Surgeon, Sutton Coldfield, to Mary Turner, eldest daughter of Edward Kendrick, Esq., of Wresford, on October 31.
SWINDALE, John, Esq., Surgeon, of Binfield, Berks, to Matilda, second daughter of Henry Aston, Esq., of Dalston, at Hackney, on October 31.
VEALE, Richard, M.D., of Hampshwaite, Yorkshire, to Laura, second surviving daughter of Henry DE PAIVA, Esq., of Heckmondwike, Yorkshire, at Canonbury, on November 1.
WILSON, Thomas, Esq., Surgeon, of Wallsend, to Sarah Haswell, second daughter of the late HUNTLEY, M.D., of Howden, on October 29.
YOUNG, Henry Jas., M.D., of Bridgnorth, to Ellen Martha, daughter of the late Thomas JAY, Esq., of Daneford, near Bridgnorth, at Worfield, Shropshire, on November 1.

DEATHS.

BLANKIN. On October 30th, at Inverness Road, Hyde Park, Grace, widow of I. T. Blankin, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon Madras Army.
BOND, Henry H., Esq., Surgeon, at Barnsbury, aged 61, on Nov. 1.
BURKE. On October 30th, at Bath, aged 71, Anna Louisa, wife of John Burne, M.D.
BURRELL, William H., M.D., Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, at Exmouth, aged 71, on October 31.
DAVIS. On October 29th, aged 3 years, William Edward, eldest son of the late Wm. Davis, Esq., Surgeon, at St. George's, Salop.
HOLLAND. On November 2nd, at 25, Lower Brook Street, Sara, wife of Sir Henry Holland, Bart., M.D.
HUGMAN. On November 1st, at Guilford Street, aged 11, Mary Beatrice, youngest child of W. C. Hugman, Esq., Surgeon.
HUNTER, George Yeates, Esq., Surgeon, at Margate, aged 71, on November 2.
***LESLIE, Andrew, Esq., Surgeon R.N.,** at Cowley, near Exeter, aged 89, on October 31.
PRICE. On November 1st, at Brixton, Louisa Ann, wife of James Price, M.D., late Army Medical Staff.
RAYNER. On November 1st, at Quadrant Road North, Highbury New Park, Emily, wife of John Rayner, M.D.
THORNTON. On October 30th, at Uxbridge, Matilda, widow of Wm. Thornton, Esq., Surgeon H.M.'s 99th Regiment of Foot.
WATSON, S. Key, Esq., Surgeon, at Jersey, on October 20.

A NEW OPERATING THEATRE is under course of construction at Guy's Hospital.

LADY HOLLAND died on the 2nd inst. Her ladyship was the daughter of the late Rev. Sydney Smith.

NAVAL APPOINTMENT. The situation of surgeon and agent of sick and wounded at Southsea and Langston harbour, has been given to Dr. Elliott, of Warwick House, Southsea.

THE CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACT. In pursuance of the above Act. It is certified by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary for War that the London Lock Hospital is useful and efficient as a hospital for the purposes of the said Act.

A REAL LEVELLER. The *Nobles' Gazette* of Moscow contains this curious phrase: "Until now, thanks to the visible protection of Providence, the cholera had only attacked the lower classes; but at present the terrible scourge attacks the middle classes, and even the nobility."

TESTIMONIAL TO DR. COTTON. Last week, a splendid testimonial was presented to Dr. Cotton by the Society of Loyal United Brethren—a benefit society of which Dr. Cotton has been Consulting-Physician for the past ten years. The testimonial consisted of a large massive and handsomely chased silver vase.

APOTHECARIES' HALL. At the competitive examinations, held on the 17th and 19th ultimo, for the prizes offered annually by the Society for Proficiency in the Knowledge of Materia Medica and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, the successful candidates were—first, Mr. Albert Henry Baines, of Guy's Hospital; second, Mr. James Goodridge Anderson, of St. Mary's Hospital.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES. The Report of Inspectors of Factories for the six months ended April 1866, record 2576 accidents from machinery. Of these, twenty-eight were fatal, and six of the fatal cases were children. Thirty children also suffered amputation of part of right hand, and twenty amputation of part of left hand. Sixteen got fractured limbs and bones of trunk; thirty-two, fracture of hand or foot; and sixteen, injuries to head and face.

DEATH OF DR. G. Y. HUNTER. This gentleman died on the 2nd inst., at his residence in Margate in the seventy-second of his age. He was the first Mayor of Margate elected to that honour under the local act of incorporation, and so highly were his services appreciated by his fellow townsmen, that he was elected for the third time to the Mayor's chair, in November last.

EXTRAORDINARY LONGEVITY. The obituary in the *Times* last week contained some rare illustrations of prolonged existence in the case of three ladies and three gentlemen, whose united ages amounted to 522 years, giving an average of exactly 87 years to each. The fair sex, as usual, take the lead, the eldest having arrived at 94 years and the youngest at 84; of the opposite sex the eldest was 89 and the youngest 82 years of age.

QUARTERLY RETURN. The registers of the United Kingdom show births of 239,748 children, and the deaths of 151,054 persons of both sexes, in the three months ending Sept. 30th. The death-rate of the United Kingdom is less than that prevailing in England and Wales. The population of England, Scotland, and Ireland in 1866, is estimated at 29,945,404. The corrected death-rate of the quarter is 2.085 per cent.

THE CATTLE-PLAGUE. The cattle-plague returns for the week ending the 27th ult., show that 15 attacks were reported to have occurred, being an increase of 9 on the previous return. Since the commencement of the disease, 51 in every 1,000 of the estimated ordinary stock of cattle in Great Britain are returned as having been attacked. The total number of sheep reported to have been attacked up to the date of this return is 6,826.

THE FRENCH SENATE. It has been remarked that nearly every profession but that of medicine was represented in the Senate. This anomaly has struck the Emperor, it would appear, as the *Evenement* announces that his Majesty's physician, Dr. Conneau, is to be promoted forthwith to a seat at the Luxembourg. Dr. Conneau has one point in common with the late Dr. Orfila, he is remarkably fond of music.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. At the primary or anatomical and physiological examination on Tuesday last, twenty-two candidates presented themselves for examination, when only five were referred to their studies for three months. Dr. Sharpey and Parkes, and Mr. Cooper, visited the examinations on the part of the Medical Council. The next *pass*, or pathological and surgical examination will take place this day (Saturday) and extend to Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next.

DEATH OF DR. BURRELL. Dr. W. H. Burrell, Deputy-Inspector of Hospitals, died on the 31st ult., at Exmouth, aged 71. In 1849, Dr. Burrell sat as one of the members of a board appointed by the War Office to make inquiries concerning yellow fever, and contributed a valuable paper on the subject, which was afterwards published by the General Board of Health, with their second report on quarantine. Subsequently Dr. Burrell, while principal medical officer at Malta, drew up an elaborate account, from official records then at his command, of the plague, which ravaged that island in 1813. On the appointment of the Barrack and Hospital Commission, Dr. Burrell was appointed by Lord Herbert to act in conjunction with Dr. Sutherland and Captain Galton, and he contributed in no slight degree to the success of an inquiry which has since led to so great an improvement, as regards the comfort and sanitary well-being of the soldiers.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON. The Council held its first session for the academical year 1866-7 on the 3rd inst. It was resolved that the vacancies consequent on the recent appointment of Mr. Marshall to the Professorship of the Principles and Practice of Surgery in the offices of assistant-surgeon at the hospital, of instructor in bandaging, and of practical instructor in operative surgery, should be advertised. On the recommendation of the examiners, Professor

Wilson Fox Dean, Professor Sharpey, and Professor Ringer, the Filliter exhibition of £30 was awarded to Mr. Henry Carter Wigg, of Geelong. The report of the Rev. Philip Smith, examiner for the medical entrance examinations, was received, and exhibitions, each tenable for two years, were conferred as follows: one of £30 on Mr. Charles H. Carter, of London; one of £20 on Mr. Alfred H. Carter, of Pewsey; and one of £10 on Mr. William Hammond, of Hastings. Certificates of honour were awarded to Mr. W. S. Greenfield, of London; Mr. Lewis Lewis, of Plymouth; and Mr. James B. Ball, of Dublin.

TOO PARTICULAR. In consequence of the large number of applicants for admission to the Royal navy who have been rejected by the stringency of the existing medical regulations, the Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets has called for a nominal list from the medical department of the *Fisgard*, at Woolwich-dockyard, of the number rejected, with a statement of the causes. They are as follows: Muscular debility, weakness of intellect, palpitation, dyspepsia, deformed chest, rupture, and tendency thereto, varicocele, impediment of speech, delicate aspect, indifferent eyesight, flat chest, defective feet, cataract in the eye, shallow chest, and other distortions of frame, small and emaciated, under and over age, round-shouldered, eruption, scars, loss of fingers, chronic enlargement of tonsils, pigeon-breasted, defective nutrition, enlarged glands, etc. As but very few of the applicants were found totally exempt from one or more of the above-named impediments, an amended list has received the sanction of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty submitted by the Medical Department.

THE MEDICAL ACT. In pursuance of the 29th section of the above Act, to regulate the qualifications of practitioners in medicine and surgery, which recites that, "If any registered medical practitioner shall be convicted in England or Ireland of any felony or misdemeanour, or in Scotland of any crime or offence, or shall, after due inquiry, be judged by the General Council to have been guilty of infamous conduct in any professional respect, the General Council may, if they see fit, direct the registrar to erase the name of such medical practitioner from the register." Acting on this power the General Council of Medical Education and Registration of the United Kingdom has just published the following list of delinquents, with the causes which gave rise to the punishments now inflicted on these persons, viz., John Edward Protheroe, name erased in consequence of the entry of it having been fraudulently obtained; Richard Organ, for infamous conduct in a professional respect; John Burton, the entry of his name having been fraudulently or incorrectly made; John Broatch, in consequence of false declaration; John Kearney, for infamous conduct in a professional respect; Daniel de la Cherois Gourley, in consequence of his having been convicted of a misdemeanour; David Griffiths Jones, in consequence of his having been convicted of a misdemeanour; Evan Thomas, in consequence of his having been convicted of perjury; Robert Wrixon, having been convicted of forgery; Samuel La Mert, for infamous conduct in a professional respect; Robert Jacob Jordan, his qualification of M.R.C.S.England erased in consequence of his name having been removed from the list of members of that College, and his qualification as licentiate of R.C.P.Edinburgh for the same reason; John Carter Barrett, having been convicted of forgery; William John Cumming, having been convicted of felony; Robert Abercrombie, his qualification of M.R.C.S.England erased in consequence of

his having been removed from the list of members of that College; Thompson Whalley, having been convicted of a misdemeanour; and John Permewan, having been convicted of felony.

THE TREATMENT OF CHOLERA. The views of Dr. George Johnson and other opponents of the astringent treatment of choleraic diarrhoea have received a strong confirmation by the report of the Army Medical Department on the late outbreak of cholera at Malta. An abstract of that report is given in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, and, though of course we express no opinion on the matter ourselves, yet a brief reference to that abstract cannot fail to be interesting to the general reader. There exists a vehement controversy in the medical world with respect to this premonitory treatment, each side maintaining that the system which it condemns is not merely useless, but positively injurious in a very high degree; and the more clearly the professional doctor perceives that this antagonism is well known to the non-professional world, the less prone will he be to adopt either view without a more careful study of the whole question than most apothecaries and physicians think it necessary to give to the subject. A pestilence like cholera, concerning which nothing is theoretically known, while the only practical thing about it is that no remedy has yet been discovered, is just one of those diseases about which doctors are apt to be careless, from their utter bewilderment in its presence. As they cannot cure the disease, too many of them forget that a remedy may not only fail to stop it, but may frightfully aggravate its intensity. And this is the conclusion which the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* draws from the report of the army department on the outbreak at Malta, where the diarrhoea was very severe owing to the drunken and dissipated habits of the English soldiers, and the large consumption of fruits by the poorer Maltese, who were tempted by the low prices consequent on the abstinence of the better classes during the epidemic. The report states that while the ordinary diarrhoea thus produced was very tractable in its nature, the astringent system utterly failed to check the real choleraic diarrhoea. The only remedies that appeared to be of any effect were emetics, and the population who were treated by the civilian practitioners on the mild system exhibited a much lower per centage of deaths than the military who were treated by the army doctors. On the whole, the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* is decidedly of opinion that, whether or no the emetic and castor-oil system be advantageous, there is every reason to believe that the astringent practice tends to retain in the body that deadly poison which is the cause of death. It points to a fact stated in the report to which we think the utmost attention ought to be given, namely, that "the extent of the collapse was in no way commensurate with the amount of discharges. Invariably it was found that the more severe the disease the less was the quantity and the frequency of these ejections." Surely, if these facts are of general occurrence in cholera, they supply suggestions as to the proper treatment of the highest importance. (*Pall Mall Gazette*.)

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Dr. MORELL MACKENZIE; Dr. MAYO; Mr. S. WOOD; Dr. E. BURD; Dr. BROADBENT; Dr. STEVEKING; Dr. BURNS; Dr. C. WARDEN; Dr. WILLIAM P. SWAIN; Mr. A. B. STEELE; THE HONORARY SECRETARY OF THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY; Mr. H. GREENWAY; Dr. GEORGE JOHNSON; Dr. COCKLE; Mr. MOORE; THE REGISTRAR OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON; Mr. T. M. STONE; THE HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE ROYAL MEDICAL & CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY; Mr. J. ROBERTSON; Mr. G. DAVIS; Mr. E. WYLLIE; Dr. THOMAS SKINNER; Dr. SANBORN; Mr. W. SMITH; Dr. SAMUELSON; Mr. JAMES STARTIN; Mr. W. E. POOLE; Dr. GARROD; Dr. J. HUGHLINGS JACKSON; and Mr. R. W. DUNN.

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 Society, 2 P.M.—Royal Orthopedic, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.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.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY. Medical Society of London, 8 P.M. Dr. Victor De Méric, "On some of the Sequels of Syphilis."—Epidemiological Society, 8 P.M. Dr. Jenner, F.R.S., "Address opening the Session."

TUESDAY. Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Spencer Wells, "Ovariectomy Twice Successfully Performed on the same Patient"; Mr. Solly, "Case of Fracture of the Ribs, with Peculiar Tympanitic Resonance."

THURSDAY. Harvelian Society of London, 8 P.M. Debate will be on Cholera.

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.

COMMUNICATIONS.—To prevent a not uncommon misconception, we beg to inform our correspondents that, as a rule, all communications which are not returned to their authors, are retained for publication.

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

THE PUBLISHER begs to intimate that orders for JOURNALS sent by post must be accompanied by stamps for the amount. Price of each number is, by post, *stepence*.

THE FEMALE CASUAL AND HER LODGING, by Dr. Stallard, is a re-publication of articles which appeared in the *Standard*. Dr. Stallard found a respectable widow woman, who consented to visit the female casual wards of various workhouses in the metropolis. Her narrative gave us a somewhat sensational picture of casual wards. As casual wards contain the dregs of London life, it is hardly to be expected that a visitor would find in them the elegancies of drawing-room society.

LIMITS OF PRACTICE.—A correspondent writes: "I am about to take a partner; and a question arises as to the distance I should be prohibited from practising in, on retiring after a certain term of years. If you will kindly give me your idea of what an average distance should be, I shall feel much obliged."

[The question is clearly a local and a legal one—about which we should imagine there ought to be no dispute. EDITOR.]

DR. B. FOSTER'S INTRODUCTORY LECTURE was necessarily condensed. We fear the report hardly did justice to the author. The gist of his conclusions may be given as follows:—1, Pointing out how medicine must be founded on three experimental sciences, Physiology, Pathology, and Therapeutics, and cultivated purely on "positive" principles, Dr. Foster argued that, in order to obtain such a state of things, our preliminary education must be altered, and men taught in chemistry and physics the methods of research that may advance medicine as a science. Further, following Comte's notion, he pointed out that these workers in science must be carefully distinguished from the practitioners, who should only apply to practice the laws discovered by their colleagues. The abstract makes him appear to be only a follower of Bernard's notions; while, in truth, he entirely disagrees with Bernard's estimate of positivism, and would place the study of all physiology and pathology, if possible (with reference to investigation), not in the hands of practitioners, but in the hands of a special class of students.

EXTRACTION OF CATARACT BY SUCTION.—SIR: I have just read, in your "Notice of Correspondents" in this day's JOURNAL, Dr. Davey's letter of explanation. I would beg to assure that gentleman that I was not at all singular in labouring under "a mistaken impression" on reading his letter in the JOURNAL of the 13th. Without this explanation, I should still have the same impression, although I have again read his first letter with *more* than "ordinary care". I could not have imagined that the "suction-instruments" referred to in the first paragraph of that letter had any connection with the barbarous operation mentioned in the second and third paragraphs. It is the first time I have heard of the *mouth* being included amongst surgical instruments, even "of a kind". I thought, and naturally so, Dr. Davey might have referred to certain rude instruments used by the ancient Persians ("not in Great Britain nor in Europe"); and then by way of *father* showing that the idea of removing cataracts by suction, although *without* the medium of an instrument, was very old, related the story of the Cingalese operation.

If Dr. Davey, when commenting on correspondence relative to a surgical appliance, says that "suction-instruments, of a kind, for the removal of cataracts have been for generations in use", he must, in all fairness, pardon those who do not understand him to mean simply the human mouth, although he may instance its "use" in the same letter. He might have added—the invention of the "instrument" was co-eval with the creation of Adam.

As the quotation from Dr. Browne's address was not intended as applicable to myself, I accept Dr. Davey's explanation. I have not met anyone who thought of applying it to Mr. Swain.

I am sorry again to trouble you, but I think it right Dr. Davey should know there were others, as well as myself, who laboured "under a mistaken impression" on reading his first letter.

I am, etc., HENRY GREENWAY.

Plymouth, October 27th, 1866.

INJECTION OF ACETIC ACID IN CANCER.—SIR: With respect to the letter of Dr. John Barclay, which appears in the JOURNAL of the 3rd inst., I need scarcely do more than state that, in my communication to the meeting of the Association and in my pamphlet, I gave as one of my reasons for selecting acetic acid for injection into cancerous tumours, that "it had been applied with advantage to open cancer and cancerous ulcerations." Dr. Barclay having apparently read the pamphlet, it would have been more candid in him to have mentioned this.

I might demur to the position Dr. Barclay assigns to me, of a mere adaptor of suggestions; but credit has been so largely and generously awarded me by Mr. Moore and others, that I feel ashamed to enter upon anything like self-vindication.

I am, etc., W. H. BROADBENT.

Upper Seymour Street, November 6th, 1866.

SUBCUTANEOUS INJECTIONS OF CANCER AND OTHER GROWTHS.—SIR: As there seems to be at least more than one claimant for priority in regard to the injection of, or rather the annihilation or destruction of tumours by caustic or irritating fluids, I beg to add one more to the list; namely, Sir James Y. Simpson, Bart. Early in the year 1857, I assisted him in instituting a number of experiments on simple, benign, and malignant growths; the nature of which was to effect the destruction and subsequent disintegration of the tumour and its ultimate removal through as small an opening in the integument as possible, and without incisions of any kind. I saw Sir James remove a *fatty* tumour on a girl's shoulder, the size of a small orange, through an opening not larger than would admit a goose-quill, and it never returned; nor was it possible to believe from the minute cicatrix left that such a tumour could ever have existed. The fluids used were—concentrated solutions of sulphate and chloride of zinc, bichromate of potash, bichloride of mercury, perchloride of iron, creosote, glacial acetic acid, chromic acid, etc. By way of experiment, the healthy muscular fibre of recently killed oxen and sheep were acted upon by these agents, and the effects observed were recorded. I do not think that all the facts which transpired were published; but certainly the main facts—which give priority of claim to Sir James—will be found in the *Medical Times and Gazette* of February 7th, 1857.

I am, etc., THO. SKINNER, M.D.

Liverpool, November 3rd, 1866.

[Glacial acetic acid acts as a powerful caustic. The dilute acetic acid as used by Dr. Broadbent does not act as a caustic. It dissolves the cancer-cells, and disperses the tumour, without producing sloughing or destruction of tissues. The action of the two acids is, therefore, essentially different. Surgeons, it is true, had previously applied acetic acid to cancerous ulcerations; but no one (we believe), before Dr. Broadbent, injected the cancer-tumour with acetic acid, so as to produce the special and remarkable effect above mentioned. The surgeons who have already tried Dr. Broadbent's method, appear surprised and satisfied with its results, and the operation bids fair to become a most important aid in the cure of cancer. That the merit of the practical application of acetic acid by injection belongs to Dr. Broadbent, is proved by the simple fact, that it was not in practice when he brought the subject before the profession. This much we feel bound to say, in justice to that gentleman. EDITOR.]