

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION:
ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Thirty-fifth Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held in Dublin, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th days of August next.

President—EDWARD WATERS, M.D. Edin.

President-Elect—WILLIAM STOKES, M.D., D.C.L., Regius Professor of Physic in the University of Dublin.

All the meetings will be held in the New Buildings, Trinity College.

There will be four separate Sections; viz., A. Medicine; B. Physiology; C. Surgery; D. Midwifery. Only two Sections will sit at the same time, unless there shall be great pressure of business.

The papers introducing the subjects for discussion on Scientific and State Medicine, shall not exceed *thirty* minutes. Papers on any other subject shall not exceed *twenty* minutes. All subsequent speakers not to exceed *ten* minutes.

TUESDAY, August 6th, 1867.

10 A.M. Meeting of Committee of Council.

11 „ Meeting of General Council.

1 P.M. Adjourn for Luncheon.

2 „ First General Meeting.—The retiring President, Dr. Waters, will resign his office.—The new President, Professor STOKES, M.D., will deliver his Inaugural Address.—The Council Report will be read, and discussion taken thereon.—Election of General Secretary.—Report of Charter Subcommittee.—Report of Medical Benevolent Fund.—Appointment of Place of Meeting in 1868, and President-Elect.

9 P.M. *Soirée* at the Obstetrical Society.

WEDNESDAY, August 7th.

8.30 A.M. Public Breakfast at the Exhibition Building.

9.30 „ Committee on the Observation and Registration of Disease.

10 „ Meeting of new General Council.

11 „ Second General Meeting.—Address in Medicine by Sir D. CORRIGAN, Bart.—Sectional Meetings.

2 P.M. Adjourn for Luncheon.

3 „ Third General Meeting.—Mr. RUMSEY will introduce the subject of State Medicine for discussion.—Sectional Meetings.

6 P.M. Adjourn.

9 „ The President's *Soirée* at the King and Queen's College of Physicians.

THURSDAY, August 8th.

10 A.M. Fourth General Meeting.—Address in Surgery by Professor R. W. SMITH.—Sectional Meetings.

2 P.M. Adjourn for Luncheon.

3 „ Fifth General Meeting.—Professor HUGHES BENNETT, M.D., will introduce for discussion the Effects of Mercury.—Sectional Meetings.

6 P.M. Adjourn.

7 „ Public Dinner at the Exhibition Building. Tickets £1:1.

FRIDAY, August 9th.

10 A.M. Sixth General Meeting.—Sectional Meetings.

2 P.M. Adjourn for Luncheon.

3 „ Seventh General Meeting.—Sectional Meetings.

9 „ *Soirée* at the Royal College of Surgeons.

SATURDAY, August 10th.—Excursions.

It is particularly requested, that gentlemen intending to be present at the dinner on August 8th will give notice to the Honorary Local Secretary, JOLLIFFE TUNNELL, Esq., 58, Lower Mount Street, on or before Saturday, August 3rd.

Members will be pleased, immediately on their arrival, to enter their names and addresses in the Reception-room, King and Queen's College of Physicians, Kildare Street, where cards will be supplied which will secure admission to all the proceedings.

A Clerk will be in attendance at the Reception-room, and will give information respecting Private Lodgings, Hotels, etc.

To facilitate excursions in the neighbourhood, the Clerk in attendance will be prepared to receive the names of gentlemen wishing to make such excursions, and to arrange for the same, on or before 12 o'clock, on Thursday the 8th, at the College of Physicians, Kildare Street. Members who may wish for information previously to the meeting will please communicate with the Local Secretary.

The public will be admitted, on application to the President, to attend the discussion on Scientific and State Medicine.

A daily journal will be published of the proceedings of the Association. All gentlemen proposing to visit Dublin during the meeting are requested to send their names to Jolliffe Tunnell, Esq., 58, Lower Mount Street, Dublin, Local Secretary for Correspondence, at the earliest convenient period, in order that accommodation for their reception may, as far as possible, be prepared.

The principal Hotels are:—The Gresham; The Bilton; Reynolds's; Morrison's; The Imperial; Machen's; The Shelbourne; Elvidge's.

The following notices of motion have been given:—

Mr. WATKIN WILLIAMS: To alter Law VIII, by inserting "Vice-Presidents" after "President of the Association for the year."

Dr. J. SEATON: To substitute for Law I, "That the Association shall be called 'The Medical Association of Great Britain and Ireland'; or, 'The Medical Association of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland'."

The Rev. Dr. BELL: "That it is inexpedient to make such extensive changes in the form and conduct of the JOURNAL, as have just been made, without the consent of the members assembled at an annual meeting."

Dr. BELL will also ask this question: "Why are the subscriptions of members directed to be paid to the Secretary, and not to the Treasurer?" and will ask leave to move a resolution, if he think the reply requires that he should do so.

Papers have been promised by

Dr. HENRY BENNET: Treatment of Pulmonary Consumption.

Dr. MCCALL ANDERSON: On a Case of Ephidrosis Cruenta, or Bloody Sweat; with Remarks.

Dr. LORY MARSH: On Idiopathic Abscess of the Brain.

Dr. GEORGE BUCHANAN: On the Treatment of Elephantiasis by Ligature of the Main Artery of the Limb; with a Case in which cure was effected by Ligature of the External Iliac Artery.

Dr. S. GORDON: On Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

HENRY THOMPSON, Esq.: Considerations suggested by the Study of One Hundred Cases of Stone in the Bladder of the Adult, recently Operated on.

Dr. W. PIRRIE: On Acupressure.

Dr. C. FLEMING: On the Surgical Pathology of the Urine.

Dr. F. R. CRUISE: On the Endoscope.

J. TUNNELL, Esq.: On Stricture of the Rectum.

H. LEE, Esq.: Modern Views on the Pathology and Treatment of Syphilis.

Dr. KIRKPATRICK: Treatment of Diseased Joints by Escharotics.

Dr. RAWDON MACNAMARA: Ligature of the Femoral Artery according to the Plan of the late Professor Porter.

Dr. HINGSTON (Montreal): An Operation for the Relief of Deformity from Disease of the Hip-joint.

Dr. F. CHURCHILL: Granular Endometritis.

Dr. ALTHAUS: Electrolysis of Tumours.

Dr. GREENHALGH: Casarean Section.

Dr. HAYDEN: Diagnosis of Functional Cardiac Murmurs.

Dr. DENHAM: The Use of Ergot of Rye.

Dr. O'LEARY: Animal Heat.

Sir J. Y. SIMPSON: The Cephalotribe.

Dr. RINGLAND: Cases illustrating the Use of the Cephalotribe.

Dr. MCCLINTOCK: The Spontaneous Elimination of Fibrous Tumours of the Uterus.

GEORGE SOUTHAM, Esq.: Three Cases of Spontaneous Fracture of Urinary Calculi in the Bladder.

Dr. AVELING: Pelvi-Uterine Mensuration, by means of combined sounds.

Dr. ASHE: Suggestions for the Improvement of the Medical Profession.

Dr. MAPOTHER: The Topography of Cholera.

Dr. MAPOTHER: Treatment of Aneurism; Advantages of completely arresting the Current through the Sac.

P. C. LITTLE, Esq.: Experience of Cholera during the late Epidemic; with Cases.

Dr. HALTON: Cases in Practical Medicine.

Dr. M'GREVVY: Remarks on the Nature, Symptoms, and Treatment of Cholera.

Dr. HENRY KENNEDY: Are the Types of Fever Limited?

Dr. G. PATON: Researches on the Action of the Heart.

Dr. LEARED: On the Successful Use of Arsenic in Certain Painful Affections of the Stomach.

J. Z. LAURENCE, Esq.: A Case of Traumatic Aneurism of the Orbit, in which the Common Carotid Artery was Successfully Tied.

J. Z. LAURENCE, Esq.: Further Experience on Removal of the Lacrymal Gland as a Radical Cure of Lacrymal Disease.

Dr. H. COLLIS: The Treatment of Tumours by Electricity.

Dr. MACKINDER: On Fistula in Ano.

Dr. SHINKWIN: On Hydrophobia; its History, Pathology, and Treatment.

Dr. BRAXTON HICKS: To exhibit a Cephalotribe: with Remarks.

Dr. KIDD: To exhibit a Cephalotribe: with Remarks.

Dr. DALDY: On Hysteria treated by Strychnia.

In order to facilitate the business of the meeting, it is particularly requested that all papers be sent to the General Secretary, on or before the 1st of August, if possible.

T. WATKIN WILLIAMS, *General Secretary*.

13, Newhall Street, Birmingham, July 1867.

REPORT OF MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL,

Held at Birmingham, July 5th, 1867.

PRESENT: Dr. Sibson, F.R.S. (in the Chair); Mr. Bartleet; Mr. T. H. Bartleet; Dr. Bryan; Mr. Burrows; Mr. Clayton; Dr. Falconer; Dr. Simpson; Mr. Heckstall Smith; Dr. Stewart; Dr. Edward Waters; and Mr. Williams (General Secretary).

The following resolutions were adopted.

1. That a Subcommittee, consisting of Dr. Edward Waters, Mr. Husband, Dr. Simpson, Mr. Southam, and Mr. Nunneley, be appointed to consider what alteration shall be recommended in the mode of electing the Council of Medical Education, so that the great body of the profession shall be more fairly represented; and to report at the next meeting of the Committee of Council.

2. That the Right Hon. E. Headlam should be respectfully requested to move for parliamentary returns of all officers of health and inspectors of nuisances, of the population and areas of their respective districts, of the salaries paid to them, and of the duties they are required to discharge.

T. WATKIN WILLIAMS, *General Secretary*.

13, Newhall Street, Birmingham, July 17th, 1867.

THE NORTHERN BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE third Annual Meeting of this Branch was held in the library of the Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Thursday, June 20th, E. CHARLTON, M.D., in the chair. There were also present 21 members and 4 visitors.

Sir JOHN FIFE, on rising to retire from the presidency, said: I have the honour this day of divesting myself of the very agreeable and satisfactory position in which you did me the honour of placing me last year. Since that time, the Branch has gone on steadily progressing; increasing in power, increasing in numbers, increasing in moral influence, and I hope and trust that it will go on in its great and favourable course, securing not only the advancement of science, but the honour and interests of the profession. I have two motives, or rather I have two sentiments, which make my resignation to-day more agreeable than it might have been; one is, that I leave the Branch going on and growing in power and usefulness; and the other is, that I am to be succeeded by a gentleman who I believe is in every way qualified to carry out the intentions of the great Association. I do not think that you could more securely have provided for that progress than by the election of Dr. Charlton, as my successor. Gentlemen, I have the honour of resigning my position as President, and I do so with gratitude to you, and with satisfaction to myself.

Dr. CHARLTON then took the seat vacated by Sir John Fife, and after a few preliminary remarks, delivered a very able and scientific address. He commenced by stating that more than twenty years ago, at the council meeting of the Association at Sheffield, a hope was expressed that ere long Newcastle would be favoured by a visit from the Association. The town was not then, as it is now, in communication by railway with all the districts of the southern and midland parts of England; it had not then itself become the centre of a great railway system, nor had it risen to the high and prosperous condition that it now exhibits. A year or two later, the question of a visit to Newcastle was again debated; but so few were the northern members of the Association at that time that the subject was again dropped, and had not been revived till a very recent period. Even as yet they had not succeeded in alluring the British Medical Association to the town; but they might congratulate themselves that there had at last been laid the foundation stone for so desirable a visit by the establishment of the Northern Branch. The members felt themselves now united in a bond of brotherhood with the medical practitioners further south; they were no longer here in an isolated position, but they took a part in all the great questions on which the Association brought its influence to bear. He then proceeded to say that it would be unnecessary to recall all that the Association has effected, or striven for during its existence, as their excellent journal recorded the same. He would rather consider some

of the great questions in medical science, that are now being discussed and elucidated. He selected for his theme, diseases of the chest, and minutely reviewed the changes of opinion and treatment that he had witnessed during the thirty years he had been a member of the profession.

Mr. H. G. HARDY proposed that the best thanks of the meeting be given to their worthy President, for his able and learned address.

Dr. EMBLETON seconded the proposition.

The motion was carried by acclamation, and the President acknowledged the compliment.

Dr. NATTRASS moved—

"That the thanks of the meeting be given to the retiring President, Sir John Fife, the council of management, and the other officers, for their services during the past year."

Dr. KENTON seconded the motion, which was cordially agreed to.

Sir JOHN FIFE thanked the members for their kind expressions of feeling.

Treasurer's Report. Dr. PHILIPSON read the treasurer's statement, which showed that the balance in hand, at the commencement of 1866 was four shillings, and the amount received in the shape of annual subscriptions, £8:1:6, total £8:5:6. The expenses, during the year 1866, amounted to £7:18:3, leaving on December 31st, 1866, a balance of 7s. 3d.

New Members. The following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Association and Branch: William Anderson, Esq., Newcastle; Thomas Currie, Esq., Ambleside, Northumberland; Robert Davis, Esq., Wrekenton, Gateshead; Joseph Frain, M.D., South Shields; and John Hawthorn, Esq., Newcastle.

Officers for 1867-8. On the motion of Mr. HUMBLE, seconded by Mr. JOHN RUSSELL, it was unanimously resolved—

"That the next annual meeting be held at Darlington; that John Jobson, Esq., F.R.C.S., of Bishop Auckland, be President-elect; Dr. Philipson, honorary secretary and treasurer; Dr. White, Dr. Embleton, S. E. Piper, Esq., and G. Welford, Esq., the council of management."

Representatives to the General Council. On the motion of Dr. JONES, seconded by Mr. M. J. O'CONNOR, the following members were elected to represent the Branch in the General Council of the Association; Sir John Fife, E. Charlton, M.D., James Mackie, Esq., H. G. Hardy, Esq., and G. H. Philipson, M.D., *ex officio*.

Amendment of the Medical Act. THE PRESIDENT moved—

"That this meeting considers that it is of the greatest importance that the Medical Act should be amended; that it is highly desirable to afford every support to the General Medical Council in their endeavours to obtain an amendment act; that, as soon therefore as the Medical Acts Amendment Bill is before Parliament, a petition in support of it be forwarded to both Houses of Parliament, and a representation be made to Her Majesty's Government from the Northern Branch of the British Medical Association."

Sir JOHN FIFE seconded the motion, stating that the Medical Act was deficient in strength, in stringency, and in clearness. The Act, now obscure, might be elucidated by amendment.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Amendment of the Sanitary Laws. Dr. PHILIPSON drew attention to the great necessity of taking some decided course of action for the improvement of the Sanitary Laws. He submitted Dr. Stewart's essay on the Medical and Legal Aspects of Sanitary Reform, and mentioned that, Dr. Stewart's object being to diffuse the information as widely as possible, he had kindly entered into an arrangement with the publisher to supply copies of the publication, at a reduced rate, to the Branches of the Association.

THE PRESIDENT acknowledged the enormous importance of a strict investigation of the sanitary laws, and moved—

"That, as accurate information from officers of health and inspectors of nuisances is urgently needed, petitions from the Northern Branch of the British Medical Association be presented to both Houses of Parliament, entreating that an annual return be made to Parliament by all officers of health, and inspectors of nuisances, respecting the population and areas of their respective districts, the salaries paid to them, and the duties they are required to discharge."

Dr. WHITE seconded the resolution, which was unanimously carried.

The majority of the members present gave in their names for Dr. Stewart's essay.

Specimens.—1. Dr. GIBB described a case of Melanosis, illustrated by specimens and photographs.

The patient, an agricultural labourer, aged 52, was studded with numberless small tumours, varying in size from a pea to a walnut.

Dr. PHILIPSON exhibited under the microscope, and described a specimen of the tumour; the cells containing the pigment being well seen.

2. Dr. PHILIPSON showed a model of an adult hand, with Supernume-

rary fingers, which closely resembled a conjoined right and left hand, the fingers corresponding to the index being bifid.

3. Dr. HEATH described a case of Congenital Deformity, in a child, the tibia and patella being wanting. Mechanical appliances had been employed for some months, when, in consequence of the leg not growing in equal proportion to the other portions of the body, and as great inconvenience was occasioned by the head of the fibula projecting into the lower portion of the thigh, it was considered advisable to amputate. The amputated limb, and a model of the leg before amputation, were shown.

4. Dr. HEATH also exhibited three Ovarian Tumours, which he had removed by operation, and gave a full description of the cases.

5. The PRESIDENT exhibited some beautiful Coloured Plates of Elephantiasis Græcorum, obtained from Bergen.

Paper.—Dr. DONKIN read a highly interesting paper on the Histological Relation between the Tonsils and Scarlatina, and other Acute Afflictions of those Organs; and also on the Analogy between Scarlatina and Enteric Fever."

The meeting ended with votes of thanks to those gentlemen who had been kind enough to read papers and give descriptions.

Dinner.—The members and their friends, to the number of twenty-six, afterwards dined together at the Queen's Head Hotel, the ex-president, Sir John Fife, in the absence of the President, (who had been suddenly summoned from the meeting to proceed some distance into the country) occupying the chair. After the loyal toasts, Sir John Fife, in eloquent terms, proposed "success to the British Medical Association," with especial reference to its Northern Branch. Mr. John Hawthorn, as the youngest member, returned thanks, acquiescing in the remarks made by Sir John Fife, that the organisation was eminently calculated to advance science, and to promote friendly intercourse. He bore testimony to the courtesy manifested by the members one towards another, and to the sympathy existing between them. Dr. White, in eulogistic terms, gave the General Medical Council, coupled with the health of Dr. Embleton, which that gentleman acknowledged. Other toasts followed, including the President, President-elect, Chairman, Secretary, and other medical societies, responded to by Dr. Gibb, as President of the Northumberland and Durham Medical Society.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of the West Somerset Branch was held at Clarke's Castle Hotel, Taunton, on Wednesday, July 3rd, at half-past two o'clock. Fifteen members were present.

The retiring President, Mr. Burt, after making some appropriate remarks on his past year of office, vacated the chair, which was then taken by the President, C. H. CORNISH, Esq.

President's Address. The PRESIDENT, in reviewing the great changes which had occurred in the thirty-five years during which he had been in the profession, observed that in his early days the large quantities of medicine given were the usual means adopted to remunerate the "doctor" for his necessary attendance. In his bill, every mixture, pill, draught, etc., were duly entered. A better system was now adopted, in which professional attendance alone was charged, and necessary medicines only were given. The valuable discoveries in chemistry, by lessening the bulk and increasing the power of drugs, had aided the medical man. In illustration, he compared the drachm doses of cinchona with the grain doses of quinine, and the daily two or three pints of compound decoction of sarza with the present concentrated decoction, and other preparations. The old and modern treatment of acute disease was adverted to, more especially pneumonia, typhoid fever, syphilis; and the abandonment of bleeding (which gave rise to an interesting discussion subsequently). The great and important improvements in surgery were commented on: poultices, as compared with warm-water dressing, Liston's splints, starch bandage, and other modern appliances in the treatment of fractures. Many limbs, that formerly would have been amputated, were now preserved by gouging in necrosis, and resection in disease of joints. While, prior to the discovery of anaesthesia, the struggles and cries of the patient were most distressing, now chloroform blesses "him that gives and him that takes." The great progress made in sanitary measures was exemplified by the state of Taunton twenty years ago, when it had upwards of three hundred open privies and cesspits; three uncovered drains running through the centre of the town, two having a scanty and uncertain supply of water, while the third, one hundred and fifty feet long, six feet wide, and six feet deep, was filled with faecal matter of many years' accumulation. Now, not an open cesspit exists; and all houses are drained into covered common sewers. In 1849, the Health of Towns Act was adopted, and was followed by a great improvement in

the health of the town, more especially in diseases of the zymotic class. In the two years preceding the application of the Health of Towns Act, 1848-9, the mortality from all causes was 755; of whom died of zymotic diseases, 174; of whom were infants under five years of age, 262. Eight years after the Act had been applied, in the two years 1856-7, the deaths were, from all causes, 605; of whom died of zymotic diseases, 74; of whom were infants under five years of age, 175. Eighteen years after the Act had been in operation, in the two years 1865-6, the deaths from all causes were 655; of whom died of zymotic diseases, 97; of whom were infants under five years of age, 187. The large increase of the population during the last eighteen years accounts for the greater number of deaths during the last two years, as compared with the years 1856-7.

Mr. RANDOLPH, after proposing a vote of thanks to the President for his interesting address, which was carried by acclamation, remarked on the neglect of the lancet now-a-days, to which allusion had been made in the address; and also commented on the stimulating plan of treatment, which, he thought, was often injuriously employed. He advocated the use of venesection, especially in acute pneumonia.

Dr. CORDWENT, Mr. PRANKERD, Mr. NORRIS, and Mr. ALFORD, severally spoke on the above and other points suggested by the address; and the opinion was generally assented to, that abstraction of blood, general and local, was a remedy not resorted to now as much as it ought to be.

Absent Members. The Secretary produced letters from Mr. Plowman, Mr. G. R. Norris, Dr. Adams, Mr. Martin, Mr. Olivey, Mr. Stuckey, and Mr. Reynolds, stating their several reasons for not being present.

Business. The minutes of the last annual meeting were read.

Report of Council. The following Report of Council was then read and adopted.

"1. Since the last annual meeting, your Council have been called together thrice only, and on matters of routine business.

"2. Two intermediate general meetings of the Branch were held—the first on September 26th, and the second on March 20th, at which the following communications were made. 1. A Case of Dislocation of the Fourth Cervical Vertebra. By W. L. Winterbotham, Esq.—2. A Case of Excision of the Head of the Femur. By W. Liddon, Esq.—3. A Case of Imperforate Rectum. By W. Liddon, Esq.—4. A Case of Diseased Bladder. By W. M. Kelly, M.D.—5. A Case of Strangulated Femoral Hernia, operated on, and followed by Tetanus. By W. L. Winterbotham, Esq.—6. A Case of Diseased Foot, operated on, and followed by Sudden Death from the Bursting of an Abscess of the Liver. By W. L. Winterbotham, Esq.

"3. At the meeting held on March 20th, the following resolution was passed: 'That, in the opinion of this meeting, the Medical Council should contain representatives elected by the general profession, in addition to the representatives of examining bodies and the nominees of the Crown.' This subject appears to have simultaneously engaged the attention of the editor of the *Medical Mirror*, as a circular was issued the day after the above resolution was passed (viz., on March 21st), from the office of that paper, suggesting that petitions should be sent to the House of Commons praying that 'additional representatives, to be duly elected by the votes of constituencies of registered practitioners throughout the United Kingdom, may be sanctioned.'

"4. The Treasurer's report, presented herewith, shows a balance to the credit of the Branch of £4:5:7.

5. The Council have the pleasure to state that the number of members in the Branch continues to increase. At the annual meeting in 1865 there were thirty, in 1866 thirty-four, and at this time there are thirty-seven, on the list. Three new members will be proposed for admission this day.

"6. A letter from the editor of the *JOURNAL*, suggesting that this meeting might be made the occasion for strengthening our Branch, will be read to you. Your Council think it a matter of congratulation that the Association has in Mr. Ernest Hart so able an editor, and are happy to draw attention to the specially good opportunity he alludes to in his letter for gentlemen to join the Association at this moment. The Council can assure all such that not only will they find the British Medical Association to afford them the best medium for promoting their individual and the general good of the profession, but also, for a small annual subscription, they will receive a weekly paper which is steadily taking its proper place as the leading medical journal of the United Kingdom."

Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer's balance-sheet was presented, audited, and approved.

A Letter from the Editor of the Journal, alluded to in the Report of Council, was read; and a list of names was made out to whom it was recommended the Association prospectus should be sent, and also a copy of the *JOURNAL*.

New Members. Dr. Elms, of Bishop's Lydeard, Taunton; Mr. Wm. Henry Axford, of Bridgwater; and Mr. John Hughes, of Curry Revel, Taunton, were admitted members of the Association and of the Branch.

Intermediate Meetings. It was resolved: "That meetings be held on the 18th September and 8th April next, at 5 P.M."

Next Annual Meeting: President-elect. It was resolved: "That the next annual meeting be held at Bridgwater; and that W. L. Winerbotham, Esq., be President-elect."

Representatives in the General Council. It was resolved: "That C. H. Cornish, Esq., be elected to represent the Branch in the General Council of the Association, together with the Honorary Secretary, Dr. Kelly."

Members of the Council of the Branch. It was resolved: "That Messrs. Alford, Randolph, and W. Liddon, be elected to fill the vacancies in the Council."

Secretary and Treasurer. It was resolved: "That Dr. Kelly be elected as Honorary Secretary and Treasurer."

Votes of Thanks to the past President, the Council for the past year, and to the Secretary and Treasurer, were passed.

Papers. The following were read.

1. Case of Death from Chloroform. By H. J. Alford, Esq.

2. Case of Inguinal Hernia. By H. J. Alford, Esq.

3. Complicated Case of Placenta Prævia and Twins. By H. J. Norris, Esq.

Dinner. Fifteen members of the Branch dined together, and spent a pleasant evening.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PUBLIC VACCINATION.

LETTER FROM SEPTIMUS GIBBON, M.B.

SIR,—Dr. Edward Seaton is in error in attributing to me the assertion that the vaccinator would have to pay the postage of his certificates. What I did say was, that the public vaccinator will be required to transmit by post or otherwise the certificate to the registrar who recorded the birth *within twenty-one days*, and that he will only be paid for the operations whose certificates are duly registered. My estimate of the cost of this transmission at one penny each, which is made quite irrespective of the charge for postage, may be thought too high; but, when it is considered that these certificates are, as Mr. Lowe terms it, raised to the importance of "title-deeds," requiring to be registered by a public department, and constituted the only vouchers for payment of the doctors *when so registered*, it will necessitate the vaccinator's keeping a ledger account of them, showing their numbers, destination, etc., this, in addition to time occupied in folding, directing, and sending to the post-office or the registrar, will, I think, be poorly compensated at a penny each.

The cost of postage is a separate question. The privilege of free post certainly is not granted by the Bill; and eminent lawyers and other members of Parliament say that either the doctor, registrar, or their masters, the guardians, must pay it. Dr. Seaton's assurance on the point is satisfactory; but it would be more so, if we knew who or what assured Dr. Seaton. Perhaps he intends to pay postage out of the prize-money that he and Mr. Simon are to award to such vaccinators "as they consider have been sufficiently zealous and efficient in their office."

The other assurance of Dr. Seaton is directly at variance with what Lord R. Montagu told the House of Commons and our deputation. To the former he said, "The register of certificates will be used to check the demands of the public vaccinators." To us he said *distinctly*, "The public vaccinator will only be paid according to his certificates entered on the register." I said, "Then, my lord, we are to understand the effect of your amendment to be, that the register is to form the 'pay-sheet' of the operation." He replied, "Yes, it is." I grant Dr. Seaton that the language of the amendment (Clause 7) is not put in quite such plain English; but that I pledge myself to have been the authoritative interpretation of it. This being so, I ask whether my inference that, in the case of large towns and even villages with floating populations, the public vaccinator will lose about one-fourth of his fees, unless a sort of *registration clearing-house for the United Kingdom is established*, is unfair. Dr. Seaton omits this proviso. I am no alarmist, and have no necessity to draw attention to imaginary faults, when so many real ones exist in this Bill. My only desire is that the measure should be fair and honourable to the profession, and satisfactory to the public. This Bill appears to me to treat the public vaccinators like school-children under one clause, and the whole profession like felons and "ticket-of-leave" under another. The public are certainly treated

with less injustice than the profession; but some clauses affecting them are unjust, and absurdly restrictive and coercive. I fear, therefore, if the measure pass without considerable modifications, an agitation will be commenced to do away with compulsory vaccination altogether.

July 1867.

I am, etc., SEPTIMUS GIBBON.

SPECIAL DEPARTMENTS.

LETTER FROM GEORGE JOHNSON, M.D.

SIR,—The letter of a Provincial Physician in the last number of your JOURNAL exhibits a new phase and tendency of specialism. In the opinion of this writer, the general hospitals should enlarge their staff of officers by appointing a number of special teachers of special subjects. Let this idea be fully carried out, and any physician or surgeon who presumes to meddle with the diseases of more than one organ will be guilty of "pluralism." The auscultator must not use a laryngoscope, nor the laryngoscopist a microscope. Instead of the great evil of special hospitals for every organ, or every class of diseases, we are invited to fill our hospitals with special doctors for special diseases, each specialist, I presume, "devoting the whole of his time" to some half dozen beds; more than he could have even in the largest of our general hospitals. I appeal to you, sir, whether it is probable that this view, if acted upon, would tend to improve clinical teaching, or to advance the science and practice of medicine.

I am, etc.,

GEORGE JOHNSON.

11, Savile Row, July 15th, 1867.

ON LUNACY IN THE YOUNG.

LETTER FROM HOLMES COOTE, ESQ.

SIR,—The proceedings of the commission at the Admiralty for inquiring into the best method of treating the venereal disease, as well as the able report from the Secretaries of the Committee of the Harveian Society, showing the necessity of extending government inspection from the public services to the civil portion of the community, have attracted, by no means too soon, a large share of earnest and general attention.

In connection with these subjects, there is another, equally deserving investigation, tacitly recognised, but not openly expressed, covered with an ambiguous term, such as "disturbance of the erotic passion"; the source of gain to the charlatan; the cause why our asylums are full of young people, and why many homes are rendered unhappy.

Some years ago, I incurred the displeasure of an amiable member of our profession by publicly saying, that there were even worse evils affecting humanity than those attending legalised prostitution.

I beg to repeat this opinion, and to put upon record that no greater service could be rendered to society than by a general medical inquiry into the causes of insanity among the young, as derived from the experience of those to whom the management of lunatic asylums is intrusted.

The subject is a delicate one to handle; and I have no desire, nor have I the full experience, to undertake the inquiry single-handed. But, from the published reports of Bethlem Hospital for the year 1862, we learn that, of the male cases admitted, numbering 17, the physical causes were—intemperance 7, masturbation 6, natural imbecility 2, fever 1, a blow on the head 1. Of 22 females admitted during the same period, the physical causes were—uterine disturbance 8, puerperal causes 9, over-lactation 2, fever 3. The moral causes were various—mental anxiety, reduced circumstances, religious excitement, loss of relations, and domestic unhappiness.

Under these returns, there is a deeper lesson yet to be gained; one which may explain why many districts of London present an appearance well calculated to shock the feelings of the philanthropist. Female patients, the subjects of this erotic excitement, may quite lose all power of self-control, and, once freed from restraint, take voluntarily to a mode of life which must terminate in their ruin.

The question may be raised, to what good would such an inquiry tend? I should reply, to more than first appears. The precise knowledge of an evil is often half its cure. Medical men, and indeed the public, may more promptly see the symptoms of the disease to which I now refer at their commencement; while, in course of time, a simpler mode of life than now is deemed necessary may satisfy those just entering upon its duties, and passions, which become a curse, may, as Nature intended them, prove the contrary. It is better, when possible, to prevent than to reclaim; and a life of the hardest toil in poverty is preferable to the aimless monotony of an existence in an asylum.

A committee of inquiry could do no harm; on the contrary, by withdrawing the veil, it might shew the existence of another great social evil, which clearly, under the influence of proper customs and regulations, might be greatly diminished.

I am, etc.,
Princes Street, Hanover Square, July 1867.

HOLMES COOTE.

MEDICO-PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Monday, July 15th, 1867.

THE LONDON WATER SUPPLY. In reply to Lord DE MAULEY, the Duke of RICHMOND said that Her Majesty's Government had issued a Royal Commission in the early part of the year, and he had presided over the Commission, which was composed of four gentlemen who were perfectly competent to enter into the inquiry. The Commission had sat from time to time since February, but had not yet been able to draw up a report, as it had been necessary to wait for the analysis of certain water collected in different parts of England, in consequence of schemes to draw water to London from Wales and elsewhere. The question of procuring a supply from the upper waters of the Thames had not been lost sight of, and in course of time he hoped that, after digesting the voluminous evidence which had been offered, embracing a good deal of scientific testimony, the Commission would be able to embody their opinions in a unanimous report upon this important subject.

VACCINATION BILL. On the motion of the Duke of MARLBOROUGH, the Earl of Shaftesbury and Earl de Grey were added to the Select Committee on this Bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday, July 15th, 1867.

DISTRICT LUNATIC ASYLUMS OFFICERS (IRELAND) BILL. This Bill was read a second time, and committed for Monday next.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (SCOTLAND) BILL was considered in Committee, and reported, and re-committed for Monday next.

IRISH INFIRMARIES AND HOSPITALS. It was resolved that a sum, not exceeding £1183, be granted for the allowances to the treasurers of public infirmaries in Ireland; and that a sum, not exceeding £11,845, be granted for the support of certain hospitals in Dublin, and for the expense of the board of superintendence.

BROWNE'S CHARITY. On the motion of Mr. LEFROY, a copy was ordered of all correspondence between the Charity Commissioners and the University of London respecting the Browne Charity Bequest.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES (ANIMALS) BILL. The committee was deferred till Thursday.

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE GUARDS. Mr. O'BEIRNE asked the Secretary of State for War whether any, and, if any, what compensation had been given or offered to those medical officers of the Brigade of Guards whose prospects of promotion were interfered with by the warrant signed in 1860, but which warrant was not promulgated until 1866.

Sir J. PAKINGTON was not aware that the Government had received any application for compensation, or that there was any ground for giving compensation to those officers. A new regulation had recently been made with regard to the promotion of medical officers, and he had no reason to think that regulation was unsatisfactory.

Tuesday, July 16th.

CARLOW LUNATIC ASYLUM. Mr. COGAN moved for copies of any correspondence between the board of governors or medical superintendent of the Carlow Lunatic Asylum in Ireland, and the inspectors of lunatic asylums in Ireland, relative to the recent appointment of a clerk and storekeeper in that institution: of the minutes of the board on the subject; and, return of the dates of the appointment of the previously appointed storekeepers in the Carlow Lunatic Asylum, stating in each case whether the appointment was made by His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, or by the medical superintendent with the sanction of the local board of governors.

AN OLD ANÆSTHETIC REVIVED.—An enterprising American dentist, says the *Chemical News*, advertises that he now takes teeth out painlessly by merely causing the patient to inhale the constituents of the atmosphere, oxygen and hydrogen, chemically combined.

PLEUROCOCCUS BEIGELI.—The *Journal of Botany* gives us the first thoroughly scientific contribution published on the subject of the "bogey" some time since started by the *Lancet*—the chignon-gregarine. Dr. Beigel, after whom Herr Küchenmeister has named the parasite *Pleurococcus Beigeli*, gives some admirable sketches of the hair-parasite, and shows that the plant is of the Alga (sea-weed) type, and is not, as has been popularly supposed, a fungus. He enters into some details of a controversy which has taken place with Dr. Fox relative to priority of discovery, and advances letters from the chief continental authorities in proof of his own claim to be considered the first in the field. These we commend to the attention of those interested in such matters—*London Review*.

MEDICAL NEWS.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ERLANGEN AND SIR DOMINIC CORRIGAN.

WE are requested to state that, at a meeting of the Faculty held on July 8th, the Dean drew the attention of the members to a report of the proceedings of the General Council of Medical Education and Registration at their meeting on June 5th, and more especially to the speech of Sir Dominic Corrigan. The following resolutions were then unanimously adopted.

"1. That the Faculty have noticed with regret, and enter their protest against, the slighting remarks of Sir Dominic Corrigan on the German Universities, especially mentioning that of Erlangen.

"2. That the Faculty take this opportunity to declare that, since the beginning of 1863, when, by a resolution of the Faculty, the *promotio in absentia* has for all time been abolished, the degree of M.D. has not been conferred on any foreigner, and, consequently, on any Englishman, without his personally attending, and passing an examination by written papers, as well as *vivâ voce*. The admission to examination is, as already stated on a former occasion, unalterably dependent upon the candidate submitting legal proofs of having acquired a licence to practise, and of being on the *Medical Register*.

"The derogatory statement of Sir Dominic Corrigan is, therefore, void of foundation in all its particulars.

"In the name of the Medical Faculty, JOSEPH GERLACH, M.D."

Memorandum on the above, by SIR DOMINIC CORRIGAN, BART.

In reference to the above, I have to observe, that any "slighting remarks" I made were not in reference to *all* German Universities, but to *some* German Universities. (See Report of Debate, BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, June 15th, 1867.)

The remarks I made occurred in the course of the debate at the General Medical Council of June 5th, 1867, on the question of the admission of holders of foreign diplomas to our Register, thus making them qualified practitioners in the United Kingdom, without examination by any of our chartered bodies. I argued against the insertion of a clause with such a purport in the amended draft of a Bill then before the Council. I think I had ample grounds for the observations I made and for the line I took, in documents at the time lying before me, and from which I take the following extracts in reference to some of the German universities.

1. University of Rostock—Diploma from, "not allowed to be registered, because it appeared to have been conferred *in absentia*."

2. University of Jena—Degrees from, "not allowed to be registered, because it appeared that they had *all been conferred in absentia, and that they do not entitle the holders of them to practise in Jena*." (See Minutes of Branch Council of England, April 11th, 1859.)

3. University of Erlangen; 4. University of Giessen—"Returns from the Universities of Erlangen and Giessen were laid before the Council; and the cases of six gentlemen who have obtained degrees in those Universities without regular examination having been considered, the Council decline to make special orders for their registration." (Minutes of Irish Branch Council, May 11th, 1859.)

I think that even the Faculty of Medicine of Erlangen will hardly now maintain their proposition, that the "derogatory statement of Sir Dominic Corrigan is, therefore, void of foundation in all its particulars."

The only ground of complaint tenable is the statement, that Erlangen does not now confer on "any foreigner" its degree *in absentia* and without examination. The University of Erlangen, in the above document, admits that, up to 1863, for four years after the published resolutions of the Branch Councils of England and Ireland, it carried on the system of selling diplomas to all applicants *in absentia* and without examination; but asserts that it does not now do so, and that I omitted to state that it had repented and mended its ways. If I had been aware of this, I should have stated it; but I was not aware of it, nor did any member of the Council appear to have been aware of it. No communication, as far as I know, has ever reached either the Branch Council of England or of Ireland from Erlangen or any of the other German Universities referred to in the resolutions of April 11th and May 11th, 1859, on the subject; and the University of Erlangen, therefore, is itself alone to blame. The circumstance of Erlangen not doing, in 1865, what it admits it did in 1863, namely, selling its diploma without any examination, remitting to any purchaser its University degree in return for a bill of exchange, just as an Erlangen brewer would forward a cask of Bavarian beer on order, in no way changes my view as to the admission of foreign diplomas (and the admission of foreign diplomas is the real question at

issue); for what Erlangen, or any similar institution, did in 1863, it may do again in 1868. It may reverse its present order, and return again to the sale of diplomas, as in 1863, without examination; and if it did, and again so sold its diplomas, there would, it appears to me, be an insuperable obstacle to the General Medical Council removing the purchaser of such a diploma from the Register. The holder would apply, as has already been done in somewhat similar cases, for a *mandamus* to compel the Council to show cause why it removed his name, and, on no legal cause being shown, to make it restore his name. No matter how morally certain the Medical Council might be that the nefarious traffic was resumed, it could not, it appears to me, produce legal proof. A court of law here would have no power over the University of Erlangen to force it into court. The University would not voluntarily criminate itself, and neither would the holder of the diploma criminate himself.

The more I consider the subject, the more strongly I hope the whole profession outside the Council will unite to resist the clause introduced into the amended Bill to admit the holders of foreign diplomas to our Register without examination by one of our own licensing bodies.

I have it on most reliable authority, that, several months since, when there appeared to be a prospect of a Bill with this clause passing, blank diplomas from American Universities were offered here for £10 each, including a commission of £3 to the agent for selling them. My authority is a gentleman connected with one of our medical journals, to whom the proposal was made to act as the agent in the sale of these diplomas.

The profession may not be generally aware that some of the German Universities have two kinds of degrees—one given on examination, the other *in absentia* and without examination. This second door to a degree, it is scarcely necessary to observe, lets in an abuse that no precaution can meet, if we once open our Register to holders of foreign diplomas without examination at home.

APPOINTMENT.

CORLEW, Anthony H., M.D., Lecturer on Anatomy in the Carmichael School of Medicine, appointed Surgeon to the Jervis Street Hospital, Dublin.

BIRTHS.

BROWN. On July 12th, at Uppingham, Rutland, the wife of Frederick Warren Brown, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.
CROSSMAN. On July 7th, at Hambrook, the wife of E. Crossman, Esq., of a son.
SHEPARD. On June 25th, at Usk, the wife of A. J. Shepard, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

EDWARDS—GARDNER. On June 13th, at Rugeley, Henry Nelson Edwards, Esq., Surgeon, of Shrewsbury, to Catherine, only child of the late Thomas Gardner, Esq., of Rugeley.

MEDICAL MAGISTRATE.—On July 2nd, Dr. Robertson, of Buxton, qualified as a Magistrate for the County of Derby, at the Quarter Sessions.

THE CHOLERA AMONG THE PESHAWUR GARRISON. The Peshawur correspondent of the *Delhi Gazette* writes:—"It is somewhat remarkable that whilst cholera has tenaciously laid hold of the European soldiers of this garrison, destroying the soldiers of the 42nd Highlanders at the rate of eight to ten a day, showing itself, though mildly, among the Artillery, and carrying off a few of the 77th Regiment, there have been no cases whatever in the city, and only three or four fatal cases among the eight regiments of Native Infantry and Cavalry stationed here. Already over fifty-five men of the 42nd Highlanders have been stricken down and have succumbed. Eight or ten of the 77th Regiment, and a small number of the Artillery. About ten or twelve sepoy of the native force have been attacked, and only four or five have yielded to the disease. Among the officers of the whole garrison there has been only one casualty. These are cold, bare facts; and I have if anything under rather than over stated the number which has been carried off. The 42nd have been removed from Chumunnie to Cherat; the 77th are out at Ka Boorg; and the Artillery are at the Bara fort. Every effort has been made and every precaution adopted to shake off the disease and ensure recovery. Prompt measures have been adopted to arrest the progress of the disease, and strict orders issued for cleansing, whitewashing, and fumigating barracks and huts. There are but few Europeans in the garrison, not above two companies of the 77th, I think, the native force alone garrisoning the place, and performing all garrison duties. All leave has been stopped, and all officers have been ordered to return to duty." According to the *Englishman*, telegrams report that eighty Europeans have fallen before the outbreak of cholera, and that of these sixty belonged to the 42nd Highlanders (the Black Watch) alone.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 9 A.M. and 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.
TUESDAY.....Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.
WEDNESDAY...St. Mary's, 2 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.—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 Demonstrations and Operations), 1 P.M.—Royal Free, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

FRIDAY.—Quekett Microscopical Club (University College, Gower Street), 8 P.M. Annual General Meeting.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MEMBERS are reminded that it is a matter of great convenience and economy to the Association, and conduces to the efficiency of its working and to their comfort and advantage, that their subscriptions, which are now due, should be paid promptly to the Secretary, Mr. T. WATKIN WILLIAMS, Newhall Street, Birmingham; or to the Secretaries of their respective Branches.

All Letters and Communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the EDITOR, 37, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

AUTHORS OF PAPERS are respectfully requested to make all necessary alterations in their copy before sending it to the JOURNAL. Proofs are furnished to authors, not for further changes, but that the writer may correct the printer when he has misread the manuscript.

Communications as to the transmission of the JOURNAL, should be sent to Mr. RICHARDS, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.

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

P. L. G. (Dublin).—The degrees of "Doctor of Medicine" and "Master in Surgery" of the Queen's University in Ireland, do qualify for a Poor-law appointment in England.

THE COLLEGE COUNCILLORS.

THE *Medical Times and Gazette* inserts a letter, in which the writer entirely misrepresents the purport of our article of June 29th, on the Council Election of the College of Surgeons. It is unnecessary to say to our own readers—but this letter makes it otherwise desirable to recal the fact—that the candidates on whose claims we especially dwelt were Mr. Prescott Hewett, Mr. Spencer Smith, and Mr. Birkett. This writer seems very angry that we referred with just courtesy to the feelings and opinions of the party who supported Mr. Skeay (and voted for him subsequently to the number of eighty-seven); he totally perverts what we felt and said concerning the unsolicited patronage forced upon Mr. Hewett without his knowledge. It is, we know, generally admitted, that the article in question, by placing before the Fellows a fair view of the claims of Mr. Hewett, Mr. Spencer Smith, and Mr. Birkett, largely contributed to the result of the election. The claims of Mr. Holden—on the ground of his being a Fellow by examination—had been so strongly agitated to the detriment of his seniors, that we felt bound to review the whole argument, and lay bare the facts. Our opinion was, that Mr. Hewett, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Birkett, irrespectively of all personal feelings or party combinations, possessed the strongest claims to the vacant seats. We congratulate ourselves that the electors endorsed that opinion, notwithstanding the means used elsewhere to warp their judgment.

DR. QUINLAN (Dublin) is thanked for his very interesting communication.

A BOUQUET.

SIR,—One who has just taken the Oath to sustain the dignity of the Profession, sends you an advertisement from the *Manchester Courier*, which appears in your number for June 22nd. What will he think of the state of morality here, when I say that the four enclosed advertisements are all from one paper—viz., the *Belfast Illustrated Advertiser* for June 15th? There are several others in the paper; but I have cut out those only in which a professional title is assumed. I am, etc., M.D.

*The advertisements enclosed are of the worst type. They are from Dr. Curtis, *On Manhood*, and Dr. Hammond, and from Mr. Hoghton, who signs himself M.R.C.S. and L.S.A. There was once a Francis Robert Hoghton on the list of members of the College of Surgeons; but the name is no longer in the Calendar, although he is registered as one of the members of the College. This should be seen to by the Registrar.

THE communications of Mr. Bowles, Folkestone, Dr. Whitehead, Manchester, Dr. J. Edmunds, London, etc., shall receive as early insertion as possible. The delay, however, is involuntary.

MR. WESTWOOD (Birmingham) having seen the patient prior to her death, and witnessed the death, should, we consider, have been called to give evidence at the inquest.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.—Advertisements should be forwarded direct to the Printing-Office, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C., addressed to Mr. Richards, not later than *Thursday*, twelve o'clock.

A "CERTIFIED AND RECOMMENDED" MEDICINE.—The following advertisement, cut from the daily papers, has been forwarded to us.

"**Brähee.**—Notice.—Arrangements have been completed by which this remarkable remedy for rheumatism, lumbago, neuralgia, toothache, coughs, and affections from cold, may now be had from every respectable druggist in town and country. Brähee is certified and recommended in the *Lancet*, as possessing a curative power in the affections named altogether and peculiarly its own. It stands out, indeed, as a remedy of unique value. It is most agreeable to the taste—even a young child will take it eagerly. It is delightfully tonic and restorative in its action, and it requires no change whatever in diet or habits. The report of cases, with accompanying remarks, which appeared in the *Lancet*, together with reports of additional cases, may be had from any druggist, or from the London or Edinburgh agents. Brähee is offered to the public in this manner, in compliance with a frequently expressed opinion, that a medicine so remarkably efficacious in affections so proverbially obstinate and painful, should have given to it the widest possible publicity. It is sold at a price to bring it as far as possible within the reach of all classes. 1s. 1jd. and ss. 9d. per packet.—London: R. May; Rew & Co.; Barclay; Sanger; Edwards."

Q. Z.—Contributions are welcome, from whatever source; and, provided they are recommended by intrinsic merit, they need no other introduction. But those forwarded are not suited for our publication; and on this ground, and from no personal reasons, we shall not be able to use them. If they were up to the mark, and otherwise usable, we should not care whether X. contributed to every journal in London, or confined his talents solely to the edification of our readers. He may, if he pleases, try again. We recommend to him—1, extreme brevity and careful condensation; 2, the absence of fine writing, and careful omission of style; 3, the largest possible proportion of fact with the smallest of comment. We cannot undertake to return his MS., or to communicate with him privately or personally.

MR. H. LANKESTER (Leicester).—We shall note the instance forwarded for reference, if necessary. We have received no communication from the Board, or we should have gone once more into the matter. The remarks lately made in the *JOURNAL* will have a very salutary effect, and produce a further benefit.

MR. F. G. EVANS (Tynant, Pentrych, near Cardiff).—The communication is deferred, but shall be inserted in an early number.

DR. J. B. PITT (Norwich).—Thanks; the matter has been attended to.

DR. DRYSDALE.—Which first?

L.S.A. must forward the statement in full, with dates and names, not necessarily for publication, but for the purpose of consideration of the details, and of verification of the disputed points. But a meeting of the parties might lead to a satisfactory private settlement. Is there no third person who would mediate?

THE BRITISH PHARMACOPEIA.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"On looking over the 'British Pharmacopœia Statement,' published in the *JOURNAL* of June 15th, at p. 715, I was struck by the unusually large (as it appears to me) allowance of one-third to booksellers. As the profession has been so heavily taxed on account of the expenses of the General Medical Council, I think it would have been but just to the members not to have allowed more than the usual 25 per cent., and thus, in some degree, to provide for the loss sustained by the publication of the first *British Pharmacopœia*; or to allow an honorarium or increased salary to the underpaid clerks of the Council."

A CAUSE OF VOMITING.

SIR.—For the last two or three years, I have had so many severe cases of sudden vomiting, colic, and obstinate constipation—the vomiting persisting several days after the bowels have been freely relieved—that it has been evident that some specific cause was in existence; and I think it is clearly attributable to the substitute for turpentine used in painting (called mineral turps in the trade), in consequence of the immense increase of cost of the latter article. As the American market is again open, and thus the cause is disappearing, the effect also may cease; but painters continue to use the cheaper article, and the complaint continues. If I am right, other members must have had similar cases, and so I have thought it well to mention the subject. I am, etc.,

Herne Bay, June 1887.

THOMAS GODFREY.

A CAUTION TO BATHERS.—That indefatigable sanitarian, M. A. B., is convinced that cases are not rare in which sudden death takes place in the bath. The immediate cause of the fatality is recorded as "apoplexy"; but if the facts were still further investigated, the seizure might most probably be referred to the use of the bath too soon after a full meal. Her suggestion is this: let notices be set up in a conspicuous place in every bath, cautioning the public not to bathe within two hours after a meal. Without discussing the frequency of the fatality, which seems here to be exaggerated, we may say that the caution is timely and useful.

MALE AND FEMALE BIRTHS.

THE Indian correspondent of the *Times*, referring to the recent census of India, says: "The census reveals the fact, that only 864 females are born to every 1000 males, and this is true of Southern Asia generally. Mr. Plowden finds the cause not merely in infanticide, war, and ill-treatment of women, which, under our rule, have largely ceased to operate, but chiefly in this, that the warmer a country is, and the older a husband is, as compared with his wife, the greater the number of male births. Statisticians and physiologists are well aware of this, and it throws some light on a long-queried question of polyandry." Are physiologists well aware of this?

CADBURY'S COCOA ESSENCE.—Messrs. Cadbury Brothers, Birmingham, have brought under public notice a preparation called "cocoa essence," which is of the kind to which we have before called attention as being desirable. The excess of fatty matter which makes cocoa indigestible to many stomachs, is removed—being only 16 per cent. in lieu of 50 per cent. The value of the alkaloid of cocoa is equal to that of either coffee or tea, with which, indeed, chemically it is identified. In dealing with its dietetic value, the character of the complementary material must be considered; and cocoa treated thus will, we expect, prove to be one of the most nutritious, digestible, and restorative of drinks.

LUNACY CERTIFICATES.—A correspondent (Nottingham) complains that, with respect to the certificates for pauper lunatics for admission into asylums suddenly, the guardians and clerk to same give the benefit to others than the medical officers of unions, which is most unjust; and there is no distinct law against the medical officers having benefit of the same.

THE NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICE.—A Staff-Surgeon R.N., writing to the *Army and Navy Gazette*, concerning the article in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* on the Deficiency of Medical Officers in the Navy, intimates that the dissatisfaction of the senior officers with the present terms of retirement is the main reason. No doubt he has hit one of the nails on the head—not for the first time, however, since we have repeatedly hammered at the same grievance.

L. S.—We are not sure that the St. Andrew's Graduates' Association will be doing a wise thing in extending the organisation to others than graduates. It would lose its *raison d'être*, by including other interests than those of the University, and would no longer have the force which belongs to a coherent body, with a single interest and definite aims. In its present form it promises well.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OPERATIONS.

MR. W. DRUCE (Oxford) proposes that we should publish each week a list of operations expected at the several hospitals. It would be difficult to make the list at all complete; but we shall be happy to publish such announcements, if the surgeons will, through their house-surgeons and dressers, forward the announcements to this office, not later than 10 o'clock on Thursday morning in each week.

A GUY'S MAN.—The physician who was conspicuous at the recent election into the Council of the College of Surgeons, is not a Fellow of the College, and consequently was not entitled to be present. The publication of your letter would serve no purpose: an especial communication has been made on the subject.

DR. PARSONS is warmly thanked.

DR. PATTERSON (Balbeggie).—We regret to be unable to make any arrangements of the kind suggested.

MR. F. GODRICH (Brompton) is thanked for his kindness and trouble in obtaining the desired information.

CLUB PAYMENTS.

L. F. (Birkenhead) writes:—"Seven years' bodily health for a guinea! Such is the ridiculous rate at which clubmen pay legally qualified medical men for their services and medicines. It is utterly preposterous, and would not be offered had men sufficient regard for themselves and their health, or respect for the truthful science of medicine."

A MEMBER OF TWENTY YEARS' STANDING.—We received by the same post letter of a precisely opposite character; and such is obviously the general feeling.

CHLOROFORM HALLUCINATIONS.

SIR.—You have referred to the miserable case at the Old Bailey, of alleged criminal assault under chloroform by a dentist. I cannot help thinking cases of this kind deserve more attention than they receive. I have now collected at least six instances where such assault was disproved; but where the woman was labouring under a chloroform hallucination that indecent liberties had been taken with her. It is probably more common during a particular monthly irritation or molimen. Sackville Street, July 1887. I am, etc., CHARLES KIDD, M.D.

DR. PRIOR (Bedford).—On the earliest opportunity.

DR. PERCY shall receive a private letter from the reviewer.

COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, ETC., have been received from:—

Dr. J. Whitehead, Manchester; Dr. Falconer, Bath (with enclosure); Dr. Loom (with enclosure); Dr. W. Rommelere, Brussels; Dr. Parsons; M. H. Lowndes, Liverpool; Mr. Tufnell; Dr. G. K. H. Paterson, Balbeggie; Mr. E. Crossman, Liverpool; Mr. Hussey, Oxford; L. F., Birkenhead; Dr. Lingens, Hereford; Dr. Christian Bäumler; Dr. G. Johnson (with enclosure); Dr. J. Burdon Sanderson (with enclosure); Mr. Holmes Coote; Dr. Prior, Bedford (with enclosure); Mr. E. Eytton Jones, Wrexham (with enclosure); Dr. Langdon Down, Earlswood; Dr. MacCormac, Belfast; Mr. R. L. Bowles, Folkestone; Dr. Edmunds; Dr. Lea Mirzapore; Dr. Humphry, Cambridge (with enclosure); Mr. F. Godrich, Brompton (with enclosure); Dr. W. Addison, Brighton (with enclosure); Dr. G. H. Phillips, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (with enclosure); Mr. De la Garde, Exeter; Dr. Herman Weber (with enclosure); Dr. B. Dubourg, Paris; Mr. W. L. Winterbotham, Bridge water (with enclosure); Dr. Westwood, Birmingham; Mr. G. Norman, Ilkerton; Dr. Henry Simpson, Manchester (with enclosure); Dr. Septimus Gibbon (with enclosure); Dr. Edmund Percy; Dr. Mapother, Dublin; Mr. Charles M. Frost; Mr. George Bottomley, Croydon; Dr. William Ogle, Derby; Mr. J. W. Trotter, Dublin; Mr. G. Gaskoin (with enclosure); Mr. Erasmus Wilson; Dr. Leonard Sedgwick (with enclosure); Dr. Quinlan, Dublin; P. L. G.; Mr. Bywater; Mr. C. Copney; Mr. T. Watkin Williams, Birmingham; Mr. J. B. Curgenven (with enclosure); Sir Dominic Corrigan (with enclosure); Dr. Falconer, Bath; Dr. J. Edmunds (with enclosure); Mr. Bremridge (with enclosure); Dr. Lietch, Kew; Mr. G. Callender; Dr. Van der Corput, Brussels; Dr. Warwick, Richmond; The Registrar-General of England; The Registrar-General of Ireland; The Secretaries of the Bath and Bristol Branch; Mr. T. M. Stone; Mr. Jolliffe Tufnell, Dublin; and Dr. Hughlings Jackson.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

On the Diagnosis and Treatment of the Varieties of Dyspepsia, etc. By Wm. Fox, M.D. London, F.R.C.P. London: 1887.
Sandown, Isle of Wight, as a Residence and as a Health Resort. By Henry Maudslayi, M.D. London: 1887.
Propriétés Désinfectantes des Permanganates Alcalins. Par Henry Bollmann. Paris: 1887.
The Actual Process of Nutrition in the Living Structure demonstrated by the Microscope, etc. By Wm. Addison, F.L.S. London: 1887.
Some Experience in the Difficulties attending the Cure of Cholera, in July and August 1866. By a Physician. London: 1867.

The Brighton Guardian, June 12th; The Buxton Advertiser, July 6th; The Staffordshire Sentinel, July 6th; Supplement to the Norwich Mercury, July 6th; Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury, July 5th; The Manchester Guardian, July 11th; The Devon Weekly Times.