

The same doses, given internally in a twenty-five percental solution, are fatal, with similar symptoms, in the same time, or even more quickly, and produce intensely corrosive effects in the mucous lining of the stomach. Smaller doses (fifteen to thirty grains) proved rarely fatal. Generally, temporary feebleness of the heart's action, diminution of sensibility, imperfect motor paralysis, and increased diuresis, were observed. When death resulted, it occurred on the second or third day subsequent to the poisoning, after increase of paralytic symptoms, with dyspnoea and convulsions. Excepting superficial pulmonary ecchymosis, the *post mortem* results were negative. On the second day, the bromide was still discoverable in the urine.

In frogs, subcutaneous injection of a grain to a grain and a half caused sharp pain, fibrillary spasm, and, after ten minutes, loss of volition, reflex action, and sensibility, persistent arrest of respiration, weakness and diminished frequency of ventricular pulsations, and, finally, stoppage of the heart in diastolic relaxation. It has the same effect when administered internally. In a two percental solution, frogs die in twenty-four hours; they generally survive immersion in a solution of half that strength.

Bromide of potassium is, for warm- and cold-blooded animals, an intense cardiac poison, resembling other salts of potash in its mode of action. It exercises a directly paralytic influence on the excito-motory ganglia and the muscular substance of the heart. The heart, once arrested by its influence, does not recover, and quickly ceases to respond to mechanical or electrical irritation.

If the heart of a healthy frog, in a state of active pulsation, be immersed in a two percental solution of bromide of potassium, five minutes suffice to cause persistent stoppage; and a few drops of the same solution, applied to the inner surface of the heart of a living frog, produce immediate and persistent arrest of its pulsation. But, after the heart has ceased to beat, motility, sensation, and reflex action remain for a time unaffected; the animal moving spontaneously, and responding to external irritants as in health.

Bromide of potassium also acts as a powerful poison on the centres of motion, sensation, and reflex action, in the brain and spinal marrow. Of these functions, reflex action is the last to yield to its influence. After final arrest of the heart's action, chemical or electrical irritation of transverse sections of the spinal marrow in any part fails to produce muscular contractions in the extremities.

It has no *immediate* effect on the peripheral nerve-trunks and muscles; their irritability remaining unaffected long after motility and sensation are extinct, and after irritation of transverse sections of the spinal medulla has ceased to indicate muscular contractions; but, if its use be continued, it first lowers the irritability of the peripheral nerve-trunks, and then that of their intramuscular terminations, and that of the muscular fibres themselves.

The nerves and muscles of frogs, poisoned by bromide of potassium, have either entirely or nearly entirely lost their irritability twenty-four hours after death; whereas those of healthy animals, quickly killed, retain it even for feeble electric currents forty-eight hours or longer. Muscles immersed in a two percental aqueous solution of bromide of potassium cease to be irritable after a very short time, occasionally after five minutes. The same solution has a much weaker action on the transverse section of a nerve. An hour's immersion of the sciatic nerve is required before it loses its irritability. In all these respects, bromide of potassium exactly resembles all other potash salts in its physiological and toxic properties.

The bromine seems to be quite indifferent, as far as the effect of the drug on the heart and nerve-centres is concerned. This is evident from the negative results of injections with an aqueous solution of pure bromine, in the same or much larger proportions than the quantity contained in the dose of bromide of potassium employed in the first series of experiments.

Bromide of sodium is three or four times weaker than bromide of potassium, and does not kill under the symptoms peculiar to the potash salt. This agrees with the difference generally prevailing between the effects of salts of soda and potash.

The physiological effect of bromide of potassium on the nerve-centres is the most important point with regard to its use as a remedial agent. It confirms the empirical results which have gained for bromide of potassium a reputation in morbid conditions due to increased irritability of certain parts of the brain and spinal marrow, particularly of the medulla oblongata, as an agent of marked antispasmodic, anticonvulsive, and anæsthetic power. Hypnotic or narcotic properties it does not possess. Where its effects on the nervous system are in request, there would be no reason to fear the employment of larger doses than those generally in use, as enormous quantities would probably be required to produce poisonous effects in the human subject.

## 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.

1 P.M. Honorary Degrees conferred by the University of Dublin.

2 „ 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.

9 P.M. *Soirée* at the Royal Irish Academy.

*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 TUFNELL, 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.

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.

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.

All gentlemen proposing to visit Dublin during the meeting are requested to send their names to Jolliffe Tufnell, 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."

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. TURNELL, 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: Cæsarean 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'GREEVY: 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. HARDY: On Hysteria treated by Strychnia.

Dr. SIBSON: On the Cardiograph.

Dr. GRAILY HEWITT: The Treatment of Anteversion of the Uterus.

Mr. JOSEPH WHITE: On Hospital Erysipelas and Gangrene.

Dr. DRYSDALE: On the Treatment of Syphilitic Diseases without Mercury; and on the Prevention of Venereal Diseases.

Dr. MORELL MACKENYIE: On the Use of Electric Cautery in the Treatment of Laryngeal Growths.

Dr. PURSER: On the Sphygmograph.

Dr. MACDONNELL: To exhibit a Micro-Spectroscope.

Professor JELLET, T.C.D.: To exhibit a Saccharometer.

Dr. MACSWINEY: Medico-Legal Evidence.

Dr. Z. JOHNSON: A Singular Case of Cardiac Derangement, with Symmetrical Muscular Atrophy of both Shoulders and Arms.

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.

### METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE fifteenth annual meeting of the Metropolitan Counties Branch was held at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, on Monday, July 8th. About fifty members were present, the chair was taken by the retiring President, HENRY LEE, Esq., who afterwards resigned it to the President for the ensuing year, W. O. MARKHAM, M.D.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

*New Members.* The following new members were elected: 1. *Association and Branch:* Victor de Méric, Esq.; J. G. French, Esq.; 2. *Association:* William Adams, Esq., (Harrington Square); S. Cartwright, Esq.; P. Jones, M.D., (Surbiton); D. A. Moxey, M.D. (Turnham Green); W. Rhys Williams, M.D.; 3. *Branch:* J. Bisshopp, Esq., (Cheshunt); R. S. Eyles, Esq.; H. W. Hubbard, Esq.; W. H. Jones, M.D.; J. B. Potter, M.D.; L. W. Sedgwick, M.D.; C. B. Sewell, M.D.; A. H. Stocker, M.D.; and E. Westall, M.D.

*Report of Council.* Dr. HENRY, one of the secretaries, read the following report.

"The Council of the Metropolitan Counties Branch have again much pleasure in congratulating the members on the increasing prosperity of the Society. Since the last annual meeting, four members have resigned; two have gone abroad; and two—Mr. Joseph Ward of Epsom, and Dr. Warter—have died. Fifty new members have joined; making the total number at present 287.

"Your Council are assured that the Branch will share with them the gratification they feel at the great extension of the Association in all parts of the kingdom, especially in Ireland. They are informed that more than 500 new members have been admitted during the present year, of whom over 200 belong to the sister kingdom. This large accession of strength is a good omen of success for the forthcoming annual meeting in Dublin; an event which, the Council have every reason to believe, will be a ground of congratulation to the Association, and a means of bringing together more closely the profession in the United Kingdom.

"Soon after the last meeting of the Branch, its President-elect, Dr. Markham, was appointed to an important public position, that of poor-law inspector. The Branch will agree with the Council that a more fitting appointment, especially considering the manner in which Dr. Markham has discharged the duties of his new office, could not have been made. The acceptance of the post by Dr. Markham rendered necessary the resignation of his office as editor of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL. The able and conscientious manner in which he had acted as editor for six years naturally caused a feeling of regret at his retirement; and an address, expressive of high approbation of his conduct, has been signed by above 1500 members of the Association, and presented to him.

"Mr. Ernest Hart, also a member of this Branch, has been appointed editor of the JOURNAL in the room of Dr. Markham; and your Council has much pleasure in observing the ability and energy with which he has performed his important duties.

"Two ordinary meetings have been held during the present year. At the first of these, held on February 23rd, Dr. Stewart, one of the Secretaries, read a paper on 'the Working of some Provisions of the

**Laws relating to Public Health.** This paper, which was only an abstract of an essay prepared at great labour and expense by Dr. Stewart, has since been reprinted in the form of a pamphlet: which Dr. Stewart arranged for supplying at a greatly reduced rate to the Branches of the Association for circulation among their own members, and, what is still more important, among those friends outside the profession who, through ignorance, indifference, or prejudice, have hitherto resisted or stood aloof from sanitary progress. The Council recommend to the Branch to consider whether a small sum may be voted to Dr. Stewart, with a view to a more extensive circulation of the pamphlet on sanitary reform drawn up him and Mr. Jenkins. Your Council believes that the diffusion of the information so laboriously collected and systematically arranged by Dr. Stewart will be of very great use in leading to an improvement in our sanitary laws; a subject on which the Branch has already strongly insisted.

"At the second ordinary meeting, on April 12th, Mr. Holmes read an able paper on 'the Surgical Wards of Metropolitan Hospitals compared with those of some Workhouse Infirmaryes.' This paper, as was also that of Dr. Stewart, was followed by an interesting discussion.

"The Committee of Council of the Association, at a meeting held on May 28th, passed certain resolutions in reference to the Medical Acts Amendment Bill which the Medical Council are endeavouring to have introduced into Parliament. (See JOURNAL, June 8th, 1867, p. 681). In compliance with the wish of the Committee, your Council suggest that the proposed alterations in the Medical Act should be taken into consideration by the Branch; and that a special committee be appointed to watch the progress of the Bill, and to take such steps in regard thereto as may seem expedient.

"The Report of the Committee on Parliamentary Reform will be presented by Dr. Gibbon; who has, as in previous years, been indefatigable in the discharge of the task which he has undertaken.

"The Treasurer will present a report of the finances of the Branch for the year."

Mr. HECKSTALL SMITH moved, Dr. BEGLEY seconded, and it was resolved: "That the report of Council now read be received, adopted, and entered on the minutes."

**Treasurer's Report.** Dr. HENRY also presented the Treasurer's Report. The income for the year amounted to £28 : 10 : 8; and the expenditure to £28 : 9 : 6; leaving a balance of 1s. 2d.

**Officers and Council.** The voting lists having been examined, the following were found to be elected: *President*: W. O. Markham, M.D.; *President-elect*: J. E. Erichsen, Esq.; *Vice-Presidents*: E. H. Sieveking, M.D.; H. Lee, Esq.; *Treasurer*: R. Dunn, Esq.; *Secretaries*: A. P. Stewart, M.D.; A. Henry, M.D.; *Other Members of Council*: C. Drage, M.D.; C. J. Hare, M.D.; C. H. Rogers-Harrison, Esq.; C. Holthouse, Esq.; G. A. Ibbetson, Esq.; C. F. J. Lord, Esq.; J. H. Paul, M.D.; W. F. Ramsay, M.D.; J. Seaton, M.D.; F. Sibson, M.D., F.R.S.; E. H. Vinen, M.D.; G. Webster, M.D.

Mr. LEE then resigned the chair to his successor, Dr. MARKHAM, who delivered a brief address.

**Vote of thanks.** Dr. GIBBON moved—"That the cordial thanks of the Branch be given to the retiring President, Henry Lee, Esq., for his very able and courteous conduct in the chair on all occasions, and for the active interest he has taken in the welfare of the Branch and in all subjects brought under its notice."

The vote was carried by acclamation; as was also a vote of thanks to the Secretaries, proposed by Mr. Lee.

**Report of Committee on Parliamentary Bills.** Dr. GIBBON read a report, which is published at another part of the JOURNAL.

Mr. CORDY BURROWS moved, Mr. HUNT seconded, and it was resolved: "That the report of the Committee on Parliamentary Bills, now read, be received, adopted, and entered on the minutes; and that the thanks of the Branch be given to the Committee, especially to Dr. Gibbon, the Honorary Secretary, and that they be requested to continue their services."

**Representatives in the General Council.** The following members were elected representatives of the Branch in the General Council of the Association: W. Camps, M.D.; R. Dunn, Esq.; J. E. Erichsen, Esq.; S. Gibbon, M.B.; E. Hart, Esq.; J. Hatton, M.D.; A. Henry, M.D.; H. Lee, Esq.; W. O. Markham, M.D.; C. H. Moore, Esq.; J. H. Paul, M.D.; J. Seaton, M.D.; E. H. Sieveking, M.D.; and T. H. Tuke, M.D.; with Dr. Stewart, Secretary, *ex officio*.

**Dr. Stewart's Pamphlet on Sanitary Law.** Dr. SEATON moved, Mr. ROGERS-HARRISON seconded, and it was resolved—"That it be referred back to the Council to carry out the recommendation in the report relating to Dr. Stewart's valuable pamphlet; and that the Council be hereby authorised to expend such sum as they may feel the state of the funds of the Branch will justify."

**The Medical Acts Amendment Bill.** It was resolved that the Medical Acts Amendment Bill should be referred to the Committee on Parliamentary Bills, with instructions to report specially thereon to the Council of the Branch.

**Dinner.** Forty-eight members and visitors afterwards dined together, Dr. Markham in the chair.

#### READING BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Reading Branch was held at the Council Chamber, Reading, on Wednesday, July 17th; J. G. BARFORD, Esq., of Wokingham, President, in the chair.

**President's Address.** The President called attention to the rapid improvement in the means of diagnosing disease, in a very able address.

**Officers.** The following officers were elected: *President-elect*. C. Vines, Esq., Reading. *Representative in the General Council*. W. B. YOUNG, Esq., Reading. The Council of the Branch and the Secretary were re-elected.

**The Retrospective Address of the Reading Pathological Society** was read by T. L. WALFORD, Esq., and has been forwarded to the JOURNAL.

**Dinner.** The members afterwards dined together at the George Hotel, and spent a very agreeable evening under the presidency of Mr. BARFORD.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### THE FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, GLASGOW, AND THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, ENGLAND.

LETTER FROM ALEXANDER DUNCAN, ESQ.

SIR,—As requested by you in the number of your JOURNAL for June 8th, I put myself in communication with the Royal College of Surgeons of England in regard to the charge made against the Faculty in your number for May 25th; and I now beg to forward, for publication in your next issue, the accompanying correspondence.

I am, etc., ALEXANDER DUNCAN, Secretary.  
Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow, July 19th, 1867.

*Correspondence between the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow and the Royal College of Surgeons of England, regarding Rejected Candidates.*

Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow, June 27th, 1867.

Edward Trimmer, Esq., Secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

SIR,—The attention of the Council of this Faculty has been directed to an editorial paragraph in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for the 25th May, page 612, in which it is stated that "candidates who have been rejected four, five, or even six times successively" at your College, have resorted to this Faculty, whence they have been known "many times to return at once, under such circumstances, with their diplomas, fully equipped for practice," etc. In the number of the same JOURNAL for the 8th June, page 684, the editor states that the officers of the College of Surgeons "unquestionably entertain the belief" of the accuracy of the above allegation; and it is evident that his information was derived from some official of your College. I have, therefore, been directed by the Council to request you to furnish me, *in confidence*, with the names of the candidates who, you believe, have been admitted Licentiates of this Faculty after having been rejected at your College, with the dates of their various rejections.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,  
(Signed) ALEXANDER DUNCAN, Secretary.

Royal College of Surgeons of England, London, W.C.,  
4th day of July, 1867.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, quoting certain paragraphs from the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of the 25th of May last, and 8th ultimo, to which the attention of the Council of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow has been directed, in reference to candidates rejected at this College subsequently obtaining the licence of the Faculty; stating that it is evident that the information upon which the paragraphs were based was derived from some official at this College, and requesting, by direction of the Council of the Faculty, that you may be furnished in confidence with the names of candidates whom I believe to have been admitted Licentiates of the Faculty after having been rejected at this College, with the dates of their various rejections.

Having submitted your letter to the President, I am desired to acquaint you that this College is not in any way responsible for the

## MEDICAL NEWS.

### SOIRÉE AT THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

THE *soirée* of the College of Physicians at Pall Mall, on Wednesday evening, was largely attended by the most distinguished members of the profession in London, and by many eminent provincial physicians, who were received by the President, Dr. Alderson. Among the objects of the greatest interest were, the portrait of Sir Thomas Watson by Mr. Richmond, which is to be presented by the Fellows, very finely painted, in Mr. Richmond's best vein; a fine series of preparations and photographs illustrating characteristic forms of sublimates of the poisonous alkaloids, by Dr. Guy; a medical lantern for laryngoscopy and rhinoscopy, by Dr. Thudichum; pharmacopœial preparations, by Professor Redwood, Messrs. Morson, and Squire; and extra-pharmacopœial preparations, by Savory and Moore; spectroscopes and microscopes, with philosophical instruments, by Browning, Ladd, Murray and Heath, and How; excellent photographs by Ernest Edwards, by a new instantaneous and permanent process; and by Moria and Haigh, including a portrait of the late Dr. Brinton. There was also a copy of the first printed book, with various articles of curiosity and *virtu*.

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS: IMPROVED EXAMINATIONS.

THE profession will be glad to know that the Court of Examiners of the Royal College of Surgeons of England is now about to carry out arrangements long since in contemplation. We allude to the manifest improvement in the professional examination for the fellowship by adding a *viri voce* test, in addition to the searching written examination; and, although junior candidates will not be required as heretofore personally to dissect, yet both seniors and juniors will be submitted to an oral examination on dissections and preparations of the human body. The practical use of surgical apparatus, which has been found so beneficial in the case of membership, will be an additional feature in the alterations, to which we have great pleasure in drawing attention. The next examinations, under these new regulations, will take place about the middle of November.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.**—At a general meeting of the Fellows, held on Wednesday, July 17th, the following gentleman was duly admitted a Fellow of the College:—

The Director-General of the Medical Department of the Army.

At this meeting, the following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examination, and satisfied the College of their proficiency in the science and practice of medicine, surgery, and midwifery, were duly admitted to practise physic as Licentiates of the College:—

Allen, John, M.D. St. Andrew's, Longton, Staffordshire	Jackson, Frederick Wm., Broadstairs
Armstrong, Alfred, M.D. Queen's College, Kingston, Canada	Jayakar, Atmaram Sadashiva, Grant Medical College, Bombay
Bagnall, Samuel Freeman, 16, Caroline Street, Bedford Square	Keen, Wm., 209, King's Road, Chelsea
Cole, Thomas, Bristol	Le Grand de la Liraye, Louis Marc, 2, Rutland Street, Hampstead Road
Coombs, Rowland Hill, Bedford	Le Rossignol, A., St. Helier's, Jersey
Dalton, Benjamin N., Guy's Hospital	Little, E. M., Shaw, Melksham
De la Cour, George Francis, Chatham	Massiah, Clarence Henry, Clifton
Donor, W. J., M.D. Philadelphia, U.S.	Medical College, Bombay
Dove, John Reuben Bathurst, Falsfield, Gloucestershire	Morris, John Wm., Llanelly, Carmarthenshire
Edmonds, Charles George, Cambridge	Pollard, Wm. F. B., British Guinea
Elliott, A. B., Richmond, Yorkshire	Randall, John George, St. Marylebone Infirmary
Evershed, Arthur, Amphil, Beds.	Smith, Samuel M. C. A., Kilburn Square, William, Plymouth
Ferriani, Alexander, M.D. Ferrara	Trotter, George Frederick, Holmfirth
Franklyn, Louis H., Chapple, Halstead	Truman, Samuel John, Nottingham
Heelas, Martin Luther, Wokingham	Wortmann, Alexander, M.D. Giessen
Hopgood, Thos. F., Chipping Norton	

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.**—The following gentlemen passed their primary examinations in anatomy and physiology, at a meeting of the Court of Examiners, on July 16th; and, when eligible, will be admitted to the pass examination:—

T. Wells Hubbard, A. Conway Newman, Samuel Strickland, E. Earnshaw Cass, Richard Banks, and Alfred Gillingham (Students of Guy's Hospital); George Stone, Frederick White, and L. Vincenzo Mapei (of Liverpool); Adolphus Smith, Richard Brocklesby, and James C. Skinner (of St. Mary's Hospital); Alexander Mitchell, George England, and W. F. M. Jackson (of the Birmingham School); Thomas Taylor and William Davison (of the Newcastle School); Alfred Risdon and J. H. P. Wilson (of St. George's Hospital); Clement Godson and Frederick W. Langworthy (of St. Bartholomew's Hospital); J. Bower Wilson and Augustus T. V. Packman (of Sheffield); Thomas Whittington (of Manchester); Samuel J. Noake (of Leeds); E. J. Hardy Booth (of St. Thomas's Hospital); Allen Sewell (of University College); Lawrence Saunders (of Kingston, Canada West); William C. Gasteen (of Dublin).

The following gentlemen passed on July 17th:—

Arthur C. Simon, Herbert Norton, William Bower, and S. Punnett Budd (Students of St. Bartholomew's Hospital); William Roberts and John McMahon (of the Dublin School); A. Herbert Hackney and H. Herbert Mason (of University College); Antonio Simplicio Gomes and Atmaram Sedashiva Jayakar (of Bombay); George Robinson (of the London Hospital); William Douglas (of Belfast); Percival Kingsford (of Guy's Hospital); Henry Walmsley (of St. Thomas's Hospital).

It is stated that out of the fifty-seven candidates who offered themselves for examination, fourteen failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Court, and were consequently referred to their studies for three months.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.**—The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted members of the College at a meeting of the Court of Examiners, on July 23rd:—

Air, Alexander Cummings, Walworth (St. Thomas's)  
 Alcock, Robert, Burslem, Staffordshire (Charing Cross)  
 Bagnall, Samuel Freeman, L.R.C.P. Lond., Bedford Square (King's College)  
 Bell, Charles Newton, Rochester (St. Thomas's)  
 Carruthers, William Hodgson, Halton, Cheshire (Manchester School)  
 Churchill, Frederick, M.B. and C.M. Edin., Penge, Surrey (Edinburgh School)  
 Fawcitt, Thomas, Oldham (Manchester School)  
 Gasteen, William Charles, M.B. Trin. Coll. Dub., Dublin (Dublin School)  
 Green, William Edward, Droitwich (Birmingham School)  
 Hall, Henry George, Dublin (Dublin School)  
 Hopkins, Henry Culliford, Martock, Somerset (St. Bartholomew's)  
 Hunt, William Alfred, Yeovil, Somerset (King's College)  
 Jarvis, Nathaniel Howard, Kingsbridge, Devon (St. Bartholomew's)  
 Lister, Charles Henry, Doncaster (University College)  
 Lock, John Griffith, M.A. Cantab., Tenby, South Wales (St. Bartholomew's)  
 Pearce, Joseph Channing, Bristol (Bristol School)  
 Pritchard, Richard Arthur, Pwllheli, North Wales (Dublin School)  
 King, Edmund Cuthbert, Foxley Road, Kensington (St. George's)  
 Sangster, Charles, L.S.A., Lambeth Terrace (Guy's)  
 Saunders, Thomas Dudley, Bath (Bristol School)  
 Shelton, Haswell Delabere, Bromyard, Herefordshire (St. Bartholomew's)  
 Williams, Humphrey Lloyd, Bala, Merionethshire (St. Bartholomew's)  
 Williams, William Isaac, Abergyle, North Wales (Dublin School)

Admitted members on July 24th:—

Bailey, Thomas C., Penrith, Dublin School  
 Bolton, George, Sunderland (Newcastle School)  
 Byrne, James Peter, Glencaly, co. Wicklow (Dublin School)  
 Drury, Charles Dennis Hill, Newcastle (Newcastle School)  
 Foster, Oswald Henry, M.A. Cantab., Hitchin, Herts (Guy's)  
 Geldart, George William, North Shields (Newcastle School)  
 Heycock, Francis Raworth, Pytchley, Northamptonshire (Edinburgh School)  
 Hughes, John Thomas, M.B. Aberd., Llanrwst, North Wales (Aberdeen School)  
 Johnson, Edward Reginald, Jersey (St. Bartholomew's)  
 Le Grand de la Liraye, Louis Marc, L.R.C.P. Lond., Paris (University College)  
 Moore, Joseph, Manchester (St. Bartholomew's)  
 Ogden, Charles, Rochdale (Liverpool School)  
 Pellew, Edward Bray, Gateshead (Newcastle School)  
 Rawlings, William Henry, Liskeard, Cornwall (Guy's)  
 Standish, Thomas, Dudley (Birmingham School)  
 Thomas, Frederick Aubrey, L.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P. Edin., Devonport (Guy's)  
 Walmsley, Henry, Preston, Lancashire (St. Thomas's)  
 Wells, Augustus, Sydney, New South Wales (Guy's)  
 Willcox, Robert Louis, L.S.A., Wareham, Dorset (King's College)

At the meeting of the Court of Examiners on July 23rd, Professors Samuel Solly and Sir William Fergusson, Bart., the recently elected members of the Board, took the seats rendered vacant by the resignations of the late Sir Wm. Lawrence and Mr. Francis Kiernan respectively.

**ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.**—The public distribution of prizes to students of St. Mary's Hospital will take place at the school in Monday next, the 29th inst., at 3 o'clock, under the presidency of Dr. Alderson, F.R.S., President of the College of Physicians, and consulting-physician to the hospital; who, according to custom, will deliver a short address on the occasion, on a subject connected with medical education.

**METROPOLITAN POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.** The annual meeting of the Metropolitan Poor-law Officers' Association will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Tuesday, July 30th, at 5 p.m. After an address from the President and reading of the quarterly report by the Honorary Secretary, resolutions condemning the system of taking lunatic paupers into police courts for certification as to their insanity by police magistrates before removal to an asylum, and a memorial to the Lunacy Commissioners and the Poor-law Board on this question will be submitted, together with suggestions for establishing more intimate relations (in the public interest) between Poor-law medical officers and medical officers of health, and the advisability of petitioning the House of Commons, praying it to pass the Bill now before it for making the Poor-law Board permanent. After the meeting, the members and friends of the Association will dine together at half-past six. All gentlemen intending to dine with the Association are requested to send their names to Dr. Dudfield, Honorary Secretary, 8, Upper Phillimore Place, Kensington, or to Dr. Rogers, 33, Dean Street, Soho, without delay.

## 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.—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.  
**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.

## 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.

THE present number of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL includes a supplement of four pages.

We have received Special Correspondence from India and Paris, which, together with many other letters and communications, we are compelled to postpone. Professor Humphry's Clinical Lecture on Acupressure, Mr. Bryant's Lecture on Surgical Cancer, Dr. Birkbeck Nevins on the Codex, Dr. Handfield Jones's and Dr. Weber's papers, Mr. De la Garde's Address, and other papers, are in type, and shall appear at the earliest moment.

MR. WALFORD (Reading) shall receive a private communication.

## THE MEETING AT DUBLIN.

SIR,—The German Railway Companies always reduce their fares by one half, for medical men repairing to the annual meeting of the Medical Congress. The same will be done by the French Companies (but not by the English) for gentlemen going to the International Medical Congress at Paris. Could not the directors of the London and North-Western follow this good example, in behalf of those going to Dublin this year? I am, etc., A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION.

\*.\* Application has been made to the directors, both for our own and other associations, this year, but they decline to make any other reduction than that already arranged for "Tourist Tickets".

DR. D. LIETCH (Keswick) will observe that the motion is withdrawn.

## A CAT IN THE CRADLE.

SIR,—The enclosed paragraph from a local paper arrested my attention:—"At Greenock, an infant has been suffocated by a cat. The mother, on going up stairs, found the cat resting over baby, mouth to mouth with her. Throwing the cat aside, she took up the infant, but found it was dead."

In parts of the country, a belief exists that cats, when in a room alone with sleeping infants, are prone "to suck their breath", and thus to cause death of the child. I do not, of course, myself believe in so curious an idea; but the statement in the paragraph, bearing out, as it does, a popular belief, it would be well if the verdict in the coroner's inquest in this case could be ascertained.

Cats are well known to be attracted by any noisy object; and it is far from visionary that one should place itself upon the chest of a child, and watch the movements of its features during sleep. But why the statement, that "she found the cat resting over baby, mouth to mouth." Probably, medical evidence was taken in this case. Could any light be thrown upon it.

June 1867.

I am, etc., LINCOLN.

DR. CLARK (Clifton).—The mistake is that of the scientific discoverer. The paragraph only purports to be a quotation.

CORRESPONDENTS whose questions are not answered this week are referred to the next issue.

A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION.—Dublin Bay has long been celebrated for its haddocks, and perhaps herrings also. Holyhead to North-Wall takes you direct to Dublin. Kingstown is far preferable.

H. R.—Next week.

A STAFF SURGEON.—The Indian paper has been received. The strictures on the notorious individual are not too severe. The name has been removed from the Medical Register.

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.

## QUERIES.

SIR,—I shall be glad to be informed by any of your correspondents what they consider a fair charge for attendance on a case of fractured thigh; the patient being a working man, in receipt of good wages. I am, etc., DELTA.

P.S. Perhaps some one would kindly inform me what is a good cement for sticking India-rubber to metal.

M.D. ERLANGEN has omitted to furnish his name, with which it is necessary that his letter should be authenticated prior to publication.

## SUCCESS OF THE OIL OF SANDAL WOOD IN GLEET, ETC.

SIR,—From what I have seen of the use of the oil of sandal wood in the treatment of gonorrhoea, I feel sure that it will soon be very extensively employed. I have used it at present mostly in acute and subacute cases, and have seldom found it fail in effecting a cure. Though the discharge usually ceases on the third day, it is as well to continue the oil for four or five days longer to prevent the possibility of a return. I have never known any bad result to follow its use. The dose I have generally ordered has been from twenty to thirty minims, to be taken twice or three times a day. Bougies made of this material might probably be found efficacious, but I have had no experience of their use. In the next cases of gonorrhoea, I shall try the effect of blisters to the groin, as recommended in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of February 23rd.

I have lately found that in large and inflamed buboes a linseed-meal poultice mixed up with a lotion consisting of four grains each of alum and sulphate of zinc to the ounce of water will, instead of favouring suppuration, frequently cause resolution to take place. In the earlier stages, I simply paint with iodine or lead lotion. In orchitis, the quickest and most effectual treatment seems to be puncture. I am, etc., F. P. ATKINSON, M.B., M.C., etc.

Kew Green, July 1867.

BIBLIOPHILE.—Write to Mr. Wheatley. The College Library will be closed during the month of September.

ICHTHYOLOGIST.—The Scaldfish or smooth sole is known in Cornwall by the name of Megrim: it is the *Rhombus arniglossus* of Yarell.

## SYPHILISATION.

SIR,—From the report at the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society on June 12th, there is reason to apprehend that this subject will fall into complete neglect. It never, indeed, seems to have met with a very earnest degree of attention among us. In the support afforded to it in these pages, we see nothing to regret; they were equally warranted by the physiological bearings of the subject, and the reputation of its promoter, Dr. Boeck. We are inclined, indeed, to give much weight to the opinion of the gentlemen who submitted their experience, without going the length of declaring it to be conclusive: to each observer it is best to allow an entire freedom of opinion on what he sees. The circumstance of one of these gentlemen having some time previously announced himself as adverse to the method, will always be supposed to have linctured in some degree his subsequent conclusions. The concurrence of syphilographers in the present date is entirely for hygiene; it is the only common ground on which all sectaries meet. It is, indeed, not at all improbable that pressure may reach the Lock to lighten in the interests of health the character which naturally attaches to it as a penitentiary institution. We need only point to the fact of the female patients not getting meat every day; indeed, it is not impossible that this condition may have acted unfavourably on the result of Dr. Boeck's cases, especially as the employment of workmen in the grounds of the building debarred the patients from their usual exercise. It is satisfactory to know that the hygienic restoration of the interior has now, some weeks since, been completed; this is happily done; airiness not being the character of the building, and a tendency to gangrene always to be regarded as imminent in syphilitic disease. I am, etc., G. G.

DR. BALTHAZAR FOSTER shall receive the blocks without delay.

DR. GRIFFITH (Sheffield).—We quite agree with your opinion, and have taken steps accordingly. The matter had escaped our observation.

MR. SWAIN (Devonport).—The MSS. shall receive insertion as early as possible.

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

Dr. Hugh Rees, Llanberis, Carnarvon; M.D. Erlangen; Dr. J. Burdon Sanderson (with enclosure); Dr. Griffiths, Sheffield; Mr. Herbert Spencer (with enclosure); Dr. Begley, Hanwell; Dr. Hermann Weber (with enclosure); Dr. R. Thorne Thorne; Dr. Clark, Clifton; Mr. E. Vaughan Morgan; Dr. Divers; Dr. Althaus (with enclosure); Dr. Gibson, Broadmoor; H. R.; Mr. Thomas Bryant (with enclosure); Mr. Holmes Coote; Dr. Lomas; Mr. Swain, Devonport; Dr. George Johnson (with enclosure); Mr. T. L. Walford, Reading (with enclosure); The Registrar-General of Ireland; Dr. Falconer, Bath; Mr. T. M. Stone; Dr. S. Elliott Hoskins, Guernsey; Dr. Hooper; Mr. James Johnson, Bootle; Dr. J. O'Reilly, King's Court, Kells, Ireland; Dr. Drysdale; Mr. G. May, Reading (with enclosure); Mr. St. George Mivart; Dr. James Whitehead, Manchester (with enclosure); Mr. William Date, Ilkeston; Dr. Joseph Rogers; Dr. Broadbent; Mr. Joseph Hinton, Hinton, near Bath; Dr. Bryan, Northampton; Mr. Christopher Johnson, Lancaster; Dr. D. Little, Winchester Eye Hospital; Dr. T. A. Carter, Leamington; Dr. W. M. Harmer, Hawkhurst, Kent; Dr. A. E. Sansom (with enclosure); Mr. T. Watkin Williams, Birmingham (with enclosure); The Registrar-General of England; Mr. Weedon Cooke (with enclosure); Dr. Edwin Lankester (with enclosure); Dr. Isaac Ashe, Warrenpoint (with enclosure); Dr. Henry J. Alford, Taunton (with enclosure); Professor Tufnell (with enclosure); MacLure, Macdonald, and Macgregor; Dr. J. Johnson, Kilkenny; Dr. Maurice Colles, Dublin; Mr. Joseph White, Nottingham; Dr. Graily Hewitt; Dr. Morell MacKenzie; Dr. T. O. M. Dudfield (with enclosure); Dr. G. P. Rugg; Sir Dominic Corrigan, Bart., Dublin; The Secretary of the Glasgow Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons; Mr. Henry Lee; Prince Zaghiell, Cairo; Dr. MacSwiney, Dublin; Dr. Achille Vintras; and Dr. Page, Southsea.