

skin of each mamma relieved the pain entirely in an hour, and the irritable lumps subsided in the course of a day or two.

Another lady had painful and irritable breast, from extra draining of it by a voracious baby. So intense was the pain, that her right arm was useless until I injected half a grain of morphia under the skin at the upper margin of the breast. In a few minutes, the pain began to subside, and a repetition of the injection was not necessary.

I have the greatest confidence in this method of anodyne medication, particularly as the effects are so rapid; and, according to my experience, the unpleasant and general effects are not so great as they would be after a similar dose by mouth.

I am, etc.,

Huddersfield, November 1867.

J. B. PRITCHETT.

## OBITUARY.

### DR. THOMAS CLARK.

WE have to record the death of Dr. Thomas Clark, late Professor of Chemistry in Marischal College, Aberdeen: his decease occurred on November 27th, at Clydevie. Dr. Clark's methods of testing and purifying water are well-known. The soap test devised by him has been used by chemists for twenty-five years without receiving modification or improvement in their hands. This process for softening water on a large scale is also much used at the present time, and was indeed mentioned by several fellows in a discussion at the last meeting of the Chemical Society. The subject of water seems to have been the one to which Dr. Clark specially devoted himself, and to which almost all his papers in scientific journals refer: his writings have a peculiar charm in them from the modesty with which he expresses himself. Though not a Fellow of the Royal Society, Dr. Clark, had he lived, probably would have been made one at the next election, since his friends were circulating a certificate for signature.—*Chemical News*.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.**—The following members of the College, having undergone the necessary examinations, were admitted Licentiates in Midwifery at a meeting of the Board, on December 4th, 1867.

Alderson, Frederick Henry, L.S.A., Avenue Terrace, Hammersmith; diploma of membership dated May 7, 1863  
 Browne, John Walton, M.D. Queen's University, Belfast; November 13, 1867  
 Fawcitt, Thomas, Oldham; July 23, 1867  
 Jarvis, Nathaniel Howard, Kingsbridge, Devon; July 23, 1867  
 Kemp, William George, L.S.A., Canterbury  
 Lock, John Griffith, M.A. Cantab., Tenby, South Wales; July 23, 1867  
 McMullin, John, L.R.C.P. Edin., Castle Dawson, co. Derry; Nov. 6, 1857  
 Smith, Frederick Walter, L.S.A., Brenchley, Kent; May 7, 1867  
 Wallace, Frederick, L.S.A., Hackney Road; July 25, 1867

It is stated that three candidates out of the twelve failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Board.

**UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.**—December 6th. M.D. Comitatus Causâ.  
 Watson, William Tyndale, B.A., M.D.T.C.D., Westgreen, Tottenham, Middlesex

**UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.**—Final Examination for M.B. Degree, November 27th, 1867.  
 Dickson, B.A., St. John's  
 Finch, B.A., Trinity Hall  
 Forster, M.A., Caius  
 Hartree, B.A., Trinity  
 Wilks, B.A., Trinity

First Examination for M.B. Degree.

Clarke, B.A., Emmanuel  
 Gedge, —, Caius

Image, B.A., Trinity  
 King, B.A., Caius

**APOTHECARIES' HALL.**—Names of gentlemen who passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, December 5th, 1867.

Byass, Edgar Spry, Cuckfield, Sussex  
 Ewbank, Francis, Ryde, Isle of Wight  
 Fawcitt, Thomas, King Street, Oldham  
 Lettis, Thomas, Argyle Street, King's Cross  
 Rogerson, John, Aberdeen Terrace, Grove Road, Bow, E.  
 Spencer, Thomas Charles Howell, Wokingham, Berks

At the same Court, the following passed the first examination:—  
 Cartwright, John Augustus T., King's College  
 Roberts, William Lake, King's College

## MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are declared:—

Littlemore Pauper Lunatic Asylum—Medical Superintendent.  
 Newmarket Union—Medical Officer for District No. 8.  
 South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital—Resident House-Surgeon.  
 Stepney Union—Medical Officer for District No. 3.  
 Strand Union—Medical Officer for District of St. Anne's, Westminster.  
 Sussex County Hospital, Brighton—House-Surgeon.  
 Westminster Hospital—House-Physician and House-Surgeon.  
 Westminster House of Correction—Surgeon.

## MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

BASTIAN, H. Charlton, M.D., appointed Professor of Pathological Anatomy in University College, and Assistant-Physician to University College Hospital.  
 BROWN, J. C., Esq., B.Sc.Lond., late Assistant to the Professor of Chemistry at the University of Aberdeen, has been appointed Lecturer on Chemistry and Toxicology at the Liverpool Royal Infirmary School of Medicine.  
 BRUCE, A., M.S.Lond., F.R.C.S., appointed Assistant-Surgeon to the Westminster Hospital, *vice* Mr. Henry Power, resigned.  
 HARRIS, H., Esq., L.S.A., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road.  
 WILLIAMS, T. Watkin, Esq., appointed Surgeon to the Birmingham Orthopædic Hospital.

## BIRTHS.

PARKER. On December 9th, at the Vicarage, Abbotsbury, Dorset, the wife of Theodore Parker, M.D., of a son.  
 SMITH. On December 9th, at Olinda Villa, Seaforth, Liverpool, the wife of Dr. C. Swaby Smith, of a daughter.

## MARRIAGES.

DENNY, Charles J., Esq., Surgeon, Ashted, Birmingham, to Dania Mary, only daughter of the late John Howlin, Esq., J.P. County Wexford.  
 JONES, Robert Arthur, Esq., Surgeon, Castle Square, Carnarvon, to Elizabeth Anne, second daughter of W. S. BRADBURN, Esq., Solicitor, Winnington, Northwich.

## DEATH.

TUBBS. Lately, at Upwell, Cambridgeshire, Elizabeth, wife of W. J. Tubbs, L.R.C.P. Ed.

**GUY'S HOSPITAL.**—At a general Court of the Governors of this institution, held lately, Mr. John Gurney Hoare, of Lombard Street, was unanimously elected President of the Hospital, in the place of the Right Hon. Sir Laurence Peel, who has resigned the office.

**ODONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY.**—At the last ordinary monthly meeting of this society, the President, G. A. Ibbetson, Esq., in the chair, Dr. Murie, prosector of the Zoological Gardens, read a paper upon a Case where Disease has ensued in the Alveolus of a Rhinoceros from the presence of a foreign body; and a Case of Diseased Bone and Tooth Structure in a Bear.

**OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH.**—The following office-bearers were elected for the next two years at the meeting, held on November 27th: *President*—Dr. Burn. *Vice-Presidents*—Dr. W. Bryce, Dr. J. A. Sidey. *Treasurer*—Dr. J. Young. *Secretaries*—Dr. R. P. Ritchie, Dr. G. S. Smith. *Council*—Dr. Menzies, Dr. Kieller, Dr. Stephenson.

**MINING ACCIDENTS.**—The Inspectors' Reports, just issued, show, on the authority of the *Times*, that 1484 men lost their lives by violence in and about the 3192 collieries of Great Britain last year. In 1865 the number of lives lost was 984, showing an increase of 500 deaths in 1866. For every 67,877 tons of coal raised a life was sacrificed. The number of men employed in the collieries of Great Britain was 320,664. Taking the several groups of inspector's districts into which the coal-fields of the country are divided, the returns show the following results for each of the years 1865 and 1866 respectively. To one death, the number of miners employed was 636 and 83 in Yorkshire; 403 and 112 in North Stafford, Chester; and Salop; 238 and 200 in West Lancaster and North Wales; 182 and 243 in South Wales; 296 and 248 in South Stafford and Worcester; 258 and 259 in Northumberland, Cumberland, and North Durham; 414 and 310 in South Durham; 325 and 321 in Monmouth, Gloucester, Somerset, and Devon; 356 and 368 in North and East Lancaster; 330 and 467 in Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, and Warwick; 340 and 445 in the western districts of Scotland; and 450 and 662 in the eastern districts of Scotland. Out of the 1484 deaths in 1866, 651 occurred from explosions of firedamp. The deaths from this cause alone in Great Britain is in the ten years 1856 to 1865, were 2019. The total number of deaths from all violent causes in the ten years was 9916, about 20 per cent. of which was caused by firedamp explosions. The number of deaths from falls in mines in 1866 was 361; from accidents in shafts, 162; from accidents underground, 203; and from accidents above ground, 107. Of the deaths from firedamp, 361 occurred in the Oaks Colliery, 91 at Talk-o'-th'-Hill Colliery, and 38 in the Victoria Colliery, in Dukinfield.

## 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, 1.15 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.—Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, 2.30 P.M.  
**THURSDAY** ..... St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Great Northern, 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.

**MONDAY**.—Medical Society of London, 8 P.M. Dr. A. E. Sansom, "On Zymosis: with especial reference to Cholera."  
**TUESDAY**.—Pathological Society of London, 8 P.M.—Anthropological Society of London, 8 P.M.—Statistical Society.  
**WEDNESDAY**.—Geological Society.  
**THURSDAY**.—Harveian Society of London, 8 P.M. Mr. Curgenven, "On the Effects of Malaria in Paddington."—Royal Society.—Zoological Society.—Linnean Society.—Chemical Society.  
**SATURDAY**.—Association Medical Officers of Health.

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

CORRESPONDENTS not answered are requested to look to the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

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

TO PURCHASERS.—To insure attention, it is requested that all orders sent to the Office for extra copies of the JOURNAL, be accompanied with stamps for the amount.

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

ERRATUM.—In Dr. T. A. Vesey's paper on Ascites during Pregnancy (BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, November 23rd, page 468), for "compound colocynth pill," read "compound calomel pill."

## CANVASSING FOR CHARITY VOTES.

A CORRESPONDENT calls our attention to the prospectus of the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum, which states, as a prominent feature of the management, that

"No canvassing for votes is allowed; it being an admitted fact that the widowed mothers and relations of that class have neither the money to spend nor the time to devote, which are necessary to secure their children's admission into other orphan asylums, even if the children were eligible for admission, which, in a very large number of instances, they are not, owing to their extreme poverty and destitution.—The children are elected by the subscribers. About two weeks before each election, a list of the candidates, with a short narrative of their respective cases, is forwarded to the subscribers for them to select the children to be admitted, and thus the most necessitous and deserving objects are certain of securing the benefits of the asylum."

We commend the consideration of this regulation to the governors of the Royal Medical Benevolent College. The costly, troublesome, and painful canvassing for votes in connection with this institution, is felt by many governors to be a serious drawback to its beneficial usefulness.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW.—Mr. Weekes, R.A., completed a bust of Sir William Lawrence shortly before his decease; it has since become the property of the College of Surgeons. Casts of it can, no doubt, be obtained of the sculptor.

## MEDICAL ETHICS.

SIR,—On the 16th ultimo, I was requested to visit a clergyman who had sore-throat (diphtheria). On the 19th, a leading physician was called in from the city, and did not repeat his visit. On the same day, my neighbour, who is my senior, was called in consultation. We visited together, morning and evening—afterwards, in the mornings only—for a week or ten days, when we were both fed. The attendance continued, as before, until December, when I received a verbal message, to say that, as the services of both were no longer required, those of the senior would be retained. The patient is scarcely able to dress yet. I need not say how unprepared I was for such a termination of the case, as I was not aware of any want of attention on my part, and the illness had attracted unusual public attention from the high and respected position held by the patient.

Would you kindly inform me whether it is usual for consultants to continue in constant attendance when the apparent danger is over?

December 1867.

I am, etc.,

NEMO.

\*.\* The consultant should only have continued his attendance beyond the first visit at the special request of the patient's friends: and "Nemo" ought to have been informed of this arrangement. *Prima facie*, our correspondent appears to have been not very courteously treated.

## NEW MEMBERS.

DR. JOHN MURRAY (London); DR. HUBBARD (London).—The names of the new members sent shall be forwarded for election, and the JOURNALS will be furnished from the present date. We may repeat the observations which we last week made, and may take this opportunity of reminding our readers that this is the best time for introducing new members, as the subscription dates from the commencement of the year. As this JOURNAL now confessedly occupies the front rank amongst medical periodicals, and is admittedly at least equal in scientific and literary value and interest with any of its weekly contemporaries, there seems every reason to believe that a large accession of members may be expected by making extensively known at this season the fact that the annual subscription—including the professional advantages of membership of the Association and possession of the JOURNAL free by post—is only one guinea annually; that is, *one-third less than the subscription to the other journals of like repute*. At the stage of prosperity which has now been reached, any further considerable accession of members will not only bring the JOURNAL far into the van of medical periodical literature, and so give to it an unquestionable preeminence in circulation and influence, such as the organ of our greatest professional Association ought to possess, but it will place in the hands of the Association that which has always been an object of desire—surplus funds; which may be used for the advancement of medical science and the protection of professional interests throughout the country. We hope that we may be permitted to appeal to our members individually to aid us in this matter, and to remind them that each one who proposes a new member, renders a service to the Association; while, by widening the bonds of union and strengthening an organisation which aims at the elevation of the whole body medical and the support of its best scientific and social interests, he is doing well for the profession at large.

MR. J. SAMPSON GAMGEE's second Lecture on the Treatment of Wounds will appear next week.

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.—We have received successive numbers of the *Downpatrick Recorder*, in which the story of "spontaneous combustion" of a whiskey drinking dame was published lately. The Editor considers it a "knotty point"; and one of his correspondents informs us that "the human body may become (where a person lives, as it were, for several days on whiskey) so saturated with alcohol, that it literally becomes a combustible substance; but the difficulty in the matter is to ascertain whether the application of a light to the breath of a person so impregnated, will cause the person to burn inwardly. If the experiment could be made on an animal, I have no doubt the doctrine of human combustion could be decided." We thought that this ghost was laid to rest. Liebig discusses the "authenticated" cases with great ability in his "Familiar Lectures".

## SOUTH LONDON MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

SIR,—In a list of officers of the South London Medico-Chirurgical Society, published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of December 7th, we beg to state that the names of Mr. Cooper Forster and Dr. Ray were inserted as Vice-Presidents, in error. We are, etc.,  
 ROBT. C. MOON,  
 JNO. H. C. CONSTABLE } Hon. Secs.  
 December 1867.

## EXTERNAL MANUAL PRESSURE IN LABOUR.

SIR,—Having read Mr. J. K. Spender's report in your Obstetric Memoranda of November 30th, I beg leave to say that, though external manual pressure of the uterus during the second stage of labour is not mentioned in text-books of midwifery, it was recommended, as the following extracts will show, by Dr. John Rowleson Pretty, in a small volume published in 1856, and entitled *Aids During Labour*.

"The time that I select for aiding the contractions of the uterus is, when the 'bearing pains' are well established, and the head is fairly engaged with the cavity of the pelvis. . . . When the patient, as is commonly the case, begs to have her back supported, the left knee, with a pad intervening, can readily give this aid. The left hand should be placed on the fundus uteri, and pressure, varying in degree according to the nature of the labour, be used during the pains, in a direction downwards and backwards, and diminishing with the subsidence of the pain."

I first read Dr. Pretty's book two years ago, and since then I have used manual pressure in a large number of cases, and have invariably found that it aids the contractile powers of the abdominal muscles, and excites and prolongs the contractions of the uterus, thereby shortening the labour, hastening the expulsion of the placenta, and securing a firm contraction of the uterus. I am, etc.,  
 December 1867. L. M. R. C. S. Eng.

SIR,—The case related by Dr. Spender, under the heading of Obstetric Memoranda, in the JOURNAL of November 30th, exemplifies a very simple principle, which, I believe, is well understood and widely acted upon in midwifery practice.

When, during labour, the abdomen appears specially pendulous, and the presenting part of the child points too much backwards, I always direct a towel or binder to be passed round the abdomen and fastened behind. This is most conveniently done by tying the ends together in a knot; then, during a pain, the nurse exercises a moderate but firm traction on the binder in a direction backwards and downwards, and so, I believe, often materially assists in causing the uterus to exert its force in a right direction. Such a method as this is both more effective and less laborious than the use of the practitioner's hand, whilst the towel becomes, after labour is completed, with a pad inserted beneath it and itself duly tightened, the binder ordinarily used at this period. In all cases, indeed, whether it has to be used during labour as a rectifier of uterine position or not, it is well to have the binder loosely round the abdomen before the end of labour. After that, we know it is rather difficult to pass it beneath the hips without the woman raising herself somewhat, whilst at the same time hæmorrhage, or the fear of it, may render this movement inadvisable. I am, etc.,  
 T. MORLEY ROOKE, M.D.  
 Cheltenham, December 1867.

**AN OLD STUDENT.**—Bandaging is now taught at most hospitals. Mr. Berkeley Hill's little work on the subject will give you all the information you desire.

#### A NEW BROWN BREAD.

WE have received from Mr. Bonthron, of Regent Street, a loaf of bread made with an entire wheat flour. This bread differs from ordinary brown wheat bread, in the fact that the whole of the grain of wheat is ground to the same degree of fineness, and passed through the same sieve. In this way all the constituents of the bran are contained in the bread, but are undistinguishable from the flour. On this account the bread is free from the scales of bran which so often irritate the stomach and bowels, and render it unfit for dyspeptic patients and children. This flour comes from Messrs. Chapman and Co.'s Steam Mills at Hatcham, where it may be obtained for the purpose of domestic use. The bread itself is a perfect specimen of bread-making, free from crust, pastiness, or any objectionable quality, and is highly creditable to Mr. Bonthron.

**DR. LEARED**, in his valuable papers on Gastric Pain, has not given the dose of the purified black oxide of manganese; and as, I presume, that remedy has never been given medicinally before, I should feel obliged by his kindly doing so.—**INQUIRER.**

#### TREATMENT OF CARBUNCLE BY COLLODION.

**SIR.**—Having heard that carbuncle has of late been treated by the local application of collodion, and having read in the *JOURNAL* of Nov. 16th a casual notice of the same, I should be glad to know from those who have tried this mode of treatment the result of their experience, and whether any internal remedy is required.

I am, etc., F. P. ATKINSON, M.B., M.D., etc.

Bessborough Gardens, Vauxhall Road, November 1867.

\***Mr. Atkinson** may be referred to M. Latour's book on this subject, and to recent articles in *L'Union Médicale*.

**A MEMBER.**—You should address yourself to the Editor of the *Journal* in which the notice appeared. On inquiry, we learn that the authorities at the South Kensington Museum photographed a few of the portraits, and presented a single copy of each to those persons and institutions by whom the originals were lent for exhibition. Our impression is, that the portraits are not purchasable.

#### THE RULES OF THE SURREY DISPENSARY.

**SIR.**—Your *JOURNAL* of the 7th inst. contains a letter from Dr. Hooper which refers to me by name, and which contains several erroneous statements. I hope you will kindly allow me the favour of a reply.

Dr. Hooper has informed you that "at the Surrey Dispensary there is a rule which obliges its physicians to be *Members or Fellows* of the London College of Physicians, and that I have been doing my best to get this rule modified, so as to make eligible all who hold a British degree or the College of Physicians' licence, provided that they give their word to the Committee that they will not dispense medicines; and that the staff advised the Committee to retain the rule as it stands." I can only say that the plain truth is almost exactly the reverse. It is I who wish to retain the rule as it stands. The other members of the staff desired to alter it. I will give you the simple facts, that your readers may judge for themselves.

1. The existing rule reads thus (Rule XXIV, page 21): "No person who is not qualified by the London College of Physicians to practise as a physician, nor any person practising pharmacy, shall be admitted a candidate for the office of physician."

2. Dr. Hooper proposed to alter this excellent and old-established rule to the following:—"No person who is not a Fellow or Member of the Royal College of Physicians of London, and a registered physician, shall be admitted a candidate for the office of physician."

3. My amendment was this: "No person who is under twenty-five years of age, or not registered as a Doctor or Bachelor of Medicine of a British University, and as a Fellow, Member, or Licentiate of the London College of Physicians, nor any person practising pharmacy, shall be admitted a candidate for the office of physician, or be eligible to hold that office."

This amendment is far from being an attempt to lower the qualification for the physicianship, (as Dr. Hooper insinuates) inasmuch as it requires a suitable age, and the possession of a medical degree, in addition to all that is required by the present rule. I think the profession at large will agree with me that a person possessing these qualifications ought not to be excluded from being a candidate. As a matter of course, I was out-voted by the three M.R.C.P.'s, and the M.D. who is not a licentiate; but I retain the opinion that if the L.R.C.P.L. is not a person qualified by the London College to practise as a physician, he is already excluded; but that if he is so qualified by that College, a Dispensary Committee (whether medical or not) has no right to exclude him, thereby condemning the College, libelling the whole body of Licentiates, and unfairly depriving them of their legal rights. The proposal to amend (?) the existing rule is tantamount to an admission that the Licentiates not practising pharmacy are, and always have been, eligible under that rule, and therefore it is an uncalled for, and an ungracious attempt, to do them an injustice. I am, etc., JOHN DIXON, M.D.,

Jamaica Road, December 1867.

Surgeon to the Surrey Dispensary.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news-reports and other matters of medical interest:—The *Belfast News-Letter*; The *Dublin General Advertiser*, November 30th; The *Irish Times*, December 10th; The *West Surrey Times*, December 7th; The *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*, Nov. 26th.

#### VENEREAL DISEASES IN THE ARMY.

**SIR.**—A letter has recently appeared in the *Times*, headed "Hospital Changes in the Army", and signed "A Medical Officer of the Guards". The purport is to recommend that men admitted with diseases, brought on by the legitimate discharge of their duty, should not have the same sum charged against them as they who enter the wards with self-induced diseases; the difference being accounted for by making a reduction to the former class, and an increase to the latter.

I think that there are good grounds for further consideration as regard some such alteration; but the fact must not be forgotten, that "medical inspections" for the disease in question have ceased to be practised—as an order—in the army. I fear that if any pecuniary punishment is placed on this class, it will tend to lessen an early application to hospital.

May I venture to add that, under the present aspect of the Contagious Diseases Act, I think the time not far distant when "medical inspections" will be revived; with proper means they can be conducted with decency; for is it honest to compel the unfortunate to submit, and excuse the soldier who too frequently has the disease on him for days before he applies for treatment? I am, etc.,

London, November 1867.

AN ARMY MEDICAL OFFICER.

**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.

#### TESTS OF AGE.

**SIR.**—The Factory Act being about to be applied to a variety of trades not hitherto affected by it, doubtless some of your readers have been appointed Certifying Surgeons under the Act. I should be glad if any of them, or of your readers, could inform me of any means of ascertaining the age of young persons of twelve, thirteen, or fourteen years. I am, etc.,

Northampton, November 1867.

H. TERRY, JUN.

**OBSTETRICIAN.**—There will not be another examination for the "L.M." this year. The last took place on the 4th instant. A certificate of twenty cases.

#### PRACTICE OF DRUGGISTS.

**SIR.**—As a registered medical practitioner and subscriber to the British Medical Association, I would wish to inquire in what way the medical profession may seek for protection under the following circumstances. A person, who is a druggist by trade, thinks fit not only to compound prescriptions, but to visit patients (as if a duly qualified medical man), he being, to my own knowledge, perfectly unqualified as a physician, surgeon, or apothecary. However, as he only charges for his medicine, he thus avoids the law, so far as I am aware. Now, if we are not protected by law in a case of this kind—which, I regret to say, is of common occurrence now a days—it is quite absurd that we should be compelled to pay registration fees by way of securing protection. Such a case as this seems to me well worthy the attention of the Medical Council, as the assumption of ignorant persons of this class is likely to bring discredit on the profession as a body. Having no character to lose, they do not hesitate to pass themselves off as duly qualified medical men upon the ignorant and the innocent; and the unfortunate and often fatal results of their practice, I have had occasion to know of and see.

Trusting this may be the humble means of bringing the above mentioned persons to their proper position, I am, etc.,

November 1867.

JUSTITIA.

N.B.—I enclose my card, but not for publication.

**ASSOCIATE (Bedford).**—The duties of an assistant-surgeon to a hospital ordinarily include the seeing out-patients; substituting the surgeon, according to given regulations, in his absence; and assisting at operations.

#### TREATMENT OF GASTRODYNIA.

**SIR.**—The very interesting paper of Dr. Leared in your *JOURNAL* of November 23rd, recalls to my mind the treatment of gastrodynia by arsenic by Dr. Ross, Medical Officer of the Warrenpoint and Rostrevor Dispensaries; but his mode of administration was the arsenious acid, or common white arsenic in powder—one grain divided into twelve pills—one of which was taken after breakfast and after dinner, daily. Dr. Ross told me that he was in the habit of using this remedy very largely, and that he always found it act almost as a specific in most cases of distressing gastrodynia.

Now, this fact occurred so long ago as 1846, as well as I can remember; and if Dr. Ross should happen to see this notice, he will at once recollect the writer and the cases referred to. Nevertheless, such a remedial agent now, and in the hands of such a distinguished member of our profession as Dr. Leared, will henceforth prove a great boon to suffering humanity; recommended and prescribed as it is in a form so very simple and manageable, and accompanied by such a masterly dissertation on the disease, for which the profession must warmly and gratefully feel his debtor. I am, etc.,

J. T. CAMPION, M.D. Erlin, L.A.H.D., Acc. Wellesley Lying-in Hospital, etc. Dublin, November 1867.

**MR. SENIOR (Aldershot).**—You will find the account of Mr. Powell's dismissal from the Tending Union in this *JOURNAL* for September 27th, 1866.

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

Dr. F. Oppert (with enclosure); Dr. Braxton Hicks (with enclosure); The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall (with enclosure); Dr. John Murray (with enclosure); The Registrar-General of England; Dr. Foster; Mr. T. M. Stone; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Dr. H. Charlton Bastian (with enclosure); Dr. William Moore, Dublin (with enclosure); Mr. Lane (with enclosure); Mr. Marshall (with enclosure); Dr. W. W. Gull; The Registrar of the Medical Society of London; Mr. W. B. Kesteven, Holloway; Mr. Robert C. Moon; Mr. A. Bruce; Dr. C. S. Smith, Liverpool; Dr. W. T. Watson; Mr. C. L. Kemp; Dr. T. Parker, Abbotshbury, Dorset; The Secretary of the Society of Arts; Mr. Horatio Stokes, Gibraltar; The Honorary Secretary of the Harveian Society of London; Mr. Milner M. Moore; Mr. Charles James Fox (with enclosure); Dr. John Dixon (with enclosure); Mr. R. A. Jones, Carnarvon; Mr. J. K. Spender, Bath; Mr. T. F. Eustace, Dublin (with enclosure); Mr. Shaw; Mr. J. Hochee; Mr. Nunneley, Leeds; Mr. Hubbard; Dr. H. E. Norris, Charnmouth; Dr. M. J. O'Connor, Morpeth; Dr. Haslop, Birmingham; Dr. C. L. Robertson, Hayward's Heath; Dr. W. O. Sankey, Sandywell Park; Mr. Sampson Gamgee, Birmingham; Dr. John C. Murray, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Dr. William Murray, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Dr. William Roberts, Manchester; Dr. James Russell, Birmingham; Dr. Pyemont Smith, Leeds; Dr. Marriott, Leicester; Mr. J. White, Nottingham; Dr. Radford, Manchester; Dr. Birkbeck Nevins, Liverpool; Dr. Gavin Milroy; Dr. R. McDonnell, Dublin; Mr. J. Walsh, Manchester; Mr. G. Southam, Manchester; Mr. Sweete, Weston-super-Mare; Dr. Noble, Manchester; Dr. R. H. Taylor, Liverpool; Mr. T. Simpson, Lincoln; Mr. Langston Parker, Birmingham; Dr. Paley, Peterborough; Mr. J. V. Solomon, Birmingham; Dr. Morris, Spalding; and Dr. F. T. Roberts, Liverpool.

#### BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Handbook of the Sphygmograph. By J. B. Sanderson, M.D. London: 1867.  
Manual of Pharmacy for the Student of Veterinary Medicine. By W. J. T. Morton. London: 1867.  
Remarks on the Lunacy Acts for Scotland and District Pauper Lunatic Asylums. By Watson Wemyss, M.D. Edinburgh: 1867.