

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

## SHROPSHIRE SCIENTIFIC BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of this Branch was held at Shrewsbury, on Nov. 4th, at 2.30 P.M. The chair having been taken by E. BURD, M.D., President for the past year, the minutes of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed.

The Report of the Council Meeting of October 31st, 1867, was read, and passed unanimously.

Dr. Burd having resigned the chair, WILLIAM NEWMAN, M.D., the President for the ensuing year, then read an interesting address on the Past History of Surgery.

Mr. T. P. BLUNT, B.A. Oxon., read a paper on Water, its Impurities; and the Effects Thereof on the Public Health.

Mr. EDDOWES read an Unusual Case of Lithotomy operated on in the Salop Infirmary.

Mr. Wood read an interesting Case, the result of a severe Railway Accident, where the patient recovered after simultaneous amputation of three limbs and fracture of the skull.

A paper from Mr. T. Smith, of St. Bartholomew's, was read.

A Vote of Thanks to the President for his able address was proposed by Dr. JOHNSON and seconded by Dr. BURD.

The Annual Dinner was afterwards held at the Raven Hotel at 5 P.M., the President in the chair, the Vice-President being Samuel Wood, Esq. Twenty-six sat down. The usual toasts were proposed and responded to, and a very pleasant evening spent.

## SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SURREY DISTRICT SOCIETY.

A MEETING of this Society was held on Thursday, December 12th, at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon. Mr. A. G. ROPER presided, and eighteen gentlemen, members, and visitors, were present.

*Communications.*—1. Dr. CARPENTER read the notes of a case that had recently occurred in his practice. A lady, after suffering from dropsy of the amnion for some weeks, was delivered of twins at the fifth month of pregnancy; one child was quite healthy, but the other had been dead for some time and was partly decomposed. There was great haemorrhage after delivery; and the mother eventually sank with symptoms of puerperal fever. Dr. Carpenter, in receiving the thanks of the meeting, was requested to forward his paper to the JOURNAL for publication.

2. Mr. F. HOWARD MARSH gave the history of a case in which, in removing a tumour from the neighbourhood of the knee, it was necessary to lay open the joint. The subsequent progress of the case was very satisfactory; and, after giving a detailed account of the treatment pursued, the paper concluded with the consideration of the dangers attending the exposure of the joint and of the circumstances under which it is justified.

3. Mr. ROPER exhibited a specimen of an Ulcer of the Stomach in which perforation had taken place. The patient, a domestic servant, was admitted into the Croydon General Hospital suffering from intense abdominal pain, which had come on suddenly some hours before whilst she was waiting at table. She soon became collapsed, and died within twenty-four hours of admission. The ulcer was situated on the anterior wall of the stomach, just external to the left edge of the liver. Another ulcer was found on the posterior wall, and this part was adherent to the pancreas. On inquiry, a history of some dyspeptic symptoms, though not severe, was obtained.

4. Dr. HCRACE JAFFRESON made some remarks on the small effect produced on the foetus *in utero* by administering opiates to the mother.

5. Mr. MORRANT BAKER gave brief account of a specimen of obstruction of the ductus communis choledochus which he had recently met with, and suggested its probable causation.

The Dinner was held at 6 P.M.; Mr. Roper presided, and sixteen of those present at the meeting attended.

**NEWSPAPERS FOR HOSPITALS.**—Since the opening of the convalescent ward of the Durham County Hospital, J. F. Elliot, Esq., one of the directors of the North-Eastern Railway, has caused a box to be erected at the Durham station for the reception of newspapers and literature which railway passengers may be disposed to contribute, for the information and gratification of the inmates of the hospital. The idea of Mr. Elliot has turned out a most successful one; for since the box has been put up a good supply of newspapers have been thus charitably furnished.

## REPORTS OF SOCIETIES.

## PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17TH, 1867.

JOHN SIMON, Esq., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

A REPORT was presented by Mr. BRUCE on Mr. Nunn's case of Ruptured Bladder. There was no evidence of epithelioma or other morbid growth to account for the rupture.

Dr. DICKINSON read a report for the Committee on Morbid Growths on Dr. OGLE's case of Diseased Spine. No evidence of malignant disease was found. It seemed to have been a case of simple caries.

A report was read by Dr. GREENHOW, for Dr. Wilks and himself, on Sir D. Gibb's case of suspected Addison's Disease. The capsules appeared normal. No traces characteristic of Addison's disease were found.

Specimens of Tuberclie in the Choroid were then exhibited by Mr. SOELBERG WELLS. The patient had been under the care of Dr. Garrod, in King's College Hospital, a month ago, with acute tuberculosis of a rapid character. The eyes externally were found normal, and the sight good. She could read No. 1 of Jaeger's type. The retina and nerve were healthy, except slight fulness of the vessels. The choroid and yellow spot were sprinkled in the vicinity of the optic disc with grey circumscribed nodules, which Mr. Wells diagnosed as tubercles. The optic disc was healthy. The epithelial layer was thinner about the nodules, so that the pigment-cells were pushed aside, and gradually passed over to the healthy structure. There was no choroiditis. The patient became comatose, and died six days after admission. There were found, at the autopsy, twenty to thirty tubercles in each eye, from the size of a pin's head to a millet-seed. Most of the viscera presented tubercles. Mr. Wells spoke of the great rarity of tubercle of the choroid. There had been nine cases reported in Germany—seven to be found in Virchow's Archives, and one had been diagnosed during life by Von Graefe. He believed this case to be the first noticed in England.

Dr. MOXON showed, for Mr. Hilliard of Guildford, parts from a fatal case of Embolism, which occurred during recovery from typhoid fever in a woman aged 63. She was progressing favourably, when she got pain and swelling in the front of the left thigh, the saphena vein being swollen, and forming a tender cord. On the morning of her death, she expressed herself as much better. She required to use the bed-pan, and raised the lower part of her body, that it might be placed under her. Then she suddenly felt faint, complained of pain and tightness in the chest, and died in three minutes. Her face was, however, not discoloured. An inspection showed the left saphena vein as thick as an artery; the coats swollen, but not suppurating. The vein contained a clot, which partially filled it. In the bifurcation of the pulmonary artery were similar clots, that obstructed both primary branches. Of these latter clots, one was marked by the impressions of vein-valves—evidently a cast of a branch of the vein out of which the emboli had come. A few healing typhoid ulcers in the ileum were found. Dr. Moxon said the case was of interest, because of the rarity of the occurrence of embolism in fever, and on account of the causation of the fatal occurrence by such a movement of the body as would raise the arch of Poupart's ligament, and make easy the upward course of the clot.

Dr. MOXON also brought forward a case where the Renal Artery had been plugged by an embolus, and numerous others in various parts of the kidney, which had been followed by a shrivelled condition of the organ. The other kidney was much enlarged, and affected by chronic Bright's disease. He thought that both kidneys were originally diseased, and that the embolism had tended to produce a return to a more normal state of the other.—Mr. BRYANT thought the case important from a surgical point of view, explaining the practice of cutting off the supply of blood from a part.—The PRESIDENT observed, that the most simple explanation was, that the kidneys had been originally healthy; that the embolus cut off the supply of blood to No. 1, which was followed by No. 2 becoming diseased.

Mr. WAGSTAFFE showed a specimen of Renal Calculus, almost solely carbonate of lime, removed from a patient aged 42, who was admitted into St. Thomas's Hospital with heart-disease, and died thirteen days after admission. The urine was slightly albuminous, but otherwise healthy. The only history connected with the calculus was that, two months before, he had passed blood in his urine for two or three days. At the *post mortem* examination, besides the atheroma of the aortic valves and aorta, with hypertrophy and dilatation of the left side of the heart, the upper half of the right kidney was greatly dilated; and the pelvis contained a large calculus, which branched very freely into the calices. There were also several loose rounded calculi, and a quantity of fine cal-

phia. The part was ordered to be covered by a linseed-meal poultice. On February 26th, there was a free and offensive discharge from all the punctures. The swelling was more diffuse, and much increased. On March 4th, his health was rapidly failing. The skin over the tumour was much inflamed and extensively undermined, the parts beneath being boggy and sloughing. On April 26th, he died. On *post mortem* examination, the penis was found perfectly healthy. The external disease had not extended deeper than the skin and cellular tissue and the femoral and inguinal glands. There was a very small deposit in the right kidney, and very extensive deposits in both lungs and the bronchial glands.—III. This case was treated in private by Mr. Wickham. Mrs. L., aged 80, had been suffering from a scirrhouous tumour of the right breast for two years. The growth was irregular in shape, involving the whole gland. The skin covering it was adherent. It was rapidly increasing in size, and was very painful. There was a slight enlargement of the glands in the axilla. On April 3rd, three drops of dilute acetic acid (1 to 3), containing one-fourth of a grain of acetate of morphia, were injected into the tumour; this was attended and followed by very great pain. On April 7th, the tumour was unaltered. The injection was repeated; and again on April 9th. No benefit resulting from the injection, and much pain having been produced, the treatment was discontinued.—Mr. Landon said the second case especially might make one repent the adoption of the acetic acid treatment. The average duration of epithelial cancer was four years; but, in this patient, death ensued in ten months.—Mr. G. MAY had tried the acetic acid injection in one case several times; it caused great pain, and seemed to do no good whatever. He ultimately removed the cancer by chloride of zinc, which gave less pain, and was much more effectual.—Mr. HARRISON had injected a cancer of the uterus with acetic acid. It caused intense pain; but afterwards he could introduce his finger into a cavity in the tumour of the depth to which the acid had penetrated. He injected the acid once more; but the pain was so intense, that the patient begged him to desist, saying she could bear no more.—Dr. BARFORD alluded to the remarkable influence of a solution of citric acid and water (3*i*-Os) in allaying the pain of open cancer, and, as he thought, in retarding its progress.

MR. YOUNG asked what the feeling of the meeting was as to subscribing to place a marble statue to the late Mr. Propert; and, after some discussion, he was authorised to receive subscriptions.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### FREE ADMISSION INTO HOSPITALS.

SIR,—Will you allow me to direct your attention to two errors of the press in Dr. Heslop's quotation from my account of the Dundee Hospital in your last number, which make nonsense of the passages quoted. In p. 579, on the fifteenth line from the bottom of the first column, instead of "though letters are received from ordinary cases", it should have stood *required for*; and, in the tenth line from the top of the second column, instead of "led probably by casual charity", it should have been *fed*. It is perhaps unnecessary for me to add how heartily I agree with Dr. Heslop, and how much good I anticipate from the discussion of this subject.

I am, etc.,

London, Dec. 21st, 1867.

T. HOLMES.

### CASES OF MULTIPLE TAPEWORM.

SIR,—In the report which appeared in Saturday's JOURNAL, of the September meeting of the Manchester Medical Society, two cases of tapeworm are mentioned, in one of which four and in the other three heads were passed. Allow me to add, that the first was a child of two or three years of age, for whom I ordered twenty-five minimis of the oil of male fern. Only half the dose was given; showing how small a quantity—in this case only a fraction over three minimis for each of the worms—may be sufficient to expel the parasite. The other patient was a woman who took a drachm and a half of the oil. She brought me a quantity of the worm, amongst which I found three heads; and, from her account, I suspected she had lost one, but, of course, could not be sure on this point. These heads were carefully examined by myself and others, and showed clearly the circles of hooks characteristic of *taenia solium*.

It is by many considered rare for more than one to be found in the same patient; but, in the Sydenham Society's edition published in 1857, Kuchenmeister states that ten were the result of his famous experiment, and mentions several instances of large numbers, from two to forty, being expelled. The heads would probably be discovered more fre-

quently if careful directions were given and carried out as to the mode of search. I may perhaps be allowed also to correct an inaccuracy in the report as to the presence of *taenia echinococcus* in the piece of dog's intestine. The numerous white points projecting from among the villi had much of the appearance of these minute worms; but, as the heads could not be made out, I felt uncertain. Having an opportunity of seeing Dr. Cobbold, I showed him a portion of the intestine, and he had no doubt they were due to a morbid change in the villi themselves. On further examination, this proved to be the case. The happy rarity of this worm in England may possibly be taken as an excuse for any difficulty I felt as to its identification.

I am, etc.,  
Manchester, December, 1867.

HENRY SIMPSON, M.D.

### AMENDMENT OF THE MEDICAL ACT.

SIR,—I enclose a copy of a question which I put to Mr. Bennett, the late candidate for Manchester, and have the satisfaction to inform you that he promised to support it. If the profession would be united at the next election, it might be to our advantage.

I am, etc.,  
JOHN RAINS, M.D.

"Will you vote in favour of a Bill to amend the Medical Act of 1858, the object of which is to more effectually carry out the intention of Clause 40 of the said Act, and thereby protect the public against the imposition of persons illegally practising as medical practitioners, their names not being upon the legally authorised register, which should be found in every free library for the guidance of the public?"

## MEDICAL NEWS.

### MEDICAL TRIAL.

GUY v. NEALE.

THIS case, which is likely to be of some importance to provincial surgeons, was tried in the Doncaster County Court before R. Wildman, Esq., judge, on December 13th. The plaintiff, Dr. Guy, sought to recover £26 5s. for professional visits made to defendant's wife. Mr. Woodhead appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Dale, of York, on behalf of the North Eastern Railway Company, for the defence. It appeared that on the 12th of July, 1866, defendant's wife met with a severe accident in returning from a trip to Scarborough. It being through some negligence of the North Eastern Railway Company, she afterwards sought for compensation, and obtained £400. She was attended from the time of the accident by Mr. Reuben Sykes, surgeon, and subsequently in September Dr. Guy was called in. The amount now in dispute was for thirty-four visits at 10s. 6d., amounting to £17 17s., and in those visits eight consultations with the other doctors at one guinea, £8 8s., amounting in all to £26 5s. The North Eastern Railway Company had to pay this, and now objected, through the defendant, to the charges. Dr. Guy was called, and said he had had five of those consultations with Dr. Scholfield, and three with Mr. Nunneley, the company's surgeon, of Leeds. The consultations took place at the same time as the visits, but it was, he said, the usual custom to charge for both. Mr. DALE: Did you ever charge less? No.—Mr. DALE: Do you know that he is a pensioner? I did not then.—Witness, in answer to Mr. Dale, said he had never charged more than a guinea and a half for consultations to his best patients. He further said it was a very serious case, taking up a great deal of time, and causing him much mental anxiety. He had been told by Sergeant Neale himself that he had no confidence in Mr. Sykes, and he placed the case in his hands. He, however, refused to attend without the other medical men.—His HONOUR: I understand you refused to attend without the persons already in attendance went along with you? Yes.—His HONOUR: But for all that you did attend separately.—Witness further said he was told they had great respect for Mr. Sykes, but they had not sufficient confidence in him in this particular case. He said he did not know the Railway Company had agreed to pay the bill until just before he sent it to defendant. He attended as a consulting surgeon.—His HONOUR: How could you attend as a consulting surgeon, and still have the case, as you say, under your own charge? Mr. Neale placed the management of his wife in my hands.—Mr. Joshua Ingham Ikin, surgeon, of Leeds, said the charges were perfectly fair and reasonable.—Cross-examined by Mr. DALE: Is it a proper practice to attend alone, when called in as consulting surgeon? Circumstances might render it not contrary to professional etiquette. It is our practice in Leeds never to charge less than a guinea for consultations.—Mr. DALE: Would you, in thirty visits like this, have charged thirty guineas? Witness: I am not prepared to say.—Mr. DALE: Is it not a practice in Leeds to charge a guinea for three consultations? It might be, but I won't say.—Mr.

John Lister, surgeon, of Doncaster, was called for the plaintiff also, and said he considered the charges reasonable. He admitted, however, in reply to his Honour, that he himself would not think it right to charge both for visits and consultations; and Mr. F. C. Fairbank, whilst considering the charges to be reasonable, did not think it was usual to charge both for visits and consultations.—Mr. Neale was called for the defence, and said Mr. R. Sykes had been their doctor for fourteen years; but in this case, after Mr. Sykes had attended Mrs. Neale some time, he proposed they should call in Dr. Guy, as he thought the railway company would have to pay the bill.—His HONOUR: But you did not call Dr. Guy in for the purpose of surcharging the railway company? Witness: Dr. Guy came eleven or twelve times. I was at home every time, with the exception of about once.—Mr. R. Sykes, surgeon, was then examined. He said he was called in on July 12th, and attended the woman two months after Dr. Guy had been called in. He had only seen Dr. Guy there from six to ten times. Witness also stated, in reply to Mr. DALE, that the usual charge for consultation by a consulting surgeon with a medical practitioner was a guinea for the first visit, and afterwards a guinea for three visits.—Mr. W. D. Husband, surgeon, of York, said he could corroborate Mr. Sykes as regarded consultation-fees; at least, this was the usual practice in his city. True, there were good patients who gave them guinea at once for a consultation; but, if they had to enter it, they charged a guinea for three visits.—Mrs. Neale, who appeared in court supported by crutches, and who sat in a chair to give her evidence, said she had not been attended anything near the number of times stated by the plaintiff.—His HONOUR ultimately made an order for eighteen guineas.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following members of the College, having undergone the necessary examinations for the Fellowship during the week ending the 23rd ultimo, were reported to have acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of the Court of Examiners, and at a meeting of the Council on the 12th instant, were admitted Fellows of the College.

Braine, Francis Woodhouse, L.R.C.P.Lond., Hertford Street, May Fair; diploma of membership dated March 31, 1858  
 Bulteel, Christopher, Stonehouse, Devon; March 31, 1854  
 Cooper, Clarence, Her Majesty's Indian Army; December 17, 1852  
 Cowell, George, Belgrave Road, Pimlico; July 9, 1858  
 Grosjean, James Keith Jeanneret, L.R.C.P.Lond., Kensington; April 17, 1860  
 Hill, John Daniel, M.D. St. Andrew's; Guildford Street; July 18, 1859  
 Moore, Thomas, L.R.C.P.Lond., Old Steyne, Brighton; December 6, 1859  
 Prall, Samuel, M.D. St. Andrew's, West Malling, Kent; April 20, 1857  
 West, James Fitzjames, Birmingham; October 13, 1854

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—Names of gentlemen who passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, December 19th, 1867.

Anderson, Tempest, 17, Stoney Gate, York  
 Chaldecott, Horace, Dorking, Surrey  
 Crowfoot, Edward Bowles, The College, St. Bartholomew's  
 Elliott, Arthur Bowes, Guy's Hospital  
 Giles, William Betts, Bonchurch, Isle of Wight  
 Hewer, Edward, Winchester  
 Rouse, Richard Augustus, Great Torrington, Devon  
 Smith, George William, Castle Donington, Leicestershire  
 Wilks, George, Ashford, Kent  
 Williams, Humphrey Lloyd, Bala, Merioneth

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

Booth, Edward Johnson Hardy, St. Thomas's Hospital  
 Clark, James Henry, St. Thomas's Hospital  
 Jay, Henry Mason, St. Bartholomew's Hospital  
 Putsey, William Henry, London Hospital

#### MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are declared:—

BALLYMENA UNION, co. Antrim—Medical Officer, Toome Dispensary District.

DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON—Dental Surgeon.

ENNISKILLEN UNION, co. Fermanagh—Medical Officer, Tempo Dispensary District.

GLASGOW, City Parish of, Poorhouse and Parochial Lunatic Asylum—Assistant Medical Officer, and Extra Temporary Assistant Medical Officer.

CLIN UNION, co. Limerick—Medical Officer for the Workhouse.

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION, etc., Brompton—Assistant Physician.

LEEDS GENERAL INFIRMARY—Assistant Resident Medical Officer.

LITTLEMORE PAUPER LUNATIC ASYLUM, near Oxford—Medical Superintendent.

LIVERPOOL ROYAL INFIRMARY and LUNATIC ASYLUM—Medical Superintendent.

LIVERPOOL SOUTHERN HOSPITAL—Junior House Surgeon.

MIDDLESEX HOUSE OF CORRECTION, at Westminster—Surgeon.

MORPETH UNION, Northumberland—Medical Officer for District No. 8.

NORTH DEVON INFIRMARY, Barnstaple—House Surgeon.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL, PADDINGTON—Assistant Physician.

TOXTETH PARK TOWNSHIP—Medical Officer for District No. 1.

VICTORIA HOSPITAL for SICK CHILDREN, Chelsea—Surgeon Dentist.

WEST LONDON HOSPITAL, Hammersmith—Apothecary and Assistant Secretary.

THE walrus, which was so recently an object of general interest at the Zoological Gardens, is dead. It was found to be in a state of extreme debility and inanition, and was afflicted with entozoa.

GOVERNMENT GRANT TO VACCINATORS.—The medical department of the Privy Council has awarded to Dr. Broadbent of South Hetton, the sum of £15 18s. in recognition of the value of his services as a vaccinator.

BEQUEST.—The Rev. Thomas Forster, M.A., of New College, University of Oxford, lately deceased, has bequeathed, in addition to legacies to other institutions non-medical, the sum of £100 to the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.

FARADAY AS A DISCOVERER.—Under this title Messrs. Longman and Co. announce a memoir of the late Professor Faraday, by Dr. Tyn dall. It is to be in one volume, crown 8vo, and will be published in January.

EXTRAORDINARY FEMALE LONGEVITY.—The following illustration of prolonged existence appeared in the obituary of the *Times* a few days since, where the deaths of ten ladies and five gentlemen are recorded, whose united ages amounted to 1282 years, giving an average of 85 years and upwards of 5 months to each; the united ages of the ten ladies amounted to 868 years, showing that they had reached, on an average, the great age of 86 years and more than 9 months; the oldest lady was in her 93rd year, and the youngest in her 81st year. The united ages of the five gentlemen amounted to 414 years, giving an average of 82 years and more than 8 months to each; the oldest had reached 86, and the youngest 80, years.

THE CONVALESCENT DÉPÔT AT DARJEELING.—The *Englishman* summarises the experience of medical officers in charge of the convalescent dépôt at Darjeeling for the last five years. The temperature is mild and equable, particularly during the rainy season; the highest mean temperature in 1865-66 being 73 deg., and the lowest 30 deg. Fah. The average rainfall is 125 inches, of which a great proportion falls during the night. Frost appears on the ground during the winter months, rendering the atmosphere clear, cold, and bracing. There is no evidence that there has been any epidemic among the troops since 1849. Out of 711 persons admitted into the dépôt hospital within the last five years, only nineteen have died, and forty-two been invalided. The sanitarium, however, is not recommended for persons suffering from chronic bronchitis, phthisis, or heart disease.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—It is stated that nearly 200 candidates underwent their Preliminary or Arts Examinations lately at the College. Of this number, there were 28 for the Fellowship and 169 for the Membership. The examinations were spread over three days: Tuesday was devoted to Writing from Dictation, English Grammar and Composition, Geography, Arithmetic, and English History; Wednesday, Latin, Geometry, French, and Algebra; Thursday, Greek, Chemistry, Mechanics, German, Botany, and Zoology. In reply to several anxious correspondents to see the list of successful candidates, it may be mentioned that the result cannot be known for three weeks, owing to the great numbers of papers to be read.

DEATH OF A SURGEON.—An inquest was held at Tewkesbury on Tuesday week on the body of Mr. James Herbert Brown, a surgeon, in partnership with Mr. Allard. On Sunday evening Mr. Brown complained of his head and chest, and, after refusing tea, left home. Soon afterwards a cabinet-maker, passing along the road with his wife and son, heard a low moaning, and found Mr. Brown lying prostrate, with his head over the ditch and his hat and umbrella beside him. He was black in the face, his lips were swollen, and he was insensible. He was removed to a neighbouring turnpike-house, and Mr. Allard was fetched. He was found to be suffering from apoplexy and asphyxia, and had lost all power of sense and motion; and notwithstanding the efforts of his partner and another medical man he died in a few hours. The jury returned a verdict of Died from Natural Causes.

LIME AND LEMON JUICE FOR MERCHANT SHIPS.—The *Standard* has the following.—After the 1st January next merchant ships are to carry lime juice mixed with fifteen per cent. of rum, and it is to be served out to the crew daily in proportions named in the new Merchant Shipping Act. Before the juice is allowed to be shipped for the use of the crew it is to be inspected, reported on, fortified, and certified to the satisfaction of the Board of Trade. We have reason to hope that that terrible scourge of our mercantile navy, sea scurvy, will be eradicated by the use of good lime juice. We learn that Sunderland is the first place at which lime juice has been inspected under the new act, and that a report has been sent in by the Board of Trade officer to the effect that the lime juice there is proper and fit in every respect. This is satisfactory, as there were doubts whether lemon or lime juice would be forthcoming at the last moment.

ACCIDENTAL POISONING.—Mr. W. Carter, coroner for East Surrey, held an inquest a few days ago at Surbiton, on the body of a child eleven weeks old, who died from the effects of an overdose of medicine. On Sunday, December 15th, the grandmother of the child, who had charge of it, sent a boy to Mr. Acfield, a chemist, for medicine, the baby having been suffering from diarrhoea for two or three days. From the evidence given by Mr. Acfield, it appeared that he understood the boy to say that he wanted the mixture for "Mr. Charles," and Mr. Acfield, knowing a man of that name, made up his usual dose for adults. Being told that the sick person was in great pain, the chemist made up a powder of opium and calomel to give instant relief. The grandmother did not follow the instructions written on the powder and bottle, which were for the powder to be washed down with half the mixture, but gave about half the powder, and half a spoonful out of the bottle. From the effects she fancied a mistake had been made, and sent over to Mr. Acfield, who then found that he had mistaken the words "Mrs. Jeal's child" for Mr. Charles, and so had prescribed for an adult instead of for an infant. He at once sent a stimulating mixture, and told the people to send for a doctor. Mr. C. I. Mason was sent for, but the child never recovered. Mr. Acfield gave his evidence, and then the jury found that the child died from the effects of an overdose of calomel and opium, administered accidentally. The chemist was exonerated from any blame.

SUSPENSION OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF THE CAMBRIDGE UNION.—Dr. Ransom, the Medical Officer of the Cambridge Union, has, by writing a letter to the local press reflecting upon the Guardians and their Clerk, brought down upon him the contempt of the Board. At their meeting on Wednesday week, they determined to report the circumstances to the Poor-law Board, and suspend Dr. Ransom from his office. For some time, it was Dr. Ransom's custom to place his initials to the medical officer's book allowing extras, in the shape of beer and gin, to certain of the inmates who performed extra duties. When the late Master left (who used to keep the book for Dr. Ransom), the Board censured Dr. Ransom for omissions, etc., and consequently Dr. Ransom declined to place his initials to the extras any longer. The consequence of this was, that the auditor surcharged the master with the amount; but has appealed to the Poor-law Board upon the subject. The matter has given rise to considerable discussion; and, at the conclusion of the meeting, it was resolved to report the whole circumstances to the Poor-law Board, requesting that an inquiry be instituted into the truth of the medical officer's allegations, and also into his conduct.

## MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

WEDNESDAY.—Obstetrical Society of London. Annual Meeting, 8 P.M. Mr. H. W. Bailey, "On a Case of Transposition of the greater part of the Abdominal Viscera into the Left Cavity of the Thorax"; Dr. Trend, "On Funis Presentations." 9 P.M., President's Address.

THURSDAY.—Harveian Society of London, 8 P.M. Anniversary; Election of Officers; President's Address; and Conversazione.

## BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Diagnosis, Pathology, and Treatment of Diseases of Women, including the Diagnosis of Pregnancy. By Graily Hewitt, M.D. Lond., F.R.C.P. Second edition, revised and enlarged; with numerous Illustrations. London: 1868.

The Bath Waters: their Uses and Effects in the Cure and Relief of various Chronic Diseases. By James Tunstall, M.D., F.R.C.P. Fourth and Revised Edition. London: 1868.

Remarks on the Climate of Sidmouth. By John Ingleby Mackenzie, M.B. Cantab. London: 1867.

Report on the Sanitary State of the Hackney District, for the year 1866. By John W. Tripe, M.D. London: 1867.

Rain: How, When, Where, Why, It is Measured; being a Popular Account of Rainfall Investigations. By G. J. Symons, F.M.S. London: 1867.

A Practical Treatise on Shock after Surgical Operations and Injuries, with especial reference to Shock caused by Railway Accidents. By Edwin Morris, M.D., F.R.C.S. London: 1867.

Report of the Committee of Visitors of the Lunatic Asylum for Bedford, Hertford, and Huntingdon, called the "Three Counties Asylum", for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1866. With Appendices. Bedford: 1867.

On the Ventilation of Dwelling-Houses, and the Utilisation of Waste Heat from Open Fire-places. By Frederick Edwards, jun. London: 1868.

Outlines of Physiology, Human and Comparative. By John Marshall, F.R.S. Vols. i and ii. Illustrated by numerous Wood-cuts. London: 1867.

On the Condition of the Urine in Three Cases of Epilepsy. By F. W. Gibson, M.D. London: 1867.

On the Pathology and Treatment of Albuminuria. By William H. Dickinson, M.D. Cantab. London: 1868.

The Retrospect of Medicine, being a Half-yearly Journal, containing a Retrospective View of every Discovery and Practical Improvement in the Medical Sciences. By W. Braithwaite, M.D., and J. Braithwaite, M.D. Lond. Vol. 56, July—December, 1867. London: 1867.

## 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.

## 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.

MISS ISABEL THORNE's letter is not suitable for admission, either by its tone or substance.

INQUIRER.—The questions are such as should be addressed to a medical attendant, who should be duly paid for answering them.

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news reports and other matters of medical interest:—The Doncaster Chronicle, December 13th; the Sussex Agricultural Express, December 14th and 17th; The Tavistock Gazette, December 20th; The Cork Daily Southern Reporter, December 16th; and The Aberdeen Journal.

### THE COLNEY HATCH LUNATIC ASYLUM.

SIR,—I am very sorry that your first notice of Professor Griesinger's "new and excellent journal" should be the embodiment of a perfectly false statement. The article to which you refer in last week's number of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, was written by Dr. Carl Westphal, the assistant of Professor Griesinger in Berlin; and this gentleman I had the honor (*sic!*) of conducting round the Asylum in July last. I now beg to give the most distinct denial to Dr. Westphal's statement, that maniacal, or indeed any other classes of patients, "were shut up in cells perfectly naked." The greatest care is taken here that the patients are perfectly and efficiently clothed; and the attendants have most rigorous instructions to that effect. I have a distinct recollection of Dr. Westphal's visit; and can affirm most certainly that none of his statements are correct.

With reference to "the discussion of the impropriety of such a procedure" (apart from Dr. Westphal's manner of criticising the treatment pursued in an asylum shewn him at the request of the personal friend of the superintendent), I remember none such; but I do remember that Dr. Carl Westphal was particularly anxious to enforce some ideas of his own on lesions of the spinal cord in general paralysis. Most probably, the great interest he takes in his own observations causes him to mistake one's courtesy in listening to what a foreigner has to say for acquiescence in the subject. At whatever Gamaliel's feet I might be inclined to sit, certainly at Dr. Westphal's I shall not be found; and I beg to put in a distinct disclaimer to any participation in his views or arguments.

The Commissioners in Lunacy at their recent visit expressed themselves highly satisfied with the manner in which the patients were treated; but perhaps Dr. Carl Westphal sets himself up for their critic.

The paper referred to rests entirely on questions of fact; and Dr. Westphal's statements of these facts is absolutely and entirely false. As the power of contradicting these statements rests with none so perfectly as with myself, I have judged it right to set the truth clearly forward.

I am, etc.,

T. CLAYE SHAW, B.A., M.D. London,  
Assistant Medical Officer, Middlesex County Lunatic Asylum, Colney Hatch, Colney Hatch, December 4th, 1867.

\*.\* We have appealed in vain to Dr. Claye Shaw to modify the language of the above letter; and we now insert it—notwithstanding that the language of the writer in this, and in another communication relating to it, is such as would properly exclude it from publication—because the interests and reputation of his senior officer Dr. Sheppard, and of the asylum, might be prejudiced if the courtesy of the writer were to prevent the statement which he makes from being placed before our readers.

A PUBLIC VACCINATOR.—We will make inquiries on this subject, and answer next week.

### TARIFF OF MEDICAL FEES.

WOULD the Editor of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL be so kind as to state in the Notices to Correspondents, where copies may be obtained of the Tariff of Medical Fees adopted by the Sydenham District Medical Society. The writer thinks he would, by doing so, oblige numerous other medical men besides himself.

G. F. B.

\*.\* No doubt the Secretary of the Sydenham District Medical Society will be good enough to furnish this information.

## NEW MEMBERS.

DR. E. SYMES THOMPSON, London; Dr. TATHAM; Dr. OPPERT; Dr. BOWLES, Folkestone; Dr. ROWE, Margate; Mr. WILDERS, Birmingham; Mr. GEORGE MAY, jun., Reading (with three new members); Dr. JOHN MURRAY, 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 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-thirteenth 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.

C. B. writes:—"Would you kindly give your opinion on the following case. A patient dies in my district, her friends all residing in the district, but her son resides in an adjoining parish (who is responsible for the bill). Do you think there is anything wrong or injurious to the feelings in sending in her bill twelve days after burial, this being the usual time for sending out all my bills."

\*\* We think not.

## EXTERNAL MANUAL PRESSURE DURING LABOUR.

SIR,—I thank L.M.R.C.S.Eng. for referring me to the extract from Dr. Pretty's volume, which I have never seen, or even heard of.

Dr. Morley Rooke will excuse me for saying, that indirect pressure by means of a binder is by no means the same thing as direct pressure with the hand. I almost always put on the binder before the birth of the child; and when I have reason to expect *post partum* flooding, I introduce a pad (a toilet pincushion answers excellently) over the fundus uteri; but when the pad is not wanted, the two hands can be employed in maintaining downward and backward pressure during the pains. And there is an immense difference between the delicate sentient grasp of a skilled practitioner and the mere mechanical pull of a nurse, who may not always do the right thing at the right time. The question is one not of degree only, but of kind.

Bath, December 1867. I am, etc., JOHN K. SPENDER, M.B.

SIR,—I fully endorse the favourable opinions expressed by several correspondents of the JOURNAL as to the benefit derived by properly applied external pressure in suitable cases of labour. My attention was accidentally drawn to this aid, some five or six years ago, while attending a lady (multipara) in her confinement, who suffered from umbilical hernia, with large flabby abdomen. During labour, she had on the bandage she was in the habit of wearing to support the hernia. The pains were very good, but did not effect any progress in the descent of the head; and as the patient complained of a want of support and of explosive power in her abdomen, it occurred to me to try the effect of pressure with my left hand upon the uterus in the proper direction. The beneficial effects of this procedure were soon apparent, as the patient, having a capacious pelvis, was speedily delivered of the child. Since that time, I have with much advantage employed traction with the binder, either alone or combined with manual pressure, as the special circumstances of the case might indicate. In cases where there is no lax state of the abdominal walls, but purely malposition of the uterus, I employ manual pressure only. I may venture to observe, however, that I do not consider that such assistance is necessary in the majority of labours.

Hanley, December 1867. I am, etc., JOHN WADES, M.D.

## THE SURREY DISPENSARY.

SIR,—Only a word or two upon Dr. Dixon's letter of the 14th. The "old established rule" of the Surrey Dispensary, as Dr. Dixon truly calls it, is unfortunately *too old* for his purpose. It was made when *certainly* only Fellows and Members were London Physicians, and when the "Licentiate" did not exist; therefore, the words "no person who is not qualified by the London College of Physicians to practise as a Physician, etc.", were equivalent to "no person who is not a Fellow or a Member"; and we so worded it the other night, not to alter, but (I repeat) "to retain" it, in all its original force, spirit, and intention. Assuming, with Mr. Dixon, that the licentiate *is* a legally qualified London physician (which I more than doubt), that fact will not make "the old established" rule include him, nor will a cart-load of degrees help his case. I was elected in 1852, and can assure Dr. Dixon I have seen the old "extra-licentiates" and graduates of Universities again and again rejected as ineligible, because the old rule did not include them. Several other members of the Medical Committee were willing to attend and condemn Dr. Dixon's proposal, if wanted; but we were strong enough, and I do not think one could be found to support it.

I am, etc.,

DANIEL HOOPER, B.A., M.B., Physician to the Surrey Dispensary. Trinity Square, S.E., December 1867.

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.

DR. CAMPBELL DOUGLAS, who was last week mentioned as recipient of the Victoria Cross, is Assistant-Surgeon in 2nd Battalion of the 24th Regiment.

DR. GALTON.—We are much obliged for the enclosure. We receive regularly the journal in question.

MR. T. GALE (Melbourne).—By the next mail you will, no doubt, learn that the man has been struck off the list of members. The JOURNAL will be regularly sent in the manner indicated. Professor Bennett of Sydney was the earliest writer on the natural history of the *Ornithorynchus Paradoxus* (Owen). He is still attached to the University.

M.R.C.S. (Clapham).—The library was closed on the days mentioned to examine the two hundred candidates in Arts, etc.; but due notice was given of the intention.

RAILWAYS AND HOSPITALS.—We have received the following on this subject from the Secretary of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington.

"Sir.—In your issue of the 30th ult., you copy from a daily paper (the name of which is not given) two letters purporting to show that no case of accident from the Midland Railway Works has ever been treated at St. Mary's Hospital. In reply, I beg to state that during the last eighteen months no less than thirty-five of these cases have been admitted here as in-patients, and that we have had as many as four and five in our wards at the same time. The donation of £25 from Messrs. Waring Brothers, alluded to by Mr. Walker, was obtained after an application I made to them pointing out these facts; and a donation of Ten Guineas from Mr. Firbank (another contractor) was also obtained after a similar application: but these sums combined would not represent one-third of the cost to which St. Mary's Hospital has been put by cases of accident brought from the Midland Railway Works."

DR. M.M. (Brighton).—You could engage one of the invalid carriages of Messrs. Reading, of Riding House Street, Cavendish Square, in which the patient could be comfortably removed, both by road and rail.

## SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION."

DR. STUART, Medical Officer of the Donaghadee Dispensary, writing to the *Downpatrick Recorder* concerning the alleged case of "spontaneous combustion" published in that journal, of which the fame has been widely spread, says:

"The explanation of the case, which your correspondent 'Peter' says has been suggested in the neighbourhood, seems to be the correct one; viz., that the woman, while lying drunk in bed, commenced smoking; while thus enjoying herself, she fell asleep, and her body-clothes and bed-clothes took fire; and, after awaking and finding herself burning, she endeavoured to escape, and got as far as where she was found under the window, being burned and charred by her clothes adhering to her so long as was requisite to ignite her body, which, as 'Peter' says, was in a very combustible state, from long habit of drinking. This explanation will alone account for what 'Peter' considers an insurmountable difficulty in the case; viz., that if it was not a case of spontaneous combustion, how could she be so incinerated in the corner, so far removed from the bed? He must be a very 'simple' man indeed that could believe that, in the case of fire existing in a person's inside, the person could live, while it was not only consuming his entrails, but requiring time to burn its way through the walls of the chest or abdomen, and set fire to the bed-clothes; and that, after all this, the individual could leap from the bed, and go across the room as far as the window! No, the person would be dead long before the fire could reach the bed-clothes."

## WATSON'S "PRACTICE OF PHYSIC".

SIR,—Can you inform a very numerous circle of admiring readers and students of Sir Thomas Watson's *Practice of Physic*, whether it is in contemplation by him to issue soon a new edition of the same, giving the profession his views of the many theories propounded acent disease current since the last edition of 1857?

December 1867. I am, etc., STUDENT.

F. K.—Francis Glisson discovered and described the capsule of the liver. Boerhaave calls him "Omnium anatomicorum exactissimus."

MR. SENIOR (Aldershot).—It was a printer's error; it should have been September 27th, 1856.

A STUDENT.—A knowledge of short-hand is very desirable. Pitman's is considered good. Timothy Bright, a doctor of physic, invented short-hand in 1558.

## COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, &amp;c., have been received from:—

Mr. T. Holmes (with enclosure); Dr. John Murray (with enclosure); Mr. Berkeley Hill (with enclosure); The Registrar-General of England; Dr. Acland, Oxford (with enclosure); Dr. Foster; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall (with enclosure); Mr. T. M. Stone; Dr. A. Macalister; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Dr. J. Popham, Cork (with enclosure); Mr. Herbert Morgan, Lichfield; Dr. S. Martyn, Clifton; Dr. Edward Waters, Chester; Mr. B. Wills Richardson, Dublin; Dr. J. J. Lay, Peasenhall; Dr. Cruise, Dublin; Dr. Henry Marshall, Clifton; Mr. Hugh White, Limerick; Mr. W. E. Masfen, Stafford; Dr. Duckworth; Dr. Ogle, Derby (with enclosure); Dr. E. Symes Thompson; Mr. Flower (with enclosure); Mr. James Syme, Edinburgh (with enclosure); Dr. Bowles, Folkestone (with enclosure); Mr. G. Gamgee, Birmingham; Dr. Heslop, Birmingham (with enclosure); Mrs. M. Baines (with enclosure); Mr. Trotter, Durham (with enclosure); Dr. Galton (with enclosure); Mr. Druce, Oxford (with enclosure); Mr. G. May, jun., Reading (with enclosure); Mr. E. W. Bickersteth, Liverpool; Mr. T. H. Bartleet, Birmingham (with enclosure); Dr. Lanchester, Croydon (with enclosure); Dr. W. R. Sanders, Edinburgh; Mr. H. A. Baines; Dr. J. H. Hill (with enclosure); Dr. Philipson; Dr. A. W. Edis (with enclosure); Mr. S. Lane; Mr. W. G. Kemps (with enclosure); Mr. Wagstaffe (with enclosure); Dr. Murchison (with enclosure); Miss Thorne; Mr. Tichborne, Dublin; Mr. T. Watkin Williams; Dr. Wade, Birmingham (with enclosure); The Secretary of the Obstetrical Society (with enclosure); Mr. John Horsley (with enclosure); and the Honorary Secretary of the Harveian Society of London.

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