

hitherto practised, dwelling especially on the danger of over stimulation of the heart by galvanism, and concluding by pointing out that the great desideratum is some means of promoting artificial circulation, seeing that artificial respiration cannot overcome the stasis of the heart. Unfortunately, he has not yet been able to produce this artificial circulation except by an operation on the great vessels, necessarily fatal in itself. The wonderful temporary results produced, however, are sufficient to make us cordially unite with him in the hope that some one will ere long hit upon a simple yet safe plan of moving on the arrested blood, either by a *vis a tergo* or a *vis a fronte*, the latter being, according to him, the most likely method. His other paper, On the Artificial Production of Cataract, though not absolutely a novelty, was intensely interesting, and was loudly applauded by the best audience that was ever at one time present at the department. It is not too much to say that a few such synthetical investigations into the causation of disease will be productive of greater results in medicine than anything that has been done during the past century. The cure of some forms of cataract by medicines given to diminish the crystalloid constituents of the blood, seems to be almost a necessary sequence of his investigations; but a still higher value of the experiments lies in the suggestive light they may throw on other diseases of a graver nature. Dr. Smith's Reports on Prison Dietary and Discipline, exhibit great labour and painstaking on the part of himself and Mr. Milner, and bring very forcibly under notice the necessity of greater uniformity of system throughout the kingdom. Dr. Kidd's paper, on Death by Chloroform, elicited a lively discussion, in which Dr. Simpson took a part. The object of the paper was to show that the heart-symptoms are accidental, and that death is really caused by a species of tetanic asphyxia. Having been, several years ago, in the habit of administering chloroform in the Edinburgh Infirmary, and having always followed, what was the common practice then, of watching the countenance and respiratory movements rather than the pulse, I was somewhat surprised to hear Dr. Simpson state that the only cases where he had seen any very bad symptoms, were in one or two instances where the patients were liable to syncope. Dr. Beale's paper, read by the Secretary, was a further expression of his views on germinal and formed matter, so familiar to the readers of our JOURNAL. These views were warmly combated by Remak.

The announcement by Müller of his discovery of the fovea centralis retinæ in sundry animals low in the scale of life and intelligence, is another of those little features whereby sundry wise people think that they are being enabled to trace our relationship to the monkey and the oyster. Dr. Davy read a short paper, throwing discredit on the usual stories of sudden conversion of the hair to grey. Though inclined to agree with him, I cannot but think that the paper still leaves the question *sub judice*. I have already filled too much of your space, or I should have referred to two communications sent in by Hyrtl, on points in the Anatomy of the Nervous and Pulmonary Tissues; and to Davy's paper, on the Preservative rather than Destructive Action of Quicklime on Animal Bodies.

It is a hopeless task to attempt to epitomise an Annual Meeting of the British Association in a column or two; but I have mentioned a few of the leading topics that have come under my notice, and which I find have proved interesting to some of my professional brethren here. The opening of the Medical School and of the Medical Society's meetings is about to take place soon, and will doubtless awaken us to a greater amount of life than we have lately evinced; but any news with regard to matters more especially affecting our Medical commonwealth I must leave till a future day.

Association Intelligence.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH:

ROCHESTER, MAIDSTONE, GRAVESEND, AND DARTFORD DISTRICT MEETINGS.—FIFTH SERIES.

THE first meeting for the present session will be held at the Town Hall, Gravesend, on Friday, September 27th, at 3.30 P.M.

Dinner (punctually at 5.30 P.M.) will be prepared for those who may be able to remain.

Trains will leave for London and all stations on the North Kent Line at 8.19; and for Rochester and Maidstone at 8.14.

Gentlemen intending to dine, are requested to give an intimation thereof on or before Wednesday, September 25th, to Dr. ARMSTRONG, Gravesend; or to

JAMES DULVEY, *Honorary Secretary*.

Brompton, Chatham, September 11th, 1861.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

THE next ordinary meeting will be held at the York House, Bath, on Thursday, October 3rd, at 7 o'clock P.M.

The meeting will be rendered special, for the purpose of discussing Dr. Budd's proposed amendment of the seventh bye-law of the Branch.

R. S. FOWLER, *Honorary Secretary*.

Correspondence.

THE LATE MR. QUEKETT.

LETTER FROM JOHN PRANKERD, Esq.

SIR,—I have waited some time, expecting that an abler pen than mine would direct the attention of your readers to a loss which the medical profession, in common with the whole scientific world, has recently suffered in the death of the late Professor Quekett; but, in the absence of a more skilful advocate, I bring the zealous and earnest hope of awakening some interest for the welfare of those he has left behind.

As successor to Professor Owen in the curatorship of the Hunterian Museum, Mr. Quekett's name has been some time familiar to the public; whilst his many services to science, both before and during that period of the appointment, are too well known to require comment: but, as with many other great men, the all-absorbing character of his pursuits greatly interfered with the more common cares of life.

The following extract from a sketch of his life in the newspaper press painfully represents the real facts of the case. "He was carried off by a cruel disease at the early age of forty-six, much too soon to enable him to make any provision for his wife and four boys, whom he leaves behind to deplore the irreparable loss of an amiable husband and a most indulgent parent."

It is a thrice told story—genius wearing itself out in labours, the fruit of which the world feeds on.

As one who knew him in youthful days, ere fame attended his efforts, and who ever valued his private

worth, may I express a hope that, since he is so early removed from us, his more influential friends may be led to evince their feelings of regard and esteem by exerting themselves on behalf of those who were nearest and dearest to him on earth; and which effort I trust will also have the advocacy of your able publication?

I am, etc., JOHN PRANKERD.

Langport, Somerset, Sept. 12, 1861.

FEES TO MEDICAL WITNESSES.

LETTER FROM LLEWELYN LODGE, ESQ.

SIR,—I was requested to attend before the magistrates here to give evidence respecting a poor woman who had been kicked by her husband, causing a wound two inches long down to the bone on the leg. I at once attended the verbal message of the police-officer, and went. The magistrates, after hearing my evidence, allowed the usual fee; but, upon my application to the clerk for the same, he informed me that it could not be allowed. Will you, therefore, kindly let me know in the next JOURNAL what remedy I have, if any; and what legal demand I can make?

I am, etc., LL. LODGE.

St. Asaph, Sept. 18th, 1861.

[If you were legally summoned to attend, you are entitled to a fee of half a guinea *per diem* if within two miles, and of a sum not exceeding one guinea for distances beyond, according to the scale sanctioned in 1858 by Sir George Grey. The only doubt is, whether the verbal summons is sufficient; but, even if it were not so, it seems very unfair to take advantage of your want of legal knowledge. EDITOR.]

PERIODICAL RETURN OF WARM SUMMERS. In January last a paper was read at the Academy of Sciences in Paris, by M. Renou, in which he showed that severe winters followed each other in groups of five or six at a time, and generally recurred in nearly the same order of severity in the course of a period of forty-one years. The same meteorologist has now, in a second paper, endeavoured to unravel the mystery of the recurrence of warm summers. These he finds easier to characterize by their average temperature than by their extremes; he establishes six groups, as follows:—1. Very warm, 20 deg.; 2. Good, 19 deg.; 3. Middling, 18 deg.; 4. Bad, 17 deg.; 5. Very cold, 16 deg.; 6. Exceptional 15 deg. These averages are all in centigrade degrees, as is customary in France. Still there are more difficulties to contend with in classifying summers than in the case of winters. Thus, the summer of 1834 was very warm at Paris and Berlin; and cold, on the contrary, at Orange, showing a great variation within a comparatively small surface. Also, owing to difference of exposure, and want of corrections, old observations are less reliable in the higher than in the lower temperatures. As far as M. Renou has been able to judge, the period of forty-one years is not so apparent in the case of summers as in that of winters; but the former seem to recur immediately after the expiration of the period of severe winters. The other seasons appear to be more easily amenable to the period of forty-one years. M. Renou notices some curious coincidences; thus, the minimum temperature of the year occurred, in 1805, on the 18th of December, and in 1846 on the 19th of that month; in 1806 the same minimum fell on the 12th of March, and in 1847 on the same day. In both cases, it will be remarked, the interval of years is the same. It is also a singular fact the period of forty-one years is precisely that which seems to belong to the return of the solar spots at the same season of the year.

Medical News.

APOTHECARIES' HALL. On Sept. 12th, the following licentiates were admitted:—

Nash, Frederick, Royston, Cambridgeshire
Spaul, Barnard Edward, Hammersmith
Tyler, John William, Calcutta

APPOINTMENTS.

BACON, George M., Esq., appointed Assistant Medical Officer of the Norfolk Lunatic Asylum, Thorpe, near Norwich.
HILLS, William C., M.D., appointed Resident Medical Superintendent of the Norfolk Lunatic Asylum, Thorpe, near Norwich.
HOCKING, Joseph, Esq., elected House-Surgeon to the Dorset County Hospital.
HUME, Henry, Esq., appointed House-Surgeon to the South Shields and Westoe Dispensary.
THOMAS, Edward W., M.B.Lond., elected Surgeon to the South Staffordshire General Hospital and Wolverhampton Dispensary.

ROYAL ARMY. The following appointments have been made:—

BRISCOE, Surgeon H., M.D., Royal Regiment of Artillery, having completed twenty years full-pay service, to be Surgeon-Major.

To be Staff-Assistant-Surgeons:—

POWER, Assistant-Surgeon J. L., Supernumerary in 64th Foot, *vice* J. McL. Marshall.
RAMSAY, Assist.-Surg. W., M.D., 37th Foot, *vice* J. Johnston, M.D.
BATHO, R., Esq. HALL, A. R., Esq.
BELCHER, J. W., M.D. IRONSIDE, W., M.D.
CLARKE, A. F. S., M.D. LODGE, H. S., M.B.
CLAY, R. H., M.D. PELL, W. N., Esq.
CLIMO, W. H., M.D. POPE, J. J., Esq.
EATON, U. B., M.D. STAPLES, F. P., Esq.
FITZPATRICK, J. A., Esq. WATT, J., M.D.
FOOTNER, E., Esq. WELCH, H., Esq.
GREGG, J., M.D. WILSON, W. J., M.D.

ROYAL NAVY. The following appointments have been made:—

MILNE, Thomas, M.D., Acting Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Steady*.
NEWTON, George B., Esq., Surgeon (additional), to the *Nile*.
NOBLE, John, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Mercy*.
OLIVE, Edward, Esq., Acting Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Orestes*.

VOLUNTEER CORPS. The following appointments have been made (A.V.—Artillery Volunteers; R.V.—Rifle Volunteers):—

FAWSETT, F., Esq., to be Surg. 1st Battalion Cambridgeshire R.V.

To be Honorary Assistant-Surgeons:—

LANGWORTHY, J. M. B., Esq., 10th Devon A.V.
OAKLEY, C., Esq., 17th Shropshire R.V.

BIRTHS.

GRAMSHAW. On September 7th, at Laxfield, Suffolk, the wife of *Henry Gramshaw, Esq., of a daughter.
PARSONS. On September 18th, at Beckington, Somerset, the wife of *Joshua Parsons, Esq., of a son.

DEATHS.

ANDREWS. On September 15th, at 105, Gloucester Place, aged 72, Maria, widow of Magnus Andrews, M.D.
ASHTON. On September 17th, in Cavendish Square, aged 8 months, Louisa B., daughter of *T. J. Ashton, Esq.
BALDY, John P., Esq., Surgeon, at Devonport, aged 67, on Sept. 6.
GANNON, John, Esq., Surgeon, at Walworth, aged 53, on Sept. 11.
HACON, Richard, Esq., Surgeon, at Alborough, Norfolk, aged 68, on September 14.
*JONES, George M., Esq., at St. Helier's, Jersey, aged 56, on September 7th.
MARSHALL, J., M.D., at Southampton, aged 48, on September 14.
PICKLELLS, William, M.D., at Cork, on September 8.
RAWLINS, William, M.D., at 16, Alfred Place, Bedford Square, aged 71, on September 11.

THE HERBERT HOSPITAL. Messrs. George Myers and Son, of Lambeth, having accepted the contract of £153,000 for the erection of the new "Herbert Hospital", on Redbrook Common, near Woolwich, commenced conveying the plant and materials to the spot, in order to begin the building, which is expected to be roofed in during the summer of 1863.

MR. FERGUSSON, of King's College, has (according to the *Standard*) purchased the estate of Broomlee, Peeblesshire, for £12,000.

MEMORIAL TO LORD HERBERT. We learn that a public meeting will be held in Salisbury on the 26th inst., for the purpose of considering the most appropriate form of memorial to the late Lord Herbert, and also to appoint a committee for the purpose of carrying into effect the design of the subscribers.

CHOLERA IN TURKEY. Recent letters from Corfu announce that the sanitary authorities in the Ionian States have established a quarantine of eight days on all arrivals from Turkey leaving the provinces of Albania, Epirus, and Egypt, in consequence of asserted cases of cholera morbus having manifested themselves at Salonica, Gallipoli (within the Dardanelles), and at Constantinople.

THE CENSUS IN AUSTRALIA. The Registrar-General has published an abstract of the population as exhibited by the late Census in Australia. The total exhibited shows an increase from 410,766 in 1857, to 540,322 in 1861. The excess of males is still very great, the numbers being 328,651 males and 211,651 females. But the proportional disparity has been somewhat lessened by the fact that the increase shows rather more females than males, the numbers being 64,317 males and 65,239 females.

MEDICAL VACANCIES. The following appointments are vacant:—Surgeon to the General Hospital at Jersey, by the death of Mr. G. M. Jones; House-Surgeon to the Cumberland Infirmary; Surgeon to visit the out-patients of one of the districts of the Royal South London Dispensary; Junior House-Surgeon and Apothecary to the Liverpool Southern Hospital; Poor-law Medical Officers for District No. 2 of the Brackley Union; for the Workhouse of the same union; and for the Districts of Stoke Golding and Wolvey, in the Hinckley Union, Leicestershire; Physician to the Brighton and Hove Dispensary, by the resignation of Dr. Almeric Seymour; Physician to the Fever and Cholera Hospital at Cork, by the death of Dr. William Pickells; two Physicians, two Surgeons, and one Surgeon-Dentist to the Birmingham and Midland Free Hospital for Sick Children.

THE WAR IN AMERICA. In Philadelphia (we read) war and its attendant alarms affect the medical equally with other professions. The universal cry among the brethren shows the difficulty they experience in obtaining their well earned fees. Is it to be wondered at, that a general stampede has occurred, and that in every direction, the young and old are volunteering, or going with the regular army? When the first call came for our troops, not only were the medical posts in each regiment eagerly sought for and quickly filled, but many, including students, who could not hope to obtain a medical recognition, shouldered the musket, and fell into the ranks as privates. Our medical schools will present a beggarly array of empty benches, if we may judge from present indications. I learn that some of the professors are calculating the probability of their being compelled to decline lecturing at all. (*American Medical Times*.)

MEDICAL PSYCHOLOGY. The following is a summary of his Lectures on Mental Diseases given by Dr. Laycock. "You will remember that I have endeavoured to carry out a threefold plan of teaching—namely, by the use of deductions from principles, and of inductions from observations in this room, and by the practical application at an asylum of principles and generalisations thus obtained. Having to deal with so many-sided a department of science, the development of principles is an essential element in teaching; for it is these alone which will enable you to carry on your studies in that

future self-culture without which eminence is never attained in any department of science whatever. But there are very peculiar difficulties in the way of the student of medical psychology, from the peculiar position it occupies amongst the sciences; and I had always to keep these difficulties in view in developing this course. In particular, I had to give to the most elementary part that certainty and solidity which is the great want of speculative systems. To this end I offered you, in the first instance, a general exposition of those primary laws of structure and function which lead all living things, whether plants or animals, into unity, and which reappear in mental phenomena as the essential and primary elements of all states of consciousness. This exposition included a general outline of zoological development upwards of the nervous system to the encephalon of man. In this way you had principles set forth which would help you to bring your studies in botany, natural history, and zoology and comparative anatomy to bear on the physiology, pathology, and therapeutics of the mind of man. I need hardly remind you what new and ever-varying sources of interest are opened out to the student of these sciences when he finds he can thus apply them to an elucidation of the most mysterious of mental phenomena. Building upon this solid foundation, we proceeded to discuss the excitants of conscious states, and the physiology and pathology of memory, recollection, attention, and ideation or association of ideas. By discriminating carefully between memory and recollection as distinct physiological processes, we not only got curious glimpses into a region of mental science hitherto a *terra incognita* to the scientific inquirer, but were enabled the better to understand how hereditary peculiarities arise and are transmitted to offspring, and to what extent the recent doctrines as to the transmutation of species may be admitted as true. We were also able to apply our knowledge of the laws of memory and attention more clearly and conclusively to education, mental hygiene, and mental diseases. The educated insane of all classes manifest their mental disorder by writings, symbols, and drawings, as well as by speech. All these modes of communicating ideas imply the use of signs as marks of the ideas. But the written signs are more valuable and interesting than the spoken, because more permanent, and more capable of repeated examination and study. The faculties by which man thus expresses his infinitely varied ideas are the sematic, or representative faculties of the metaphysician. With the object of better illustrating both the physiology and pathology of these faculties, I have laid before you, from time to time, numerous illustrations of the handwriting, composition, and art-products of the insane. And with a view to comparison with the last-mentioned, I have been enabled, by the kindness of Mr. D. R. Hay, to show you some of the beautiful drawings by which that gentleman demonstrates his geometrical theory of the Beautiful, and to prove to you that a few simple general principles regulate the operation of these faculties, even in persons whose reason is wholly clouded. We have had some other advantageous results from this kind of illustration. For example, we can show conclusively that in confirmed cases of mania with so-called general paralysis, the handwriting may remain unaffected; or, if altered, the changes in its character follow the laws of memory, and not of motor paralysis. Illusions, hallucinations, and delusions, including sleep and dreams, have also had our careful attention. We have investigated their nature and causes, and examined hallucinations and dreams, not only in relation to the practice of medicine and mental diseases, but also as bearing upon scientific and judicial inquiries, in which they are frequently the cause of grave errors. The disorders of the appetites, instincts, and feelings afforded us many very curious and interesting topics."

Varieties.

DR. ARBUTHNOT. When Arbuthnot, in early life, sought patients in Dorchester, he found that town so healthy, and so well supplied with medical practitioners, that he could not pick up a fee. "Where are you off to?" asked a friend who met him riding in the direction of London. "To leave your confounded place," was the answer; "for a man can neither live nor die there!"

BRONCHIAL FILARIA. "This was an action to recover damages for a breach of warranty of twenty calves, sold by the defendant to the plaintiff, warranted to be in good health and free from disease. Nineteen out of the twenty, however, died soon after they were sold of a disease known as 'bronchial filaria;' in other words, suffocation, caused by the generation of worms in the air passages and bronchial tubes, under which they were suffering, as the plaintiff alleged, at the time of the sale."

SUICIDES IN FRANCE. According to the *Annuaire Encyclopédique* the average number of suicides each year in France is 3,899, of whom only 842 are females. It is in April, May, June, and July, that they are most frequent, and the age of the greatest number of persons committing them is from forty to sixty. Of the total, 2,833 are accomplished by strangulation or drowning, 271 by suffocation with the fumes of charcoal, 395 by fire-arms, 153 by sharp instruments, 110 by leaping from high places, 98 by poison; and the rest by different means.

FISH FROM BELOW. The Industrial Society of Mulhausen has just received from the Desert of Algeria a phial of spirits of wine, containing a number of small fish which were thrown up from an Artesian well in the district of Tohygur, from a depth of 130 feet. The water in which these fish were living had a temperature of 23·7-19ths centigrade (74·75 Fahr.), and comes from a subterranean spring, producing 2,800 litres a minute. These fish had been kept alive for a week in water, and were not blind, as is generally supposed to be the case with fish coming from dark places.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS. One of the most revolting sights which we witness in the streets of New York is a butcher's cart driven rapidly over the rough pavement, with the heads of half-a-dozen live sheep or calves dangling over its sides. We notice that the "Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals" have petitioned the Emperor of France to interdict the employment of living animals for experiments at the veterinary schools, and that he has been moved by their appeal to issue the required order. Will they not next use their influence with our city fathers to suppress a species of cruelty towards animals not less barbarous, and far less excusable, than that of the French veterinarians. (*American Med. Times*.)

A YANKEE MARCH OF THE GUILDFORD STYLE. The citizens of New York are never weary of seeing military displays in the streets and parks. The tap of the drum always brings together an eager crowd. But great as is their enthusiasm, there are few who did not look upon the parade of the 21st Regiment through our streets on that fearfully hot Tuesday, merely to gratify curiosity, as a positive barbarity. And when one after another of the brave men sank overpowered by the heat and their heavy burdens, until thirty left the ranks, and one never again to join them, the popular feeling arose to indignation against such foolish trifling with the health and lives of the volunteers. The lesson will prove, we trust, a salutary one; and hereafter the troops will be allowed to proceed on their way quietly, and in a manner most conducive to their comfort. (*American Med. Times*.)

DEATHS IN YORKSHIRE COAL MINES. Mr. Morton, Inspector of Coal Mines, reports that above 8,500,000 tons of coal were drawn in Yorkshire last year, and happily the number of persons killed at the collieries was but fifty, or one death for every 170,000 tons raised. This is the smallest actual number of deaths in any one of the last ten years, although in that period the number of collieries has increased from 260 to about 400. Yorkshire contrasts very favourably with the average of the whole kingdom in regard to these accidents, but still the Inspector has to report that nearly all the fourteen deaths ascribed to explosive gas might have been prevented by locked safety lamps properly and fairly used, and that many of the other deaths were preventable, and might have been avoided by the exercise of reasonable vigilance, common prudence, and ordinary skill.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT. The electric light, which is now used to illuminate the Place du Palais Royal, Paris, has lately been subject to remarkable changes in its brilliancy, arising from a very singular and unexpected cause. Every evening, and especially after a very warm day, clouds of insects collect around it, and each of them appears to be drawn irresistibly towards the bright points of burning carbon; but, the instant they touch it, they are broiled to death. The numbers that crowd to it, however, are so enormous that the light appears at times to be almost extinguished by burning insects, and every morning the bodies of these unfortunate suicides are found heaped up at the bottom of the lantern in thousands and tens of thousands. But as an ingenious French savant has luckily discovered a new method of keeping insects out of lanterns, this cause of the discontinuance of the electric light will very soon be put an end to. (*Mechanics' Magazine*.)

DOWN A LONDON SEWER. "What's the length of those drain-pipes all over London," I asked, "leaving out the sewers?" "No one knows," he said. "They do tell me somewhere about four thousand miles; and I should say they were all that." We went tottering on a little further, with the carriages rumbling on the roadway over our heads. The splashing of the water before and behind us, as it was washed from side to side by the heavy boots of all our party, added to the noise; and when our above-ground followers let the trapdoor of some side-entrance fall, a loud booming sound went through the tunnel, as if a cannon had been fired. The yellow lights of the lantern danced before us; and when we caught a glimpse of the water we were wading in above our knees, we saw that it was as black as ink. The smell was not at all offensive; and Agrippa told me that no man during his experience in the London sewers had ever complained of feeling faint while he moved about or worked in the flood; the danger was found to consist in standing still. For all this assurance of perfect comfort and safety, however, my guides kept pretty close to me; and I found out afterwards that they were thus numerous and attentive because the "amateur" sewer-inspector was considered likely to drop. (Dickens's *All the Year Round*.)

IMPROVEMENT IN STREET LIGHTING. It has been ascertained that by placing near the flame of ordinary gas burners a receptacle containing coal naphtha, the brilliancy of the light is much increased. An invention, based upon this principle is already the subject of a patent vested in a public company. The patentees state that by the use of their process a saving of one-half may be made in the expense of lighting by gas. To test the accuracy of this assertion, experiments have just been made in London, under the authority of the Commissioners of Sewers. Moorgate-street was selected for the trial, there being in it few shops, and only one or two private lamps. The lamps experimented upon were twelve in number, six on the western side, fitted in the ordinary way with burners, and consuming upon the average five

cubic feet of gas an hour, and six upon the eastern side, fitted with burners having attached to them the apparatus of the patentees, and consuming two and a half cubic feet an hour. The experiment extended over thirty nights. The burners without the apparatus consumed about 4.39 cubic feet per hour; while the burners with the apparatus consumed only 2.09 cubic feet per hour. The district inspector of the commission, who saw the lamps nightly, reported his opinion that the light given was perfectly equal, an opinion in which he is supported by residents of the neighbourhood. Mr. Heywood, the engineer of the commission, who principally conducted the experiments is, however, inclined to think that the lights are not quite equal in intensity. He states that three cubic feet of gas, carburetted by means of the naphtha, are equal to five cubic feet of gas not carburetted. On this assumption he shows that by the adoption of the new process the reduction of the cost of each lamp a year would be 20s., and that there being 2,825 lamps in the city, an annual saving of £2,825 might be effected.

DEATH BY LIGHTNING. The deceased, alarmed by the vividness of the lightning and the rolling of the thunder, had taken refuge in a recess to be fitted up as a fireplace; and the lightning, striking the chimney overhead, passed down and killed him. The coroner, who is one of the leading surgeons of the town, pointed out to the jury, when they viewed the body, that the current had struck the deceased on the left side of the head, and thence had passed down the spine, its course being distinct, not only from the marks on the body, but by the scorching of the shirt corresponding with the marks on the spine. At the Town Hall, the cap worn by the deceased at the time he met his death was produced; and a rent in the left side indicated that the fluid had struck it, and then raised the blister on the side of the head to which the coroner had previously called attention. Externally there were no marks, but the inside of the cap was almost destroyed; the cotton lining was much burnt. A mason, named Jagers, stated that when the storm burst, he took refuge in the house adjacent, which is being built by Mr. C. W. Hatfield; and on going to his work, in company with a man named Patrick Flaherty, he saw Beeson, "looking very queer," sitting in the fireplace. He went up to him, and found that he was quite dead. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased was killed by lightning. Beyond damage to the chimney, the house in which Beeson met his death is not damaged.

THE "PERSECUTION" BUBBLE. The lady compares the persecution of Dr. Marshall Hall to that which Harvey and Jenner endured at the hands of their professional brethren. There is ground for the comparison; no occasion for the word "persecution." There was no "persecution" in the case of either of the three men. Harvey had many opponents who differed from him, and frankly told him so. It is usually said that he suffered in his practice in consequence of the discovery. To make out such a case would be difficult; for when it has been established that his income was materially and permanently less after his discovery than before it, it remains to be shown that the diminution was attributable to no other cause. But Harvey lived to see his views adopted, and to be invited to the Presidency of the College of Physicians. Those who make so much noise about the "persecution" of Harvey seem to forget this. The "persecution" of Jenner is even more imaginary. Where is there any evidence of his suffering "persecution" at the hands of his profession? There was abundance of discussion, and it is to be trusted that the day is far distant when any such novel proposition as that of Jenner's for general vaccination will be adopted without discussion, general and long continued. Many persons, scholars as well as village dames, who took part in the discussion, lost their tempers. Men like Dr.

Woodville and Dr. Moseley, in the ardour of contention, forgot the dignity of science; but the result of the agitation showed how little they represented the higher qualities of their fraternity. The "persecuted" Jenner achieved in his profession both honour and popularity, and his portrait may be seen in Medley's picture of "The Founders of the Medical Society of London," in company with the likenesses of many of those distinguished brethren who are supposed to have "persecuted" him. (*Athenæum*.)

PICTURES AND GAS. The letters written in April last by the late Mr. Braidwood and Mr. Sydney Smirke on the subject of lighting the British Museum with gas have been laid before Professors Faraday, Tyndall, and Hoffman, but they adhere to their former opinion of the safety of the gas-lighting at South Kensington, and state that the temperature of the picture galleries there, in the parts most exposed to the action of the gas, is not so high when the gas is burning as when the sun is shining through the skylights. Professor Faraday, however, recommends that the roofs of such galleries lighted by gas be of iron, and he observes that he should greatly hesitate to recommend gas-lighting in the British Museum against the opinion of the architect, who alone is aware of the construction of the building and of the dangers by fire which it may involve. He remarks that he is very strongly against the common practice of erecting a church or other building by one set of hands under one mind, and then giving it over to another authority and set for the introduction of gas apparatus and pipes, or pipes of hot air or water (frequently at high temperatures and pressures) into parts and places where no intention respecting them had existed before, where no preparation had been made for them, and where the final arrangements must partake more of accident and risk than of premeditation and forethought.

PLASTER OF PARIS BANDAGES. This morning I again went the rounds of La Pitié with Maisonneuve. I was particularly struck with the simplicity and beauty of the splints of plaster of Paris. I have before stated that they are made by soaking cloth or lint in a thick solution of plaster in water. This cloth is then folded into the form and thickness required, and applied, as one would apply compresses, with a roller bandage. To-day, not more than five minutes after Maisonneuve applied this to a fracture of the radius, I went back to the case with an English surgeon, and in that short interval the plaster had set, and every moment seemed to grow perceptibly harder. In my previous practice I have tried diligently to find some material that would form itself perfectly to the limb, and by its couable contact with the whole surface furnish sufficient friction of opposing surfaces to keep even an oblique fracture sufficiently extended and at rest, without any danger of injurious partial pressure. I have succeeded very well with sole leather soaked in warm water, with gutta serena treated in like manner, with felt and gum shellac, and with the starched bandage; but I have felt the want in many cases of something that would be so obliging as to immediately harden after assuming the form of the limb. By waiting ten minutes we can be sure that the splints we have applied are perfectly hard, and just in the shape we want them. I would not by any means use this in all cases, but in regard to the treatment of many cases of fracture I think the inventor of this can exclaim—Eureka. Any time after the splints have hardened, the roller bandage can be removed and two or three strips of adhesive plaster used to hold them on. Elastic bands might be used so as to prevent all danger of undue constriction. In future a box of plaster of Paris will form part of my fracture apparatus. (Dr. Smith in *Amer. Med. Times*.)

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....Royal Free, 2 P.M.—Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.
 TUESDAY. Guy's, 1½ P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.
 WEDNESDAY... St. Mary's, 1 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.
 THURSDAY..... St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—London, 1:30 P.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—London Surgical Home, 2 P.M.
 FRIDAY. Westminster Ophthalmic, 1:30 P.M.
 SATURDAY..... St. Thomas's, 1 P.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1:30 P.M.—King's College, 1:30 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.

POPULATION STATISTICS AND METEOROLOGY OF LONDON—SEPTEMBER 14, 1861.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

| | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------|
| | Births. | Deaths. |
| During week..... | { Boys .. 916 } | 1795 |
| | { Girls.. 879 } | 1110 |
| Average of corresponding weeks 1851-60 | | 1568 1137 |

Barometer:
 Highest (Th.) 29.988; lowest (Sat.) 29.570; mean 29.810.

Thermometer:
 Highest in sun—extremes (Tu.) 126 degs.; (Tu.) 75 degs.
 In shade—highest (Th.) 74.3 degrees; lowest (Wed.) 39.2 degs.
 Mean—57.2 degrees; difference from mean of 43 yrs.—0.1 deg.
 Range—during week, 35.1 degrees; mean daily, 22.7 degrees.
 Mean humidity of air (saturation=100), 78.
 Mean direction of wind, S.W.—Rain in inches, 0.15.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * All letters and communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the EDITOR, 37, Great Queen St., Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

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

SIR B. BRODIE'S LETTER.—Several correspondents have suggested that Sir Benjamin Brodie's letter might be advantageously reprinted. We would suggest that all that can be done in the way of widely distributing this letter, has already been done. *We could only reprint a few hundreds.* But hundreds of thousands of copies of it have been already or are being spread over the face of earth and water.

AN INQUIRER.—We are not aware that there is in England any establishment for the treatment of dipsomania. Several such exist in Scotland—two in the Isle of Skye; one at St. Catherine, Lochfane; and one near Clackmannan. An Inquirer will find some information on the subject in the number of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for July 6th, 1861.

DR. GUINNESS'S letter arrived too late for insertion this week.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

THE following Laws of the Association will be strictly enforced:—

15. The subscription to the Association shall be One Guinea annually; and each member on paying his subscription shall be entitled to receive the publications of the Association of the current year. The subscriptions shall date from the 1st of January in each year, and shall be considered as due unless notice of withdrawal be given in writing to the Secretary on or before the 25th of December previous. If any member's subscription remain unpaid twelve months after it shall have become due, the publications of the Society shall be withheld from such member until his arrears be paid.

16. The name of no member shall remain on the books of the Association, whose arrears extend over three years; but the omission of the name from the list of members shall not be deemed, either in honour or equity, to relieve any member from his liability for the subscriptions due for the period during which he has availed himself of the privileges of membership.

PHILIP H. WILLIAMS, M.D., General Secretary.

Worcester, September 1861.

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Mr. WILLIAM MARTIN; Dr. GRALY HEWITT; Mr. R. S. FOWLER; Mr. C. F. MAUNDER; Dr. G. F. EVANS; THE HON. SECS. OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON; Dr. BENJ. PINCHARD; Mr. JONATHAN HUTCHINSON; Mr. W. COPNEY; Dr. JAMES RUSSELL; Dr. E. COPEMAN; Dr. F. C. GRAY; Mr. J. W. WALKER; Mr. J. W. JONES; Mr. JOSHUA PARSONS; Mr. E. GARRAWAY; Mr. J. FRANKERD; Dr. LATHAM; and Mr. LL. LODGE.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

1. Sulle Malattie da Fermento Morbifico e sul loro Trattamento. Memoria del Dottore Giovanni Polli. Milano: 1861.
2. Saggio Farmacologico sui Solfiti e gli Iposolfiti Medicinali. Del Dottore Giovanni Polli. Milano: 1861.
3. Extract des Mémoires Italiens "Sulle Malattie," &c., et "Saggio Farmacologico," &c. Par le Docteur Jean Polli. Milan: 1861.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Ready October 1st.

Epilepsy; its Symptoms, Treatment, and Relation to other Chronic Convulsive Diseases. By J. RUSSELL REYNOLDS, M.D. Lond., F.R.C.P., Assistant-Physician to University College Hospital.
 London: JOHN CHURCHILL, New Burlington Street.

GALBRAITH AND HAUGHTON'S SCIENTIFIC MANUALS.
 In fcap. 8vo, with 39 Woodcuts, price 5s. sewed,

Manual of Coelenterata. By J. REAY GREENE, B.A., M.R.I.A., Professor of Natural History in the Queen's College, Cork, etc. Being the Second of a New Series of Manuals of the *Experimental and Natural Sciences*; edited by the Rev. J. A. GALBRAITH, M.A., and the Rev. S. HAUGHTON, M.A., F.R.S.

By the same Author, with many Woodcuts, price 2s.

MANUAL OF PROTOZOA, with General Introduction on the Principles of Zoology; being the *First Manual* of the New Series.
 London: LONGMAN, GREEN, LONGMAN, and ROBERTS.

RADICAL CURES BY ELECTRICITY.

Just published, 8vo, of 300 pages, price 1s. 6d.,

Extracts from Dr. Caplin's Case-BOOK. Containing the Demonstration of his System in Opposition to the Usual Mode of Practice, with the Rationale of Fifty-six Cases.—To be had at H. BAILLIÈRE'S, 219, Regent Street, and at the Author's ELECTRO-CHEMICAL BATH Establishment, 9, York Place, Baker Street, London.

Professor Quekett, F.R.S.—An

Engraved PORTRAIT, by WALKER, of this distinguished Microscopist, which has met the approbation of the family of the deceased Gentleman, is just published at Half a Guinea, and a few India-paper proofs with his original autograph at One Guinea; being No. XXII of Mr. Stone's Medical Portrait Gallery, which now includes the following at 5s. each: Sir J. R. Martin, Sir John Forbes, Sir William Ellis, Dr. Budd, Dr. Todd, Dr. E. Forbes, Dr. E. Smith, Messrs. South, Skye, Luke, Fergusson, Travers, Paget, Simon, Coulson, Gay, Holden, Avery, Cox, Hancock, and Busk.

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