

will be held in the first week of July in each year.—*Sir Patrick Dun's Maternity*.—Maternity Fee, for Six Months' instruction in Practical Midwifery, £3:3. Students of Trinity College are not liable to any other payment for instruction in Practical Midwifery. Other Students are required to pay £3:3 each, to the King's Professor, for Six Months' practical instruction, in addition to the Hospital Maternity Fee.—The Secretary of State for War has authorised the formation of a class of Midwives for Service in the Army, in connection with Sir P. Dun's Maternity.

WESTMORELAND LOCK HOSPITAL, DUBLIN.—*Surgeons*.—Dr. B. M'Dowell; Mr. J. Morgan.—The Hospital contains 150 beds. Two Clinical Lectures will be delivered each week, commencing the first Monday in November. Fee for Hospital attendance, including Clinical Lectures: Winter Session, six months, £4:4; Summer Session, three months, £2:2.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, BELFAST.—Faculty of Medicine. The Winter Session of 1868-69 will commence on Monday, November 2nd. Anatomy and Physiology, Dr. Redfern; Chemistry, Dr. Thomas Andrews; Practice of Medicine, Dr. James Cuming; Practice of Surgery, Dr. A. Gordon; *Materia Medica*, Dr. J. S. Reid; Midwifery, Dr. R. F. Dill; Medical Jurisprudence, Dr. J. F. Hodges; Zoology, Dr. Wyville Thomson, LL.D. The Demonstrations on Anatomy are delivered by Dr. Burden. The Anatomical Rooms are open for the entire day; and Students are aided in their Dissections by the Professor of Anatomy and the Demonstrator.—*Fees*: Anatomy and Physiology—1st course, £3; each subsequent course, £2. Anatomical Demonstrations and Practical Anatomy—each course, £3. Practical Chemistry, £3. Other Medical Lectures—1st course, £2; each subsequent course, £1.—The Examination for Medical Scholarships, tenable for one year, and of which two are awarded to the Students of each year of the Medical Course, will commence on Thursday, October 18th. The Matriculation Examination will commence on the same day.

BELFAST GENERAL HOSPITAL.—Physicians, Dr. Drennan, Dr. Smith, Dr. Ross, Dr. Cuming; Surgeons, Dr. Browne, R.N., Dr. Murney, J.P., Dr. Gordon, Dr. W. MacCormac. The Malcolm Exhibition, value £20, founded by the widow of the late Dr. Malcolm, is awarded annually, by competitive examination in April, to Students attending this Hospital. The Charters' Medical Exhibition, value £50, will be awarded this year by competitive examination, to be held at the end of the Session. All medical students of at least two years' standing can compete. Fees for Clinical Instruction—Winter Session, £5 5s.; Summer Session, £2 12s. 6d. This Hospital, being the only one for the reception of accident and other surgical cases occurring in the large manufacturing town and seaport of Belfast, affords unusual facilities for acquiring a knowledge of Practical Surgery. Three resident pupils are appointed by examination.

BELFAST LYING-IN HOSPITAL.—Fee for the Session, £3 3s.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, CORK.—Faculty of Medicine. Professors: Anatomy and Physiology, and Practical Anatomy, Dr. J. H. Corbett; Practice of Medicine, Dr. D. C. O'Connor; Practice of Surgery, Dr. W. K. Tanner; *Materia Medica*, Dr. Purcell O'Leary; Midwifery, Dr. J. R. Harvey; Natural Philosophy, Mr. England; Chemistry and Practical Chemistry, Dr. Blyth; Zoology and Botany, Dr. J. R. Greene. The Lectures will commence on November 4th. The Course of Practical Anatomy will be conducted under the direction of the Professor of Anatomy and Physiology, assisted by Drs. Shinkwin and Jones, Demonstrators. Eight Scholarships will be awarded to Students in Medicine, thus: Two Junior Scholarships, of £25 each, to Students commencing their first, second, third, and fourth years. Clinical Medicine and Clinical Surgery at the North and South Infirmarys, by the Physicians and Surgeons of these institutions. Clinical Midwifery at the Lying-in Hospital.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, GALWAY.—Faculty of Medicine: Chemistry, Dr. T. H. Rowney; Natural History, Dr. A. G. Melville; Anatomy and Physiology, Dr. J. Cleland; Practice of Medicine, Dr. N. Colahan; Practice of Surgery, Dr. J. V. Browne; *Materia Medica*, Mr. S. M'Coy; Midwifery, Dr. R. Doherty; Medical Jurisprudence, —. The First Matriculation Examination for the Session 1868-9 will be held on Friday, October 23rd. The Examinations for Scholarships and Exhibitions will commence on Thursday, October 22nd. Eight Scholarships, of the value of £25 each, will be offered for competition; viz., two to Students of the first, second, third, and fourth years respectively. In addition, four Exhibitions of £10 each will be offered; two to Students of the first and second years respectively; and two Exhibitions of £20 each—one to Students of the third and fourth years respectively. All Scholars are exempt from payment of a moiety of the fees for the classes attended.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

AN ordinary meeting of the above Branch will be held at Clarke's Castle Hotel, Taunton, on Wednesday, Sept. 30th, 1868. Dinner at 5 o'clock; after which, papers or cases will be communicated.

Gentlemen intending to be present at the dinner, or to read papers after, are requested to give notice to the Honorary Secretary, Taunton, Sept. 8th, 1868. W. M. KELLY, M.D.

SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.

THE autumnal meeting of the above Branch will take place at the Town Hall, Luton, Bedfordshire (Dr. PRIOR, President), on Friday, October 2nd, at 2 P.M.

Gentlemen intending to read cases or papers, are requested to send the names or titles of the same, without delay, to Dr. Bryan, Northampton.

J. M. BRYAN, M.D., Northampton } Hon. Secs.
G. P. GOLDSMITH, Esq., Bedford }

Northampton, September 8th, 1868.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND BRANCH.

THE autumnal meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Board Room of the Infirmary, Howgill Street, Whitehaven, on Wednesday, October 14th, at 1 P.M. The Infirmary will be visited at 3.30 P.M.; and dinner ordered at the Black Lion for 4 P.M.

Gentlemen intending to be present at the dinner, or to read cases or papers, are requested to give notice to the Honorary Secretary, Carlisle, Sept. 19th, 1868. HENRY BARNES, M.D.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WHAT ARE DISEASES?

SIR,—The JOURNAL of August 8th contains a paper by Dr. Wilks, in which he has noticed a recent communication of mine bearing the above title. Anything proceeding from Dr. Wilks's pen demands careful consideration; and I can only thank him very truly for his friendly criticism. It may, however, be worth while to state briefly the points where we agree, and those where our opinions diverge.

1. I agree entirely with him in reprobating to the uttermost an indiscriminating "keeping up treatment." More than once I have, in published lectures, protested against this too fashionable procedure. In opposition to those who hold that all disease is debility, I have advocated again and again the judicious employment of depressants, as antimony, mercury, colchicum, not forgetting such old fashioned remedies as blisters and leeches. I recognise the existence of sthenic disease, not in the sense with which some have, I think unfairly, credited the term, of implying an excess of vital power, but simply as descriptive of a condition in which the principal functions—and notably the circulation—present phenomena widely different from those which are observed in asthenia. That the nervous system and the heart do really possess, and exert, much more power in the one case than in the other, can scarcely, I think, be questioned; and, if so, then, comparing the one with the other, the terms sthenic and asthenic seem to me convenient and appropriate. It is very true, that pneumogastric and vasomotor paralysis may be essential factors of both states; but this does not alter the clinical fact, that the phenomena are very different, and, what is more, require very different treatment. The existence of such difference as I have adverted to, is attested by such names as Graves, Latham, Symonds, C. J. B. Williams; and my own experience leaves me no doubt that they are right.

2. I must say that I have been more fortunate than my friend in my experience of those *confrères* who have asked my co-operation. Once only in my life have I found a practitioner who could hardly be withheld from giving aperients in a case of peritonitis, and he lived far from London. I really think the public runs very little risk of malapraxis, at any rate, from practitioners of average standing and ability.

3. My friend credits me with holding the view that the patient is to be treated, and not the disease. I do not deny the imputation; but I have nowhere in the least admitted that diagnosis is unimportant. On the contrary, what I contend for is, that such diagnosis as is implied in a mere name is altogether insufficient; and I urge a deeper penetration

OBITUARY.

GEORGE GORDON McLEAN, M.D.

WE regret to record the death of Dr. G. Gordon McLean, late Professor of Hebrew in Marischal College, Aberdeen, at the age of seventy-three. He was a graduate of medicine, and served as assistant-surgeon in the army for some time, and afterwards as a country practitioner. He, however, gave up the practice of medicine, and entered the Scotch Church, after studying at the Universities in Aberdeen, and for several years with the most celebrated oriental scholars in France. He was shortly appointed Professor of Hebrew in Marischal College and University. He was a man respected by every one as a conscientious Christian and thorough gentleman.

MEDICAL NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

for the week from 16th to 22nd Sept. (both inclusive).

Taken at Kew, by Dr. TREUTLER, Fellow of the Meteorological Societies of England and Scotland.

Mean height of barometer corrected and reduced to 32° F. and mean sea-level	29.704
Highest reading of do. (corrected & reduced), on 16th, 10 A.M.	29.982
Lowest ditto	29.517
Range of pressure during the week	00.465
Mean temperature of air in shade	60.5
Mean temperature of evaporation	58.3
Mean temperature of dew-point	56.4
Mean degree of humidity (saturation=100)	87.
Mean maximum temperature of the week	67.8
Mean minimum temperature of the week	51.6
Calculated mean temperature of the week	59.7
Maximum temperature of air in shade, on 21st	70.9
Minimum temperature (protected), on 16th	47.0
Minimum temperature (exposed on grass), on 16th	38.7
Range of temperature during week	32.2
Highest reading of black bulb, solar radiation, thermometer in vacuo, on 16th	127.9
Lowest ditto	89.5
Mean amount of clouds (0-10)	4.3
Total rainfall (which fell on 18th, 19th, and 20th)58 inch
Mean amount of ozone (0-10)	1.5

WIND.

Mean Force

	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm.	(0-12)
10 A.M.	0	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	1	2.3
2 P.M.	0	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	2.6
10 P.M.	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	1.8
Mean force of wind (0-12)										2.2

The weather of the week has been on the whole fine. Atmospheric pressure has been rather less than last week; the range has been moderate. Temperature has decreased a little. On the 18th, there was lightning and thunder, with a rainfall of .45 inch. Winds have been chiefly easterly, and of moderate force. Humidity has increased; and on the mornings of the 19th and 21st there were dense fogs. General health good.

Kew, September 23rd, 1868.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—Names of gentlemen who passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, Sept. 17th, 1868.

Hart, Walter, King's College Hospital
Hill, Philip Edward, 14, Cumberland Place, Bayswater (St. Mary's)
Lovett, Samuel Robert, 23, Southampton Street (King's College)
Norton, George Everitt, Middlesex Hospital
White, William Leavens, Dundee Royal Infirmary

At the same Court, the following passed the first examination.
Hopkins, John, St. Mary's Hospital
Taylor, William Bramley, Camberwell (Guy's)

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are declared:—

BANDON UNION, Co. Cork—Medical Officer for the Templemartin Dispensary District.
CHELTONHAM COLLEGE—Surgeon.

CHELSEA, BROMPTON, AND BELGRAVE DISPENSARY, Sloane Square—Physician.

DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON—Assistant Dent. Surgeon.

GLASGOW ROYAL INFIRMARY—Surgeon; Two Assistant-Physicians; and Two Assistant-Surgeons to the Dispensary Department.

HAMBLEDON UNION, Surrey—Workhouse Medical Officer and District Medical Officer.

LOCHGOILHEAD AND KILMORICH, Argyleshire—Parochial Medical Officer.

MACCLESFIELD DISPENSARY—House-Surgeon.

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon.

OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, St. George's Circus—Surgeon.

ROYAL CORNWALL INFIRMARY, Truro—House-Surgeon, Secretary, and Dispenser.

ROYAL GENERAL DISPENSARY, Bartholomew Close—Physician.

ROYAL SOUTH LONDON DISPENSARY, St. George's Circus—Two District Surgeons for Blackfriars and Southwark.

SHEFFIELD GENERAL INFIRMARY—Physician.

ST. GEORGE DISPENSARY, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square—Physician; Physician-Accoucheur; Surgeon.

ST. MARYLEBONE GENERAL DISPENSARY, Welbeck Street—Surgeon.

ST. PANCRAS PARISH—Medical Officer for Males at the Workhouse; Vaccination Officer.

SWINFORD UNION, co. Mayo—Medical Officer for the Kiltamagh and Bohola Dispensary District.

TRINITY COLLEGE, Dublin—Professor of Botany.

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN—Three Examiners for Graduation in Medicine.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

ARMY.

ANDERSON, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon R., to be Assistant-Surgeon 3rd Hussars.

ARDEN, Surgeon G. B. F., 48th Foot, to be Surgeon 20th Foot, *vice* R. W. Carter.

BEST, Surgeon-Major P., 68th Foot, to be Staff-Surgeon-Major, *vice* Staff-Surgeon E. M'Gill, M.D.

CARTER, Surgeon R. W., 20th Foot, to be Surgeon 48th Foot, *vice* G. B. F. Arden.

CLOSE, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon C. S., to be Assistant-Surgeon Royal Artillery, *vice* S. H. Halahan, M.D.

CONYERS, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon J. S., M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon 8th Foot.

CROWE, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon J. D., to be Assistant-Surgeon 21st Foot.

FERGUSON, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon F., M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon 15th Foot, *vice* J. D. Healy.

GORE, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon A. A., M.D., to be Staff-Surgeon.

HALAHAN, Assistant-Surgeon S. H., M.D., Royal Artillery, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* Staff-Surgeon-Major P. S. Laing.

HINDIE, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon G. L., to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* Staff-Surgeon-Major J. Crerar, placed on half-pay.

LEWIS, Surgeon J. R. M., M.D., Royal Artillery, to be Surgeon-Major, having completed twenty years' full-pay service.

LONGMORE, Deputy Inspector-General T., C.B., to be Honorary Surgeon to Her Majesty, *vice* Deputy Inspector-General A. Melvin, deceased.

M'GILL, Staff-Surgeon E., M.D., to be Surgeon 68th Foot, *vice* Surgeon-Major T. Best.

MINTY, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon A., M.B., to be Assistant-Surgeon 90th Foot, *vice* C. J. Weir, M.B.

ORTON, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon R. J. W., to be Assistant-Surgeon Royal Artillery, *vice* A. K. Rickards.

RANDALL, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon J. G., to be Assistant-Surgeon 14th Foot.

RICKARDS, Assistant-Surgeon A. K., Royal Artillery, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* T. McSheehy, M.D., and subsequently to be Surgeon 87th Foot, *vice* C. W. Woodroffe.

SCOTT, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon R. J., M.B., to be Assistant-Surgeon 62nd Foot.

WEIR, Assistant-Surgeon C. J., M.B., 90th Foot, to be Assistant-Surgeon 75th Foot.

WOODROFFE, Surgeon C. W., 87th Foot, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* A. K. Rickards.

To be Staff-Assistant-Surgeons.

ANDERSON, R.

BROWN, A. L.

BURFORD, H. H.

CAMPBELL, W. J.

CONYERS, J. S., M.D.

CRAIG, R. M.

DOBSON, G. E., M.B.

EAGAR, O. S.

FRITZGERALD, R. G.

FRASER, J., M.D.

FRAZER, P. T.

GARDE, W. H.

GASTEEN, W. C., M.B.

GEORGEHAN, W., M.B.

JACKSON, T., M.B.

JENNINGS, C. B.

JONES, C. E.

KIRWAN, A.

KNOX, M.

LATCHFORD, J., M.B.

LEADER, J.

LEWIS, T., M.B.

L'ESTRANGE, A. H.

L'ESTRANGE, F. A.

L'ESTRANGE, G. W.

MACROBIN, A. A., M.B.

M'SWINEY, E. V., M.D.

O'BRIEN, A. J., M.D.

PARKE, D.

RAHILLY, J. R.

REYNOLDS, J. H., M.B.

RYAN, G.

SAMUELS, W. F.

THORNTON, D.

USSHER, J. H., M.B.

WAGHORN, F., M.D.

WALKER, J., M.B.

WILLIAMSON, N. A., M.D.

ROYAL NAVY.

JAMESON, Thomas, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon (additional), to the *Frigate*, for the Woolwich Marine Infirmary.

MITCHELL, Alexander, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Excellent*.

VOLUNTEERS.—(A. V., Artillery Volunteers; R. V., Rifle Volunteers.)

BUCHANAN, S., M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon 105th Lanarkshire R.V.

BUCHANAN, T. D., Esq., to be Surgeon 105th Lanarkshire R.V.

CUMMING, J. S., M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon 1st Renfrewshire A.V.

GIBBS, J. H., M.D., to be Honorary Assistant-Surgeon 8th Devon A.V.

HAYMAN, P. C., Esq., to be Honorary Assistant-Surgeon 1st Devon Light Horse Volunteers.

FARQUHARSON, D., M.D., to be Honorary Assistant-Surgeon 2nd Clackmannanshire R.V.

STRACHAN, J., M.D., to be Honorary Assistant-Surgeon 1st Clackmannanshire R.V.

WILSON, W. A., Esq., to be Surgeon 1st Administrative Brigade Renfrewshire A.V.

BIRTHS.

GRAHAM.—On September 23rd, at Lamberhurst, Kent, the wife of *T. H. Graham, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.
 LANGSTON.—On September 1st, at the Broadway, Westminster, the wife of *Thomas Langston, L.R.C.P.Ed., of a son.
 SANSOM.—On September 23rd, at 29, Duncan Terrace, N., the wife of *Arthur Ernest Sansom, M.D., M.R.C.P., of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

*DAVIES, T. W. H., Esq., Surgeon, of Gloucester Road, Bristol, to Ellen Matilda, youngest daughter of Charles LAMBERT, Esq., of Fillwood House, St. George's, Gloucestershire, at St. Michael's Church, Two Mile Hill, Gloucestershire, on September 17th.

M. MOUNERET, Professor of Chemical Medicine in the Faculty of Medicine in Paris, died suddenly on the 15th instant.

MR. T. W. RANSOME, F.R.C.S., of Darlaston, has committed suicide with prussic acid. He had been unwell for some weeks, and it is supposed that his brain was affected.

ABORTION AS A CAUSE OF INSANITY.—The superintendent of the Michigan Insane Asylum says in his report just published: "Mental derangement has generally occurred as a result of local injury, and the serious impairment of general health, directly traceable to the criminal act. In a few cases it has operated directly as a moral cause, as, for instance, when the unfortunate sufferer has borne a child which has been permitted to remain with her only long enough to show the unhappy mother the priceless value of the gift she had previously refused to accept. In these cases the immediate cause of insanity is remorse. Unless this most disastrous practice be speedily arrested by the efforts now being used to suppress it, and by more stringent laws, severely punishing all parties implicated, it will materially increase the number of female patients annually presented for treatment."—*New York Medical Journal*.

ALLEGED POISONOUS PROPERTIES OF LOCUSTS.—The Indiana papers caution the public against eating the bass fish, until the locust season is over. The locusts falling into the water are eaten by the fish, and become poisonous, and unwholesome in consequence. A number of families are mentioned as having suffered severely from eating locust-fattened bass.

ATOMIC WEIGHT.—After a long period of indecision and confusion, as regards the atomic weights of a majority of the elements, it is gratifying to find that, at the present moment, an almost complete unanimity prevails amongst chemical teachers. Out of upwards of 900 papers, worked in all parts of the United Kingdom, at a recent examination connected with the Science and Art Department, the old atomic weights were employed in less than twenty cases. It is much to be regretted that this unanimity does not extend to notation and nomenclature; as regards the latter, a much greater uniformity prevails in France and Germany than in this country, and it is greatly to be desired that efforts should be made to bring about a better understanding on this subject. To the student a uniformly recognised nomenclature is perhaps of more importance than a generally accepted notation. For the present, the realisation of the latter appears to be impossible, but by a little mutual concession on the part of teachers, and especially of authors, there would be good hope of soon accomplishing the former.—*Professor Frankland's Address to Chemical Section of British Association*.

PRESERVATION OF WINES.—M. Dumesnil has devised a new process for preserving wine. The cask of wine uncorked is placed under an iron bell and the air exhausted; two hours' work is necessary before the noise occasioned by the exit of the air ceases. A vacuum being created, the gases contained in the wine are released from atmospheric pressure, and, as they are essentially elastic, they expand sufficiently to break the cells of vegetable fibrine enclosing them, and escape. These gases are dissolved to such an extent that the withdrawal of a large quantity occasions no sensible decrease of liquid. The theory of the decomposition of grape juice and other organic substances rests on the power of double decomposition. Gaseous products of fermentation are most active in inducing decomposition; they alter wines indefinitely when enclosed in the fibrine-cells, which M. Pasteur calls mycoderma. M. Dumesnil allowed the wines of 1865 to ferment till March, 1866, so as to allow of the conversion of all the sugar and extractive matter into alcohol. At this period he substituted for the usual operations the treatment by the vacuum; fermentation ceased entirely. The wines thus treated arrived at their destination in good condition; with other samples treated in the usual way the result was very different. Notwithstanding four rackings, and possibly four clarifications, the wines have continued to ferment during the whole of the year 1866 and also the commencement of 1867, and they probably still contain gases which will affect them more slowly.—*Chemical News*.

STATISTICS OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN FRANCE.—The tables of births and deaths for the year 1865 have recently been published; and from them M. L. de Lavergne, member of the Institute, makes the following remarks upon their results. The returns in question show that the year 1865 was one of the worst of which the statistics have yet appeared; the causes which had arrested the progress of the population had apparently diminished since 1861, but they reappeared with renewed force in 1865. The return of births and deaths for that year give the following results:—Births, 1,006,753; deaths, 921,887; excess of births, 84,866. During a certain period preceding 1848, the average annual excess of births amounted to 180,000; since 1848 it has averaged 100,000; and 1865 falls below that rate. M. de Lavergne states that the diminution does not arise so much from a falling off in the number of births, as in an increase in the deaths; these exceeded 900,000 in 1865, a number only reached in 1849, 1854, 1855, and 1859. The Mexican war was probably a principal cause of the large total in 1865. In thirty-one departments, forming more than one-third of the whole of France, the deaths were actually in excess of the births; and this list includes some of the richest portions of the country, such as the Bouches du Rhone, the two Charentes, Côte d'Or, Gironde, Manche, Marne, Seine-et-Marne, Seine-et-Oise, Var, Vaucluse, Yonne, Eure, and Calvados. The departments in which the excess of deaths was greatest were Bouches du Rhone and Var, where the cholera raged during 1865. In the case of the former department, the deaths were in relation to the births more than 18 to 15, and in the case of the Var 104 to 7. In the Nord, on the contrary, the most thickly populated of all the departments, the deaths were less than 33 to 46, leaving an excess of 13,293 births. After the Nord, the departments which gained most were those of Brittany, the Pas de Calais, and the Rhine. The same returns show that the number of marriages have been steadily decreasing during the five years ending 1865; in 1861 they amounted to 305,203; in 1865 they had fallen to 298,838. The diminution was, however, less in 1865 than in either of the three previous years; in 1863 it amounted to nearly 2,200, while in 1865 it was 1,700.—*Journal of the Society of Arts*.

SCHOOLS OF SCIENCE.—In his address, as President of the Chemical Section, at the recent meeting of the British Association for the advancement of Science, Professor Frankland said, that the great science schools of the continent have no parallels in this country. The discouraging way in which scientific studies are being introduced into our older universities, the lack of the necessary funds for the proper endowment of professorships, and for the provision of suitable buildings and apparatus in our modern institutions, and the insignificance of the rewards offered to successful students in science, have naturally operated most injuriously upon the extension of chemical culture. Whilst in Heidelberg, Zürich, Bonn, Berlin, Leipzig, and Carlsruhe magnificent edifices have been raised, replete with all the newest contrivances for facilitating the prosecution of chemical studies, we are here still compelled to give instruction and conduct research in small and inconvenient buildings utterly inadequate to the requirements of modern chemistry. The large sums spent by the governments of Germany and Switzerland upon these establishments sufficiently testify to their opinion of the national value of chemistry in education. The laboratory at Zürich cost £14,000, that of Bonn £18,450, the one now nearly completed in Leipzig will cost £12,120, whilst the estimates for the Berlin laboratory, with its seventy-four rooms, amount to no less than £47,715. Such being the comparatively discouraging circumstances under which chemistry is prosecuted in this country, it is not surprising that neither the number of investigators, nor the amount of new facts added to our knowledge during a given time will bear a favourable comparison with the chemical activity of other and more favoured nations. In 1866, 1273 papers were published by 805 chemists, being at the average rate of 1.58 paper for each investigator. Of these Germany contributed 445 authors and 777 papers, or 1.75 paper to each author; France 170 authors and 245 papers, or 1.44 paper to each author; the United Kingdom 97 authors and 127 papers, or 1.31 paper to each author; whilst other countries furnished 93 authors and 124 papers, or 1.33 paper to each author. Our case is even worse than it appears to be from these figures; for a considerable proportion of the papers contributed by the United Kingdom were the work of chemists born and educated in Germany, but resident in this country. I am not aware how far a like comparison as regards activity in research obtains in other sciences; but if the United Kingdom takes a similar position in them, it is nothing less than a national disgrace that a country which perhaps more than any other owes its greatness to the discoveries of science should do so little towards the extension of scientific research. Fortunately, however, this national apathy has not been shared by individual chemists, and the year has not passed without several important additions to our knowledge.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAYMetropolitan 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.—National Orthopaedic Hospital, 2 P.M.—Royal Free, 9 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.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.

THURSDAY....St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic 1 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.—Royal Free, 1.30 P.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 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.

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

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

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

AUTHORS OF PAPERS, desirous of having extra copies printed for their own use, are requested to communicate with the printer, Mr. Richards, 37, Great Queen Street.

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THE HASTINGS MEDAL—Competitors for the Hastings Medal may receive their essays on application to the General Secretary, T. Watkin Williams, Esq., Newhall Street, Birmingham.

PRACTICAL SURGERY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH—We are informed by the Secretary to the Senatus Academicus, that instruction in Practical Surgery is given in the University of Edinburgh by Professor Spence. This fact was not noticed in the official programme from which we compiled our statement of the Medical School of the University in the Educational Number.

CARBOLIC ACID IN ENTERIC FEVER.

SIR,—There can be no doubt as to the great value of carbolic acid as a disinfectant in various epidemics. I wish to call the attention of your numerous readers to its use as a remedial agent in enteric fever.

More than a year ago, a medical friend asked me to see his child, under two years of age, suffering from a severe attack of fever of the enteric type. The diarrhoea was excessive, and of the usual character. We could not bring it under control by the usual remedies, and our patient appeared to be sinking, when I suggested the use of Calvert's crystallised acid in half-grain, afterwards increased it to two-thirds grain, doses every three hours. The child took the medicine in sugar and water without difficulty. In less than twenty-four hours, the character of the stools was changed: they became much darker in colour, and of a more consistent nature. In a day or two, we had no more trouble with the diarrhoea; and our patient, after having been considered hopeless by more than one medical man, recovered.

Two older children were attacked; the acid was at once administered; and the disease was not nearly so severe or prolonged as in the first case.

My object in giving the carbolic acid was, that it might act locally on the glands and mucous membrane of the small intestines; from the immediate change in the character and frequency of the stools, I have no doubt it did so. In the next two cases, I think it checked the disease, and prevented its running its full course. Since then, I have used it in several cases; and I have a strong impression that it cuts short the disease.

Of course, it is difficult to prove that the cases in which the drug were given would, if left to themselves, have ran the usual course of typhoid fever. This, however, I must say, that they presented all the symptoms of the early stages of the disease, and were, in my opinion, cut short by the use of the carbolic acid.

I write this, that my experience may be tested by others, as it is only by the use of the medicine in a large number of cases, that its value can be ascertained.

Several months ago, Mr. Dun, druggist here, made me some capsules, containing each two and a half grains of carbolic acid. I find them very useful; they are still as perfect as when first made. I am, etc.,

Glasgow, September 1868.

ANDREW FERGUS, M.D.

G. P. R.—All travellers passing St. Cross, Winchester, can claim a horn of ale and a slice of bread. We are unable to say whether the custom is observed at Exeter College, Oxford.

REMUNERATION OF CLUB SURGEONS.

SIR,—Mr. Leacroft seems to be unaware that by many surgeons four shillings per head for attendance on members of sick societies would be considered a liberal remuneration, and would be hailed with delight. The maximum sum received by the medical men of this town is half-a-crown per member; and the majority of the clubs only pay two shillings. Out of this small sum, they require a yearly contribution to their fund, sundry bowls of punch at their festivals, and the prestige of our presence in their processions. Still, I trust, we are "respectable medical men", waiting for the good time coming—the five-shilling era—which I hope the Midland Counties movement will expedite. I am, etc.,

Congleton, September 1868.

B.

CHARCOAL PIPES.

SIR,—Would some chemist inform a smoker whether or not any possible harm could result from smoking the recently introduced charcoal pipes? They certainly absorb better than any others; but, when heated to a certain point, might they not give off dangerous fumes? I am, etc.,

A LOVER OF TOBACCO.

APPEAL TO THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AS A COURT OF HONOUR.

SIR,—Some weeks ago, the *Lancet* attacked an institution of whose committee of management I am a member. Being at a loss to understand what justification the *Lancet* could show for charges affecting seriously and injuriously the members of our profession who give their services to the institution, and those who are responsible, like myself, for the conduct of its affairs, I wrote a short note, requesting a specification of the grounds on which the most objectionable assertion in the article alluded to was made. After a delay of a week, my note was inserted, with the appendage of a column of editorial comments. An attempt at justification, a reiteration of the former charges, and the coinage of fresh aspersions, were contained in these comments. To all the arguments and allegations of the *Lancet*, I then replied in full; and so effective, evidently, was my reply, that the ostentatious motto, "audi alteram partem"—the *habeas corpus* of correspondents to the *Lancet*—was suspended, and the reply suppressed. A stoical philosopher would have remained satisfied with the complete victory which he had gained at the office of the *Lancet*, in spite of that victory being converted by suppression into an apparent defeat before the outer world. But, sir, my letter contained a challenge to the editor, or to any member of his staff, to meet me in fair discussion before an impartial jury of our professional brethren—the Metropolitan Counties Branch of the British Medical Association. As this challenge was a serious one, I now ask you to allow me to repeat it in the columns of the JOURNAL of the Association; and I do so the more confidently, because its founders contemplated that it might usefully discharge the function of a Court of Honour and Appeal for the reconciliation of professional differences, for the promotion of honourable conduct on the part of medical brethren towards each other, and for the advancement of the interests of justice and of truth. I am, etc.,

WALTER RIVINGTON, M.S. Lond., Assistant-Surgeon, London Hospital.

P.S.—I have delayed this letter on account of the discussion on the Medical Council.

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news reports and other matters of medical interest:—The Londonderry Sentinel, Sept. 18th; The Wiltshire County Mirror, Sept. 23rd; The Cambridge Independent Press, Sept. 19th; The Lincolnshire Chronicle, Sept. 19th; The Japan Times' Overland Mail, July 25th; The News, August 29th.

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

Mr. T. Watkin Williams, Birmingham; Dr. J. I Mackenzie, Sidmouth; Dr. H. C. March, Rochdale; Mr. J. S. Turner, Alfreton; Messrs. Robertson and Scott, Edinburgh; Sir H. Thompson, London; Mr. T. Langston, London; Dr. Blumer, Sunderland; Dr. Synnott, Halifax; Dr. Crossby, Nice; Mrs. M. A. Baines, London; Mr. T. Gilbert, Edinburgh; The Medical Officers and Lecturers of the Middlesex Hospital Medical College, London; Mr. T. Brown, Belloram, Fortune Bay, Newfoundland; Mr. H. Terry, jun., Northampton; Messrs. Corry and Co., Glasgow; Messrs. Wyman Brothers, Calcutta and Allahabad; Dr. C. A. Cameron, Dublin; Dr. D. Hooper, London; Dr. Eade, Norwich; Dr. H. Dodgson, Cocker-mouth; Messrs. Adams and Francis, London; Mr. F. Flint, Birmingham; Mr. R. MacPherson, Birmingham; Dr. Sansom, London; Mr. J. L. Morgan, London; and Dr. P. H. Watson, Edinburgh.

LETTERS, ETC. (with enclosures) from:—

Dr. Joseph Bullar, Southampton; Dr. W. H. Broadbent, London; Dr. J. Fayrer, Calcutta; Dr. S. Haynes, Salisbury; Dr. Hugh Norris, South Petherton; Dr. Cobbold, London; Dr. Rooke, Cheltenham; Dr. Beales, Congleton; Dr. T. H. Green, London; Dr. C. Bäumer, London; Mr. Alfred Fleischmann, Cheltenham; Dr. H. Barnes, Carlisle; Mr. A. J. Moore, Reading; Mr. D. Faulkner, London; Mr. J. D. Hill, London; Mr. W. Rivington, London; Mr. R. A. Whythan, Glasgow; Dr. Bristowe, London; Dr. Ogston, Aberdeen; Mr. W. Draper, York; Dr. F. Anderson, London; Surgeon-Major H. B. Hinton, London; Dr. Bryan, Northampton; Mr. T. Nunneley, Leeds; Mr. J. I. Ikin, Leeds; Mr. Osman Vincent, London; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; The Registrar-General of England; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Dr. John Murray, London; Dr. Treutler, Kew; Mr. G. Croxton, London; Dr. W. B. Dalby, Chester; Dr. C. Morehead, Edinburgh; Mr. T. H. Graham, Lamberhurst; Mr. Smallpeice, Guildford; and Dr. Macalister, Dublin.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

On Asthma: its Pathology and Treatment. By H. Hyde Salter, M.D., F.R.S. Second edition. London: 1868.

Dover as a Health Resort. By Charles Parsons, M.D. Edin. London: 1868.

Pharmacopœia of India. By E. J. Waring, M.D. London: 1868.

The Philosophy of the Bath. By Durham Dunlop, M.R.I.A. London: 1868.

The Forty-first Report of the Coombe Lying-in Hospital for the Year ending September 16th, 1867. Dublin: 1868.

Holden's Manual of the Dissection of the Human Body. Edited by Luther Holden and John Langton. Third edition. London: 1868.

On Varicose Diseases of the Lower Extremities, and its Allied Disorders, etc. By J. Gay. London: 1868.

Injuries and Diseases of the Jaws. The Jacksonian Prize Essay of the College of Surgeons, 1867. By Christopher Heath. London: 1868.

The Church of Christ a Broad Church; or, the Unity of Christendom. By a Physician. London: 1868.

Clinical Lectures on Disease of the Liver, Jaundice, and Abdominal Dropsy. By Charles Murchison, M.D., F.R.S. London: 1868.

Observations on Amputation of the Thigh. By William MacCormac, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S. Dublin: 1868.