

Association Intelligence.

MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL.

The Committee of Council will meet in Birmingham, at the Queen's Hotel, on Tuesday, November 5th, at 1.30.

Business.—To make arrangements for the next Annual Meeting of the Association in London.

“The Fifth Report on Poor-Law Relief in England”, (published by Messrs. Hansard, 6, Great Turnstile, W.C.) will be considered.

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

Worcester, Oct. 23rd, 1861.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH:

EAST KENT DISTRICT MEDICAL MEETINGS.

The next meeting will be held at the Fountain Hotel, Canterbury, on Thursday, November 14th, at 3 P.M.

Gentlemen who intend to read papers, are requested to forward their titles before the 7th prox.

Dinner will be provided at 5 o'clock precisely.

THOMAS BOYCOTT, M.D., *Hon. Sec., Canterbury.*

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH: GENERAL MEETING.

A general meeting of this Branch was held on October 10; BELL FLETCHER, M.D., President, in the chair. There were also present twenty-two members.

New Members. The following gentlemen, members of the Association, were elected members of the Branch: B. S. Browne, Esq. (West Bromwich); James Beddard, Esq. (Birmingham); Howard Chavasse, Esq. (Sutton Coldfield); Abraham Hoskins, Esq. (Birmingham).

Communications. The following communications were made:—

1. On Accidental and Unavoidable Hæmorrhage. By J. Clay, Esq.

2. A Case in which he had opened the Descending Colon for the relief of Stricture of the Rectum was brought forward by O. Pemberton, Esq.

3. A Preparation illustrative of Retroversion of the Uterus was brought forward by the President.

ROCHESTER, MAIDSTONE, GRAVESEND, AND DARTFORD DISTRICT MEETINGS, IN CONNEXION WITH THE SOUTH- EASTERN BRANCH.

The second meeting for the present session was held at the Star Hotel, Maidstone, on Friday, Oct. 25. There were present nineteen members and two visitors. GEO. BOTTOMLEY, Esq., President of the Brauch, took the chair at 2.15 P.M.

The minutes of the previous meeting at Gravesend were read and confirmed.

New Members. The following gentlemen were duly elected members of the Association and of the Branch:—Henry Croucher, Esq. (Dartford); Thomas Wheeler, Esq. (Bexley).

Communications. There following papers were then read:—

1. Case of Fracture with Compound Dislocation of the Astragalus. By F. Fry, Esq.

2. On Lupus: illustrated by drawings. By Thomas Hunt, Esq.

3. On Diphtheria: with illustrative cases and drawings. By W. Carr, Esq.

The reading of these papers produced an interesting

discussion; so that many others had to be reserved for the next meeting at Rochester. Those read will, by the unanimous request of the meeting, with the consent of their authors, be published in the JOURNAL. Warmest thanks were accorded to those gentlemen who had prepared them, and to the president for his kindness in having again travelled so far to take the chair.

At 4.30, dinner was announced, when the members and their friends passed a most happy evening.

Reports of Societies.

JUNIOR MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24TH, 1861.

C. H. FAGGE, Esq., in the Chair.

THE Society met at Guy's Hospital.

ON JAUNDICE. BY MR. WEAVER, GUY'S HOSPITAL.

Cases of jaundice are divided by Frerichs into those of obstruction in the biliary passages, and those where there is no discoverable obstruction. The former class include cases where there is constriction of the common bile-duct, closure of the common or hepatic duct, constriction of the liver, or closure of the ducts within the liver itself. Constriction of the common duct occurs in jaundice from catarrh; from pressure, as of the gravid uterus, or impacted faeces in the colon; from glands in the liver-fissure enlarged by lardaceous, tubercular, or cancerous infiltration; and from gall-stones. A case of lardaceous liver and jaundice was well exemplified in a girl aged 18. The liver had been enlarged for seven years; jaundice had existed one year. As an instance of gall-stone causing obstruction, the author cited the case of a woman who had previously suffered from calculus of the kidney and haematuria. The jaundice was too intense to be the result of renal irritation. She suffered paroxysms of agonising pain. Improvement took place in four weeks. The effects of obstruction in the biliary ducts were considered: the bile, unable to find exit into the duodenum, is reabsorbed; the liver-cells are still performing their functions, as the bile does not pre-exist in the blood. The epithelium of organs, and the epidermis, are the agents for the excretion of bile-pigment in jaundice. Absence of bile from the intestines induces the paleness and foetor of the faeces, and also constipation; long continued obstruction produces dilatation of the ducts of the gall-bladder, and for a time enlargement of the liver. The correctness of the statement that in these cases the liver-cells disappear, leaving only granules, is denied by Dr. Wilks. Ulceration, abscess, and peritonitis may ensue. For instance, a woman aged 50 had symptoms of gall-stones; then jaundice with pyrexia, rapid enlargement of the liver, and death followed. On *post mortem* examination, the liver was found riddled with abscesses; the ducts were greatly enlarged; and small gall-stones were impacted in the common duct. The main duct may be closed by various causes, as cancer of the pylorus, duodenum, or pancreas. The ducts within the liver itself may be obstructed by cancer, hydatids, or inflammatory deposit; by a mass of dead membrane passing down the hepatic and common ducts; by cirrhosis; and by congestion of the liver, the minute bile-ducts being obstructed by distended blood-vessels. The author recorded cases of most of these forms of obstruction. In the cases where no obstruction is discoverable, they are the effects of mental emotion, pyæmia, fevers, etc. In a case of jaundice from pyæmia, supervening upon ulceration of the rectum, the liver was found to be green, and studded with white spots from pus. A case of pyæmic jaundice from syphilitic caries of the frontal bone was cited. Of acute yellow atrophy of the liver, in which there were

dinary feculent stools; nor are they temporarily restored by mercurials; they do not reappear until a very large portion of the colonic mucous membrane is healthy. This observation is true, even when the liver is demonstrated to be in good order. (Morehead, p. 251, 296.) 7. When infants have diarrhoea, the stools are frequently watery and green: after taking too much mercury they are sticky and green, there being no corresponding change noted in the *bile* or *liver*. (Pereira, *Materia Medica*, p. 852; West on *Diseases of Children*, p. 390, 392-3; Petrie as quoted by myself; *Foundation, etc.*, p. 251.) 8. The faeces of the *fœtus in utero* are black; of the infant fed on milk, yellow; of the adult fed on milk or veal, white; of the infant fed as usual, brown. The young pig, puppy, foal, and calf, pass stools of different colour, as do their adult parents, and they are unaffected by calomel. (Pereira, vol. i, p. 851). Yet in all, the *bile* is essentially similar. (Kirke's *Physiology*, 2nd edit., p. 241.) 9. In man the colour of the motions depends very much upon the ingesta, and independent of these, upon climate. Port wine, *e.g.*, makes them darker than natural; and a tropical climate does the same. 10. Lawson and Frerichs have demonstrated that the brown colour is not due to bile alone, or any modification of it, but is due to a special secretion (in the colon?). 11. In a total absence of bile there is no brown colour at all.

Putting these considerations together, we deduce:—

- a. That the peculiar colour of the stools in each animal does not depend upon a variety of colour in the bile.
- b. That the colour is due to some change which ensues in the colon.
- c. That the colour varies with the food, the bile remaining the same.
- d. That no change occurs in the colon in the total absence of bile.

The question, then, is narrowed to this: Why is calomel supposed to restore a rich brown colour to the stools, by purging, by acting on the liver, or otherwise?

The answers are curious:—

1. It does not do so when used alone. (See Pereira, pp. 851-3; Taylor, pp. 416-17.) 2. It does do so when combined with colocynth, jalap, senna, decoction of aloes, or other black draught. 3. A patient of mine tells me that every physician he has consulted declared that he had congestion of the liver; for he is subject to whitish stools. Each has prescribed mercurials; but, he adds, *these invariably make the motions a lighter colour*. 4. Diarrhoea, with clay coloured evacuations, without jaundice, is not uncommon; and experience tells us that the colour returns to the stools again in four days without any medicine whatever having been taken.

The only positive conclusion, then, that we can draw is, that *occasionally* calomel *seems* to bring about a change in the colour of the faeces in the colon; and the evidence that it does this by influencing the *liver*, is not a bit stronger than that it does so by acting on the colon.

But we must not rest here; we must point out again the difference between a theory and a fact. Mr. Pope assumes that white stools are an indication of congestion of the liver. Let us enumerate a few truths bearing on this point.

1. There is generally congestion of the liver in every case of cardiac dropsy; but in such cases the stools are perfectly healthy. The same remark applies to old asthma and bronchitis. 2. Assuming that there is some similarity between congestion and inflammation, let us turn to Morehead's work on *Indian Diseases*, the latest and the best authority we have. We read thus, "In acute hepatitis, the alvine discharges are not peculiar." (Page 373.) "In portal congestion the stools may be dark or pale." (Page 387.) "In hepatic abscess, the faeces are unchanged prior to the abscess bursting." (P. 378.) With this evidence, what can we say of the *theory* which assumes that white stools are proofs of hepatic derangement; and that a restoration of their colour is a proof of the action of mercury on the liver?

In conclusion, let me suggest to your correspondent that an invocation to the Deity is a dangerous weapon to use against an opponent, when Morehead writes: "The opinion at one time generally entertained that mercury exercises some special power in hepatic inflammation is unsupported by clinical experience" (p. 389); and again, "There is no organ so prone, in India, as the liver to become the seat of suppuration, and the constitutional states which favour this result of inflammation, and frequently cause it, are certainly aggravated by mercury." (P. 390.) Might I not fairly retort by saying "God help the patient with congested liver whose doctor has mercury for his panacea, and who sees in every white stool an earnest demand for a calomel drench." I forbear to remark further on your correspondent's note than to add, that if writers would think more deeply, and reason more closely than they do on the facts before them, we should have more tolerance and less difference of opinion than at present characterise the members of our profession.

I am, etc.,

THOMAS INMAN.

Liverpool, October 1861.

Medical News.

APPOINTMENTS.

*BERRY, Samuel, Esq., appointed Consulting Surgeon to the Birmingham and Midland Free Hospital for Sick Children.

HOWELL, Horace S., Esq., appointed Resident-Surgeon to the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone.

*JOHNSTONE, James, M.D., F.R.C.P., appointed Consulting Physician to the Birmingham and Midland Free Hospital for Sick Children.

TUCKER, John C., Esq., appointed Assistant House-Surgeon to the General Hospital, Nottingham.

ROYAL ARMY. The following appointments have been made:—

ANNESLEY, Staff-Surgeon-Major F. C., to be Surgeon 45th Foot, *vice* Fairbairn.

DOHERTY, Staff-Surg. D. J., to be Surg. 13th Foot, *vice* Ligertwood.

LAMB, Assistant-Surgeon J. A., 60th Foot, to be Assistant-Surgeon 54th Foot, *vice* Wood.

LIGERTWOOD, Surgeon T., M.B., 13th Foot, to be Staff-Surgeon, *vice* Doherty.

Wood, Assistant-Surgeon T., M.D., 54th Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, *vice* Salter.

ROYAL NAVY. The following appointments have been made:—

COATES, Matthew, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Orpheus*.

CONNOLLY, N. T., Esq., Acting Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Doterel*.

CRABBE, Benj., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to Greenwich Hospital.

FAIRBAIRN, William C., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon (additional), to the *Fisgard*.

LONGFIELD, William D., Esq., Acting Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Firebrand*.

TRONSON, John M., M.D., Surgeon, to the *Orpheus*.

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

BLETHLY, E., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 40th Middlesex R.V.

DYKE, T., M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon 12th Lancashire A.V.

PACE, W., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 1st Brigade Cornwall A.V.

REID, J., M.D., to be Surgeon Breadalbane R.V.

To be Honorary Assistant-Surgeon:—

DOWN, G., Esq., 21st Surrey R.V.

PROMOTION. The following promotion has taken place:—

CRAIG, Thomas, Esq., to be Surgeon, Royal Navy.

BIRTHS.

DILL. On October 26th, at Hawthorn Villa, Charlton Road, Manchester, the wife of *John Dill, M.B., of a daughter.

WILLIAMS. On October 27th, at 20, King Street, Portman Square, the wife of *A. Wynn Williams, M.D., of a daughter.

DEATHS.

BOULGER. On October 25, at Blechingley, aged 42, Frances L., wife of Edward Bouler, M.D.

CAMERON, John McL., Esq., Staff Assistant-Surgeon 5th Dépôt Battalion, at Southampton, aged 28, on October 21.

CARNEGIE. On October 27th, at Wimborne Minster, Dorset, aged 75, Mary, widow of John Carnegie, M.D.

DOW, James K., L.R.C.P. Ed., at Southgate Terrace, De Beauvoir Town, on October 24th.

HANCORN, James R., M.D., at 22, Whitelion Street, Spital Square, aged 53, on October 30.

HICKMAN, George, Esq., Surgeon, at Great Marlow, Bucks, aged 75, on October 25.

HUTCHINSON. On October 28, aged 23, Emma, daughter of Joseph Hutchinson, Esq., Surgeon, Cheadle Hill, Manchester.

MORGAN, George A., Esq., Surgeon, at Alpha Road, Regent's Park, aged 61, on October 26.

MOULD, On October 8, at Zennor, Cornwall, aged 20, Anne B., daughter of John A. Mould, Esq., Surgeon, R.N.

SEDWICK, Samuel, M.D., late of Antigua, at 28, Brompton Crescent, aged 61, on October 27.

WATKINS, John, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon Indian Army, aged 33, on August 20.

MEDICAL STUDENTS. We understand that 1116 students have registered this year, against 1228 last year; shewing a decrease of 112. The number of new entries at the twelve metropolitan schools amount to 344, against 483 last year; shewing here a decrease of 139.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. From the annual list, just published, we find that there are at the present time 256 fellows who have undergone the examination for the honour, and 1017 honorary and elective fellows, making a total of 1273. Of licentiates in midwifery, there are 812. Of gentlemen who have undergone the examination for the dental diploma, there appear 120. The members of the college amount to about 14,560; if to this we add the fellows, there appears a total of 15,833.

SPiritualism in SPAIN. The ecclesiastical authorities of Spain, we are told, have commenced an active prosecution against the modern form of spiritualism. All rappers and table-turners are placed under the gravest censure of the Church; and all books and periodicals on the subject are rigorously seized and destroyed. On the 9th of this present month, by order of the bishop, three hundred volumes of Spiritualist literature were burned on the public esplanade of Barcelona, and on the spot where criminals are executed.

ACADEMIC MUSHROOMS. M. Chevreul produced at the French Academy a magnificent bunch of esculent mushrooms from the grounds of Dr. Laborde. His method is as follows. He first develops the mushrooms by sowing spores on a pane of glass covered with wet sand; then he selects the most vigorous individuals from amongst them, and sows their mycelium in a cellar in a damp soil, consisting of gardener's mould, and covered with a layer of sand and gravel two inches thick, and another layer of rubbish from demolitions, about an inch deep. The bed thus prepared is watered with a diluted solution of two grammes (about half a drachm) of nitrate of potash per square metre (about 1 1-5 square yard), and in about six days the mushrooms grow to an enormous size.

EFFECTS OF RELIGIOUS EXCITEMENT. The annual report of the Irish Lunatic Asylum Inspectors states, that more cases of insanity occurred in Ulster in two months, during the late revival movement, than had taken place in the year. "Religious excitement" is assigned as the cause of insanity in 97 males and 86 females, but it is observable that, though religious excitement was the cause of the breaking down of the mind, the mania is not generally religious. The patient does not rave about religious subjects, but about matters totally different. The religious excitement, like any other violent epidemic excitement, caused the mind to give way in its weakest point, whatever that might have been. "Intemperance and irregularity of life" were the causes of the disease in 241 males and 82 females.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON. The examination of candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in this University commenced on Monday last, the subjects being Greek, Latin, Grecian History, Animal Physiology, Mechanical and Natural Philosophy, Logic, and Moral Philosophy. The examination for honours in connection with the same degree will commence on Tuesday, the 5th of November. The examination for the new degree of Bachelor of Science also commenced on Tuesday last, the subjects being Chemistry, Geology, Palaeontology, Animal Physiology, Mechanical and Natural Philosophy, Logic, and Moral Philosophy. The examination (second) for the degree of Bachelor of Medicine will commence on Monday, November 4th, and that for Doctor of Medicine on Monday, November 25th.

CHOLERA IN INDIA. Up to this date not less than 500 English soldiers have fallen victims to cholera, chiefly in the military stations of Delhi, Meerut, Umballa, and above all, Lahore. The epidemic has raged now for six weeks. It showed itself first in a virulent form at Delhi and Meerut. This is the fifth visitation of the kind since 1842. The wave of pestilence has alternately swept down from Cabul to Eastern and Central India, and up from the East into Central Asia, following the Gangetic valley and the great commercial routes. Wherever it has attacked English soldiers it has spared the native troops and prisoners in the vicinity. The effect on the troops at Lahore has been most depressing. The Mean-Meer Brigade has been moved out of cantonments into camp. The medical men available have been over-worked. Government, it is said, have appointed a commission of medical and engineer officers to inquire into the circumstances.

THE CINCHONA IN INDIA. A memorandum by Dr. Brandis, of Rangoon, has appeared in the *Gazette Supplement* on the suitability of the Burmese hill ranges for cinchona cultivation, and on the best site for a Sanitarium there. He would not commence cinchona-growing on any of the mountain ranges until the experiment has been more fully established in those localities in India where it is now being tried. But when the time comes for introducing the cultivation into our eastern provinces, Dr. Brandis recommends as the most suitable spot the collection of mountains between the Salween and Sittang, known as the Yoonzaleen range. In South America the cinchona is found at an elevation of from 3,000 to 6,000 feet, in the immediate neighbourhood of mountain masses which rise up to 18,000 feet and are partly covered with eternal snow. The Yoonzaleen mass contains peaks from 5,000 to 8,000 feet high. The rainfall is greater than in the plains, and the temperature lower and more uniform. The rocks are granite, gneiss, and quartz. The vegetation is entirely tropical up to an elevation of 3,000 feet, when teak disappears and pine forests begin. (*Friend of India.*)

THE CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS OF LIVERPOOL. A meeting was held last week in the Town-hall, Liverpool, the Mayor (Mr. J. R. Graves) presiding, to take into consideration the present embarrassed condition of the Northern and Southern Hospitals, both of which have for some time past been in a rather languishing condition from the want of funds. It appears that the sum of £800 was wanted to clear off the debt of the latter institution, and about £3,000 for the former, which had suffered lately to a large extent by the defalcations of its secretary and treasurer. Besides the sum named, it was also stated that the Northern Hospital was in need of £1,000 to make additions to its accommodation, rendered necessary by the increasing demands upon its usefulness. At the meeting referred to, resolutions were adopted pledging those present to use every effort to carry out the object for which the meeting had been called. In furtherance of this intention, and in illustration of the spirit in which it has been taken up, sub-

scriptions to the extent of £2,600 were announced in the room, including £250 from Mr. William Brown, the liberal donor of the Free Library and Museum building; £250 from a friend, understood to be Mr. Charles M'Iver, the Liverpool managing partner of the Cunard Steamship Company; £100 from Mr. T. B. Horsfall, M.P., and several other smaller donations.

LUNACY IN IRELAND. The Inspectors-General of Lunatic Asylums in Ireland (Drs. Nugent and Hatchel) have just published their annual report, which gives a very satisfactory account of the results of the improved methods of treating the insane. It appears that the number of persons more or less afflicted with mental disease still at large in Ireland is 7,120. Of these, 5,469 are idiotic, and 1,651 are insane. Idioty prevails more amongst males than females, the number of the former being 3,148, and of the latter 2,321. Among lunatics the difference is not so great, the numbers being 866 males and 785 females. There are 2,534 lunatics and epileptics in workhouses. During the years 1860 and 1861 the number admitted into the district asylums is 2,575, of whom the large proportion of 1,201 have been completely restored to health. The average number under treatment has been 8,411. The proportion of recoveries on the number admitted is about 47 per cent.; on the whole number under treatment it is 14·27. The reason of the difference is that those patients who are really curable are restored, under judicious treatment, in the course of the first three or four months, if they are admitted in time. If not, these cases are almost hopeless. Where the origin of the disease is known, it is traced to hereditary transmission in 37 per cent. of the cases. The hereditary mental taint gradually wears out by intermixture of blood. Among married lunatics, wives are more numerous than husbands. More than half the insane—56 per cent.—are uneducated.

THE HOMES OF SOUTHWARK. Mr. Robert Bianchi, medical officer of health of the St. Saviour's district, Southwark, has just issued a report on the sanitary condition and overcrowded state of portions of the parishes under his control, the latter owing to the demolition of houses for the construction of the Chatham and Dover Railway, and the new street from High-street to Blackfriars-road. He says that the mortality of the metropolis was last year considerably below the average of the twenty years preceding, the deaths from diarrhoea numbering less than half, while the St. Saviour's district was nearly exempt from that disease. Much, however, remains to be done. One of the boundaries of the district is still the great open sewer of the metropolis. The population thickens, while house accommodation diminishes. The poorer classes improve but slowly in those habitus which are the best preservatives against disease. The results of this year's census, so far as they are known, prove that the dwellings in this district are yearly becoming more crowded. The decrease in the population of St. Saviour's is due to the removal of houses for the formation of the new street and railway; but this decrease is made up by the addition to the population of Christchurch. It appears that this parish, which is comprised of only seventy-eight acres, has, without any additional house accommodation, advanced more than 1000 in population. Houses which but a few years since were occupied by separate families are now let in tenements, chiefly to artisans, labourers, and needlewomen. Too many of these, while earning good wages, are satisfied with a single room for all domestic purposes. One row of seven houses, each containing six small rooms, without wash-houses or kitchens, is inhabited by no fewer than forty-two distinct families, giving an average of twenty-five persons in each house. A large number annually migrate from the northern side of the Thames. The part of the metropolis of which the City of London Poor Law Union is composed has diminished in popula-

tion to the remarkable extent of 20 per cent. The East and West unions have also suffered an extensive decrease. It is from these neighbourhoods the district is supplied. Deprived of their humble homes by the necessity of City improvements, and the increasing value of house-rent, or disabled or impoverished by sickness, the poorer classes seek here a cheaper house. Thus the district has not only to contend against that disease and poverty which are legitimately incidental to the district, but also that which is imported from others.

ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. At a late sitting, Dr. Maisonneuve communicated six new cases of the subperiosteic section of bones. The first was that of a young woman, aged 22, attacked with mortification of the diaphysis of the tibia. The piece of bone extracted was 28 centimètres (nearly a foot) in length; the periosteum was preserved. The operation was effected on the 3rd of July last, and on the 15th of September the patient left the hospital with her leg as strong as before. The second case was that of a girl, aged 16, who, for the last eighteen months, had been suffering from a caries of the fifth metacarpal, and who had come to Paris, from the department of the Ardennes, to have a new bone put in (such was her own expression). The diseased bone was extirpated, the periosteum being preserved as usual; and after twenty-eight days the patient went away perfectly cured, the bone having been completely reproduced. The other cases were of the same nature as the preceding ones. Dr. Demarquay also read a paper on the same subject. One of his cases was that of a young man, aged 11, who had a part of the humerus mortified, which had to be extracted by penetrating through the periosteum and a layer of newly formed bone. In the other case, Dr. Demarquay made an incision 20 centimètres in length, penetrating through a layer of newly formed bone, and extracted from the thigh a piece of dead bone 11 centimètres in length. The patient was presented to the Academy in a perfect state of recovery, only for the present walking with a stick; before, his leg was bent backwards on the thigh, but it has since stretched out to its natural position.

DEATH OF MR. S. R. PITTDARD. The profession, especially those members of it educated at King's College, will regret to hear of the death of this truly estimable physiologist at the early age of 39. Mr. Simon Rood Pittard was born at Steinbridge, Somerset, in 1821; and, after the usual routine of a careful school education, commenced the study of the medical profession at King's College, of which institution he was subsequently elected an associate and president of its medical society. On the completion of his professional education, he became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, on May 6th, 1844, soon after which he competed for, and obtained the appointment of Student in Human and Comparative Anatomy at the College of Surgeons, and at once became a great favourite of Professor Owen. Subsequently, he was for several years medical officer of health to the parish of St. George's in the East, and succeeded to the practice of the late Mr. Edwin Quekett, brother of the late Professor Quekett. After this, he was appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy at the Grosvenor Place School of Medicine, and resigned this situation on his appointment as conservator of the museum at Sydney. The lamented deceased was a great favourite of the late Professor Todd, actively assisting him in preparing dissections for his lectures on physiology, and was associated with him as sub-editor of the *Cyclopaedia of Anatomy and Physiology*, contributing to it several elaborate articles. About two years ago, Mr. Pittard was invited to become the conservator of the Museum at Sydney, New South Wales, an appointment for which he was eminently qualified, receiving the highest testimonials from Professors Owen, Todd, Morris, Quekett, etc. Entering on the duties of that office with

his usual zeal, he at once became an established favourite; but his health failed so rapidly that even the most sanguine of his friends entertained but small hopes of his ultimate recovery. He died of phthisis at Enfield, near Sydney, on Monday, the 19th August last, leaving a widow and eight young children. The *Sydney Herald* states of Mr. Pittard that "the last light emitted from the lamp now extinguished was an admirable series of lectures upon the classification of animals. This difficult and intricate subject was handled by the lamented deceased with consummate ability; and his lectures were attended by a large number of the principal personages of the community."

SOCIETY FOR RELIEF OF WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF MEDICAL MEN IN LONDON AND ITS VICINITY. A half-yearly general meeting of this society was held on October 23rd; T. A. Stone, Esq., President, in the Chair. It appeared from the minutes read, that applications have already been made by forty-three widows, and twenty-six orphans, for grants for relief for the ensuing half-year, commencing in November next. The amount thus applied for exceeds £950, an increasing amount which can only be provided by a perseverance in the custom of continually increasing the capital stock of the society. The limits from within which alone members of the society can be elected, were enlarged from the whole of Middlesex and seven miles from the General Post Office in Surrey, Kent, and Essex, with Middlesex (as formerly), and the limits of the London District Posts in other directions. The age at which the orphans shall cease to receive half-yearly grants was extended from fourteen, the age at which apprenticeships used to be entered upon, to fifteen years of age, with the power of receiving a grant "towards self-maintenance" till the age of sixteen. Also all registered practitioners were made eligible for election as members. An election of officers and directors for the ensuing year also took place, as follows:—*President*: T. A. Stone, Esq. *Vice-Presidents*: M. Ware, Esq., E. A. Brande, Esq., J. Nussey, Esq., Sir B. C. Brodie, Bt., F.R.S., P. M. Latham, M.D., J. Bacot, Esq., T. Turner, M.D., D. Henry Walne, Esq., A. J. Sutherland, M.D., F.R.S., E. Tegart, Esq., E. Stanley, Esq., F.R.S., G. Burrows, M.D., F.R.S. *Treasurers*: John Miles, Esq., James T. Ware, Esq., G. Hamilton Roe, M.D. (Acting). *Directors*: A. B. Barnes, Esq., E. Dew, M.D., J. Love, Esq., H. A. Pitman, M.D., C. Collambell, Esq., B. Travers, Esq., B. G. Babington, M.D., J. Wetherfield, Esq., J. J. Sawyer, Esq., T. Brown, Esq., C. J. B. Aldis, M.D., W. Dickinson, Esq., J. C. Salisbury, Esq., H. Blenkarne, Esq., T. K. Chambers, M.D., J. Clarke, M.D., D. Scannell, Esq., Prescott G. Hewett, Esq., Sir J. W. Fisher, W. J. Little, M.D., J. Gregory Forbes, Esq., W. Munk, M.D., B. W. Holt, Esq., C. Miles, Esq.

ADDITIONS TO ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL. St. Bartholomew's, the most ancient of our London hospitals, has now still further enlarged its field of operation by the erection of a new wing devoted to casualty patients, at the north-west angle of the buildings, contiguous to the neglected entrance of the Priory with which in former times the hospital was connected. Nothing remains now of the hospital building of Rahere—the "man sprung and born from low kynage;" but the sapling which he planted in the "marsh, dunge, and fenny" of Smithfield, has grown and been grafted until it now shows itself a goodly and fruitful tree, affording shelter and dispensing blessings annually to thousands. There are now fifteen or twenty physicians and surgeons attached to St. Bartholomew's; the number of in-door patients is between 6000 and 7000 a year, and the annual income—which, at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries, was £371—has risen now to nearly £40,000. The main portion of the present building was constructed, at a cost of over £40,000, raised by voluntary contributions, between 1729

and 1760; but the entrance was built in the year 1702, in the first year of Queen Anne's reign. The additions now in progress from the drawings, and under the superintendence of Mr. Hardwick, form a continuation of the rusticated blank arcade facing Smithfield. The new waiting-room is a spacious apartment 95 feet long by 33 feet wide, and 22 feet high to the level of the tie rods. A dwarf partition runs from between the two entrance-doors across the room to the nurses' and medicine-room, which is about 14 feet square, with a bay-window projecting forwards into the large waiting room, whence all the patients can be supplied. The space to the west of this partition is appropriated to female applicants; that to the east to male patients. Another dwarf partition is constructed throughout the entire length to the centre of the waiting room, to separate the medical from the surgical cases. On each side of the entrance porch, with doors from the main apartment, there are new surgeon's rooms, waterclosets, and a staircase to the basement. At the far side of the large room, and communicating of course with it, new medical rooms are built, which on the male patients' or eastern side are connected by a covered way with two houses in Little Britain formerly occupied by the students, but now to be used as the residences of house-surgeons. On the western side the medical officers' rooms communicate with the other portion of the hospital by one of the spacious entrance halls approached in the opposite direction from the central quadrangle. The new waiting room will be lighted by means of three windows at the eastern end looking into Little Britain, two at the western end looking into an inner court, and by a lantern in the centre of the open timber roof, 26 feet long by 11 feet wide. The roof, which is framed with queen rods and iron ties, is ceiled under the common rafters. The floor is supported by iron girders which rest on the transverse walls, dividing the coal cellars in the basement. Apartments for the bath-man have been provided in the basement, where there is also a room for splints, and a large space as yet unappropriated. By this addition to the hospital a casualty room nearly three times the size of the former one will be obtained, and accommodation for seven medical officers, instead of for three as heretofore, will be attached to it, besides minor conveniences which may be estimated from the above mention of them. (*Building News.*)

Varieties.

VALUE OF A MIDWIFE'S HOUSE IN PARIS IN 1861. A midwife in the Rue de Chaillot demanded of the jury assembled to fix the indemnities to be paid to the owners and occupiers of houses which have to be demolished for public improvements, the large sum of 138,823f.; she was offered 10,000f., and obtained 55,000f.

THE ALOE (*socotrina*) is frequently seen on the graves of the Turks, and is also often seen suspended from over the doors in Arabia, together with crocodile skins, as insuring fortune and health to the inhabitants of the dwelling. The women also believe that it serves as an invitation to the prophet to enter the house. (*Dr. Landerer.*)

PROFESSIONAL PERIPATETICS. In some recent remarks on "medical locomotion," we spoke of the habit of extensive walking by medical practitioners. As a remarkable example, we instance one who is believed to be now the oldest active practitioner in Philadelphia. Dr. Lewis P. Gebhard has been uninterruptedly in active practice since his graduation, in the year 1813, and during these forty eight years he has walked to visit his patients by day and night, and been but little

detained from active occupation by illness or absence. At the expiration of his fortieth year of practice, he made a calculation that he had walked more than one hundred and fifty thousand miles over the pavements of this city. Since that time, he has continued active as usual, and has probably altogether walked, in attending his patients, a distance exceeding seven times the circumference of the globe. Dr. Gebhard is now in his seventy-first year, and continues in a state of mental and physical activity. He walks rapidly, and talks with vivacity. (*Phil. Med. and Surg. Rep.*)

SANITARY FATALISM. Statistics have been cited in support of the fatalism, that everything occurring successively in equal intervals, through long periods of time, being governed by a law, is unalterable. The reasoning "It has so happened in my days and my father's, and it cannot happen otherwise," has thus received an apparent sanction from science. But true science teaches another doctrine. If the causes remain the same the effects are the same, and it is only when the causes are beyond human control that the effects are inevitable. Now, upon examination it is found that the great causes of the excess of deaths in the army are completely under control in all ordinary circumstances, and as they vary their effects vary, so that if the measures that have been begun be carried out we have no fear of the result, and if the causes of disease be studied—under the new system of observation established by Lord Herbert before his death—new means of guarding the exquisite mechanism of the human frame will undoubtedly be discovered. (*Dr. Farr.*)

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.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY. Epidemiological, 8 P.M.—Medical Society of London, 8:30 P.M. General Meeting: Mr. Thomas Bryant, "Remarks on Vesico-Vaginal Fistula and Ruptured Perineum, with the Introduction of Improved Means of Operating";—Entomological, 8 P.M.
TUESDAY. Pathological, 8 P.M.—Photographic.
WEDNESDAY. Obstetrical, 8 P.M.: Dr. Marion Sims, "On Vaginismus"; Dr. Tilbury Fox, "On Puerperal Fever";—Pharmaceutical—Geological—Ethnological.
THURSDAY. Harveian, 8 P.M.: Mr. H. W. Lobb, "On Puerperal Paralysis";—Chemical, 8 P.M.: Linnaean, 8 P.M.
FRIDAY. Astronomical, 8 P.M.
SATURDAY. Royal Botanical.

POPULATION STATISTICS AND METEOROLOGY OF LONDON—OCTOBER 26, 1861.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

		Births.	Deaths.
During week.....	{ Boys .. 945 Girls .. 877 }	1822	1087
Average of corresponding weeks 1851-60	1654	1055	
Barometer:			
Highest (Sat.) 30.001; lowest (Mon.) 29.608; mean 29.826.			
Thermometer:			
Highest in sun—extremes (Sat.) 105 degs.; (Sun.) 65 degs.			
In shade—highest (Th.) 64.2 degrees; lowest (Sun.) 43.4 degs.			
Mean—54.1 degrees; difference from mean of 48 yrs.+5.9 degs.			
Range—during week, 20.8 degrees; mean daily, 13.5 degrees.			
Mean humidity of air (<i>saturation</i> =100), 92.			
Mean direction of wind, Var.—Rain in inches, 0.21.			

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.

T. A.—Perhaps you may think it worth while to notice the enclosed testimonial, or puff, of the virtues of chlorodyne. It is from the pen of J. C. Baker, Esq., M.D., Littleham, Bideford, Devon. The extent of this gentleman's experience may be gathered from the fact that his name does not appear in the *Medical Directory* for 1861; and that he became M.D. only in 1861, and Lic. Fac. P. & S. Glasg., in 1860!

"SIR,—I am induced, after many trials of chlorodyne, to send you the results of my experience. I have found it of the greatest value in colic, asthma, and other diseases of a spasmodic nature. It is, without doubt, the most *certain* and *valuable* *andodyne* we have. I have used it frequently, with the greatest advantage, in severe cases of dysmenorrhœa and in obstetric practice. I find it to allay the severity of after-pains caused by irregular contractions of the uterus more certainly than any preparation contained in the *Pharmacopœia*. I have little doubt, when its properties are more generally known, you will have a great demand for it."

THE LATE DR. CUSACK.—The following lines appeared in the *Dublin Evening Mail*. The initials attached to them, and other evidence, indicate that they are from the pen of our associate, Dr. Evanson, of Torquay. (EDITOR.)

JAMES WILLIAM CUSACK,
SURGEON AND PHYSICIAN.

Who died in Dublin, September 25th, 1861.

IN MEMORIAM.

O death! thou hast too busy been of late
Amidst life's conservators, whose bold aim
It was to stand between man and his fate,
And gain reprieve for those whom thou didst claim;
But conqueror of conquerors—the pall,
Thy overwhelming banner doth, at length, shroud all.
So soon! and has death visited once more
That foremost phalanx of enlightened men,
Who deeply versed in medicine's sagest lore,
Have sought with heart and head, and tongue, and pen,
Most loudly to proclaim the laws of life,
And wage with death a grand, albeit unequal strife.
Yes, thou hast come as come thou ever wilt;
So be it. What is death? The Gate of Life!
Man has his trials, joys, and griefs, and guilt;
But there is that which is in mercy rite;
And there is One who man from sin can free:
Then, death, where is thy sting? Grave, where thy victory?
But men will mourn when they sustain a loss—
CUSACK, our loss was great when we lost thee:
Various the friends our path in life that cross,
And friendship will in each much merit see:
But thy rare, sterling, unpretending worth,
An excellence among the excellent, stood forth.
Strange must have been the struggle in thy heart,
With nature tender as God ever gave,
Yet destined to enact the surgeon's part,
Though ne'er inflicting pain, except to save;
With heart most kind, yet most unflinching hand,
Our love, and fear, and praise, thou didst at once command.
Adieu, loved friend, adieu! Can time replace
The friends whom we have lost, among them thee?
The more then must we take to our embrace
The friends who still are left us. They or we
Full soon must part; but friendship does not die—
Friends are but parted here to reunite on high. R. T. E.

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Dr. WILLIAM BUDD; Dr. H. SANDWITH; Mr. JOHN GAY; Dr. GRAILY HEWITT; Mr. J. H. HOUGHTON; Mr. T. PAGET; Mr. DULVEY; Mr. OLIVER PEMBERTON; Mr. WORDSWORTH; Dr. STRAP; Dr. MERRIMAN; Dr. W. A. F. BROWNE; Mr. T. H. GOODSR; Dr. BOYCOFT; Mr. A. B. STEELE; Dr. E. SMITH; THE REGISTRAR OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON; Mr. DONNELLY; Dr. WYNN WILLIAMS; Mr. V. JACKSON; and Mr. STONE.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

1. Amputation of the Cervix Uteri. By J. Marion Sims, M.D. New York: 1861.
2. Transactions of the Pathological Society of London. Vol. xii. London: 1861.