

surprised surgeons resort to any other. Two drachms of tincture of iodine (*Ed. Pharm.*, which is stronger than the London tincture) should be injected into the sac, but if the tumour be very large or very small, the quantity should be increased or diminished accordingly. Let the patient stand when the fluid is drawn off, so as to completely empty the sac; and roughly shake the scrotum when the iodine has been thrown in, so as to diffuse it over the whole surface. All forms of hydrocele may be treated in this manner.

The right Use of Blisters in the Treatment of Ulcers is too little known in this country; and the reason is that erroneous notions prevail concerning the mode of healing of ulcers. Ulcers heal by a process of absorption and contraction; the idea of their *filling up* by growth of granulations is wrong. The main business of the surgeon, therefore, is to assist the process of contraction, and this he does by removing obstacles to the process. An old callous deep ulcer of the leg, for instance, won't heal until the swollen tissue around is disorged. Thirty years ago, Mr. Syme pointed out that a large blister should be laid over the thickened part of the leg for this purpose; and this has been his practice ever since. It is the most efficacious, and (a matter of no slight consequence in hospitals) the cheapest method of cure.

Association Intelligence.

THE MEDICAL BENEVOLENT FUND.

THE following donations have lately been received by the Treasurer of the abovenamed excellent charity:—

Browne, Miss Cave, Birkenhead (second) ..	£2	0	0
Smith, Edm., M.D., Otley, York (second) ..	5	0	0
Page, W. B., Esq., Carlisle (third)	5	5	0
Duckworth, Mrs., London (second)	21	0	0
Baron, Miss, Cheltenham (fourth)	50	0	0
A Member of the Committee (ninth)	100	0	0
Gurney, Hudson, Esq., Norwich	10	0	0

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE ordinary meeting of the Branch was held at the White Lion, Bristol, on November 28th, 1861; J. G. SWAYNE, M.D., President, in the Chair. There were present forty members, and three visitors.

Memorial to the late Mr. Norman. Dr. DAVIES brought before the notice of the members of the Branch, the memorial window to be put up by public subscription in Bath Abbey, to the memory of the late Mr. Norman of Bath, and exhibited designs of the same. He further intimated that contributions towards this object would be received either by himself, or by the Bath Secretary, Mr. R. S. Fowler.

New Members. William Davies, Esq., Heytesbury, and Frederick Gourlay, M.D., Weston-super-Mare, were proposed, balloted for, and admitted members of the Branch.

Papers. The following papers were read:—

1. Cases of Idiopathic Tetanus. By F. Brittan, M.D.
2. Case of Aneurism in which Tracheotomy was performed. By F. Brittan, M.D.
3. Mr. M. Clarke narrated a case in which Tracheotomy was performed in Aneurism, and respiration maintained by a Catheter passed down the Trachea.
4. Excision of the Eye-ball in Injury. By W. M. Clarke, Esq.
5. Case of Cyanosis, in which there was a complete Communication between both Auricles and Ventricles. By J. G. Swayne, M.D.

6. Lithotomy by Allarton's Median Operation. By A. Prichard, Esq.

These papers will be forwarded for publication in the JOURNAL.

Reports of Societies.

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, NOV. 26TH, 1861.

B. G. BABINGTON, M.D., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

ON CERTAIN GRAVE EVILS ATTENDING TENOTOMY, AND ON A NEW METHOD OF CURING DEFORMITIES OF THE FEET. BY RICHARD BARWELL, ESQ.

THE author remarked that the purely mechanical treatment of club-foot, which had since 1832 been superseded by tenotomy, could as a rule deal very successfully with those lateral twists of the extremity which are called varus and valgus, but that the equinal deformity could hardly ever be cured by these means. This peculiarity is attributable to the great power of the muscles attached to the tendo Achillis; for contracted muscles may be lengthened with an ease which is, *ceteris paribus*, in direct ratio with their power. At the present time, the treatment of pes equinus is, above all others, simple and satisfactory, because division of the tendo Achillis gives the means of lengthening this part in a few days. In a similar manner, though in different degrees, the treatment of all other deformities in which extension mingles is assisted by this section. The inward twist of the foot—varus—is now treated by division of four tendons at least (tibialis posticus and anticus, flexor longus digitorum, and tendo Achillis), and frequently also of the plantar fascia. A very similar treatment is inflicted on valgus. "The peronei tendons are to be divided, or, together with them, those of the extensor longus digitorum and the tendo Achillis, and also those of the tibialis anticus and extensor proprius pollicis, when they are retracted." Can we be surprised that after this there should be, as admitted by the above-quoted orthopaedist, "difficulty in continuing sufficient support to the arch of the foot? and even after the arch has been perfectly restored, support is required during many months." (*Brodhurst on Club-Foot.*) But if the deformity have arisen, not from spasm in the predominant muscles, but from debility of their antagonists, division of the still active tendons produces disastrous consequences.

Mr. BARWELL was led four years ago, when examining some old cases of tenotomised feet whose actions were clumsy and ill performed, to doubt the desirability of dividing several other tendons as unhesitatingly as above described; and he thought himself now in a position to explain the dangers and evils resulting from such practice.

In 1842, M. Bouvier reported to the *Académie Royale* several experiments performed on the tendons about the feet of dogs, and one on a horse. In no one case did these tendons unite so as to be of any subsequent value. Moreover, there were examples on the human subject in a recent work on the *Reparative Process in Human Tendons*. Mr. Adams had collected together all the cases he could get at of *post mortem* examination after tenotomy; amongst these there were seven in which other tendons besides the tendo Achillis were divided, and in every one of them one or more of the severed tendons was either not united at all, or had become attached to the bone or surrounding parts, so as to be of no possible use hereafter. (An analysis of the cases justifying these assertions was appended.)

a tax has been imposed and paid for by the nervous system, in its endeavour to eliminate the poison. Now, an enormous quantity of water may be drunk with impunity, and it will be excreted by the kidneys without any feeling of lassitude, merely because it does not interfere with the transmission of reflex nervous functions, *i. e.*, it is a good conductor of electricity.

Since the above was written, I have perused Dr. Smith's observations in the JOURNAL of November 16th, and beg, with diffidence, to notice a few of the statements therein contained. In the present state of knowledge upon aldehyde, it is not necessary to say more here, than that aldehyde is obtained artificially in greater quantity from alcohol when in a very dilute state than when more concentrated; and the same may occur in the body.

Your definition of food and medicine being correct and admitted, namely, that medicine is capable of producing effects opposed to health, we may say that nothing can act both as food and as medicine upon the body; therefore, tea and coffee cannot be placed under both categories, as Dr. Smith asserts.

The explanation of the increased action of the heart after alcohol, by the same gentleman, is not satisfactory. At page 538, it is written:—"This increase of the heart's action may be due to the physical action of the alcohol upon the inner surface of the heart, since the increased action occurs in from three to eight minutes after the alcohol has been taken, and when, therefore, it will have entered the circulation." Now, that statement follows a little after this:—"It is impossible that a small dose of alcohol shall *directly* increase muscular power; for example, whilst a larger yet an ordinary dose decreases it." How can the two statements be reconciled? Certainly not by the experiment on the bat's wing; for there, contraction of the capillaries takes place, which can be produced by any cold application, not otherwise a stimulant when taken internally. Now, the increased action of the heart is characterised by a greater dilatation than usual after alcohol, owing, perhaps, to retained secretions, together with their caloric, both latent and sensitive.

Whilst upon this subject, it may not be amiss to say, *en passant*, that, under conditions such as these, whilst the blood may be charged with locked up secretions, and the caloric which they contain being withdrawn and disposed of for other contingencies, such as exposure to wet, previous deprivation of food, etc.; those secretions being held in solution by their caloric, is by that loss precipitated in the tissues of the different organs, and form nuclei for the formation of diseased products, such as tubercle in the lungs, etc., influenced by the resisting power of the organ.

I am, etc., J. RHODES.

Glossop, November, 1861.

DANGEROUS MODE OF VACCINATING BY A GLASS STOPPER.

LETTER FROM F. J. BROWN, M.D.

SIR,—I ask the profession to raise their united voice against the promiscuous method of vaccinating that is followed by some practitioners. The method is as follows. The arms of several children are scratched; then the bloody points of skin are smeared by a glass stopper to a bottle (made expressly for the purpose). The glass stopper is moistened with fresh vaccine lymph for the purpose. After the vaccination is over, the glass stopper is washed and re-charged; it is then inserted into the bottle in which its flattened, elongated portion hangs freely. Now, by this method the blood of different children is intermingled. I refer to the *British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review* for July 1861, for some most important conclusions arrived at by Dr. Viennois.

Pure vaccine lymph cannot communicate any taint; but it is different with blood.

I am, etc., FREDERICK J. BROWN.

Rochester, November 20th, 1861.

Medical News.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON. Second M.B. Examination, 1861. Examination for Honours.

Physiology and Comparative Anatomy.

Fagge, C. H. (Scholarship and Gold Medal), Guy's Hospital
Dickins, Fredk. V. (Gold Medal), Manchester Royal Infirmary
Galton, John Henry, Guy's Hospital
Bankart, James, Guy's Hospital
Buszard, Frank, Guy's Hospital

Surgery.

Bankart, James (Scholarship and Gold Medal), Guy's Hospital
Fagge, C. H. (Gold Medal), Guy's Hospital
Buszard, Frank, Guy's Hospital

Medicine.

Fagge, C. H. (Scholarship & Gold Med.), Guy's Hosp. } Equal.
Gee, S. Jones (ditto, ditto), University College }
Bankart, James, Guy's Hospital
Mackenzie, Morell, London Hospital
Galton, John Henry, Guy's Hospital
Buszard, Frank, Guy's Hospital
Dickins, Fredk. V., Manchester Royal Infirmary } Equal.

Midwifery.

Galton, John Henry (Gold Medal), Guy's Hospital
Fagge, Charles Hilton, Guy's Hospital
Bankart, James, Guy's Hospital
Mackenzie, Morell, London Hospital
Buszard, Frank, Guy's Hospital

M.D. Examination, 1861.

Adams, Samuel Hoppus, University College
Braithwaite, James, Leeds School of Medicine
Cayley, William, King's College
Cribb, Arthur John, Middlesex Hospital
Davis, Theodore, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Easton, John, King's College
Gervis, Henry, St. Thomas's Hospital
Harley, John, King's College
King, H. S. T., B.A. Camb., King's College
Sadler, M. T., B.A. Lond., St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Simpson, Henry, University College
Smith, H. Montague Duncan, University College
Walker, Thomas James, University of Edinburgh
Way, John, King's College
Weaver, Frederick Poynton, Guy's Hospital
Winslow, Henry Forbes, King's College

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. At a special meeting of the Court of Examiners, on November 30th—

Fawcett, James Edward, of H.M.S. *Chesapeake*, passed his examination for Naval Surgeon. This gentleman had previously been admitted a member of the College: his diploma bearing date July 25th, 1855.

APOTHECARIES' HALL. On November 28th, the following licentiates were admitted:—

Belemere, Alfred John, Harlesden, Middlesex
Brown, John Woodruffe, Wymeswold, Loughborough
Brunjes, Martin, London Hospital
Hedley, Edward Anthony, Felton, Northumberland
Rendle, James Davy, Beaminster, Dorset
Tibbits, Edward Thomas, Uttoxeter
Watts, Edward, Liverpool

APPOINTMENTS.

HULME, Edward C., Esq., elected Surgeon to the Great Northern Hospital.

*SYME, James, Esq., appointed Surgeon in Ordinary in Scotland to Her Majesty.

ROYAL ARMY. The following appointments have been made:—

MOULD, Assistant-Surgeon T. R., 83rd Foot, to be Assistant-Surgeon Royal Artillery, *vice* Haughton.

RAMSBOTHAM, Assistant-Surgeon W. B., M.D., 59th Foot, to be Staff-Assistant-Surgeon, *vice* J. McL. Cameron, M.B.

To have the honorary rank of Inspectors-General of Hospitals:—

BUTTER, Deputy Inspector-General D.	} Retired Bengal Med. Department.
DAVIDSON, Deputy Inspector-General A., M.D.	
GREIG, Deputy Inspector-General J.	
MACKINNON, Deputy Inspector-General C.	

ROYAL NAVY. The following appointments have been made:—

CALHOUN, Thomas, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Revenge*.
COURTNEY, Charles F. A., Esq., Surgeon, to the *Defence*.
FITZGERALD, James F., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Spider*.
FOLDS, William, Esq., Staff-Surgeon of Devonport Dockyard, appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Queen.
HAMILTON, Thomas, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Sheldrake*.
O'CONNOR, Daniel, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Trafalgar*.
PATERSON, James, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Defence*.

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

DERINGTON, William, Esq., to be Surgeon Prince Albert's Leicestershire Yeomanry Cavalry.
HAWARD, F., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 3rd Administrative Battalion Suffolk R.V.
MERRITT, G. A., M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon 2nd Surrey A.V.

To be Honorary Assistant-Surgeon:—
CLOGG, S., Esq., 2nd Cornwall A.V.

BIRTHS.

NICHOLSON. On November 30th, the wife of *J. R. Nicholson, M.D., Redditch, of a daughter.
VISE. On November 24th, at Holbeach, the wife of Ambrose B. Vise, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

GILPIN, Bernard, Esq., Surgeon, at Ulverstone, aged 71, on Nov. 28.
ROWLAND, James W., Esq., of Ironbridge, Shropshire, aged 58, on November 7.
*SPENCE, Wm., M.D., of Letham, N.B., on November 24.
VINCENT, George, Esq., Surgeon, at Englefield Green, Surrey, aged 59, on November 27.
WESTON, Spencer, Esq., Surgeon, at Carshalton, aged 47, on November 27.

THE LATE PROFESSOR QUEKETT, F.R.S. The interesting collection formed by the late Conservator of the Hunterian Museum will be sold at the rooms of Mr. Bullock, High Holborn, on the 10th instant, and following days. It is particularly rich in microscopes.

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION, BROMPTON. On Thursday week a quarterly meeting was held. In the report of the committee, the death of Sir John Forbes was referred to in terms of regret, and the resignation of Dr. Cursham announced. Dr. Pollock was appointed to fill the vacancy thus created in the list of physicians. Legacies of £250, £100, and £100 had been announced since the last court.

MEDICAL VACANCIES. There are vacancies for a physician at the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham; for an honorary surgeon to the Wallasey Dispensary; for a house-surgeon and assistant house-surgeon to the Chester General Infirmary (by the resignation of Mr. Hughes and Mr. Walker); for a junior house-surgeon to the Manchester Royal Infirmary and Dispensary; for a general medical officer to the British Orphan Asylum, Clapham Rise.

VICTUALLING OF TROOPS AT SEA. The Secretary of State for War has, with the concurrence of the Board of Admiralty, ordered a committee to assemble to-day to take into consideration the best mode by which her Majesty's troops can be victualled while embarked. Sir Richard Airey is nominated as President, and he will be assisted by Dr. Bryson, inspector-general of hospitals and fleets; Dr. C. B. Anderson, R.N., deputy-inspector of hospitals and fleets; Dr. Logan, of the Army Medical Board; and another military surgeon.

ROYAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY AT MARGATE. The half-yearly meeting of the governors of the Royal Seabathing Infirmary, situated at Margate, was held at the London Tavern on Thursday week. Mr. Tomkins occupied the chair. The number of patients admitted into the institution from the 1st of January to the 25th of November was 699. Of this number 146 had been cured, 211 had been greatly benefited, 115 had been to some

extent benefited, 66 had not been benefited, and 14 had died. The number of patients now in the hospital was 147. It was also stated that 139 out-patients had been treated at the infirmary. The deaths had been 2 per cent. on the admissions. The board regretted to say that the infirmary was urgently in need of increased support, and unless it was obtained the usefulness of the charity would be greatly diminished. Friends of the charity were earnestly requested to assist it by promoting the scheme of a five-shilling subscription.

THE BLANE MEDALS. Two gold medals founded by the late Sir Gilbert Blane have just been awarded by the President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, on the recommendation of Sir John Liddell, Director-General of the Naval Medical Department, to Christopher Knox Ord, M.D., of H.M.S. *Hermes*, and to Mr. William Macleod, of H.M.S. *Madagascar*.

EXPURGATION. The Council of the Royal College of Surgeons have expunged from the list of members the notorious John Nichol Watters of 110 Dover Road, tried at the Central Criminal Court, Old Bailey, and sentenced to eighteen months hard labour for conspiracy to defraud; the equally notorious David Griffiths Jones of Woburn Place, now undergoing one year's imprisonment in the House of Correction with hard labour for perjury; and also Daniel de la Cherois Gourley, imprisoned for six months for breach of trust.

CONSERVATORSHIP OF THE HUNTERIAN MUSEUM. The term for sending in applications for this appointment expired on Saturday last, and the candidates who have presented themselves are Professor Rymer Jones, Mr. MacLise, Mr. Parker, Mr. Flower, and Dr. Arlidge. The last named gentleman was formerly connected with the museum, having obtained by competition one of the Studentships in Human and Comparative Anatomy. He is likewise known as a writer on subjects of pathology and natural history, particularly on the lower organisms; his elaborate history of the rotifera, protozoa, and other microscopic beings, in Pritchard's *Infusoria*, testifying to his intimate acquaintance with some of the most abstruse problems in natural history. In electing a gentleman to the important office of conservator of the museum, we hope—indeed, the profession will expect—that the decision will be based on the merits and fitness of the candidates, due weight being attached to what they have already done for science; and that no personal favouritism will be allowed to interfere with the strict justice of the choice.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY. The Fellows of the Royal Society assembled at their anniversary meeting on St. Andrew's Day—a meeting more than usually interesting, as Sir Benjamin Brodie, the President, delivered his farewell address on resigning the chair. The attention with which the eminent surgeon's words were listened to marked the feeling of respect and admiration for his character that prevails among the society over whom he has so well presided. After the delivery of the medals, the meeting proceeded to ballot for council and officers for the ensuing year, and the following were declared duly elected:—*President*, Major-General Edward Sabine, R.A., D.C.L., LL.D.; *Treasurer*, William A. Miller, M.D., LL.D.; *Secretaries*, William Sharpey, M.D., LL.D., George G. Stokes, M.A., D.C.L.; *Foreign Secretary*, William H. Miller, M.A.; *other members of the Council*, J. C. Adams, M.A., D.C.L., Sir William G. Armstrong, C.B., Benjamin G. Babington, M.D., Sir Benjamin C. Brodie, D.C.L., George B. Buckton, William B. Carpenter, M.D., Sir Philip de Malpas G. Egerton, William Fairbairn, LL.D., Captain Douglas Galton, R.E., William R. Grove, M.A., Q.C., William Hopkins, M.A., LL.D., John Lubbock, James Paget, J. Prestwich, W. Spottiswoode, M.A., J. Tyndall. The anniversary dinner of the Fellows and their friends was held at St. James's Hall.