

OBITUARY.

JACOB VALE ASBURY, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., OF ENFIELD.

THE late Mr. Jacob Vale Asbury, who died on June 21st, at his residence, Enfield, in the eightieth year of his age, was in early life a student of the Middlesex Hospital, and for seven years the pupil of, and morbid anatomist to, Joshua Brooks, with whom he afterwards continued on terms of intimate friendship. He was apprenticed to Mr. Dewint of Stone, Staffordshire; and his early years were passed in the mining districts of that county, where he gained much experience among the fearful accidents then common in such localities. He became member of the Royal College of Surgeons and licentiate of the Apothecaries' Society in 1816. About 1818, he visited Enfield as medical friend and companion to a gentleman of position in the neighbourhood. In 1820, he married and commenced practice, and shortly became medical officer to the parish. In 1826, he operated successfully in a severe case of distortion in a child aged 9; and received from the more influential inhabitants of Enfield a testimonial in the form of a silver salver. Another memorial record of silver plate bears the following inscription: "Dono dedit Gulielmus Powell Jacobo Vale Asbury, propter artem ejus eximiam quâ in se quâvis in casu inextinguibili operationem perfecit."

In 1833, he published a treatise on epidemic cholera. His "cholera tincture" was sent largely to India. The late Charles Lamb, his friend and patient, bears witness to his successful treatment of cholera in a witty acrostic on his name. Jacob Vale Asbury was on terms of intimate friendship with John Abernethy, Tom Hood, Edward Turner Bennett, and others of note and scientific celebrity. His success as a country practitioner was almost beyond precedent, his reputation extending far beyond the limits of his own neighbourhood.

Enfield was in former years the resort of the aristocracy, of whom there were none but sought him as a valued friend and medical adviser.

Towards the close of the year 1852, in consequence of the severity of railway accidents, he turned his whole attention towards the construction of machinery to be applied to railway carriages to lessen the force of collision in the event of trains or carriages being brought into undue contact with each other. This machinery was intended to be applied to the bed of each carriage, and also to be introduced into a safety luggage-van or brake, which he named "Asbury's Diasostikon". His patent for these inventions bears date 4th February, 1853.

In earlier years he invented two surgical instruments—one for the puncture of the tympanum, the other for the extraction of fish-hooks. The late Jacob Vale Asbury was for seven years demonstrator of anatomy to Joshua Brooks.

WILLIAM REYNOLDS, M.R.C.S., WELLINGTON, SOMERSET.

MR. WILLIAM REYNOLDS, who died recently at Appledore, at the age of 50, had been for twenty-five years in extensive practice at Wellington, in Somerset. He was surgeon to the union house at Wellington, and a district medical officer of the union. The duties were performed personally by him, which entailed upon him much physical labour and anxiety.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—At an extraordinary meeting of the College, on Monday, Aug. 7th, the following members were admitted Fellows.

Child, Gilbert William, M.D., Oxford
Copeman, Edward, M.D., Upper King Street, Norwich
Drake, Augustus, M.B., Southernhay, Exeter
Fox, Tilbury, M.D., 43, Sackville Street
Hensley, Philip John, M.D., 4, Henrietta Street, Cavendish Square
Hitchman, John, M.D., Mickleover, near Derby
Leard, Arthur, M.D., 12, Old Burlington Street
Stevenson, Thomas, M.D., Guy's Hospital
Williams, Charles Theodore, M.D. Oxon., 78, Park Street, Grosvenor Square

The following gentleman was admitted a Licentiate of the College.

Xoad, Henry Carden, St. George's Hospital

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations, were admitted Licentiates in Midwifery at a meeting of the Board, on July 31st.

Evers, Benjamin, L.R.C.P. Edinburgh, Fulham Road, S.W.
Mondelet, William Henry, M.D. McGill College, Montreal Emigration Service
Smith, Eldred Noble, M.R.C.S., Worth, near Crawley, Sussex
Willis, Julian, M.R.C.S., Great Northern Hospital

The following gentlemen passed the necessary examinations, and received their diplomas in Dental Surgery, at a meeting of the Board, on August 1st.

Gingell, George, Moreton Ongar, Essex
King, Richard Francis Henry, Newark
Marsh, Henry, Chester
Rose, Harry, Albany Street, N.W.
Stevens, Mordaunt Augustus de Brouquens, M.R.C.S., Paris
Vasey, Charles Lyon, M.R.C.S., Cavendish Place

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received their certificates to practise, on Thursday, August 3rd, 1871.

Barrow, Frank Edward, Woolwich
Barrow, Henry John Waller, Woolwich
Benham, William Thomas, Bristol Royal Infirmary
Bland, George, Dalston
Henson, Walter Knowsley, Hull
Wade, Reginald, Cross, Somerset

The following gentlemen also on the same day passed their first professional examination.

Fairbank, William, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Hall, Frank Algernon, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Harvey, William, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Floyer, B. Bernard, Middlesex Hospital
Powell, Joshua, University College
Triggs, John B. B., University College
Thompson, Francis Henry, St. Thomas's Hospital
Welchman, Edward, St. Thomas's Hospital
Vines, Edward Prince, King's College

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

BIRMINGHAM, Parish of—Dispenser.
BOURNEMOUTH GENERAL DISPENSARY—Resident Surgeon.
DURHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL—Physician.
EDINBURGH VETERINARY COLLEGE—Professor of Zootomy or Comparative Anatomy; Professor of Cattle Pathology.
GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY—Surgeon for the Grantham District.
HOLBORN UNION—Medical Officer for District No. 1.
MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL—Physician; Assistant-Surgeon.
QUEEN'S COLLEGE, Birmingham—Demonstrator of Anatomy.
QUEEN'S HOSPITAL, Birmingham—Fourth Physician.
SETTLE UNION, Yorkshire—Medical Officers for the Horton and Settle Districts, and the Workhouse.
SOUTH WESTERN PROVIDENT DISPENSARY—One Attending Medical Officer.
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL—Assistant Physician.
UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM—Medical Tutor at the Newcastle-upon-Tyne College of Medicine.
UNST, Shetland—Parochial Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Names marked with an asterisk are those of Members of the Association.

ALLEN, Marcus, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. and L.M., has been appointed Resident Accoucher to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
BARRY, James Bernard, L.K.Q.C.P. Irell., appointed Medical Officer for the Killebeggan Dispensary District of the Tullamore Union, King's County.
*DRINKWATER, William, Esq., appointed Medical Officer to the Bicester District Union.
FRIER, Dr. Wm., appointed Medical Officer for the Waringstown Dispensary District of the Lurgan Union, co. Armagh.
LAFFAN, Dr. Patrick Michael, appointed Medical Officer for the Killeen Dispensary District of the Dunshaughlin Union, co. Meath.
MAGRATH, John, Esq., appointed Assistant Resident Medical Officer to the Leeds Public Dispensary.
MATHEWS, George C., L.R.C.P. Edin., appointed Medical Officer for the Moate Dispensary District of the Athlone Union, co. Westmeath.
*THOROGOOD, John C., M.D., appointed Junior Physician to the West London Hospital, Hammersmith.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, is 3s. 6d., which should be forwarded in stamps with the communication.

MARRIAGES.

*LOWRY, Harvey, M.D., West Malling Place, Kent, to Jane Frend, daughter of the late Captain William Tucker, R.N., on August 5th.
*MILLER, Alexander Gordon, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., Edinburgh, to Jessie, third daughter of the late Captain Alex. Dingwall Fordyce, R.N., of Brucklay and Culsh, on August 2nd.

DEATHS.

WRIGHT, F. Welchman, M.D. Ed., at Shipton-on-Stowe, aged 73, on July 22nd.
FOLEY, John Joseph, Esq., son of *W. Foley, M.D., Kilrush, on August 1st.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS.—The Worshipful Company of Mercers has contributed fifty guineas to the fund for the completion of the National Sanatorium for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest at Bourne-mouth. Her Majesty has given £100 towards the same object.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.

TUESDAY Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—National Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Free, 2 P.M.

WEDNESDAY.. St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Mary's, 1.30 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, 2.30 P.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 3 P.M.—King's College, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 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 Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Royal South London Ophthalmic Hospital, 2 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.—Royal Free, 2 P.M.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.—Hospital for Women, 9.30 A.M.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ALL Letters and Communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the EDITOR, 37, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

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

TO PURCHASERS.—To insure attention, it is requested that all orders sent to the Office for extra copies of the JOURNAL, be accompanied with *halfpenny* stamps for the amount.

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

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

DR. DYCE DUCKWORTH.—The paper is in the hands of the printer.

R. M.—By application either to the General Secretary or to the Secretary of your Branch.

NEMO.—Being registered under the Medical Act in Medicine and Surgery, Nemo can of course recover in both. The Apothecaries' licence has no special privilege in this respect. Those who already hold the diploma of the London College of Surgeons will be admitted to the examination for the licence of the College of Physicians of London, under conditions which may be ascertained by writing to Dr. Pitman, the Registrar of the College.

A MEMBER.—Birmingham.

OBSERVER (Harrowgate).—The circular headed "PRO BONO PUBLICO: NO CURE, NO PAY", is one of the most discreditable productions which ever came under our notice. If "T. Clarkson, Surgeon, Darley House, Darley, Yorkshire", whose name is signed, be the author of this handbill, and be on the *Medical Register* as "M.R.C.S. England and L.S.A. London", we commend the case to the attention of the Council. This circular involves a scandalous breach of professional propriety and an extreme degradation of the professional character. We have forwarded it to the Secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

SIR,—Permit me to call your attention, and that of medical men who act as certifying surgeons of factories, to the Factories and Workshops Acts Amendment Bill, which has passed the House of Lords, and was ordered, on July 18th, to be printed by the Commons. Under the 7th Section, no accidents are to be returned by employers, except (A) any accident which causes loss of life, and (B) any accident caused by machinery or by explosion of gas or steam. Upon consideration, certifying surgeons will see how largely this proposed alteration of the law will affect them, and, I will add, prejudicially affect the *working men*. In this district, I know that inquiries into the causes of accidents have been the means of diminishing the numbers of fatal results. I am, etc., T. J. DYKE.

The Hollies, Merthyr Tydfil, August 6th, 1871.

DR. SAYRE'S VERTEBRATED PROBE.—Dr. Sayre, of New York, writes to us from Bern: In writing the hurried note descriptive of my vertebrated probe, I neglected to give credit to Mr. Stohman, of the firm of Tieman and Co., 67, Chatham Street, New York, who manufactured it for me. He is one of our most ingenious mechanics, and always obliging in endeavouring to carry out surgical ideas. I regret that I should have overlooked him, and beg you to supply the omission.

THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION AT THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

SIR,—With three hundred and forty-one other candidates, I presented myself at the recent Preliminary Examination at the Royal College of Surgeons; and, to my astonishment and regret, am just informed that I have failed in one subject, the remainder being satisfactory; "and that the rejection necessitated re-examination in all the subjects, should I again apply for admission to examination." As the one unlucky subject is likely to be of no practical importance to me in after life, neither as an assistance in the study of my profession, nor even as a proof of general education, surely it must be unnecessary to commit me, and others similarly situated, to re-examination in all the other subjects: thus not only hindering me from proceeding to a medical school or hospital for six months, but also preventing me from turning my attention to what would be valuable in the successful pursuit of the profession which I have adopted. I am, etc.,

August 1871.

STUDENS.

NOTICES of Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Appointments, intended for insertion in the JOURNAL, should arrive at the Office not later than 10 A.M. on Thursday.

DR. VENABLES, Dr. C. FOX, Dr. T. L. GREEN.—We fear we shall be unable to use the manuscripts on small-pox referred to.

DR. HERBERT L. SNOW (Shrewsbury).—Pulvermacher's chains have been carefully examined by many eminent members of the profession. They furnish a reliable continuous current, and their precise utility remains to be decided in each case by the medical attendant.

MEDICAL ETIQUETTE.

SIR,—Will you kindly give your opinion on the following points, and your advice as to the courtesy to be observed under the circumstances.

1. A practitioner calling at the residence of a lady under the care of another, and leaving his card for the lady's husband.

2. A patient of one practitioner, suddenly seized with illness near the door of another, into whose surgery he is carried: the latter continues to attend the patient without communicating with the regular attendant.

An answer to the above will oblige.

NEMO.

* * * 1. If the call be made merely in discharge of the ordinary courtesies of society, the act is unobjectionable; if with the ulterior object of supplanting the practitioner in attendance, it is wrong.

2. The practitioner into whose hands the patient has fallen ought decidedly to communicate with the regular medical attendant, unless the patient or friends spontaneously express a decided wish to the contrary.

A MEMBER of the Yorkshire Branch should communicate with the Honorary Secretary of his Branch, from whom the report is transmitted.

A. W. (Leicester).—We will see what can be done, and communicate further with our correspondent. We shall be glad if he will remind us of the circumstances in about a fortnight's time.

PORTABLE GALVANIC BATTERY.

SIR,—A short time before the late war, a new portable galvanic battery, called Gaiffe's, was introduced to this country, and was being sold here: it was sufficiently small to be carried easily in the coat pocket, and was *always ready for use*, without any preparation, the cells being closed so that their contents could not escape. I ordered one, but the war broke out and stopped the supply; and I have been unable as yet to get one. I shall feel obliged if any of the readers of the JOURNAL can tell me where I can obtain one (I do not mind a second-hand one if in perfect condition). I also want to know what is the strength of the current as compared with the ordinary electro-magnet, and whether it would be sufficiently strong for such a case as galvanising the phrenic nerve in threatened death from chloroform. Possibly there may now be a better apparatus; I shall be very glad to hear of any that will fulfil these conditions—viz., smallness, portability, durability, being always ready for use, and being strong enough for resuscitation from threatened death from chloroform. I am, etc., AN ASSOCIATE.

P.S.—What are Emil Stührer's batteries?

DEATH FROM CHLOROFORM AT ABERDEEN.—Our correspondent, J. F., will find that if an animal, say a dog, be slowly asphyxiated, both sides of the heart will be found full, the right containing more than the left, simply on account of its greater capacity. The repeated assertions in text-books that in asphyxia the left side of the heart is empty, or nearly so, and the right full, is unfounded in fact. One author has probably accepted the statement as a fact from some previous writer.

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The New York Medical Gazette, August 5th; The New York Medical Record, July 27th; The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, July 27th; The Madras Mail, May 27th; The Shield, August 5th; The Philadelphia Medical Times, July 19th; The Philadelphia Medical Independent, July 22nd; The Birmingham Morning News, August 4th; The Kentish Express and Ashford News, Aug. 5th; Saunders's News-Letter and Daily Advertiser, Aug. 2nd; etc.

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

Dr. George Johnson, London; Mr. J. Whipple, Plymouth; Dr. Arthur Ransome, Manchester; Mr. G. Wood, Cheetham Hill; Mr. T. J. Dyke, Merthyr Tydfil; Mr. Joseph Lister, Edinburgh; Dr. Charlton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Dr. W. H. O. Sankey, Cheltenham; Mr. Herbert M. Morgan, Lichfield; Mr. Clayton, Birmingham; Mr. Square, Plymouth; Mr. Whittle, London; Dr. Greene, London; Dr. Braxton Hicks, London; Dr. Heywood Smith, London; Dr. Cheadle, London; Mr. John Magrath, Leeds; Mr. Kemp, Wellington, New Zealand; Mr. David Hadden, Bandon; Mr. E. B. Adams, Bungay; Mr. C. S. Jeaffreson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Mr. H. Walmsley, Teignmouth; Dr. Bryan, Northampton; Dr. R. Barnes, London; Mr. Berkeley Hill, London; Mr. W. F. Morgan, Bristol; Mr. J. R. Fielding, Alfreton; Dr. W. Roberts, Manchester; Mr. Benson Baker, London; Dr. Radcliffe, London; Dr. D. T. T. Maunsell, Dublin; Dr. Venables, Blackheath; Dr. Crichton Browne, Wakefield; Mr. Milner, Harrogate; Dr. Shuttleworth, Lancaster; Dr. L. A. Sayre, Bern; Mr. Henry Terry, jun., Northampton; Studens; Mr. Ferneley, Grantham; Dr. Althaus, London; Dr. J. G. Davey, Northwoods, Bristol; Mr. C. Heath, London; Dr. Thorowgood, London; Dr. Summerhayes, Norwich; Dr. Morell Mackenzie, London; Mr. J. Hackney, London; Dr. Protheroe Smith, London; Dr. Smyth, Brighton; Our Manchester Correspondent; Dr. Mapother, Dublin; Mr. J. J. D. Burns, West Malling Place, Kent; Mr. E. J. Nicoll, Bury; Mr. R. S. Hannay, London; The Registrar-General of England; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; The Registrar of the Medical Society of London; Dr. E. L. Fox, Bristol; Dr. Bishop, Paris; Our Dublin Correspondent; Dr. Browne, Rochester; Dr. Thompson, Leamington; Dr. Merriman, Kensington Square; The Secretary of the Royal College of Physicians, London; Mr. E. Lund, Manchester; Mr. Fleischmann, Cheltenham; Dr. Aitken, Edinburgh; Dr. Dyce Duckworth, London; Mr. H. W. Hunt, London; Mr. E. Façon Watton, London; The Director-General of the Army; etc.