

chief existing excesses of disease in the several sanitary divisions of England, and what the relation of such excesses to insufficiencies of law or administration. Incidentally to the above, which I have regarded as the essential business of future annual reports under the Act, it would probably be of advantage to the public service that the reporter should use the same annual opportunity for submitting to the Board, with a view to publication, such new knowledge as the Medical Department might, during the past year, have acquired with reference to the prevention of disease, and such new memoranda of advice on sanitary subjects as the growing experience of the Department might be held to justify.

From among the many points of local relation which the Board's sanitary superintendence must include, there is one which in conclusion I will specially mention; not, indeed, without confessing that, in love and honour for my own profession, I regard it with warm personal interest; but believing that I may, nevertheless, without partiality, describe it as of fundamental interest to the working of the scheme of recent legislation. While watching, from the point of view of results, the action taken by local authorities throughout England for the better prevention of disease, the Board will be superintending the exact province of work for which the respective local authorities under the Act of 1872 are required to appoint their Medical Officers of Health; and the inspections under the Public Health Act, 1858, will therefore, so far as they extend, give the Board knowledge of the working of that new institution in the various forms in which it is being tried throughout the country, and in which, in regard of about half the number of cases, the trial is with the Board's part-payment and particular responsibility. Such inspections, too, as bringing the Board's Medical Department into direct relation with the local Officers of Health, and giving the Department opportunity to contribute any assistance in its power to the success of the local institution, will, where they extend, represent an object which the Royal Sanitary Commission, in making the recommendations on which the Public Health Acts of 1871 and 1872 were founded, put forward as an element of their scheme. As regards that intention of the Royal Sanitary Commission, I need hardly say that, to any holder of my office, it must always be amongst the highest of ambitions to be able to see the experience of this Department really conducive to the information and influence of younger fellow-labourers in other parts of the same great field of public service; and it would be affectation in me to deny that, during many early years of the new organisation, relations in that sense between the central and local services may often be of important, and sometimes of indispensable use, to the latter. I would, however, also express my confident expectation that, though from the nature of the case the relation in these earlier years must chiefly consist in assistance which the central office can so render, succeeding years will more and more bring the central office under obligation to local contributors of knowledge, and to local illustrations of progress. And year by year it will surely grow to be among the most useful, as it must also be among the happiest duties of the Annual Reporter, under the Public Health Act, 1858, to represent, for the information of all the Officers of Health of the kingdom, such additional fruits of scientific observation, and such new evidences of practical success, as will have come to the Board's knowledge from among their number.

THE VISITATION OF EXAMINATIONS AND THE IRISH LICENSING BODIES.

A DUBLIN correspondent writes to us :

The mode in which the Medical Council has treated the reports of the visitors of the Medical Council upon the examinations at the Queen's University and the Royal College of Surgeons has produced general dissatisfaction among the profession in Ireland. The faults of the examinations are quite well known to Dublin, and duly appreciated; but not only the authorities of the licensing bodies themselves, but the whole profession in Ireland, are, we think, very justly indignant that severe censures should be passed upon Irish bodies for defects not more glaring than those discovered in the Scotch bodies. The remarks of Sir William Gull are considered specially out of place. Why did not Sir William attack the Scotch bodies as well as the Irish? Even if a certain Irish representative should seem an obstructive member of the Council, it is no reason why the body he represents should be unjustly attacked, almost in direct opposition, and certainly not in proportion to the report of the visitors of examinations. Yet these are the feelings Sir William Gull's remarks have stirred up in Dublin. The result is likely to be a general want of confidence in the fairness with which the visitors' reports were treated by the Council. In fact, the injudicious conduct of the Council has created a sort of anti-English feeling among

the profession, similar to that which exists among the Home Rulers on general questions.—We regret this extremely, as we believe every facility was offered to the visitors for inspecting the examinations; and even the apparent shrinking from observation which has been insinuated against the authorities of the College of Surgeons was, we know, purely accidental and unintentional, and has, we think, been satisfactorily explained.

DEATH FROM CHLOROFORM.

WE understand that a death occurred from chloroform at the Leeds Infirmary on the 11th instant. By the courtesy of Mr. Pickles, we shall be able to publish notes of the case in our impression of next week.

THE CONJOINT EXAMINING SCHEME.

THE Council of the Royal College of Surgeons have been seriously occupied at recent meetings on the final revision of the terms of arrangement for the Conjoint Examinations. They have endeavoured to arrive at a manner of meeting the difficulty in which they are placed by the terms of their Charter as to the appointment of Examiners in Surgery in concert with the Committee of Reference, and we believe the difficulty may be considered to be satisfactorily solved. It is probable that students registered on and after the 1st of October next will receive notice that they will be required to pass under the Scheme of the Conjoint Examining Board.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

NOTICE is hereby given that, in accordance with Law 20, a Special General Meeting of the Association will be held at Norwich on Thursday, the 13th day of August next, immediately on conclusion of the Address in Surgery, for the purpose of considering the resolutions necessary for the incorporation of the Association.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary.*

37, Great Queen Street, London, July 9th, 1874.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held at Norwich, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, August 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th, 1874.

President—Sir WILLIAM FERGUSSON, Bart., F.R.S., Surgeon to King's College Hospital, London.

President-elect—EDWARD COPEMAN, M.D., Senior Physician to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

An Address in Medicine will be given by J. RUSSELL REYNOLDS, M.D., F.R.S., Physician to University College Hospital.

An Address in Surgery will be given by W. CADGE, Esq., Surgeon to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

An Address in Obstetric Medicine will be given by JAMES MATTHEWS DUNCAN, M.D., F.R.S. Edin., Lecturer on Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children in the School of Medicine, Edinburgh.

The business of the Association will be transacted in four Sections, viz.:

SECTION A. MEDICINE.—*President*: Dr. Eade, Norwich. *Vice-Presidents*: Dr. Sydney Ringer, London; Dr. Durrant, Ipswich. *Secretaries*: Dr. Bradbury, 59, Corpus Buildings, Cambridge; Dr. Lowe, King Street, King's Lynn.

SECTION B. SURGERY.—*President*: Sir James Paget, Bart., F.R.S., London. *Vice-Presidents*: T. W. Crosse, Esq., Norwich; Dr. Macnamara, Dublin. *Secretaries*: F. Worthington, Esq., Lowestoft; Reginald Harrison, Esq., 38, Rodney Street, Liverpool.

SECTION C. OBSTETRIC MEDICINE.—*President*: Dr. Churchill, Dublin. *Vice-Presidents*: Dr. W. S. Playfair, London; Dr. Steele, Liverpool. *Secretaries*: Dr. Edis, 23, Sackville Street, London; F. Image, Esq., Westgate Street, Bury St. Edmunds.

SECTION D. PUBLIC MEDICINE.—*President*: W. H. Michael, Esq., London; *Vice-Presidents*: Dr. Bateman, Norwich; Dr. Ransome, Bowden. *Secretaries*: Dr. Bond, Gloucester; Dr. Leech, Manchester.

The Honorary Local Secretaries are:

Dr. J. B. PITTS, Norwich.

H. S. ROBINSON, Esq., Norwich.

Dr. BEVERLEY, Norwich.

TUESDAY, August 11th.

9.30 A.M.—COMMITTEE ON QUALIFICATION IN STATE MEDICINE.

10.30 A.M.—CATHEDRAL SERVICE.

1 P.M.—MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL.

3 P.M.—MEETING OF THE COUNCIL, 1874-75.

8. P.M.—GENERAL MEETING—President's Address

BUSINESS: President resigns Chair to President-elect; Vote of Thanks to ex-President; President's Address; Report of Council; Election of General Secretary.

WEDNESDAY, August 12th.

9.30 A.M.—MEETING OF COUNCIL, 1874-75.

11.30 A.M.—SECOND GENERAL MEETING.

11.30 A.M.—ADDRESS IN MEDICINE, by Dr. RUSSELL REYNOLDS, F.R.S.

2 to 5 P.M.—SECTIONAL MEETINGS.

9 P.M.—SOIRÉE AT ST. ANDREW'S HALL.

THURSDAY, August 13th.

9 A.M.—MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL.

10 A.M.—THIRD GENERAL MEETING—Reports of Committees.

11 A.M.—ADDRESS IN SURGERY, by WILLIAM CADGE, Esq.

2 to 5 P.M.—SECTIONAL MEETINGS.

6.30 P.M.—PUBLIC DINNER.

FRIDAY, August 14th.

10 A.M.—ADDRESS IN OBSTETRIC MEDICINE, by Dr. MATTHEWS DUNCAN.

11 A.M.—SECTIONAL MEETINGS.

1.30 P.M.—CONCLUDING GENERAL MEETING.

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS, AND GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS.

The Central Hall of the Assembly Rooms will be fitted up as a Reception-Room, and will be opened at 9 A.M. on Tuesday, August 11th, and on the following days at 8 A.M., for the issue of tickets and the daily journal to members.

Gentlemen are requested to register their names and addresses in the Reception-Room as soon after their arrival as possible.

Provision will be made for the receipt and postage of letters, the receipt and delivery of telegrams, and for the care of parcels, umbrellas, etc.

At the end of the Reception-Room, a Refreshment Buffet will be arranged.

For the Editor of the JOURNAL and the General Secretary, a room will be fitted up at Noverre's Rooms.

The Assembly Rooms contain, besides the Reception-Room, on the right hand of the entrance, a room fitted up for the Local Secretaries and the Secretaries of Committees. There are also, under the same roof, a room appointed for the Medicine Section, a Reading and Writing Room, a Luncheon Room, Lavatories, and the Annual Museum.

Hotels.—The following are the chief Hotels: "The Norfolk", in St. Giles's Street; "The Royal", in the Market Place; "The Castle", on the Hill; "The Maid's Head", Winsum Street, Jomblond; "The Rampant Horse", Rampant Horse Street; "Mortimer's Hotel", in St. Giles's Street; and many others.

Private Lodgings.—For Private Lodgings and full particulars respecting the Hotels, application should be made to Mr. Horace Turner, Upper St. Giles's Street, Norwich, Honorary Secretary of the Reception Committee.

Soirée.—A Soirée will be given in St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich, on the Wednesday evening, August 12th, and will consist of Music, Scientific Exhibitions, Paintings of the Norfolk and Suffolk School of Artists, and Refreshments.

ANNUAL MUSEUM.

The seventh annual Museum of the British Medical Association will be held at the Assembly Rooms, and will be open daily from 10 A.M. till 6 P.M., on August 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th, for the exhibition of the following objects.

1. Latest inventions in medical and surgical instruments and appliances of all kinds.

2. New chemicals and apparatus; new drugs and their preparations; and new articles of diet for invalids.

3. General pathological specimens; with photographic models, drawings, etc., illustrating disease.

4. Urinary calculi; with drawings or diagrams of urinary disease, and of operations on the urinary organs.

5. Drawings, diagrams, or models illustrating the ventilation of hospitals and private dwellings.

6. Microscopic pathological specimens.

N.B.—Specimens of disease and calculi which have been exhibited at former meetings cannot be received on this occasion.

The following is a list of the Museum Committee: Mr. Wm. Cadge, Chairman, 24, St. Giles' Street, Norwich; Mr. Francis Sutton, London Street, Norwich; Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, 4, Finsbury Circus, London, E.C.; Mr. Joseph Allen, Tomblond, Norwich; Mr. Francis Fowke, 37, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.; Mr. Chas. Williams, 9, Prince of Wales' Road, Norwich; Mr. J. R. Baumgartner, Norfolk and Norwich Hospital; Mr. Charles Firth, Hon. Sec., 65, St. Giles' Street, Norwich.

NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS.—Application to be made as soon as possible, at the same time giving a list of objects, and mentioning the space required. Each object to be accompanied by a printed or written description, or reference, for insertion in the Catalogue; and it is important that these descriptions should be sent *not later than July 28th*.

All parcels to be delivered on or before August 4th, and to be removed within three days after August 14th. They must be addressed "British Medical Association, care of C. Firth, Esq., Assembly Rooms, Norwich". All expenses of carriage and all risk to be borne by the exhibitors. A card bearing the name and address of the exhibitor to be enclosed in each package, ready to be fixed on the outside.

All communications to be addressed to CHARLES FIRTH, Esq., St. Giles' Street, Norwich, the Honorary Secretary to the Museum Committee.

EXCURSIONS.

On Friday afternoon, parties of ladies and gentlemen, accompanied by gentlemen able to give information, will be formed to visit—

1. The Cathedral (where a paper will be read), and other places of antiquarian interest near at hand.

2. The Waterworks, Filtering Beds, and Reservoirs; the Sewerage Works and Farm; Bishop Hall's Palace (now the Dolphin Inn); also, on the route of this excursion, will be seen the remains of the City Walls at St. Benedict's Gates, Chapel Field, and Ber Street Gates.

3. Cossey Hall and Park.

Later on in the afternoon, J. J. Colman, Esq., M.P., kindly invites the members of the Association to a *dîjeuner*.—All intending to accept Mr. Colman's invitation, whether members of the Association or ladies accompanying them, are particularly requested to notify this fact as early as possible to Mr. W. Bransby Francis, St. Clement's, Norwich.

On Saturday there will be excursions for members of the Association and ladies—

1. To Wells, Holkham Hall and Park, the Danish Camp at Warham, Binham Priory, and Walsingham Abbey.

2. To Swaffham, Castleacre Priory, Houghton Hall, and Raynham Hall.

3. To Aylsham Church, Blickling Hall, Felbrig Park, Beeston Hills, and Cromer, returning by Gunton Park.—The Marchioness of Lothian kindly invites members who join this excursion to a luncheon at Blickling Hall.

4. To Fulton Broad, joining the next party.

5. To Herringfleet and Somerleyton Hall.

As special arrangements have to be made for carriages to convey the parties joining these excursions, the numbers must be limited, and tickets cannot be issued after Wednesday, August 12th.

6. There will also be a Yacht Excursion, which will be limited to the accommodation afforded by the yachts at the disposal of the Excursion Committee.

Members wishing to join any of these excursions are desired to communicate early with the Honorary Secretary of the Excursion Committee, Mr. W. Bransby Francis, St. Clement's, Norwich.

The following *Places of Interest in the Neighbourhood of Norwich* may be conveniently visited by members and ladies during the meeting: Yarmouth; Lowestoft: Cossey Hall; Caistor, by Norwich; Thetford; Wymondham's Geological Stations at Bramerton, Thorpe, Horstead; Botanical Stations at Horsford and St. Faith's. Hunstanton and Sandringham can also be visited from Norwich in a day.

In Norwich, amongst the objects of most interest are the Cathedral, which is open daily; forty-two churches, those most worthy of a visit being St. Peter's, Mancroft; St. Giles's; St. Stephen's; St. John's, Maddermarket; St. Gregory's; St. Michael at Plea; St. Michael at Castany; St. James's; and St. Peter-per-Mountgate; etc. Amongst the ancient buildings, are St. Andrew's Hall, the Guildhall, the Castle (now the County Gaol), St. Helen's Hospital, the Old Bridewell (now a tobacco manufactory), Bishop Hall's Palace (now the Dolphin Inn); the Old Well in St. Laurence, recently restored; and the remains of the City Walls, standing in various places. Household Heath is a short distance from the city.

During the meeting, the following places will be open to members of the Association on presenting their cards of membership: The Public Library; the Literary Institutions; the Free Library; the Norfolk and Norwich Hospitals; the Eye Infirmary; the Children's Infirmary; the

Bethel (a charitable institution for lunatics); St. Helen's Hospital (a charitable institution for decayed tradesmen); the School for the Indigent Blind; the Norfolk and Norwich Museum; the Guildhall, with the City Plate; the Castle (now the County Gaol); the City Gaol; the County Asylum; the Waterworks; the Sewerage Works and Farm; J. J. Colman's Works; Bolingbroke's, Clabburn's, and Willett's; the Yarn, Power-loom, and other Factories; Barnard and Bishop's Iron-works, and many others.

The hours at which these places can be visited shall be published at a future date.

PAPERS.

The following papers have been promised.

Ogle, J. W., M.D. 1. Cases of Tumour of the Cerebellum; 2. Cases of Adenomatous Tumours within the Thorax.

Fothergill, J. Milner, M.D. The Systemic Indications of Chronic Bright's Disease.

Gowers, W. R., M.D. Cases of Convulsions from Organic Brain-Disease.

Frerier, D., M.D. The Localisation of Function in the Brain.

Eade, Peter, M.D. A Disease of Carpenters.

Mackenzie, Morell, M.D. On the Aëtiology of Bronchocele.

Anninsing, Bushell, M.B. On the Aëtiology of Infectious Diseases.

Thompson, J. Ashburton, Esq. General Remarks on the Internal Administration of Free Phosphorus.

Bradbury, J. B., M.D. Notes of Six Cases of Hydatids of the Liver treated by Puncture.

Hicks, J. Braxton, M.D., F.R.S. On the Adaptation of the Galvanic Cautery to Gynaecology.

Wright, Frederick W., M.D. On Decollation as a Mode of Delivery in Arm-Presentations.

Ross, James, M.D. On the Action of Mercury.

Smart, W. R. E., M.D., C.B., Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets. On the Relative Frequency, the Causes, and Modes of Suicidal Attempts in the Navy and Army.

Fox, Cornelius B., M.D. Water-Analysis; as it should and as it should not be performed by the Medical Officer of Health.

Thornton, W. Pugin, Esq. On the Indications for Tracheotomy afforded by the Laryngoscope.

Baker, J. Wright, Esq. Case of Lithotomy: the Nucleus of the Stone being a Broken Piece of Elastic Catheter.

Thorowgood, J. C., M.D. On the Nature of the Asthmatic Paroxysm.

Duncan, J. Matthews, M.D. Laboratory Note: On the Tensile Strength of the Fœtus.

Cormack, Sir John Rose, M.D. Diphtheritic Paralysis.

Cormack, Sir John Rose, M.D. Successful Resection of the Shoulder-join in Case of Gunshot Wound.

Althaus, J., M.D. On some Forms of Spinal Exhaustion, and their Treatment by the Constant Galvanic Current.

Drysdale, Charles R., M.D. On Dysmenorrhœa.

Braidwood, P. M., M.D. On Cerebro-Spinal Concussion.

Clapperton, James, Esq. Maternal Impressions.

Buchanan, George, M.D. Some Points in the Anatomy and Surgery of Talipes Varus.

Barwell, Richard, Esq. A New Method of treating Chronic Striuous Synovitis, more especially of the Knee.

Drysdale, C. R., M.D. When, and for how long, should Mercury be used in the treatment of Syphilis?

Beverley, M., M.D. Hospital Hygiene, illustrated by references to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital in the past, present, and future.

Rumsey, H. W., M.D., F.R.S. The Correlation of Sick Poor Relief and Public Health Administration.

Haviland, Alfred, Esq. The Geographical Distribution of Disease within the area of the combined Sanitary Authorities of the Counties of Northampton, Leicester, Rutland, and Bucks.

Bond, Francis T., M.D. 1. On a New Form of Disinfectant; 2. On an Improved Form of Dry Closet; 3. On a New Method of dealing with House-Slops in rural districts.

Higgens, Charles, Esq. On Muscular Asthenopia.

Steele, A. B., L.K.Q.C.P. On the Treatment of Mechanical Dysmenorrhœa and Chronic Induration of the Cervix Uteri.

Chambers, T., M.R.C.P. 1. A Case of Complete Inversion of the Uterus, profuse *Post Partum* Haemorrhage, and rapid Death of the Patient. 2. A Case of Retroflexion of the Gravid Uterus: Retention of Urine: Vesical Haemorrhage: Transfusion with Lamb's Blood: Death.

Amyot, Thomas E., Esq. Cases of Traumatic Diabetes: with some Remarks as to Treatment.

Edis, Arthur W., M.D. The Rectum in its relation to Uterine Disease.

Dowse, T. S., M.D. 1. The Treatment of Acute Rheumatism. 2. A Case of Tumour originating from the Dura Mater of the Spinal Cord in the Cervical Region, producing General Paresis.

Skrimshire, John, M.D. (Holt). On Preventive Surgery in its Relation to Injuries from Agricultural Implements.

Lund, Edward, Esq. On Incision *versus* Excision of the Knee in Children.

Manby, F. E., Esq. The Treatment of Loose Cartilages.

Bradley, S. M., Esq. On the Mode of Employing Pressure in Cases of Chronic Inflammatory Enlargement.

Gentlemen desirous of reading papers, cases, or other communications, are requested to forward the titles to the General Secretary, or to one of the Secretaries of the Section in which the paper is to be read. All papers should be forwarded to one of the above-named officers *on or before the 1st of August*.

No paper must exceed *twenty* minutes in reading; and no subsequent speech must exceed *ten* minutes.

All speeches at the General Meeting must not exceed *ten* minutes each.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary.*

General Secretary's Office, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.,

June 25th, 1874.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at Carlisle, on Wednesday, July 29th, 1874.

Gentlemen intending to bring forward communications, are requested to give immediate notice.

HENRY BARNES, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*

Carlisle, June 30th, 1874.

BIKMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of this Branch was held on Tuesday, June 23rd, at the Midland Hotel, Birmingham. There was a large attendance of members and visitors.

The retiring President, Mr. FURNEAUX JORDAN, introduced the President for the ensuing year, Mr. W. C. GARMAN of Wednesbury, who then took the chair.

Dr. T. UNDERHILL proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring President, which was seconded by Dr. A. HARRISON and carried with acclamation. Mr. JORDAN acknowledged the compliment.

New Members.—The following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Branch:—Messrs. C. A. McMunn, M.B., Wolverhampton; Philip Bindley, M.B., the General Hospital; Francis Warner, M.D., Acock's Green; Edward Mathews, Redditch; William Bates, B.A., Birmingham; J. H. Joy, M.D., Tamworth.

Report.—Dr. FOSTER, one of the honorary secretaries, next read the annual report, which stated that the Council had much pleasure in congratulating the twentieth annual meeting on the continued prosperity of the Birmingham and Midland Counties Branch of the British Medical Association. The number of members was now 311. During the past year, twenty-four new members had been elected, twelve had withdrawn from the Branch in consequence of removal from the neighbourhood, three had resigned, three had been struck off for non-payment, and nine members had died; viz., Dr. G. F. Evans, Mr. T. Ebbage (Leamington), Mr. Swain, Mr. C. S. Boswell (Redditch), Mr. Major Morgan (Lichfield), Mr. Moseley (Redditch), Mr. Waters (Coventry), Mr. T. C. C. Wheatcroft (Cannock), and Mr. A. Dodson. The past year had been an active one as regards the work of the Branch, six ordinary and two special meetings having been held. The attendance at the meetings has been large, and the interest of the papers read has called forth on several occasions valuable discussions. [Here followed a list of papers and other communications during the session 1873-4.]

The first mentioned paper (On Certain Unused but Valuable Means of Medical Education, by Dr. Fowler Bodington), read at the October meeting, was a thoughtful and able essay in favour of the utilisation of the numerous hospitals in the country districts for the purposes of medical education. The paper evoked an animated debate, which ended in the adoption of a resolution appointing a Committee of the Branch to consider the subject of medical education, especially with reference to Parliamentary legislation. This Committee, with Dr. Fowler Bodington as Chairman and Mr. A. Oakes as Secretary, drew up a report, which was presented to a special meeting of the Branch on April 9th. After being discussed at this and at a subsequent meeting, its further consideration was postponed till next session. The Council felt that the thanks of the Branch were due to the Committee on Education for their elaborate and suggestive report, which, when finally adopted, may form,

it is hoped, the basis for further action by other Branches, and the Association itself, for the reform of the present system of medical education. The Council had much pleasure in recording the continued activity and usefulness of the Pathological and Clinical Section, and had also to report that the Microscopical Section had done valuable work during its first session. In accordance with the wish of many members, arrangements had been considered for a more intimate connection between the two sections as regards work and meetings. The Council trusted that, before the ensuing session, the plans might be adopted and the work of the sections more perfectly and conveniently organised. When such arrangements were completed, the Council would submit to the Branch a scheme for the amalgamation of the subscriptions to the Branch and the sections, in accordance with the resolution passed at the last annual meeting. The Council referred with pride to the fact, that the Hastings Prize Medal of the Association had again been carried off by a member of the Birmingham and Midland Counties Branch, the medal for 1873 having been awarded to Mr. Lawson Tait. The competition for the prize last year was especially honourable to the Branch, inasmuch as two of its members were the authors of the first and second essays. The merit of the second essay, moreover, was so unusual, that the Committee of Council of the Association, on the recommendation of the adjudicators, awarded a second medal to Dr. Edward Malins. The Council called attention to the greatly improved financial position of the Association, which was due in no small degree to the energetic and able business management. The members would be pleased to hear that the condition of the funds had enabled the Committee of Council to recommend to the annual meeting at Norwich the distribution of £200 in grants for the encouragement of original research. The growth of the Association during the past year had been considerable, and the formation of new Branches in districts in which the Association had had but few members was a specially favourable sign. The North Staffordshire Medical Society had converted itself into a new Branch, to be called the Staffordshire Branch. The Council offered this new Branch a hearty welcome, and trusted that it might be the means of bringing into the Association many members of the profession living beyond the reach of the Birmingham and Midland Counties Branch. Every new Branch could in this way add strength to the Association, and assist it in its great work of advancing the scientific and general interests of the profession throughout the kingdom.

Mr. WATKIN WILLIAMS, the honorary treasurer, read the statement of accounts for the past year, which showed that there remained in hand £51 6s. id., against £26 8s. id. last year.

The report and statement of accounts were unanimously adopted.

Dr. HINDS read a report from the Microscopical Section of the Association, which set forth principally that, though the attendance had not been numerous, the result showed the wisdom of the establishment of the section. The Committee considered that Birmingham ought not to be behind Manchester, Liverpool, and London in the cultivation of this branch of medical science. There were ample means to make it a real success. The report was received.

Votes of Thanks.—Dr. BODINGTON proposed, Mr. MANBY seconded, and it was carried unanimously, "That the thanks of the Branch be given to the officers of the Pathological and Clinical Section".

Dr. HINDS proposed, Dr. MACKEY seconded, and it was carried unanimously, "That the thanks of the Branch be given to Dr. Wade, the late chairman of the Microscopical Section".

Votes of thanks were also passed to the other officers of the section; to the retiring Council and representatives of the Branch; and to the honorary secretaries and treasurer.

President's Address.—The PRESIDENT delivered an address, which is published at page 101.

Mr. BAKER proposed that the warmest thanks of the meeting should be given to the Chairman for his valuable and interesting address, concurring in the views which had been advanced.

Dr. ALDRIDGE seconded the proposition.

Mr. ERNEST HART, in supporting the motion, asked whether it was not desirable for the Branch to consider whether it should not take up the work of Mr. Dalrymple, and press forward the measure before the legislature, so as to get it practically treated in the next session of Parliament. The motion was carried unanimously.

Election of Officers for Ensuing Year.—The voting papers having been examined by Mr. J. Gardner and Mr. F. Underhill, the scrutineers appointed by the meeting, the following officers and Council were declared to be elected:—*President-elect*: W. F. Wade, F.R.C.P. *Hon. Secretaries*: T. H. Bartleet, M.B., and Balthazar Foster, M.D. *Treasurer*: T. Watkin Williams, Esq. *Members of Council—County*: J. T. Arlidge, M.D. (Stoke-upon-Trent), G. Fowler Bodington, M.D. (Kingswinford), A. J. Harrison, M.B. (Walsall), Vincent Jackson, Esq. (Wolverhampton), R. Bond Moore, Esq. (Wolverhampton), C. A.

Newnham, Esq. (Wolverhampton), James Thompson, M.B. (Leamington), T. Underhill, M.D. (West Bromwich). *Town*: Alfred Baker, Esq.; Sampson Gamgee, Esq.; E. Malins, M.D.; H. Oakes, Esq.; O. Pemberton, Esq.; J. Russell, M.D.; J. Sawyer, M.D.; J. F. West, Esq. *Representatives of the Branch in the General Council of the Association*: Bell Fletcher, M.D.; Balthazar Foster, M.D.; Sampson Gamgee, Esq.; W. C. Garman, Esq.; J. S. Gaunt, Esq.; Vincent Jackson, Esq.; James Johnston, M.B.; Furneaux Jordan, Esq.; Edward Mackey, M.B.; Frederick Manby, Esq.; J. Manley, Esq.; James Russell, M.D.; Thomas Underhill, M.D.; W. F. Wade, F.R.C.P.; T. Watkin Williams, Esq.

Dinner.—The members afterwards dined together to the number of fifty-seven, Mr. W. C. Garman occupying the Chair, Dr. Wade, the President-elect, and Dr. B. Foster, the vice-chairs. Mr. Ernest Hart and Mr. F. Fowke were present as visitors.

SOUTHERN BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting was held at the Pier Hotel, Southsea, on Thursday, July 9th, under the presidency of Inspector-General SMART, M.D., of Haslar. Sixty members, from all parts of Hants, Dorset, and South Wiltshire, were present. In the evening, forty-two members dined together.

The President delivered an address.

Officers and Council.—The following were elected. *President*: W. R. E. Smart, M.D., C.B., R.N., Haslar. *President-elect*: W. C. Maclean, M.D., C.B., Netley. *Vice-Presidents*: J. P. Aldridge, M.D., Dorchester; F. J. Butler, M.D., Winchester. *Representatives in the General Council*: Heber Ellis, Esq., Poole; J. R. Kealy, M.D., Gosport; H. J. Manning, Esq., Salisbury; James Mouat, C.B., V.C., Portsmouth; J. Osborne, M.D., Southampton; W. F. J. Turner, M.R.C.P.Ed., Ryde. *Representative on the Parliamentary Bills Committee*: W. Case, L.R.C.P.Ed., Fareham. *Council of the Branch*: W. G. Bacot, M.D., Blandford; W. G. Davis, Esq., Heytesbury, Wilts; L. O. Fox, M.D., Winchester; W. H. Garrington, Esq., Southsea; J. W. M. Miller, M.D., Southampton; R. I. J. Stevens, M.D., Christchurch. *Honorary Secretaries of Districts*: Southampton—Theophilus W. Trend, M.R.C.P.; Bournemouth—P. W. G. Nunn, Esq.; East Dorset—C. H. W. Parkinson, Esq.; West Dorset—W. D. Vawdrey Lush, M.D.; Isle of Wight—W. F. J. Turner, M.R.C.P.; Salisbury—H. J. Manning, Esq.; South Hants—J. Ward Cousins, M.D. *Honorary Secretary and Treasurer*: J. Ward Cousins, M.D.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THREATENED DEATH FROM NITROUS OXIDE.

SIR,—As much may be learned by failure as by success; and there are especial reasons for asking you to permit me to record in your JOURNAL a recent case, in which I nearly lost a patient under the influence of nitrous oxide gas.

The patient was a lady about thirty years of age, and with all the outward signs of health. The gas was administered by a well known hospital surgeon. After a few inspirations, before she was unconscious, her pulse, which was under my fingers, entirely ceased to beat, whilst simultaneously her breathing stopped. In fact, she seemed dead, and we both exclaimed, "She is gone". Her tongue was pulled forward, and she was placed upon the floor, when we at once resorted to artificial respiration, as we then thought, with but little chance of restoration. Fortunately, our efforts were crowned with success, and in a few minutes there was a slight inspiration, after which breathing became gradually normal, though the patient did not recover consciousness for nearly half an hour. I have often seen unpleasant symptoms during the administration of nitrous oxide gas, but this is the worst case which I have met with.

Now for the *morale* to be deduced from this experience. Gas has been responsible for some few accidents in England, and for more in America, where it is sometimes administered very incautiously; but, as a rule, this anaesthetic is generally held to be *sine periculo*; and, acting upon this assumption, it is too often given by those who, not being surgeons, unwittingly take a great risk upon themselves. It is for the benefit of these gentlemen that I bring forward this case; for I know that men who are not members of the College of Surgeons are daily in the habit of administering this anaesthetic to their patients, and I have even heard of the services of a wife being called into requisition on such occasions—a story showing such a lack of professional dignity, that I would willingly assume it to be untrue. However, I know that it is commonly given by men lacking any surgical or medical qualification—

The medical officers of the army are naturally anxious to know what the present Director-General is doing to obtain these ameliorations of their state; for, of course, as their chief, they have every right to expect that he will exert himself to the utmost of his power on their behalf, inasmuch as it cannot be satisfaction to represent such an important department, of which almost every member is complaining of discomfort and hardship.

July 1874.

I am, etc.,
SURGEON, A.M.D.

NAVAL MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

STAFF-SURGEON GEORGE J. WILLES, M.D., from H.M.S. *Agincourt*, to H.M.S. *President*, *vice* Watson (period of service expired).

Staff Surgeon Fysher Negus, from half-pay, to H.M.S. *Agincourt*, *vice* Willes.

Surgeons George Bolster, William Inman, M.D., M. D. Hurlstone, and H. Macdonnell, to be Staff-Surgeons (second class) in H.M. Fleet.

Deputy Inspector-General William Macleod, M.D., has been re-appointed to the Royal Naval Hospital, Yarmouth.

Inspector-General John Davidson, M.D., C.B., has been appointed Honorary Physician to the Queen, *vice* Sir Alexander Nisbet, Knt., deceased.

OBITUARY.

RICHARD JEFFERSON, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.

MR. RICHARD JEFFERSON, after a course of study at Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals, was admitted a Member of the College of Surgeons in 1824. Soon afterwards, he began practice in Market Weighton, East Yorkshire, where he remained until the end of his life. So high was his sense of duty, and so great his interest in his work, that he never took a holiday during the whole of that period, fifty years; and, until the last eighteen months, he was never incapacitated from work for a single day through illness. About two months ago, he had an attack of jaundice, the effects of which he was unable to shake off. He died on June 27th, aged 74.

MEDICAL NEWS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, July 16th, 1874.

Barber, Edward, Sheffield
Ford, Robert Giles, Suffolk Street, Commercial Road

Lidderdale, James, Lock Hospital

Thomas, Herbert Henry, Queen's Crescent, Haverstock Hill

The following gentleman also on the same day passed his primary professional examination.

Taylor, James, Bristol School of Medicine

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

ABERDEEN, City of—Public Analyst: 2s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per analysis, and £25 for fitting out Laboratory.

ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT—Surgeons. Applications, 10th August, to Sir W. M. Muir, Director-General.

ASTON UNION—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Aston Road District: £80 per annum, and fees. Applications, 28th inst., to John Lumby, Clerk, ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS, Earlswood—Assistant Medical Officer: £150 per annum, board, and apartments. Applications, 29th instant, to the Secretary, 36, King William Street, E.C.

BALLACHULISH SLATE QUARRIES—Medical Officer: £200 per annum, guaranteed. Applications, 1st August, to Mr. Gardener, Bank of Scotland, Ballachulish.

BRIERFIELD URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT, combined with several others—Medical Officer of Health: £500 per annum for three years. Applications, 27th instant, to A. Stanley Dean, Clerk to the Burnley Rural Sanitary Authority.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE DISPENSARY—Physician-Extraordinary. Applications, 3rd August, to Somers Clarke, Honorary Secretary.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE PROVIDENT DISPENSARY—Surgeons for Districts 3 and 5. Applications, 4th August, to J. Dennant, Honorary Secretary.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY, Aylesbury—Resident Surgeon and Apothecary: £80 per annum, increasing to £100, board, lodging, etc. Applications, 4th August, to George Fell, Solicitor.

CAPE COPPER MINING COMPANY—Assistant Medical Officer: £150 per annum and lodgings, and free passage out and home. Applications to the Secretary, 6, Queen Street Place, E.C.

CERES, Fifeshire—Parochial Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator: £23 per annum, and fees; and £42 per annum as Medical Officer of the Adamson Institution. Applications, 27th instant, to Mr. Younger, Inspector of Poor.

CITY OF GLASGOW FEVER HOSPITAL—Physician Superintendent.

DOWNHAM UNION—Medical Officer for District No. 6: £50:5:8 per annum.

DOWNPATRICK UNION, co. Down—Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Registrar of Births, etc., for the Strangford Dispensary District: £100 per annum, and fees. Applications, 13th August, to Samuel Seed, Assistant Secretary, Ballylena, Strangford.

DRIFFIELD UNION—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Fordingham District.

DURHAM UNIVERSITY COLLEGES OF MEDICINE and PHYSICAL SCIENCE, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—Professor of Biology combined with Physiology: £450 per annum, and a portion of fees. Applications, 15th August, to T. Wood Bunning, Secretary to College of Physical Science.

EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Ratcliff Cross—Assistant Visiting Physician. Applications, 30th instant, to Ashton Warner, Secretary.

EVELINA HOSPITAL, Southwark Bridge Road—Registrar and Chloroformist: £20 per annum.

GLAMORGANSHIRE LUNATIC ASYLUM, Bridgend—Medical Superintendent.

GLENTIES UNION, co. Donegal—Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Registrar of Births, etc., for the Carrick Dispensary District: £100 per annum, and fees. Applications, 28th instant, to Samuel Cassidy, Honorary Secretary, Bruckless House, Donegal.

GRIMSBY URBAN and PORT SANITARY DISTRICTS—Medical Officer of Health: £50 per annum.

HENDON UNION, Middlesex—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Weald District: £30 per annum, and fees. Applications, 29th instant, to W. A. Toottel, Clerk, Edgware.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE—Fourteen Surgeons. Applications, 10th August, to T. P. Pears, Major-General, Military Secretary.

LAMBETH PARISH—Medical Officer for No. 1 District: £80 per annum.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL—Assistant Physician. Applications, 4th August, to George Croxton, Secretary.

MOHILL UNION, co. Leitrim—Medical Officer, Public Vaccinator, and Registrar of Births, etc., for the Rynn Dispensary District: £120 per annum, and fees. Applications, 27th instant, to Francis Gearty, Honorary Secretary, Finnalougha, Dromod.

NEWPORT (Monmouthshire) **INFIRMARY and DISPENSARY**—Resident Medical Officer: £100 per annum, furnished lodgings, board, etc. Applications 5th August, to E. W. Willey, Secretary.

NORTH DARLEY URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT—Medical Officer of Health. Applications, 4th August, to S. Mills, Clerk.

OWENS COLLEGE, Manchester—Professor of Anatomy: minimum emoluments, £500 per annum. Applications, 1st August, to the Council, under cover to J. Holme Nicholson, Registrar.

ROYAL NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICE—Surgeons. Applications, 6th August, to A. Armstrong, Director-General.

RHYMNEY IRONWORKS—Out-door Assistant.

STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY, Stafford—House-Surgeon and Secretary: £100 per annum, board, lodging, etc. Applications, 1st August, to W. H. Dudley, Secretary.

TORBAY INFIRMARY, Torquay—Dispenser: £50 per annum, board and lodging.

WESTERN GENERAL DISPENSARY—Dentist. Applications, 25th instant, to W. Kimpton, Secretary.

WEST LONDON HOSPITAL, Hammersmith—House-Surgeon: £70 per annum, furnished apartments, etc. Applications, 27th instant, to T. Alexander, Sec.

WEST SUSSEX, EAST HANTS, and CHICHESTER GENERAL INFIRMARY and DISPENSARY—Assistant House-Surgeon: £20 per annum, board, lodging, etc. Applications, 5th August, to Dr. Macpherson, Secretary.

WIGTON UNION, Cumberland—Medical Officers and Public Vaccinators for the Aspatria and Allonby Districts: £14 and £12 per annum, and fees respectively. Applications, 28th instant, to W. Mandell, Clerk.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

COLEMAN, Henry W., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Surgeon to the Farnley Iron Works, Farnley, near Leeds.

FAIRCLOTH, John M. C., M.D., appointed Physician to the General Infirmary, Northampton, *vice* J. H. Webster, M.D., resigned.

HUGHES, Wm. Hugh, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.S.A. Lond., appointed Medical Officer of Health for the Urban Sanitary District of Ashton-under-Lyne. £50 per annum: Area, 1,391 acres; population, 31,985.

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.

DEATHS.

ALLEN.—On July 16th, aged 27, Susanna, wife of Bryan H. Allen, M.D., of Hastings.

DRUITT.—On July 18th, at Wimborne Minster, in her 83rd year, James, widow of Robert Druitt, Surgeon of that place, and daughter of the Rev. James Mayo, Master of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School at Wimborne, and Vicar of Avebury.

MARRIAGE.

REID—WATSON.—At Cutts, Aberdeen, on the 21st instant, by the Rev. W. Anderson, Alexander Reid, M.A., M.D., Canonbury Park, London, N., to Annie, second daughter of the late Robert Watson, builder.

DR. JOHN H. WEBSTER.—At a Court of Governors of the Northampton General Infirmary, specially convened for the election of a Physician, it was resolved—“That this Court cannot separate without cordially recognising and gratefully acknowledging the valuable services of Dr. Webster during the nineteen years that he held the office of Physician to this Institution.”

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL.—Messrs. Edwin Bedford and Charles Jellicoe, the executors of the will of the late Miss Mary Gray Ratray, have given the sum of £500 to University College Hospital, out of the funds left for their disposal to charitable institutions.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 9 A.M. and 2 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.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—West London, 3 P.M.—National Orthopaedic, 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, 1.30 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.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 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, 2 P.M.

SATURDAY St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 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.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 9.30 A.M.—Royal Free, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.—We shall be much obliged to Medical Officers of Health if they will, in forwarding their Annual and other Reports, favour us with *Duplicate Copies*.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the JOURNAL, are requested to communicate beforehand with the printer and publisher, Mr. T. Richards, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.

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

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting editorial matters, should be addressed to the Editor: those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the JOURNAL, etc., should be addressed to the General Manager, at the Office, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

MEMBERS proposing to be present at the Annual Meeting in Norwich are requested to communicate their intention without delay to Dr. Beverley. A form for the purpose will be found in the advertisement pages of this week's JOURNAL.

INFANT would be obliged to any reader who would refer him to any published rules (for popular use) respecting the prevention and treatment of diarrhoea in children. Some such rules, issued by the New York (?) Board of Health, were noticed in one of the medical reviews a few months ago. The reference is wanted.

AN INTENDING MEMBER.—Candidates for the membership of the Association whose applications and certificates, properly filled up, have been sent to the General Secretary, will be entitled to attend the meeting at Norwich. Gentlemen desirous of becoming members must send in their applications and certificates without further delay.

THE REV. DR. BELL requests us to intimate that he has not had time to go into the necessary details for perfecting his proposition "for bringing the matter of electing one Council only for the management of the affairs of the Association before the Annual Meeting of 1874." He hopes to do so for the next Annual Meeting of 1875."

THE VACANT APPOINTMENT FOR A SURGEON.

F.R.C.S. writes to us that a well known hospital surgeon, whose name he mentions, is believed to be a candidate for the "vacant appointment" (vacant now for two years) at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, Regent Street. We must, however, decline to couple any surgeon's name with such a candidature under existing circumstances, unless on his own authority. We have heard of two young assistant-surgeons during the last few months who were persuaded to consent to become candidates; but both were advised subsequently by their professional friends that they would best consult their professional reputation, and show a suitable sense of what was due to their common profession, by declining to be candidates for any office at the Orthopaedic Hospital until the Committee had set itself right with the profession; and they both withdrew.

NECROPSIES AT CORONERS' INQUESTS.

SIR.—On reading the report of De Groof's inquest in the daily papers, I formed a very high opinion of the foreman's intelligence, in demanding a *post mortem* examination even in this exceptional case. It is high time that our profession fully exposed the utter farce that an inquest represents, unless invariably backed up by a *post mortem* examination. My experience for the last twelve years in hospital practice has conclusively convinced me that coroners deprive their court of the most reliable evidence, by hesitating to order a *post mortem* examination in every instance.

By adopting the broad and intelligent rule of invariably holding a necropsy in inquest cases, we, as medical men, shall be spared many a collision with the coroner; shall hear less nonsense from the ratepayers that *post mortems* are useless; we shall be spared some painful exhibitions of economic rivalry; and feel conscious that our steps are directed in the path of orderly truth.

I am, etc., RICHARD DAVY, Surgeon to the Westminster Hospital.

London, July 1874.

CORRESPONDENTS are particularly requested by the Editor to observe that communications relating to Advertisements, changes of address, and other business matters, should be addressed to Mr. Francis Fowke, General Secretary and Manager, at the Journal Office, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C., and not to the Editor.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

SIR.—The President of the South-Eastern Branch of the British Medical Association mars his address with signs of animosity against one of the medical charities of Brighton. He enumerates the institutions of the place, but instead of naming the Children's Hospital properly with the rest, he merely observes (speaking of a ward for children just opened in the County Hospital), "Had it only been instituted a few years ago, it would have saved the Brighton public the supposed necessity of having to support a separate hospital for children". Now, it is inconsistent with medical etiquette, and with the duties of a President, who is bound to be impartial, to take this tone from the chair; yet, though various remarks and objections have been made in Brighton about it, the words are published unaltered in your pages, whereby it is clear their author is not capable of perceiving their impropriety. They cannot hurt the hospital, but they damage the profession, lowering the same before the public by this touch of professional jealousy, also within itself by the bad example thus set in a local President's address. It is for the credit of the British Medical Association, which your JOURNAL so ably represents, as well as for the good of the profession, that this should be discounted. To no purpose is a fanfare of fine words almost in the same breath. By deed, not word, must the unity and nobleness of the medical calling be proved. The President's duty is not to touch local animosities, if there be any, but to do what he can to raise the tone and position not only of what he presides over, but also of the whole profession. Nor should he so act as to dispose local medical men to stand aloof from the South-Eastern Branch, which, though increasingly flourishing, does not include all who ought to belong to it.

I am, etc.,

Brighton, July 20th, 1874.

A GOVERNOR OF A LONDON HOSPITAL.

AIDE-TOI, ET DIEU T'AIDER.

SIR.—I trust you will allow me space to express a hope that the services of the executive of the Poor-law Medical Officers' Association will meet with the recognition of medical officers throughout the country, and that they will now make an effort, and stand by those who have watched and worked on their behalf for years past. Respecting the subjects of the proposed petitions, it must be admitted that having medicines supplied by the medical officer is a most unsatisfactory arrangement—meaning as it does that every case is a tax upon him, varying in some instances from many shillings to some pounds, and, examined backwards, being a premium for neglect.

I need not say much on the subject of pensions: those who, in the pride of health and strength, may have been careless of their own interests, will surely find the day when both will fail. For the rest, it has been truly said "that if a man do his duty in our profession, he has no time to enrich himself"; whilst, on the other hand, the wealth and resources of the country are to be recognised at every turn.

I am, etc.,

LAM-ALEPH.

DETERMINATION OF CASTS IN URINE BY INSPECTION.

SIR.—Whilst experimenting with a test recently suggested, I found that casts in the urine could be detected by the unaided sight, and fished out singly with a pipette for further inspection under a microscope, and this under circumstances when the ordinary method would not discover them, from their number being too small; it being necessary to slightly agitate the urine, and to warm it sufficiently to keep the urates dissolved. There is generally a quantity of some sort of fibre derived from bedding, etc.; but this is distinguished by the particles having a more definite outline, and being of smaller calibre than the casts which have a gelatinous appearance.

As this method is not mentioned in works on the subject, I presume it is not generally known, and I should be obliged for further information as to its clinical value, my own experience being slight and confined to granular casts.

July 18th, 1874.

I am, etc., WALTER LATTEY, L.R.C.P. Lond.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Birmingham Daily Gazette, July 20th; The Lincoln Gazette; The Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury; The Leeds Mercury; The Blackburn Times; The Leicester Advertiser; The Cork Constitution; The Lincolnshire Chronicle; The Carlisle Patriot; The Macclesfield Advertiser; The Auckland Times and Herald; The Northampton Mercury; The Knaresborough Post; The Wrexham Advertiser; etc.

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

Dr. George Johnson, London; Mr. R. S. Fowler, Bath; Dr. G. E. Shuttleworth, Lancaster; Dr. Stephen, Fettercairn; Mr. John Latham, Sandbach; Mr. Lawson Tait, Birmingham; Dr. Hawkes, Alton; Dr. A. B. Steele, Liverpool; Mr. J. M. Morris, London; Dr. Calderwood, Edinburgh; Dr. Wells, Reading; Staff-Surgeon W. Wilson, R.N.; Dr. R. T. Wright, Lahore; Dr. Drysdale, London; Dr. Edis, London; Dr. Russell, Glasgow; Mr. Croton, London; Mr. W. Lattey, Southampton; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; The Registrar-General of England; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Mr. Wanklyn, London; The Registrar of the Medical Society of London; Lam-Aleph; Dr. Joseph Bell, Edinburgh; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Dr. W. Finch, Colchester; Dr. D. Goyder, Bradford; Dr. J. Batty Tuke, Bradford; Dr. C. Royston, London; Mr. Wickham Barnes, London; Mr. R. S. Pettryridge, Bodmin; Mr. G. C. Coles, London; Mr. A. E. Barrett, Lynn; An Intending Member; Mr. T. H. Bartlett, Birmingham; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Dr. E. Haward, London; Mr. S. H. Cartwright, London; Dr. John Brunton, London; Dr. Warner, Birmingham; Dr. Rugg, London; Dr. Moore, Dublin; Dr. V. Goole; Dr. Edwards Crisp, London; Our Dublin Correspondent; Dr. J. Matthews Duncan, Edinburgh; Dr. Ogle, London; Mr. F. J. Pickles, Leeds; Dr. Russell, London; Dr. Nathan Allen, Massachusetts; A Physiologist; Dumbledore; Mr. J. F. Barnes, Liverpool; Mr. Eames, Haslar; Dr. Pettigrew, Edinburgh; H. T. A. Horsham; etc.