

to improved sanitary arrangements; for, since the Crimean war, it is very doubtful whether the Turk has introduced any sanitary measures whatever into the city, excepting those, perhaps, which have been forced upon him by the European residents, and paid for out of their own capital.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH.

THE next meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Black Lion Hotel, Aberdare, on Thursday, November 26th, at 12.30 P.M. Meeting of Council at noon.

Dinner will be provided as usual. Members intending to be present are requested to communicate their intention to Dr. Sheen, Cardiff, on or before the 23rd November.

Those members who desire to read papers are requested to forward the titles of the same to Dr. Sheen, as early as possible.

ANDREW DAVIES, } *Hon. Secs.*
ALFRED SHEEN, M.D., }

Cardiff, October 29th, 1874.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.

AN adjourned special meeting of this Branch will be held in the Council Room of the Midland Institute, on Thursday next, November 26th, 1874; the Chair to be taken at half-past three o'clock P.M. precisely.

Business.—Further consideration of the Report of the Committee on Medical Education.

BALTHAZAR FOSTER, M.D., } *Honorary Secretaries.*
JAMES SAWYER, M.D., }

Birmingham, November 19th, 1874.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH: PATHOLOGICAL AND CLINICAL SECTION.

THE next meeting of the above Section will be held at the Midland Institute, on Friday, November 27th, at Three o'clock.

VINCENT JACKSON, } *Honorary Secretaries.*
ROBERT JOLLY, }

Birmingham, November 16th, 1874.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

THE second ordinary meeting of the session will be held at the York House, Bath, on Thursday evening, December 3rd, at 7.30 P.M.; F. MASON, Esq., President.

R. S. FOWLER, } *Honorary Secretaries.*
EDMUND C. BOARD, }

Bath, November 1874.

MIDLAND BRANCH.

THE next meeting of the above Branch will be held at Lincoln, on Friday, December 18th, at 7 P.M.; T. SYMPSON, Esq., President.

Members desirous of reading papers, are requested to communicate at once with C. HARRISON, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*

Lincoln, November 17th, 1874.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL.

AT a meeting of the Committee of Council, held at the Queen's Hotel, Birmingham, on Wednesday, November 4th, 1874—present, Mr. G. Southam (President of the Council), in the Chair; Dr. Falconer (Treasurer), Mr. Alfred Baker, Mr. E. C. Board, Mr. G. Callender, F.R.S., Dr. A. Carpenter, Dr. R. Farquharson, Dr. B. Foster, Dr. E. L. Fox (Clifton), Mr. R. Harrison, Mr. J. R. Humphreys, Mr. F. E. Manby, Mr. R. H. B. Nicholson, Dr. W. Procter (York), Dr. J. Sawyer, Dr. F. Sibson, F.R.S., Dr. A. B. Steele, Dr. W. F. Wade, Dr. A. T. H. Waters (Liverpool), Dr. E. Waters (Chester), Mr. C. G. Wheelhouse, and Dr. M. A. E. Wilkinson.

Resolved—That the Minutes of the Journal and Finance Committee of October 15th last be approved, and the recommendations carried into effect.

Resolved—That Messrs. Price, Holyland, and Waterhouse be appointed auditors for the year 1874.

Resolved—That the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th days of August, be recommended to the General Meeting of to-day as the date for the Annual Meeting, 1875.

Resolved—That there shall be three Addresses at the Annual Meeting in August next, viz., one in Medicine, one in Surgery, and one in Physiology.

Resolved—That Dr. Begbie be requested to give the Address in Medicine.

Resolved—That Professor Spence be requested to give the Address in Surgery.

Resolved—That Professor Rutherford be requested to give the Address in Physiology.

Resolved—That the Arrangement Committee consist of the President, the President-elect, the President of the Council, the Treasurer, Dr. A. P. Stewart, Dr. Sibson, F.R.S., Dr. Matthews Duncan, Dr. Waters (Chester), Professor Lister, Dr. Grainger Stewart, Professor MacLagan, Dr. Joseph Bell, and the Secretaries, Dr. Batty Tuke, Dr. McKendrick, and Mr. Bishop.

Resolved—That the Committee for reporting on Scientific Grants consist of ten members, viz., five members of the Committee of Council and five non-members of the Committee of Council, with the President of the Council and Treasurer as *ex officio* members.

Resolved—That Mr. Wheelhouse, Mr. Baker, Dr. Wade, Mr. Callender, F.R.S., and Dr. Sibson, F.R.S., be the five members of the Committee of Council.

Resolved—That the time for sending in applications for grants be extended to December 27th, 1875.

Read a letter from Dr. Blunt respecting a member.

Resolved—That Dr. Blunt be requested to place the matter before the Council of the Midland Branch, with a request that, if necessary, they report upon the same to the Committee of Council.

A letter from instrument-makers, asking that the exhibition of instruments be restricted to two days, was laid on the table.

Resolved—That the letter be referred to the Arrangement Committee.

Read correspondence from Dr. Blenkinsop upon the formation of a Branch at Bournemouth.

Resolved—That Bournemouth being in the district of the Southern Branch already formed, the members in Bournemouth, under the circumstances, be earnestly recommended, in the interests of the Association, to join the Southern Branch.

Read letter of Dr. Harrison, forwarding copy of proposed laws of the Midland Branch.

Resolved—That the proposed laws of the Midland Branch be approved and confirmed.

Read letter from Dr. Barnes, Honorary Secretary to the Cumberland and Westmorland Branch, proposing certain alterations of the laws, and to alter the name to the Border Counties Branch, and to include Dumfries, etc.

Resolved—That the proposed alterations and additions in the laws of the Cumberland and Westmorland Branch be approved and confirmed.

Read communication from Dr. Ogston, Honorary Secretary to the Aberdeen Branch.

Resolved—That Mr. Heckstall Smith, Dr. Alfred Carpenter, Dr. Sibson, and Dr. Farquharson, be a subcommittee to consider the communication from the Aberdeen Branch respecting Dr. MacQuibban's case, and the circumstances relating thereto, and report upon the same at their earliest convenience.

Resolved—That the consideration of the letters from the American Medical Association be postponed till the next meeting.

The General Secretary reported that a declaration had been issued by Mr. Christopher Heath against the editor for certain articles that had appeared in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

Sixty-six gentlemen were elected members.

SHROPSHIRE ETHICAL BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting was held in the assembly-room at the Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury, on Monday, October 5th, at 1 P.M.; W. A. DAVIES, Esq., President, in the Chair. The following resolutions were passed unanimously.

Minutes of General Meeting.—"That the minutes of the last general meeting be affirmed."

Vote of Thanks.—"That the cordial thanks of the meeting be given to the late President, Vice-Presidents, Council, Treasurer, and Honorary Secretary, for their valuable services during the past year."

Election of Officers.—"That Richard Wilding, Esq., be elected President; John Rider, Esq., and J. Sides Davies, Esq., Vice-Presidents; and the following gentlemen members of the Council for the ensuing year, in the place of those who retire by rotation or otherwise: S. Taylor Gwynn, M.D.; J. E. Mayer, M.D.; W. Parry, M.D.; Dr. Jukes Styrap; and W. Thursfield, M.D."

Representatives of the Branch in the General Council.—"That, in accordance with the eighth general law of the British Medical Association, W. A. Davies, Esq., Richard Wilding, Esq., J. R. Humphreys, Esq., and Dr. Jukes Styrap, be the representatives of the Branch in the General Council for the ensuing year; and that the President, W. A. Davies, Esq., be the Branch representative on the Parliamentary Committee."

The Medico-Chirurgical Tariffs.—"That the medico-chirurgical tariffs, which have been submitted to and discussed by the meeting (having also been previously circulated among the members for their consideration and emendations), be approved, and recommended for general use by the associates of the Branch."

Special Vote of Thanks to Dr. Styrap.—"That the most cordial thanks of the meeting be tendered to Dr. Styrap, on behalf of the Branch at large, for the thoughtful care he has bestowed on the revision of the medical tariffs, and for the valuable time that, in deference to the members' special request, he has devoted to the preparation of a tariff of surgical fees, which the meeting would simply but emphatically describe as a difficult problem (especially to a non-surgical practitioner like Dr. Styrap) ably solved; for which, and other zealous labours to promote the honour and true interests of the profession, the members again desire to record their grateful appreciation and acknowledgment."

A Vote of Thanks to the President closed the business proceedings of the meeting.

In consequence of the important and unavoidably long discussion—in which there was an entire accord of opinion—relative to the medico-chirurgical tariffs and preface thereto, various papers and reports of cases were necessarily deferred, and the dinner delayed much beyond the appointed hour—a source of regret to the President, as several of the country members had to leave by inconveniently early (but last) trains.

Dinner.—The dinner was served, as usual, in the ball-room, under the presidency of W. A. Davies, Esq., of Llanidloes. The band, consisting of nine instrumentalists, under the leadership of Mr. Appleby of Liverpool, were placed in the old card-room adjoining. During the dinner, and after each toast, appropriate selections, vocal and instrumental, from Auber, Balfe, Costa, Meyerbeer, Mendelssohn, Rossini, etc., were played by the band, and added not a little to the pleasures of a very enjoyable evening.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACTS.

SIR,—I am sure your Liverpool correspondent desired to be impartial in his report of the discussion on the Contagious Diseases Acts at our Medical Institution, contained in to-day's JOURNAL. I cannot help thinking he has been egregiously unsuccessful. He is evidently so strong an advocate for the Acts, that he can see only prurience and fanaticism in those who oppose them, and has a very poor idea of the intelligence of the hundred and eight medical men here who signed a protest against them.

My own main objection to the Acts arises from moral considerations. These, however, are unsuitable for discussion in a medical society, and the author of the paper most carefully excluded them. My impression was that, from a medical point of view, facts would be overwhelmingly in their favour; and I believe the author, when he entered on his labours, thought so too. The result of his examination into public records, the Reports of the Army and Navy Board, however, seemed to prove the very reverse. It was this result, and the steps by which he had arrived at it, that constituted the paper read to the meeting. The immense labour which had manifestly been undertaken, and the careful sifting, arrangement, and discrimination of the statistics, which the paper exhibited, even if they did not bring conviction, certainly deserved commendation and thanks, instead of the disparaging remarks, going almost as far as to the suggestion of disingenuousness, of your correspondent.

I differ from your correspondent as to the feeling of the meeting. It did not appear to me to be strongly in favour of the Acts. I think the majority was on the other side. One thing, however, is certain: no one attempted to grapple with the author's statistics, no one pointed out any fallacy in the methods he had pursued, though some seemed to feel considerable annoyance at the result arrived at. Mr. Acton was no exception. Your correspondent only sneers. I think he shows neither courtesy nor thoughtfulness in such remarks as these: "His (the author's) industry was rewarded by the triumphant evolution from these marvellous figures of a discovery which, for originality and ingenuity,

might almost vie with those of Harvey, Hunter, or Jenner; namely, that the contagious diseases among British soldiers and sailors possess some peculiar property which constitutes them an exception to all known laws of disease; inasmuch as their prevalence increases, and their virulence and mortality are aggravated, in a direct ratio with the extent to which they are subjected to remedial and preventive treatment." Now, sir, if the author's results are correctly deduced, without attempting to prove what your correspondent states, he does prove that treatment, hitherto supposed to be remedial and preventive, is not really so; and that, therefore, some other has to be devised before the boast of the advocates of the Acts can be sustained.

I am, etc., JAMES HAKES.

30, Hope Street, Liverpool, November 14th, 1874.

SIR,—I observe, in your JOURNAL of the 14th, a report from your Liverpool correspondent on the communication to the Liverpool Medical Institution of the substance of my "statement" on the Contagious Diseases Acts, prepared for the Home Secretary, in which your correspondent verges upon personality and the imputation of unworthy motives to me, and concludes with informing your readers that the purport of the paper was such a "marvellous evolution" of absurdity as he seems scarcely to have words to describe. As I have observed a report of a very different character in another medical journal, I enclose you a copy, and shall leave it to your own sense of justice and professional fairness to deal with the matter. As, however, your correspondent has endeavoured to make my communication appear an absurdity, I shall state, for the information of your readers, what I did really bring before the meeting; viz., an abstract of the Army and Navy Health Reports from 1860 to 1872. These were the only sources from which I derived my materials, except papers laid before Parliament. From these sources, I showed that venereal diseases of all kinds were rapidly abating for several years previous to the introduction of the Acts; that this improvement then received a check from which it has never recovered; that gonorrhœa has more than doubled in the Home and Mediterranean Stations in the Navy, and that venereal sores have doubled in the Mediterranean Station, since the Acts were in force; that gonorrhœa in the Army has steadily increased, and is now given up by the advocates of the Acts as a failure and not worth considering, although it has produced more than a third as much invaliding in the Navy during the last eleven years as primary and secondary syphilis; that there is no station in the world where the improvement in venereal sores has been so small as in the Home Station; that the average duration of disease is less in the unprotected than in the protected stations; and that disease has increased above 20 per cent. amongst the registered prostitutes, and deaths have more than doubled, since the Acts have been in force.

These are serious rather than absurd results; and, as you have in your possession the "statement" lately presented to the Home Secretary, in which they are proved in full, you are able to judge for yourself whether they are fairly proved or not.

I am, etc., J. BIRKBECK NEVINS, M.D.Lond.

Liverpool, November 16th, 1874.

** We have received the copy of Dr. Nevins's paper referred to above, and will carefully review it.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

APPOINTMENTS OF SUPERINTENDENT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH IN IRELAND.

COLGAN, Henry, L.R.C.S.I., appointed to the Kingstown Urban Sanitary District.
CRONIN, James D., M.D., appointed to the Queenstown Urban Sanitary District.
DALY, George W., M.D., appointed to the Dunshauglin Rural Sanitary District.
DAVIS, W. A., M.D., appointed to the Newry Rural Sanitary District.
DONOVAN, Daniel, jun., M.D., appointed to the Skibbereen Rural Sanitary District.
GAMBLE, Baptist, L.K.Q.C.P.I., appointed to the Enniskillen Rural Sanitary District.
GILLIGAN, Michael, M.D., appointed to the Edenderry Rural Sanitary District.
GILMORE, Samuel, L.R.C.P.Ed., appointed to the Castleblayney Rural Sanitary District.
GRAHAM, Baptist G., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed to the Irvinestown Rural Sanitary District.
GREENE, Wm., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed to the Urlingford Rural Sanitary District.
FALVEY, Francis J., L.R.C.P.Ed., appointed to the Tralee Urban Sanitary District.
FENTON, Wm. Francis, L.R.C.P.Ed., appointed to the Clogheen Rural Sanitary District.
HADDEN, Ed., L.K.Q.C.P.I., appointed to the Clonakilty Rural Sanitary District.
HARRISON, John, M.D., appointed to the Roscommon Rural Sanitary District.

at St. Bartholomew's. Dr. Rudge was a frequent and valued contributor to the various medical papers, and was one of the oldest members of the British Medical Association, in which he always took great interest.

HENRY GEORGE, L.S.A., KIRTON-IN-LINDSEY.

THE late Mr. Henry George was born at Lincoln in January, 1802, and received his education at the Grammar School in that city. He was apprenticed to the late Mr. George Foster, Surgeon of Kirton-in-Lindsey, and became a student at St. Bartholomew's Hospital when Abernethy was a teacher. After passing the apothecaries' examination, he practised for a short time at North Leverton in Nottinghamshire. At the request of his former master, Mr. Foster, he became his partner, and afterwards his successor. He was medical officer to the County House of Correction up to the time of its removal to Lincoln, and had held that appointment for more than forty years. On the Sunday previous to his death, he was attacked with diarrhoea, and during the night he suffered from dyspnoea; he appeared to be recovering from the consequent debility, but on Thursday, October 8th, about three o'clock A.M., he had an attack of apoplexy, and was never again sensible.

In his younger days, he was a good surgeon, performing successfully several important surgical operations, such as tying the external carotid.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

MR. HENRY POWER has been appointed Examiner for the Natural Sciences Tripos for the present year, in the place of Dr. Rutherford, resigned.

MEDICAL NEWS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, November 12th, 1874.

Baker, Benjamin Russell, Andover, Hants
Beaumont, William Marden, South Binsop, Oxford
Bevan, Adolphus, Rye Lane, Peckham
Cooke, Robert, Newport, Monmouth
Gwatkin, Owen, Grand Parade, Brighton
Rossiter, George Frederick, Taunton
Thompson, Harold, Beaumont Street, Oxford

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

Bruce, Peter, Middlesex Hospital
Gonsalves, Manuel Martinho, St. Mary's Hospital

ROYAL COLLEGES OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, EDINBURGH: Double Qualification.—The following gentlemen passed their first professional examination during the recent sittings of the examiners.

Patrick A. Riordan, Cloyne; William Frederick Bailey Eadon, Sheffield; Thomas Herbert Houghton, Lancashire; John Rodman, Kilmarnock; Henry Miller Shand, Aberdeenshire; William Thomas Livingstone Boulton, St. John's, New Brunswick; Daniel Birtwell, Clayton-le-Moors; Frederick Henry Worswick, Manchester; and Charles Henry Phillips, Manchester.

The following gentlemen passed their final examination, and were admitted L.R.C.P.E. and L.R.C.S.E.

Henry Pearde, Aix-la-Chapelle; John Hugh Maclean, Edinburgh; Patrick S. Lawrence O'Dea, County Galway; Clement Pollard, Taunton; William Joseph Atkinson, County Kildare; Thomas Gallimore, Ashwood, Longton; Brisbane Warren Large, Cork; Theobald Wolfe Tone Williams, London; Alexis Mac Auliffe, Cork; George Robert Gowlund, Sunderland; Harry Poord Clark, Farnham; James Campbell Gray, Finvoy; Timothy Daly, Crookstown; James Grant, Calthness; James Aitchison, Newcastle-on-Tyne; James Fisher Anderson, County Armagh; William M'Intyre, St. Andrew's; and Frank Angiere Greville, Clifton, Bristol.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, EDINBURGH.—The following gentlemen passed their first professional examination during the recent sittings of the examiners.

William Fearnley, West Hardwick, Pontefract; Charles Gibson, Newcastle-on-Tyne; H. B. Kiermander, Calcutta; and Andrew Pypier, Edinburgh.

The following gentlemen passed their final examination, and were admitted L.R.C.S.E.

Martin Francis Cleary, Nenagh; Ludlow Tonson Colthurst, Cork; Joseph John Lamprey, Dublin; and Robert Bryden Hill, Kent.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE DISTRICT INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon: £80 per annum, board and residence. Applications on or before December 14th.

BUCKINGHAM UNION—Medical Officer for No. 3 District: £105 per annum.
CASTLEBAR DISTRICT LUNATIC ASYLUM—Resident Medical Superintendent.

CITY OF LONDON UNION WORKHOUSE—Resident Medical Officer.

COOKHAM UNION—Medical Officer for Bray District: £160 per annum.

CORK FEVER HOSPITAL—Physician.

CROOM DISPENSARY and WORKHOUSE—Apothecary: £30 and £20 per annum.

DERBYSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY—Assistant House-Surgeon. No salary, but apartments, board, and washing. Applications, not later than 21st instant, to Mr. Samuel Whitaker, 4, Victoria Street, Derby.

EXETER DISPENSARY—Surgeon.

FROME UNION—Medical Officer for No. 3 District. £75 per annum.

HACKNEY UNION INFIRMARY—Resident Medical Officer: £200 per annum, board and lodging. Applications 24th instant.

HUDDERSFIELD INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon: £80 first year, £90 second year, and £100 third year, with board and washing. Applications on or before 23rd instant.

KENT LUNATIC ASYLUM, Barming Heath—Resident Medical Officer.

LEICESTER, Borough of—Public Analyst: £80 per annum. Applications on or before 25th instant.

LEXDEN and WINSTREE UNION—Medical Officer for No. 2 District: £36 per annum.

LOUTH UNION—Medical Officer for Hanton District: £8 per annum.

MALTON DISPENSARY—Medical Officer: £100 per annum. Applications to Mr. H. Pickering, Honorary Secretary.

MARKET BOSWORTH UNION—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Desford District: £30 per annum, and extras. Applications, on or before 24th instant, to T. B. Fitch, Clerk, Congerstone, Atherstone.

NEWPORT PAGNELL UNION—Medical Officer for Workhouse and No. 12 District: £100 per annum, and extras.

OAKHAM RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT—Medical Officer of Health: £60 per annum.

QUEEN'S HOSPITAL, Birmingham—Resident Secretary and General Superintendent (unmarried): £150 per annum, board, and lodging. Applications, 25th instant, to the Chairman of the House Committee.

RIPON DISPENSARY and HOUSE OF RECOVERY—Resident Medical Officer: £100 per annum, furnished apartments, etc. Applications on or before 26th instant.

ROSS UNION—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Rural District of St. Weonards: £76:10 per annum, and fees. Applications on or before 23rd instant.

RYDE DISPENSARY—Physician.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL—Assistant Physician.

ST. JAMES'S, Westminster—Medical Officer of Health: £200 per annum.

SALISBURY INFIRMARY—Physician.

STEPNEY UNION INFIRMARY—Surgeon: £160 per annum.

SHEFFIELD PUBLIC HOSPITAL and DISPENSARY—Surgeon. Applications to Honorary Secretary on or before 27th instant.

TORPHINS in the Parish of Kincardine O'Neil, Aberdeenshire—Parochial Medical Officer: £45 per annum. Applications to Chairman of Parochial Board.

TRINITY COLLEGE, Dublin—Professor of Chemistry: £500 per annum, and fees. Applications to the Rev. Dr. Haughton, Trinity College.

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—Lecturer on Anatomy, Lecturer on Medical Jurisprudence, and Lecturer on Botany. Applications not later than 21st inst.

WESTERN GENERAL DISPENSARY, Marylebone Road—Physician. Applications to the Secretary on or before 23rd instant.

WIRRAL HOSPITAL and DISPENSARY FOR SICK CHILDREN, Birkenhead—Acting Medical Officer.

WORCESTER UNION—Medical Officer: £65 per annum.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

DUSTAN, Henry, M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Jersey General Dispensary, *vice* E. G. Archer, M.R.C.S. Eng., resigned.

GREENFIELD, W. S., M.B., appointed Demonstrator of Morbid Anatomy at St. Thomas's Hospital, and Lecturer on Morbid Anatomy and Practical Pathology in the Medical School.

HERMAN, G. E., M.R.C.S., appointed Resident Medical Officer to Bethnal Green Workhouse Infirmary.

SCOTT, John M., L.R.C.P. Ed., appointed House-Surgeon to the Lancaster Infirmary, *vice* W. Preston, M.B., resigned.

SMITH, Thomas B., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed House-Surgeon to the Bridgnorth Infirmary.

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.

BIRTH.

HEDLEY.—At Prospect Hotel, Harrogate, on the 19th ult., the wife of John Hedley, Esq., Yester House, Middlesbrough-on-Tees, of a daughter.

BEQUESTS.—By the will of the late Mr. George Vaughan, of Westbourne Terrace, the following legacies, free of duty, have been made to medical charities, on the decease of his widow: to St. Thomas's Hospital, £1,000; and to the London Hospital, the Middlesex Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital, the Orthopaedic Hospital, the Royal Hospital for Incurables, the Ophthalmic Hospital, the Charing Cross Hospital, the Idiot Asylum (Earlswood), the Surrey Dispensary, the Smallpox Hospital, the Consumption Hospital, the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution, and the Great Northern Hospital, £500 each.

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.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.	—Medical Society of London, 8 P.M. Dr. Thorowgood, "On Gastric Vertigo"; Dr. Leonard Sedgwick, "A Case of Pulmonary Extravasation"; Dr. T. S. Dowse, "Some Points of Clinical and Pathological interest in an Obscure Case of Blood-poisoning".
TUESDAY.	—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30 P.M. Mr. G. G. Gascoyen, "Cases of Syphilitic Re-injection, with Remarks".
WEDNESDAY	—Hunterian Society, 8 P.M. Dr. Barnes, "A specimen of Solidified Fat drawn from a Cyst by the Aspirator"; Mr. Adams, "A Case of Gunshot-wound of the Abdomen"; Dr. Daldy, "On Fever".
FRIDAY.	—Clinical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Poore will show a patient with Paralysis of the Serratus Magnus; Mr. Hulke, "Notes of a Cure of Poisoning by Chloral"; Mr. H. Lee, "Case of Tumour removed by Elastic Ligature"; Dr. R. J. Lee, "Notes of a rare form of Cutaneous Disease in a Child".—Quekett Microscopical Club, 8 P.M. Mr. John E. Ingpen, "On Personal Equation, with reference to Microscopy".

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, 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, 36, Great Queen Street, W.C.

CANDIDÉ ET CONSTANER.—The address of the National Vaccine Establishment is 3, Parliament Street, London, S.W.

M.R.C.P.—A Fellow or Member of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh has no legal claim to the title of Dr.

THE DISCUSSION ON CHOLERA IN THE ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

SIR,—In the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for November 7th, I find in a letter from Mr. A. R. Hall the following statement.

"In my reply, I pointed out that the circumstance which first induced me to write on the subject, in 1869, was the circulation of a number of questions, one of which was, 'Does collapse depend upon paralysis of the sympathetic nerve?' I said that I was aware many writers had held this view; but the whole object of my paper was to prove that the collapse depended principally on irritation and hyperactivity of the sympathetic system. I am not aware that any one brought forward this theory before myself."

In reply to this, I beg to enclose the following extract from a paper of mine in the number of the *Dublin Quarterly Journal of Medical Science* for August 1867, p. 70.

"When we look at the symptoms and morbid pathology of cholera, and study the able treatises of authors of large experience and research, it would seem that conflicting opinions can only be reconciled by putting together some of the views of the writers on both sides, and assuming that the blood-poison produces a highly polarised condition of the ganglionic nervous centres, easily excited by the reflex action of some gastro-intestinal irritant into producing spasm of the muscular walls of the pulmonary and systemic minute arteries, imprisoning the blood within the veins, which are seen, on post mortem examination, to be filled or distended with black blood."

I am, etc., W. JACKSON CUMMINS, M.D.,
Physician to the Cork South Infirmary and County Hospital.

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

MR. J. H. GORNALL (Warrington).—The rule (taken in its literal sense) includes holders of medical degrees from any of the Universities, and of diplomas from any of the Colleges, in Great Britain and Ireland.

MR. LITTLE (Aylsham).—Medical men fully qualified and in practice will not be called upon to pass additional examinations in the event of the formation of a conjoint examining board.

PAGE BOYS.—Dr. E. W. Moore, a medical man in the suburbs, was recently summoned before the magistrate at the Hammersmith Police Court, at the instance of the Excise, for employing a male servant without having taken out a license, the servant being merely a page-boy in livery. The magistrate ruled that Dr. Moore was liable to a penalty, and inflicted the mitigated fine of £5.

THE CASE OF MRS. LEWIS.

SIR,—I have much pleasure in enclosing the additional list of donations to the case of Mrs. Lewis. I am, etc., D. DE BERDT HOVELL.

Five Houses, Clapton, Middlesex, E., November 14th, 1874.

	£	s.	d.
Anon.	..	..	1 1 0
Gardner, W. H., Esq.	..	..	1 1 0
Baker, W. Morant, Esq.	..	..	2 2 0
Sankey, W. H., M.D.	..	..	1 1 0
Davies, Herbert, M.D.	..	..	1 1 0
Fry, Frederick, Esq., Maidstone	..	..	5 5 0
Rogers, F. L., M.D.	..	..	0 10 0
Lynch, J. Roche, Esq.	..	..	0 10 0
Winsor, —, Esq.	..	..	1 1 0
Hatherley, —, Esq.	..	..	0 10 0
Dale, G. C., Esq.	..	..	0 10 6
Forman, E. Baxter, Esq.	..	..	0 10 0
	15	2	6

Total amount 50 17 0

THE ASHLEY FUND.

SIR,—I beg to thank you for having kindly inserted in your issue of the 7th November the appeal to the profession on behalf of the widow and ten children of the late Dr. W. H. Ashley. Will you allow me to acknowledge the following additional contributions. I am, etc., ED. HART VINEN.

No. 17, Chepstow Villas, Bayswater, Nov. 16th, 1874.

Sir William Jenner, Bart.	..	..	£5 0 0
Sir William Gull, Bart.	..	..	5 0 0
Sir J. Cordy Burrows	..	..	2 2 0
Dr. Quain	..	..	3 3 0
Joseph Smith, Esq., Notting Hill	..	..	3 3 0
Gerald Tinson, Esq., Sandown	..	..	2 2 0
A Friend	..	..	3 0 0
J. T. Penhall, Esq., St. Leonard's	..	..	5 5 0
Frank Godfrey, Esq., Connah's Quay	..	..	0 10 6
W. H. Manifold, Esq., Liverpool	..	..	1 1 0
Dr. R. Payne Cotton	..	..	1 1 0
J. Roche Lynch, Esq.	..	..	1 1 0
Dr. Satchell, Kew	..	..	2 2 0
Dr. Bull, Hereford	..	..	2 2 0
"A Friend", by Dr. C. Swabey Smith	..	..	5 0 0
S. Smith, Esq., Redding	..	..	3 0 0
J. S. Mould, Esq.	..	..	2 2 0
Dr. E. Nash	..	..	5 5 0
Mrs. J. C. Morice	..	..	1 1 0
Miss Frost	..	..	1 0 0
Miss E. Frost	..	..	1 0 0
John Marriott, Esq., Kibworth	..	..	2 2 0

PUERPERAL INFECTION.

SIR,—I find that in midwifery practice, those who attend such cases are generally credited with the liability to communicate puerperal fever to their other lying-in patients, during one month in the case of medical men, and three months in the case of midwives, after which arbitrary terms it is considered that they may respectively resume their practice with impunity, on the ground that the exposure to fresh air alone purifies them sufficiently. That the latter are supposed to wear about three times the amount of clothing that the former do, may account for this peculiar distinction. In general practice, medical men who attend scarlet and other highly infectious fevers, are not generally credited with the liability to communicate them so readily to their patients; but the clothes worn by the patient himself are for many months a source of infection, unless they be specially disinfected by means to which obstetricians never think of subjecting their clothes.

That attendance upon midwifery cases may be safely resumed after a certain interval, but that no special interval is commonly considered necessary after attendance upon scarlet fever, etc., seems to me to give force to the question, whether puerperal fever really is communicated by the practitioner's clothes, or by some other means, such as by the hands of the operator, which, being repeatedly brought into contact with the structures involved, are often so fouled that frequent washing cannot free them from the smell, due solely to contamination, sometimes for two or three days, during which time one may have as many cases. I think this subject is worth consideration. I am, etc., G. S. S.

Ledbury, October 31st, 1874.

P.S. While on midwifery matters, let me add a word on the subject of the induction of premature labour. When celerity is not so much an object as safety, it is surely sufficient to rupture the membranes, using the dilator only when labour is found to be unduly delayed, so as to make up for the want of the natural dilating action of the entire amnion. But when time is short, is it not best to use the dilator first, and artificially rupture the membranes only when, by their toughness, they hinder the process of labour? By such means one gets the combined advantage of the artificial and of the natural even-surfaced dilator, which must certainly expedite the case more than the use of one alone. Of course, advantage must be taken of ergot, if its use be indicated.

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, 36, Great Queen Street, W.C., and not to the Editor.

MEDICAL DEGREES AND TITLES.

SIR,—There must be some real or fancied superiority and advantage to medical men in being called "Dr.," or else why do men, at much increased cost—and study, too, in most cases—proceed to that degree of M.D., while some, on the other hand, already with the double qualification, go to Edinburgh and elsewhere for the L.R.C.P. for no other conceivable purpose than to proclaim a little professional pre-eminence in the eyes of the public (women, notably) to show or gain some advantage over their brother-practitioners, dropping the plain and honest "Mr." and conspicuously displaying the at least questionable title of "Dr.?" All this is very unfair, both to the legitimate holders of M.D. and to the already doubly qualified men, too proud and too honourable to adopt such measures and to assume *quasi* titles. In the town in which I live, the men who most largely and extensively, by door- and wall-plates, etc., display the "Dr.," are L.R.C.P. men, and are the most tender and tenacious about the title; and yet I know such doctors as have already placed their names down on the St. Andrew's list, to bide their year and time when they can obtain the coveted letters, which should alone and only legally give the title of Dr.; and I have heard of one gentleman who, on the L.R.C.P., always called himself Dr., when, on really taking the M.D. some time afterwards, he strongly and stoutly denied and disallowed the title of Doctor to all such as who, like himself, in quondam days, were not graduates of an University. Again, is it not a great injustice likewise to the numerous Bachelors of Medicine—of London, Edinburgh, etc.—who are distinctly enjoined not to call themselves Doctors, though clearly they, by courtesy, are so, and, having a degree in medicine, are much more entitled to be called Drs. than mere Licentiates in Medicine can be? And the practice also lead to the custom of M.B.s calling themselves Drs., in self-defence, as two have said to me, "I am more entitled to be called Dr., surely, than Mr. —, a L.R.C.P., and I certainly shall not put Mr. on my door while my near neighbour calls himself Dr."

If a man wish to call himself, and be called legally, Dr., let him do as I have been obliged to do—take out an extra year of medical study over and above that required for College and Hall, pay the extra fees and pass the extra examination, or obtain the degree of M.D. in any legitimate way after examination, and then all will be right. If any L.R.C.P. can rightly call himself Dr., then I and hundreds of others have thrown away time, and money, and mental energy, etc., by working up for and taking the M.D.

I quite agree with your correspondent, "L.R.C.P.E.": "The public, however, settles the value of a man, not by his title, even though it be M.D., and frequently places very far in advance (and rightly, too) the L.R.C.S., or the L.S.A." Exactly; so say I. Then why need men, so very questionable, to say the least, call themselves Doctors? A man may be a fool, and yet have a title: be only Mr., and yet be a most wise and learned man, above any titled one, and envying none; yet the wise man would never adopt a title to which he had no claim.

I will only, in conclusion, add that, instead of a mere one or two hours' examination in two or three subjects, which I underwent at College and Hall—as much, certainly, as is exacted for the L.R.C.P. Edin.—I had to work for and pass both written and oral examinations in thirteen subjects, not to name classics, etc., and writing a thesis, before I could sign myself,

October, 1874.

M.D. Edin.

Many conscientious men, I know, are deterred from taking the L.R.C.P. Edin. because they learn officially that they have no right to the title of Dr.

SIR,—I am very glad to see that the subject of the M.D. degree has again been mooted. It has long appeared to many of us who passed through our curriculum in the large medical schools, and under the heads of the profession in the metropolises, that a distinction is denied to us which is obtained almost as a matter of course by students attending classes in such comparatively small spheres of professional study as the towns of St. Andrew's and Aberdeen. Are not the opportunities of gaining a sound theoretical and practical knowledge of the healing art, and of acquiring skill in its application, which are afforded at Guy's or St. Bartholomew's, far superior to those enjoyed by gentlemen whose horizon has been bounded by the limits of the schools and hospitals of these northern towns? Why does not the University of Durham initiate a more liberal scheme, and accept certificates of hospital attendance and lectures from the London schools, as it already does from that of Newcastle? Perhaps a numerous signed petition to the University might have some effect. There are many of us who, since leaving the hospital, have conscientiously striven to maintain our knowledge at something like the level of the times: many of us could prove that we have worked hard at anatomy, etc., and give the branches of the "internal maxillary," or of "Meckel's," as glibly as when we passed our "first" at the college, besides carefully studying the best new works on pathology, therapeutics, etc. I trust that the matter may not be allowed to drop, but that one of the universities may be again induced to stamp official approbation upon faithful and earnest work.

Enclosing my card,

I am, etc.,

RUSTICUS EXPECTANS.

SIR,—It seems to me, from the tone of the various letters which I have read in the MEDICAL JOURNAL and in other professional papers, that the question resolves itself into one of filthy lucre, and not of honour. I agree with L.R.C.P.E. that medical men ought to endeavour to gain celebrity more by their talents than their titles. There is no doubt, however, that only those holding the degree of Doctor have any right to the title; but, at the same time, the words Doctor and Physician are synonymous amongst the general community, and any practitioner exhibiting the letter on his doorplate is soon dubbed Doctor. Thus he falls into the habit of having himself announced as Doctor at private and professional visits—*ergo*, he must, to be consistent, write himself so, and thus that miserable bit of paste-board becomes a *casus belli*.

It is becoming very much the fashion to omit any prefix to the name on visiting-cards. By adopting this style, Licentiates might avoid the anomalous "Mr." without incurring the susceptibilities of their neighbours. Thus:

"J. Wilberforce Smith, Physician,"

would look very neat, and would ensure the title of Doctor without its assumption. My own private opinion, however, is, that "medical man" and "doctor" have become, through habit, convertible terms, and every one qualified as physician and surgeon should be called "doctor." In the meantime, I agree with "Cosmopolitan," that university residence should be abolished, and thus the real article could be obtained by every practitioner possessing the normal amount of brains.

November, 1874.

I am, etc.,

PAX.

SIR,—Will "Cosmopolitan" kindly say at what foreign university he obtained his degree of M.D., as I am a Licentiate of a College of Physicians, and would gladly undergo an examination by any respectable foreign university to obtain the degree, provided a residence be not required. At the same time, I beg to submit to the consideration of those gentlemen who say that Licentiates have no right to use the prefix of "Dr.," the text of the diploma of the King and Queen's College, and the answer of the College to queries regarding the same.

November 2nd, 1874.

I am, etc.,

HUGO.

(Copy.)

"We, the President and Fellows of the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland, having duly and deliberately examined A. B. in the principles and practice of medicine, and in the accessory sciences, and having found him well versed therein, do by these presents grant him a licence to practise in the faculty of physic, and do hereby certify that he has obtained, and is hereby entitled to, the title of 'Doctor of Medicine' and the qualification of Licentiate of said College. In testimony whereof, we hereunto subscribe our names and affix our common seal at the College Hall, in Dublin, etc."

(Copy.)

"King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland, College Hall, Kildare Street, Dublin.

"Sir,—In reply to your queries, I beg to inform you that a full report of the decision of the Master of the Rolls, in 'Re Trinity College v. College of Physicians', will be found in the Dublin morning papers of the 27th April, 1864, to the effect that this College has not the power to grant the degree of M.D., but in no way affecting the right of its Licentiates to the usual prefix of 'Doctor'.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, J. M. FINNY, M.D., Registrar, etc."

SIR,—The assumption of the title of "Dr." by Licentiates of the various Colleges of Physicians of this kingdom is so opposed to the general feeling of the profession, that I venture to say that the only defenders of such a course are those who are directly interested in its use. It is certain that the whole body of general practitioners who do not possess the diploma are averse to the persons who hold it styling themselves "Dr.," and it is also a fact that the graduates of medicine feel indignantly on the point. The London College, whose diploma is most valued as being a really high class one, refuses to allow its Licentiates to make use of such a title; and it is to the Edinburgh College we must chiefly look as the authoriser of the assumption. Your correspondent "Cosmopolitan" has, in my opinion, arrived at the real explanation of the subject, when he says that it arises from the doors of the Universities being practically barred against the entry of the general practitioner of this country. It is very well for many to say that if a man have refused the opportunities afforded him during his student days of graduating, he must take the consequences afterwards when he is in practice; but see how many things there are to prevent his doing so at that time. He may be, and commonly is, totally careless of the matter; or, on the other hand, he may, through press of time or circumstances, be compelled to take two or three diplomas within his reach, and then go to practise what he has learnt. But all this does not prevent his becoming very highly educated in his profession by an after prolonged course of study; and yet, practically, however well up he may be hereafter, he is debarred from obtaining a degree, because he is either unable to leave his practice for a year or two, or is not highly enough qualified in general subjects to get through the matriculation and preliminary scientific examinations of the University of London. The degrees of this University are quite out of the reach of any but those who have given four or five years' undivided attention to study; and I think all will admit that this is quite impossible to the general practitioner.

I am no sympathiser with those who assume the title, for I hold it to be quite unfair for any person to pretend to be what he is not; and certainly the inference drawn by the general public from its use, is that the user is a Doctor of Medicine. I have often been asked if "Dr." So-and-so is not a Doctor of Medicine, and, on my answering "No", have been asked on what grounds he calls himself by a name which would signify that he is. I never refrain from ridiculing his pretensions, for I am one of the many who hold that "by no right, nor colour like to right" does he use the distinction.

But, sir, I really think the ordinary members of the profession have a fair case against the Universities. Why should not some of them be empowered to grant degrees to men of ten or fifteen years' standing in the profession, and this without limit as to numbers, if only the candidates could pass a fair examination in subjects connected with their profession? It is manifestly unfair to expect men to go all over their school-days again, and to compel them to turn their attention to the grammar and rudiments of Greek and Latin: for, after all, it is to be reasonably concluded that men who would be so well educated in their profession as to be able to obtain the degree, would not be ill educated in other subjects. But also, by the limitation as to age, those who applied for it would be likely to have already made their mark in the town in which they practised. I think the Council of the Association, representing as it does the general practitioners more fully than any other body, and having the interests of the profession most thoroughly at heart, should stir in the matter and endeavour to make some arrangement with the Universities. If they sent out a paper to each member of the Association, asking his opinion on the subject, a very fair idea of the feeling in the matter would be got at.

I am, etc.,

A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—The agitation commenced in your columns has done considerable service in bringing into public notice the number of qualified medical men who are in need of medical degrees, and who are willing to return any intellectual equivalent and pay reasonable fees for the honour that they seek. The matter should not be allowed to rest until the reasonable demand of obtaining them, by learning and examination alone (apart from any vexatious restrictions of residence, or age, or growing infirmity), should be conceded to them. The demand is so reasonable, that it may be expressed in a few words thus. One or more of the universities of this kingdom should admit to examination registered practitioners possessing two qualifications of five or ten years' standing, who have attained a respectable position, and are of unsullied reputation. The examination might be thoroughly rigid and testing in every way; and surely the ripened experience, observation, and reading of such men would be more than equivalent to one or two years' residence in one's youth at an university. In my own case, I have been reading, studying, and observing for sixteen years since I have been admitted into the profession; and to say nothing of the extensive practice which I have seen, and am daily seeing, I am quite sure that my knowledge and skill have increased some hundreds per cent. Since I left the medical schools: besides, since then, practice has been completely revolutionised, and if I had not continued a student, I should by this time have become rusty and useless: and I may go on for years, and toil after a hard day's work, to keep pace with advancing science, and yet, shame to say, there is not an university open to me in this kingdom to stamp me and give me credit for my conscientious toil.

There are scores of British graduates who obtained their degrees thirty or forty years ago, when medical science was in its infancy, who have never read or kept pace with science since, and whose opinion is consequently of little value. These are never called into question; whilst the foreign graduate of to-day, up to the best period of medical science, is refused registration, and looked upon with horror: and it may become a very important question, both for the profession and the public, whether a degree should not die out, or become extinct after a number of years, unless its possessor passed an additional examination at the end (say) of every ten years, to show that he has kept pace with the progress of his art, whilst at the same time every encouragement should be made to registered men to keep pace with scientific progress by granting degrees to them by examination alone, without residence, at the seat of the University. Unless something of this kind be done, foreign graduation will become general. Men will use the degree thus obtained; they cannot be prevented from doing so, and thus there will be established customs which ultimately become laws: foreign degrees will be recognised where the holders have also British diplomas; and the British Universities, persistently and blindly refusing to comply with the legitimate and equitable demands of the age, will become obsolete.

I doubt whether a petition to the Northern Lights would be different from the passage of the "idle winds which they regard not"; and it may be a question whether they have the power, without legislative authority, to comply with the petition if even they had the will. At any rate, I call upon them publicly for a response; and, in the absence of compliance with our legitimate demand, there will be a splendid opportunity for one of the foreign universities of scientific reputation to set up a board of examiners in London, who will give to registered practitioners a degree after five or ten years' standing, on a searching examination, thesis, and clinical tests, and thus meet a national want. I am, etc.,

November 1874.

COSMOPOLITAN.

A HINT FOR THE TREATMENT OF SPERMATORRHOEA.

SIR,—In the spring of 1867 I was consulted by a gentleman, of the age of 32, under the following circumstances. He had been married three months. He was in good health, well formed, and muscular. The sexual desire was very feeble; there was no erection, and he had not been able to have connexion with his wife. There were no nocturnal emissions. Before marriage, he had been strictly continent. The genitals were normal and well developed. He was wearing a double truss, the pads of which were well applied to the external ring and pressed on the cords. In boyhood, he had an inguinal hernia of the right side, for which the double truss was then ordered, and he had worn it carefully ever since. I could find no trace of the rupture, nor had he seen anything of it for two or three years. I suspected that the pressure on the cord checked the passage of the seminal fluid along the duct to the seminal vesicle, and had gradually caused more or less complete suspension of the secretion in the testicle, or its absorption there. I advised him to remove the truss, to watch carefully for the reappearance of the rupture, and to wait patiently for the manifestation of sexual desire and power. He was not disappointed, for these were slowly but steadily developed, and in about six weeks he was able to have intercourse. As time went on, the improvement became complete, and he is now the father of three children.

This case suggested to me the employment of the double truss in the treatment of spermatorrhoea; and I have used it in several cases with signal advantage. The mention of one of these cases will suffice. It was that of a young man, aged 27, of a spare habit of body and highly nervous temperament. From the age of twenty to twenty-four he had indulged, but very moderately, in sexual intercourse, and had not had any sexual disorder. About this time he began to suffer from irritable dyspepsia and constipation, and ever since had been severely troubled with these ailments; and, in connection with them, nocturnal emissions had been manifested. These now occurred every second or third night, often more frequently, which exhausted him greatly, and rendered his life miserable.

Along with other means for the dyspepsia, constipation, and general health, I directed the use of the double truss, so as to exercise a gentle pressure on the cords both night and day. Improvement was quickly manifested: the emissions recurred with less and less frequency, and after a few months showed themselves only at intervals of one or two weeks; the general health likewise improved steadily. He wore the truss for about a year; and, though still delicate, has continued since to enjoy fair general health and freedom from spermatorrhoea.

I believe that in this case the spermatorrhoea was the result of the dyspepsia and constipation, conjoined with a highly nervous temperament; the undue frequency of seminal emissions, in their turn, intensifying the nervous exhaustion, and aggravating the functional disorder of stomach and bowels—a vicious circle, which embittered the life of the unhappy patient.

This has been the usual feature of the cases which have come under my care, and I have less experience of the ailment occurring in healthy young men in connection with disease of the urethra; but in these cases I have no doubt that the double truss would help very materially in the cure of the disorder. The pressure of the truss should be quite gentle; and, thus applied, there is abundant evidence to show that permanent impairment of sexual vigour need not be apprehended.

November 1874.

I am, etc.,

A. F.

THE LATE DR. LANKESTER.

SIR,—In the biographies of the late lamented Dr. Lankester, an important matter is omitted that had a great influence on his career, for it fully accounts for "his not laying himself out for practice," and for his being "shut out" as physician to St. Mary's Hospital. This, according to the orthodox system of election, after his rejection at the London College of Physicians, was a matter of course.

At this important crisis, when we are bound "hand and foot" to the corporations by means of an unrepresentative Medical Council, a brief recital of the circumstances, as published by himself, after his rejection in 1847, in a pamphlet now before me, cannot fail to be useful and instructive. I give a brief outline of the occurrence, as related in the above named pamphlet.

Dr. Lankester was distinguished for great industry and talent: he had obtained honours in ten of the classes at University College, and had contributed numerous papers to the medical journals. Dr. Lankester passed the examination for the extra license at the College of Physicians in 1847, and in 1847 he presented himself to be examined for the license, believing that, as he was a member of the College, and had passed one examination, he would only be called upon to answer practical questions. The doctor, however, was rejected; and the most amusing part of the affair was, that one of the examiners whom he supposed to have a great share in his rejection, had six years before given him the following certificate. "I can fully testify to his competency to fill the office of physician to a London dis-

pensary with credit to himself and much advantage to the objects of the institution." Dr. Lankester, who lectured on *Materia Medica*, was also examined by a rival lecturer on this subject (Parliamentary Evidence, 1847). The subjoined is from Dr. Lankester's pamphlet.

"If I were a young man who had only had the five years' study which the College requires, I might consistently have been sent back for a year; but what must be thought of the value of the College examination which supposes that the knowledge it requires may be got up in twelve months, but could not be gained by eighteen years of hard study and diligent observation? At the same time, however, I am not ignorant of the fact, that there are gentlemen in London who in less than a year would engage to prepare me, as they have done hundreds of other members of the College, in such a manner as to insure my passing their examinations. I have never, however, condescended to the practice of cramming in the four examinations that I had previously submitted to and passed. I conscientiously regard myself at this moment as fitted to practise my profession; and if the College examinations are of a nature rather to test the schoolboy's qualifications, which may be got up by a cram, than those which have been gained by reading and experience at the bedside, I can only express my regret that public confidence should have been given to examinations which every member of the College must feel are not worthy of it."

Believing, sir, that this rejection at the London College of Physicians had much influence on his after career, and believing, also, that, under the circumstances named, it redounded rather to his credit than to his disgrace, I ask you to insert this letter. I am, etc.,

EDWARDS CRISP.

No. 29, Beaufort Street, Chelsea, Nov. 10th, 1874.

INJURIOUS DYES.

R. M. J. asks where he can obtain information as to injurious dyes, the symptoms which they produce, and the chemical processes by which they are to be detected.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Birmingham Daily Gazette, Nov. 16th; 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; The Northern Daily Express; The Eastern Daily Press; The Western Daily Mercury; The Ulster General Advertiser; The Brighton Examiner; The Lincolnshire Chronicle; The Melbourne Argus; The Isle of Wight Observer; The Accrington Times; The Leighton Buzzard Observer; The Lincolnshire Chronicle; The Daily Telegraph; The Durham Chronicle; The Halifax Evening Reporter; The Elgin Courier; The Sheffield Daily Telegraph; The Hampshire Telegraph; The Sheffield and Rotherham Independent; The Standard; The Portsmouth Times; The Armagh Guardian; The Morpeth Herald; The Bradford Observer; The Stroud News and Gloucestershire Advertiser; The Glasgow Herald; The Liverpool Mercury; The Liverpool Porcupine; The Scotsman; The Hackney Express; The Bedale and Northallerton Times; The Broad Arrow; The Surrey Advertiser; The Sussex Coast Mercury; The Ulster Advertiser; etc.

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

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

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* This extra license enabled him to practise as a physician seven miles out of London, but not within the sacred circle.