

prepared to acknowledge residence at a London hospital where many of the lecturers and physicians are graduates of Cambridge, Oxford, London, or Edinburgh. (Probably the graduates of the two latter Universities might not be acknowledged.) If the University has thrown open her examination in one branch of medicine, why not in all? In opening her arms to receive candidates in State Medicine, does she not really acknowledge as satisfactory the former residence of candidates at the great medical schools of London and elsewhere?

I would in conclusion remark, that I consider it would be greatly to the advantage of the profession generally if the various licensing boards would at once and for ever give up their preliminary examinations, and depend entirely on the Universities for the Arts examination. Until this is done, I cannot see that at present much chance exists for raising the real educational standard of the profession. English, Scotch, and Irish Universities should be compelled to adopt a minimum and maximum standard.—I am, etc.,
M.R.C.P. EDIN.

THE REPRESENTATION OF THE UNIVERSITIES OF GLASGOW AND ABERDEEN.

SIR,—On the last day of the meeting of Parliament, and just before the sitting came to a close, the Lord Advocate, Mr. Gordon, on presenting a petition from the Council of the Poor-Law Medical Officers' Association in favour of the Scotch Poor Bill, stated that, though the exigencies of public business had compelled the withdrawal of the Bill, it was his intention, in the next Session, to reintroduce the measure; and that, at any rate, he should endeavour to carry the clauses relating to medical relief.

I see now by the public journals that, Mr. Gordon having been made a judge, his seat has become vacant; and already another lawyer has announced himself as a candidate. Now, I believe I am correct in stating that the majority of the electors of the Universities of Glasgow and Aberdeen are medical graduates. Surely, if they were to put forward a candidate, they might secure the seat; and this procedure is most important just now, for not only is the chance of getting any amendment of Scotch Poor-law medical relief rendered very small indeed, but our just claim to higher consideration from the several public departments with which we are connected is rendered very difficult of attainment, even if not too frequently wholly disregarded, by the fact that we have no one specially deputed to look after our interests in Parliament. To instance one case, can it be supposed that such unjust treatment as that to which Mr. John Simon was exposed, which not only led to his resignation, and thereby the loss to the community of his valuable public services, would ever have been permitted, if we had had some distinct representative, on whom we could rely, to question and expose the conduct of the department towards him?

There are, however, many other questions with which the interests of the profession are largely associated, which would be materially advanced, could we secure this seat in Parliament for one of ourselves.—I am, sir, yours, etc.,
JOSEPH ROGERS.

Dean Street, Soho, September 12th, 1876.

* * * We earnestly commend Dr. Rogers's remarks to the members of the Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities, who will have to perform the duty of electing a successor to Mr. Gordon. It is in the highest degree important that they should use energetic endeavours to secure the election of a Member who will understand and support the interests of the medical profession in conjunction with those of the public.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH.

THE autumnal meeting of this Branch will be held at the Coatham Hotel, Coatham, on Thursday, September 21st, at 2.30 P.M.

Dr. Foss will exhibit, under the microscope, some human hair affected with trichorexis nodosa.

The following papers have been promised.

1. Mr. Paxton: Notes upon Provident Dispensaries (so called) in connection with the Registration of Disease.

2. Dr. Gibson: On the Obstructive Agency of Nosological Definitions.

3. Dr. Philipson: On Carcinoma Hepatis.

Gentlemen who are desirous of reading papers or making other communications, are requested to give notice to the Secretary.

Dinner at the Coatham Hotel at 4.30 P.M. Charge, exclusive of wine, seven shillings and sixpence.

G. H. PHILIPSON, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Sept. 13th, 1876.

SHROPSHIRE AND MID-WALES BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury, on Tuesday, September 26th, 1876, at 1.30 P.M.: S. TAYLEUR GWYNN, M.D., President, in the Chair.

The following papers and communications have been promised.

1. Dr. Andrew: On the Hypodermic Injection of Morphia in Hæmoptysis.

2. Dr. Andrew: On the Operation for Cataract, with a Patient.

3. Dr. Andrew: On the Relative Value of Chloroform, Bichloride of Methylene, and Ether, as Anæsthetics.

4. Dr. Stowers: On the Administration of Chloroform as an Anæsthetic.

5. Dr. W. Thursfield: On the Cause of Endemic Ascaris Lumbricoides.

6. Dr. Alfred Eddowes: Case of Alarming Symptoms under Ether.

7. Dr. Eddowes will also show a new Axillary Air-Pad.

Dinner at 4.30 P.M. Charge, 7s. 6d., exclusive of wine.

Gentlemen intending to read papers, or to be present at the dinner, are requested to communicate at once with the Honorary Secretary.

HENRY NELSON EDWARDS, *Honorary Secretary*.

Shrewsbury, September 12th, 1876.

SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SUSSEX DISTRICT MEETINGS.

THE next meeting of the above District will be held at the Fox Inn, Three Bridges Junction, on Wednesday, September 27th, at 3 o'clock P.M.; T. H. MARTIN, Esq., of Crawley, in the Chair.

Dinner will be provided at 5 o'clock, at the usual charge.

Papers are promised by the Chairman, also by T. Smith, Esq. Notice of intended communications is requested by the Secretary on or before Tuesday, the 19th instant, in order that they may be inserted in the circular convening the meeting.

THOMAS TROLLOPE, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.

35, Marina, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sept. 12th, 1876.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH.

THE next meeting of this Branch will be held at Caerphilly, on Thursday, September 28th, 1876.

Further particulars will appear in the circulars.

ANDREW DAVIES, M.D. } *Honorary Secretaries*.
ALFRED SHEEN, M.D. }

September 6th, 1876.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

VACCINATION.—Mr. J. Prior Purvis, Public Vaccinator for Greenwich, has received a grant (the third) of £49:13 from the Local Government Board, for efficient Vaccination.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD, AND SECESSION FROM COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICTS.

AT the last meeting of the Solihull Rural Sanitary Authority, a discussion took place with reference to an important correspondence with the Local Government Board on the subject of the appointment of a medical officer of health. It appears that, for some reason, the Board of Guardians of Solihull, acting as the rural sanitary authority for the Union, were desirous to secede from the Warwickshire Combined Sanitary District, and to appoint a local practitioner as their medical officer of health; and had, by their clerk, reported their decision to the Local Government Board. The Local Government Board expressed regret that the Solihull authority should be indisposed voluntarily to continue in combination with the other authorities; and stated that, in consequence of this decision, the Board had had to consider the formation of an united district, pursuant to Section 286 of the Public Health Act of 1875. It was stated to be very expedient that the combination should continue, with a view to the further joint appointment of a "medical officer of health not engaged in practice, and who possessed special qualifications for the post". It was further pointed out that, under the proposed arrangement, the Solihull authority would only be called upon to pay £64 *per annum* as their share of the £800 to be paid as salary to the medical officer of health, thus exceeding by but

the exigencies of climate and allied causes, and where the purchasing power of money is diminished from 30 to 40 per cent., as compared with England.—I am, sir, faithfully yours, N. S.

NAVAL MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

BIDDULPH, Surgeon R. W., to the *Terror*.
 BIRD, Surgeon R. G., to the *Hercules*.
 WILLIAMS, Surgeon Robert W., to the *Excellent*.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

SANITARY SCIENCE CERTIFICATES.—The next examination for Sanitary Science Certificates by the University of Cambridge will be—in Part I, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 3rd and 4th October; and in Part II, on Thursday and Friday, the 5th and 6th October. These examinations are open to those whose names are on the *Medical Register* of the United Kingdom, whether members of the University or not. Candidates must send their applications for admission to the next examinations, on or before September 19th, to Professor Livinge, Cambridge.

OBITUARY.

JOHN ROBERTON, L.R.C.S.Ed.

MR. ROBERTON, formerly of Manchester, died at his residence, New Mills, Derbyshire, on August 24th, in the eightieth year of his age. He was born near Hamilton, Lanarkshire, in 1797. He obtained his diploma as surgeon at Edinburgh in 1817, after an education there and in Glasgow. Almost immediately afterwards, he went to Liverpool, in the hope of obtaining an appointment as surgeon to a ship bound for a long voyage. His introduction to some members of the Society of Friends determined him, however, to settle in practice at Warrington, where he speedily obtained a high local reputation. He subsequently married the daughter of the late David Bellhouse, senior, of Manchester, and, by the advice of his friends, removed to that city, where in a very short time he obtained one of the largest provincial practices. Mr. Roberton was a most diligent worker in obstetric medicine; and his labours, along with those of Dr. Radford and Dr. Whitehead, have given to Manchester a high position in the annals of that department of practice. Mr. Roberton's chief communications to obstetric medicine were his extensive inquiries on the subject of menstruation in various countries, his original remarks on secondary puerperal hæmorrhage, and his advocacy of the long forceps now in general use. The subject of hospital construction also occupied much of his attention. For many years, Mr. Roberton threw himself heart and soul into every philanthropic endeavour to ameliorate the condition of the working classes. The shortening of the then excessive hours of labour, the removal of the taxes on bread, and other kindred matters, occupied a large portion of his time. Mr. Roberton was not only a public supporter of such measures, but his private charities were as numerous as unostentatious.

GEORGE WEBSTER ABSOLON, M.D., L.R.C.S.E.

DR. ABSOLON died at his residence, Southview, Perth, on Friday, July 7th, at the early age of 50. He was born at Usan, near Montrose, in 1826, and received his elementary education at the Montrose Academy. In 1840, he was apprenticed to Dr. Guthrie of Brechin; and in 1844 he proceeded to the University of Edinburgh to study medicine. After a diligent career of four years, he graduated in 1848, and next year commenced practice at Bridge of Earn, where he remained till he went to Perth in 1853. Few were better known in the city and county, and his death has removed one of the leading practitioners. His natural dexterity, and the solid training he received under Mr. Syme, made him a most skilful and successful operator in surgical cases; and he had a fair field in his extensive general practice and in his long connection with the Infirmary of Perth. His handsome face and figure, and the genial urbanity which always characterised him, made him a great favourite with all classes of the community; and this esteem was further increased by the high professional tone which made him uniformly oblivious of remuneration, and only careful of the patient and the success of the case. On his removal to Perth, he was appointed District Surgeon to the Infirmary, and shortly afterwards Surgeon to the Royal Perthshire Rifles (Militia). On the retirement of his old and valued friend, the late Dr. Fraser Thomson, he

was in 1864 appointed Visiting Surgeon to the Infirmary, and, on the expiry of his term of office, Honorary Consulting Physician. He also held the appointments of Inspecting Medical Officer under the Factory Acts, and Consulting Physician to the County Asylum. Some years ago, his health began to fail; and, with the view to diminish the harassing labours of general practice, he sought and obtained the appointment of Surgeon to the General Prison for Scotland at Perth. This and the foregoing appointments he held till his death; and it will be difficult to find one so eminently qualified for them, or so justly esteemed by all with whom he came into contact. He has left a widow and young family.

MEDICAL NEWS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, September 7th, 1876.

Chavasse, Thomas Frederick, Birmingham
 Wagstaff, John Philip, Marlborough Road, Dalston

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

Taylor, Frank, Bristol Medical School

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

COTON HILL INSTITUTION—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, etc. Applications to Dr. Hewetson.

EDMONTON UNION—District Medical Officer. Salary, £25 per annum. Applications on or before September 18th.

HEWAHETA, Island of Ceylon—Medical Officer. Salary, 5000 rupees per annum. Applications to the Committee, Gonyay Deltota, Ceylon.

HULL GENERAL INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £105 per annum. Applications on or before October 1st.

KENT COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £120 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications on or before September 26th.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL—Assistant-Physician. Applications on or before September 18th.

PAISLEY INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications on or before September 21st.

ST. LEONARD'S, Shoreditch—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £120 per annum. Applications on or before September 18th.

SALISBURY INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, etc. Applications on or before September 21st.

WESTMINSTER GENERAL DISPENSARY—Honorary Physician. Applications on or before September 25th.

WOLVERHAMPTON AND STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL—Assistant to the House-Surgeon. Lodgings and board will be provided. Applications to be made on or before September 18th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

BOLTON, Wm., M.D., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Ipswich Borough Asylum.

DYSON, Wm., M.D., appointed Lecturer on Physiology at the Sheffield School of Medicine.

FAIRBANK, F. Royston, M.D., appointed Surgeon to the Duncaster General Infirmary, *vice* Francis C. Fairbank, M.R.C.S., deceased.

FROST, W. A., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed House-Surgeon to the North Staffordshire Infirmary, *vice* W. Walter, M.B., resigned.

JUMEAUX, Benjamin, L.R.C.P. Ed., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Newark Hospital, *vice* R. F. Quinton, M.D., resigned.

MCDOWIE, A. M., M.B., appointed House-Physician to the North Staffordshire Infirmary, *vice* B. Jumeaux, L.R.C.P. Ed., resigned.

PRIDEAUX, J. Engledeue P., L.S.A., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Small-Pox Hospital, Derby.

UPTON, Alfred, M.R.C.S., appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Brighton and Hove Dispensary.

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.

ROWLAND.—On September 7th, at Malvern Wells, the wife of *H. Mortimer Rowland, M.D., of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

PRINS—LEAN.—On July 15th, at St. Peter's, Riccarton, New Zealand, by the Rev. F. A. Hare, Henry Horsford Prins, M.R.C.S.E., third son of the late Dr. John Theobald Prins of Ceylon, to Emily Constance, eldest daughter of Alexander Lean, of Christchurch, Canterbury, New Zealand.

BEQUESTS.—The Rev. Charles B. Elliott, late Rector of Lattingstone, Norfolk, has bequeathed £1000 to the East Suffolk Hospital at Ipswich.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAYMetropolitan 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.

TUESDAYGuy'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.

THURSDAYSt. 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.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.—St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department), 3 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.—Guy's, 1.30 P.M.

SATURDAYSt. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 9.30 A.M. and 1.30 P.M.—Royal Free, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

FRIDAY.—Quekett Microscopical Club (University College, Gower Street), 8 P.M. Ordinary Meeting.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

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.

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*.

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.

It is particularly requested that, during the month of September, communications for "The Editor of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL" be so addressed, and not to any person by name.

OBSTINATE VOMITING IN PREGNANCY.

SIR,—Will you allow me, through the medium of your valuable columns, to ask for some suggestions with a view to the cure of persistent vomiting? The facts are as follows.

Mrs. X. suspects that she is three months in the family way, and has been married only a few months. Before marriage, she was troubled with pertussis, from which she has recovered. Her age is 27. Her constitution is delicate, and she is of nervous disposition, with a tendency to hysteria. The bowels are regular. Vomiting is persistent, though abating at times somewhat; it has been as often as thirteen times a day, with violent retching. Until lately, the sickness more resembled pyrosis; but recently it has been more grumous, at times gelatinous, and at others a light bilious fluid. Food is ejected soon after administration. The patient has but recently come from the country.

I ought to have mentioned a pain existing at the epigastrium; but no tenderness on pressure there or in the bowels.

As remedies, I have tried trisnitrate of bismuth, hydrocyanic acid, bicarbonate of soda, Schacht's liquor bismuthi, nitrate of silver in pill, creasote in pill, pills of oxide of zinc with morphia, effervescing mixtures with hydrocyanic acid; and now, dilute sulphuric acid with disulphate of quinine, in sheer desperation. (Can any of your readers give their experience of oxalate of cerium, and the doses?) I have also ordered ice, champagne, brandy, soda-water, milk and lime-water, soda and milk, oysters, fish, Liebig's extractum carnis, thin beef-tea, cocoa; in fact, I am puzzled to know how to sustain the strength.—Yours respectfully, September 11th, 1876. QUÆRENS.

M.B.—Mr. Lennox Browne's book on Australia for the Consumptive was published by Hardwicke, Piccadilly; price 5 shillings.

PERSONATION AT EXAMINATIONS.

SIR,—Will you allow me space in your JOURNAL to propose a plan by which the frauds practised by impersonation at medical examinations may be prevented? My plan is, that all examining boards shall insist upon each candidate sending, at the time he sends his fees (prior to examination), his photograph, certified on the back to be a true one by a magistrate and a minister of religion: if need be, also his height, complexion, etc., should be stated. With such a system, there could be no such frauds as have lately been discovered in connection with some of our examining boards.—I am, sir, yours truly, M.D.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.—Advertisements for insertion in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, should be forwarded direct to the Publishing Office, 36, Great Queen Street, W.C., addressed to Mr. FOWKE, not later than *Thursday*, twelve o'clock.

WATER-FILTERS.

SIR,—In answer to the inquiry as to the best filter for domestic purposes, I beg to state that, after careful examination of the filters in general use, and by analysis of the water after filtration, I have come to the decided opinion that the filters of the Silicated Carbon Filter Company, Battersea, are the best if not the only reliable filters I have seen. These filters are constructed so that the solid matter deposited on the filtering medium can be easily cleansed away. Mr. Wanklyn informed me he considered them to be the best filters made. The old-fashioned filters, composed of sponge, sand, and charcoal, are almost valueless. They scarcely produce any effect on water, except straining it: and the sponge is very objectionable, as it not only decomposes after continued use, but forms a nidus for worms and animalcules. These filters are injurious after some months' use. I have analysed water from some of these charcoal and sponge-filters, and have found the same water to contain less organic matter *before* filtration than *after*. The employment of the silicated carbon filter may be safely recommended.—I am, yours truly,

W. THOMSON, M.D., Medical Officer of Health, Peterborough.

Peterborough, September 4th, 1876.

W. F. S.—I. An union medical officer is not compelled to allow a medical officer of health to inspect his district medical relief book at regular intervals; but the union medical officer should, as a matter of courtesy, give the medical officer of health every reasonable assistance in obtaining information regarding the diseases of the district. 2. The proper and usual pronunciation of the word is umbilical.

A CURIOUS CASE OF SEXUAL DEFORMITY.

SIR,—A few weeks ago, a woman brought me her child, aged 5 months, to ask if something could be done for it; "for the child was a boy, she was sure, but if he lived, he would always have to make water like a girl, as he did now." On examination, I found the following state of things.

The penis was of normal size, curved downwards; the glans uncovered, and exhibiting two minute slits, one on each side of the median line; rudimentary urethra. Behind the glans, which could be slightly raised, there was apparently no corpus spongiosum. This curved penis divided the scrotum equally into two sacs, as it were. In the right one, a testis could be felt; and the mother said that in the left also she had felt a testicle. The sac was sufficiently evident; but there was no testicle when I examined the patient. The lower border of the divided scrotum was on a level just above the glans penis. Immediately below the glans, a little to the right of the median line, was the urethral orifice. An elastic catheter passed apparently about two inches before reaching the bladder. In a corresponding position to the left of the median line was a fleshy patch, of the size of a shilling-piece, in which, however, no orifice could be found. The child was well formed otherwise.—I am, etc., G. C. FRANKLIN, F.R.C.S.

Leicester, September 1876.

S. H. (Manchester) should consult a physician personally.

QUERIES RESPECTING MIDWIFERY ENGAGEMENTS.

SIR,—Will you kindly favour me with a reply to the queries in the following case? I was engaged to attend a Mrs. T. in her confinement in June last. I went from home in August, leaving a doubly qualified gentleman as my *locum tenens*. During my absence, Mrs. T. was taken in labour, and my *locum tenens* called and saw her; but as there was no occasion to remain, he returned home. A short time afterwards, the husband of the lady called to express his annoyance at my being from home, and to say that he would get some other medical man himself. When I returned, I ascertained that a neighbour of mine had attended the case and kept it.

Can I recover my fee in this case, the engagement being for June? Was my neighbour's conduct correct in a professional sense? Your replies will oblige, yours faithfully, A MEMBER.

* * 1. Our correspondent can, we think, recover a fee, provided that he can show that his *locum tenens* was efficient for the management of obstetric cases.

2. There are not sufficient data to enable us to judge the conduct of the practitioner who took charge of the case; but his duty was obviously only to take it in deference to the strongly expressed wish of the patient's husband, and to report the occurrence to our correspondent on his return.

MR. C. W. DREW (Loughborough).—We think that it would be legal for a person who has had scarlet fever, in whom desquamation has entirely ceased, and in regard to whom all precautions as to disinfecting both person and clothes have been taken, to be removed without information of the illness being given.

CHANGES OF PRESENTATION IN LABOUR.

SIR,—Having met with the following case in the course of our practice, and believing that it presents some features of interest, we venture to hope that it may merit a space in your columns.

Mrs. M., aged 24, a primipara, was confined on Friday, July 21st. Labour commenced at 10.30 P.M. on Thursday, and terminated at 9 o'clock on the following morning, by the birth of a female child. On our arrival, at 3 A.M., the pains, which we were informed had previously been regular and strong, became few and weak, and continued so till near the termination of the labour. On examination *per vaginam*, the passages were found to be narrow and tender, and the os dilated to about the size of a shilling, or rather larger. Through the membranes, the fore part of the sagittal suture was felt anteriorly, and the vertex recognised as the presenting part. The subsequent pains were feeble, yet the os continued to dilate, till it was finally obliterated. Then the membranes ruptured, and examination at this stage showed that the face was the presenting part, and not the vertex, as at the beginning of the labour. The position of parts was as follows: Face in the left oblique diameter of the pelvis; chin anteriorly, and to the right of the symphysis pubis; forehead behind and to the left of the middle line. For three hours following the commencement of the second stage matters remained in this condition, with but little advance of the face, the pains being inefficient and infrequent. At the expiration of this period, examination revealed another change—viz., that the vertex was again presenting. The case having now become one of vertex presentation, labour advanced more rapidly; and at nine o'clock, about eleven hours from its commencement, the child was born, the head and body being expelled by one pain.—I am, etc.,

Edinburgh, August 1st, 1876.

X. Y.

THE FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF GLASGOW.

SIR,—Be good enough to inform me if a person holding the qualification of L.F.P. & S.Glas. only, is entitled to claim medical as well as surgical fees in a debt court.—I am, etc., D. Y.

. The Licence of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow is a qualification to practise *surgery*. The holder can recover surgical fees only.

A SINGULAR CASE.

SIR,—The case described by "Inquirens" is one of "neurosis". A somewhat similar case yielded to the following treatment: a blister over the seat of pain, afterwards treated with belladonna ointment, freely rubbed in, and at the same time phosphorus and strychnia in pills (Kirby's) three times a day. I had the advantage of seeing my case shortly after the outbreak of the complaint. "Inquirens'" case will be more difficult of cure, owing to the time it has lasted; in his case, medical treatment must be accompanied by change of air, relaxation from business, careful attention to diet, security for good sleep, prevention of fatigue, etc.—Yours, etc., FRANK L. STEPHENSON, M.D.

Bradninch, Devon, August 26th, 1876.

SIR,—The case alluded to by "Inquirens" resembles closely, in most of its details, one which occurred to me some fifteen years ago in Egypt, and in which marked relief followed the use of bromide of potassium with Battley's liquor cinchonæ. Had subcutaneous injection been in use in those days, I should probably have commenced the treatment by administering morphia or atropine in that way. The pain, which exceeded in intensity, while it lasted, almost any species of bodily suffering I have ever witnessed, came on quite suddenly, and was not attended with fever. I always supposed the spleen to be the seat of the affection, a supposition which became a conviction when, some eighteen months afterwards, the patient died of another malady, and I had an opportunity of examining that viscus. It was found adherent throughout to the surrounding organs, and when the species of false cyst thus formed was cut into, the contents literally flowed out—a mass of disorganised erectile tissue of the consistence of thick pease-soup. In this case, the patient had suffered much from long continued and severe gouty rheumatism, aggravated by exposure, hardships, and intemperate habits, none of which are alluded to by "Inquirens" in his case.—I am, sir, faithfully yours, J. F. O.

Norwood, August 29th, 1876.

SIR,—An identical case, except that the pain was on the right side, to that described by your correspondent Inquirens, came under my observation a few years ago. My patient, a lead miner, aged 30, suffered, as Inquirens describes, for three years, when he died of phthisis. At the *post mortem* examination, the cause of the pain was anxiously looked for; and, on opening the right kidney, a calculus, the size of a small filbert, was found in its pelvis. This, doubtless, had been the cause of his great suffering, and which nothing but opiates would relieve. Stone in the kidney never having been suspected, his urine was not examined; neither to my knowledge did he ever have hæmaturia.

The above, I trust, will be of some value to Inquirens in coming to a diagnosis in his case.—I am, sir, yours truly, W. M. RENTON, M.D. Edin., etc.

Shotley Bridge, co. Durham, August 31st, 1876.

If the patient of "Inquirens" will wear habitually a firm broad riding-belt, and take a teaspoonful of freshly made mustard with every meal, he will probably prevent his intermittent neuralgic affection.—T. K. C.

DEAF-MUTISM NOT HEREDITARY.

SIR,—The question of "hereditary predisposition" is always a most interesting one, both from a physiological and social point of view. The following case, in which the children have *not* "taken after" the parents, is, I think, well worthy of record.

A patient of mine, aged about 50, is perfectly deaf, and though not absolutely dumb, his power of articulation is most extremely defective. His wife is quite deaf and dumb, and yet the three children of the marriage have the full possession of the gifts of speech and hearing. Two sisters of the woman are also deaf and dumb, but their parents are in possession of these senses. In each case the deaf-mutism has been congenital.

I offer no remarks, except these: (1) on the one hand, has not too much stress been laid upon "hereditary predisposition"? or (2) are these cases which I have mentioned above, the "exception which proves the rule"?—Yours faithfully, W. L'HEUREUX BLENKARNE.

Buckingham, August 1876.

DR. H. FITZSIMONS of York writes to us that he was not the author of the letter on Filters, purporting to be signed by him, which appeared in the JOURNAL of September and.

WHAT IS THE USE OF BEING REGISTERED?

SIR,—I beg to submit my case to you, and to ask your opinion upon the treatment I have received.

Some few days back, I applied for the post of house-surgeon to a county hospital. In the advertisement, diplomas were required to be sent; but, instead of sending those documents, I sent the registration-certificate of my three qualifications, together with testimonials from some of the leading authorities of the day. The answer to my application was, that the Committee of Management could not entertain my application to be placed on the list of candidates, my diplomas not being presented.

I cannot help feeling that being registered is utterly useless. Either the certificate is wrongly worded, or Committees of Management content themselves with seeing the diplomas, and not knowing whether their candidates are registered or not, in preference to seeing a certificate which both sets forth the qualifications and shows that the candidate has conformed with the law and is registered.

I would ask if it is customary to send diplomas (which might be lost or destroyed, either of which would be a serious matter to any man), or whether county hospitals, as a rule, accept the certificate of registration.

I enclose my card, and am, sir, yours, etc.,

August 30th, 1876. M.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P. LONDON, L.S.A.

. We believe that it is customary to send diplomas when the advertisement states that they must be produced; and we do not remember hearing of an instance in which they have been lost when so sent. Our correspondent should have complied with the strict letter of the instructions. The Medical Act exempts the holders of appointments in institutions "wholly supported by voluntary contributions" from the necessity of being registered.

DISEASE OF THE BONES IN THE INSANE.

SIR,—*Après* of your leader on the maltreatment of lunatics by attendants, and Dr. Davey's remarks in last week's JOURNAL, I may mention the case of an insane patient who received a fall, being pushed, as was alleged, by another patient. He died in about a fortnight after the accident, being unable to leave his bed in the interval; and the coroner ordered a *post mortem* examination and held an inquest. Two ribs had the appearance of being recently fractured; but several others on the same side looked as if the subjects of former fracture. This led one to suppose that the two recently injured had been in the same condition before the accident. Where the ribs were originally broken did not, however, appear in evidence, but from the fact that those on the opposite side broke down easily under digital pressure, appearing to have lost both lime-salts and elasticity, the natural conclusion is that the fractures were a result of the patient's condition. In addition to this state of the ribs, a large cyst was found in the right kidney, and several small calculi in the bladder. The symptoms preceding death were uræmic, and the verdict of the jury was: "Death from inflammation of the bladder and kidneys, accelerated by a fracture of the ribs caused by a fall, but how such fall was caused there was no evidence to prove." In the above, as in Mr. Wimberley's case, we see the value of making *post mortem* examinations of deceased lunatics.—I remain, your obedient servant.

Birmingham, August 28th, 1876.

ALEX. M'COOK WEIR, M.D., etc.,

ERRATUM.—In the notice of St. Mary's Hospital at page 347 of last week's JOURNAL, the statement that the extra Natural Science Scholarship is restricted to pupils of Epsom College should have been omitted, the scholarship being open.

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Birmingham Daily Post; The Leeds Mercury; The Glasgow Herald; The Manchester Courier; The Hull News; The Hastings and St. Leonard's Independent; The Nottingham Daily Guardian; The Worcester Chronicle; The Islington Gazette; The Bolton Weekly Journal; The Brighton Examiner; The Hastings and St. Leonard's Observer; The Metropolitan; The Whitehall Review; The Yorkshire Post; The Bromsgrove, Droitwich, and Redditch Weekly Messenger; The Redditch Indicator; The Cambrian; The Bristol Daily Times; The Southport Daily News; The Jewish World; The Cork Constitution; The Broad Arrow; The Allahabad Pioneer; The Sussex Daily News; The Harrogate Herald; The Dumfries and Galloway Standard; The Glasgow News; etc.

. We shall be greatly obliged if correspondents forwarding newspapers will kindly mark the passages to which it is desired to direct attention.

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

Dr. George Johnson, London; Mr. J. P. Purvis, Greenwich; Mr. Brimmer, Penge; Dr. Fitzsimons, York; Mr. A. A. Cuthbert, Glasgow; Mr. F. A. Southam, Manchester; Mr. Leeds, Sheffield; Dr. Grimshaw, Dublin; Dr. J. Milner Fothergill, London; Dr. Bradbury, Cambridge; The Registrar-General of England; Mr. T. Holmes, London; Dr. Edis, London; Dr. Tripe, Hackney; Mr. G. Eastes, London; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; Mr. S. S. Alford, London; Volunteer Surgeon; Dr. Goolden, London; Quæstor; Mr. Lennox Browne, London; Dr. Tuckwell, Oxford; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Mr. M. A. Morris, Gooler; Mr. E. Johnson, London; Dr. Joseph Rogers, London; M.R.C.S. Eng.; Dr. Dowse, Highgate; Mr. J. Bainbridge, Harrogate; Mr. E. Prideaux, Derby; Mr. Annington, Cambridge; Mr. G. Bainbridge, Dhulia, Khandeish; Mr. G. H. Tilley, Coventry; Mr. A. H. Martin, Evesham; Mr. G. D. Brown, Ealing; Dr. J. P. Cassells, Glasgow; Mr. R. Doyne, Wrexham; Mr. W. D. Husband, York; Dr. Chadwick, Tunbridge Wells; Mr. J. F. Blake, London; Mr. J. H. Porter, Netley; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Mr. W. D. James, Hull; Dr. Ashburton Thompson, London; Our Dublin Correspondent; M.D.; Dr. Mackey, Birmingham; Dr. D. M. Brunton, Paisley; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Dr. John Cross, London; Dr. H. M. Rowland, Malvern Wells; Dr. Charteris, Glasgow; Dr. A. B. Shepherd, London; Mr. C. T. Kingzett, Glasgow; Dr. Trollope, St. Leonards-on-Sea; Dr. R. Bruce, Edinburgh; Dr. Collie, Homerton; Dr. Fairbank, Doncaster; Mr. C. W. Drew, Woodhouse Eaves; Miss Nelson, Esher; Dr. Philipson, Newcastle-on-Tyne; W. F. S.; Dr. R. Scott, Halifax; Mr. C. Hartley, Lynton; Dr. J. Wallace, Cork; Dr. Asher, London; Mr. McReddie, Walthamstow; Mr. A. B. R. Myers, London; Mr. R. Goodall, Silverdale; Mr. Chienne, Edinburgh; Mr. G. Mockett, St. Ives; Dr. W. Millar, Madras; Dr. J. W. Miller, Dundee; Mr. E. P. Hardey, Hull; Mr. J. Barker, Birmingham; Dr. Berkart, London; Dr. J. C. Phillips, Jamaica; Mr. H. N. Edwards, Shrewsbury; Dr. Smith, Dumfries; Dr. L. Colborne, Weston-super-Mare; Dr. F. Ransom, Sunderland; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

- A Manual of Percussion and Auscultation. By Austin Flint, M.D. J. and A. Churchill. 1876.
- The Collateral Circulation in Aneurism. Report of the Successful Ligation of the Innominate, the Common Carotid, the Vertebral, and the Internal Mammary Arteries, in a case of Right Subclavian Aneurism. By A. W. Smyth, M.D. New Orleans: 1876.
- Surgical Observations on Gunshot-Wounds of the Hip-Joint. By B. von Langenbeck. Translated by James F. West, F.R.C.S., etc. Birmingham: White and Pike. 1876.
- Sopra il Caso Particolare di Morte Apparente dell' Ultimo Stadio del Colera Asiatico. Appendice alla Memoria sulla Respirazione Artificiale. Del Prof. Filippo Pacini. Firenze: 1876.
- Di Alcuni Pregiudizi in Medicina Legale. Memoria del Prof. Filippo Pacini. Seconda Edizione. Firenze: 1876.
- Cyclopædia of the Practice of Medicine. Edited by Dr. H. von Ziemssen. Vol. ii. London: Sampson Low and Co. 1876.
- Plumbing and House Drainage. By William Paton Buchan. London: Crosby, Lockwood, and Co. 1876.