

selves, then will we entrust our wives and children to their care. The men who lead, and have led, the branch of science which they claim have been giants in the land. Let them show that they can fill the places of Simpson, of Barnes, of Leishman, of Tyler Smith, before we admit that they can. The proof is with them. And let them not be deceived; if they take that branch of the profession into their own hands, they must hold it: they must take the place of its giants as well as of its dwarfs.

IV. "Tens of millions of Hindoo women." The most ignorant, debased, and lascivious race on the face of the earth is called to give witness of the impropriety of men attending women!

V. The argument, founded on drapers'-assistants following a *mechanical* employment, is not tenable, and does not apply to the case in point.

VI. "The works of God are not unclean." Alas! it is not with God's work that the surgeon too frequently has to do. Are those crimes which we read of in our works of medical jurisprudence, and which we dare not name, are they God's works which ladies may look on? Are those subjects treated of (as Mr. Hutchinson remarks) by Acton, are they God's works, and fit for ladies' ears?

In conclusion, I take the argument which "Philaethes" has put into my mouth: To the pure all things are pure; it is only the unchaste, the impure, the lascivious who can find harm in the ministrations of a medical man.—I am, sir, faithfully yours,

A. H.

REPRESENTATION OF THE UNIVERSITIES OF GLASGOW AND ABERDEEN.

SIR.—In the JOURNAL of September 16th is an appeal by Dr. Joseph Rogers for the election of a medical representative for the above constituency. I do not know who may be the coming medical candidate, or what may be his political creed. In the abstract, the return of a member of the profession of good standing, and holding moderate opinions, would justly command itself to virtually the whole medical portion of the constituency; but I cannot help feeling that, in the present instance, Dr. Rogers has not sufficiently weighed the probable influence of such a return upon the cause he has so much at heart, and with a reference to which he prefaces his letter, that, namely, of the amendment of Scotch Poor-law medical relief. Without a doubt, the Solicitor-General, Mr. Watson, will be appointed Lord Advocate; having at present no seat in Parliament, he will be a candidate for the representation of the universities, and, if returned, will endeavour to redeem Lord-Advocate Gordon's pledge as to the reform of the Scotch Poor-law, for the clamant need of which I need only refer to the case of the Barnhill Poorhouse, as quoted and commented on in the last number of the JOURNAL. Being a member of the Government, and having charge of the Scotch business, his chance of success will be very good. But what hope would there be of so much being accomplished by any medical man who might manage to secure the seat, no matter how greatly he might have the cause at heart, or how high might be his social or professional standing? I fear the answer must be, Very little; perhaps, rather, none at all. If, then, the medical graduates of the two universities would really wish to improve the position of their brethren in the Scotch Poor-law Medical Service, and thus also add to the status of the profession at large, I am afraid they must once more consent to send a lawyer as their representative to Parliament. In Mr. Watson they would find one in whose hands the honour of the universities might safely be trusted, seeing he will not only be a prominent member of the Government, but is already, by the voice of his brethren, the leader of the bar.

I am, sir, yours obediently,

A SCOTCH POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICER.

*** We are unable to agree with this view of the case, since we believe that the Bill in question is brought in as a Governmental measure, and its fate will not be influenced by the choice of this constituency. On the other hand, the presence of a medical representative in the House from Scotland might prove of material advantage to the Poor-Law medical officers when the Bill is reintroduced. The Bill is backed by Sir Stafford Northcote and Mr. W. H. Smith.

THE Chesterfield Board of Guardians have, upon the recommendation of a committee, increased the salary of Mr. Bluett, the medical officer of the workhouse, from £37 10s. to £60 per annum. The committee, upon comparing Mr. Bluett's salary with others in adjacent unions, found that he was very much underpaid, his salary having been the same for thirty years.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

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. TAYLOR 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 Haemoptysis.
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 Anaesthetics.
4. Dr. Stowers: On the Administration of Chloroform as an Anaesthetic.
5. Dr. W. Thursfield: On the Cause of Endemic Ascaris Lumbrioides.
6. Dr. Alfred Eddowes: Case of Alarming Symptoms under Ether.
7. Dr. Eddowes will also show a new Axillary Air-Pad.
8. Thomas Law Webb, Esq.: On the Treatment of Enlarged Bursae.

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.

EAST YORK AND NORTH LINCOLN BRANCH.

THE autumnal meeting will be held at the Royal Hotel, Grimsby, on Wednesday, September 27th, 1876, at 2.30 P.M.; Mr. KEETLEY, the President, in the Chair.

The following papers and cases are promised.

1. Mr. Keetley: Case of Hemiplegia, from Gunshot-wound of the Brain. Removal of Bullet five weeks afterwards. Recovery.
2. Mr. R. H. B. Nicholson: Case of Chronic Abscess beneath Frontal Bone.
3. Mr. R. H. B. Nicholson: Case of Excision of both Tonsils by means of the Guillotine.
4. Mr. Morley: Case of Acute Poisoning by Tartar Emetic.
5. Mr. Hardey: Case of Retention of Urine, illustrating the use of the Aspirator.
6. If time permit, the question whether Habitual Drunkenness is a Vice or a Disease, will be re-introduced, and a resolution thereon will be proposed by Mr. Dix.

A packet leaves the Victoria Pier, Hull, at 12.50. Members must book to the Dock Station, which is close to the Royal Hotel.

Dinner at five o'clock. Tickets 7s. each, exclusive of wine. Members of the profession are invited to attend both the meeting and dinner.

E. P. HARDEY, Honorary Secretary.

35, Regent Terrace, Hull, Sept. 18th, 1876.

SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.

THE autumnal meeting of this Branch will be held at the Town Hall, Woburn, on Friday, October 13th, at 3.30 P.M.; H. W. SHARPIN, Esq., President, in the Chair.

Dinner at the Hotel at 5.30 P.M.

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

An excursion to Woburn Abbey is proposed at 1.30 P.M.

J. M. BRYAN, M.D. { Honorary Secretaries.

W. MOXON, Esq.

Northampton, September 19th, 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.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.

THE autumnal meeting of this Branch will be held at the Red Lion Hotel, Dulverton, on Thursday, October 5th, at Five o'clock : FREDK. FARMER, Esq., President.

Full particulars by circular.

W. M. KELLY, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*
Taunton, September 18th, 1876.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SURREY DISTRICT MEETINGS.

THE next meeting will be held at the White Hart Hotel, Reigate, on Thursday, October 12th, at 4 P.M. ; Dr. C. HOLMAN in the Chair.

The following communications are promised.

1. Mr. Durham : A Paper.

2. Mr. Maunder will exhibit three patients recently submitted to Osteotomy of the Femur.

3. A Case of Hydrophobia, by Mr. R. Steele, with notes by Dr. Dyce Duckworth.

4. Missed Labour in a Cow, with Delivery after use of Barnes's Bags, by Mr. Hawker and Mr. R. Steele.

5. A Résumé of a Year's Practice in the Reigate Cottage Hospital, by Dr. Walters.

6. Two Cases of Fracture of both Thighs, by Dr. Flood and Dr. Holman.

Dinner will be provided at the White Hart Hotel at 6 P.M. Tickets, exclusive of wine, 6s. a head.

JOHN H. GALTON, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*
Woodside, Anerley Road, S.E., September 20th, 1876.

THAMES VALLEY BRANCH.

A MEETING of the above Branch will be held at the Board Room, Richmond Infirmary, at five o'clock, on October 18th, 1876.

Dr. Collie will read a paper as to the manner in which Contagious Diseases spread, and the extent of Isolation which is necessary in their treatment.

A discussion will then take place as to the Treatment of Burns.

There will be a dinner afterwards at the Greyhound Hotel at seven o'clock. Charge, 7s. 6d. each, exclusive of wine.

Those who intend to be present at the dinner are requested to send word to the Honorary Secretary as soon as possible.

F. P. ATKINSON, *Honorary Secretary.*
Surbiton Road, Kingston-on-Thames, Sept. 21st, 1876.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE thirty-third annual meeting of this Branch was held at the Royal Clarence Hotel, Bridgwater, on Thursday, July 27th. There were present ten members and one visitor.

The retiring President, Dr. CORDWENT, took the Chair ; and, after a few brief remarks on his past year of office, he introduced his successor, FREDERICK FARMER, L.K.Q.C.P.I. (Bridgwater).

Letters of Regret.—The SECRETARY laid before the meeting letters from fourteen members, and a telegram from one, accounting for their absence.

Report of Council and Treasurer's Accounts.—The following report of Council was read by the SECRETARY.

1. In taking a retrospective view of the proceedings of the Branch during the past year, your Council feel that they can do so with much satisfaction.

2. The autumnal and spring meetings were both well attended. Papers and communications were brought forward, not only of great interest, but which also evidenced originality and research.

3. The question proposed at the autumnal meeting on the disuse of blood-letting elicited a good and useful discussion.

4. Petitions to both Houses of Parliament, with a view to some restrictive legislation being enacted for Habitual Drunkards, were sent up

from this Branch in February last ; but, as no Act of Parliament has been passed on the subject, it will be a matter for consideration whether further action in the same direction should not be taken by this Branch during the ensuing year.

5. Several new members have joined the Branch since the last anniversary, and the number of members now on the books is greater than at any former period, namely, fifty-six. Your Council are happy to state that there has been no loss from death, and only one withdrawal during the year.

6. The Treasurer's accounts and balance-sheet will be presented as usual. The receipts about equal the expenditure, and there is a balance in hand of £7 : 1 : 4½.

7. Dr. Kelly having found it necessary to be absent from England during six months of the past year, Mr. Alford performed the secretarial duties for that time. The thanks of the Branch are due to Mr. Alford for having rendered to them this kind service.

8. Under Laws 19 and 20, it became necessary to send to the General Secretary of the Association before the end of June, the names of the representatives of this Branch in the General Council for the ensuing year. Trusting to have their action confirmed at this meeting, your Council authorised the Secretary to send up the following names : F. Farmer, Esq., J. Meredith, M.D., and W. M. Kelly, M.D. ; and they now ask your approval of their action in this proceeding.

9. Mr. Garland has proposed that the autumnal meeting of the Branch shall be held at Yeovil, and it is his intention this day to propose a resolution to that effect.

The Treasurer's Accounts and Balance-Sheet were taken as read, having been examined and vouched as found correct by Mr. R. B. Robinson.

It was resolved : "That the report of Council, and the Treasurer's accounts and balance-sheet, be received and adopted ; and that Dr. Farmer, J. Meredith, Esq., M.D., and the Secretary be the representatives of the Branch in the General Council for the ensuing year."

Next Annual Meeting.—Mr. RANDOLPH proposed, Mr. PARSONS seconded, and it was resolved : "That the next annual meeting be held at Taunton, and that Henry Alford, Esq., be President-elect."

Intermediate Meetings.—A letter from Mr. Garland (Yeovil), expressing a hope that the autumnal meeting would be held in Yeovil, was read. Mr. ALFORD proposed, and Dr. KELLY seconded : "That the autumnal meeting be held at Yeovil." Two amendments to this resolution were moved. 1. "That the meeting be at Taunton," proposed by Mr. WINTERBOTTOM, seconded by Mr. RANDOLPH ; 2. "That it be at Dulverton," proposed by Mr. ROBINSON, seconded by Mr. PARSONS. The last amendment was carried.—It was proposed by Mr. ALFORD, and seconded by Mr. PARSONS : "That the spring meeting be held at Bridgwater." To this an amendment was proposed by Mr. WINTERBOTHAM, and seconded by Mr. RANDOLPH : "That it be held at Taunton." The amendment was carried.

Council of the Branch.—Messrs. Randolph, Nash, and Robinson were elected in the place of Messrs. Alford, Parsons, and Prankerd, who were the members retiring in rotation.

Secretary and Treasurer.—Dr. W. M. Kelly was reappointed Secretary and Treasurer.

President's Address.—The PRESIDENT (Dr. FARMER), after the conclusion of the preceding business, delivered an address, in which, having first made appropriate allusion to some matters of personal interest, he addressed the substance of his remarks to affections of the spleen. He gave a description of the anatomy and physiology of that organ ; and then, referring to its diseases, he specially commented on those peculiar enlargements of the spleen which are found prevalent in paludal districts like the neighbourhood of Bridgwater.

Paper.—Dr. CORDWENT read a paper on the Healing of Wounds, which gave rise to an animated discussion.

Votes of Thanks.—The thanks of the meeting were voted to the President for his valuable address, and to Dr. Cordwent for his interesting paper.

Exhibition of Instruments.—A selection of instruments, lent by Mr. Coxeter at the request of the President, were viewed by the members.

Dinner and Entertainment.—An excellent dinner was served at the Clarence Hotel, and the usual toasts were drank ; after which, by the invitation of the President, the meeting was adjourned to his residence, and a very pleasant evening was passed under his hospitable roof.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch was held at the County Hotel, Carlisle, on Friday, July 21st, 1876; Dr. W. A. F. BROWNE took the chair at one o'clock.

Report of Council.—Dr. LOCKIE (Secretary) read the following report of Council.

"The Council have the pleasure of submitting their eighth annual report to the members of the Border Counties Branch.

"At the commencement of the year, there were ninety-five members on the list. During the year, ten new members have been elected; one has resigned; one has left the district; and three have died; so that the number at present is one hundred. The Council desire to express their great regret at the loss the Branch has sustained through the death of Dr. Green of Kendal. He was an active member of the Branch from its commencement, held the office of President during the year 1874-5, and subsequently that of Vice-President until the time of his death.

"During the year, meetings were held at Dumfries, Carlisle, and Moffat. They were not so numerously attended as the Council might wish, but still were fairly successful.

"A form of petition to Parliament, praying that it will pass a measure providing for the restraint of habitual drunkards, has been sent by the Secretary of the Parent Association for signature by members of the Branch and others, and the Council hope that as many members as possible will affix their signatures.

"The balance in hand at the commencement of the year was £8 : 2 : 5; and the receipts consist of sixty-five subscriptions for the year, six arrears for previous years, and four subscriptions for 1876-7 paid in advance, amounting to £9 : 7 : 6; total, £17 : 9 : 11. The disbursements amount to £10 : 2 : 10, leaving a balance in hand, June 30th, 1876, of £7 : 7 : 1.

"The Council recommend that, as was done last year, a donation of five pounds be made to the British Medical Benevolent Fund."

The report and recommendation of the Council were adopted by the meeting.

President's Address.—The retiring President then vacated the chair, and introduced the President for the year, Dr. BARNES of Carlisle, who delivered his inaugural address. After thanking the members for the honour which they had conferred upon him by electing him to this high office, and bespeaking the same kind consideration which had been accorded to him during the seven years he had held the office of Secretary, the President proceeded to give a clinical exposition of some points in practical medicine which had more particularly attracted his attention, drawing his illustrations both from hospital and private practice. Reference was first made to his six years' experience as Physician to the Fever Hospital, and an attempt was made to trace a periodicity or rotation of epidemic influences in the district. The causes and periods of incubation of the different forms of fever were then discussed, and also the precautionary measures necessary for the arrest of any given epidemic at the outset. The clinical value of the thermometer was referred to, and charts giving the typical range in the different forms of fever and variations from this range were exhibited. The therapeutical treatment of epilepsy was then discussed; and it was pointed out that, although the progress made in the direction of the intimate pathology of the disease had not been very decided, a marvellous stride had been made in its successful treatment since the more general use of the bromide of potassium, and cases were brought forward in support of this plan of treatment. A brief historical sketch of the lesion known as mitral stenosis was then given, and the various physical signs and general symptoms by which this lesion is recognised during life were discussed in detail, and morbid specimens taken from recent cases in hospital practice showing the usual varieties of the valve deformity were exhibited. A case of tricuspid stenosis was also brought before the meeting, and the rarity of this lesion commented upon. In conclusion, some observations were brought forward having reference to the character of the fever curve present in cases of croupous pneumonia, and charts were exhibited showing the range of fever in some cases recently under the author's observation.

At its conclusion, the meeting adopted a cordial vote of thanks to Dr. Barnes for the address, expressing a hope that he would take steps to publish it.

Cruelty to Animals Bill.—The following resolutions were passed.

"1. That this meeting views with satisfaction, and entirely approves the action of the Medical Faculty of the University of Edinburgh in regard to the 'Cruelty to Animals Bill', and indicates its entire adherence to the memorial set forth by that body to the Government.

"2. That a copy of this resolution, accompanied by a printed copy of the Edinburgh memorial, be sent to the members of Parliament re-

presenting the following counties and their included boroughs: Cumberland, Westmorland, Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Wigton, Roxburgh, Selkirk, and Peebles, these being the counties in which the members of the 'Border Counties Association' are resident."

New Member.—Mr. O'Reilly (Keswick) was elected a member of the Association and Branch.

Election of a Vice-President.—Dr. W. A. F. Browne was elected a Vice-President, in accordance with Rule 4.

Election of Office-Bearers.—The following were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year. *President:* Henry Barnes, M.D., Carlisle; *President-Elect:* Stewart Lockie, M.D., Carlisle. *Honorary Secretaries:* Roderick Maclare, M.D., Carlisle; John Smith, M.D., Dumfries. *Council of Management:* J. A. Campbell, M.D., Garlands; H. Dodgson, M.D., Cockermouth; J. Gilchrist, M.D., Dumfries; S. Grierson, Esq., Melrose; C. S. Hall, Esq., Carlisle; Thomas F. I'Anson, M.D., Whitehaven; R. B. Mac Bean, M.B., Annan; M. W. Taylor, M.D., Penrith; R. Tiffen, M.D., Wigton. *Representative on Parliamentary Bills Committee:* Wm. Reeves, M.D.

Medical Fees.—Dr. SMITH brought forward the scale of fees recommended by the Committee appointed for drawing up a tariff. The discussion of this was not concluded, owing to want of time, and was adjourned to next meeting.

Dinner.—The members and their friends afterwards dined together.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE sixth annual meeting of this Branch was held at the Town Hall, Swansea, on July 6th, 1876. About forty-five members were present. S. H. STEEL, M.B. (Abergavenny), President, resigned the Chair to the President-elect, ANDREW DAVIES, M.D. (Swansea).

A Vote of Thanks was unanimously accorded to the retiring President, who briefly returned thanks.

The Report of Council, with Statement of Accounts, was read by Dr. SHEEN, and adopted. The number of members was stated to be 56; and the balance in hand, £20 : 6 : 5.

Next Annual Meeting.—It was moved by Mr. DYKE (Merthyr), seconded by Mr. HALL (Swansea), and carried unanimously: "That the next annual meeting be held at Brecon, and that Talfourd Jones, M.B., be the President-elect."

New Members.—The following gentlemen were declared members of the Branch: V. L. Jones (Dowlais), R. H. Hopkins, G. Wilkins, and Thomas Dickson (Pontypridd).

The Retiring Members of Council were re-elected, viz., Dr. T. D. Griffiths, Messrs. J. G. Hall, Evan Jones, and J. Hancocke Wathen.

The Honorary Secretaries.—Drs. A. Davies and Sheen were re-elected.

President's Address.—The PRESIDENT (Dr. A. DAVIES) delivered an address, which was very warmly received; and, at its conclusion, a cordial vote of thanks for the same was carried by acclamation.

Papers, etc.—1. J. HANCOCKE WATHEN (Fishguard):—1. Quinine as an Ecolic; 2. Case of Strangulated Labial Hernia, in which aspiration was used with success.

2. J. A. RAWLINGS (Swansea): The Duty of the Medical Profession in Relation to Intemperance.

3. Dr. GRIFFITHS (Swansea):—1. A Child with Spina Bifida, which had been injected twice with iodine, but without much benefit; 2. (For Mr. GREEN of Neath.) A Child, in whom the Abdominal Wall was imperfect at birth, the cavity being completed by peritoneum, which, for a few days after birth, was so transparent that the contents were completely recognisable by sight. Subsequently it became opaque and thickened, and a more substantial fence was being established.

Habitual Drunkards.—A petition to the House of Commons in favour of institutions for the control and cure of habitual drunkards was placed before the meeting, and received a large number of signatures.

Medical Defence Association.—Mr. WATHEN (Fishguard) brought forward the question of establishing a branch of the Medical Defence Association in South Wales; and it was resolved "that the proposition should be referred to the Council, with the request that they report on it at the next meeting".

Dinner.—The members and visitors afterwards dined together at the Mackworth Arms Hotel.

MR. H. CROOKSHANK of Liverpool has been appointed Surgeon-Major in the Turkish Army Medical Service during the present war.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE HORSHAM BOARD OF GUARDIANS AND THE SUPPLY OF EXPENSIVE MEDICINES.

AT the fortnightly meeting of the Board of Guardians of this union, held on the 6th instant, Mr. W. G. Sharp proposed "that notice be given to the medical officers that, after the present quarter, no payment will be made by the guardians on account of expensive medicines". It would appear that, some weeks ago, a committee of this Board (consisting, among others, of two members of the profession, Mr. Powell of Crawley and Dr. Carey of Kingsfold) was appointed to take into consideration the "enormous" increase in the cost of expensive medicines supplied by the guardians in aid of the medical officers. The resolution, mainly due to the support afforded by the votes and authority of its two medical members, was adopted by the Board.

The Horsham Union, consisting of twelve parishes, has a population of 19,343, spread over an area of 69,582. The total expenditure for relief of the poor for the financial year 1874-75 was £10,607, and the total outlay for medical relief, including fees and expensive medicines, being £619, or about one-seventeenth of the total cost, this being much less than prevails in the majority of south country unions. Now, it may be asked, What is this "enormous increase" which has frightened the members of this Board into rescinding the resolution come to some half-dozen years ago, in compliance with the recommendation of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Poor Relief that the supply of such expensive medicines should be a charge upon the rates. It will hardly be believed that the total outlay for the year 1875 only amounted to £35 16s. 6d., as against £23 in 1874 and £32 4s. 4d. in 1873. It is true that, in 1872, the total cost did not exceed £11 7s. 1d. This lesser sum is not to be wondered at when we state that it was only a short time previously that this Board had assented to this provision, and it would necessarily take some time before the Poor-law medical officers, notably the older ones, would awake to the novel sensation of having such things as quinine, opium, etc., provided for them.

One of the speakers, a Mr. Bedford, at the Board meeting, stated "that a surgeon of one of the London workhouses said he never used expensive medicines, as he had to pay for them out of his pocket." The speaker does not give either the name of the medical officer or the workhouse he held; and that he has drawn on his imagination for his statement will not seem improbable when we inform our readers that no workhouse medical officer in the metropolis has found any medicines whatever for some years past, such being always supplied by the guardians under the provisions of Mr. Gathorne Hardy's Metropolitan Poor Act, which came into operation in 1867.

In conclusion, whilst expressing our earnest condemnation of the conduct of the two medical men implicated in the committee's report, we would advise that the medical officers should forward a remonstrance to the Local Government Board, and we doubt not that the council of the Poor-law Medical Officers' Association will co-operate with them in their effort by memorialising the department on the subject; and, having regard to the reply made by the President to the deputation from this Association which recently waited on him, we have no hesitation in expressing our conviction that this action of the Horsham guardians will be negatived by the Local Government Board.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

DAWSON, Edward, L.F.P.S.G., appointed Medical Officer to the Wethersfield District of the Braintree Union, *vice* H. R. G. Rust, M.R.C.S.Eng., resigned.
RUST, H. R. G., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Medical Officer to the Finchfield District of the Braintree Union, *vice* Henry Rust, M.R.C.S.Eng., resigned.
POPHAM, Samuel Lane, M.B., appointed Medical Officer to the Second District of the Daventry Union, *vice* Charles Bennett, M.R.C.S.Eng., resigned.
SPARROW, Walter W. B., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Medical Officer for No. 5 District of the Aston Union, *vice* J. C. Waddell, M.D., resigned.
STEPHENS, Edward B., L.F.P.S.Glasg., appointed Medical Officer to the First District and Workhouse of the North Witchford Union, *vice* J. B. Ryley, L.R.C.P.Ed., resigned.

PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

COOK, John W., M.D., appointed Medical Officer of Health for the Tendring Union, *vice* Henry Gramshaw, L.R.C.P.Ed., resigned.

MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

NAVAL MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

BURGESS, Surgeon Peter, to the *President*.
COMERFORD, Surgeon J. T., to Haslar Hospital.
CONNOLLY, Staff-Surgeon W., M.D., from the *Britannia* to the *Monarch*.
DE MÉRIC, Surgeon Eugène V., from the *Warrior* to the *Salamis*.
EVANS, Surgeon Septimus, to the *Duncan*, additional, for Sheerness Naval Barracks.
FITZMAURICE, Surgeon Nicholas F., to the *Valorous*.
GABRIEL, Fleet-Surgeon John T., from the *Boscawen* to the *Defence*.
GOODMAN, Staff-Surgeon Godfrey, to the *Valorous*.
HALPIN, Staff-Surgeon Joseph, from Chatham Dockyard to the *Aboukir*.
HARKAN, Fleet-Surgeon Henry, to the *Royal Adelaide*, additional, for the *Bel-Isophion*.
HEAD, Surgeon R. L. B., to the *Britannia*.
HICKEY, Surgeon Thomas C., to Cape of Good Hope Hospital.
IRVINE, Surgeon G. J., to the *Hercules*.
JACKSON, Staff-Surgeon Gordon, to the *Revenge*.
LUTHER, Surgeon Edward W., to the *Warrior*.
NELSON, Staff-Surgeon Robert, to the *Juno*.
PEARSON, Surgeon William, to the *Zephyr*.
RATHBONE, Surgeon Charles A., to Plymouth Hospital.
SANDHAM, Surgeon W. S., from the *Valorous* to the *Faith*.
TYNDALL, Surgeon John, to Jamaica Hospital.
WALSH, Fleet-Surgeon James C., from the *Defence* to the *Asia*.
WARD, Fleet-Surgeon Marmaduke P. S., to the *Duncan*.
YEO, Surgeon Robert T., to the *Hercules*.

MEDICAL NEWS.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—
BLACKBURN and EAST LANCASHIRE INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, etc. Applications on or before September 23rd.
CHELSEA ROYAL HOSPITAL—Dispenser. Salary, £182:10 per annum, with apartments, etc. Applications to the Secretary.
CLAYTON HOSPITAL, Wakefield—House-Surgeon. Salary, £120 per annum, with residence, etc. Applications on or before September 30th.
CUCKFIELD UNION—Medical Officer for the Fourth District.
EASTBOURNE UNION—Medical Officer for the Fourth District.
ELHAM UNION—Medical Officer for the Sellindge District.
FROME UNION—Medical Officer for the Kilmersdon District.
HEWAHETA, Island of Ceylon—Medical Officer. Salary, 5000 rupees per annum. Applications to the Committee, Gonyav 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.

LIVERPOOL DISPENSARIES—Two Resident Assistant House-Surgeons. Salary, £108 per annum, with furnished apartments, etc. Applications on or before September 27th.
ROYAL SURREY COUNTY HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Salary, £75 per annum, and apartments. Applications on or before October 7th.
SUNDERLAND INFIRMARY—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £60 per annum, with board and residence. Applications on or before October 21st.
TOXTETH PARK TOWNSHIP—Assistant Medical Officer for the Workhouse.
WESTMINSTER GENERAL DISPENSARY—Honorary Physician. Applications on or before September 25th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Names marked with an asterisk are those of Members of the Association.
FINLAY, D. W., M.D., appointed Physician to the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road.
JONES, E. Owen, M.B., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Hulme Dispensary, *vice* A. E. Jones, M.B., resigned.

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.

BIRTHS.

GAIRDNER.—On September 15th, at Ardrossan, Ayrshire, the wife of *Professor Gairdner, M.D., Glasgow, of a daughter.

HARDYMAN.—On September 13th, at 24, Crockherbtown, Cardiff, the wife of Charles E. Hardyman, M.R.C.S.Eng., of a daughter, still-born.

MARRIAGES.

HARDWIDGE—RIGGALL.—On September 12th, at St. Stephen's Church, Westbourne Park, Robert, son of the late Robert Hardwidge, of Burnham, Somerset, to Emily Florence, only child of Edward Riggall, M.R.C.S., of Bayswater.—No cards.

MANBY—FARRER.—On Sept. 7th, at Sporle, *Alan Reeve Manby, M.R.C.S.Eng., at East Rudham, Norfolk, to Charlotte Annie, daughter of Edmund Farrer, Esq., of Pettygards Hall, Swaffham, in the same county.

WOODLAND—LUND.—On September 15th, at St. George's, Hanover Square, London, by the Rev. T. H. Gill, Rector of St. Margaret's, Whalley Range, assisted by the Rev. J. W. Goucher, M.A., Clement C. Woodland, late Royal Navy, youngest son of the late R. R. Woodland, Esq., of Bridgwater, Somersetshire, to Frances, elder daughter of Edward Lund, F.R.C.S., Professor of Surgery in the Owens College, Manchester.

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.—Samarian 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.—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.

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.—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.

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.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE "JOURNAL".

We have again to impress upon our correspondents that, as the bulk of communications addressed to the JOURNAL is considerably in excess of its space, the task of selection will be greatly facilitated by the observance of studied conciseness.

TWO CASES OF TRIPLETS.

SIR.—On January 23rd last, I was sent for to attend Mrs. B. in her sixth pregnancy. On my arrival, at 2.15 P.M., I found the os fully dilated, the membranes ruptured, and the funis descended; a hand and shoulder to be felt. I at once turned and delivered the patient of a male child, stillborn; I then examined and found the chest presenting. I again turned, and at 2.30 delivered her of a second male child, living. A third, likewise a boy, was born at 2.50, feet presenting. The placenta came away rapidly, and of an enormous size. The children were all well formed: of the last two, one lived six weeks, the other two months. The mother did very well.

I was sent for this morning (August 1st) at 3 A.M. to go a long distance to see the wife of Mr. P., seven months gone, who had been in labour twelve hours. I found the os dilating rapidly. After rupturing the membranes, the funis descended, and I found the side presented. I immediately proceeded to turn, and delivered her of a stillborn female child; a second, also a female child, living, was born in twenty minutes after the breech presenting. I then examined and found the placenta filling the vagina. On placing my hand on her abdomen, I was convinced there was another child. The placenta came rapidly away, and I found the membranes of another child presenting, which I ruptured, when one foot and hand immediately presented themselves. After putting back the hand, I brought the feet down, and delivered her of a stillborn son. The placenta, which was separate from the former, containing only one insertion of the funis, came away, and all was over. There was very little haemorrhage during labour. The whole was completed within two hours after I arrived. She is doing very well.

Mr. Clayton, my employer, informs me that he has been in practice twenty years without having a case of triplets; and, having had two so recently, I shall feel obliged if you will insert the above cases.—I am, sir, yours, etc.,

Accrington, August 1876. J. TORKINGTON.

T. W. R.—Minorities have their rights; among the most important of these is the right of pleading.

URINARY SEDIMENT.

SIR.—A patient, aged 66 (*circiter*), apparently healthy, and of active habits, passes occasionally large deposits of ammoniacal-phosphatic sediment in his urine. In the intervals, it is copious and pellicid. This deposit is latterly becoming more frequent, and so profuse as to cause alarm. There is no organic disease or obstruction to micturition. The derangement seems to be functional. Mineral acids and ordinary tonics have failed to correct it. Could any of the readers of the JOURNAL suggest a remedy? I may add, that he has had several attacks (four or five) of podagra, which have never been attended with any lithic manifestation, and he is troubled by occasional vertigo.—Yours truly,

September 1876.

QUÆSITOR.

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.

WATER-FILTERS.

SIR.—Your correspondent Dr. Thompson, who writes rather dogmatically on the subject of filters, has evidently something to learn before he instructs others. The filters of the Silicated Carbon Company, which he eulogises so strongly, to the disparagement of all others, may be very good ones, but they have no advantage over others made of the same material—i.e., block charcoal. The term "silicated carbon" may do very well as a trade designation, but any one who knows anything of the material which is so designated is quite aware that the *silicated* part of the business is all nonsense, and that if charcoal could really be effectually silicated, for filtering purposes its utility would be *pro tanto* diminished.

In objecting to the old-fashioned filters of "sponge, sand, and charcoal", that they only *strain* water, Dr. Thompson is evidently not aware that no filter does anything else. All filters are only strainers. It is true that in so doing they also produce the well known chemical effect of oxidising oxydisable matters, and that they separate certain constituents that may happen to be dissolved in the water; but this is only the result of the peculiar molecular action which the minute subdivision of the water in the process of straining effects.

Your correspondent is ludicrously wrong in saying that sponge decomposes after continued use. Sponge is one of the most indestructible of bodies, resisting the action of the strongest chemical agents, such as caustic potash and hydrochloric acid. It has no tendency of any appreciable kind to undergo decomposition from exposure to water. What is mistaken for decomposition is the accumulation of filth which takes place in the sponges of filters that have been neglected. That such should be the case is just what might have been expected, and is no reflection upon the sponge, but only on the carelessness of the users of the filters. The fact is, that sponge is an admirable material for the preliminary straining to which all water should be exposed before passing it through charcoal or any other similar material. So well adapted is it for this purpose, on account of its elasticity, porosity, indestructibility, and the facility with which it can be cleansed, that Nature might almost be thought to have designed it for this special purpose.

The prime essential of a filter is, that it should be easily cleaned; and the great defect of most filters is, that this condition is entirely ignored. A great deal of nonsense is published about filters, especially by the makers of some of them, who evidently know little or nothing about the subject; and it is desirable that the confusion which already exists in the public mind should not be increased by those who ought to know how to instruct it.—Yours truly, M. O. H.

MR. R. HUGHES (Bala).—The best translation of the Aphorisms, we believe, is that in the *Works of Hippocrates*, translated for the Sydenham Society by Francis Adams of Banchory.

AN ADVERTISEMENT.

SIR.—I have cut the accompanying advertisements out of a weekly pamphlet called the *Literary World*, and I have taken the small slip out of the *Medical Directory*. Of course, I do not know whether Dr. Niblett knows anything of the Mr. Williams of the advertisement; if so, perhaps he could give us a little information about him; but undoubtedly it would be desirable to give Mr. Williams the publicity he desires by your copying this advertisement for the benefit of the profession generally, as I am inclined to think we were not aware that any one had discovered a "certain cure" for epilepsy; and perhaps you would give Mr. Williams the opportunity of informing the profession, through the medium of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, the means he employs, as I am sure the information would be very acceptable to many of us, provided the cure is as certain as it is stated to be.—I am, sir, yours, etc., ALFRED WOODFORDE.

Praistow, Essex, August 176.

"*Fits.—Epileptic Fits or Falling Sickness.*"—A certain method of cure has been discovered for this distressing complaint by a physician, who is desirous that all sufferers may benefit from this providential discovery. It is never known to fail, and will cure the most hopeless case after all other means have been tried. Full particulars will be sent by post to any person free of charge. Address Mr. Williams, 10, Oxford Terrace, Hyde Park, London."

"Niblett, S. Berry, 10, Oxford Terrace, Hyde Park, W.—L.R.C.P. Edin. (exam.), 1860; L.F.P.S. Glasg. and L.M. 1861; L.S.A. 1858 (Guy's)."

MUSIC HATH CHARM'S.

The *Allgemeine Wiener Medizinische Zeitung* says that the following remedy for tinnitus is given in a homeopathic hand-book of popular medicine. "A musical watch or any other self-playing instrument is placed on a table, against which the patient leans his bare posteriors. The tones of the instrument are thus conveyed into the body. In no very long time, the tapeworm comes out head foremost, makes for the instrument, and coils itself around it. A second person must now drive a sharp nail through the head of the animal and fasten it to the table. After this, the remainder of the tapeworm may be gradually withdrawn from the patient."

THE ADMINISTRATION OF CALOMEL IN MIXTURE.

SIR.—Dr. F. J. Brown, in his remarks in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of September 2nd, on the treatment of infantile summer diarrhoea, recommends calomel in a mixture, with bismuth and aromatic confection. Mayhap he will kindly inform his readers by what means the calomel is diffused and equally maintained, so to speak, throughout the water; for in several attempts, made thirty years ago, to "suspend" hydrarygium cum crotâ through the medium of mucilage and treacle, I invariably failed, inasmuch as the mercury would subside, my efforts to the contrary notwithstanding. Finding, therefore, that unless extreme care were used by the nurse in administering the medicine, my little patients ran a great risk of getting little or no hydrarygium cum crotâ in the first and an excess in the last doses, I deemed it prudent to cease prescribing it in the form of mixture.—Yours truly,

L. M. D.