

former of these subjects, Dr. De Chaumont gives two very instructive tables, showing, in a diagrammatic form, the operation of the Contagious Diseases Acts, which we commend to the notice of the opponents of these measures, if they can bring themselves down to the consideration of such vulgar things as facts. Dr. De Chaumont's remarks on the value of statistics, though very general, are instructive. He deplores the fact that mathematical science is so much neglected by the medical profession. This, though true enough so far as it goes, is not, we think, the real cause of the egregious misuse of statistics of which we have such frequent illustrations in medical literature, so much as a want of acquaintance with the fallacies which beset the employment of numbers as an instrument of research—fallacies the explanation of which does not, for the most part, involve anything more than very elementary mathematical processes, and which might be readily explained to any one of the most ordinary mathematical powers.

We have thus endeavoured to give our readers some idea of the general scope of these lectures; but it must not be supposed that we have indicated a tithe of the subjects to which they refer. Their only defect is the necessarily incomplete way in which their author was compelled, by the limited time at his disposal, to deal with the numerous topics which offer themselves for consideration in connection with so wide a subject as State medicine. We trust, however, that he will be induced to amplify them into a comprehensive volume, which may serve as a manual for this increasingly important subject. We know of no one who could do such a work more effectually; and we are sure that, if he would undertake it, he would meet with an abundant recognition of his labours.

WATER ANALYSIS: A PRACTICAL TREATISE ON THE EXAMINATION OF POTABLE WATER. By J. A. WANKLYN and ERNEST THEOPHRON CHAPMAN. Fourth edition. Rewritten by J. ALFRED WANKLYN, M.R.C.S. London: Trübner and Co. 1876.

THAT a book of this description should reach a fourth edition is, in itself, a proof of recognition; and it is hardly necessary to inform our readers that this book has been placed on the list of books to be read for the degree in Public Medicine, and is accepted as the textbook on the subject of which it treats.

The present edition is considerably larger than its predecessors, and contains very detailed instructions for the execution of a complete mineral analysis of the saline constituents of drinking waters. Like the other books by the same author, it abounds in rapid, and, at the same time, accurate methods of analysis, and the chemical reader may gather from its pages how in a few hours to make, not indeed an absolutely complete, but a very serviceable, analysis of the minerals in drinking water.

The book is divided into three distinct parts. In part I, the analysis for general sanitary purposes is dealt with. Part II is devoted to mineral analysis and specialities of various kinds. Part III contains examples, and, among the rest, a very exhaustive account of the water-supply to London. There is an appendix, as there was in the other editions; but the novelty which will arrest attention is the "History of the Ammonia Process of Water Analysis, and Controversies on Water Analysis", with which the appendix is brought to a conclusion.

How it came to pass that the English Government made extensive use of the ammonia process when it first came out, and how the inventors of that process were carefully excluded from all benefit arising from the employment of the process: all this is set forth.

Those of our readers whose memories carry them back to the pages of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for the year 1868, may possibly recollect the correspondence between Dr. Odling and the JOURNAL on the subject of the Government water-analysis; and certainly the line of argument followed by this JOURNAL appears now to have been fully warranted.

SANITARY WORK IN THE SMALLER TOWNS AND VILLAGES. By CHARLES SLAGG, A.I.C.E. London: Crosby, Lockwood, and Co. 1876.

MR. SLAGG has compiled a very handy volume on sanitary work in small towns and villages. It is divided into three parts, one of which is devoted to the More Common Forms of Nuisance and their Remedies; another to Drainage; and the last to Water-Supply. It is a work useful alike to medical officers of health, sanitary inspectors, surveyors, and members of sanitary authorities. Mr. Slagg very wisely avoids all debatable ground, and deals with his subjects as an engineer and as a man of common sense. Other authorities are freely quoted, and the source of all information not original is candidly acknowledged.

It is impossible to enter into details in reviewing a work so full of details as this, especially as there is hardly any portion over which we can take up the cudgels against Mr. Slagg. On pigstyes, on slaughter-houses, bad air, damp or dirty houses, drainage, etc., we are entirely at one with the author. The chapter on Privies and Cesspools is, we think, hardly decided enough; and a sort of compromise is recommended with the abominable cesspool-privy, which we cannot but condemn. On Trapping and Ventilation, Mr. Slagg must rewrite the section. But, taking the handbook for all in all, it is certainly very readable, and replete with information and details of great practical value to sanitary authorities in general, and to rural officials in particular.

SELECTIONS FROM JOURNALS.

SURGERY.

EXCISION OF THE LARYNX.—Dr. Heine relates in the *Archiv für Klinische Chirurgie*, vol. xix, a case in which he operated for syphilitic perichondritis, by which the opening into the larynx was reduced to the size of a pin's head. The cricoid and thyroid cartilages were removed, the epiglottis and arytenoid cartilages being left. The patient, who was twenty years of age, died eleven months after the operation from syphilis and phthisis. On the fifth day after the operation, an artificial larynx was applied; and from the twelfth day he was able to take solid food. Even without the apparatus, he spoke distinctly, but with a somewhat rough and toneless voice.—*Centralblatt für die Medicin. Wissenschaften*, September 9th.

MEDICINE.

SIGNS OF PNEUMONIA OF THE APEX IN CHILDREN.—According to L. Fleischmann (*Wiener Med. Presse*, No. 20, 1876), the following symptoms are connected with commencing or already existing pneumonia of the apex in young children, in whom it is often difficult of detection by physical signs. The symptoms are always unilateral, on the same side as the affected lung. 1. Swelling of the lymphatic glands of the neck, nape, and submaxillary region, without apparent local cause. These swellings are in direct proportion to the extent of the pulmonary affection. Infiltration of the glands before and behind the ears has no connection with the lung-disease. 2. Obstinate often recurring scrofulous conjunctivitis; some forms of unilateral scrofulous keratitis. 3. Recurrent eczema of the half of the face or head. 4. Certain forms of disorder of the sympathetic system; pallor, redness, erythema of the cheeks and temples, pressure-erythema. Similar conditions are also met with in cerebral diseases, the absence of which must be ascertained. In several cases, also, of cerebral tubercle, Fleischmann has found infiltration of the apex of the lung on the same side. 5. Intermittent neuroses of the sympathetic; redness and increased temperature of the skin on the affected side. 6. Neuralgia of the fifth nerve; neuroses of the oculo-motor and vagus nerves.—*Centralblatt für die Medicin. Wissenschaften*, September 23rd.

REPORTS AND ANALYSES

AND

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW INVENTIONS

IN MEDICINE, SURGERY, DIETETICS, AND THE ALLIED SCIENCES.

SALICYLIC SOAP.

WE have had this soap submitted to skilled examination as to its merits, with very satisfactory results. Theoretical and practical science have equally demonstrated, that Messrs. Tidman, after many trials, have succeeded in manufacturing a soap in which the antiseptic power of salicylic acid is so combined with other agents, that its intrinsic properties, so far from being diminished in the process of manufacture, are largely increased. The special uses of salicylic soap will be found in cases where skilled medical advice is not urgently called for, such as slight skin-diseases, and general tenderness and irritability of the skin. In the troublesome cases of excessive secretion of perspiration with disagreeable odour, often met with in general practice, the antiseptic properties of salicylic soap are of great value, masking and obviating the disagreeable effects of this morbid tendency of the sweat-glands. It needs scarcely to be added, that Messrs. Tidman sufficiently understand the requirements of their business to ensure that salicylic soap should have an agreeable perfume, and what is technically known as "lather" well.

subsequent examination can afford the information which at first was patent to skilful eyes and a trained intellect. Even if the Coroner possessed the highest medical skill and scientific attainments, he could not supplement the lack of observation, or check the blunders arising from an inaccurate or ignorant exposition of the supposed facts. The magnitude of the evil to which I have been calling attention was deeply impressed on my own mind some years ago by an incident which came under my notice. A highly respectable medical man was called as a witness to prove that he had examined some stains found on the clothes of a prisoner, and on a weapon in his possession. After describing the mode in which he conducted his investigation, he declared without hesitation that the marks were produced by human blood. Being somewhat startled at so positive a statement on a point which, I had understood, could not be ascertained with such absolute certainty, I narrated the circumstances, shortly afterwards, to a medical man of the highest scientific attainments. He could hardly believe that such evidence had been given, and assured me that even if the investigation had been properly conducted so positive an opinion could not have been justified, but that, carried out in the way described, no opinion worthy of the name could be formed, inasmuch as the process adopted was so blundering and vicious as to render any real result impossible. 'We often,' he said, 'as a test-question in examinations, require a description of the mode of examining supposed blood-stains, and if an answer were to describe such a process as was detailed in the witness-box, the candidate would most probably have failed to obtain his diploma.' The evidence to which I have alluded was given on a trial for murder. A man and woman stood in the dock in peril of their lives. Fortunately, there was ample evidence apart from the doctor's to bring guilt home to them. But the incident is surely one which may well make us tremble. The remedy is happily not far to seek. It would be arrived at, I think, by appointing in every county and borough one or more persons selected on account of their special fitness to discharge such duties—and every year would add to their capacity and experience. Whenever a death occurred from manifest or supposed violence, or an investigation into the cause of death was necessary, one of the persons so appointed should be summoned without delay, and all the information which an examination made at the earliest opportunity by a person of the requisite capacity could afford, should thus always be in possession of the Coroner."

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL: NOTICE OF MEETING.

A SPECIAL MEETING of the Committee of Council will be held at the Office of the Association, 36, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Wednesday, the 8th day of November next, at half-past Two o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANCIS FOWKE,
General Secretary.

36, Great Queen Street, London, W.C., October 31st, 1876.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE next meeting of the above Branch will be held in the Examination Hall of the Queen's College, on Thursday, November 9th, 1876. The Chair will be taken at 3 P.M.

The following papers are promised:—1. Dr. Harrison: Three Cases of Embolism; two of them Puerperal. 2. Mr. Wilders: On the Comparative Value of the Therapeutic Agents employed in the Treatment of Constitutional Syphilis.

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

Birmingham, November 1st, 1876.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL.

AT a meeting of the Committee of Council, held at the office of the Association, 36, Great Queen Street, London, on Wednesday, October 18th, 1876; Present: Mr. W. D. HUSBAND, Treasurer, in the Chair; afterwards Dr. FALCONER, President of the Council; Dr. De Bartolomé (President), Dr. Clifford Allbutt, Mr. Alfred Baker, Mr. J. Wright Baker, Dr. Chadwick, Mr. Callender, F.R.S., Dr. Alfred Carpenter, Dr. Ward Cousins, Dr. Eastwood, Dr. E. L. Fox, Dr. Balthazar Foster, Mr. Fowler, Mr. E. P. Hardy, Mr. G. F. Hodgson, Dr. C. Holman (Reigate), Mr. Arthur Jackson, Dr. C. Parsons, Dr. Stevking, Dr. Waters (Chester), Mr. C. G. Wheelhouse, and Dr. Wilkinson:—

Resolved unanimously: That the Committee of Council hereby records its deep sense of the distinguished services rendered to the British Medical Association by the late Dr. Sibson, and of the irreparable loss it has sustained by his sudden death. Whilst his well earned professional eminence reflected much credit on the Association, the zeal, energy, and practical sagacity he unceasingly applied to the administration of its affairs, and the genial urbanity of his deportment, secured for him not only the admiration and confidence, but also the affectionate regard of his fellow-members.

The Committee of Council, though well aware how inefficient is any expression of human sympathy for the mitigation of a sorrow so overwhelming as that of his bereaved widow, nevertheless trusts that, in conveying to her these sentiments, on behalf of the Association, some soothing reflections may be suggested; and likewise ventures to hope that, in her growing conviction of the wisdom of Him who doth not willingly afflict, true consolation may be found.

Read letter of apology for non-attendance from Dr. Morris, Spalding.

The minutes of the meetings of the 1st and 3rd of August last were read, and found correct.

Resolved: That the forty-six gentlemen whose names appear on the circular convening this meeting be elected members of the Association.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Journal and Finance Committee of this day's date be approved, and the recommendations carried into effect.

Resolved: That the solicitor, Mr. J. R. Upton, be instructed to register the number of members to 6,000.

Read resolution of Birmingham and Midland Counties Branch, of which the following is a copy, viz:

"That in the opinion of the Branch, the occupier of a house in which infectious disease occurs should be the person to give information to the medical officer of health of the existence of such disease."

Resolved: That it be referred to the Parliamentary Bills Committee, with a request to report to a future meeting of the Committee of Council.

Mr. Nicholson presented a requisition from the members of the profession at Hull, requesting the consideration of the prosecution of unqualified persons practising medicine.

Resolved: That a Subcommittee, comprising the President of Council, Dr. Chadwick, Dr. Waters, Mr. Nicholson, Dr. Bartolomé, Dr. Carpenter, Dr. Parsons, Mr. Manby, and Dr. Foster, with power to add to their number, be appointed to consider the question referred to the Committee of Council, by the practitioners of Hull, as to the prosecution of unqualified persons, and to report thereon to this committee.

Read resolution of annual meeting, of which the following is a copy: "That this meeting directs and hereby empowers the Committee of Council to arrange for the place of the annual meeting for 1877, and, further, to appoint a President-elect."

The President of the Council reported that he had received a communication relative to an invitation for the Association for 1877.

Resolved: That it be left to the President of the Council to call a special meeting of the Committee of Council to receive the invitation.

Read letters from Dr. Grainger Stewart and Dr. Frank Payne, accepting the office of joint adjudicators, together with Dr. Clifford Allbutt, of the Hastings Prize for an Essay on "Diphtheria, its Pathology, Treatment, and Diagnosis".

Resolved: That Messrs. Price, Waterhouse, and Co., be appointed Public Auditors of the accounts for the current year, in accordance with By-law 33.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE first ordinary meeting of the session was held at the Royal Hotel, College Green, Bristol, on Thursday, October 26th, at 7.30 P.M.; H. F. A. GOODRIDGE, M.D., President, in the Chair.

Papers.—The following papers were read.

1. Dr. J. G. SWAYNE read a paper on the Use of Forceps in the First Stage of Labour. This caused considerable discussion, in which Drs. Spender and Lawrence, and Messrs. Crossman and Stockwell, took part.

2. Mr. MASON read a case of Recovery after taking eighty grains of Tartar Emetic, in which the patient was quite well and able to go to work after five days. Drs. Davey and Lawrence, and Messrs. Dew and C. H. Collins, made some remarks bearing on the case.

3. Mr. STEELE read a paper on Cancer viewed in the Light of Physiology, arguing that the commencement of cancer was the deposit of albumen or albuminoid in the tissues. A considerable discussion followed, in which Messrs. W. M. Clarke, Bartrum, and Tibbits, and Drs. E. L. Fox, Beddoe, and Brittan, took part. Mr. Steele replied to the various questions advanced, and the meeting terminated.

tery in Sheffield last Thursday; and was followed to the grave by the Weekly Board of the Public Hospital and Dispensary, his colleagues, the President of the School of Medicine (Dr. Bartolomé), a large number of Odd Fellows, and his medical brethren.

MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE Secretary of State for War has approved the appointment of Surgeon-Major F. S. B. De Chaumont, M.D., as Professor of Military Hygiene at the Army Medical School, Netley.

WE learn that the Government of India has resolved to grant the full pay of their rank to those surgeons-major of the British service who have recently been promoted under the new regulation of twelve years' service.

VANITY FAIR AND "THE REGIMENTAL DOCTOR".

SIR,—The vulgar and flippant article forming No. 14 of "Regimental Types", in which, in his issue of October 21st, the editor of *Vanity Fair* has sought to cast odium on the medical officers of the army, would possibly have received but little attention from the readers of that journal, and might well have been treated with contempt and left unnoticed, but that the remarks upon it in a professional paper of October 28th have given it an increased prominence, and certainly must lead to its being more generally known than it otherwise would have been.

It is not my intention to endeavour to refute the statements made in the article alluded to, nor to show that the sketches of the several types of regimental doctors are inaccurately drawn or too highly coloured. No doubt, in the large number of medical officers, there are to be found specimens of each subdivision. There are in all professions men both "actively mischievous" and "positively objectionable". There are such among journalists: men who do not scruple to violate the sanctity of private hospitality, and hold up to ridicule their friends and their friends' guests in racy contributions to their "show of literary and social wares". But, if such amenities of journalism were usual, society would be more on its guard.

The writer or responsible editor of the "weekly show" has had special opportunities of forming opinions of army medical officers, and those of his readers who are aware of it will, perhaps, in consequence be the more likely to accept his description. But possibly they do not know that, circumstances leading to his presence in the neighbourhood of the head-quarters of the Army Medical Department, he availed himself freely of the attentions of the officers whom he now holds up to ridicule. Not only that, but, while apparently considering them as "at the tail of their profession", he did not hesitate to solicit their aid to supplement the advice of the "civilian physician" when dangerous illness appeared in his family. That aid, unhesitatingly asked for on the ground of friendship, was as freely and willingly given, and would, no doubt, have been given as often as required. How far their services were appreciated, may now be seen.

In future, medical officers of the army, whether consulted as "doctors but no gentlemen" or associated with as "gentlemen but no doctors", will know what consideration and justice they may expect from such social authorities as the editor of *Vanity Fair*.

I am, etc., PODALIRIUS.

THE ARMY MEDICAL WARRANT.

SIR,—When I delivered my address at the annual meeting of our Branch, I was under the impression that Mr. Hardy had restored the "Sydney Warrant" in all its integrity. I am sorry to find by the letter of your correspondent "S.M., A.M.D." in last week's JOURNAL, that I was mistaken. It is evident that the Medical Department of the Army is not in a satisfactory state, and anything but popular. The sooner the authorities at the War Office rectify these defects, the better it will be for their reputation and the good of the service.—I am yours, etc., J. RICHARDS.

President of the North Wales Branch of the British Medical Association.
Bangor, North Wales, November 1st, 1876.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

EXAMINATION FOR DEGREES IN MEDICINE.—The first examination for the degree of M.B. will begin on Thursday, December 7th; the second, on Tuesday, December 12th; the third for M.B. and that for M.C., on Monday, December 18th. The following Examiners have recently been appointed for the ensuing year. First M.B.—J. W. Hicks, B.A., and R. Apjohn, M.A.; Second M.B.—Dr. Humphry and H. Power, F.R.C.S.; Third M.B.—Dr. A. W. Barclay and Dr.

Bradbury; Master in Surgery—C. Heath, F.R.C.S., and T. Holmes, M.A., F.R.C.S. Dr. Herbert Davies has been appointed Assessor to the Regius Professor of Physic.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—The following gentlemen were admitted Members on October 26th, 1876.

Carter, Alfred Henry, M.D. London, Birmingham
Col'ie, Alexander, M.D. Aberdeen, Homerton
Cory, Robert, M.B. Camb., 14, Palace Road, Lambeth
Ewart, Joseph, M.D. St. Andrew's, Newcastle
Ross, James, M.D. and C.M. Aberdeen, Manchester
Semon, Felix, M.D. Berlin, 6, Chandos Street
Watney, Herbert, 1, Wilton Crescent

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, October 26th, 1876.

Bigg, George Kilworth Sherman, 56, Wimpole Street
Burton, Samuel Herbert, Great Yarmouth
Lightfoot, William Spencer, Harwell, Berkshire
Rean, William Henry, Poplar
Richards, Thomas, Salisbury
Symons, John, Penzance

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

Nickoll, John Sayer, London Hospital
Richardson, Thomas Arthur, Guy's Hospital

KING AND QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS IN IRELAND.—At the ordinary monthly examination meetings of the College, held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, Oct. 10th, 11th, and 12th, 1876, the following candidates obtained the Licence to Practise Medicine.

Barber, Walter
Clibborn, James Barclay
Fuller, Joseph
Harrison, Damer
Hodgson, William
Kidd, Henry
Thomson, Henry Albert Richardson

The License to practise Midwifery was obtained by—

Clibborn, James Barclay
Fuller, Joseph
Goode, William Henry
Harrison, Damer
Hodgson, William
Kidd, Henry
Molony, Henry
Thomson, Henry Albert Richardson

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

CERES, Fifeshire—Parochial Medical Officer. Salary, £23 per annum. Applications on or before November 6th.
CROYDON GENERAL HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board and furnished apartments. Applications on or before November 8th.
GREAT YARMOUTH HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, board, and attendance. Applications on or before November 8th.
LOUTH UNION—Medical Officer for the Welton-le-Wold District.
MIDDLESEX THIRD COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM—Medical Superintendent. Salary, £700 per annum, with house, gas, and coals. Applications on or before November 8th.
NEWHILL AND DYCE—Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications on or before November 13th.
PUBLIC DISPENSARY, Stanhope Street, Clare Market—Resident Medical Officer. Applications on or before November 6th.
ST. NEOTS UNION—Medical Officer for the Third District.
SALOP MEDICAL AID ASSOCIATION—Medical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum, with house, coal, and gas. Applications on or before November 4th.
TRINITY COLLEGE, Glenalmond—Resident Medical Officer. Applications on or before November 10th.
WESTERN DISPENSARY, Westminster—Medical Officer. Salary, £105 per annum, with furnished apartments, etc. Applications on or before Nov. 6th.
WORCESTER GENERAL INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications on or before November 6th.

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 announcement.

BIRTH.

CLOVER.—On October 14th, at 3, Cavendish Place, Cavendish Square, the wife of *J. T. Clover, F.R.S.S., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CROMBIE—WHITCOMB.—On October 24th, at the Presbyterian Church, Brighton, by the Rev. Dr. Hamilton, *John M. Crombie, M.A., M.D., of South Kensington, to Sophie, only daughter of the late Henry Whitcomb, Esq. of Hawley Lodge, Brighton.

PROUT—WILLING.—On October 26th, 1876, at the Parish Church, Great Wakering, by the Rev. John Thomas, Vicar of Wood Green, assisted by the Rev. John Fulford, uncle of the bride, and the Rev. Henry Malim, Vicar of the Parish, William A. Prout, Esq., B.A. Camb., only son of John Prout, Esq., of Sawbridgworth, Herts, and Clapham Common, to Jessie Sophia, second daughter of G. F. B. Willing, L.R.C.P.Ed., Great Wakering, Essex.

DEATH.

*HALL, John Charles, M.D., at Surrey House, Sheffield, aged 59, on Oct. 26th.

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.—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.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.	Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. R. Davy, "Degenerative Cysts in Muscles"; Dr. Brunton, "On Pelvic Hæmatoma"; Dr. Crisp, "An example of Croupal Membrane in an Infant (with Microscopical Specimen)".
TUESDAY.	Pathological Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Hilton Fagge: General Ankylosis of Ribs. Dr. Hilton Fagge: Aneurysm of Pulmonary Artery in Vomica of Young Child. Dr. Hilton Fagge: Epithelioma of Bladder secondary to long-standing Stricture. Mr. Carr Jackson: Injury to Spine. Dr. Cayley: Lymphadenoma of Stomach. Mr. Gould: Sarcoma of Thigh. Mr. Gould: Valvular Disease of the Heart. Mr. Gould: Recovery after Pyo-Pericardium. Dr. Pye-Smith: Suppuration of Brain and Cord after Cure of an Empyema. Dr. Julius Pollock: Perforating Ulcer of Endocardium. Dr. Frederick Taylor: Fatty Tumour behind Pharynx. Dr. Goodhart: Diffuse Suppurative Inflammation of Mediastinum. Dr. Walters: Scirrhus of Diaphragm. Mr. Sydney Jones: Multiple Melanotic Tumours (living specimen). Mr. Sydney Jones: Symmetrical Shortening of Foot from Bone-Disease (living specimen). Dr. Thorowgood: Concretion from Vermiform Appendix removed through Incision in Back.
WEDNESDAY.	Hunterian Society, 7.30 P.M.: Council Meeting. 8 P.M.: Dr. Herbert Tibbits, "On Electro-Therapeutics"—Epidemiological Society, 8.30 P.M. The President will deliver an address on the "Present Position of Epidemiological Science".
FRIDAY.	Clinical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. C. T. Williams, "Sequel of a Case of Contracted Cavity in the Lung, communicated in 1871"; Dr. Gowers, "A Case of Lymphatic Leucocythæmia treated by Phosphorus"; Dr. Greenfield, "A Case of Hodgkin's Disease, with increase of White Blood-cells"; Dr. Broadbent, "Patients under treatment by Phosphorus for Leucocythæmia"; Mr. Walsham, "A Case of Localised Hypertrophy of the Scalp".

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, on 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, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.; 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., London.

A GENERAL PRACTITIONER'S CHARGES.

A MEMBER asks whether the fees of 7s. a visit, 10s. 6d. for evening visit, £1 1s. for consultation, and 5s. for syringing the ears, are or are not fair charges for a general practitioner in the country to make for his attendance on a gentleman of good means.

* * We shall be glad to have the opinions of some of our readers in reply.

W. B. H. writes:—As a continuation of the question asked by A. B. in your paper of yesterday, respecting the conduct of Y. Z. in "professional consultations," would Y. Z. be justified in afterwards attending the patient if urgently requested to do so, putting out of the case A. B., who has refused to meet him in consultation?

* * Not, we think, without first communicating with A. B., in courtesy.

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.

ARNOLD'S FLEXIBLE STETHOSCOPE.

It will be remembered that when we first noticed the "flexible stethoscope," introduced early this year by Messrs. Arnold and Sons, suggested by Drs. Reed and Morison, several English physicians laid claim to it as of old invention. Professor Voltolini (*Berliner Klin. Wochenschrift*) warmly claims for himself the merit of the invention, especially of the flexible tube and ear-peg fitting into the flexible meatus. The latter he demonstrated publicly in 1874. Dr. J. Gunter attaches great importance—as we do, from experience—to this ear-peg, believing that by it sounds are conducted with much greater completeness than by the ordinary ear-piece, and that it is especially useful to medical men whose hearing is not very acute.

B. S. A.—Formulae for the use of storax, which is said to be effectual in one application, are to be found in Sydney Ringer's *Handbook of Therapeutics*, p. 327 of last edition. Very good manuals of domestic medicine for the use of a traveller have been written by Dr. Headland (Seeley and Co.), Dr. Gardner (Smith, Elder, and Co.), Dr. Warburton Begbie (Nelson and Sons), and Dr. Spencer (Nelson and Sons).

A SYPHILITIC PROBLEM.

SIR,—A young man marries, and has, in due time, born to him three healthy children in succession. His wife then has in succession three dead ones, a month, a fortnight, and a week before the time. The first has arrested brain development, loose cranial bones, and water certainly in the head and abdomen. The second has water, certainly in the head and abdomen, and general anasarca. The third, examined, has water in the abdomen, pleurae, and pericardium, also enlarged liver and spleen. In the first two, putrefaction had commenced; the last, which gasped, had no syphilitic marks on the skin. Do not these facts prove the existence of some parental constitutional taint from conception of the first dead child to the present time? And is there any taint, except the syphilitic, capable of producing the phenomena? The father asserts—and I believe him—that he has never gone astray since his marriage, and the lady is above suspicion. About ten years ago, a year or two before marriage, he made three attempts at coition—two unsuccessful, one successful—but he is not conscious of having experienced any after-inconvenience. Is it possible or probable that he may have contracted hard urethral chancre without knowing it? The inconvenience might certainly have been very slight, the discharge almost nothing and watery, and might not have come on till long months afterwards.

Assuming that he contracted syphilis, then is it possible that the influence may have passed harmlessly over the first three (healthy) children, and descended with fatal effect on the last three (dead) ones?

The lady has since been confined again, a fortnight before time. The child had been dead a week; it was livid; the cuticle was everywhere separated or separable. There were general anasarca, ascites, hydrops pericardii, and hydrothorax on one side.—I am, etc.,

M.R.C.S.

H. F. S.—Mr. B. Lowne of the Middlesex Hospital has succeeded Professor Turner. There is a very good portrait of the late Dr. Sibson in Messrs. Barraud's large picture of the Leaders in Medicine and Surgery.

PARALYSIS.

SIR,—L.R.C.S.I. must first find out the cause of the paralysis. If there be any structural disorganisation, electricity will do harm; if, however, it be a case of apoplexy, and the clot have been absorbed, and there be no muscular rigidity, electricity or galvanism will be of great use.—I am, etc.,

Eastbourne, October 30th, 1876.

ALFRED CHARLTON.

QUALIFICATION TO PRACTISE IN CANADA.

SIR,—Would any of your readers kindly inform me as to the necessary steps to be taken in order to qualify for practice in Canada? I understand there is some colonial examination necessary. I am qualified as an M.D. Glasgow, F.R.C.S.E., etc.—I am, etc.,

F.

MR. THOMPSON.—The primary examination for the diploma of membership of the College of Surgeons commenced this day (Friday): the pass-examination will take place next week. All this will be found in our advertising columns; but we really cannot undertake to make the other inquiries, which would necessitate a correspondence for which we have no time. You should write to the secretary of the institution, from whom you will receive the desired information.

LOSS OF TASTE AND SMELL FOLLOWING AN ACCIDENT.

SIR,—In reference to a letter contained in your last issue on the above subject, a similar case has occurred in my practice. While a gentleman was mounting his horse, the animal being startled, suddenly ran off before the rider could gain the saddle. With one foot in the stirrup, he fell backwards on his head, and was dragged for some distance along the road before his foot slipped from the stirrup. He lay insensible and stunned for a few minutes; but, gradually recovering consciousness, he got up and staggered from one side of the road to the other. He walked afterwards fully a quarter of a mile to where his horse had been caught, and rode home more than two miles. He sat down and wrote a note requesting me to come to him, and sent his coachman with the note. I found, upon arrival, that he was very much in the state described in the letter of Chirurgus. He had an incised wound over the left upper eyelid, several severe grazes on the side of the nose and upper lip, and other superficial injuries. The concussion to the brain was the most serious lesion, and resulted from a blow over the occiput. With rest and quietness, the grave symptoms passed away; the sense of taste and smell still, however, remain wanting, although the accident happened upon August 7th. Upon one occasion only has he been able to smell, when he pressed a leaf of the sweet-scented verbena between his fingers; he has failed to smell repeatedly upon making the same experiment, but can detect the difference between a sour and sweet taste on the tongue. His health is good, he has an excellent appetite, and can walk several miles without fatigue. Over-exertion produces vertigo and confusion in the head. It is an interesting question from what lesion does the loss of taste and smell proceed: from the concussion to the brain, or direct injury to the olfactory nerves? The nose was much bruised, and there was great pain over the upper lip and alæ of the nostrils. I am afraid nothing but time and patience will restore these lost senses. Mr. Annandale of Edinburgh, who saw the patient, recommended a trial of phosphoric acid, which I hope may act as a nerve-tonic, and is worthy of trial by Chirurgus.—I am, etc.,

C. STUART, M.D. L.R.C.S. Edin.

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.

THE APPLIANCES OF RESEARCH.

THE story of Mr. Graham's work has been told by Odling, Williamson, Hofmann, and Angus Smith, but what does it teach us from a point of view of a collection of scientific apparatus? Surely that, although in certain researches or for accurate observation and measurement, delicate and complicated instruments may be necessary, the simplest appliances in the hands of a man of genius may give the most important results. Thus we have seen that with a glass tube and plug of plaster of Paris, Mr. Graham discovered and verified the law of diffusion of gases. With a tobacco-pipe he proved indisputably that air is a mechanical mixture of its constituent gases. With a tambourine and a basin of water he divided bodies into crystalloids and colloids; and obtained rock-crystal and red oxide of iron soluble in water. With a child's India-rubber balloon filled with carbonic acid he separated oxygen from atmospheric air, and established points, the importance of which, from a physiological point of view, it is impossible to overrate. And finally, by the expansion of a palladium wire, he did much to prove that hydrogen is a white metal.—*Nature*.

M.D. (Ashburton).—Our correspondent had better, we think, write to the Home-Secretary, and we shall be glad to hear the answer.

T. W.—Dr. Vanderbyl and Mr. Mitchell Henry were both on the staff of the Middlesex Hospital, and have both been members of Parliament.

CANDIDATES FOR DISSECTION.

SIR.—The fact of a lady making her will to the effect that her body after death should be dissected, under the supervision of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, as reported in the JOURNAL of October 21st, is no doubt received by members of our profession with no little surprise. This is a circumstance we seldom hear of, and a will of the kind is very seldom seen. I have in my possession a similar will (the original), dated June 12th, 1828. The circumstances connected with it I will briefly relate. The testator was an assistant to the late G. E. Carruthers, surgeon, of Redman's Row, Mile End, my own grandfather, who, it will be seen, was the witness thereto; and the Henry Coles, whose name is mentioned, was at that time an apprentice of Mr. Carruthers, and later on was lecturer on comparative anatomy at the London Hospital. The following is a correct copy. "Redman's Row, Mile End, June 12th, 1828.—Know all men by these presents, that I, Zachariah Wood, being at this time in good health and of sound mind, do hereby give and bequeath my body to the surgeons of the London Hospital for the purpose of dissection, and my head to Henry Coles, of the parish of Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire.—Zachariah Wood; witness, G. Carruthers."—It is but necessary for me to add, that the testator, who had been a faithful servant, was buried at the expense of his master.—I am, faithfully yours, E. G. CARRUTHERS SNELL, L.S.A. Lond.

Mile End Road, October 23rd, 1876.

J. C. A.—We cannot call to mind all the "summaries of information concerning vaccination as a prophylactic," but we may mention a pamphlet, *Concerning Vaccination: a Critical Exposition, etc.*, by Mr. G. Eastes, M.B. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., published by Hardwicke, London, as a very good summary, capable of affording an excellent view of the facts either to professional or non-professional readers.

LIFE INSURANCE.—We have communicated H. T.'s letter to an experienced authority, and will advise him in these columns of the result.

DR. FITCH (Kidderminster).—The names of the successful candidates in the preliminary examination of the College of Surgeons are not published in the JOURNAL.

OBSCENE DOCUMENTS.

FROM communications sent to us by Mr. Bartlett of Ladbroke Gardeus and others, we learn that a "Mr. D. Boileau," dating from 14, Great Castle Street, Regent Street, is in the habit of forwarding to ladies whose accouchement is announced in the daily papers, a document of an obscene character. We recommend the proceedings of this person to the notice of the police.

A CHIRURGEON.—Sir William Lawrence was not elected a member of the Council of the College of Surgeons until the year 1828. His "introductory," in the theatre of the Aldersgate Street School of Medicine, on the "Absurdity and Barbarity of the Distinction between Medicine and Surgery," was delivered on October 7th, 1826, just half a century ago, when he said that: "Fortunately for us, the London College of Surgeons is entirely destitute of power, the legislature having rejected, with deserved contempt, its various applications for enlarged authority and penal restrictions; the College had, in fact, completely lost the respect and confidence of the body over which they preside, and of the public," etc.

DR. THOMPSON.—Not so precocious as you think; for, in his interesting *Memorials of Twickenham*, the Rev. C. R. S. Cobbett says that "William Whitmore, Esq., of Hackney, when only fourteen years of age, married his cousin, who was one year his junior. The union only lasted five years, when, on the death of her youthful husband, she married Sir Richard Middleton, Bart."

OBSTINATE VOMITING IN PREGNANCY.

SIR.—In answer to Querens as to the treatment of the above complaint, I had, some months ago, a case of more than ordinary severity, accompanied by slight hæmatemesis. All the usual remedies, including oxalate of cerium, were tried in vain: not even milk and lime-water could be retained by the stomach. As an attack of fainting occurred, I was summoned to the lady one evening, and immediately administered an ounce of brandy in half a bottle of soda-water. From this time, the vomiting entirely ceased for two months. The soda-water and brandy were continued once a day for about a week, no other medicine being given. Two months later, the vomiting reappeared, but was quickly stopped by the same means. On both occasions, simple brandy and water not only failed to check, but induced sickness.

As any hint with regard to the treatment of such a distressing complaint may be acceptable, will you oblige by inserting my communication in the JOURNAL?—I am, sir, yours truly, CLEMENT POLLARD, L.R.C.P. Ed.

F. M.—James Beaulieu was a celebrated lithotomist, but sadly neglected his patients after the operation, saying "I have extracted the stone, God will cure the wound". Beaulieu's method was adopted by Cheselden, with such unusual success that it was called the English operation.

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.

UMBILICAL HÆMORRHAGE IN INFANTS.

SIR.—Mr. Lawson Tait of Birmingham having favoured me with a copy of a pamphlet on the anatomy of the umbilical cord, in which he describes a sinus, whence he is of opinion that the hæmorrhage occurs in the cases such as I have recorded, I venture again to address you on the subject. Mr. Tait states his discovery thus: "On making a section of the cord immediately below the ligature which retained the injecting nozzle, a small spot of injection was seen in the substance of the cord lying close outside the wall of the vein. This was found to be the central sinus of the cord; and, on being carefully traced towards the fœtus, it was found to curve spirally close alongside the vein, and to enter and pass through the omphalic canal in the midst of the three vessels. Throughout its course, examination by a power of thirty diameters showed that it gave off branches which rapidly broke up and were lost in the tissue of the cord. Finally, it was found to arise from several small branches. They arose from the lower intercostal arteries, and, gathering together on the lower surface of the omphalic vein, combined in the omphalic canal to form the sinus. From this case it is evident that this sinus, at least occasionally, passes very far into the cord, as the point where it was discovered was at least forty-five millimètres from the dermal ring." Mr. Tait further states, that "the absence of muscular walls from this sinus seems to explain some of the facts of this hæmorrhage" (from the stump). Mention is also made of the umbilical arteries contracting upon respiration being established, and of their again dilating upon the respiration becoming interrupted. I therefore think, in endeavouring to guard against loss of blood from the stump of the funis, besides tying the placental ligature first, that sufficient length should be allowed for the stump (not less than three or four inches), and that nurses should always be warned against covering up the face.—I am, yours truly, Southam, Oct. 23rd, 1876. WALTER LATTEY, L.R.C.P. Lond., etc.

R. N.—Mr. Frank Buckland is a member of the College. He was formerly a surgeon in the Horse Guards, Blue.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest.—The North British Daily Mail; The Manchester Guardian; The Liverpool Daily Post; The Ulverston Mirror; The Liverpool Weekly Courier; The Lincolnshire Chronicle; The Sheffield Independent; The Manchester Courier; The Barnsley Chronicle; The Wigan Observer; The Metropolitan; The Liverpool Journal; The Southport Visitor; The Home Chronicle; The Manchester Evening News; The Glasgow Herald; The Dundee Advertiser; The Times of India; The Hereford Times; The East Lancashire Echo; The Liverpool Daily Courier; The Bath Herald; The Liverpool Porcupine; The Sheffield Daily Telegraph; The Glasgow News; The Sussex Daily 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:—

Mr. G. Callender, London; Dr. De Chaumont, Netley; Dr. W. H. Broadbent, London; Dr. Daly, London; Dr. Cayley, London; Mr. Herbert Stowers, Shrewsbury; Dr. Cornelius B. Fox, Chelmsford; The Registrar of the Royal College of Physicians; Dr. Goodchild, Leamington; Dr. Dreschfeld, Manchester; Mr. Wilson Hope, Petworth; Mr. Souttar, London; Mr. J. Beal, London; Mr. F. Gordon Brown, London; Dr. Bradbury, Cambridge; Mr. J. H. Houghton, Dudley; Dr. H. Carroll, New York; Mr. Hugh Robinson, Preston; M.D.; Mr. T. P. Lucas, Lambeth; Dr. Ferrier, London; Dr. Marcus Allen, Portsmouth; Mr. Clover, London; Mr. Cubitt, Stroud; Dr. J. Coats, Glasgow; Mr. G. T. B. Walters, Stroud; Dr. Shingleton Smith, Clifton; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; Dr. Dowse, Highgate; Dr. Mackey, London; Dr. Barclay, Leicester; Mr. D. Colquhoun, London; Dr. W. Squire, London; Dr. G. H. Evans, London; Mr. T. F. Raven, Broadstairs; Mr. Porter, Woolston; Dr. Madge, London; H. J.; W. B. H.; Inquirers; Mr. Alfred Charlton, Eastbourne; Mr. W. R. Smith, Plumstead; Mr. Lennox Browne, London; An Associate: Our Manchester Correspondent; Dr. Farr, London; Our Paris Correspondent; Dr. Bartlett, London; Mr. J. H. Harley, Sheffield; Dr. Gairdner, Glasgow; Mr. Chauncy Puzey, Liverpool; Dr. Macleod, Glasgow; The Registrar-General of England; Mr. Etheridge, Teignmouth; Dr. Farquharson, Finszean; Mr. W. Square, Plymouth; Mr. Hamilton Cartwright, London; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Dr. Edmunds, London; The Secretary of the Hunterian Society; Dr. Edis, London; The Secretary of the Epidemiological Society; Dr. J. Milner Fothergill, London; Mr. Evans, Waterford; Dr. Coats, Glasgow; Mr. Husband, York; Dr. Morell Mackenzie, London; Dr. Herbert Snow, Lichfield; Mrs. Rumsey, Torquay; Mr. Power, Dartmouth; Dr. Grainger Stewart, Edinburgh; Dr. Gairdner, Glasgow; Dr. Waller Lewis, London; Dr. Burdon Sanderson, London; Dr. Balthazar Foster, Birmingham; Dr. James Sawyer, Birmingham; Dr. Erskine Stewart, Chirmside, N. B.; A.M.D.; Dr. J. Richards, Bangor; Dr. Alexander, Bradford; etc.

BOOKS, etc., RECEIVED.

The Theory and Practice of Medicine. By John Syer Bristowe, M.D. Lond., F.R.C.P. London: Smith, Elder, and Co. 1876.
The Climate of Jamaica. By J. C. Phillippo, M.D., L.R.C.S. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1876.
Medicinal Plants. By Robert Bentley, F.L.S., and Henry Trimen, M.B., F.L.S. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1876. Part 13.
Autumnal Catarrh. By Morrill Wyman, M.D. London: Sampson Low, Marston, and Co. 1876.
Lectures on Rest and Pain. By John Hilton, F.R.S., F.R.C.S. Edited by W. H. A. Jacobson, F.R.C.S. London: George Bell and Son, York Street, Covent Garden. Second Edition. 1877.