

Association Intelligence.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS who intend to be present at the Annual Dinner of the British Medical Association, on Friday, August 8th, and who have not notified the same to the Secretaries, are earnestly requested to do so at their earliest convenience, in order that the requisite arrangements may be made.

A. P. STEWART, M.D.,
74, Grosvenor Street, W.;

ALEXANDER HENRY, M.D.,
15, George Street, Portman Square, W.,
Honorary Secretaries.

London, 31st July, 1862.

YORSHIRE BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Annual Meeting of the Yorkshire Branch was held in the Museum, York, on Thursday, the 17th July, G. SHANN, M.D., President, in the chair.

The President, on taking the chair, delivered a valuable address, which the meeting requested he would allow to be published in the JOURNAL.

Report of Council. The Secretary read the following report.

"In presenting their annual report, the Council of the Yorkshire Branch of the British Medical Association have great pleasure in announcing that the numerical strength of the Branch continues satisfactory.

"The past year has been unmarked by any important movement in medical politics; and, with the exception of the College of Surgeons having thus far not complied with the regulations of the Medical Council respecting the preliminary educational test for the registration of students, no event has engaged the attention of your Council demanding special notice. Your Council, however, are glad to find the College of Surgeons have arranged to carry out, in October next, the requirements of the Medical Council.

"Your Council have great pleasure in expressing their continued satisfaction with the manner in which the JOURNAL of the Association is conducted. They would bear their testimony to the value of the many contributions to medical science which have appeared in its pages; and they feel that the thanks of the Association are due to the Editor for his unceasing efforts in improving its scientific character, and for the high professional tone which has pervaded his articles. They consider the JOURNAL in its present improved condition holds out a powerful inducement for new members to join the ranks of the Association.

"Your Council would congratulate you on the election of our valued associate, Dr. Lankester, to the office of Coroner for Central Middlesex. They hope the time is not far distant when it will be generally acknowledged that a medical education is desirable for the proper discharge of the office of coroner.

"Your Council are glad to find that one uniform *Pharmacopæia* for the three kingdoms, as provided for in the Medical Act, will soon be published by the Medical Council; but they think that your attention may be well directed to the important change proposed in the standard weights of such *Pharmacopæia*.

"Your Council anticipate much benefit to the Association from its approaching meeting in London. They watch with pleasing interest the liberal arrangements which are now in progress, both on the part of the members of the Association and the Colleges of Physicians

and Surgeons, to ensure its success. They hope a new era in the prosperity of the Association will date from this great metropolitan gathering."

Mr. NORTH proposed, Mr. PALEY seconded, and it was unanimously resolved—

"That the report be received and adopted."

Branch Council for 1862-3. Mr. MATTERSON moved, Mr. PALEY seconded, and it was resolved—

"That the members of the Council for the past year be re-elected."

Representatives in the General Council. Mr. NORTH proposed, Mr. GARLICK seconded, and it was resolved—

"That the following members be nominated to represent this Branch in the General Council of the Association during the ensuing year: F. Branson, M.D.; C. Chadwick, M.D.; W. D. Husband, Esq.; Henry Jackson, Esq.; W. Hey, Esq.; T. Nunneley, Esq.; and H. Y. Whytehead, M.D."

Place of Meeting next Year: President-elect. Mr. TEALE moved, Mr. HUSBAND seconded, and it was unanimously resolved—

"That the next place of meeting be Sheffield, and that J. Haxworth, Esq., be the President-elect."

The New Pharmacopæia. Mr. HUSBAND proposed, Mr. DODSWORTH seconded, and it was unanimously resolved—

"That this meeting express its strong desire that the alteration of the value of the grain weight, proposed by the *Pharmacopæia* Committee of the Medical Council, may not be finally adopted, without being re-considered by the Committee, more especially as this meeting entertains grave doubts as to the propriety of such change; and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the Executive Committee and the President of the *Pharmacopæia* Committee of the Medical Council."

Homœopathy. Mr. HUSBAND moved, Mr. NORTH seconded, and it was resolved—

"That this Branch, having learnt that Dr. Deas and Mr. Williams are connected at the Coatham Convalescent Home with a homœopathic practitioner, feels it to be its duty to express a strong opinion of the impropriety and inconsistency of medical men by so doing sanctioning a gross medical heresy."

Votes of Thanks. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the President for his valuable address, and for his conduct in the chair.

The Secretary was requested to continue his duties, and received a vote of thanks for his past services.

Dinner. The members and visitors dined together at the Royal Station Hotel; Dr. Shann in the chair.

Correspondence.

MR. PUCKETT'S CASE.

LETTER FROM RICHARD GRIFFIN, ESQ.

SIR,—Your kind insertion of my letter relative to the terrible death of poor Puckett, together with your leading article on the subject, have, I am happy to say, induced about 150 medical men and 100 of the nobility, members of Parliament, gentry, and others, to forward nearly £400 in aid of the fund for the support of the widow and family of the deceased; but as the interest from this sum, when invested, will be quite inadequate for their support, I am reluctantly compelled still further to urge their claims on the sympathy of the profession and public at large, and trust that a larger sum may yet be forthcoming; as, after the debts of the deceased are paid out of his property, there will only be left from that source a very few pounds. The family, in fact, are literally dependent on what we may raise for

their support, as the widow's state of health precludes her doing anything.

Subscriptions by cheque, P.O. order, or stamps, may be forwarded to me, or to the Wilts and Dorset Bank, Weymouth. Col. Gilpin and other gentlemen have kindly consented to act as trustees, and, therefore, no fear need arise as to the proper application of the money.

I am, etc., RICHARD GRIFFIN.

12, Royal Terrace, Weymouth, July, 1862.

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS. The following gentlemen passed the preliminary examination in the subjects of general education, on July 26th:—

Allen, Charles Bracebridge, 35, Dartmouth Street, Westminster
Beckingsale, Edgar William, Newport, Isle of Wight
Fairbank, Frederick Royston, Rugby
Hatherly, Henry Reginald, Westminster Hospital
Lay, Thomas Richardson, Havering, near Romford
Sharp, David, 13, London Road, St. John's Wood
Wadsworth, Godfrey Bingley, University College

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. The following gentlemen passed their primary examinations in Anatomy and Physiology, at meetings of the Court of Examiners, on July 22nd, 23rd, and 24th; and, when eligible, will be admitted to the pass examination.

<i>St. Bartholomew's Hospital.</i>	
Moon, Robert Charles	Wills, Charles James
Nash, Walter Llewellyn	
<i>Grosvenor Place School.</i>	
Dermott, Fitzherbert	Pettinger, William Murr
Gregson, George	
<i>Guy's Hospital.</i>	
Beely, Walter Thomas	Pooley, John
Carver, Charles Handasyde	Starling, George
<i>King's College.</i>	
Anderson, Edward Charles	Fawcett, Francis Molineaux
<i>London Hospital.</i>	
McKenzie, John	Watson, Thomas Wm. W.
<i>University College.</i>	
Arnott, Henry	Rogers, William Moon
Fuller, James Mortimer	Sharp, George Wyatt
<i>Cork School of Medicine.</i>	
Barter, Richard	Meyrick, Edward W. W.
<i>Dublin School of Medicine.</i>	
Baird, John	Fennelly, Richard
Denny, Charles John	Ready, William John
Edwards, John Henry	Wynne, John Kendrick
Evans, David	
<i>Edinburgh School of Medicine.</i>	
Cameron, Archibald H. F.	Rutherford, Edward
Cornish, George Bishop	Thyne, Thomas
Dale, Frederick	Whiteley, John
Grosvenor, George Fox	Williamson, Ninian A.
Lowe, Robert Whittington	Wood, Thomas Arthur
Pratt, John	Wright, Joseph Brampton
Renton, George	
<i>Glasgow School of Medicine.</i>	
Jones, John Thomas	Wilson, Henry
<i>Charing Cross Hospital.</i>	
Langston, Thomas	Birmingham School of Medicine.
<i>St. George's Hospital.</i>	
Whiting, James David C.	Calcutta School of Medicine.
<i>Middlesex Hospital.</i>	
Wey, William John	Hull School of Medicine.
<i>Aberdeen School of Medicine.</i>	
Drummond, Edward	Leeds School of Medicine.
<i>Belfast School of Medicine.</i>	
Murray, James	Liverpool School of Medicine.

APPOINTMENTS.

*MURRAY, G. C. P., M.D., appointed Physician-Accoucheur to the St. George's and St. James's Dispensary.
TEEVAN, W. F., Esq., appointed Surgeon to the St. George's and St. James's Dispensary.
WORDSWORTH, John C., Esq., appointed Surgeon to the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital.

ARMY.

BACOT, Staff-Surg. J. T. W., to be Surg. 89th Foot, *vice* J. H. Porter.
BAXTER, Staff-Assistent-Surgeon P. C., M.B., to be Assistant-Surgeon 89th Foot, *vice* Sinclair.

BIRINE, Staff-Surg. T. K., to be Surg. 12th Foot, *vice* H. M. Webb, M.B.
EVANS, Staff-Surgeon O. W., M.D., to be Surgeon 61st Foot, *vice* T. Ligertwood, M.B.
LIGERTWOOD, Surgeon T., M.B., 61st Foot, to be Surg. 4th Hussars.
LODGE, Staff-Assistent-Surgeon H. S., M.B., to be Assistant-Surgeon 2nd Foot, *vice* Sinclair.
McTAVISH, Assistant-Surgeon A. C., 72nd Foot, to be Assistant-Surgeon 60th Foot, *vice* Macarthey.
POPE, Staff-Assistent-Surgeon J. J., to be Assistant-Surgeon 72nd Foot, *vice* A. C. McTavish.
PORTER, Surgeon J. H., 89th Foot, to be Surgeon 97th Foot, *vice* A. Macrae, M.D.
ROBERTSON, Staff-Assistent-Surgeon A. C., M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon Royal Artillery, *vice* W. T. Morgan, M.D.
STAPLES, Staff-Assistent-Surgeon F. P., to be Assistant-Surgeon 19th Foot, *vice* Hewlett.
TURNER, Staff-Assistent-Surgeon J. A., to be Assistant-Surgeon Royal Artillery, *vice* J. J. C. Rogers.

To be Staff-Surgeons:—

BRADSHAW, Staff-Assistent-Surgeon J.
FITZGERALD, Staff-Assistent-Surgeon F. L.
SINCLAIR, Assistant-Surgeon J., M.D., 2nd Foot.
SINCLAIR, Assistant-Surgeon W., 93rd Foot.

To be Staff-Assistent-Surgeons:—

ANDREWS, Assistant-Surgeon R. F., 2nd Dragoon Guards.
LAND, Staff-Assistent-Surgeon J., M.D., from half-pay.
MACARTNEY, Assistant-Surgeon J., 60th Foot.

ROYAL NAVY.

BURKE, John R., M.D., Acting Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Severn*.
HILSTON, Duncan, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon, to the *Harrier*.
McCARTHY, Charles D., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon to the *Victory*, for Haslar Hospital.
ROSS, William, M.D., Surgeon, to the *Melpomene*.

VOLUNTEERS. (A.V.—Artillery Volunteers; R.V.—Rifle Volunteers):—

HOLMAN, H. M., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 2nd Administrative Battalion Sussex R.V.
MATHEWS, H. J. D., Esq., to be Assistant-Surgeon 2nd Administrative Battalion Sussex R.V.

DEATHS.

KANE. On July 21, at Bath, Caroline Anne, wife of W. Kane, M.D.
MACKLIN. On July 26th, aged 73, Charlotte S., widow of Charles Macklin, Esq., Surgeon, Buntingford.
SMITH, Thomas Johnson, M.D., son of *Thomas Smith, M.D., at Cheltenham, aged 23, on July 25.
WATERLAND, Henry J., Esq., Surgeon, at Burton-upon-Slather, aged 38, on July 23.

THE MURDER OF MR. PUCKETT. John Cox, the murderer of Mr. Puckett, was tried on Saturday last, and acquitted on the ground of insanity.

THE FRENCH ARMY IN MEXICO. M. Rideau, the principal medical officer, and Surgeon Gaynard, were dead of yellow fever, having fallen victims to their devotion.

EXEMPTIONS FOR DRUGGISTS. It is probable that an act will be passed exempting chemists and druggists from serving on juries. At present members of the Pharmaceutical Society have not been exempted from the juror's duty. (*Soc. Science Rev.*)

LUNATICS. On the 1st of January, 1861, there were 24,845 insane persons in the asylums, hospitals, and licensed houses in England and Wales; on the 1st of January, 1862, 26,200, of whom 3,244 were deemed curable. 3,138 were discharged cured in the course of the year; 2,648 were discharged by death.

THE PETROLEUM BILL. A bill for the safe keeping of petroleum has passed a Committee of the House of Commons. The bill is not very definite in its wording: the preamble states that for the purposes of the act the word petroleum "shall include every product thereof that gives off an inflammable vapour at a temperature of less than 100° of Fahrenheit's thermometer." (*Soc. Science Rev.*)

VACANCIES. The following appointments are vacant: House-surgeon at the county lunatic asylum, Lancaster; assistant medical officer for the North Wales counties lunatic asylum; junior house-surgeon and apothecary at the Liverpool Southern Hospital; medical officer for the West Monkton district of the Taunton Union; and dispenser to the Leeds General Dispensary.

THE LATE MR. PITTARD. Mr. Stone, of the College of Surgeons, requests us to announce the receipt by him of the following additional subscriptions in aid of the funds now collecting for the benefit of the widow and eight children of the late Mr. Pittard, of the University of Sydney; viz., Dr. Bisset Hawkins, Lewell Lodge, Dorchester, £5; and Professor G. B. Halford, of the University of Melbourne, £3 : 3.

CRIMINAL LUNATICS. Last year there were 970 criminal lunatics—750 males, and 220 females. In the year, 49 died, and 40 were discharged on becoming sane. At the end of the year, 799 were under detention, being an increase of 23, or 2.9 per cent., compared with the preceding year. The total charges for the criminal lunatics in the year were £26,701 : 6 : 11. In Bethlehem Hospital, where the whole of the expenses are paid from the public revenues, the cost per head is £43 : 10 : 8.

TESTIMONIAL TO J. TOMES, ESQ., F.R.S. On July 16th, at a dinner, presided over by S. Cartwright, jun., Esq., Mr. Tomes was presented with a service of plate, consisting of a massive silver tea and coffee service, with a centre piece, by Garrard, mounted on a stand, which bore on a shield the following inscription:—"Presented to John Tomes, Esq., F.R.S., by several of his brother-practitioners, in acknowledgment of the many valuable services he has rendered to his profession. July 16, 1862."

LUNATIC ASYLUM FOR THE CITY OF LONDON. On July 29th, in the presence of some of the Lunacy Commissioners, and of the magistrates of Middlesex, the foundation-stone of a pauper lunatic asylum for the City of London, intended to accommodate 250 patients, and estimated to cost nearly £50,000, was laid at Stone, near Dartford. The site chosen for the intended asylum consists of upwards of thirty acres of ground in a commanding and healthy locality between Dartford and Greenhithe. The building will be erected from designs prepared by Mr. Bunning, the city architect, and approved by the Commissioners in Lunacy.

PHYSIOLOGICAL STATE MINISTERS. "It certainly would be prudent to have at least a physiological adviser in or for the Cabinet. Physiological abnormality unsuspected in a Minister of State, may precipitate needless calamities upon millions of citizens. But the *mens sana in corpore sano* is almost indispensable to a wise administration of national affairs. We know that President Lincoln is a wonderful example of sound physiological health. Happy will it be for our country and the army if his Ministers of War, of State, and of Finance are in an equally normal physiological condition. We thank God for the sound health of our best generals." (*Amer. Med. Times.*)

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. The British Medical Association, like other societies on which the International Exhibition has exercised an attraction, will hold its annual meeting this year in London. This Association, founded in 1832 by Sir Charles Hastings of Worcester, now numbers in its ranks more than two thousand members of the medical profession, resident in all parts of the United Kingdom. In the twenty-nine annual meetings already past, the Association has visited Manchester, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Birmingham, York, Hull, Exeter, Brighton, Canterbury, Norwich, and several others of the more important towns and cities. On the present occasion, if a judgment may be formed from the programme which has been issued, the gathering will be numerous, and the proceedings interesting to the members. The society has done much good, we understand, in advocating a healthy tone of professional morality: and especially by the decided stand it has made, both in its meetings and through its journal, against the encouragement sometimes heedlessly given by practitioners even of high standing to homœopathy and other kindred absurdities. (*Soc. Science Rev.*)

THE FLINT DRIFT. Dr. Montucci has written to the French Academy of Science to propose a new solution of the difficulty arising from the fact that no human bones have anywhere been found in conjunction with the flint implements discovered near Amiens, as also near Baggy Point, North Devon, in the gravel near Bedford, also near Wells, in Somersetshire, etc. It being undeniable that those flints have really been worked by human hands, the only way of accounting for the absence of human bones in the drift belonging to the quaternary period appears to be that the primæval men of that period were in the habit of destroying their dead by fire; a custom which is to be met with at the very earliest dawn of our historical period. That no ashes or fragments of calcined bones have been left to corroborate this view of the case may, Dr. Montucci thinks, be explained by the evanescent nature of such remains, which may have been either dispersed by the winds or washed away by the rains, it being highly improbable that the men of the quaternary period should have been civilised enough to be acquainted with incombustible tissues or the art of pottery, whereby the remains alluded to might have been saved from destruction.

AN ACTION AGAINST A SURGEON FOR IMPROPER TREATMENT. In the Liverpool County Court, Mr. R. Storey sought to recover the sum of £5 : 1 : 6 from Mr. R. J. Campion, surgeon. The action had been brought to recover £5 : 1 : 6 for expenses that had been incurred in consequence of Mr. Campion having, as it was alleged, improperly treated a child of the plaintiff's. On the 2nd of June a stone was thrown by some party, and the child was struck on the ankle. The child was taken to Mr. Campion, and he examined the ankle. The ankle being much swollen at the time, he gave it as his opinion that it was broken, and treated it accordingly, applying bandages and putting splinters round it. On the 5th, Mr. Hughes, another surgeon, was called in; and he was of opinion that the bone was not broken. Mr. Irvine, another surgeon, also saw the child's leg; and he, too, was of opinion that the bone had not been broken. Mr. Hughes and Mr. Irvine were called, and the latter stated that when he saw the child it was five days after the accident; and there being then no swelling, it could be easily ascertained whether the child's ankle was broken or not; but there would be greater difficulty in ascertaining that fact when the accident took place, the ankle being then no doubt much swollen; and he thought Mr. Campion would be justified in taking the course he did under the circumstances. His Honour said that, after this answer, there was no evidence of want of skill or attention on the part of Mr. Campion, and he would accordingly give a verdict for the defendant.

A SENSIBLE HOUSE-SURGEON. At a coroner's court, held last week at the London Hospital, Mr. Dyte, the house-surgeon, having taken the oath on an English Bible with his hat off, was proceeding to give his evidence, when several of the jury said, "You are a gentleman of the Jewish persuasion?" Mr. Dyte: "Yes." A juror: "And yet you take the oath with your hat not on, and from an English Bible bound up with the New Testament, although there is a Hebrew Bible here?" Several jurors: "It is no oath. We don't believe you." The coroner: "Is the oath you have taken binding on your conscience?" Mr. Dyte: "Certainly, sir." The jury: "It is no oath. We don't want to hear him." The coroner: "The Act of Parliament is clear upon that point, gentlemen, that a witness is to be sworn in the form that is binding on his conscience. Pray go on with your evidence, Mr. Dyte." Mr. Dyte resumed his evidence, when the jury, with great animation, called out, "We don't want your evidence. We don't believe you. You are not sworn." The coroner: "The gentleman has stated that the oath is binding on him, and I, for my part, believe his evidence." Mr. Dyte: "Allow me

to explain. I do not believe that a solemn oath is less sacred in its obligations because a man has not a hat upon his head when he takes it. I do not see what difference it makes whether the Bible is in English or in Hebrew, for the truth is as much the truth in one language as the other; nor is the Old Testament of less authority or value because a New Testament happens to be bound up with it. The oath I have taken is, I repeat, perfectly binding on me." The jury, being doubtless conciliated by the witness's manner, and silenced by the clearness of his explanation, then allowed his evidence to be taken.

ACTION OF CHLOROFORM ON THE BLOOD. In the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* for March 28th, Dr. C. T. Jackson says, "When chloroform is inhaled into the lungs, the oxygen is abstracted from the blood, and, combining with the formyle, makes formic acid, while chlorine combines with the blood as a substitute for oxygen. Thus a portion of the blood becomes chemically changed, disorganised, and rendered unfit for its vital functions. I have now a phial of blood taken from a young lady killed by the inhalation of pure chloroform before me, it having been kept in my office, exposed to temperatures from the freezing point to above 80 deg. for more than six years, and yet it has not decomposed, nor has a single blood globule settled to the bottom of the phial, nor has the colour changed in the least."

CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL. The annual distribution of the prizes took place on Tuesday, July 22d. The following gentlemen were the successful candidates:—*Anatomy*: Silver medal, Mr. William Carter; first certificate, Mr. Churchill; second ditto, Mr. W. Haydn; third ditto, Mr. T. C. Wigg; fourth ditto, Mr. W. H. Cope; bronze medal, Mr. W. B. Shorto; certificate, Mr. H. Willson. *Chemistry*: Silver medal, Mr. W. B. Shorto; certificate, Mr. C. Knight. *Surgery*: Silver medal, Mr. J. H. Simpson; certificates and books, Messrs. Fisher and Badcock; bronze medal, Mr. H. Willson. *Physiology*: Silver medal, Mr. William Carter; bronze medal, Mr. W. B. Shorto. *Medicine*: Silver medal, Mr. J. H. Simpson; certificate, Mr. T. C. Wigg. *Materia Medica*: Silver medal, Mr. J. H. Simpson; certificate, Mr. Churchill. *Botany*: Silver medal, Mr. William Carter; certificate, Mr. Churchill. *Midwifery*: Silver medal, Mr. Luke Fisher; first certificate, Mr. T. C. Skegg; second ditto, Mr. Badcock. *Forensic Medicine*: Silver medal, Mr. L. C. Badcock. *Practical Chemistry*: Certificates, Mr. Simpson and Mr. Churchill.

DEATH FROM A CHERRY-STONE IN THE APPENDIX VERMIFORMIS. An inquest was held last week, on Alfred John Scott, aged 17 years. Mr. Duckworth Nelson deposed that he was first called to attend deceased on Saturday evening, and found him suffering from bilious diarrhoea. On Sunday he improved, and on Monday he was decidedly better, and able to fetch his medicine. On Wednesday morning, at six o'clock, he was again called, and found deceased in his bedroom, sitting in a chair, leaning against a chest of drawers, dead. He made a *post mortem* examination of the body, and discovered, upon opening the abdominal cavity, that there was extensive extravasation of an opaque fluid, and on proceeding to investigate the cause thereof he found in the apex of the appendix vermiformis, a minute perforation, occasioned by a small cherry-stone, which had ulcerated its way partially through, and remained adherent to its aperture. Dr. Lankester, in summing up, remarked that it was well for the public to know what they were liable to in swallowing hard substances. He had known of instances where a small piece of a lobster claw, a piece of tobacco-pipe stem, and other hard foreign bodies, minute in size, had passed into the cæcum in the same way and caused death.

AMERICAN MILITARY MEDICAL NEWS. At Savage's Station, near where the railroad crosses the Chickahominy, it is reported that many thousand wounded men had been gathered on Saturday succeeding the ter-

rible battle at Gaines's Hill. Quickly the army was put in motion at night towards the James river. The ambulances were insufficient for the transportation of all the wounded who had escaped from the field of carnage where thousands still remained, and at once a large number of the surgeons volunteered to remain at the Station, and, under the direction of Dr. Swinburne, give themselves to the duty of attending the wounded who must be left on the field with the enemy. Besides these surgeons, fifty nurses were also detailed and left. —The enormous amount of killed and wounded in the terrible week of battles in the army before Richmond fearfully demonstrates the fatality of the modern implements and projectiles of warfare. Until we can know more definitely the actual fate of *twenty thousand* of our brave soldiers, and can also know the actual numbers of the enemy's forces, we are forced to the horrifying conclusion that full *forty per cent.* of all who engaged in the first two days conflict on either side are to be numbered among the killed and wounded; and that, after the loyal forces gained a more advantageous position, the massed legions of the rebels were mowed down at the rate of *sixty per cent.* of their entire strength. Never, since the days of Austerlitz and Waterloo, has surgery found such a bloody field.—Endurance of physical effort is a well proved quality of our northern soldiers. After a week of successive and terrible battles, and a continuous movement of the Federal forces around to a new base of operations, the massed columns of the enemy were in their final onsets nearly annihilated by the steady and augmented energy of loyal arms; and finally, upon the concluding repulse of the enemy, went up a cheer that told what unconquerable strength was remaining.—Surgeon-General Hammond has spent the past week in visiting the medical corps and the hospitals of the army on the peninsula. To be in the medical service of the army is now a patriot's privilege; and we predict that it will soon become a higher honour than ever before to be a member of the medical staff of the American army.—Government has taken possession of the churches of Washington and Alexandria for the purpose of converting them into hospitals. It is stated that they are to be used only for convalescents, to relieve the crowded condition of the regular hospitals, and also provide for any emergency following a great battle.

MANCHESTER MEDICO-ETHICAL ASSOCIATION. The following petition was presented to the House of Commons on Monday, July 21st, 1862, by Thomas Bazley, Esq., M.P.:—"To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled. The petition of the undersigned, on behalf of the Manchester Medico-Ethical Association, humbly sheweth,—That the Act passed in the year XXI and XXII Vict., cap. xc, entitled 'An Act to regulate the Qualifications of Practitioners in Medicine and Surgery, and generally cited as 'The Medical Act,' has, after four years experience, been found inadequate to the requirements of the medical profession and the welfare of the public. That whereas the preamble to the said Act states that 'it is expedient that persons requiring medical aid should be enabled to distinguish qualified from unqualified practitioners,' the Act itself fails to define the titles and qualifications of such practitioners. That one great feature of the 'Medical Act' having been the formation of a 'General Council of Medical Education and Registration,' yet a recent instance seems to show that there are no satisfactory powers to compel the various licensing bodies to conform to the requirements of such Council. That whereas the Act forbids the assumption of medical titles by unqualified and unregistered persons, the fortieth clause has been decided by the judges of the higher courts to have failed in its intentions, and to be inoperative. That whereas the thirty-sixth clause forbids the appointment of unregis-

tered persons to public services, hospitals, clubs, emigrant vessels, and in other ways, no provision has been made whereby this clause can be enforced. That although the said Act professes to protect 'persons requiring medical aid' from incompetent and unqualified persons, yet it nowhere attempts to prevent or *prohibit* the practice of medicine or surgery by such incompetent or unqualified persons. That a competent knowledge of both medicine and surgery is indispensable to the practice of the medical profession, and yet the Act allows persons to register who may have undergone the test of fitness by examination in one of the branches of the profession only. That the word '*surgery*' is very commonly used by unqualified and unregistered persons as a public inscription or sign on or about their dwellings or places of business, thereby misleading the public, whom it is the intention of the Medical Act to defend; and the said Act contains no provisions to meet this evil. That offences under the penal clauses of the said Act are proveable by 'implication' only, which is generally deemed unsatisfactory by the judges. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that, in consequence of the above-cited and other deficiencies in the said Medical Act, and its admitted failure after four years of patient trial and experience of its workings, your honourable House will give its attention to the subject, and devise such measures to prevent existing abuses as shall, in its wisdom, seem most fit. And your petitioners will ever pray, etc. JAMES LOMAX BARDSLEY, Knt., M.D., *President*; JOSEPH STONE, M.D., JONATHAN WILSON, F.R.C.S., *Honorary Secretaries*.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....Royal Free, 2 P.M.—Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 1.15 P.M.—Samaritan, 2.30 P.M.
TUESDAY....Guy's, 1½ P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.
WEDNESDAY...St. Mary's, 1 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—Royal Orthopædic, 2 P.M.
THURSDAY.....St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—London, 1.30 P.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—London Surgical Home, 2 P.M.
FRIDAY.....Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.
SATURDAY.....St. Thomas's, 1 P.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.

POPULATION STATISTICS AND METEOROLOGY OF LONDON—JULY 26, 1862.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

	Births.	Deaths.
During week.....	{ Boys .. 887 }	1758
	{ Girls.. 871 }	
Average of corresponding weeks 1852-61		1782
Barometer:		
Highest (Mon.) 30.047; lowest (Wed.) 29.786; mean, 29.921.		
Thermometer:		
Highest in sun—extremes (Sat.) 125.6 degs.; (Wed.) 70.5 degs.		
In shade—highest (Sat.) 79 degrees; lowest (Tu.) 44.6 degs.		
Mean—60.1 degrees; difference from mean of 43 yrs.—1.5 degs.		
Range—during week, 34.4 degrees; mean daily, 20.4 degrees.		
Mean humidity of air (saturation=100), 80.		
Mean direction of wind, S.W.—Rain in inches, 0.11.		

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * All letters and communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the EDITOR, 37, Great Queen St., Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

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

M. A. (BRISTOL).—We do not purchase back numbers of the JOURNAL. We are glad to receive gifts of them for the accommodation of those of the associates who wish to complete their sets.

RELIGIOUS SERVICE AT THE MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION.—SIR: I am sorry that some parties did not bring earlier before the members of our Association the subject of a service at church, as the first part of the programme of the proceedings at the annual meeting that is about to take place in London.

Having been a member of the Social Science Association from its foundation, and having been present at its late meeting in London, I attended the service at Westminster Abbey, and I had thought that the British Medical Association would do well to inaugurate its proceedings in a like way. But I felt that I was the only clerical member of the body, and that it might possibly be thought that I was about to intrude upon the lay members my special religious views, and therefore did not put forward my sentiments. The matter has, however, been introduced, and I feel at ease now in expressing my feelings upon it.

I am a pretty old member of the Association, having struggled with it for nearly twenty years, through good report and evil report; and its proposed gathering in London brings before me the fact that I was the party who stood forward at the York meeting, seven years ago, and proposed, in the face of the most severe opposition, the change of name from "Provincial" to "British". Of course, the place of meeting could never consistently have been London, had the name not been changed; and I therefore feel some pride in the coming assembly, and wish, with all my heart, that it may be one upon which we can all look back with no small degree of satisfaction.

Let me, therefore, say that I sincerely wish for an introductory religious service. The Bishop of London would, I think, be willing to preach the sermon; and I would suggest that the parish church in which the building of the College of Physicians stands should be the place of service (St. Martin's in the Fields?). I feel, sir, more than I can express, when I think of this meeting. It brings so many things before my mind. When I look back on my connection of about twenty years with the Association—during which time I have spoken at its meetings and written in the JOURNAL on Medical Reform—and find that so much that I advocated has been accomplished, I am really delighted. One portion, the last instalment, so to speak, in regard to general practitioners, on which I laid much stress, has been granted by the College of Physicians; viz., a license to practise medicine, which, combined with that of the College of Surgeons, renders it no longer necessary that they should be connected with a trading body.

But I must not enter further into general matters; and would only add, that my reception at the meeting of the Association at Oxford (when I rose to address it, and mentioned my change from one sacred profession to another still more so), will ever be remembered by me with the greatest pleasure. I have, therefore, by a continuance of my membership, shown that a combination of Medicine and Divinity is one that can beneficially exist; and I trust the Association will prove it still further by having an introductory service at church.

I have clung to the Association and to medicine, that I might advocate its legitimate claims with all my might. Let the feeling be reciprocal. We have the highest authority for saying that the healing art and Christian teaching may go hand in hand.

I am, etc., ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΕΡΟΣ, M.D.

FEMALE DOCTORS.—SIR: Our old friend Lindley Murray says—
Male, Doctor. | Female, Doctress.

So surely our University need not hesitate to grant a degree to any of the genus "*homo*", who can pass the examinations, without putting the question of, are you a "lady" or a "gentleman" to each individual candidate? A "physician", according to Walker, seems "neutral", inasmuch as there are no physicianness-es—his definition being "one who professes the art of healing."

I am, etc., ASHBY G. OSBORN.

We beg to call the attention of In Nubibus and other correspondents to the Notice, that: We cannot attend to unauthenticated communications.

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Dr. HANDFIELD JONES; Mr. T. M. STONE; Mr. Wm. J. CHURCH; Dr. THOMAS SKINNER; Mr. A. B. STEELE; Dr. GREENHOW; Dr. G. SHANN; Mr. W. NORRIS; Mr. A. G. OSBORN; Dr. THOMAS; Mr. RICHARD GRIFFIN; Dr. BURDER; Dr. JOHN HITCHMAN; Mr. WILLIAM CORNEY; Dr. TANNER; Mr. E. WOAKES; Mr. R. EVANS; THE SECS. EPIDEM. SOC.; and Dr. DIEUDONNÉ.