

able and indefatigable investigator of cranial morphology. He was also glad to learn that Mr. Parker had modified certain of his views. Much light was doubtless shed upon the higher animal forms by researches into the lower; but it was sometimes forgotten that the converse was also true, and that much light respecting the significance or potentiality of the lower forms was shed upon them by observation of higher types. To his mind, in spite of all that had been recently said on the subject, the segmental or vertebral theory of the skull was one of the most assured of morphological views. He thought it impossible to make even a cursory examination of the mammalian skull without being convinced, with Goethe, that it was a continuation of the vertebral series, and that in its anterior or trabecular part it was like the rest of the skeleton, planned in conformity with the principle of transverse segmentation. The divergence of the trabeculae, caused apparently by the presence of the structure from which the pituitary body is formed, led to the view of their appertaining to the visceral arch, or appendicular elements; but their horizontal position and relation to the cranial cavity pointed to their axial character. At any rate, he could not doubt that the osseous centres formed from them, or in connection with them—the basi-sphenoidal, the basi-presphenoidal, and the basi-ethmoidal—were axial segments. He would throw out the suggestion that the trabeculae might be both axial and appendicular elements, forming the bases of the axial centres just mentioned, and being continued forwards and downwards in the median plane, as a visceral structure, constituting the *septum narium*.—Mr. BALFOUR attempted to show that, in the present state of our knowledge, it was not possible to assign their true value to the various views on the morphological elements of the skull derived from the facts of embryology; and urged that, in spite of the great advantages which had resulted from the researches of Professor Parker, the time had not yet arrived when definite opinions could be maintained with reference to the trabeculae. He further pointed out that, in forming his conclusions, Mr. Bettany had overlooked certain facts of development which tended towards a different view of the nature of the trabeculae from that contained in his paper. He stated that, in the general term parachordal cartilage, two distinct elements were included: a central impaired element forming the immediate investment of the notochord, and equivalent to a continuation of the vertebral bodies; and a second element forming the lateral parts of the parachordal cartilages, and equivalent to the tissue which formed the arches of the vertebra. He maintained that the trabeculae were continuations of the lateral parts of the parachordal cartilages only, and could not, therefore, be strictly regarded as continuations of the axial skeleton which was formed by the vertebral bodies.

## PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF DUBLIN.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH, 1876.

HENRY KENNEDY, M.B., President, in the Chair.

*Myxoma of Labium*.—Dr. LOMBE ATTHILL exhibited a large myxomatous tumour which he had removed from the left labium of a young healthy married woman, mother of three children. About a year ago, a tumour of the size of a walnut appeared in the left labium, which became swollen. Ultimately the growth caused the woman much uneasiness, so that Dr. Atthill removed it. The deepness to which it penetrated was remarkable, even to the ramus of the ischium. It was of very large size, encapsuled, and poorly supplied with blood. The microscopical characters were those of myxoma.

*Extensive Laceration, with Subsequent Compression of Brain from Secondary Hæmorrhage*.—Dr. BOYD presented the brain of a man who fell on his head a height of eight or ten feet, and was rendered insensible. He received a lacerated wound over the frontal eminence on the right side. The unconsciousness passed off, and he became apparently quite well. On the tenth day, pain in the head and a tendency to sleep heavily excited apprehensions as to his state. Next day, symptoms of compression appeared, and he died on the evening of the twelfth day. The internal table of the frontal bone was driven in and pressed on the dura mater. The orbital plate of the frontal bone was fractured, and an extensive laceration of the brain existed in the neighbourhood. The compression was caused by secondary hæmorrhage.

*Bursal Tumour, with Peculiar Organised Trabeculae*.—Dr. THOMSON showed these specimens, which he had removed from the gluteal region of an army pensioner. The tumour consisted of a mass of fibrous tissue, and the bursal cyst was remarkable from the presence of peculiar macaroni-like cords or bands, which were attached to its wall by both their extremities. These trabeculae were possibly composed originally of hypertrophied bands of areolar tissue.

*Vesical Catarrh dependent on Stricture*.—Mr. H. G. CROLY showed the genito-urinary organs of a man, aged 79, who suffered from retention of urine due to a close stricture of the urethra, with enlarged prostate. There was advanced vesical catarrh, and an abscess was found between the bladder and the rectum. The ureters were dilated. An abscess also existed in the substance of the right kidney.

## SELECTIONS FROM JOURNALS.

### THERAPEUTICS.

**LEUKÆMIA WITH SPLENIC HYPERTROPHY CURED BY HYPODERMIC INJECTIONS OF ERGOTINE**.—In the *American Journal of Medical Science* for July 1876, Dr. R. Crockett publishes an interesting case of leukæmia with considerable hypertrophy of the spleen, muffled, weak, and rapid heart-beats, rapid and quiet respiration, anasarca, and albuminuria. Dr. Crockett had resort to perchloride of iron and ergotine. Perchloride of iron was given in doses of twenty drops daily in sugared water. The ergotine was administered in hypodermic injections—four grains of ergotine in fifteen minims of distilled water and glycerine. Two injections were made on alternate days. The hypertrophy of the spleen diminished after the third injection, and the condition of the patient was greatly improved.

**PERUVIAN BALSAM AS A DRESSING FOR WOUNDS**.—At a recent meeting of the Berlin Medical Society, Dr. Wiss read a paper in which he advocated the use of Peruvian balsam as a dressing for wounds of all kinds. He had found it highly useful in gunshot and lacerated wounds, in wounds with loss of substance, and suppurating wounds. Its application produces a momentary burning pain, which soon, however, ceases even in wounds of the most severe and painful character. It produces neither inflammation nor suppuration; and, if these be present, they soon cease after its application. He had met with no case in which wounds treated with the balsam underwent septic infection, even in the most unfavourable local and climatic conditions. In all the cases in which he had used it, healing took place by the first intention. He had found it to repress exuberant granulation. The antisympurative property of Peruvian balsam reminded him that it had been recommended by Marcus in chronic pulmonary catarrh; and he had used it in two cases, in the form of an emulsion (one tablespoonful of a mixture containing 4 parts in 120), with good result.—*Berliner Klinische Wochenschrift*, November 27th.

**THERAPEUTIC USES OF SALICYLATE OF SODA**.—Dr. C. Kunze (*Deutsche Zeitschr. für prakt. Med.*, No. 28) recommends salicylate of soda as a means of rapidly relieving the pain of gout. In two cases of gout of the foot, a single dose of one drachm was followed in three hours by complete cessation of the pain; the swelling, however, remained ten days longer. In a case of gout in the hand, the pain ceased after the use of forty-five grains of the salicylate daily for eight days, the hand recovering its utility. Dr. Bode (*Allgemeine Med. Central-Zeitung*, No. 61) states that he found salicylate of soda to relieve pain in a case of mastitis and in one of rheumatic fever. Dr. L. Hoffmann (*Berliner Klin. Wochenschrift*, No. 34) has found it remarkably efficacious in gout of the hands and feet, and relates successful cases of its use in sciatica, tic douloureux, and intercostal neuralgia. He recommends seven grains and a half to be taken in a gelatine capsule every hour. Dr. Abelin of Stockholm (*Nordiskt Med. Arkiv*, Band viii) prefers salicylate of soda to salicylic acid as a remedy for children. It is more easily tolerated; its antipyretic action is certain, though of brief duration; but it has little effect on the course of the disease.

### PATHOLOGY.

**ANEURISM OF THE RIGHT GASTRO-EPIPLOIC ARTERY**.—A case of death from this cause is related by Dr. Ponfick in Virchow's *Archiv*, Band lxvii. The subject was a corpulent woman, who for some months before death had felt severe pain somewhere beneath the lower ribs on the right side. One morning, she felt as if something had been ruptured in her abdomen, and died of collapse in the evening. At the necropsy, there were found fatty degeneration of the heart, mitral insufficiency, narrowing of the left venous orifice, and atheroma of the aorta. The abdomen contained a large quantity of blood. This was found to have proceeded from an aneurism of the right gastro-epiploic artery, of the size of a pigeon's egg. Two smaller aneurisms were also found in the left coronaria ventriculi and superior mesenteric arteries. Their walls were formed of adventitious tissue.

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

### GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting was held on Tuesday, November 21st, at Gloucester; the President, Dr. WRIGHT, in the Chair.

*President-elect.*—Dr. T. M. ROOKE of Cheltenham was elected President for the year 1877.

*The late Dr. Rumsey.*—The following resolution was proposed by Dr. WRIGHT, and seconded by Dr. WILSON, and unanimously adopted; and the Secretary was requested to forward it to the General Secretary, in order that he might bring it before the Council of the Association.

"At the meeting of the Gloucestershire Branch of the British Medical Association, held at Gloucester November 21st, 1876, it was resolved that the General Council of the Association should be requested to take steps to bring before her Majesty's Government the claims of the widow of the late H. W. Rumsey, M.D., F.R.S., to have continued to her the pension awarded to her late husband, but which he only enjoyed for a few months."

*Information of Infectious Disease.*—Dr. WRIGHT brought before the Branch the subject of the sources of information for the officer of health, stating that his own feeling was in favour of a clause compelling the head of the house to give notice to the sanitary medical officer of all infectious diseases occurring in that house.

*Diabetes.*—Dr. WILSON of Cheltenham read a paper on diabetes, especially with regard to its treatment by skimmed milk, and endeavoured to show what particular cases of that disease were likely to derive benefit from that treatment.

*Spectroscopes.*—Mr. HOLLAND exhibited spectroscopes. He showed the spectra of various metals, and pointed out how the instrument might be serviceable in the detection of sewage contamination in drinking-water and in other cases of interest to the profession.

### MIDLAND BRANCH: MONTHLY MEETING.

THE second monthly meeting of this Branch was held on December 1st at the house of the President, JOSEPH WHITE, Esq.

*Notice of Meetings.*—Mr. BAKER of Derby proposed, and Mr. MICKLEY seconded, "That monthly meetings should be announced through the JOURNAL only; and, at the same time, the list of communications to be made should appear also."

*Communications.*—The following communications were made.

1. A successful Case of Cesarean Section, by W. WALTER, M.B.
2. Is Rheumatism a Blood or a Nerve Disorder? by J. BROOKHOUSE, M.D.
3. Notes on a Case of Tubercular Meningitis, and one of Cerebro-Spinal Fever, by R. C. CHICKEN, F.R.C.S.
4. Mr. CHICKEN showed a Morbid Specimen of Cancer of the Pylorus.

*Vote of Thanks.*—The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. STANGER, and seconded by Mr. BAKER, to those gentlemen who had contributed matter for discussion.

### SOUTH OF IRELAND BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

A GENERAL meeting of the South of Ireland Branch of the British Medical Association was held at the Royal Cork Institution on November 4th; Dr. JACKSON CUMMINS, President, occupied the chair. Letters of apology were received from several members.

*Report of Council.*—Dr. ATKINS, Honorary Secretary, read the Report, which was as follows.

"The Council have to report that during the past session, extending from November 1875 to April 1876, twelve general meetings, including the opening one, were held for the exhibition of pathological specimens and the discussion of medical and allied topics. In accordance with a resolution unanimously adopted, one debate, opened by Dr. H. M. Jones, was concluded, and a second was opened by the President, Dr. Cummins. Abstracts of the proceedings of these meetings have from time to time been published in the JOURNAL of the Association. In commencing this session, the Council would suggest the substitution of monthly meetings for the hitherto fortnightly ones, or the holding of meetings at no fixed period, but according as the secretary has material on hand. In throwing out this suggestion, the Council are desirous that it should be freely discussed by the members present; and

whatever arrangement regarding the holding of the meetings may be come to, they trust that each and every member, both city and county, will do their utmost in the coming session to further the objects of the Branch, by supplying specimens, papers, and cases, and by attending, as far as possible, the meetings which may be held, and thus adding to their interest by the increased scope of the discussions which will necessarily follow. Some little time since a movement was set on foot to inquire into the possibility of inviting the Association to hold its annual meeting for 1877 in Cork; but, on mature deliberation, the project was found at present to be impracticable, but a hope exists that at a future date the profession in the South of Ireland may be in a position to receive the Association in a suitable manner."

*Address of President.*—The PRESIDENT then said: Gentlemen, the time has now arrived for me to lay aside the office of President; and it is with pleasure that I hand over my place to Dr. Jones, the originator and first secretary of the South of Ireland Branch of the British Medical Association. The session over which I have had the honour to preside has been successful in at least one point of view: as each meeting has been rich in material of great interest, and the few members who attended regularly exhibited an amount of zeal, energy, and industry which to some extent compensated for lack of numbers. This Branch has been only two years in existence, and now numbers thirty-three county and eighteen city members. It has been the first Branch of the British Medical Association established in Ireland, and we hope for the credit of our city that it will succeed. Cork has been ever foremost in advancing every work of utility and progress, and the Irish Branch of the medical profession has always fully held its own in medical literature and has often led the van in medical progress. In times gone by, a vast amount of the practical knowledge gleaned at the bedside by intelligent physicians and surgeons was lost to medical literature, and passed away with the lives of many who had acquired the power to benefit their suffering fellow-creatures: but a new era dawned on the profession when medical societies were first founded, and now the *dissecta membra medicinæ* are cemented together by such discussions as have lately taken place in London, where all the knowledge of the day has been made to converge upon certain disputed points in pathology and therapeutics, and each subject has been thoroughly sifted in order to separate truth from error. But especially has the Association, of which we are the first Irish Branch, done good service to the public in drawing together at its annual meetings, from London and the provinces, from Ireland and Scotland, from America and the Continent of Europe, the most distinguished authorities of the day to discuss medical topics. No wonder that the *Times* and other leading public journals have fully recognised the all-importance of such gatherings of medical men; for the gleanings from such a vast field must produce a rich harvest, of which the public will reap the fruit. Notwithstanding the great increase of towns in the British islands, and the increased causation of mortality which follows upon density of population, the advance of medical and sanitary knowledge has reduced mortality most creditably. I quote from an address by the Right Honourable Lyon Playfair the following table. The mortality in London per thousand was, between 1660-70, 80.0; between 1681-90, 42.1; between 1746-55, 35.1; between 1846-55, 24.9; and in 1871, 22.6. These are striking figures, but we want to decrease the mortality still further. We want to remove all preventable causes of death from among the people; and, as guardians of public health, it is incumbent on us to bestir ourselves and consult together in our societies, not only for the advancement of our profession and ourselves, but for the benefit of our fellow-creatures. The leading medical men in Cork, and especially the staffs of the hospitals, owe it to the South of Ireland to draw together the large amount of medical talent and medical experience which lies unnoticed and unrecorded around them; and there is no reason why we should not erect our Branch into such a position as to enable us to invite the members of the Association to hold one of their annual meetings in Cork. As we are at present, I for one would shrink from the responsibility of doing so; but a very little energy and a great deal of combined effort among ourselves would place us in such a position as to ensure a most successful meeting of the Association in our city.

Dr. Cummins then vacated the chair, which was taken by Dr. H. Macnaughten Jones, President for this year.

*Officers and Council.*—On the motion of Dr. ATKINS, seconded by Dr. GREGG, Dr. J. G. Curtis was unanimously elected President-elect for the ensuing year.—On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS, Dr. Berry (Mallow) and Dr. Cremen (Cork) were unanimously elected Vice-Presidents.—Drs. R. Atkins and A. O'Connor were unanimously re-elected Secretary and Treasurer respectively.—The following gentlemen were elected members of the Council: Dr. Gregg, Cork; Dr. Cummins, Cork; Dr. Golding, Cork; Dr. Ronayne, Youghal; Dr.

O'Reilly, Lismore; Dr. Hobart, Cork; Dr. White, Carrignavar; Dr. Cronin, Queenstown; Dr. Eames, Cork; Dr. Scott, Queenstown; Dr. M'Donogh, Killarney; Dr. Hayes, Tralee; Dr. Griffin, Killarney; Dr. W. Belcher, Bandon; Dr. Hadden, Bandon.

*Financial Statement.*—Dr. A. O'CONNOR, Treasurer, read the financial statement, which appeared most satisfactory. There were now, he said, fifty-one members in the Branch.

*Monthly Meetings.*—It was resolved to hold monthly meetings in the evenings; these meetings to be for the transaction of scientific business, and to take place on Saturdays; other special meetings to be held when sufficient material was accumulated, at which it was hoped the county members would be able to be present.

#### BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE second ordinary meeting of the session was held November 9th, 1876, at the Queen's College, Birmingham: present, Dr. G. F. BODINGTON, President, in the Chair, and thirty-eight members and visitors.

*Specimens.*—Mr. SAMPSON GAMGEE showed a specimen of Thrombosis of the Innominate Artery.

Mr. JOLLY exhibited an example of Cancer of the Breast.

Mr. LAWSON TAIT brought forward a specimen of Cauliflower Excrescence.

*Papers.*—Dr. HARRISON read a paper on Cases of Embolism, three of them Puerperal.

Mr. WILDERS read a paper on the Treatment of Constitutional Syphilis.

#### SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST AND WEST KENT DISTRICTS.

A CONJOINT meeting of the above Districts was held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, on Friday, November 24th; Dr. MONCKTON, the President of the Branch, in the Chair. Sixty-five members and their friends attended.

Dr. William Gunn, Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, was duly proposed as a member of the Association.

*Communications.*—The following communications were read.

Mr. ADAMS narrated two cases of Intravitreous Hæmorrhage, and exhibited one of the patients.

Mr. RIGDEN read notes of a case of Hydrophobia.

Mr. NANKIVELL brought forward notes of a case of Penile Fistula.

Dr. THOMAS EASTES read an interesting case of Intussusception treated successfully by Inflation.

Mr. TEEVAN introduced notes of four typical cases of Retention of Urine.

Dr. C. E. HOAR narrated a case of Pleural Effusion treated by Aspiration.

*The Thanks* of the meeting were unanimously voted to the Treasurer of the Hospital for his kindness in giving the use of the board-room, and for the excellence of the arrangements.

*Dinner.*—The members and their friends, to the number of forty-eight, afterwards dined together at the Bull Hotel, under the presidency of Dr. Monckton.

#### STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

THE first ordinary meeting of this Session was held at the North Staffordshire Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent, on Thursday, November 30th, 1876: present, Dr. MILLINGTON, President, in the Chair, and thirty-nine members.

*New Members.*—The following members of the Association were duly elected members of the Branch: Dr. Frederick Mortimer Hawkins, Dr. Warrington, and Mr. William A. Frost.

*Pathological Specimens.*—Dr. J. H. TYLECOTE exhibited the Specimens, and read the Notes of a Case, of Carcinoma of the Left Kidney and Liver.

*Communications.*—1. Mr. GARNER read a Paper proposing the Use of Split Tendon Fibre for Surgical Ligatures.

2. Mr. C. ORTON read Notes of a Case of Dislocation of the Neck from a Blow.

3. Mr. ALCOCK related the History of a Case of Cæsarean Section, in which both mother and child were saved.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### MILITIA SURGEONS.

SIR,—Permit me to remind those surgeons who have not sent in their returns, that it will be impossible for the Committee to make out a correct statement to lay before the Secretary for War, should they not comply with the resolution passed at the general meeting. At present, only one-half the number of forms have been returned; and it must be obvious that, unless we are all of one mind in assisting in getting up as complete a case as possible, our cause will fail in obtaining that outside support to which it is entitled. We have at present many promises from members of Parliament, and I trust, with a good case to lay before them, the support of very many more. Isolated attacks on the authorities have hitherto only led to slaughter in detail; therefore, in this, which is probably our last advance, "let us move forward shoulder to shoulder".—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

MEMBER OF THE MILITIA SURGICAL SOCIETY.

December 11th, 1876.

### THE ABUSE OF HOSPITALS.

SIR,—Your correspondent, "A Member of the Charity Organisation Society", alludes to the memorial upon the abuse of hospitals and free dispensaries which we promoted last year, and expresses surprise that it should have failed to arrest attention both in charitable and in medical circles. Will you kindly allow us to mention that the Committee of Council appointed a day last July for the consideration of the memorial, and invited us to be present? But, unfortunately, professional engagements prevented both of us from attending the meeting, and the memorial was set aside.

Since then, we have been unable to follow up the subject. Though the experience we gained while the memorial was in circulation leads us to believe that the opinions therein contained are held by a large number of the most influential members of the profession, yet the growth of public opinion and the introduction of reforms must be a work of time. We are glad, therefore, to see that your correspondent, "A Member of the Charity Organisation Society", proposes to deal with the subject in a series of letters.

We are, sir, your obedient servants,

ALFRED MEADOWS.

December 12th, 1876.

WM. FAIRLIE CLARKE.

SIR,—I am much pleased to see in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of December 9th, at page 769, the letter of "A Member of the Charity Organisation Society on the Abuse of Hospitals and Free Dispensaries". I can only say that, if I did not, in the beginning of 1875, send my name to Dr. Meadows, it was on account of pressure of business. Besides, I cannot recollect any previous reference to this subject of such vast importance.

As a former dispensary house-surgeon, I claim my right to say a word on the subject. The Malvern Conference of Guardians have decided that, to entitle families to medical or general relief, their united earnings must not exceed three shillings per head per week. Other public bodies should see that the guardians discharge their duties towards families receiving no more than three shillings per head every week. Then from this point provident dispensaries, hospitals, clubs, etc., should start their work. There should be a medical board in each township to decide, especially in chronic cases, whether special pauper cases require hospital treatment.

The profession understand that the fracture and dislocation cases are kept at home, and the district medical officer receives the fees according to Glen's Poor-law. This is not so. The guardians, by paying ten guineas a year, save themselves forty or fifty pounds at the doctor's expense, besides saving the keep of the pauper in the hospital at the expense of the charity. They thus get rid of the pauper's keep, while the house-surgeon has an extra and useless burden thrown upon him. The dispensary house-surgeon, by the system of indiscriminate relief, has to do much work really belonging to the Poor-law. Men, therefore, hesitate to accept such appointments, on account of the mass of work carelessly done of necessity under such circumstances. Moreover, there is a

## PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR ASHBOURNE.

At the monthly meeting of the Ashbourne Local Board, on Monday, a letter was read from the Local Government Board, requesting to be informed of the reasons of the authority for appointing Mr. Henry Greaves as Medical Officer of Health, he not being qualified pursuant to the General Order of November 1872. The clerk was directed to state, in reply, that the local board adhered to their decision notwithstanding the General Order, because Mr. Greaves had been medical officer for the Ashbourne Poor-law District for twenty-five years, and had had every opportunity of being conversant with the sanitary condition of the lower classes of the town, and was, consequently, in a much better position than the other medical gentlemen could be to give the board information on such matters.

### SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS AT ST. IVES IN CORNWALL.

A CORRESPONDENT, who writes to us under the signature E. M. F., draws our attention to the somewhat anomalous condition of the sanitary organisation of St. Ives. It appears that, in consequence of the medical officer of health having left the neighbourhood nine months ago, the post became vacant. After a delay of six months, the town council invited the resident medical practitioners to tender their services; but, as they received no response to their invitation, they applied to the neighbouring sanitary officers of Hayle and Phillack, but with what result we are not informed. The reason for the unwillingness of the local practitioners to undertake the office appears to be not merely that the salary offered was only £10, but that the condition was expressly indicated "that the office was a sinecure, that no work was needed to be done, and that an active man would be objectionable". Our correspondent is justly very indignant both at the slight thus offered to the medical profession in inviting them to compete for a post which, to say the least, would involve, even under the most favourable circumstances, a certain amount of responsibility, but to which so paltry a salary was attached; and also at the actual dereliction of duty on the part of the town council which such a course indicates. St. Ives is a town of seven thousand inhabitants, with one police-constable, open street-drains which daily expose both animal and vegetable refuse, and a system of scavenging which is represented by the hebdomadal visitation of a solitary cart. Under such a *régime* as this, it would be no wonder if its statistics of death and sickness from preventable disease were much more serious than they are. Fortunately for it, the conditions in which it is placed—almost surrounded by the sea, and on hilly slopes that give a ready outlet to its drainage—have hitherto enabled it to show a better face to the world outside than the state of things above indicated might lead one to expect. This appearance of healthiness cannot, however, be supported indefinitely. If the town desire to maintain its good reputation as a health-resort, it must at once set its house in order, clean its streets, construct proper drains, and do whatever else is necessary to protect the health both of its permanent population and visitors from the attacks of preventable disease. The first step in this direction will be for the town council to secure for themselves the services of a competent medical man as a medical officer of health. If they appoint a really competent man, they may be assured that he will not urge them to incur any expenditure for the undertaking of which he will not be able to give ample justification. It is a mistake to suppose that an efficient officer of health has any motive to advise useless expense. His policy lies, indeed, quite in the opposite direction. Under any circumstances, he has no power of compelling such expenditure; and, as that function is performed solely by the Local Government Board, the Town Council of St. Ives may rest quite satisfied that it will not be enforced upon them unless very sufficient reason can be shown for doing so. We are glad to hear that the medical men of the town have exhibited such a wise unanimity in declining the ill-judged and niggardly offer of the town council; and we trust that their brethren at Hayle and Phillack will have too much respect for themselves, their profession, and the cause of sanitary progress, to be any parties to so unworthy a proposal. The duties of the post are such as to require in the public interest to be properly remunerated. If the Town Council of St. Ives be in any doubt as to what that remuneration should be, they can easily inform

themselves on the point by inquiring amongst other towns of a similar size, or by consulting the Local Government Board. Meantime, we apprehend that there is no prospect of that Board approving of the appointment of any one to the post under a condition which, whether tacit or avowed, is a plain attempt to escape the responsibility which the legislature has imposed upon the Town Council, and, as such, is deserving of the severest public reprobation.

### TYPHOID FEVER AND SEWAGE-VENTILATION.

SIR,—In your publication of December 9th, p. 759, you report that, "at the last meeting of the Carmarthen Town Council, the medical officer attributed the existence of typhoid fever in the town to the exhalations from the sewer-ventilators"; and you further infer that "this must, we imagine, be due to defective construction of the sewers and imperfection, and probably insufficiency of the sewers, since efficient ventilation of sewers is more likely to prevent than to cause typhoid fever". I think it right to inform you that I never made the statement referred to above as to the fever being caused by the exhalations from the sewers; but, on the contrary, asserted the impossibility of its having been so caused. I am glad to say that this town has been thoroughly sewered, and that all the sewers are very perfectly ventilated. With a population of about eight thousand in the town itself, we have spent on sewerage and waterworks about £18,000; and it would be very desirable that every town were as well provided with efficient sewers and as ample a supply of good water as we are.

During the year, there have been a few cases of typhoid fever, and four deaths from the disease. In two of these latter, at least, the patients were brought here from infected districts; one was brought here in the disease and the other was taken ill very shortly after his arrival.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN HUGHES, F.R.C.S.,  
Carmarthen, Dec. 9th, 1876. Medical Officer for Carmarthen.

VACCINATION.—Dr. Roden of Kidderminster has received for the fourth time an award for meritorious vaccination in the Kidderminster District. The amount on this occasion was £45 : 14.

### POOR-LAW MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

MONCKTON, Marshall, L.F.P.S.Glasg., appointed Medical Officer to the No. 1 District of the Tunbridge Union, *vice* W. C. Satchell, M.R.C.S.Eng., resigned.

### PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

DAGLISH, R. R., appointed Medical Officer of Health to the Romney Marsh Rural Sanitary District.

## MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

### NAVAL MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

LUTHER, Surgeon Edward W., to the *Midge*.  
MACMARTHY, Surgeon R. V., to the *Revenge*.  
SANDYS, Surgeon William C., to the *Hornet*.

## UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

THE THRUSTON SPEECH.—Dr. Bradbury has been appointed by the Master and Senior Fellows of Gonville and Caius College to deliver the Thruston Speech on the progress of Medicine since the time of Dr. Caius at Dr. Caius' commemoration, on May 11th, 1877.

### UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

MATRICULATED STUDENTS.—The matriculation for the session 1876-7 shows a large increase over that of past years, and now has reached the highest number that has been registered on the books of the University at any time since its foundation. The important changes in the administration of the University, effected by the ordinances of the Scottish Universities Commission in 1853-61, were speedily followed by encouraging results, especially in the number of matriculating students, which has been continued in an increasing ratio up to the present time. In the session 1861-2, the matriculated students in the several Faculties numbered 1,509; in 1866-7, there were 1,525; in 1871-2, they increased to 1,854; and in 1876-7, the present year, there are 2,069 already registered, while the average number of late entries

and entries for the summer session (judging from past years) amounts to from 200 to 250, which will together bring up the aggregate number of matriculated students to about 2,300 for the present academic year. Not only has the number of students increased, but the greater facilities of intercommunication and of travel, of late years, have largely widened the range of supply, and have given quite a marked and special character to the University—well-nigh all our Colonies, together with many foreign countries, being represented on its books. An analysis of the register shows that, of the 2,069 already matriculated for the current session, 1,434 come from different parts of Scotland, 370 from England and Wales, 30 from Ireland, 71 from India, 127 from different Colonies, and 37 from foreign countries. This is more marked in the medical than in the other faculties. Of the 828 students already registered in this Faculty, 353 are from Scotland, 291 from England and Wales, 21 from Ireland, 48 from India, 95 from the Colonies, and 20 from foreign countries.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—The following are lists of the candidates who have passed the recent M.D. and M.S. Examinations.—M.D. Examination.

Batterbury, George Henry, King's College  
Benham, Henry James, University College  
Dukes, Clement, B.S., St. Thomas's Hospital  
\*Duncan, Peter Thomas, B.S., University College  
Garlick, George, University College  
Harris, Vincent Dormer, St. Bartholomew's Hospital  
Houghton, Walter Benoni, B.S., University College and Charing Cross Hospital  
Hullard, Jean Arthur, B.S., B.Sc., University College  
Leech, Daniel John, Owens College  
Lowe, Walter George, St. Bartholomew's Hospital  
Verco, Joseph Cooke (Gold Medal), St. Bartholomew's Hospital

Logic and Moral Philosophy only.

Batterbury, Richard Legg, King's College  
Brown, Robert Charles, King's College  
Petch, Richard, King's College

M.S. Examination.

Gould, Alfred Pearce, University College

Logic and Moral Philosophy only.

Jameson, Leander Starr, University College

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following members of the College, having undergone the necessary examinations for the Fellowship, were reported to have acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of the Court of Examiners; and, at a meeting of the Council on the 14th instant, were admitted Fellows of the College.

Messrs. George Jackson, L.R.C.P. and L.S.A. Lond., St. George's Terrace, Plymouth, diploma of membership dated November 15th, 1864; Charles W. S. Deakin, L.S.A., of H.M. Bengal Army, May 14th, 1872; John Appleyard, M.B., and L.R.C.P. Lond., Bradford, Yorkshire, July 24th, 1872; Edward G. Whittle, M.B. Lond., Brighton, November 19th, 1873; and Francis J. Davies, Newport, Monmouthshire, April 18th, 1876, students of University College.—William Odell, L.S.A., Hertford, November 13th, 1872; and Jonathan F. C. H. Macready, Cheltenham, July 28th, 1874, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.—Frederic R. Fisher, L.S.A., Grosvenor Street, April 26th, 1867, of St. George's Hospital.—Henry W. Verdon, L.S.A., Eccles, Manchester, July 23rd, 1873, of St. Thomas's Hospital; and William J. Tyson, L.R.C.P. Lond., Folkestone, April 23rd, 1874, of Guy's Hospital.

Another candidate from University College passed his examination, but cannot be admitted a Fellow until qualified in Medicine; and four candidates, having failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Court of Examiners, were referred to their professional studies for twelve months.

At the same meeting of the Council, Mr. James Reid, L.S.A., of Canterbury, having been elected a Fellow of the College at a previous meeting, was admitted as such; his diploma of membership bearing date August 4th, 1843.—The following gentlemen were elected members of the Board of Examiners in the vacancies occasioned by the resignation of Messrs. Luther Holden and J. Cooper Forster—viz., Mr. Arthur E. Durham, Surgeon and Lecturer on Surgery at Guy's Hospital, and Mr. T. Pickering Pick, Assistant-Surgeon and Lecturer on Anatomy at St. George's Hospital.—The retiring members of the Board were re-elected.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, November 30th, 1876.

Trewman, George Turner, Stafford Place, S.W.  
White, Robert Godfrey, St. Alban's

\* Obtained the number of marks qualifying for the Medal.

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

Appleton, Thomas Alfred, St. George's Hospital  
Bryden, Richard Joseph, Guy's Hospital  
Davy, David Henry, London Hospital  
Gardiner, Bruce Herbert John, London Hospital  
Jefferson, Arthur John, St. Thomas's Hospital  
Lawson, Robert Lockhart, Guy's Hospital

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

Brumwell, Ernest, Kendal, Westmorland  
Parry, George Hales, Docking, Norfolk

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

Good, William Ernest, University College  
Hepburn, Alfred, St. Bartholomew's Hospital  
MacGeagh, Thomas Edwin, University College  
Satchell, William Morris, St. George'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, November 14th, 15th, and 16th, 1876, the following candidates obtained the Licence to practise Medicine, and also the Licence to practise Midwifery.

Beatty, John William  
O'Reilly, Peter  
Cummins, Henry Roysse

## MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

BOURNEMOUTH GENERAL DISPENSARY—Resident Surgeon. Salary, £140 per annum, with furnished apartments, coals, gas, and attendance. Testimonials, diplomas, etc., to be sent in on or before December 31st.

FISHERTON HOUSE ASYLUM—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging.

FLINTSHIRE DISPENSARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with lodging, coal, and gas. Applications on or before the 19th instant.

GLAMORGAN COUNTY ASYLUM, Bridgend—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £125 per annum, with board, lodging, attendance, and washing. Applications on or before January 1st.

GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, Caledonian Road—House-Surgeon. Salary, 60 guineas per annum, with board and lodging. Applications on or before the 30th instant.

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Great Ormond Street—Assistant-Physician.—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications on or before the 21st instant.

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Manchester—Assistant Physician. Salary, £300 per annum. Applications on or before the 22nd instant.

NATIONAL DENTAL HOSPITAL—Assistant Dental Surgeon. Applications to the Treasurer, 149, Great Portland Street.

NATIONAL HOSPITAL FOR THE PARALYSED AND EPILEPTIC.—Resident Medical Officer and Registrar. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging.

NORTHAMPTON GENERAL INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £125 per annum, with furnished apartments, board, attendance, and washing. Applications on or before the 23rd instant.

PARISH OF LISMORE AND APPIN—Medical Officer. Salary, £120 per annum. Applications on or before the 20th instant.

PRESTON AND COUNTY OF LANCASTER ROYAL INFIRMARY—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications on or before the 23rd instant.

QUEEN'S HOSPITAL, Birmingham—Honorary Physician.—Resident Physician. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, rooms, and washing. Applications on or before the 30th instant.

WHITEHAVEN AND WEST CUMBERLAND INFIRMARY AND FEVER HOSPITAL—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £150 per annum, with rooms, attendance, fire, and gas. Applications on or before the 19th instant.

## MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

\*CARTER, Alfred H., M.D., appointed Physician to the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, vice \*E. Mackey, M.D., resigned.

HART, Neville, M.B., appointed House-Physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

## 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.*

### BIRTHS.

BOOKLESS.—On the 4th instant, at 12, Mansel Villas, Wimbledon, the wife of James Pitcairn Bookless, M.D., of a daughter.

LLOYD.—On December 7th, at Tyncoed, Barmouth, the wife of \*H. J. Lloyd, L.R.C.P., etc., of a son.

### MARRIAGE.

GRIFFITH—ROBERTS.—On December 5th, at Soar Chapel, Penygroes, Carnarvon, by the Rev. C. Herber Evans, assisted by the Rev. J. Celsey Jones, John Thomas Griffith, L.R.C.P. Ed., of Llwyn-onn, to Laura Jane, daughter of Owen Roberts, Esq., Penygroes.

### DEATH.

BYWATER.—On December 12th, at Lanehead, Coniston, aged 19, Elizabeth Marian Bywater, second daughter of the late Robert Turner Bywater, M.R.C.S. Eng.  
GAIRDNER, John, M.D., at Northumberland Street, Edinburgh, aged 86, on December 14th.

## 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. J. Astley Bloxam, "A Man (Case of Lupus) on whom the Indian Operation for making a New Nose has been performed"; Dr. Broadbent, "On Warburg's Tincture, with Therapeutical Comments".
TUESDAY.—	Pathological Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Coupland (for Mr. Balding): Sequel to Case of Tumour of Sciatic Nerve. Dr. Coupland: Biliary Calculi encysted in Peritoneal Adhesions. Dr. Goodhart (for Dr. Lewis Marshall): Aneurysm of Aorta. Dr. Ord: Spontaneously fractured Vesical Calculi. Mr. Gould: Valvular Disease of the Heart. Mr. Gould: Recovery from Pyopericardium. Dr. Mahomed: Adenoma Hepatitis, two cases. Dr. Pye Smith: Xanthelasma. Dr. Gowers: Mitral Disease. Dr. Goodhart: Cerebral Aneurysm from Embolism. Dr. Goodhart: Cerebral Tumour.
WEDNESDAY.—	Association of Surgeons Practising Dental Surgery. 7.30 P.M.: Council Meeting. 8.30 P.M.: Mr. Hamilton Cartwright, "The Position of Dental Surgery in its Social and Ethical Aspects".
THURSDAY.—	Harveian Society of London, 8 P.M. Harveian Lecture. Mr. James Lane, "On Syphilis".
FRIDAY.—	Quekett Microscopical Club (University College, Gower Street), 8 P.M. Ordinary Meeting.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS  
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, are requested to communicate beforehand with the printer, Mr. Thomas 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.

DR. ILEWELYN THOMAS and DR. EDMUNDS's communications have been received and forwarded to the JOURNAL Office. Correspondents are particularly requested to forward communications intended for the JOURNAL to the Office, 37, Great Queen Street, and not to the private house of the Editor.

## MIDWIFERY FEE.

SIR,—A. leaves his practice for a few weeks to the care of B., who is no accoucheur. B. has to attend a difficult labour, and, instead of attending, sends for C., to whom the entire charge of the case is given. C. attends the confinement, delivering with forceps, and also attends during a tedious convalescence, supplying all medicine, and charging two guineas altogether. Is C. to keep the fee, or any part of it?—Yours, etc., A MEMBER.

\* \* \* As the case is stated here, C. appears to be entitled to the fee.

SIR,—I am anxious to join a society that would grant me a pension in my old age, and a subsistence for my wife and children in the event of my death. Would you be so kind as to name such a society, and let me know in an early issue of the JOURNAL to whom I should apply for regulations and conditions?—I am, sir, your obedient servant, AN ANXIOUS INQUIRER.  
Paris, December 12th, 1876.

CORRESPONDENTS are particularly requested by the Editor to observe that communications relating to Advertisements, changes of address, and other business matters, should be addressed to Mr. Francis Fowke, General Secretary and Manager, at the Journal Office, 36, Great Queen Street, W.C., and not to the Editor.

## MEDICAL ATTENDANCE DEPARTMENT OF FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

SIR,—May I, although a layman, invite your attention to what I conceive to be an abuse of friendly societies? The ordinary friendly society consists of two departments—first, sick pay; secondly, the doctor. The first is of the nature of an ordinary insurance. For a certain contribution, based upon well understood averages of sickness, a society accepts the risk of making to the assured a weekly allowance when ill. It is quite clear that, provided the assured be a "good life", and his occupation and habits not unhealthy, it matters not whether he be a labourer, squire, peer of the realm, or Pope of Rome, the agreement between him and the society is purely a self-supporting commercial contract, by which for a certain payment an equivalent is guaranteed. But the case is far different when we come to consider the second part of the insurance, "the doctor". In most of the friendly societies with which I am acquainted, the attendance of "the doctor" is secured for a nominal fee of 3s. 6d. to 5s. per member *per annum*. Now, it is self-evident that such an inadequate remuneration can only be accepted by the doctors as somewhat "better than nothing". It is not pretended by any one that it is a fair equivalent for services rendered. In time gone by, the great British workman expected the parish to find him with a doctor. He has now taken one step in advance of pauperism by offering the doctor a nominal fee for medical attendance. I readily admit that many a workman would find it difficult to pay a doctor's bill; and it is better that in such a case he should be encouraged to preserve his self-respect by the payment of even this nominal sum than that he should be branded as a pauper. No one complains of the poor working man because he claims medical attendance for his four or five shillings a year. But the case is far otherwise when the flourishing tradesman with his hundreds or thousands of pounds takes advantage of his club-membership, and not only draws his sick-pay (to which, as I have said, he is justly entitled), but also is not ashamed to accept or compel the attendance of the doctor through long illnesses for the same miserable remuneration. It may be said the doctor has the remedy in his own hands; let him refuse to "pass" such men for admission into the club. He can seldom do this, unless he be in a very independent position. More frequently he finds himself bound either to pass them or to refuse attendance to the whole club. This in the case of a struggling practitioner might involve too great a sacrifice of popularity. Besides this, he feels that however unjust to himself it may be that such a man should be admitted to the club for medical attendance, he scarcely likes to take the responsibility of refusing him admission, and thus preventing him from insuring for sick pay, to which there could be no objection. The result is, that in nine cases out of ten the doctor grumbles and gives way. The whole difficulty arises from this: that with the insurance for sick pay is usually coupled the condition that the insured must employ the club-doctor; and, what is worse, the doctor is, on his part, obliged to attend all the club members (among whom may be many who could afford to remunerate him properly) for the nominal fee of 3s. 6d. to 5s. a year.

I venture to suggest a remedy—separate "sick pay" from "doctor" altogether. Let any one, be he labourer, artisan, tradesman, or private gentleman, insure, if he wish, for sick pay (subject, of course, to the usual doctor's certificate). Then, alongside of the society, but independent of it, let there be a medical club for such of the members of the society as the doctor may be fairly expected to attend for 5s. a year. I suggest that no man should be allowed to enter this "medical attendance" club who is not prepared to swear that his income from all sources is not above a certain sum (say 18s. or £1 a week on the average of the year). By this plan, the thrifty artisan or tradesman or clerk (say the man earning from £70 to £200 a year, but whose earnings are precarious) would still be able to enter for sick-pay insurance, while the injustice to the doctor which is now so common would be avoided. There is an argument used by those who object to this plan, which I am almost ashamed to repeat. It is, "that when a doctor is obliged to attend a man for 5s. a year, he will for his own sake cure him as quickly as possible, whereas no such motive exists if the benefit member be a private patient of the doctor". To state such an argument is to dismiss it with indignation. I admit that the prosperity of a friendly society depends much upon the conscientious strictness of the doctor; that is all the more reason why he should be treated at least with fairness, even if from the nature of the case it be difficult to treat him with liberality.

This question may not be of much importance to the successful men of the profession, but in the interest of many an over-worked and badly paid country doctor I venture to ask you to give it publicity.—I am, sir, your faithful servant,

Boyton, Woodbridge, December 1876.

ROBERT JOHNSON.

DR. HUGHLINGS JACKSON's article on the Pathology of Chorea shall appear next week.

## MORTALITY FROM HEART DISEASE.

SIR,—I should feel much obliged for any information (editorial or from correspondents) on the statistics of heart-diseases; viz., death-rate per population, percentage of heart-attacks, treated in hospitals or elsewhere.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, X.

\* \* \* X. should consult Haviland's Map and Commentary on the Distribution of Heart-Disease, and the annual reports of the Registrar-General.

**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**.

#### REGISTRATION OF HONORARY DEGREES.

**SIR**,—In reference to the paragraph in the **JOURNAL** of the 9th instant respecting the refusal of the Branch Medical Council to register the M.D. degree of Surgeon Eustace, I cannot see the ground on which they refuse. The qualifications of F.R.C.S. Eng. (by election), and F.R.C.S. Ed. and F. and M.R.C.P. Ed., all of which are conferred by election, and not after examination, are already registered. How, then, can they refuse to register Dr. Eustace's degree? I presume he has other legal qualifications, otherwise he could not be a Surgeon R.N. It would be satisfactory to hear a distinct statement of the grounds on which the refusal is based.—I remain your obediently,

W. DOUGLAS HEMMING, M.R.C.S. Eng.

26, Notting Hill Terrace, W., December 13th.

**Q. (Cardiff).**—We do not know precisely what is implied in the question: possibly the question might be more appropriately asked of a banker or a trade-protection society; but, so far as the question can have any professional bearing, we can say that all the facts with which we are acquainted warrant a highly favourable reply.

#### PHYSIOLOGICAL ACTION OF URANIUM.

**SIR**,—In reply to the inquiry in the **BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL**, I can supply a publication on nitrate of uranium. Chap. 1. Chemistry and Natural History; 2. Chemical Literature and Sources of Knowledge; 3. Experiments on Animals; 4. Summary of Pathological Action; 5. Proving on the Human Subject; 6. Summary of Physiological Action, with Therapeutics; 8. Mode of Preparation, Dose, etc. Price 2s. 6d.—Yours, etc.,

JOHN W. HAYWARD.

117, Grove Street, Liverpool, December 12th, 1876.

**TREGUNTER**, being registered a M.R.C.S. and L.S.A., is not bound to register any additional titles; and non-registration does not prevent him from using them.

#### ABUSE OF TEA.

**SIR**,—Your correspondent Mr. W. Cox will, I think, find some interesting and valuable notes on the Abuse of Tea in Dr. Beddoe's *Hygiene; or, Essays Moral and Medical* (Essay 3), published in London in 1802 by Phillips, St. Paul's Church Yard.—I remain, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN HOLM.

#### CONSULTING MEDICAL OFFICERS.

**SIR**,—Will you kindly give your opinion on the following case? A. and B., both general practitioners, are medical officers to a dispensary. A. has held the appointment for twenty years; B. for about three years. A. sends in his resignation, and the Committee propose to appoint him as "consulting medical officer". B. objects to the term "consulting", on the ground that all the practitioners in the town—a small watering place of about five thousand inhabitants—are general practitioners, and that the appointment of A. as such would raise him above them, to the detriment of their practice. A. and the Committee yield to B., who threatens to resign if the appointment be made, and the title is altered to "honorary medical officer". Would A. have committed a breach of professional etiquette if he had accepted the appointment of consulting medical officer? I enclose my card, and remain, sir, yours truly,

M.R.C.S.

\*.\* Certainly not. It is a customary and usual compliment to a retiring medical officer of a charity after long and good service, and cannot prejudice the position of any one else.

#### POISONING FROM ARSENICAL WALL-PAPER.

**SIR**,—Some short time since a young gentleman called on me, complaining of irritation of the eyelids and pain over the temples, and radiating over the back of the head. The pain was most severe about an hour after the lamp was lighted. He said he had been ailing for the last couple of months. As I could discover no organic lesion, and as he had always enjoyed good health, I suspected some form of metallic poisoning. In reply, he stated his office was lately painted a very pale green (emerald). Accordingly I attributed the symptoms to arsenic. Time passed, and he remained away from his office; yet the symptoms continued, so I inquired about the paper at his house. He said the paper was simple, and did not contain any colouring. On asking him to let me have a piece, I found it coloured with a small green leaf, and had no difficulty in detecting arsenic in considerable quantity. What makes the case of some interest is, that the father and mother and three sisters lived in the same sitting-room, and none complained of any illness, so my suggestion of arsenic in the paper was considered most improbable—more so, as the landlord had assured them there was no arsenic, only simple colouring. Now, since the arsenic has been discovered, the father says he sometimes has a huskiness in his throat; and the mother, that she has had a headache for some time. The symptoms were attributed to every cause but the real one. The room was papered some nine months since, and it was only as the days became short, and the lamp was lit for some time, that the symptoms manifested themselves. It is also noteworthy that the chief lesion was connected with the nerves in the region of the eyes. There was little or no gastric complication. May not the fact of the son using his eyes in study more than the others account for the locality of the affection, the poison coming into direct contact with the eyes?—I am, etc.,

J. F. B.

Brighton, December 6th, 1876.

**MR. W. J. BROWN** (Newcastle-upon-Tyne).—The letter was duly received, and, we believe, acknowledged. We published three letters on the subject, which seemed to suffice to state the case.

#### HYPNOTISM.

**SIR**,—Some years since, Dr. Braid of Manchester employed in his practice an influence which he named "neurohypnotism, or nervous sleep". The results obtained were, if as reported, on apparently good authority, of great value and worthy of study. Can any of your readers inform me whether the state is employed in practice in England now, and if so, by whom and where? This "hypnotism" is used, I am told, in France, under the title of "Braidism". Possibly some of the members of our Association may aid me by information on the subject.—I am, dear sir, very faithfully yours,

D. D'UHSON-MORA, F.R.C.S., etc.

Manchester, December 9th, 1876.

**MR. HARAM WOOD'S** suggestion is one to which it would probably be very difficult to give practical effect. The best way to meet it in the first instance would probably be to raise a discussion on the subject at a branch meeting.

**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.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The North British Daily Mail; The Whitty Times; The Suffolk Chronicle; The Exeter and Plymouth Gazette; The Manchester Guardian; The Liverpool Daily Post; The Ulverston Mirror; The Penrith Observer; The Buxton Advertiser; The Border Advertiser; The Edinburgh Courier; The Bournemouth Visitors' Directory; The Bromsgrove, Droitwich, and Redditch Weekly Messenger; The Hampshire Telegraph; The Falkirk Saturday Herald; The Craven Herald; The Broad Arrow; The Fife Times; The Shield; The British Press and Jersey Times; The Elgin Courier; The Home Chronicle; The Manchester Evening News; The Glasgow Herald; 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 Hull and Lincolnshire Times; The Derby Mercury; The Hull Criterion; The Divdee Advertiser; The Times of India; The Hereford Times; The East Lancashire Echo; The Liverpool Daily Courier; The Bath Herald; The Liverpool Forcump; The Sheffield Daily Telegraph; The Glasgow News; The Sussex Daily News; The Hull Eastern Morning News; The Redditch Indicator; The Dundee Evening News; The Hampshire Post; The Hull News; The Lakes Chronicle; The Tring Telegraph; The Hexham Herald; The South Wales Daily News; The Dudley Herald; The Tunbridge Wells Gazette; The Jarroo Express; The Northampton Herald; The Liverpool Argus; The Daily Telegraph; The Greenock Advertiser; The Torquay Directory; Panch; 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. Christopher Heath, London; Dr. Balthazar Foster, Birmingham; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Dr. Joseph Bell, Edinburgh; Dr. W. R. Gowers, London; Dr. Jukes Styrap, Shrewsbury; Dr. Cornelius B. Fox, Chelmsford; Dr. George Johnson, London; Dr. Churton, Leeds; Mr. J. F. Boyes, Brighton; Dr. Roden, Kidderminster; Dr. W. Bernard, Londonderry; Dr. A. Cooper Key, London; Dr. Maule Sutton, Oldham; Mr. R. M. Fawcett, Cambridge; Mr. A. W. Mayo Robson, Leeds; Mr. Neville Hart, London; Dr. Dowling, Tipperary; Mr. R. W. Soper, Dartmouth; Mr. David Russell, Neston; Nemo; Dr. Sawyer, Birmingham; Dr. Urban Pritchard, London; The Registrar-General of England; Dr. J. Milner Fothergill, London; Mr. T. Holmes, London; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; Dr. Douglas Powell, London; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; Dr. Braidwood, Birkenhead; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Mr. G. Eastes, London; M.B.; The Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society; Dr. Edis, London; Dr. A. S. Taylor, London; Mr. A. H. Blake, London; Our Paris Correspondent; Mr. John Abbey, Oxford; Mr. John Liddle, London; Dr. F. J. Brown, Rochester; Mr. A. W. Stocks, Salford; Mr. John Hughes, Carmarthen; M.R.C.S.; Dr. Fairlie Clarke, Southborough; Marasmus; Mr. Robert Johnson, Boyton; Dr. R. J. Cooper, London; Dr. Finlayson, Glasgow; Mr. E. Bellamy, London; Dr. W. Lauder Lindsay, Perth; Mr. W. J. Harris, Worthing; Dr. Mackey, London; Mr. H. Sewill, London; Dr. G. de Gorraquer Griffith, London; Mr. Sherry, Leeds; Mr. Hamilton S. Cartwright, London; Mr. T. Vincent Jackson, Wolverhampton; Mr. W. J. H. Wood, Boston; Mr. Edmund Owen, London; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Mr. J. E. Ingpen, London; Mr. W. J. Brown, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Dr. Broadbent, London; Mr. Diego d'Ushon-Mora, Manchester; Mr. J. Charlton Jones, Liverpool; Dr. Hitchcock, Lewisham; Dr. Corfield, London; Mr. William Hoar, Maidstone; Dr. Renshaw, Beech Hurst; The Secretary of the Harvian Society; M.D.; Mr. Richard Davy, London; Dr. Llewellyn Thomas, London; Dr. Edmunds, London; Mr. W. Spencer Watson, London; Dr. Burney Yee, London; Our Dublin Correspondent; Mr. J. B. Austen, London; Mr. J. B. Tinsley, London; Q.; Dr. Holman, Reigate; Dr. Leech, Manchester; Dr. Hardie, Manchester; Mr. C. J. Cullingworth, Manchester; J. T.; Dr. A. Morrison, London; Dr. Goodchild, Leamington; X.; Dr. A. Meadows, London; Dr. Parsons, Dover; An Anxious Inquirer; Dr. Deas, Macclesfield; Dr. Klein, London; Dr. Duffey, Dublin; Mr. George Brown, London; Dr. Lindsay, Auerley; Mr. Hayward, Liverpool; Mr. Balmanno Squire, London; Dr. W. M. Ord, London; Dr. Foulis, Glasgow; Dr. Charlton Bastian, London; Mr. Nettleship, London; Mr. John Croft, London; Dr. Priestley, London; Dr. Habershon, London; Mr. Otho Salgey, St. Vincent; Mr. J. T. Griffith, Penny-groes; Mr. Hugh Robinson, Preston; Dr. Hoffmeister, Cowes; Dr. Roden, Kidderminster; Mr. Douglas Hemming, London; A Member; Dr. Hughlings Jackson, London; Professor Wilson, Edinburgh; Mr. S. Harley Kough, Church Stretton; Mr. H. Burdett, Greenwich; Mr. R. Johnson, Woodbridge; Mr. John Holm, London; etc.

#### BOOKS, etc., RECEIVED.

Histological Demonstrations; a Guide to the Microscopical Examinations of the Animal Tissues in Health and in Disease: being the substance of Lectures delivered by George Harley, M.D., F.R.S. Edited by George T. Brown, M.R.C.S. Second Edition. London: Longman, Green, and Co. 1876.  
Micro-Photographs in Histology, Normal and Pathological. In Five Numbers. Vol. 1. By Carl Seiler, M.D.; in conjunction with J. Gibbons Hunt, M.D., and J. Richardson, M.D. London: Macmillan and Co. 1876.  
Practitioner's Handbook of Treatment. By J. Milner Fothergill, M.D. London: Macmillan and Co. 1876.  
The Germ-Theory of Disease: "the Specific Fevers". By T. MacLagan, M.D. London: Macmillan and Co. 1876.