

*Syphilitic Osteitis*.—Mr. F. T. PORTER showed the calvarium of a male subject. The bone presented the characters of extensive syphilitic caries.

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

### COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL: NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the Committee of Council will be held at the Office of the Association, 36, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Wednesday, the 10th day of January next, at Two o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANCIS FOWKE,  
*General Secretary.*

36, Great Queen Street, London, W.C., December 23rd, 1876.

### MIDLAND BRANCH.

THE third monthly meeting of this Branch will be held at the house of the President, Joseph White, Esq., Oxford Street, Nottingham, on Friday, January 19th, 1877.

Coffee at 7.30 P.M.

Paper on Practical Disinfection by Dr. Seaton, Medical Officer of Health for Nottingham, at 8 P.M.

L. W. MARSHALL, M.D., *Hon. Local Secretary.*  
Nottingham, December 17th, 1876.

### SHROPSHIRE AND MID-WALES BRANCH: QUARTERLY MEETING.

A QUARTERLY meeting of the above Branch was held at the Salop Infirmary on December 14th; the President (Dr. TAYLEUR GWYNN) in the Chair. There was a fair attendance of members.

*New Member*.—C. Jordison, Esq., of Malpas, was elected a member of the Branch.

*Communications*.—1. Mr. WILLIAM EDDOWES, jun., read notes on a case of Colotomy for Cancer of the Rectum. A good artificial anus was established in a fortnight, through which feces passed freely, affording great relief to the patient, who unfortunately sank from other causes a few weeks later.

2. The PRESIDENT read a few notes on three cases of threatened Mammary Abscess, illustrating the importance of not causing irritation of the Breast by drawing when there is a deficient supply of milk. In one case, there was a glandular swelling in the axilla, unconnected with the mammary gland, from which milk exuded, being probably a supplemental milk-gland.

3. Dr. ANDREW related a case of Empyema in a child, in which the lung was entirely collapsed. There was very little constitutional disturbance, and an interesting discussion ensued as to whether the best treatment would be to aspirate or to leave the case to nature; the majority of members agreed that it would be better to adopt the latter course.

4. Dr. ANDREW also related a case in which the Placenta had been left *in utero*. The first time he saw the patient was a fortnight after parturition; he again saw her in a month's time, when she had perfectly recovered, without any bad symptoms.

*Life Assurance Fees*.—A discussion was held concerning the propriety of receiving a smaller fee than a guinea for examining a candidate for life assurance. The opinion of the meeting was that, if the assurance companies reduced the fee on account of the candidate being assured for a small sum, they ought to increase the fee in proportion to the amount for which he was assured, or else pay a guinea in every case.

### THAMES VALLEY BRANCH: ORDINARY MEETING.

A MEETING of the above Branch took place at the Griffin Hotel, Kingston, on December 14th; Dr. J. LANGDON DOWN in the Chair.

*Communications*.—1. Mr. HENRY PRICE read notes of cases of Rheumatism treated by Salicylate of Soda.

2. Dr. ATKINSON read a paper on Quinsy.

3. Mr. MAUNDER related two cases of Intestinal Obstruction treated by Colotomy.

*Transfusion of Blood*.—Dr. ROUSSEL of Geneva was introduced by Mr. Maunder, and gave a very interesting demonstration of the use of his instrument. Dr. Down stated that Mr. Maunder had also intro-

duced Dr. Roussel at the London Hospital the previous Saturday, that the students there might have the benefit of seeing the instrument; knowing also that amputation at the hip-joint was to be performed, when possibly its practical value could be seen. It was used after the operation had been performed by Mr. James Adams, who also gave the blood, and worked admirably. This was the first occasion of its actual employment in this country.

*Operation-Fees to General Practitioners*.—Mr. MAUNDER made the following proposition: "That an *operation-fee*, in a certain proportion to that given to the operator, should be received by the practitioner at the time, on the same principle as confinement-fees are paid. As a matter of delicacy, this suggestion should come from the consultant, either at the moment of receiving his own fee, or earlier, should the opportunity have presented itself." He said it had often seemed to him that gentlemen in general practice are called upon to exercise considerable forbearance when sharing the responsibilities of an operation performed by another. The operator takes his fee at the time, willingly bestowed when "the tear is in the eye"; while the regular medical adviser not only gives his valuable time and assistance at the operation, but also his attendance during possibly a protracted convalescence, and in the end may get no recompense.

It was resolved, "That it is the opinion of this Branch that it is desirable to put Mr. Maunder's suggestion with regard to an operation-fee into actual practice"; and it was hoped that the subject would be discussed by other Branches of the Association.

*Dinner*.—The members and friends to the number of eighteen afterwards dined together.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### ABUSE OF MEDICAL CHARITY.

SIR,—In accordance with your kind permission, I forward a few more facts and figures bearing upon the question of out-patient relief in the metropolitan hospitals, its abuse, its excessive amount, and its inevitable encouragement of pauperism and fraud. Notwithstanding the very general refusal of the London hospitals, and especially of the largest and most richly endowed, either to undertake or to permit any adequate investigation of the cases of their out-patients, a large number of most significant facts have been collected with regard to the character, the social position, and the pecuniary resources of those who obtain gratuitous medical assistance; and I have, therefore, thought it advisable to devote the present letter exclusively to statistics of this class.

It would neither be easy nor encouraging to believe that at least one-fourth of our London population is unable to afford the six or eight shillings *per annum* for each adult, or the one shilling or one shilling and sixpence per month for each family, which would suffice to secure the advantages of a provident dispensary; and those who know what a frightful aggregate of imposture, improvidence, and needless dependence has been created, wholly or in part, by unwise poor-laws and by indiscriminate charity, would not find it difficult, even in the absence of statistics, to imagine the results which must ensue if applicants are constantly admitted in the metropolis alone to more than eighty hospitals and free dispensaries with nominal payment and investigation, or, far more frequently, with none. Any philanthropic institutions which give even the slightest and most indirect encouragement to the pauperism and thriftlessness of the poor create of necessity a moral deterioration for which the largest amount of material benefit which they can confer will not easily compensate; and that the pauperising influence of the London medical charities is neither slight nor indirect the following statistics may partly suffice to show.

Referring to the Report of a Subcommittee on General Hospitals which was appointed in 1870 by the large and influential Committee on Out-patient Hospital Administration, which met at the rooms of the Medical and Chirurgical Society in Berners Street, we find it stated as the opinion of the Committee, "that the *probable income* of half the number of out-patients may be estimated at from £1 to £1 : 10 per week, one-fourth more than this, and the remainder less"; and that the one-fourth, whose income exceeds £1 : 10 per week,

themselves both at head-quarters and abroad. I am sure there are hundreds of the junior members of the British Medical Association who would be delighted to obtain militia appointments, and who, if it were deemed necessary, would repair to Netley, and there qualify themselves by study and examination for such important posts.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
A NON-MILITIA SURGEON.

December 18th, 1876.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—The following gentlemen were admitted Licentiates on December 22nd, 1876.

Ballard, Philip, Bromyard  
Bull, James Weston, Guy's Hospital  
Clapp, Robert, Teignmouth  
Ellis, Philip Mackay, St. George's Hospital  
Eve, Frederick Samuel, St. Bartholomew's Hospital  
Ferguson, John, Ardwick, Manchester  
Green, Alfred Withe's, Guy's Hospital  
Gross, Charles, Guy's Hospital  
Harris, Arthur Byron, Wotton-under-Edge  
Jones, Valentine Lewellyn Watson, Dowais  
Masani, Pormasji Dadabhoi, 3, Bulstrode Street  
Moo'ie John, 63, Queen's Crescent  
Pe'ry, Francis Frederick, University Hospital  
Robinson, Ernest Laurie, St. George's Hospital  
Robinson, George Win'or, St. Thomas's Hospital  
Wallis, Kenneth Serjeant, Edmonton

The following candidates, having passed in Medicine and Midwifery, will receive the College Licence on obtaining a qualification in Surgery recognised by this College.

Dingle, William Alfred, Millbrook, Southampton  
Gomes, Dominic Anthony, 85, Hereford Road

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, December 21st, 1876.

Bellaby, Frederick, Nottingham  
Carlyon, Thomas Baxter, Cornwall  
Christian, John, Barrow, Rutland  
Folkes, Frederick Hyde, Dukinfield  
Lewis, Thomas Hope, Carmarthen  
Mansell, Edward Kossor, Upper Norwood  
Robinson, George Mason, Faversham  
Welchman, Walter Henry Lawrence, Falmouth Road, S.E.

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

Blaikie, William, St. Bartholomew's Hospital  
Graves, Thomas William, King's College  
Noble, Henry Brewin, London Hospital  
Osborne, James, Guy's Hospital  
Wright, Harry Claude, St. Bartholomew's Hospital

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND.—At the examination held on December 4th and following days, the undersigned gentlemen, having passed the required examinations for the diploma, and having made and subscribed the declaration, were admitted Licentiates of the College.

Allen, Edmund Henry  
Baxter, Richard Henry  
Blunden, William  
Castles, Joseph William  
Cole, C. Dillon Croker  
Dimond, John  
Dodd, Henry Francis  
Duiganan, John Joseph  
Dunne, Alexander  
Fetherston, Charles H.  
Flood, John Wellesley  
Jenkins, Stewart  
Kennedy, William

Kirkpatrick, Henry Ivers  
Kinane, Michael Kiely  
Lyndon, George  
Malone, Jonathan Hill  
Nixon, George Eccles G.  
O'Connor, Maurice John  
O'Neill, Laurence Joseph  
Penny, Charles Hall  
Penny, Henry James  
Phibbs, William Harloe  
Reynolds, George Gerald  
Walsh, William Butler

KING AND QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS IN IRELAND.—At the ordinary monthly examination meetings of the College, held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, December 12th, 13th, and 14th, 1876, the following candidates were successful for the Licence to practise Medicine.

M'Ahern, James  
M'Brennan, James Henry  
M'Bridgford, Charles Trussell  
M'Caruthers, Charles Ulic  
M'Cox, Thomas  
M'Hallowes, William Bourne  
Lyle, Allen Andrew

M'Munn, James  
M'Murphy, Edmund  
M'O'Connell, Timothy  
M'O'Leary, Edward Hyacinth  
M'Thornhill, William Henry  
Willis, Francis Taylor

For the Licence to Practise Midwifery, the candidates above named marked M, and  
Pim, William Joseph

## MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

BOLTON UNION—Resident Medical Officer for Workhouse. Salary, £150 per annum, with furnished apartments. Applications on or before Jan. 4th, 1877.  
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.  
BOSMERE and CLAYDON UNION—Medical Officer for the Claydon District.  
BRADFORD UNION—Medical Officer for the North-East District.  
CANCER HOSPITAL, Brompton—Resident House-Surgeon and Registrar. Salary, 100 guineas per annum, with board and residence. Applications to be made on or before January 18th, 1877.  
CHELSEA, BROMPTON, and BELGRAVE DISPENSARY—House-Surgeon and Secretary. Salary, £95 per annum, with furnished apartments, and £20 for coals and lighting. Applications on or before January 4th, 1877.  
DEPWADE UNION—Medical Officer for the Fourth District.  
DULWICH AND LOWER NORWOOD DISPENSARY—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum and rooms.  
EAST RETFORD UNION—Medical Officer for the Leverton District.  
FISHERTON HOUSE ASYLUM—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging.  
GLANMORGAN COUNTY ASYLUM, Bridgend—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £125 per annum, with board, lodging, attendance, and washing. Applications on or before January 1st.  
GLANFORD BRIG UNION—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator. Salary, £28 per annum, and fees. Applications on or before January 10th, 1877.  
GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, Caledonian Road—House-Surgeon. Salary, 60 guineas per annum, with board and lodging. Applications on or before the 30th instant.  
HENLEY UNION—Medical Officer for the Caversham District. Salary, £75 per annum, and fees. Applications to be made on or before January 9th.  
KINGSCLEERE UNION—Medical Officer for the Workhouse and Kingscleere District.  
LINCOLN UNION—Medical Officer for the Eighth District.  
MANCHESTER PROVIDENT DISPENSARIES' ASSOCIATION—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £120 per annum, and private practice allowed.  
MIDDLESBORO, Parish of—Medical Officer.  
MIDDLESEX THIRD COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM—Senior Assistant Medical Officer; Second Assistant Medical Officer; Junior Assistant Medical Officer. Salary of the Senior Assistant to commence at £200, that of the Second Assistant at £150, and that of the Junior Assistant at £120 per annum, and furnished apartments, board, washing, and attendance to each. Applications on or before January 16th, 1877.  
NATIONAL DENTAL HOSPITAL—Assistant Dental Surgeon. Applications to the Treasurer, 149, Great Poland Street.  
NATIONAL HOSPITAL FOR THE PARALYSED AND EPILEPTIC—Resident Medical Officer and Registrar. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging.  
NEWENT UNION—Medical Officer for the Dymock District.  
ROYAL ALBERT EDWARD INFIRMARY and DISPENSARY, Wigan—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications on or before January 2nd, 1877.  
SUSSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL—Surgeon and Assistant-Surgeon. Applications, with testimonials, to be made on or before January 3rd, 1877.  
QUEEN'S HOSPITAL, Birmingham—Honorary Physician.—Resident Physician. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, rooms, and washing. Applications on or before the 30th instant.  
ROTHBURY UNION—Medical Officer for the Rothbury Eastern District.  
WIMBORNE and CRANBORNE UNION—

## MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

DUNCAN, Alexander T., L.F.P. & S. Glasg., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Joint Counties Asylum, Carmarthen, *vice* A. H. Martin, M.B., resigned.  
ECCLES, Robert, M.A., M.D., appointed House-Surgeon to the Bootle Borough Hospital, *vice* C. Gibson, L.R.C.P. Ed., resigned.  
SMITH, J. T., M.R.C.S. Eng., appointed Assistant House-Surgeon to the Bootle Borough Hospital.  
\*WARNER, Francis, M.D., appointed Medical Registrar to the London Hospital, *vice* Dr. Herman, resigned.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, is 3s. 6d., which should be forwarded in stamps with the announcement.

### BIRTHS.

M'KANE.—On December 26th, at Byers Green, Durham, the wife of \*G. O. M'Kane, L.R.C.P. Ed., etc., of a son.

### DEATH.

\*WEBB, Matthew, M.R.C.S., etc., at his residence, the Orchard, Lion Bridge, Salop, aged 63, on December 15th. No cards. Friends will please accept this announcement.

SANITARY INSTITUTE OF GREAT BRITAIN.—A general meeting of the members of this Society was held at their rooms in Spring Gardens on Tuesday, the 12th instant, when the report of the Committee was presented. After full discussion, it was unanimously resolved, "That the thanks of the members be accorded to the Committee for their report". Arrangements are in progress for holding an adjourned public meeting of the Institute early in the ensuing year, in accordance with the resolutions adopted at the meeting held at St. James's Hall on July 13th last under the presidency of His Grace the Duke of Northumberland.

## 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.

- TUESDAY.—Pathological Society of London, 8.30 P.M. General Meeting for the Election of Officers. Dr. Pye-Smith: Case of Xanthelasma. Dr. Gowers: Mitral Disease. Dr. Goodhart: Cerebral Aneurysm from Embolism. Mr. Bryant: Aneurysm of Femoral and Popliteal Arteries from Embolism. Dr. Greenfield: Aneurysm and Division of Brachial Artery. Dr. Goodhart: Cerebral Tumour. Mr. Godlee: Granulation Material from White-swelling of Knee-joint. Dr. Greenfield: Malformation of Aortic Valves.
- WEDNESDAY.—Obstetrical Society of London, 8 P.M. Annual Meeting. Election of Officers and Council. Reports and other business. Specimens. President's Address. Cases of Trismus Nascentium and Pyæmia in Children, by Drs. Napier, Roper, and Edis; and other communications.
- THURSDAY.—Harveian Society of London, 8 P.M. Election of Officers; President's Address; Conversazione.

## 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.

## REGISTRATION OF HONORARY DEGREES.

SIR,—I observe your correspondent omitted to include the F.R.C.P. Lond. qualification, which is likewise only conferred by election, but is also a registrable one.—Yours, etc., F.R.C.P. EDIN.

ERRATA.—In Dr. Hughlings Jackson's article on Chorea, in first line of the third paragraph, p. 813, for "Parkes" read "Kirkes"; in first footnote, p. 814, for "recently" read "essentially".

MEDICAL DEFENCE ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE. SIR,—Permit me, through the medium of your JOURNAL, to remind the members of the profession resident within the above district that it has been proposed to form a Branch of the Medical Defence Association for South Wales and Monmouthshire. I have had many promises of co-operation in the movement, and propose calling a meeting early next month for the purpose of framing rules, electing officers, etc. In the meantime, let me urge those gentlemen who approve of the object of the Defence Association to communicate with me, if they have not already done so.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

J. HANCOCKE WATHEN, Honorary Secretary *pro tem*.

Castle Hill, Fishguard, December 19th, 1876.

\*.\* We should advise Mr. Wathen to bring the subject under the notice of the South Wales Branch of the Association, and to endeavour to connect his Committee with that organisation, which will have many advantages in being already formed and having the power of an existing and important organisation.

A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY.—The founder of the Society of Apothecaries was Gideon de Laune, M.D., apothecary to Anne of Denmark, the Queen of James I. There is a portrait of the founder in possession of the Society, dated 1640, aged 76.

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,—I was much pleased to see Mr. Robert Johnson's letter in last week's JOURNAL, because his views coincide exactly with those to which I have been in the habit of giving expression for some years whenever the "club question" has been a topic of discussion. I have always contended that, although any number of people, however much their social position may vary, are at liberty to form societies for their mutual benefit in times of sickness, this should not enable them *all* to claim medical attendance when sick for the same small fee. If two men, earning respectively, say, 20s. to £4 a week, pay the same weekly instalments for equal benefits of sick pay, to a club or friendly society, no one is injured; but if each at the same time claim medical attendance for the fee of 5s. a year, the case is very different. There is then a great injury done to the profession, and an encouragement in a first step towards a loss of independence and self-respect on the part of the working classes. The mixing together of two things, which ought always to have been distinct and separate, is the main evil connected with the club question.

There can, I think, be no doubt that the two should be separated. The friendly societies should confine themselves to their legitimate work—the relief of its members during sickness. All members not earning, say, more than 30s. a week, should belong to a provident dispensary, a certificate from which should be accepted by the friendly societies; and all other members, being in a position to do so, ought to pay the usual fees of a medical practitioner. The matter is in the hands of the profession, if they choose to make an earnest effort in the right direction.—Yours, etc.,

A. G. SHEEN, M.D.

Cardiff, December 19th, 1876.

DR. MUNRO.—St. John's Hospital for Skin-Diseases is in Leicester Square, W.

## ANATOMY IN QUEEN'S COLLEGE, CORK.

SIR,—Well knowing the interest you take in medical education, and the influence you have gained in the medical world, I beg to submit the following case to your consideration. A rule has lately been made by the new Professor of Anatomy of this College (Dr. Charles) preventing senior students from entering the dissecting room, unless on payment for the third time of the full fee for the course of anatomy. Two courses of anatomy are all that are required by the Senate of the Queen's University for their degrees and at these final examinations, as well as at the first professional, anatomy forms a most important item. Such being the case, it is very hard that men who have complied with the University regulations should be debarred during their last year at College from even entering the dissecting room and inspecting the dissections of others, and thus renewing their acquaintance with this subject. This rule, I believe, exists in no other medical school or college, and most certainly did not exist during the time of the late Professor (Dr. Corbett), and it falls with special hardness on the unfortunate men who will be presenting themselves for their degrees next June. These men have not seen a subject since the close of the session last April, and yet will be expected to have the whole anatomy at their fingers' ends next June. The great injustice must be apparent to all, and the only motive that can be ascribed for it seems to be pecuniary.

Trusting, sir, that I have not intruded in laying the case thus before you, I am, yours truly,

A CORK STUDENT.

Queen's College Cork, December 18th, 1876.

\*.\* The case stated by our correspondent is *prima facie* a hard one. But the rule made by the Professor of Anatomy is in strict accordance with the regulations of the Queen's Colleges in Ireland, where a separate payment is required for *each course*. The difficulty might be obviated with advantage to the students and no detriment to the colleges by the establishment of moderate composition fees, entitling to perpetual attendance, as in the English medical schools.

W.—See the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for April 22nd, 1876, page 521.

## CAUSE OF BLINDNESS IN TELEGRAPH CLERKS.

SIR,—In answer to your correspondent making inquiries about blindness occurring in telegraphic clerks, I beg to suggest that there may be two causes contributing to this result, supposing that the faculty of vision was really perfect on their first joining the service. One may be dependent on over-indulgence in the habit of smoking tobacco, especially after breakfast; and the other cause may be, in the older clerks, loss of accommodation in the eye from over-work. It is supposed by some that the effect of tobacco-smoking on the eyesight is derived from its effect on the brain first, and thence transmitted afterwards to the optic nerves; but this may more easily be explained without that *modus operandi*. The connections of the globe of the eye with the nasal branch of the ophthalmic division of the fifth central nerve, and the ciliary ganglion with the nerves of the mucous membrane of the palate and nose, will be thought amply sufficient to transmit poisonous effects by direct nervous connection, instead of going all the way round by the brain. (The sphenopalatine ganglion is probably the chief means of transmitting this baneful effect.) The application of the eyes too continuously to near and minute objects, with mental effort at the same time, and when they are in rapid motion also, will tend to wear out the elasticity and tone both of the ciliary processes and iris. These will, therefore, become congested and sluggish in action when required for the purposes of controlling the movements of the lens and the natural diaphragm for regulation of the focussing and admission of light.

The amelioration of this alleged impairment of sight will probably depend on abstinence from inordinate smoking, and modifying the appearance of the telegraphic instruments for the use of the eyes of those that use them. This may be done by increasing the size of the type of lettering on paper and dials, and having these coloured light blue or green, instead of being white, with the use of larger needles and other apparatus of registration.—I remain, yours, etc.,

December 1876.

AMBLYOPIA.

**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.

#### VARIOLA AND VACCINIA.

**SIR**,—In the *JOURNAL* of December 2nd, under the head of Fatal Cases of Small-pox among Vaccinated Persons, is the following remark: "We do not know that it has ever been conclusively established at what stage of the vaccinia protection from small-pox is acquired; but it has never been even asserted that vaccinia, during the incubation period of small-pox, confers any protection, and the two above-mentioned cases prove that it does not." Will the following circumstance, taken from my notes when in general practice in a large union practice in the country, be of any service as bearing in some measure on the point?

Two boys (twins), about ten years of age, lived in a retired straggling village with their widowed mother. One was taken ill with small-pox; neither had been vaccinated. The brother, who showed no symptoms of the disease, I immediately vaccinated, and sent him away some miles to reside with his aunt. The first boy had confluent small-pox very severely, but recovered after a severe struggle. The vaccinia in the boy who was vaccinated went through its natural course (four marks) in the arm; but, strange to say, about three weeks after being vaccinated, the boy had modified small-pox, which also ran its course, but the effects were milder than the vaccinia, and were confined to a few isolated vesicles on the body, the face escaping any pitting, whereas his brother was strongly pitted in the face. Thus in this instance it would appear that the vaccinia was able to keep the variola in abeyance while it ran its own course, and have sufficient power to neutralise, or at all events modify, the effects of the variola-poison already in the stage of incubation in the system.

The only other case that I can remember as bearing on the above question, is where Hunter, "On the Blood-Influence," reports a case of a child which he inoculated with variolous matter. I have not the work with me at the present moment to refer to, but I remember he describes that, after inoculating the child, he was surprised to see that the mark receded after the third day; there was much fever, with sore throat, followed two days afterwards by a scarlatina eruption, which ran its course; after which, the variola inoculation marks took a fresh start, and went through their regular course very mildly.

Now in this instance there could be no doubt about the scarlatina poison being in the system when the boy was inoculated; but it had sufficient power to keep back the action of the variola-poison until it had run its course, and would appear in some measure, like vaccine, to modify the effects of the latter. The question is, whether in the case I have before related, the boy whom I vaccinated had the variola-poison in the system in the stage of incubation. He had slept with his brother. It is possible he might have resisted the disease, as we often see instances where one or two in a family escape when all the rest are attacked with any eruptive disease; and being vaccinated and removed at once, the vaccinia ran its course before the variola affected the system. It certainly was singular that the attack of modified small-pox should commence directly the vaccinia had finished its course.—Yours, etc.,

JAS. GARDNER.

Box, December 9th, 1876.

**MR. JOHNSON.**—The time for sending in essays for the Collegial-triennial and Jacksonian prizes of the College of Surgeons expires on the 31st; and we hear with that surprise, which will be shared by many of our readers, that none have yet been received in Lincoln's Inn Fields.

#### LUNACY CERTIFICATES.

**SIR**,—I will be glad to hear, through your medium, from any of my brethren particulars of fees obtained in Scotland for lunacy certificates granted in the cases of paupers.—Your obedient servant,  
December 23rd, 1876.

PARISH MEDICAL OFFICER.

**MR. MASON.**—There is a portrait of Cheselden in the Council room of the College of Surgeons. He was a man of considerable taste in matters of art. The plan of Fulham Bridge was drawn by him. He was, moreover, a most charitable man; and when the Foundling Hospital was first proposed, he sent a benefaction with the following lines from Pope.

"'Tis what the happy to the unhappy owe,  
For what man gives, the gods by him bestow."

#### SMALL-POX.

**SIR**,—If you think it worth while, perhaps you will give room for a word or two of remark in reference to a letter on "small-pox" appearing in your issue of the 9th instant. Apropos of the first part of that letter, allow me also to recount a small bit of experience of my own. I was vaccinated successfully when an infant, bearing the marks clearly since. I was re-vaccinated about the time 1852-53, and the infection again took with distinct success. In the year 1865, I had under my charge, for a complaint of a perfectly different class, a man who was deeply, almost confluent, marked with small-pox; and while he was in hospital, another young man was taken in and put into a separate ward, suffering from fever, which in a day or two developed into a case of variola discreta. In the course of some days I became ill, and was attacked with small-pox, "modified," but unmistakable; and, a few days later, my other first-instanced patient likewise became the subject, for the second time, of small-pox, of which he then had a very severe attack—apparently, from its effects, quite as severe as his first attack could have been, the marks of which he bore before his admission, his whole countenance being eventually changed as if it had been by the removal of a mask.

I relate this because it seems apposite to a relation of a similar purport in your correspondent's letter; but I utterly disclaim for it any bearing militating against the necessity of universal vaccination—if, indeed, any such bearing be implied by the relation in your correspondent's letter. The "modified" and very mild nature of my own attack in 1865 was undoubtedly due to my being "protected" by vaccination; while the susceptibility of my first-mentioned patient, after having had small-pox, is wide of the question of protectedness after vaccination; or rather would tend to show that, if susceptibility occur sometimes after vaccination, so also does it after small-pox itself, and is as exceptional after one as after the other.

In the second part of your correspondent's letter, he advocates the use of a solution of carbolic acid, "one part of pure acid in eight of water." It might, perhaps, be useful if the writer would detail the means by which he obtains a solution of one part of carbolic acid in eight of water. I believe the solubility of carbolic acid in water to be about one-fourth of that here indicated.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,  
December 12th, 1876.

SUBURBAN.

**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.**

#### NITRATE OF URANIUM.

**SIR**,—I have noticed for the first time to-day, in the last *JOURNAL*, but one, an inquiry as to the action of nitrate of uranium. I have never used it internally, but have frequently used it as a topical application, more particularly as a gargle in relaxed sore-throat, in proportion of ten grains to the ounce of water, with one drop of dilute nitric acid and a drachm of glycerine. I have always found it a most effective and very astringent gargle.—Your obedient servant,  
December 18th, 1876.

J. G. DOIDGE.

**R. W. J. E.**—Dr. C. J. B. Williams, Dr. C. T. Williams, Dr. Quain, Dr. Leared—*cum alii*.

The glyconine emulsion of cod-liver oil, first made public by Mr. G. C. Close, in the *Druggists' Circular* of October, 1874, is again commended by that journal as probably equal to the best method for administering cod-liver oil. His formula is: "Cod-liver oil, four ounces; glyconine, nine drachms; aromatic spirit of ammonia, one drachm; sherry wine or brandy, sixteen drachms; dilute phosphoric acid, four drachms; essence of bitter almonds, two drachms." Glyconine is made by adding five parts in weight of concentrated glycerine with four parts of yolks of eggs, previously well beaten.

**ALBERT.**—The Council of the College of Surgeons, so long ago as 1822, were fully sensible of the importance of a study of dermatology when they adopted the recommendation of the Jacksonian Committee to offer the prize for the best essay on "Diseases of the Skin," when Mr. Samuel Plumbe, a member of the College, carried off the prize. Mr. W. J. Erasmus Wilson, F.R.S., is the present Professor of Dermatology.

We are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The North British Daily Mail; The Whitby 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 Tipton 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 Dundee Advertiser; The Times of India; The Hereford Times; The East Lancashire Echo; The Liverpool Daily Courier; The Bath Herald; The Liverpool Porcupine; The Sheffield Daily Telegraph; The Glasgow News; The Sussex Daily News; 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 Jarrold Express; The Northampton Herald; The Liverpool Argus; The Daily Telegraph; The Greenock Advertiser; The Torquay Directory; Punch; etc.

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

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

Dr. S. Wilks, London; Dr. J. B. Bradbury, Cambridge; Dr. Edis, London; Dr. J. Matthews Duncan, Edinburgh; Our Paris Correspondent; Dr. Mackey, London; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Dr. Tripe, Hackney; Dr. Fairlie Clarke, Southborough; Dr. J. Milner Fothergill, London; Dr. Parsons, Dover; Mr. Eastes, London; Dr. F. J. Brown, Rochester; The Registrar-General of England; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; Mr. T. Vincent Jackson, Wolverhampton; Mr. T. Holmes, London; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Dr. Humphry, Cambridge; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; M.D. Edin.; The Secretary of the Harveian Society; Dr. Douglas Powell, London; The Secretary of the Obstetrical Society; Dr. T. S. Dowse, Highgate; Dr. H. R. Hatherly, Nottingham; Dr. Pye-Smith, London; Mr. W. H. A. Jacobson, London; Dr. Gibson, Bootle; M.B.; Mr. J. Walters, Reigate; Mr. J. W. Allen, London; Mr. Higham Hill, London; A Member of the Charity Organisation Society; Dr. J. Hughlings Jackson, London; W.; F.R.C.S.Ed.; M. Alcock, Burslem; Mr. Walter, Stoke-upon-Trent; Mr. M'Nab, Hull; Dr. Arlidge, Stoke-upon-Trent; Dr. Munro, Battersea; Parish Medical Officer; C. J. D.; Mr. J. Hyde Houghton, Dudley; Dr. Crichton Browne, London; Mr. F. M. Prene, Manchester; Dr. Wallace, Liverpool; Dr. Wiltshire, London; Another Public Vaccinator; Dr. Farquharson, London; Mr. W. A. Marsh, Shrewsbury; The Secretary of the Pathological Society; Mr. M'Kane, Spennymoor; Guliemus; Dr. Foley, Kilrush; Dr. H. R. Thomson, Algiers; M. F. Godrich, Brompton; Dr. T. M. Rooke, Cheltenham; Vinculum; Dr. L. W. Marshall, Nottingham; Dr. Bevan Lewis, Wakefield; Tatta; A Public Vaccinator; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Mr. W. F. Terry, Tiverton; Mr. R. M. Mann, Manchester; Our Dublin Correspondent; Mr. J. Farrar, Bradford; Dr. W. Thomson, Peterborough; Dr. F. A. A. Smith, Walton-on-Naze; Dr. Holland, London; Mr. George Bland, Macclesfield; Mr. R. J. Pye-Smith, Sheffield; etc.

#### BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Woman, and her Work in the World. By C. N. Cresswell. London: Hardwicke and Bogue. 1876.  
Surgical and Practical Observations on the Diseases of the Human Foot. By J. Zacharie. New York: 1844.—Revised. London: 1876.  
Practical Physiology. By M. Foster, M.D., F.R.S. Assisted by J. N. Langley, B.A. London: Macmillan and Co. 1876.