

Executive Committee be requested to let the report be in circulation among members of the Council at least one month before the meeting at which it shall be discussed."

Vote of Thanks to the Lord President.—It was moved by Sir WILLIAM GULL, seconded by Dr. ROLLESTON, and agreed to:

"That the Council cannot separate without expressing its thanks to the Lord President of the Council for the amount of time and trouble his Grace has bestowed upon his Medical Act (1858) Amendment Bill."

The usual vote of thanks, etc., having been passed, the session came to an end.

SELECTIONS FROM JOURNALS.

MEDICINE.

ANOMALOUS SYMPTOMS IN BRONCHIECTASIS.—Dr. Bardenhewer reports two cases of putrid bronchitis (*Berlin. Klin. Wochenschrift*, 1877, No. 52), or bronchiectasis, in the course of which symptoms appeared of marked rheumatic character, assuming in one case the symptoms of acute articular rheumatism. He considers, with Gerhardt, that the cause of the symptoms was the absorption of putrid material from the dilated bronchi. For the local treatment of the bronchial affection, he considers most appropriate the inhalation of a one or two per cent. solution of carbolic acid, carried out for weeks every two hours continuously night and day.

PULSUS PARADOXUS.—Sommerbrodt (*Berlin. Klin. Wochenschrift*, 1877, No. 42) arrives at the following conclusions from researches with his sphygmograph. 1. Distinct influence of the respiration on the pulse may be observed with appropriate apparatus in all healthy individuals, and often in a very marked manner even in aged persons. 2. Both in healthy and diseased persons, the evidence is best obtained where the contractile power of the muscles of inspiration is intact or unusually strong and the thorax moves freely. 3. The characteristic influences of the respiration on the pulse are least palpable when the inspiratory power is weak, and the expansibility of the thorax is markedly lessened. It is, therefore, best to drop the expression "paradoxical pulse", or to employ it in an opposite sense to that heretofore customary; for a pulse is paradoxical when the influence of the respiration upon it cannot be observed.

SURGERY.

DIVISION OF THE ABDOMINAL AORTA BY A PISTOL-BULLET: SURVIVAL FOR ONE HOUR AND TEN MINUTES.—The particulars of this case were read last winter by Dr. Judson Bradley, before the Detroit Academy of Medicine. The bullet entered between the seventh and eighth ribs on the left side; passed through the stomach, pancreas, the aorta, leaving only about a fourth of its circumference undivided; struck the spinal column near the first lumbar vertebra, and then turned back, passing under the ascending vena cava, cutting the right renal vein, and finally lodging in the right lobe of the liver. The chief interest in the case, according to the narrator, was the length of time—at least one hour and ten minutes—which elapsed before death ensued. There is, however, in the pathological museum of the Middlesex Hospital a preparation illustrating a similar wound of the abdominal aorta by a pistol-bullet, in which instance the patient survived an hour and a quarter; and there is a far more remarkable specimen (1565A) preserved in the Hunterian Museum. This last preparation shows the ascending aorta of a man, with a socket of lymph, which had lodged a musket-bullet, adhering to its inner wall. It was removed from a seaman who had been wounded by a bullet which first struck his ear, and, after running along it, had entered his left side between the seventh and eighth ribs. A piece of skin punched out of the man's side was found to have been carried before the missile into the ascending aorta, where both together had lodged about an inch above the valves. Yet death did not take place till the third day from the time when the wound was received had been nearly completed. The partial plugging of the aorta by the projectile was probably the cause of the extraordinary prolongation of life after such an injury.

OBSTETRICS.

TREATMENT OF VOMITING IN PREGNANCY.—Dr. M. O. Jones of Chicago, believing that the vomiting of pregnancy is a reflex phenomenon depending on the condition of the uterus, argues that it can be best controlled by local treatment at the seat of irritation. To accomplish this, he proposes to excite a superficial inflammation of the os and cervix uteri, hoping, by this means, to concentrate the nervous

phenomena at the point of irritation, and thus save the stomach. He had the opportunity of testing this theory in five cases, in which he cauterised the cervix with the solid nitrate of silver, with surprisingly successful results. These were all extreme cases, in which the ordinary remedies had been tried, without any benefit whatever in two of them, and with but temporary improvement in the others. Four were cases of first pregnancy; in two there was slight erosion of the mucous lining around the os; the other three were perfectly healthy. In addition to these, Dr. J. Marion Sims reports a case in his practice, in which most brilliant results were obtained by this treatment. The night after the application of the nitrate of silver, the patient had the first night's rest she had had for a week, and the next morning ate a liberal breakfast, something she had not done for a fortnight.—*Richmond and Louisville Medical Journal*, April 1878.

THERAPEUTICS.

INTRAVENOUS INJECTION OF MILK AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR TRANSFUSION OF BLOOD.—Dr. T. Gaillard Thomas (*New York Hospital Gazette*) read a paper on this subject before the New York Academy of Medicine. The operation was first performed by Dr. Hodder of Toronto about 1850, who employed it three times in the treatment of collapse in Asiatic cholera. Next, Dr. J. W. Howe of New York injected six ounces of goat's milk into the cephalic vein in a case of phthisis, but with no benefit to the patient. Dr. Howe, also, injected cow's milk into the veins of five dogs, and they all died. The experiments of Dr. Eugene Dupuy, made at the suggestion of Dr. Thomas, proved that milk could be injected without any baneful results. In these experiments it was found that cases of intravenous injection of milk which had been removed from the cow for an hour or two invariably proved fatal, while the injection of perfectly fresh milk was followed by marked benefit. The method employed by Dr. Thomas may be best illustrated by relating briefly one of his cases. A healthy cow was driven into the yard of the hospital, and eight and a half ounces of milk, drawn from her udder into a porcelain dish surrounded with warm water, was permitted to flow slowly into the median basilic vein of the patient from a glass funnel, to which was attached an India-rubber tube and a suitable nozzle to be introduced into the opening in the blood-vessel. A rigor followed the operation; the temperature rose to 104 degs. Fahr., but these symptoms soon passed off, and the patient, who was moribund at the time of the operation, rallied, and left the hospital in about three weeks. Dr. Thomas has employed it in seven injections, and arrives at the following conclusions. 1. Injection of milk into the circulation in place of blood is a perfectly feasible, safe, and legitimate operation. 2. None but healthy milk, drawn from the udder of the cow within a few minutes of its introduction into the circulation, should be employed. It should be tested with litmus paper, and, if found to be acid, should be made alkaline by the addition of carbonate of soda. 3. A glass funnel, with an India-rubber tube and a suitable pipe attached, was much better and safer than a more elaborate apparatus. 4. Intravenous injection of milk was an infinitely easier operation to perform than transfusion of blood. 5. Intravenous injection of milk, like that of blood, was commonly followed by a chill and rapid rise in temperature; but these symptoms soon subsided, and were replaced by a great improvement in the general condition of the patient. 6. He would not limit lacteal injections to cases in which profuse and exhausting hæmorrhage had occurred, but recommended their use in certain cases of typhoid fever, pneumonia, cholera, etc.

REPORTS AND ANALYSES

AND

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW INVENTIONS

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

ANODYNE AMYL-COLLOID.

UNDER this title, Messrs. Ferris, Boorne, and Co., of Bristol, have introduced to the notice of the profession a preparation purporting to consist of hydride of amyl, aconitia, veratrina, and ethereal collodion. They state that this preparation is a valuable topical application in cases of neuralgia, sciatica, lumbago, and all muscular pains. After an extended trial, it is reported to us to be a very valuable anodyne. As Messrs. Ferris allege, the pain often disappears as a sequel of the rapid volatilisation of the hydride of amyl; but, should it continue, the alkaloids contained in the collodion-film may be brought into activity by applying moist spongio-piline, with the best results.

method of treatment which bears his name in surgery, and which has justly obtained for him a world-wide reputation. Mr. Lister's communication, which will be found in *extenso* in the *Bulletin de l'Académie*, has been made over to a Commission, composed of MM. Richet, Vulpian and Broca, for examination.

MANCHESTER.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Domestic Economy Congress.—Manchester and Salford Sanitary Association.—Annual Meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch at Blackpool.

MANCHESTER had its Congress last week as well as Berlin; the subject discussed being domestic economy. The meeting was presided over by the Duke of Westminster, and flourishes of trumpets, not necessarily blown by the readers of papers, diversified the proceedings at frequent intervals. After a long and patient hearing, one felt inclined to say "*c'est magnifique, mais ce n'est pas la guerre*"—it is doubtless very fine, but it is not what we want. The papers indeed were, for the most part, of a visionary, speculative, or at best of a tentative, character; and all lacked, what should be the *primum movens* of such a meeting, practical applicability to the needs of the poor.

At the annual meeting of the Manchester and Salford Sanitary Association, held in the Town Hall, on Monday, much satisfaction was expressed at the recent formation of a sanitary inspection department, whose duty it will be, for a stated fee, to report upon the condition of any dwelling. The report will be drawn up by a civil engineer, who may probably sometimes call in the aid of a medical man. How far the scheme will work remains to be seen; but this at least is clear, that the poor will derive no benefit from it, and yet they are manifestly the very class who most need such aid and advice. Perhaps, however, this is the less to be regretted, as, after all, the work proposed by the Association is to a certain extent fancy work, and can only be regarded as supplementary to the functions of the local Board of Health. Indeed, it is difficult to withstand the conviction that the Health Officer, and a practical trained assistant, are safer guides in such matters than a civil engineer and an amateur hygeist.

The meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch of the British Medical Association, held at Blackpool, last week, was a very successful and pleasant gathering—not the least interesting matter being Mr. Reginald Harrison's account of the kindness and hospitality he received during a recent visit to the United States, of which he gave an account *à propos* of his description of the American method of treating stricture of the urethra.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

NOTICE is hereby given that, at the General Meeting to be held at the Assembly Rooms, Bath, on Thursday, the 8th day of August, 1878, a resolution will be proposed to the following effect; namely:

"That the Fifth Article of Association be altered by the insertion of the word 'MALE' before 'PERSON'."

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

London, July 11th, 1878.

ABERDEEN, BANFF, AND KINCARDINE BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held on Saturday, the 20th instant, at No. 198, Union Street, Aberdeen, at 1.30 P.M.: Professor OGSTON, President, in the Chair.

The members will afterwards dine together in the Palace Hotel, Union Bridge, at 3 o'clock P.M.

Aberdeen, July 1st, 1878.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Crichton Royal Institution, Dumfries, on July 26th, 1878: President—Dr. LOCKIE; President-elect—Dr. GILCHRIST.

Gentlemen intending to read papers, or to be present at the dinner, are requested to give notice to either of the Secretaries.

R. MACLAREN, M.D., Carlisle, } *Honorary Secretaries.*
JOHN SMITH, M.D., Dumfries, }

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Committee of Council, held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, the 10th day of July, 1878: Present, Dr. R. W. FALCONER (President of the Council) in the Chair; Dr. Eason Wilkinson (President), Mr. W. D. Husband (Treasurer), Dr. Clifford Allbutt, Mr. Alfred Baker, Mr. J. Wright Baker, Dr. De Bartolomé, Dr. Borchardt, Mr. G. W. Callender, F.R.S., Dr. A. Carpenter, Dr. C. Chadwick, Dr. B. Foster, Mr. R. S. Fowler, Dr. E. L. Fox, Dr. W. C. Grigg, Dr. C. Holman, Dr. D. J. Leech, Mr. E. Lund, Mr. F. E. Manby, Mr. F. Mason, Dr. E. Morris, Mr. R. H. B. Nicholson, Dr. J. Sawyer, Dr. R. C. Shettle, Dr. E. H. Sieveking, Dr. A. P. Stewart, Dr. W. F. Wade, Dr. E. Waters, and Mr. C. G. Wheelhouse:

Resolved: That the report of the Subcommittee on the question of female members be adopted, and published in the JOURNAL.

REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE.

1.—Your Subcommittee has to report that its first meeting was held at the office of the Association on May 14th, and a second meeting was held on July 9th, at both of which six members were present. Mr. Upton, your solicitor, attended the latter meeting, at which this report was adopted.

2.—Dr. Wade was appointed Chairman, and it was determined to request Mr. F. A. Bosanquet of the Oxford Circuit to settle the questions to which answers were required, so that the Association might be fully informed both as to the rights of its lady members and as to its powers with regard to them and to any other ladies who might hereafter desire to become members.

3.—It was further determined that the questions as settled by Mr. Bosanquet should be submitted to Mr. J. P. Benjamin, Q.C., and to Mr. Bosanquet, for their joint opinions thereon.

4.—The annexed questions were accordingly considered in consultation by Mr. Benjamin and Mr. Bosanquet, on June 28th, on a case prepared by Mr. Upton and submitted to them.

The Chairman of your Subcommittee, together with Mr. Upton, your Solicitor, and Mr. Fowke, your General Secretary, attended this consultation.

5.—Your Subcommittee consider that the thanks of the Association are due to Mr. Benjamin and Mr. Bosanquet for the extreme pains they took to study the questions in all their bearings, and for having, for this purpose, read all the correspondence which has appeared in our JOURNAL on the subject, in order to be able fully to appreciate, not merely the legal details, but the whole situation of the Association as regards this matter.

6.—It will be seen by their answer to Question 1 that Mrs. Garrett Anderson is undoubtedly a member of the Association.

7.—It will be seen by their answer to Question 2 that no person, male or female, presumed to have been elected, whether by the Committee of Council or by any Branch Council, between October 21st, 1874, and August 3rd, 1875, was really elected, no powers of election having been during that period in existence. Your Subcommittee recommends that proper notice should be given of a motion enabling the Committee of Council to declare elected those *male* persons who were intended to be elected between October 21st, 1874, and August 3rd, 1875, and who would have been duly elected had the by-laws of August 3rd, 1875, been during that period in force. In Appendix A, your Subcommittee suggest a form of resolution which would give effect to this recommendation. Any member can, if he think fit, move an amendment to this resolution at the annual meeting to the effect that Mrs. Hoggan should also be declared elected.

8.—It appears that, as regards Mrs. Garrett Anderson, By-law 3 (see Appendix B), which legalises the arbitrary expulsion of any member without cause or reason assigned, cannot, at any rate, be put in force this year, as the legal notice cannot be given.

9.—Question No. 5 was put to ascertain whether it would be legal to retain lady members, but to deprive them of the right of attending the annual meetings or the Sections.

It will be seen that this cannot be done, either now or hereafter, inasmuch as it would contravene the memorandum of Association (see Appendix C), which the Companies Acts do not allow to be altered.

10.—The exclusion of ladies from membership of the Association in future will require an alteration of the Articles of Association.

Your Subcommittee gives (in Appendix D) the terms of an alteration which would effect this object, and also a statement of the steps which must be taken to effect any alteration of the Articles of Association under the Companies Acts of 1862 and 1867.

11.—Your Subcommittee suggest that proper notice should be given of the intention to propose a By-law at the annual meeting for pro-

hibiting Branches from electing lady members, and they give in Appendix E a form of By-law which would effect this.

12.—Your Subcommittee suggests that, should the Articles be altered so as to exclude lady members, it would supersede the course authorised by the answer of Counsel to Question No. 8.

W. F. WADE, *Chairman*.

APPENDIX A.

Resolved: "That this meeting hereby authorises the Committee of Council to pass a resolution declaring elected all the male persons who were elected by it or by any Branch Council during the interval between the incorporation of the Association and the 3rd day of August, 1875, but whose election was invalid on account of there being no provision then in existence for the election of members."

APPENDIX B.—By-law No. 3.

"Any member may be expelled from the Association by a resolution of the Committee of Council, if carried by three-fourths of the members present, subject to confirmation by the next ensuing annual meeting, and he shall thereupon cease to be a member, and shall not be eligible for re-election. One month's notice shall be given to any member affected thereby.

APPENDIX C—Extract from Memorandum of Association.

"The objects for which the Association is established are the promotion of the medical and allied sciences, and the maintenance of the honour and the interests of the medical profession by the aid of all or any of the following:

"(a.) Periodical meetings of the members of the Association, and of the medical profession generally, in different parts of the country." *Sec. 3, §a.*

APPENDIX D.

In Article 5 of the Articles of Association, line 2, before "*person*" insert the word "*male*".

ABSTRACT FROM COMPANIES ACTS.

"50.—Subject to the provisions of this Act, and to the conditions contained in the Memorandum of Association, any company formed under this Act may, in general meeting, from time to time, by passing a special resolution, in manner hereinafter mentioned, alter all or any of the regulations of the company contained in the Articles of Association, or in the Table marked A in the First Schedule, where such Table is applicable to the company, or make new regulations to the exclusion of, or in addition to, all or any of the regulations of the company; and any regulations so made by special resolution shall be deemed to be regulations of the company of the same validity as if they had been originally contained in the Articles of Association, and shall be subject in like manner to be altered or modified by any subsequent special resolution.

"51.—A resolution passed by a company under this Act shall be deemed to be special whenever a resolution has been passed by a majority of not less than three-fourths of such members of the company for the time being entitled, according to the regulations of the company, to vote as may be present, in person or by proxy (in cases where by the regulations of the company proxies are allowed), at any general meeting of which notice specifying the intention to propose such resolution has been duly given, and such resolution has been confirmed by a majority of such members for the time being entitled, according to the regulations of the company, to vote as may be present, in person or by proxy, at a subsequent general meeting, of which notice has been duly given, and held at an interval of not less than fourteen days nor more than one month from the date of the meeting at which such resolution was first passed. At any meeting mentioned in this section, unless a poll is demanded by at least five members, a declaration of the chairman that the resolution has been carried shall be deemed conclusive evidence of the fact, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against the same. Notices of any meeting shall, for the purposes of this section, be deemed to be duly given, and the meeting to be duly held, whenever such notice is given and meeting held in manner prescribed by the regulations of the company. In computing the majority under this section, when a poll is demanded, reference shall be had to the number of votes to which each member is entitled by the regulations of the company."

APPENDIX E.

Add after "Council" in By-law No. 1, "provided that the power of such Branch Council shall only extend to the election of male persons".

OPINION OF MR. BENJAMIN, Q.C., AND MR. BOSANQUET. COUNSEL'S OPINION.

1.—Was the Metropolitan Counties Branch legally entitled to elect lady members under the by-laws existing previous to October 1874?

2.—Was the Committee of Council legally entitled to elect lady members in January 1875?

1.—Yes. We fully concur in the opinion formerly given by Sir John Rolt, Sir John B. Karslake, and Sir James Hannen on this point.

2.—We are of opinion that the Committee of Council had no power to elect any members in January 1875. The fifth of the Articles of Association is the only one which provides for persons who were not members of the old unincorporated Association becoming members of the incorporated Association. And that Article provides that the terms and conditions upon which such persons are to become members shall be prescribed by the Association in general meeting. The by-laws were not made till the 3rd Aug. 1875. No provision for the election of members existed before that date. All elections between the time of the incorporation and the adoption of the by-laws were therefore void. To remedy the difficulty thus raised, power may now be given by the Association at a general meeting, to the Committee of Council, to elect, or declare elected, any of the persons who were elected during the interval between the incorporation of the Association and the 3rd Aug. 1875, but whose election was invalid on account of there being no provision then in existence for the election of members.

3.—How did the incorporation of the Association under the Companies' Acts affect the rights of ladies previously elected?

3.—The incorporation of the Association under the Companies' Act gave women, as well as men, who were members of the unincorporated Association, the right to become members of the new corporate body. See Article 4.

4.—Has the Association any power to turn out lady members, elected previous to the incorporation?

4.—Every member of the Association is liable to expulsion, with or without cause, in the manner pointed out by the 3rd by-law. Lady members of the Association may be turned out in this manner and no other.

5.—Has the Association any power to restrict the rights of lady members already elected, or of any who may be hereafter elected?

5.—The Association has no power to restrict the rights of lady members given by the Memorandum of Association. The Association has power to alter any of its articles, provided the alteration is not opposed to the Memorandum.

6.—Has the Association any power to pass by-laws prohibiting the election of ladies in future?

6 and 9.—The Association has power to alter its articles so as to confine the right of election to men. The election of ladies cannot be prohibited in any other way.

7.—Has the Association any power under the Articles of Association to prevent Branches from electing ladies.

7.—We think the Association has power to make a by-law preventing Branches from electing ladies.

8.—Has the Association power under the Articles of Association to prevent the election of ladies, except by unanimous vote or by a larger majority than is required for the election of men?

8.—We think the Association has no power under the articles as they now stand to require a larger majority of votes for the election of women than of men. But this may be done by a change in the articles.

9.—Has the Association any, and if so what, power to alter its Articles of Association, so as to prevent the election of ladies in future?

We add, as requested in conference, that under the Articles of Association we think that Mrs. Garrett Anderson, as a member of the old unincorporated Association, having signed the agreement mentioned in the fourth Article of Association, is a member of the incorporated Association; but that Mrs. Hoggan, whose election took place *after* the incorporation of the Association, at a period when no election could be legally made (see answer to No. 2), is not now a member of the Association, and can only become so by election if duly qualified.

Temple, July 3rd, 1878.

(Signed) J. P. BENJAMIN.
F. A. BOSANQUET.

In order to give effect, so far as is legally possible, to a resolution passed at the meeting of Council held on March 13th, 1878, whereby notice was given of an intention to propose a new By-law prohibiting the election of lady members in future, Mr. Husband stated that he would move the following alteration of By-law No. 1; viz., to add after the word "Council" the following words; viz., "Provided that the power of such Branch Council shall only extend to the election of male persons".

The rest of the proceedings of the Committee of Council will be published in next week's JOURNAL.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Forty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held at Bath, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, August 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th, 1878.

President: M. A. EASON WILKINSON, M.D., F.R.C.P., Senior Physician to the Manchester Royal Infirmary.

President-Elect: R. W. FALCONER, M.D., F.R.C.P., D.C.L., Consulting Physician to the Royal United Hospital, Bath.

An Address in Medicine will be given by HENRY F. A. GOODRIDGE, M.D., F.R.C.P., Bath.

An Address in Surgery will be given by C. G. WHEELHOUSE, F.R.C.S., Leeds.

An Address in Forensic Medicine will be given by DOUGLAS MAC-LAGAN, M.D., F.R.C.P., Edinburgh.

The business of the Association will be transacted in Five Sections, viz.:

SECTION A.: MEDICINE.—*President:* T. Grainger Stewart, M.D., F.R.C.P. Edin. *Vice-Presidents:* B. Foster, M.D., F.R.C.P.; Thos. Clifford Allbutt, M.D. *Secretaries:* Thomas Cole, M.D., 17, Paragon, Bath; Chas. Albert Hingston, M.D., 3, Sussex Terrace, Plymouth.

SECTION B.: SURGERY.—*President:* G. W. Callender, F.R.C.S., F.R.S. *Vice-Presidents:* Furneaux Jordan, F.R.C.S.; W. Stokes, M.D. *Secretaries:* J. H. Morgan, F.R.C.S., 12, Chapel Street, Park Lane, London; J. F. Parsons, Esq., Frome.

SECTION C.: OBSTETRIC MEDICINE.—*President:* A. H. McClintock, M.D., LL.D. *Vice-Presidents:* James Watt Black, M.D.; H. Macnaughton Jones, M.D. *Secretaries:* Heywood Smith, M.D., 2, Portugal Street, Grosvenor Square, London; A. E. A. Lawrence, M.D., 15, Richmond Hill, Clifton, Bristol.

SECTION D.: PUBLIC MEDICINE.—*President:* J. T. Arlidge, M.D., F.R.C.P. *Vice-Presidents:* D. Davies, Esq.; Francis Thomas Bond, M.D. *Secretaries:* A. B. Brabazon, M.D., 12, Darlington Street, Bath; F. Vacher, Esq., 35, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead; W. Harling Sissons, Esq., 3, Priestgate, Barton-on-Humber.

SECTION E.: PHYSIOLOGY.—*President:* John G. McKendrick, M.D., F.R.C.P. Edin. *Vice-Presidents:* Henry Power, F.R.C.S.; P. H. Pye-Smith, M.D., F.R.C.P. *Secretaries:* R. Shingleton Smith, M.D., Clifton, Bristol; A. W. Fox, M.B., 16, Gay Street, Bath.

Honorary Local Secretary: R. S. FOWLER, Esq., 6, Belmont, Bath.

Tuesday, August 6th.

11 A.M.—Service at the Abbey. Sermon by the Bishop of Bath and Wells.

2 P.M.—Meeting of Committee of Council.

4 P.M.—Meeting of Council, 1877-78.

8 P.M.—General Meeting.—President's Address.—Annual Report of Council, and other business.

Wednesday, August 7th.

9.30 A.M.—Meeting of Council, 1878-79.

11 A.M.—Second General Meeting.

11.30 A.M.—Address in Medicine.

2 to 5 P.M.—Sectional Meetings.

9 P.M.—Soirée at the Assembly Rooms by the Mayor and citizens of Bath.

Thursday, August 8th.

9 A.M.—Meeting of Committee of Council.

10 A.M.—Third General Meeting.—Reports of Committees.

11 A.M.—Address in Surgery.

12.30.—Special Business: Proposed Alteration of the Fifth Article of Association.

2 to 5 P.M.—Sectional Meetings.

6.30 P.M.—Public Dinner at the Assembly Rooms.

Friday, August 9th.

10 A.M.—Address in Forensic Medicine.

11 A.M.—Sectional Meetings.

2 P.M.—Concluding General Meeting.

3.30 to 6 P.M.—Garden Party at Cranwells, by the Mayor of Bath and Mrs. Murch.

8.30 P.M.—Conversazione and Concert at the Colston Hall, Bristol, by invitation of the Bristol members of the Bath and Bristol Branch.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Dr. McKendrick's opening address on Physiological Acoustics, with Demonstrations, will be given at the Guildhall, on Wednesday, the 7th August, at 2 o'clock P.M.

It has been decided to hold a discussion in the Section of Medicine on the Differential Diagnosis and Treatment of the Modes of Intestinal Obstruction. The discussion will be opened by Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson. Members are invited by the officers of the Section to contribute papers on this subject. To save time, it has been decided that, after the communications of the two gentlemen who will open the discussion, all other papers shall be read in abstract.

PAPERS.

The following papers have been promised.

ACKLAND, W. H., M.D. Puerperal Septicæmia.
ADAMS, William, F.R.C.S. 1. Subcutaneous Division of the Neck of the Thigh-Bone: Remarks on the Results of the Operation, with Exhibition of the first Patient operated on in 1869.—2. Demonstration of the Poroplastic Felt Jacket for Spinal Diseases and Spinal Curvatures.

ALLBUTT, Henry A., L.R.C.P. Ed. 1. Terebene and Acetic Acid in some Forms of Skin-Disease.—2. How to reduce to a Minimum the Midwifery Mortality.

ALTHAUS, J., M.D. On Lateral and Posterior Sclerosis of the Spinal Cord.

BARHAM, Charles, M.D. 1. Peculiar Changes in Disease.—2. The Isles of Scilly as a Health-Resort.

BEACH, Fletcher, M.B. On Cases of Athetosis.

BELL, J. H., M.D. On Wool-softers' Disease (Septicæmia): its Relation to Spidemic Fever and other Allied Diseases.

BRADWOOD, P. M., M.D. Results of Revaccination during an Epidemic.

CAMERON, James S., M.D. 1. The Temperature-Curve in Huddersfield, and its Relation to the Death-Curve in very young and very old Persons and in Bronchitic Subjects.—2. The Action of the Compulsory Registration Clause in the Huddersfield Local Act.

CASSELLS, James P., M.D. 1. Further Observations in regard to Sewer-Gas and other Unsanitary States as Causes of Ear-Disease.—2. On Ear-Disease and Life-Assurance Questions, and Suggestions relative thereto.

COLB, Thomas, M.D. 1. A Case of Ulceration of Gall-bladder from Gall-Stone, with secondary Hepatic Disease.—2. Short Note on a Case of Typhoid Fever.

DAVEY, J. G., M.D. 1. Suicide in its Social Relations.—2. The Physiological Pathology of the Brain.

DOWSE, T. S., M.D. Syphilitic Epilepsy.

DRYSDALE, C. R., M.D. 1. Chronic Alcoholism.—2. Infant Mortality.—3. Syphilitic Gonorrhœa.

EDIS, Arthur W., M.D. On Chronic Cervico-Endometritis as a frequently overlooked Cause of Sterility and Abortion.

FOTHERGILL, J. Milner, M.D. Gout at the Heart.

FEX, Cornelius B., M.D. Remarks on a Disease known by the Names of "False Diphtheria," "Spreading Quinsy," and "Gynanche Pharyngea".

GOWERS, W. R., M.D. Syphilitic Neuroses.

GRACE, Henry, M.R.C.S. Unusual and Interesting Cases of Midwifery met with in Twenty Years' Extensive Practice.

GRIFFITH, G. de Gorreger, L.R.C.P. On Peritoneal Adhesions of the Gravid Uterus as a Cause of Post Partum Hæmorrhage.

HARLEY, George, M.D., F.R.S. Colouring Matter in Urinary Calculi.

HUMPHREYS, Henry, M.D. Symmetrical Gangrene in Congenital Syphilis.

HUMPHRY, G. M., M.D., F.R.S. Successful Removal of Fungous Growth from the Bladder.

HUTCHINSON, Jonathan, F.R.C.S. Certain Relationships between Syphilis and Cancer.

JONES, H. Macnaughton, M.D. 1. Results of Treatment of Spinal Curvature (in fifty cases) by the Plaster Jacket and Suspension.—2. Remarks on Morbus Coxarius.

KERR, Norman, M.D. 1. Large Doses of Belladonna in Intestinal Obstruction.—2. Post Partum Hæmorrhage.

LAWRENCE, A. E. Aust, M.D. 1. On some Thermometric Observations after Labour.—2. Short Notes on some Hospital Cases.

LUND, Edward, F.R.C.S. Removal of Astragalus in the Adult in a Case of Congenital Talipes.

MOORHEAD, J., M.D. A Case of Tympanic Abscess with unusual Termination.

MYRTLE, A. S., M.D. A Case of Confirmed Epilepsy, with Irregular and Painful Menstruation, successfully treated by Leclanche's Continuous Current.

NANKIVELL, C. B., M.D. On the Sanitary Advantages of High-level Drainage of Seaside Towns.

NORTH, S. W., M.R.C.S. Registration of Disease.

OWEN, Edmund, F.R.C.S. The Anatomy of Hip-joint Disease in Childhood: a Demonstration.

- PARKER, Robert W., M.R.C.S. Tracheotomy in Membranous Laryngitis: the Indications for its Adoption, and some Special Points as regards its After-Treatment.
- POWELL, R. Douglas, M.D. On the Elasticity of the Lungs and Chest-walls, with Reference to the Signs of Chest-Disease, and especially of Pleuritic Effusion.
- ROBERTS, D. Lloyd, M.D. The Differential Diagnosis of Abdominal and Pelvic Tumours.
- ROUTH, C. H. F., M.D. 1. On the Use of Intra-uterine Pessaries, with Reference to Varieties now employed.—2. Further Remarks on the Treatment of Uterine and Mammary Cancer.
- SERGEANT, Edward, L.R.C.P. On the Working of the Act for the Compulsory Registration of Infectious Diseases in Bolton.
- SKERRITT, E. M., M.D. 1. A Case of Hemianæsthesia.—2. A Case of Complete Obstruction of Intestine by Croupous Inflammation.
- SIMS, J. Marion, M.D.
- SMITH, Heywood, M.D. The Treatment of the Pedicle in Ovariectomy.
- SWAYNE, J. G., M.D. The Effects of Forceps-Delivery upon the Infant.
- TAYLOR, Chas. Bell, M.D. 3. Summary, with Clinical Observations, of Five Hundred Cases of Cataract Extraction.—2. On the Electrical Treatment of certain Forms of Amaurosis.
- TEEVAN, W. F., F.R.C.S. Fifty Cases of Lithotripsy.
- THOMPSON, James, M.D. The Value of Koumiss in Wasting Diseases.
- TIBBITS, Edward T., M.D. 1. Embolism of Right Middle Cerebral Artery, followed by great Loquacity.—2. On Systematic Exercises: their Value in the Prevention of Disease.
- VACHER, Francis, L.R.C.P.Ed. Notes on the late Epidemic of Small-pox in Birkenhead.
- WARDEN, Charles, M.D. The Mental Influence of the Mother on the Fœtus in Utero.
- WATSON, W. Spencer, F.R.C.S. The Treatment of Glaucoma.
- WEATHERLEY, Lionel A., M.D. Note on a Case of Concealed Internal Uterine Hemorrhage.
- WOAKES, Edward, M.D. Ear-Complications in Dentition, a Cause of Infantile Convulsions.

Members desirous of reading papers, cases, or other communications, are requested to forward the titles to the General Secretary, or to one of the secretaries of the section in which the paper is to be read. All the papers should be forwarded to the secretaries of sections at as early a date as possible.

No paper must exceed twenty minutes in reading, and no subsequent speech must exceed ten minutes. All speeches at the general meeting must not exceed ten minutes each.

ANNUAL MUSEUM.

The Tenth Annual Museum of the British Medical Association will be held at the Assembly Rooms, Bath, and will be open daily from 10 A.M. till 6 P.M., on August 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, for the exhibition of the following objects:—

1. Latest Inventions in Medical and Surgical Instruments and appliances of all kinds.
2. New Chemicals and Apparatus; New Drugs and their preparations; and New Articles of Diet for Invalids.
3. Drawings, Diagrams, or Models illustrating the Ventilation of Hospitals and Private Dwellings.
4. General Pathological Specimens; with Photographic Models, Drawings, etc., illustrating disease; and Microscopic Pathological Specimens.

The following is a list of the Museum Committee, to any member of which communications, etc., may be addressed. Sections 1, 2, and 3: Dr. Spender, 17, Circus, Bath; F. K. Green, Esq., 3, Gay Street, Bath. Section 4: Dr. Cole, 17, Paragon, Bath; G. E. Lawrence, Esq., Claverton Street, Bath.

NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS.

Application to be made as soon as possible, at the same time giving a list of objects, and mentioning the space required. Each object to be accompanied by a printed or written description attached to the article exhibited.

All parcels to be delivered on or after July 27th, and not later than August 3rd, and to be removed within three days after August 12th. They must be addressed to Drs. Spender and Cole respectively, at the Assembly Rooms, Bath. All expenses of carriage and all risk to be borne by the Exhibitors. A card bearing the name and address of the exhibitor to be enclosed in each package, ready to be fixed on the outside.

N.B.—Specimens and Instruments which have been exhibited at former meetings cannot be received on this occasion.

All communications to be addressed to Drs. Spender and Cole, as above.

EXCURSIONS.

On Saturday there will be excursions to Longleat, Bowood, Wells and Cheddar, Malmesbury, Berkeley Castle, and (if a sufficient number of excursionists) to the Valley of the Wye.

The Honorary Secretary will endeavour to arrange for gentlemen

well acquainted with the locality to accompany the parties on each excursion.

Any information will be given by the Secretary to the Excursion Committee, 6, Belmont, Bath.

Members of the Association will receive cards for the above proceedings, evening meetings, etc., at the Assembly Rooms, Bath.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Dr. BOYD MUSHET gives notice that he will move:

That, in the opinion of the British Medical Association, the institution of Home Hospitals for the well-to-do classes, especially in connection with a public appeal to eleemosynary aid for their construction, is vicious in principle; calculated to impair the already far from universal recognition of payment for medical and surgical services; would tend to degrade the recipients of the benefits in the proposed homes, by extending charity to persons who, it is conceded, are able to pay; would aggravate the existent flagrant abuses of the hospital system, and be fraught with injustice to the profession, at present burdened by the exaction of its unpaid and gratuitous services.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

36, Great Queen Street, London, W.C., July 4th, 1878.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH.

THE twenty-sixth annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, on Friday, July 19th, at 4 P.M.: President—SEPTIMUS W. SIBLEY, Esq., F.R.C.S.; President-elect—ANDREW CLARK, M.D., F.R.C.P.

Dinner at 6 P.M. precisely. Tickets, 14s. each, exclusive of wine.

Members intending to be present at the dinner are particularly requested to send their names without delay to one of the Secretaries—Dr. Henry, 57, Doughty Street, W.C., or Dr. Grigg, 6, Curzon Street, Mayfair, W.

ALEXANDER HENRY, M.D. } *Honorary Secretaries.*
W. CHAPMAN GRIGG, M.D. }

London, July 9th, 1878.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at the Royal Clarence Hotel, Bridgwater, on Thursday, July 25th, at 2 o'clock P.M.: F. J. C. PARSONS, Esq., Bridgwater, will take the Chair.

Dinner at 5 P.M.

W. M. KELLY, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.

Taunton, July 2nd, 1878.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of this Branch will be held in the Council Chamber, Hartlepool, on Thursday, July 25th, at 3 P.M.

Dinner at the King's Head Hotel at 5 P.M.

G. H. PHILIPSON, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, July 8th, 1878.

SOUTH-WESTERN BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of this Branch was held at the Imperial Hotel, Torquay, on Thursday, June 20th; C. RADCLYFFE HALL, M.D., President, in the Chair.

President's Address.—The PRESIDENT delivered an address, which is published at page

Mr. TOSSWILL (Exeter) moved that the thanks of the meeting be given to the President for his excellent address.

Mr. GREENWAY (Plymouth) seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

Vote of Thanks to the Retiring President.—Mr. WOODMAN (Exeter) had much pleasure in proposing that the thanks of the meeting be given to Dr. Montgomery, the retiring President. From what he had heard of the manner in which the Branch was received, the charming excursion they enjoyed, and the very cordial reception with which they met at their last meeting, at the extreme western portion of Cornwall, the most hearty thanks were due to the late President, and he was sure his motion would be unanimously adopted.

Mr. PUDDICOMBE (Silverton) seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Next Annual Meeting.—Mr. WOODMAN (Exeter) moved, and Dr. WEST (Launceston) seconded: "That the next annual meeting of the South-Western Branch be held in Exeter." After some discussion, during which all the Plymouth and Cornish members present expressed their approval of the proposal, the motion was carried *nem. com.*; it being also determined that the meeting should be held during the

week in which the Bath and West of England Agricultural Society hold their meeting at Exeter.

President-elect.—Mr. TOSSWILL proposed, Mr. W. POLLARD seconded, and it was resolved, that Arthur J. Cumming, Esq., be President-elect.

New Member.—On the motion of Mr. KARKEEK, seconded by Dr. HOUNSFELL, Mr. S. Gamble was elected a member of the Branch.

Number of Members.—The Honorary Secretary announced that there were at present one hundred and sixty-four members in the South-Western Branch, an increase of eighteen since the previous year.

Council of Branch.—Mr. TOSSWILL proposed, Dr. NANKIVELL seconded, and it was resolved, that the five vacancies in the Branch Council be filled by the following:—A. J. Cumming, Esq., J. B. Montgomery, M.D., A. C. Roberts, Esq., C. H. Roper, Esq., and J. Somer, Esq.

Representatives in the General Council.—The following were appointed:—C. Barham, M.D., Truro; W. B. Dalby, M.D., Torquay; J. Elliot, Esq., Kingsbridge; H. Harris, M.D., Redruth; J. B. Montgomery, M.D., Penzance; C. B. Nankivell, M.D., Torquay; J. Thompson, M.D., Bideford; E. L. West, L.R.C.P.Ed., Launceston.

Secretary.—Mr. Tosswill was unanimously re-elected Honorary Secretary, and Representative of the Branch in the Parliamentary Bills Committee.

Papers.—I. Mr. DE WINTER BAKER read a paper on a Case of Severe Injury to the Spinal Cord, followed by partial recovery.

2. Dr. JOHN GILL read a paper on the Transfusion of Blood.

3. Dr. HUDSON read a paper on Some Forms of the Microphone, with Experiments.

4. Dr. NANKIVELL read a paper on the Sanitary Drainage of Sea-side Towns, and the new System of Drainage in Torquay.

Excursion.—At the conclusion of the meeting, several members, taking advantage of the fine weather, made an excursion to the Meadfoot Sands, and along the coast to Hope's Nose. They were met by Mr. Phillips, resident engineer of the sewerage works, who accompanied the party, and explained in detail what had been aptly described by the President as "the most modern adaptation of engineering skill to the sewerage of towns".

Luncheon and Dinner.—Previously to the meeting, the members and their friends, to the number of thirty-six, partook of luncheon, provided by President, Dr. Radclyffe Hall, in the large *table d'hôte* room of the Imperial Hotel. At 5.30 P.M., about twenty-seven dined together in the same room, thus ending a very pleasant meeting.

SOUTH MIDLAND, CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE, AND EAST ANGLIAN BRANCHES.

A CONJOINT meeting of these Branches was held at the Peterborough Infirmary on Friday, June 21st, under the Presidency of Dr. T. J. WALKER of Peterborough.

Preliminary Meetings of each Branch, specifically for the transaction of branch business, were held before the general meeting.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE BRANCH.

Future Meetings.—It was decided to hold the next annual meeting, in combination with the East Anglian Branch, at Bury St. Edmunds, under the Presidency of JOHN KILNER, Esq., Senior Surgeon to the Suffolk General Hospital. It was also decided that an additional meeting of the Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire Branch alone should be held at Bishop Stortford, under the Presidency of C. F. HODSON, Esq., some time in May next.

Officers and Council.—Dr. B. Anningson was re-elected honorary secretary. The representatives on the General Council of the Association were also re-elected, namely: J. B. Pradbury, M.D.; G. M. Humphry, M.D.; Henry Stear, Esq.

Proposed Code of By-Laws.—Mr. BRIDGER of Cottenham proposed "That a meeting be called, to meet at Cambridge as early as practicable, to consider the question of a code of by-laws for the Branch". This was seconded by Mr. J. WATSON of Hemingford Grey; but in deference to wishes expressed by subsequent speakers, Mr. Bridger consented to postpone his motion till the meeting at Bishop Stortford in May next.

New Members.—The following gentlemen were elected members of the Branch:—G. Kirkwood, M.B., Peterborough; R. A. D. Lithgow, Esq., Wisbech; Dr. C. Nicholl, Esq., Wisbech.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH.

The annual meeting of this Branch was held under the Presidency of T. E. AMYOT, Esq.

Intermediate Meeting.—It was decided to hold an intermediate meeting in the early part of September at Aldborough.

The next Annual Meeting will be held at Bury St. Edmunds in June 1879, in conjunction with the Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire Branch, under the Presidency of JOHN KILNER, Esq., the senior surgeon to the Suffolk General Hospital.

Representatives of the Branch in the General Council.—The following were elected: T. E. Amyot, Esq.; F. Bateman, M.D.; Wm. Cadge, Esq.; B. Chevallier, M.D.; G. C. Edwards, Esq.; R. V. Gorham, Esq.; W. A. Elliston, M.D., honorary secretary.

New Members.—Dr. W. A. Duke, Cavalry Barracks, Ipswich, and John Kilner, Esq., Bury St. Edmunds, were duly elected members of the Branch.

SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.

This Branch held its annual meeting under the Presidency of Dr. T. J. WALKER.

Autumnal Meeting.—It was proposed by Dr. PRIOR, and seconded by Mr. HARDAY, "That the autumnal meeting be held at Thrapston, in September, on a day to be named hereafter."

President-elect and Council.—It was proposed, and unanimously agreed to, that G. P. Goldsmith, Esq., of Bedford, be the President-elect for the ensuing year. The Committee of Management was elected.

Representatives of the Branch in the General Council.—The following were elected:—R. Ceely, Esq., Aylesbury; W. Newman, M.D., Stamford; H. Terry, Esq., Northampton; R. W. Watkins, Esq., Towcester.

Dr. Bryan, late Honorary Secretary.—A letter was read from Dr. Bryan, thanking the Branch for their handsome testimonial (a silver salver), on his retiring from the appointment of honorary secretary after twenty years' service.

New Members.—The following new members were proposed: Fergus A. Brown, Esq., Wansford; C. H. Illingworth, Esq., Peterborough Infirmary.

GENERAL MEETING OF THE THREE BRANCHES.

THE President-elect, having been introduced by W. Moxon, Esq., of Northampton, delivered his address. After bidding welcome to members present, Dr. WALKER devoted the remainder of his address to the question, Whether or not such a disease as puerperal fever *per se* existed? Whether this disease was not rather the expression of any zymotic, to the contagion of which lying-in women might happen to be exposed? He concluded with the expression of his opinion that the cases formerly described as puerperal fever, and now as puerperal septicæmia, may be distributed as follows. 1. Zymotic fevers occurring in the puerperal state, frequently complicated by local inflammations, the result of interference with the normal changes in the uterus; 2. Erysipelatous inflammation of the uterus, peritoneum, etc., caused by the specific erysipelas contagium, as is each zymotic fever by its specific poison; 3. Simple local inflammation (parametritis, perimetritis, etc., giving rise to inflammatory fever); 4. Surgical septicæmia or pyæmia, arising from the entrance of septic matter (autogenetic or heterogenetic) by the placental or other wounds of the uterus and the genital passages.

A Vote of Thanks, proposed by Dr. EADE of Norwich, and seconded by Dr. HUMPHRY of Cambridge, was carried by acclamation.

After the address, the members, to the number of about seventy, were entertained at luncheon at Dr. Walker's house.

The Harvey Tercentenary Memorial, and the Medical Benevolent Fund.—Before going on to the business on the agenda paper, Dr. Walker read a communication which had been received by each of the Branch secretaries from Mr. Eastes, urging upon the members present the claims of the Harvey Tercentenary Fund; also a communication from the Secretary of the Medical Benevolent Fund. Dr. Newman of Stamford and Mr. Veasey of Woburn spoke in favour of the latter institution.

Dr. Anningson, Secretary of the Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire Branch, was requested to receive any subscriptions that might be offered.

Papers.—The following papers were read.

1. A Case of Pseudo-hypertrophic Paralysis. By F. BUSZARD, M.D., Northampton.—Dr. Buszard exhibited his case to the meeting.

2. The PRESIDENT exhibited a case of Hypertrophy of the Right Cheek in a lad, which caused great deformity.—Mr. BARWELL of Charing Cross Hospital made some remarks on the President's case, and suggested, as the only possible means of treatment, deligation of the common carotid artery, and subsequent excision of some of the soft parts.

3. Notes of two Cases of Obscure Disease of the Liver, with Remarks. By J. B. BRADBURY, M.D., Cambridge.—This paper excited a lively discussion, in which Dr. Paley, Mr. Haviland, Mr. Hodson,

and Dr. Eade of Norwich were the chief speakers.—Mr. HAVILAND asked for information as to the special prevalence of hydatid of the liver in Cambridgeshire.—Dr. BRADBURY attributed this to the large quantity of surface-water drank in the country.

4. Case of Chronic Dysentery treated by Milk only. By PETER EADE, M.D., Norwich.—Dr. BRADBURY instanced a case of dysentery opposed to that of Dr. Eade, in which the symptoms were aggravated when milk was made a chief article of diet.—Dr. EADE, in reply, stated that the object in view was simply to feed the patient while giving rest to the bowel.

5. On Hospital Practice in Norway, Sweden, and Russia. By G. M. HUMPHRY, M.D., F.R.S., Cambridge. Dr. Humphry remarked especially on the persistence in those districts of elephantiasis Græcorum, and the practice of syphilitic inoculation.

6. The Distribution of Zymotic Diseases from Epidemic Centres. By A. HAVILAND, Esq., Northampton.—The author made special reference to the radiation of zymotic disease from Northampton into the surrounding villages, and exhibited maps in illustration.

7. On the Antiseptic Dressing of Wounds. By W. NEWMAN, M.D., Stamford.—This paper produced an animated discussion. The paper went to prove the great advantage to surgery following the introduction of the Listerian method of treatment.—Dr. BUSZARD related a case in which the antiseptic treatment signally failed. He thought the only advantage of the method was the greater cleanliness and care.—Mr. BARWELL testified to the great value of the antiseptic method, and gave statistical facts in proof. He thought the want of success in Dr. Buszard's case might be due to the omission of some matter of detail.—Dr. HUMPHRY related the good results in his practice at Addenbrooke's Hospital of omitting all dressings whatever. He however agreed with the view that there was something hurtful in air, but what that was had yet to be discovered.—Dr. EADE apologised for the unavoidable absence of Mr. Cadge, and described the modified antiseptic treatment adopted by the latter gentleman in the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

Visit to the Bishop's Palace and to the Cathedral.—There were six other papers on the list; but, five o'clock having been reached, an adjournment was made to the Bishop's Palace, where, at the invitation of the Bishop of Peterborough and Mrs. Magee, the members were entertained at afternoon tea. The very friendly, unostentatious manner in which the members were received by Mrs. Magee and the ladies of the palace, who, not content with refreshing them after their long afternoon's work, accompanied them in their inspection of the remains of the ancient Abbey and the Cathedral Church of St. Peter, was warmly appreciated. Mr. H. M. Townsend, architect, conducted the party, and read a succinct description of the architectural features of the Cathedral and precincts, which gave much pleasure to the members.

Dinner.—Later in the evening, many members and guests dined together at the Great Northern Hotel, and a long toast-list was gone through. A vote of thanks to the Bishop and Mrs. Magee brought to a close one of the pleasantest meetings ever held in this district.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of the Bath and Bristol Branch was held at the Mineral Water Hospital, Bath, on Wednesday, June 26th; Dr. MARSHALL, President, in the Chair. There were present thirty-three members.

New Members.—The following gentlemen were elected members of the Branch and of the Association: Mr. J. B. Lewis, Bristol; Mr. A. De Courcy Lyons, Bristol; James Scott, M.B., Bristol Infirmary; Mr. Husband, Royal United Hospital, Bath; J. A. Moore, M.B., Royal United Hospital, Bath; G. S. Carden, M.D., Inspector of Hospitals, Bath; and Mr. W. Day Lovell, Bradford-on-Avon.

President's Address.—After a few remarks, Dr. Marshall resigned the chair to Dr. HENSLEY, President-elect, who read an interesting address on the progress of medical science since his entering the profession.

A vote of thanks to Dr. Hensley for his address was proposed by Dr. SWAYNE, seconded by Mr. MASON, and carried by acclamation.

Report of Council.—The Bath Secretary then read the following report of Council.

"Your Council has again much pleasure in reporting the satisfactory condition of the Branch. The death of only one member has to be recorded, and there has been a further loss of twelve members by resignation, caused chiefly by removal into other neighbourhoods. The accession of new members has already been seventeen, which, with those elected to-day, bring up the total of the Branch to 217; an increase of twelve over the corresponding period of last year.

"The Branch has to deplore the loss by death of Mr. Charles Bleeck of Warminster, who, after he joined the Branch in 1860, was a constant attendant at the meetings, and whose genial presence and practical remarks in the discussions will long be missed. His presidential year will be remembered by all who accepted his generous hospitality in 1870 at Shearwater. Apart from his connection with this Branch, the high position he held in the neighbourhood in which he practised, and his firm manly standing, won the hearts of both patients and professional brethren.

"The meetings have been largely attended; and, although there have been but few papers read, the debates on each subject brought forward have been very animated, and two of the meetings have been devoted to discussions on special subjects, and it has been a topic of regret that the limited time would not permit more members to speak. The following papers have been read: 1. On the Use of Quinine in Pyrexia, by R. Shingleton Smith, M.D.; 2. A Case of Ascites treated successfully, by J. K. Spender, M.D.; 3. On Puerperal Convulsions, by J. G. Swayne, M.D.; 4. On the Use of Salicylic Acid combined with Opium and Aconite, by W. H. Spencer, M.D.; 5. Cases illustrating the Treatment of Pleuritic Effusions, by E. M. Skerrett, M.D.; 6. On Certain Forms of Non-Puerperal Uterine Hæmorrhage, by A. E. A. Lawrence, M.D.; and the following have been the subjects of special discussion: 1. On Hospitalism, opened by R. W. Tibbits, Esq.; 2. On Alcohol in Health and Disease, by E. L. Fox, M.D.

"The balance-sheet shows a balance in hand of £9:1:2. Your Council recommends that a donation of £3 3s. be forwarded to the Medical Benevolent Fund this year.

"The Bath Section of the Branch having invited the Association to hold its annual meeting this year in Bath, every effort is being made to render the meeting a success; and your Council trust to secure the assistance of every member of the Branch to ensure it. This Section, though comprising but a small number of members, has raised the necessary funds for carrying out the official programme of the meeting by contributions from the members and a few friends in the neighbouring towns.

"The citizens of Bath, under the auspices of its worthy mayor, have organised a *soirée*; and the Bristol Branch has warmly seconded these endeavours by arranging for a *soirée* at Bristol on Friday, August 9th; thus showing an anxiety to do honour to the Association.

"Your Council recommends that the custom of holding the meetings of the Branch on Thursdays be resumed; the experience of the last season having proved Thursday to be the most convenient day.

"The Scrutineers report that the following gentlemen have been elected members of the respective Councils. *For Bristol:* Dr. E. L. Fox, Mr. Coe, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Crossman; *for Bath:* Dr. Goodridge, Mr. Stone, Mr. Gaine, Mr. Goss.

"The Scrutineers report that the following have been elected representatives on the General Council: C. H. Collins, Esq., Chew Magna; J. G. Davey, M.D., Redland, Bristol; E. Long Fox, M.D., Clifton; H. F. A. Goodridge, M.D., Bath; H. Hensley, M.D., Bath; H. Marshall, M.D., Clifton; F. Mason, Esq., Bath; A. Prichard, Esq., Clifton; J. K. Spender, M.D., Bath; R. N. Stone, Esq., Bath."

It was proposed by Dr. BEDDOE, seconded by Mr. LANSDOWN, and resolved: "That the report and financial statement now read be adopted."

Vote of Thanks to Ex-President.—It was proposed by Mr. MASON, seconded by Dr. COLTHURST, and resolved: "That the best thanks of the Branch are due to and are hereby tendered to Dr. Marshall, for his able conduct in the chair during the past year."

President-elect.—It was proposed by Dr. FALCONER, seconded by Dr. MARSHALL, and resolved: "That Dr. John Beddoe be President-elect for the ensuing year."

Vote of Thanks to Council.—It was proposed by Dr. FVFFE, seconded by Mr. CHADWICK, and resolved: "That the best thanks of the Branch are due to the Council for their admirable arrangements during the past year."

Secretaries.—On the proposal of Mr. HARPER, it was resolved: "That the best thanks of the Branch be tendered to the Secretaries, and that they be requested to continue in office during the ensuing year."

Dinner.—Thirty-five members afterwards dined together at the York House.

BEQUESTS.—The late Mr. James Sampson of Dundee has bequeathed £1,032 to the Dundee Royal Infirmary.—Mr. W. C. Hewitson, late of Oatlands Park, Surrey, has bequeathed £10,000 to the Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne; £2,000 to the Surrey County Hospital, Guildford; and £1,000 each to the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution, Walton-on-Thames, and the Charing Cross Hospital.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.

A SPECIAL general meeting of this Association will be held at Bath, on a day and hour hereafter to be fixed, during the meeting of the British Medical Association in that city next month. The Council is desirous of obtaining well authenticated cases of refusal on the part of boards of guardians to allow the extra fees they have contracted with their medical officers to pay. Particulars of all such cases should be sent either to Dr. Joseph Rogers, Chairman of Council, 33, Dean Street, Soho, London; or to Mr. John W. Barnes, Honorary Secretary, 3, Bolt Court, Fleet Street, City. The Council will be further much obliged if gentlemen will forward any instance of obstruction or annoyance to which they may have been exposed in the performance of their duty, as it is resolved that at this meeting a vigorous remonstrance shall be drawn up and forwarded to Mr. Sclater Booth, President of the Local Government Board, calling his attention to the many disabilities and grievances which Poor-law medical officers labour under, and praying him to take such steps as may tend to their removal.

CERTIFYING OF PAUPER LUNATICS IN THE BROMYARD UNION.

A CASE has recently occurred in the Bromyard Union, to which, in the interests of Poor-law medical officers, it is desirable to direct attention.

It would appear that Mr. Powell was directed to visit a female pauper, resident in his district, whom, on examination, he found to be suffering under religious melancholia, with marked suicidal and homicidal tendencies. He reported the case to the relieving officer as one requiring immediate removal. The next he heard of the case was that the relieving officer had visited the woman and had taken upon himself to make arrangements for her being taken care of by her friends. Holding to the opinion that the case was one for removal, Mr. Powell brought the matter before the Guardians, who directed that she should be sent to the county asylum, which was situated twenty-two miles from the woman's residence. In making out the certificate, Mr. Powell inadvertently entered the date of his first visit, instead of his latest. This error vitiated the certificate; and, on the arrival of the lunatic at the asylum, Dr. Chapman, the medical superintendent, without affording Mr. Powell the opportunity of amending his certificate, sent her back. The circumstances having been reported to the Bromyard Board of Guardians, that generous body promptly decided that Mr. Powell should be mulcted of his fee, and that he should be called on to pay expenses, amounting to £2:0:9 for hire of carriage, 3s. justices' fees, 3s. 6d. for refreshments—making a total of £2:7:3.

We would advise that Mr. Powell should lay the facts before the Local Government Board, and ask that he should be excused payment: first, on the grounds that if the relieving officer, Mr. David Walker, had performed his duty, no error in the date of the certificate would have been made; and, secondly, on account of the very sharp practice of the medical superintendent in returning the case without affording Mr. Powell the opportunity of correcting his error.

PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

M'KANE, George, L.R.C.P.Ed., appointed Medical Officer of Health for No. 1 District of Auckland Rural Sanitary Authority.

MEDICO-PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Monday, July 8th.

Vivisection.—Earl DE LA WARR moved for the names of hospitals or other places registered for experiments upon living animals under the 39 and 40 Vic., cap. 77; also for the number of such experiments from the 1st of January, 1877, to the 1st of January, 1878; and the reports of the Inspectors appointed under the Act.—Earl BEAUCHAMP said that last year, on the motion of Mr. Mundella, certain returns relating to the Vivisection Act were presented to the House of Commons, and might be consulted by noble lords in the library. He understood that another return of the same nature, but more in detail, had been moved for in the House of Commons this year. That return would contain all

the information at the disposal of the Secretary of State; but, with regard to the reports of the Inspectors, there would be an objection, because they were confidential documents. He would suggest that the noble earl had better wait until the return had been presented to the other House.—Lord TRURO was glad the noble earl had brought this subject forward. Their lordships were aware that not long ago a Royal Commission was appointed to inquire into the enormities committed under what was called vivisection. It seemed to him that the Commissioners might have been more happily chosen than they were, considering the humanitarian nature of the object in view. Among them, he found, for instance, an ardent sportsman and two or three official members, who were naturally, perhaps, more liable to be governed by motives of expediency than of humanity. He was aware, however, that that was not the best moment for discussing that question, so he would merely add that if the mind of the public were to be reassured on the subject of the horrors of vivisection, it was surely essential that the places licensed, the names of the licensees, and also the names of the inspectors should be publicly known.—Lord FORBES congratulated Ireland on having no licensed place for the practice of vivisection, and wished he could say as much of England and Scotland. He did not see why such places should be multiplied. One in London would, he believed, serve all really scientific purposes.—Earl DE LA WARR saw no reason why any matters in connection with the Act should be kept secret; but, after the remarks of the noble earl (Earl Beauchamp), he would withdraw his motion.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen passed their primary examinations in anatomy and physiology at a meeting of the Board of Examiners, on July 9th; and, when eligible, will be admitted to the pass-examination.

Messrs. Edmund Berry, Charles F. Power, and R. Whitworth Pickering, students of the Manchester School; William Rowlands and William Wilson, of the Edinburgh School; P. W. Leslie Langley, of the Belfast School; John Garey, of the Glasgow School; Pascoal M. Da Silva, of the Bombay School; Frederick P. Nichols, of the Cambridge School; Richard Prothero, of the Liverpool School; Richard Michell, of St. Thomas's Hospital; Solomon G. Watson, of the Westminster and Cork Schools; Edward F. Potter, of the Leeds School; and Heneage Gibbes, of the Aberdeen School.

The following gentlemen passed on July 10th.

Messrs. Arthur B. Coffin and Horace Wakefield, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Henry Wilson, James Harrison, and Isaac Searth, of the Manchester School; F. Niccol Serancke, of the Liverpool School; Robert W. Doyné, of the Bristol School; Ferdinand B. M. Wöhrnitz, of University College; and Richard J. Owen, of the London Hospital.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

- BIRMINGHAM BOROUGH LUNATIC ASYLUM—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, apartments, and washing. Applications to be made on or before the 23rd instant.
- BRECON INFIRMARY—Resident and House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, fire, and gas. Applications to be made on or before the 24th instant.
- BRIGHTON AND HOVE LYING-IN INSTITUTION—House-Surgeon. Salary, £120 per annum, with furnished apartments, gas, coals, and attendance. Applications to be made on or before the 27th instant.
- BRIGHTON HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN—House-Surgeon and Dispenser. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing.
- CHORLTON-ON-MEDLOCK DISPENSARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £120 per annum, with house, coals, gas, and attendance.
- COUNTY AND COUNTY OF THE BOROUGH OF CARMARTHEN INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £125 per annum, with lodging.
- LONDON FEVER HOSPITAL—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £200 per annum, with residence, coals, gas, and attendance.
- MALE LOCK HOSPITAL, Dean Street, Soho—House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications to be made on or before the 22nd instant.
- NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE BOROUGH LUNATIC ASYLUM—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications to be made on or before the 23rd instant.
- OWENS COLLEGE, Manchester—Junior Demonstrator in Anatomy. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications to be made on or before the 15th instant.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

WHITCOMBE, Edmund B., M.R.C.S., Assistant Medical Superintendent of the Borough Asylum, Birmingham, appointed Medical Superintendent of the East Riding Lunatic Asylum at Beverley.

DONATION.—An anonymous donor has presented the sum of £2,316 in Midland Railway Preference Stock to the Leeds General Infirmary.

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.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 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.—King's College, 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.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Peter's, 2 P.M.
THURSDAY....	St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Charing Cross, 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), 4 P.M.—London, 2 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 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, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Free, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

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

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*.

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.

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

REFORMED SPELLING.

SIR.—Allow me to correct an important error in the figures given in my letter of last week on Reformed Spelling regarding the number of useless duplicated consonants sent in letters of correspondence through the Post Office. The printer represented the numbers as being 20,000,000; whereas it ought to have been 20,000,000,000! quite a different matter.

As I have my pen in hand, allow me to remark, that the monograph which your correspondent K. B. alluded to, is entitled *The Simplification of English Spelling*, and is published by Trubner & Co., of Ludgate Hill, at 2s. 6d.; but it will afford me much pleasure to forward a copy of it, gratis, to any of your readers who take an interest in the subject; which they will find, in the monograph in question, is handled from a philosophical as well as a philological point of view.—Faithfully yours,
GEORGE HARLEY.

25, Harley Street, Cavendish Square, W.

SIR.—I would hope that the suggestion of a reformed spelling being adopted in the *JOURNAL* may not be permitted to fall to the ground. Dr. Harley is wise in recommending it on the lowest grounds—the saving of expense. I will add another; that, as this question is rapidly ripening, and a change of some kind is sure to be adopted before long, it would be but right and proper that the leading *JOURNAL* of the admittedly most progressive of the learned professions should be the first to take the matter up. It is a mere detail, at present hardly worth remark; but, as will be observed by the spelling of this letter, I am of opinion that the doubled consonants are not the only superfluous letters in use; and perhaps Dr. Harley will himself agree that they are useful in certain cases to prevent anomalies, and in such cases should be spared.—Yours very truly,
A. G. B.

* * We cannot publish any further correspondence concerning "reformed spelling," and we are not inclined to adopt any new spelling in the *JOURNAL* as an experiment.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST SUNSTROKE.

DR. D. G. F. MACDONALD writes:—"The heat is so intense that great care should be taken to prevent sunstroke. We have already had early warnings. If out-door labourers would put fern or cabbage-leaves inside their hats, or wind bands of rushes, vetches, or green herbage of some sort around them, there would be no cases of sunstroke. By this means the heat is strained through herbaceous substances, and is much less oppressive."

PROVIDENT DISPENSARY.

SIR.—Can any of your readers kindly give me their experience of the provident dispensary system in country village practice, their scale of charges, and the mode of establishing them?—Yours, etc.,
A MEMBER.

DR. BRANDT (Porto).—The advertisement emanates from a person who professes to obtain degrees from an University which he does not name, but which is, we believe, an institution having no recognised status; and the so-called degrees of which are utterly worthless. Our correspondent may safely regard the advertisement as unworthy of the least attention—except as a warning.

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.

COMPOSITION AND QUALITY OF THE METROPOLITAN WATER IN JUNE 1878.

The following are the returns made by Dr. C. Meymott Tidy to the Society of Medical Officers of Health.

Names of Water Companies.	Total Solid Matter per Gallon.	Oxygen consumed by Organic Matter.	Nitrogen As Nitrates, &c.	Ammonia.		Hardness. (Clarke's Scale.)	
				Saline.	Organic	Before Boiling.	After Boiling.
<i>Thames Water Companies.</i>	Grains.	Grains.	Grains.	Grains.	Grains.	Degs.	Degs.
Grand Junction ..	20.80	0.101	0.135	0.000	0.009	14.3	2.8
West Middlesex ..	19.10	0.073	0.114	0.000	0.008	13.2	2.8
Southwark and Vauxhall	19.30	0.098	0.114	0.001	0.010	14.3	2.8
Chelsea	19.80	0.090	0.099	0.001	0.009	14.3	2.8
Lambeth	20.70	0.098	0.144	0.001	0.011	14.8	3.3
<i>Other Companies.</i>							
Kent	28.50	0.003	0.444	0.000	0.002	20.6	5.1
New River	19.90	0.045	0.144	0.000	0.006	14.8	3.3
East London	20.40	0.056	0.114	0.000	0.006	14.3	3.3

Note.—The amount of oxygen required to oxidise the organic matter, nitrates, etc., is determined by a standard solution of permanganate of potash acting for three hours; and in the case of the metropolitan waters, the quantity of organic matter is about eight times the amount of oxygen required by it. The water was found to be clear and nearly colourless in all cases.

VOTING BY TELEPHONE.

SIR.—At the Royal College of Physicians, this evening, I have had pleasure in listening to the accurate reproduction of sound, which the exhibitor (Dr. Scott) informs me may be registered for any of the short distances applicable to our United Kingdom. I trust, sir, that this arrangement may prove satisfactory argument for altering the present charter of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, which demands personal attendance on the part of its Fellows for the election of members of Council. Such a demand not only implies distrust in the Post Office and other scientific inventions, but also points to an insufferably weak clause in the present constitution of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,
RICHARD DAVY,
July 3rd, 1878. Surgeon to the Westminster Hospital.

THE CURRICULUM OF THE SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES.

SIR.—The L.S.A. being a recognised medical qualification, is it not astonishing that the Society ignores surgery in the course of study required for the licence, and that a candidate "might" pass his examination and receive his certificate without any knowledge of surgery? It is not at all probable that it does occur, but it is a possibility. In former days, a candidate was not required to have any knowledge of medicine for the diploma of the College of Surgeons, but this has been rectified. Might not the Society of Apothecaries include surgery at least in their course of study with advantage?—I am, sir, your obedient servant,
VERITAS.

* * The Society of Apothecaries has no power, under its Act of Parliament, to examine in surgery.

WHO IS A PHYSICIAN?

SIR.—This question, asked by "Doubtful" in the *JOURNAL* of June 22nd, is not so easy to answer. I am obtaining information on this point, and also on the title of "Dr.," and hope to be able to explain more fully the subject. I put the following question to the Edinburgh College of Physicians amongst several others: "Has an University M.D., who is neither a licentiate, member, nor Fellow of a College of Physicians, a legal right to call himself a physician? and has not a physician an equal claim to style himself Dr. upon exactly the same conditions?" The answer was: "In my opinion, an University graduate has not a right to call himself a physician unless he is connected with a college of physicians." Much of the confusion and misunderstanding which have taken place during the discussion on the above subject and the title of Dr. have arisen from not taking into consideration the position and regulations of both Colleges of Physicians (London and Edinburgh) before and after the passing of the new Medical Act, and when they obtained their new charter, substituting a new body of "members" in the place of the old licentiates, the new and present licentiates being merely licentiates in medicine and midwifery, and on the same footing as the licentiates of the Apothecaries' Company, without the legal power of dispensing their own medicines.—I am, yours obediently,
M.R.C.C.P., etc.

THE ENGADINE.

SIR.—Can you inform me if there be any work published on the Engadine? and also what is the best work on the watering places of Europe generally?—Yours, etc.,
W. D. S.
July 9nd, 1878.

* * Dr. Burney Yeo's *Notes of a Season at St. Moritz in the Engadine*, published by Longmans; also an article by the Hon. L. Tollemache, in the *Fortnightly Review* for March 1876, on the "Upper Engadine"; and Braun's work on the *Curative Effects of Baths and Waters*, translated by Dr. Hermann Weber (Smith, Elder, and Co.).

MUTUAL OBLIGATIONS.

SIR.—When I have required the services of a veterinary surgeon (qualified) and of a dentist (unqualified) in this town of twenty thousand inhabitants, they have always declined to accept any fee from me. Now, I wish to know whether I should do right in seeking a fee from them for much more important attendance, and whether it is the usual custom to give and take to and from dentists and veterinary surgeons.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,
M.R.C.S.

* * The acceptance of voluntary service implies the willingness to return it; otherwise we should not have supposed such mutual obligations to exist between surgeons and vets.

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.

SMALL POX IN SOUTH KENSINGTON.

SIR,—It speaks but ill for the sanitary arrangements in South Kensington, that a late epidemic of typhoid should so soon be followed by one of small-pox. In your JOURNAL of the 8th instant, Dr. Dudfield, our medical officer of health, takes great credit for what he has done in the present emergency. He talks about a "local practitioner". That practitioner, no doubt, is myself—medical officer for the Brompton district of Kensington—on whom, and not on Dr. Dudfield, all the onus of combating the present epidemic has devolved, in no way assisted, but very much obstructed, by the constituted parochial authorities. Dr. Dudfield talks about "another laundress nursed at home by her husband and the business carried on during the whole time", etc. He has made one slight mistake: she was not a laundress at all. He talks about vaccination and revaccination: he has done nothing to promote either. Seeing the urgency of the case, I vainly endeavoured to stir up both the Local Government Board and the Board of Guardians. People were dying right and left. "They would consider the matter." People were ruined and made paupers by the foul disease. "If things did not mend, they would try something further." There is no vaccination-station in Brompton, containing as it does between twenty and thirty thousand inhabitants. Many would have to walk (here and back) at least five or six miles to get protected, and then only on one day in the week, at stated hours. I urged on the Guardians and the Local Government Board the pressing necessity of opening at least a temporary station in Brompton; but to no purpose. Thoroughly and utterly disgusted with the apathy with which boards in general regarded the sufferings of those around me, I opened a vaccination-station at my own house, entirely free, at my own expense. I cared not where people came from, or on what day or hour they came. As far, also, as time permitted, I practised house-to-house visitation, vaccinating and revaccinating all who could be persuaded to submit to the operation. In a few weeks I have operated on nearly a thousand persons, principally those from the infected portions of my district; and with what results? Last year, although the epidemic was subsiding in July throughout the metropolis generally, in Brompton it remained at its height till October, the date of the closing of the Fulham Small-pox Hospital for acute cases. Now, through giving every facility for revaccination, the epidemic is, for a time at least, at an end. If one single practitioner can do so much, how much more might be done by making every practitioner a public vaccinator? giving him, at the same time, power to procure the requisite lymph at the public vaccination-stations, where weekly, to my knowledge, a large amount is actually thrown away. Had it not been for the liberality displayed by the public vaccinator of Fulham, who on all occasions has, not only to myself, but to all qualified practitioners applying for it, afforded every opportunity of procuring lymph which would otherwise have been entirely wasted, I should have been perfectly hand-tied.

You say that Dr. Dudfield has conclusively answered my accusations against the Small-pox Hospital. He has done so merely by erroneous statements—doubtless, arising more from ignorance of facts than from intention. I have submitted to the vestry of Kensington a most elaborate statement of facts and figures, which quite upsets Dr. Dudfield's report. How has the vestry received it? Wishing to be blind, objecting to see the unclean thing, they have ordered it to lie on the table—i.e., to be placed in the waste paper-basket, and burned on the first convenient opportunity.

I will, as soon as I can procure it, send you a copy of my letter (the vestry, on application, will not, although unread, return it to me). You will then be able to judge who is right, who has practically done most good in suppressing this present alarming epidemic.—Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS GOODRICH, Medical Officer for the Brompton
140, Fulham Road, July 3rd, 1878. District of Kensington.

IT may, we suppose, be assumed that Dr. Milne of Cumbernauld had nothing to do with the foolish puff which is published in the *North British Daily Mail*, concerning the removal by him of a darning-needle from the walls of the chest of a child. Such a notice, however, compromises the popularity which he is said to enjoy, owing to his "ability, enthusiasm, professional success, and genial manners" among a large circle of friends, so far as those friends can be supposed to appreciate the rules of reticence and professional modesty which usually guide medical practitioners.

THE DEATH-WATCH.

SIR,—In your JOURNAL of June 8th, "C. L. B." suggests the presence of hot-water bottles to account for the noise commonly called the death-watch, and states that it is sometimes heard where there are no beetles. Two insects which have been seen in the act of making the noise are the *Anobium tessellatum* and *Ternus pulsatorius*. They are both very minute; and it would be difficult to say that any room is free from them, as they secrete themselves in wood, behind the paper of walls, etc. I have listened to the sound frequently with watch in hand. The successive taps will be found quicker than the ticks of an ordinary lever. It is not usually continuous, as, being doubtless a call for a mate, an interval is necessary to hear if there be any response. On one occasion, late at night, sitting alone, I heard this noise repeated several times, and, as I have often done, attempted to answer by a rapid tapping with the point of a pencil-case on something hard. As soon as I ceased, the ticking recommenced; and when it stopped I began again. After doing this several times, I proceeded with the candle to the corner of the room whence the sound seemed to come, and found part of the paperhanging detached from the wall, and, on turning it back, discovered a specimen of the *Anobium tessellatum*. The ticking ceased on my taking it captive.

I do not think the noise caused by a water-bottle could possibly be mistaken for a genuine death-watch; and, as scientific men commonly affirm that it is caused by a beetle, in this case I think we may allow them to be correct.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,

FRÉDÉRIC H. WARD, M.R.C.S., M. Ent. Soc.

Springfield, near Tooting, S.W., June 16th.

SIR,—Your correspondent "C. L. B." is in error about the death-watch. I once lived in a house the walls of which were infested by these little insects, whose tick was incessant. "The earliest scientific account of it is probably that of Mr. B. Allen, written in 1695, who calls it *Scarabæus galeatus pulsator*, and another by Dr. Derham in 1701. It is now the received opinion, that the sound called the death-watch is produced by certain beetles belonging to the timber-boring genus *Anobium striatum*. Latreille observed *Anobium striatum* to produce the sound in question, but the species whose proceedings have been most noticed is *Anobium tessellatum*. When spring is far advanced, these insects commence their ticking, which is only a call to each other, to which, if no answer be returned, the animal

repeats it in another place. It is thus produced: raising itself upon its hind legs, with the body somewhat inclined, it beats its head with great force and agility upon the plane of position, and its strokes are so powerful as to make a considerable impression if they fall upon any substance softer than wood. The noise exactly resembles that produced by tapping moderately with the nail upon the table; and, when familiarised, the insect will answer very readily to the tap of the nail." The superstition that the clicking of this insect is a death omen is mentioned by Baxter in his *World of Spirits*. This account is extracted from the *Penny Cyclopædia*, article "Death Watch".—Yours faithfully,

T. M. P.

ALCOHOL NOT A FOOD BUT A VEHICLE.

SIR,—I think it will be eventually found that the presence of alcohol in the stomach promotes the assimilation of certain fatty matters which would otherwise pass from the system untouched, or only partially altered; and I think the presence of alcohol (though in minute quantities) in the blood enables these assimilated fatty matters to be carried round the body in abnormal quantities to nourish the nerves and brain. Of course, if the brain be not large in proportion to the rest of the organisation, or if it be not highly developed, artificial nutrition may be unnecessary, and hence many people can live without alcoholic stimulants for years, and seem no worse; others gradually fail in health, because their nervous system is not fed up to what its construction requires. But, after all, the alcohol question seems to be more one of race than of the individual, and I doubt that large brains could be transmitted from generation to generation in races which totally abstained from fermented liquors, for the reason stated in the beginning of this letter.

There is one element in the discussion of this subject which has not been prominently brought forward—viz., man generally takes his animal food, meat, etc., in a fresh condition, and hence requires a ferment more than other animals, which bury it till semi-putrid. There may be other foods which, in their action, approximate to alcohol, such as fruits and sugars; but I doubt, from observation, that the effect is so perfect, although they may have the advantage of being much safer to use. They generate alcohol in the stomach, perhaps, and this process, taking place in the economy instead of outside it, of course consumes a certain amount of vital energy; for we have proof every day that nerves and brain may be destroyed, as many a scion of a noble house has been ruined, by an *embarras des richesses*.—Yours faithfully,

C. L. B.

MR. J. FARRAR.—Thanks; the book was duly received.

B.—Professor Bentley of King's College lately delivered a lecture on the subject of the Eucalyptus at the Pharmaceutical Society.

ORTHODOX should address the Secretary of the Medical Section, giving authentic particulars. Anonymous communications of the kind can obviously have but little weight.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Western Morning News; The Chicago Times; The Manchester Guardian; The Berkshire Chronicle; The Glasgow Herald; The Oswestry Advertiser; The Edinburgh Daily Courier; The Middlesex County Times; The Liverpool Evening Albion; The Daily Courier; The Yorkshire Post; The Coventry Herald; The Wisbech Advertiser; The West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser; The League Journal; The Liverpool Daily Post; The Newport and Drayton Advertiser; The Exeter and Plymouth Gazette; The Kelson Chronicle; The Fifehire Herald; The Merthyr Express; The Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald; The Surrey Advertiser; The Stroud News; etc.

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

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

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

A Practical Introduction to Medical Electricity. By A. de Watteville, M.A. London: H. K. Lewis. 1878.
Phosphates in Nutrition, and the Mineral Theory of Consumption and Allied Diseases. By M. F. Anderson, L.R.C.P.Ed. London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1878.