

SELECTIONS FROM JOURNALS.

SURGERY.

TREATMENT OF DETACHED RETINA.—Cohnheim has employed the method of drainage by a loop of gold thread passed through the sclerotic and under the retina, in four cases of detached retina with excellent results. As soon as the retina has become reapplied to the choroid, it becomes capable of perception even after the lapse of three years. But only the sense of space returns, not that of colour. In no instance was any inflammation of the eye or impairment of the pre-existing amount of vision observed. This method does not interfere with other general methods of treatment.

UNRECOGNISED FRACTURES OF THE EXTERNAL MALLEOLUS.—

Dr. W. R. Whitehead, in the *St. Louis Medical and Surgical Journal*, says that fractures of the external malleolus often pass for sprains of the ankle. Malgaigne denies that such a fracture occurs. Hamilton barely alludes to it, while Maisonneuve and Nélaton well describe the symptoms of such a fracture. There is no displacement, and rarely any crepitus. The diagnostic signs are: 1. Pain in an exceedingly limited transverse linear direction corresponding to the known anatomical seat of the fracture as produced on the cadaver; 2. A linear ecchymosis after a few days, which also corresponds to the line of fracture. In a sprain of the ankle-joint, the pain is diffuse; but a sprain may accompany this fracture, and render the diagnosis more difficult. It is desirable that surgeons should give more attentive examination to sprains of the ankle, to detect, if possible, such fractures if they exist. The treatment is immobilisation of the ankle-joint with an unyielding splint of starch or plaster-of-Paris, or something which fulfils the same indications.

THERAPEUTICS.

MODE OF ACTION OF CATHARTICS.—L. Briger (*Archiv für Exper. Pathol. und Pharmak.*, Band viii, p. 355), at the instance of Professor Cohnheim, made some experiments to determine the mode of action of cathartics, which are abstracted in the *Clinic*. It was held, on the authority of Liebig, that the artificial increase of the alvine evacuations is chiefly due to endosmosis; but the experiments of Thiry, Schiff, Aubert, Buchheim, and Radziejewski seemed to show that neither transudation nor secretion is increased, and that acceleration of the peristaltic movements by which the fluid contents of the intestines are so rapidly carried forward that absorption cannot take place, is the sole effect produced by cathartics. Moreau, however, from his experiments, came to the conclusion that secretion is increased. Lately, Lauder Brunton (*Practitioner*, 1874, Nos. 71 and 72) again called attention to the method of Moreau, which is as simple as it is exact. L. Briger pursued the same method in his experiments, which were performed on large, strong dogs. After fasting from two to three days, in order that the intestinal canal might be as empty as possible, the animal was narcotised with morphia; then the abdominal cavity was opened and a loop of intestine as long as possible was withdrawn. This was tied at each extremity, and after two punctures had been made, one near each ligature, the loop was thoroughly cleansed by the injection of warm water. After closing the punctures with sutures, the loop was divided into three parts of equal length by ligatures thrown around the serous covering. The middle part was not used, but served as a means of comparison with the other parts into which cathartics were slowly injected with a Pravaz syringe. The whole procedure rarely required more than ten minutes, and after it was finished the animals were unfastened, left under the influence of morphia, and, after about four and a half hours, were killed with chloroform or a blow on the head. Five grammes of a half per cent. solution of sulphate of magnesium were injected into one loop, and the same quantity of a one per cent. solution into the other. Both loops were found empty, the mucous membrane pale but normal. These very dilute solutions were simply absorbed. After the injection of a twenty per cent. solution of sulphate of magnesium, the loops were always completely filled with a thin light yellow alkaline fluid, in which were suspended mucous shreds. These shreds were dissolved by caustic soda, but, if acetic acid was added in excess, a flocculent precipitate was thrown down. Treated with boiled starch or cane sugar, the fluid yielded in an hour and a half, at the ordinary temperature, tested by Trommer's method, evidence of the presence of glucose. Without any further addition, it showed, after boiling with a solution of potassa and sulphate of copper, the violet discolouration which was described of the intestinal juice obtained through fistulae by Thiry and Quincke. Raw fibrin was dissolved in twelve hours at a high temperature; but boiled fibrin and

ovalbumen were not changed. On microscopic examination, no red blood-corpuscles were found, but it contained many mucus-corpuscles, peculiar elements marked with vacuoles and intestinal epithelium. After the injection of two grammes of a fifty per cent. solution, there was found in the loop 23.5 grammes of a fluid having the properties described above, and a specific gravity of 1025 to 1030. Numerous other experiments were attended by similar results.—Drastics.—Half a drop of croton-oil, dissolved in 2.25 grammes of ether, produced in the intestine 18 grammes of bloody fluid. In two other cases, when dissolved in 0.5 gramme of olive-oil, is produced respectively 10 and 11 grammes of bloody fluid. Extract of colocynth, injected with 2 grammes of water, acted as follows in the doses specified: 0.02 gramme, no accumulation, intestine empty, contracted, and slightly reddened; 0.04 to 0.10 gramme bloody fluid, mucous membrane totally inflamed; 0.05 to 0.1 gramme, completely filled with bloody contents; mucous membrane presents diphtheritic inflammation. In all the cases, the contents of the intestine responded to the saccharine test, and rapidly dissolved flakes of fibrin. Examined with the microscope, they presented in great abundance red and white blood-corpuscles, much epithelium, mucus, and shred of fibrin.—Laxatives.—The substances used were the following: calomel, senna, rhubarb, aloes, gamboge, and castor-oil. The dogs were killed at various intervals, after 4½, 5, 7, and 16 hours. Without exception, the loops of intestine were found empty, firmly contracted, and not in the least inflamed, and the injected substance was spread over the whole surface. Substances acting mechanically only, as shot and pledges of cotton, produced no effects. The aqueous constituents of the injected fluids were completely absorbed during the time of the experiments; thus, of fifteen grammes of compound infusion of senna, there remained only a semi-solid mass; but the castor-oil was found undiminished. Cinnabar, which was intimately mixed with castor-oil in two cases, was found neither in the lacteals passing from the intestine, nor in the adjacent lymphatic glands or thoracic duct. In regard to the laxatives, it would seem that their action depends upon an increase of peristaltic movements, for the loops were found contracted and coated with the medicine. The energetic movements of the intestinal wall had spread them in all directions. According to the results obtained, it cannot be doubted that the neutral salts strongly attract water and increase secretion. The drastics, in small doses, may be compared with the laxatives; but in large doses they produce inflammatory exudation and hypersecretion. In regard to both the neutral salts and the drastics, the properties of the intestinal contents show that in all cases there is not merely transudation, which augments the water in the intestines, but actual increase of the action of the intestinal glands.

THE SODA TREATMENT OF BURNS.—When we drew attention, some time since, to the remarkable efficiency attributed by some practitioners to the use of saturated solution of carbonate of soda in immediately relieving the acute pain of burns and scalds, and alleviating their results, some of our correspondents subsequently expressed their disappointment at the results. This appears to have been due to the employment of relatively weak solutions of soda. The following is reported in the *Student's Journal* of June 8, by Mr. W. Minors of the Staffordshire General Infirmary. J. S., aged 42, a furnace man, was brought, suffering from a burn involving the whole of the left arm, from the middle of the humerus downwards. He complained of intense pain, and blisters had risen. A saturated solution of the carbonate of soda (half-a-pound of soda to three pints of water) was at once applied on lint, and kept wet by constant application of the solution. The relief was immediate. The dressing was removed after three days. No slough had occurred. The arm is now quite well. In dressing and using the solution, the only things necessary are to see that the whole of the burnt surface is covered with the saturated lint, that it is kept constantly wet, and that the first dressing is not removed for at least three days.

MEDICINE.

THE DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS OF DIABETES AND GLYCOSURIA.—M. Gérin Rozes makes the following remarks. 1. However efficacious in glycosuria the deprivation of saccharine aliment may be, it is of no avail in true diabetes, which is also quite a rare affection. 2. In the case of diabetes, the quantity of sugar varies little from day to day; whilst in glycosuria the variation may be very great, and this, according to the author, is the pathognomonic sign of glycosuria. 3. In diabetes, a volumetric analysis by Fehling's fluid is very simple and clear; while, on the contrary, the reactions are often obscure and difficult in glycosuria, owing, as he thinks, to the quantity of creatinine substances in the urine of glycosuria.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL BUSINESS.

NOTICE is hereby given that, at the Annual General Meeting to be held at the Assembly Rooms, Bath, on Thursday, the 8th day of August next, in lieu of the motion of which notice was given in Journals of the 13th and 20th instant, a resolution will be proposed to the following effect, namely:

1. That a New Article of Association be formed, as follows: "No female shall be eligible for election as a member of the Association".

Notice is also given that a motion will be made:

2. That the sixth article be altered by the substitution of the word "Journal" for the word "Publications".

FRANCIS FOWKE, General Secretary.

London, July 25th, 1878.

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 MACLAGAN, 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:* Balthazar Foster, M.D., F.R.C.P.; Thomas 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.

11.15 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 P.M.—Special Business: Proposed Alteration of the Fifth Article of Association: Alteration of By-law I.

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.—Conversations 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.

A discussion will be opened in the Section of Obstetric Medicine by Dr. Routh, on the Evils, moral and physical, likely to follow if practices intended to act as Checks of Population be not strongly discouraged and condemned.

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.

ALFORD, Henry J., M.D. The Construction and Management of Hospitals for Infectious Diseases.

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.

ALLBUTT, T. Clifford, M.A., M.D. Latent Pleurisy of the Apex.

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

ANDREW, Edwyn, M.D. x. The Value of Issues in the Treatment of Eye-Disease.—2. The Advantages of Vaseline in Ophthalmic Practice.

ATKINS, Ringrose, M.D. Osteomalacia occurring in an Insane Person.

BARHAM, Charles, M.D. The Isles of Scilly as a Health-Resort.

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

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

BOWKETT, W. D., M.R.C.S. A Method of Self-Registering Thermometry.

BOYD, Robert, M.D. Observations on the Comparative Weight of two Cerebral Hemispheres in the Insane.

BRADLEY, S. M., F.R.C.S. The Treatment of Genu Valgum.

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

BROWNE, Lennox, F.R.C.S.Ed. Cases illustrating Varieties of Obstructed Nasal Respiration, and their Treatment.

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.

COLF, 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.

DOLAN, Thomas M., L.R.C.P. Ed. 1. A Contribution to our facts on Puerperal Septicæmia.—2. Some Suggestions on Legislation for Rabies and Hydrophobia.

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

DYRSDALE, 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.

ELLIOTT, C. B.A., M.D. Ulcer of the Frænum Linguae in Whooping-Cough.

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

FOWLER, R. S., F.R.C.S. Case of Lithotomy where the Suprapubic Operation was resorted to in consequence of the size of the Stone.

FOX, Cornelius B., M.D. Remarks on a Disease known by the Names of "False Diphtheria", "Spreading Quinsy", and "Cynanche 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 Ronquerel, L.R.C.P. On Peritoneal Adhesions of the Gravid Uterus as a Cause of Post Partum Haemorrhage.

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

HARRISON, Reginald, F.R.C.S. Apparatus used by Dr. Bigelow in his Operation of Litholapaxy.

HIGGINS, C., F.R.C.S. Remarks on one hundred and fifty Operations for Extraction of Cataract.

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.

JAGIELSKI, Victor, M.D. On the Treatment of Coughs: their Causes and Complications.

JAMIESON, W. Allan, M.D. Notes of a Case of Pityriasis Rubra Universalis.

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 Haemorrhage.

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.

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

NOTTER, J. Lane, B.A., M.D. The Purification of Water by Filtration.

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.

SIMS, J. Marion, M.D. 1. The Operations of Simpson and of Sims for Stenosis of the Cervix Uteri compared. — 2. The Removal of Foreign Bodies from the Ear.

SKERRITT, E. M., M.D. 1. A Case of Functional Hemianesthesia, with Muscular Rigidity: Exhibition of the Patient. — 2. A Case of Complete Obstruction of Intestine by Croupous Inflammation. — 3. On Latency of Symptoms in Acute Abdominal Affections.

SMITH, Heywood, M.D. 1. The Treatment of the Pedicle in Ovariectomy. — 2. A Case of Ovariectomy during Pregnancy.

STOKES, William, M.D. Extension Apparatus for the Treatment of Fractures and certain Deformities of the Lower Extremities.

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 Lithotomy.

THOMAS, Jabez, M.R.C.S. 1. The Treatment of Convulsions in Children and Epileptic Convulsions by Chloroform. — 2. A Modification of Sayre's Method of Suspension in Spinal Curvature.

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.

TORRANCE, Robert, F.R.C.S.Ed. The Diagnosis and Treatment of Aural Polypi; illustrated by a new form of Instrument.

VACHER, Francis, L.R.C.P.Ed. Notes on the late Epidemic of Small-pox in Birkenshead.

WALKER, Thomas J., M.D. Treatment of Potts' Disease of the Spine by the Plaster-Jacket applied in the Recumbent Posture: with a Demonstration of the Method.

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 Haemorrhage.

WEST, James, F.R.C.S. A Case of Talipes Equino-Varus in an Adult treated successfully by the Removal of the Astragalus, Scaphoid, and Cuboid.

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 Eleventh 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:—

I. 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, 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.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary.*

36, Great Queen Street, London, W.C., July 25th, 1878.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE twenty-sixth annual meeting of this Branch was held at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, on Friday, July 19th, at 4 P.M. The Chair was taken by the President for 1877-78, SEPTIMUS W. SIBLEY, Esq.

Report of Council.—Dr. HENRY, one of the honorary secretaries, read the following report.

"In presenting the twenty-sixth annual report, the Council of the Metropolitan Counties Branch are glad to be able to report a material increase in the strength of the Branch. At the last annual meeting, the number of members was 582. Since that time, nine members have died; 16 have been removed from the list on account of resignation or other causes; and 60 new members have joined. The number at present on the list is 617. The total number of members of the Association in the Metropolitan Counties District exceeds 1,100, so that there still remains a large number who ought to be enlisted in the Branch. As the subjects discussed in the Branch are mainly political, it is very desirable that it should include most of the members of the profession residing in the metropolis, so as to give greater weight to its discussions, and to enable it to exert more influence on medical and sanitary legislation.

"The Branch has had to lament the loss by death of an old and much esteemed member, Mr. Robert Dunn, who in 1862-63 worthily filled the office of President; and during the eleven years preceding his death was the Treasurer of the Branch. Your Council, at their first meeting after his death, unanimously passed the following resolution, which was communicated to the family of Mr. Dunn.

"That this Council desires to express its sincere regret at the loss which the Metropolitan Counties Branch has sustained in the death of Robert Dunn, Esq., some time President, and for the last eleven years Treasurer of the Branch, and to record the high esteem in which he was held by his colleagues and the members of the Branch generally,

as well as their grateful sense of the courtesy and efficiency with which he performed the duties of his office.

The other members who have died are: Mr. W. S. Britton; Mr. Sampson K. Burch; Dr. W. Cormick; Dr. R. P. Cotton; Dr. Gaediner Hill; Mr. T. Carr Jackson; Mr. Thomas Stevenson; and Mr. Edward Westall.

Several meetings of the Branch have been held during the year for the discussion of subjects of professional interest.

On February 27th, a paper on Provident Dispensaries was read by Mr. Timothy Holmes, who, as is well-known, has made the administration of medical relief in hospitals and similar institutions a subject of careful study. The discussion which followed the reading of this paper was adjourned to March 27th, when Mr. Holmes brought forward a series of resolutions in reference to the subject of his paper, which were adopted by the meeting.

On May 22nd, Dr. E. C. Seaton read a paper on the Working of the Vaccination Acts, and Mr. J. Greene of Birmingham one on Animal Vaccination; after which an instructive discussion took place.

The abovementioned papers have been published in full in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, where also abstracts of the proceedings at the meetings will be found. Your Council are sure that they only express the unanimous feeling of the members of the Branch, in recording their sincere thanks to Mr. Holmes, Dr. Seaton, and Mr. Greene for their most valuable and instructive communications.

A special general meeting of the Branch was held on May 15th, for two purposes: first, to receive a new code of laws which had been drawn up under direction of the Council; secondly, to consider the Bills for the Amendment of the Medical Act now before Parliament. A full account of the proceedings with regard to the latter subject is to be found in the JOURNAL of the Association for May 25th. By the invitation of your Council, Dr. Waters of Chester, the Chairman of the Medical Reform Committee of the Association, kindly attended the meeting and gave valuable information; and the members had also the advantage of the presence and advice of the Rev. Dr. Haughton of Dublin. The decision of the meeting, while fully consistent with the votes of the Branch in previous years in favour of the direct representation of the profession on the General Medical Council and of the establishment of conjoint examining boards, was to the effect that it was not desirable to impede medical legislation because all these objects were not attained at once. Your Council has since considered the subject, and, without expressing an opinion either for or against any of the Bills for the Amendment of the Medical Act now before Parliament, has drawn up a petition, which has been signed by a number of members of the Branch, in favour of the direct representation of the profession on the Medical Council, and of the affiliation of persons passing the examinations of the conjoint boards to one or more of the medical authorities—which they regard as essential for the purposes of moral and professional discipline.

Your Council have learned with much satisfaction that the General Medical Council has, by a large majority, resolved to take the question of its constitution into consideration in its next session, and to report to the Government thereon. It will be for the successors in office of your Council to carefully watch the progress of the deliberations on this question; and to cause the influence of the Branch to be exerted in the manner most beneficial to the profession and the public.

The Committee on Habitual Drunkards will present a report.

Your Council has carefully considered the constitution and laws of the Branch, with the view of further developing its strength and usefulness. They have decided on adopting, as closely as circumstances will permit, the plan which has been for many years followed in the South-Eastern Branch with great advantage—the division of the Branch into districts for the purpose of holding meetings at various times; each district having its own Secretary, and being regulated in such manner as may be approved by the Council of the Branch. Your Council are glad to have already secured the assistance of several gentlemen who have agreed to act as local secretaries—viz., Dr. Powe, Mr. Nelson Hardy, Dr. A. Grant, and Mr. Ridgway Lloyd. They would recommend that the organisation of the district societies be proceeded with early in the next session, and are persuaded that they will be found productive of great benefit to the Branch, and through it to the Parent Association. Your Council desire to express their cordial thanks to Dr. Charles Parsons, the Secretary of the South-Eastern Branch, for much valuable advice and assistance, rendered both personally and by letter.

Your Council has also thoroughly revised the by-laws of the Branch; and a new code, containing some important amendments, has been submitted to and approved by a general meeting of the Branch, and is in the possession of each member.

The boundaries between the Metropolitan Counties and South-

Eastern Branches in the county of Surrey having never been accurately defined, your Council has entered into negotiations on the subject with the South-Eastern Branch, which had the prior right, by seniority of foundation, to the whole county of Surrey, while at the same time the portions of that county included within the metropolis would more appropriately belong to the Metropolitan Counties Branch, which has hitherto only had a claim on them in common with the South-Eastern Branch.

It having been considered by your Council that the official reports of the proceedings of the Committee of Council furnished for publication in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL were less detailed than was necessary for the information of members, your Council passed a resolution expressing their opinion that the proceedings of the Committee should be published with as much fulness as is consistent with the conduct of business. Your Council are gratified in observing that the report of the last meeting of the Committee of Council was considerably more detailed and satisfactory than on previous occasions.

Your Council also passed resolutions objecting to the combination of the business of printing and publishing the JOURNAL in the same house with the meeting and committee rooms of the Association, and expressing a desire that accommodation for a reading-room and register of visitors may be provided in the professional apartments of the Association. It has been, however, decided by the Committee of Council and by a Special General Meeting of the Association, that the business of the Association, including the printing and publication of the JOURNAL, shall be transacted in a house in the Strand which has been taken for that purpose. The experiment thus undertaken is one the result of which can only be determined by time. Your Council trust that the latter part of their proposition may be carried out at a later period.

The question of the admission of practising female members of the medical profession as members of the Association has been before your Council. The matter will be brought before the annual meeting of the Association at Bath, and the Committee of Council have taken legal advice as to the privileges of the two ladies who have already been admitted members of the Association. The legal opinion obtained was published in the JOURNAL of July 13th.

Acting under the power given them by the new by-laws, your Council have issued voting-papers for the election of officers and members of Council of the Branch, and representatives of the Branch on the General Council of the Association. From the returns which have been received, it appears that the following have been unanimously elected:

President: Andrew Clark, M.D. *President-elect:* John Wood, Esq., F.R.S. *Vice-Presidents:* Jonathan Hutchinson, Esq.; Septimus W. Sibley, Esq.; Charles Drage, M.D.; A. P. Stewart, M.D. *Treasurer:* Walter Dickson, M.D. *Secretaries:* Alexander Henry, M.D.; William Chapman Grigg, M.D. *Eighteen Ordinary Members of Council:* Stephen S. Alford, Esq.; *Robert Barnes, M.D.; *W. C. Begley, M.D.; *Frederick A. Best, Esq.; John S. Bristow, M.D.; *George D. Brown, Esq.; *George Eastes, M.B.; Ernest Hart, Esq.; J. T. N. Lipscomb, M.D.; John Macpherson, M.D.; Charles R. Nicoll, M.D.; *Wm. M. Ord, M.D.; Richard Quain, M.D., F.R.S.; *Frederick T. Roberts, M.D.; *Edwin Saunders, Esq.; Leonard W. Sedgwick, M.D.; *Alfred Walker, M.D.; Edwin T. Watkins, M.D. (The members to whose names an asterisk is prefixed did not hold the same office last year.) *Representatives in the General Council:* Robert Barnes, M.D.; W. C. Begley, M.D.; W. H. Broadbent, M.D.; G. W. Callender, Esq., F.R.S.; Andrew Clark, M.D.; T. B. Curling, Esq., F.R.S.; Walter Dickson, M.D.; Thomas S. Dowse, M.D.; Charles Drage, M.D.; Arthur E. Durham, Esq.; Robert Farquharson, M.D.; Stamford Felce, M.R.C.P. Ed.; John Goodchild, Esq.; W. R. Gowers, M.D.; H. Nelson Hardy, Esq.; Ernest Hart, Esq.; Christopher Heath, Esq.; Alexander Henry, M.D.; Berkeley Hill, Esq.; T. Holmes, Esq.; Jonathan Hutchinson, Esq.; Norman Kerr, M.D.; R. Quain, M.D., F.R.S.; Walter Rivington, Esq.; F. T. Roberts, M.D.; Joseph Rogers, M.D.; Septimus W. Sibley, Esq.; Edward H. Sieveking, M.D.; A. P. Stewart, M.D.; E. H. Vinen, M.D."

It was proposed by Mr. JOHN WOOD, seconded by Dr. BEGLEY, and resolved:

That the report of Council now read be received, adopted, and entered on the minutes.

The Boundary of the Branch.—Dr. HENRY read a letter from Dr. PARSONS, the Secretary of the South-Eastern Branch, enclosing a resolution in which that Branch proposed to give up a certain portion of the County of Surrey. After a brief discussion, it was resolved that the matter be referred to the Council of the Branch.

Treasurer's Report.—Dr. WALTER DICKSON presented the financial statement. He thanked the Branch for the honour done him in electing him treasurer, and said that he would, by following the example of his

lamented predecessor, endeavour to deserve the goodwill of his fellow-members. The total income, including a balance of £22 8s. 1d. at the last annual meeting, was £95 3s. 7d., and the expenditure £72 7s. 4d., leaving a balance of £22 18s. 3d.

Dr. RUGG proposed, Dr. E. H. VINEN seconded, and it was resolved :

"That the treasurer's report be received, adopted, and entered on the minutes."

Report of the Habitual Drunkards' Committee.—Dr. E. H. VINEN, one of the secretaries to the Committee, read the following report.

"The Committee for Promoting Legislation for the Control and Cure of Habitual Drunkards have to report that a Bill for that object was prepared and brought before the House of Commons by Dr. Cameron, member for Glasgow, and supported by Mr. Clare Read, Mr. Evelyn Ashley, Mr. E. Jenkins, and other members. Much objection having been made to its compulsory clauses, and it appearing that these would be likely to cause the rejection of the Bill, Dr. Cameron struck them out, and the Bill, modified to this extent, was read a second time on July 3rd. It is satisfactory to be able to state that, although many members took part in the discussion, no opposition was raised to the principle of the Bill, and that it passed the second reading without a dissentient voice.

"It is probable that the Bill may pass into a law during the present session, and, if so, it would come into operation in January 1879.

"The Committee trust that the measure, in its present form, will be productive of so much success as to encourage them to try for a more stringent Bill on a future occasion."

Dr. HENRY proposed :

"That the report of the Committee on Legislation for Habitual Drunkards be received and adopted; that the Committee be thanked for their labours, and reappointed."

Dr. A. P. STEWART seconded the motion, and expressed his great satisfaction at the success which had been obtained through the perseverance and judicious action of Dr. Cameron. The measure which had been obtained was just what was wanted—one of which the working could be tried with the hope of a good result.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Dr. STEWART proposed, Dr. FARQUHARSON seconded, and it was unanimously resolved :

"That the best thanks of this Branch be given to Dr. Cameron, M.P., for the manner in which he has conducted the Habitual Drunkards' Bill through the House of Commons."

Several members expressed their deep sense of the valuable services rendered by Mr. Stephen Alford, to whose energetic and persevering labour in the cause of legislation for habitual drunkards the success which had been so far obtained was in very great measure due. Dr. WILLIAM WOOD moved, Dr. ANDREW CLARK seconded, and it was resolved unanimously :

"That this Branch beg to offer their hearty congratulations to Mr. Stephen Alford upon the successful results of his unremitting endeavours to promote legislation in the case of habitual drunkards."

Mr. SIBLEY then, after a few valedictory remarks, left the Chair, which was taken by his successor, Dr. ANDREW CLARK.

President's Address.—Dr. ANDREW CLARK delivered an address, the chief topic of which was medical reform.

Mr. COWELL proposed, Dr. WALTER DICKSON seconded, and it was unanimously resolved :

"That the best thanks of the Branch be given to the President for his able address."

Vote of Thanks.—Dr. STEWART moved :

"That the cordial thanks of this Branch be given to Septimus W. Sibley, Esq., for the very able and courteous manner in which he has performed the duties of President during the past year; for his unwearied attention to the interests of the Branch and of the profession; and for his most kind and hospitable reception of the members at his house on the evening of Wednesday, June 5th."

He said that Mr. Sibley's evening reception of the members was a marked success, surpassed by none of those which had been given by previous Presidents of the Branch, however excellent their entertainments were. He had gone to it, though in ill-health at the time; and the effect of it had been very soon to make him forget his bodily ailment and mental depression. When his old friend Mr. Sibley became President, he had formed high expectations of the manner in which he would perform the duties of his office; and those expectations had been fully responded to during a very eventful year in the history of the Branch.

The motion was carried by acclamation, and was acknowledged by Mr. Sibley.

Mr. G. EASTES moved, and it was unanimously resolved :

"That the best thanks of the Branch be given to the Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and Council, for their valuable services during the year."

Dinner.—At 6 p.m., forty-four members and visitors dined together; Dr. A. CLARK in the Chair. Dr. Yandell, of Louisville, Kentucky; Dr. Lanchester, President of the South-Eastern Branch; Dr. Carpenter of Croydon; and Dr. C. Holman of Reigate, were present as visitors.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH : ANNUAL MEETING.

THE twenty-fourth annual meeting of the Branch was held on July 2nd, 1878, at the Midland Hotel, Birmingham. Present : SAMPSON GAMGEE, Esq., President, in the chair, and about fifty-five members.

New Members.—The following gentlemen were elected members of the Branch : Mr. Bellingham, Dudley; Mr. Clark, Leamington; Dr. Compson, Hales Owen; Dr. Drew, Dunchurch; Mr. Homan, Lichfield; Mr. Masters, Hedgesford; Mr. Mitchell, Birmingham; Mr. Mahony, Droitwich; Mr. Moore, Coventry; Dr. Oakes, Leamington; Mr. Powell, Bromyard; Mr. Sheppard, Worcester; Mr. Swinson, Birmingham; Mr. Tunley, Mayfield; and Mr. Wilding, Worcester.

The New President.—The retiring President, Mr. SAMPSON GAMGEE, introduced his successor, Dr. TIBBITS of Warwick, who thereupon took the chair.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. NEWNHAM of Wolverhampton, a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the retiring President.

Report of Council.—Dr. SAWYER read the annual report. The Branch numbers 356 members, 40 of whom were elected during the year; 15 members had withdrawn, and two had died, namely, Mr. F. Pon Bennett of Cheltenham and Dr. Lakin of Sutton Coldfield. Six ordinary and two special meetings were held, the provident dispensary question forming the business of the latter. The report dealt at length with the transactions of the Branch in reference to the provident dispensary movement, and concluded as follows : "Your Council cannot conclude this brief summary of the special work of the year, without expressing their warm appreciation of the loyal and valuable co-operation afforded to the Branch by the Midland Medical Society, on each occasion when questions of public interest were under consideration. In relation to the important movement for the establishment of provident dispensaries in Birmingham, the town has seen the societies of the profession acting in conjunction with each other, and in perfect harmony for the common good. Your Council sincerely hope that this salutary union may form a precedent for future action, and that the medical bodies of the town and district may always assist and strengthen each other in their relations with the general public. Your Council would point with pride to the flourishing prosperity and steadily-increasing popularity of the British Medical Association, which now numbers nearly eight thousand members, and is the greatest and strongest professional organisation which has ever existed. The Association, besides furnishing its members with a weekly copy of an excellent and ably conducted JOURNAL, is now in a position to afford considerable annual grants for the encouragement of scientific research, and to mark with substantial approval conspicuous professional merit; whilst its Executive exercises a powerful and representative influence upon all national legislative procedures which concern professional interests. Your Council would appeal to each member of the Branch to exert his influence with his medical brethren to increase the roll of associates, and to bring into the Branch every reputable practitioner in the Midland Counties."

Treasurer's Report.—Mr. WATKIN WILLIAMS read the treasurer's report, which showed a balance in hand of £84.

Report of Sections.—Dr. SAWYER read the annual reports of the Pathological and Clinical, and Microscopical Sections.

Officers of Council.—When a ballot had been taken, the scrutineers reported that the following gentlemen were elected to fill various offices in the Branch for the ensuing year :—*President elect* : James Johnston, M.B. *Honorary Secretaries* : J. Sawyer, M.D.; E. Malins, M.D. *Treasurer* : T. Watkin Williams, Esq. *Council* : L. H. Agar, L. K. Q. C. P.; W. C. Garman, Esq.; V. Jackson, Esq.; H. R. Ker, Esq.; F. E. Manby, Esq.; J. Manley, Esq.; D. H. Monckton, M.D.; J. Thompson, M.D.; A. Eaker, Esq.; T. H. Bartleet, Esq.; A. H. Carter, M.D.; B. Foster, M.D.; O. Pemberton, Esq.; Jas. Russell, M.D.; J. V. Solomon, Esq.; and W. F. Wade, M.B. *Representatives in the Council of the Association* : T. H. Bartleet, Esq.; G. F. Boilington, M.D.; B. Foster, M.D.; S. Gamgee, Esq.; J. H. Houghton, Esq.; J. Johnston, M.B.; F. E. Manby, Esq.; J. Manley, Esq.; D. H. Monckton, M.D.; C. A. Newnham, Esq.; A. Oakes, Esq.; Lloyd

Owen, Esq. ; O. Pemberton, Esq. ; E. Rickards, M.D. ; J. Tibbits, M.D. ; T. Underhill, M.D. ; W. F. Wade, M.B. ; and T. W. Williams, Esq.

The Microscopical Section.—On the motion of Dr. SAWYER, seconded by Mr. LAWSON TAIT, Chairman of the Microscopical Section, it was unanimously resolved: "That, in accordance with a recommendation of the Council of the Branch, the Microscopical Section be discontinued henceforth."

Attendance in the General Council.—On the motion of Mr. SOLOMON, seconded by Dr. J. THOMPSON, it was unanimously resolved: "That the Committee of Council be requested to direct that the names of all those attending the General Council of the Association do form a part of the Journal record of the proceedings of the annual meeting."

President's Address.—Dr. TIBBITS delivered an inaugural address.

REPORTS OF SOCIETIES.

GLASGOW PATHOLOGICAL AND CLINICAL SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16TH, 1878.

JOSEPH COATS, M.D., President, in the Chair.

Loose Cartilages in Knee-Joint.—Dr. HECTOR CAMERON showed two cartilages which he had removed, by operation with antiseptic precautions, from the knee-joint of a well-known football-player and athlete. The patient had experienced severe twinges of pain in the joint on one or two occasions while playing at football, and for three months before operation he had suffered from effusion into the joint and consequent lameness. Rest and appropriate treatment resulted in absorption of the fluid, and a few days before the operation the loose bodies were noticed. The case had progressed after operation without a trace of febrile excitement, and the wound in the joint was now closed.

Lead-Poisoning.—Dr. A. ROBERTSON showed a girl aged 19, whom he described as suffering from the effects of lead-poisoning. She had been employed in a whitelead manufactory, where she worked for seven months without impairment of her health; but, having then been transferred to the part of the works where the air was more or less loaded with fumes of whitelead, and being engaged in carrying the whitelead in baskets upon her head, she soon suffered from lead-colic. After an illness of five weeks, she recovered from this colic, and returned to her employment. In ten days, she again became ill, with colic, headache, and dimness of sight, and she was then admitted to the Town's Hospital (on 19th December, 1877). After admission, she had several convulsive seizures, with delirium, but gradually recovered. Three weeks after admission, atrophy of the optic nerve was detected with the ophthalmoscope, and gradually total blindness ensued. There was a blue line on the gums when she was admitted; there was no paralysis; and latterly the headaches had disappeared. The treatment was purgation and administration of iodide of potassium.

Pyæmia.—Dr. JOSEPH COATS and Dr. RENTON showed the parts from a case of pyæmia. The patient was a girl aged 14, who was under treatment for acute necrosis of the tibia. A part of the bone was removed; but a second attack of acute inflammation rendered free incisions necessary. The diseased leg was finally amputated. At the necropsy, the femoral vein was full of pus, and there was a thrombus in the external iliac vein. The lungs were full of small infarcts and commencing abscesses, and the pleurae were acutely inflamed. All the other organs were healthy.

Pulmonary Disease.—Dr. W. T. GAIRDNER showed the parts from a case of complicated and fatal pulmonary disease, and a diagram exhibiting the oscillations of temperature in the case over eight months. Among the many points of curious clinical interest, arising out of the fresh preparations before the Society, were the following. 1. The practically normal condition of the kidneys, in connection with the carefully recorded history of a severe attack of renal dropsy in 1875. 2. The existence of physical evidences of disease in the right pulmonary apex at this time, which seemed to have healed so completely that when he returned in 1877 he had absolutely forgotten the fact, which was only discovered on referring to the hospital books. At the necropsy, there was found atrophy with bronchial thickening and dilatation in the right upper lobe, reducing this part of the lung to mere fibrous cicatrix. 3. Disease of the left lung commencing apparently with signs of pleurisy without effusion, and long very equivocal as regarded the evidences of condensation and excavation. Gradually, however, evidence obtained of progressive intrapulmonary disease, and ultimately of cavities, but great doubts whether intra- or extra-pulmonary, or both. *Post mortem*, there was intrapulmonary and extrapulmonary excavation of old date, freely communicating by large

apertures in the pleura. 4. The peculiarly harsh grating and paroxysmal cough at one period of the case, out of all proportion to the expectoration, and only explained (so far as explained) by a very superficial and minute ulcer of the laryngeal mucous membrane over the right arytenoid cartilage. 5. The pain and swelling of the right leg, due to thrombosis of the femoral, saphena, and iliac veins shortly before death. 6. The violent sweatings and hectic fever for at least eight months before death, partially and temporarily controlled in some degree by remedies—zinc, quinine, salicin, hypodermic injection of atropia, and at one time ice—as shown in the chart, but, on the whole, continuing a marked feature of the disease throughout the long period; and, notwithstanding all these phthisical phenomena, no clubbing of fingers or undue curvature of nails, and very little of the supposed characteristic alveolar margin throughout the disease.

Absence of Wall of Abdomen.—Dr. A. ROBERTSON showed the body of a child born just short of the full time, with a defect of the skin and muscles over the front of the abdomen. The viscera were covered with a transparent layer of peritoneum only, with a little muscular tissue at one place. The mother said that at the fourth month of gestation she fell on her back, and that she suffered therefrom from pain in the back.—Drs. PERRY, MC VAIL, and FOULIS referred to cases of a similar nature where there was no history of maternal impressions during gestation, and where the children had lived from two to eight days after birth.

Ovarian Cyst.—Dr. MACEWEN showed a multilocular ovarian cyst removed by operation with antiseptic precautions from a woman aged 55. The patient noticed the tumour about two years before the operation, and it was at that time as small as an orange, and situated in the right hypogastrium. It gradually increased in size. The general health of the patient was good. Dr. Macewen removed the tumour by an incision four inches long, ligatured the pedicle, and dropped it into the abdomen. Under antiseptic dressing, the wound healed up, and the patient recovered without a bad symptom.—Dr. FOULIS stated that the fluid from the tumour was examined before the operation, and that it gave the characteristic paralbumen reaction on reboiling with acetic acid. The reaction appeared to him to be the most accurate test for ovarian fluid which he had tried.

Phonograph.—Dr. MCKENDRICK exhibited the phonograph, and gave illustrations of its working.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DR. BOYD MUSHET'S MOTION.

SIR,—As Honorary Secretary of the Home Hospitals Association for paying patients, my attention has been called to the following motion, of which a copy is printed in the JOURNAL of this week, and which Dr. Boyd Moshet intends to move at the annual meeting at Bath, viz.:

"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 constitution, 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 exactation of its unpaid and gratuitous services."

I beg to state that the implications contained in this resolution, and all its statements, are wholly wide of the mark, and bear no relation whatever to the scheme of the Home Hospitals Association for paying patients. Its scheme, which was approved by a long list of the most eminent medical men in the country, does not in any way affect the payments of medical men, or their financial arrangements with their patients. It will provide apartments for patients, at which they will find suitable nursing, hospital appliances, and the conveniences necessary for sickness, such as are not to be found in lodgings and not always in homes. Each patient will be attended by his own medical man, as in his own home, and at such payments as are customary between them.

The funds for establishing the first home hospitals are raised by proprietary governorships, and have been furnished by an extensive list of thoughtful and experienced persons, who are aware that such institutions are much needed. They will be alike a boon to the profession and to the public, and will do something to lessen the abuse of hospitals, by furnishing accommodation the want of which has sometimes been pleaded in defence of the present abuse of hospitals by persons able

mourning gait, business being completely suspended and all shops closed. A local paper states that "Skibbereen has been widowed of a citizen she could ill afford to lose. She has in her tribulation duly decked her brow with mourning favours, and her sterling children lament the event as one serious and irreparable in its nature. They are in thorough accord that she will be truly fortunate if within her environs she can again lay claim to so good a man."

THOMAS HENRY THORNE, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.

ALTHOUGH Mr. Thorne had, at the time of his death, been for about fifteen years in practice in various parts of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, yet he will be remembered by many old friends and fellow-students. He commenced his medical career as Surgeon to the British Legion which accompanied General Garibaldi in his second Italian campaign; and on this occasion, both his professional services and those which he rendered as a volunteer in conveying dispatches through territory occupied by the enemy, were warmly acknowledged. Shortly after the termination of the campaign, he left for the Cape; and after practising in several parts of the Colony, he finally settled down in the Diamond Fields. For the past two years, his health had been failing, owing to some heart affection; and on June 15th, he finally succumbed, at the age of thirty-eight years, to acute pulmonary congestion. The esteem in which he was held by all classes at Kimberley, where he died, is specially referred to in an obituary notice in the *Diamond News*, which speaks in high terms of the deceased, and of the general grief which was experienced when it became known that the "kind and genial doctor" was dying. The same kindly feeling was specially manifested by one of the most imposing funerals which has ever taken place in that district. The body was followed to the grave by the Griqualand West Artillery and the local volunteers. The Masons, in full regalia, formed part of the procession, as did also the Odd Fellows and a numerous following of English and Foreign residents. Three volleys from the carbines of the Artillerymen closed an impressive manifestation of regard to the memory of the deceased. Mr. Thorne leaves a widow and two children.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted members of the College at a meeting of the Court of Examiners, on July 23rd.

Cheetham, Walter H., Horsford, Yorkshire
 Child, Warwick L., Belsize Park
 Clarke, Henry J., M.B.Ed., Doncaster
 Coleman, Gerald E., L.R.C.P.Ed., Pontypool
 Dixson, Craig, M.B.Ed., Sydney, New South Wales
 Guilleard, Bernard J., M.B.Ed., Hythe, Southampton
 Handford, Henry, M.B.Ed., Atherstone
 Jackson, Arthur, L.S.A., Grays, Essex
 Jones, Robert, Liverpool
 Langley, Pershouse W. L., M.D., Queen's Univ., Ireland, Tramore, Co. Waterford
 Leak, Hector, Winsford, Cheshire
 Lloyd, George J., L.S.A., Birmingham
 Mouritz, Arthur A., Runcorn
 Rennie, Samuel J., Wokington, Cumberland
 Rowe, George H., York
 Swann, Alfred, M.D., Brussels and L.S.A., Bradford, Yorkshire
 Walter, Ernest W., L.R.C.P.Ed., Broadstairs
 Williams, Miles M., Chorley
 Eight candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on July 24th.

Aitken, Ewing McG., Glasgow
 Barton, George H., Market Rasen, Lincolnshire
 Birch, Richard C., Manchester
 Casement, Brabazon N., M.D., Ballycastle, Co. Antrim
 Chisholm, John M., M.B.Ed., Edinburgh
 King, Henry W., M.B.Ed., Great Barton, near Bury St. Edmund's
 Knox, Charles, L.S.A., Birkenhead
 Lofthouse, John, Rochdale
 Moore, Joseph W., Birmingham
 Newton, Richard A., L.S.A., Birmingham
 Nixon, Thomas A., Middlesbrough-on-Tees
 Osborn, William H., L.S.A., Birmingham
 Pughe, T. W. O., Liverpool
 Stone, Arthur W., Knottingley
 Wheeler, William H., Clifton
 Nine candidates were rejected.

APOTHECARY'S HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, July 18th, 1878.

Bennett, Frederick, Linton, Cambridgeshire
 Forsbrook, William Henry Russell, Westminster Hospital

Jackson, Arthur, Chadwell Grays, Essex
 Leadbeater, Thomas Edward, Bromley
 MacGee, John Richard, Bradford, Yorkshire
 May, Thomas Henry, Dover Street, Piccadilly
 Pritchard, Samuel Evan, Beaumaris

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

Lindeman, Sidney Herbert, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Oakeley, John Lewis Bagnall, St. Bartholomew's Hospital

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN: SCHOOL OF PHYSIC IN IRELAND.—At the Trinity Term Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine, held on Monday and Tuesday, June 10th and 11th, 1878, the following candidates were successful. The names are arranged in the order of merit.

Nugent, Guy P. Le S.
 Gabbett, H. S.
 Carson, Walter P.
 Hayes, Richard A.
 Dawson, Yelverton
 Buchanan, L.
 Jacob, James B.
 O'Neill, J. G.
 Berry, Frederick C.

Gibson, J.
 Daly, Francis A. B.
 Ross, Frederick O.
 Johnston, Robert H.
 Campbell, Arthur J.
 Hetherington, Reynolds P.
 Poole, Walter C.
 Thompson, Croasdale M.

At the Examination for the Degree of Bachelor in Surgery, held on Monday and Tuesday, June 17th and 18th, the following candidates were successful.

Neville, William C.
 Nugent, Guy P. Le S.
 Cowen, Edward J.
 Daly, Frank
 Thompson, Croasdale M.
 O'Neill, John G.
 Wilkinson, William C.

Inman, Arthur
 Thompson, Norman
 Cox, Henry L.
 Lambert, William F.
 Crofts, James G. W.
 Day, James D.

At the Examination for the Degree in Midwifery (*Magister in Arte Obstetrici*), held on Monday, July 1st, the following candidate was successful.

Neville, William C.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

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.

CARLOW UNION—Medical Officer for Ballickmoyler and Newtown Dispensary District. Salary, £120 per annum, with Vaccination and Registration Fees. Election will take place on the 31st instant.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, Birmingham—Non-Resident Assistant House-Surgeon and Registrar. Salary, £60 per annum, with lunch and dinner daily.

COUNTY and COUNTY of the BOROUGH of CARMARTHEN INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £125 per annum, with lodgings, fire, and light. Applications to be made on or before the 31st instant.

CHORLTON-ON-MEDLOCK DISPENSARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £120 per annum, with house, coals, gas, and attendance.

GENERAL HOSPITAL and DISPENSARY for SICK CHILDREN, Manchester—Physician. Salary, £300 per annum. Applications to be made on or before the 29th instant.

LONDON FEVER HOSPITAL—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £200 per annum, with residence, coals, gas, and attendance.

REETH UNION, North Riding of Yorkshire—Poor-Law Medical Officer for the Muker District, and Medical Officer of Health for the whole Union. Salary, £65 per annum, and fees. Applications to be made on or before August 7th.

ROYAL ALBERT EDWARD INFIRMARY and DISPENSARY—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £60 per annum, with rations. Applications to be made on or before the 29th instant.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

*THOMSON, James, B.A., M.D., appointed Police Surgeon for the Borough of Royal Leamington Spa.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

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

BIRTHS.

BROWN.—On July 23rd, at The Willows, Tredegar, Monmouthshire, the wife of George Arthur Brown, M.R.C.S.E., of a son.

*HEWITT.—On July 20th, at Winkfield, near Windsor, the wife of T. S. Hewitt, M.D., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

GARLAND-HASSELL.—On May 22nd, at St. Luke's Church, Oamaru, New Zealand, *A. J. (Garland, M.R.C.S., etc., to Annie S., eldest daughter of James Hassell, Esq., J.P., of Oamaru.

HOLLIS-LANGTRY.—On July 18th, at St. Michael's, Highworth, Wilts, by the Rev. Charles Wood, M.A., assisted by the Rev. J. Norman, M.A., Vicar, Alfred Hollis, M.D., of Tower Villa, Freshwater, I.W., to Ida, daughter of the late Robert Langtry, Esq., of Ardrossay, Islay, N.B.

ROSS-M'DONALD.—On the 9th instant, at Bernera Cottage, Stornoway, N.B., R. Ross, L.R.C.P. and L.R.C.S.Ed., to Isabella Stewart, daughter of John M'Donald, Esq., Bernera, Lewis.

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, 2 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.—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.—St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department), 2 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.

A CHALLENGE.

SIR.—The amount of space devoted in the JOURNAL to the question as to Who is entitled to call himself a doctor? is truly surprising. Now, as a licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, I claim the title, and if any of your numerous correspondents desires to test the question, I lay myself open to attack, and challenge law proceedings. This is the way to settle the matter. I enclose my card, same as I have used since 1865, and remain,

DOCTOR HENRY BROWN.

Northallerton, July 20th, 1878.

SPECIAL INGENUITY.

THE ingenuity of "specialists", and the fertility of resource in meeting public wants, and of the medical advice which they have to offer, is a frequent cause of wonder. Not unfrequently, however, as in the subjoined circular, of which a lithographed copy is forwarded to us, it appears to be exaggerated and misplaced.

"274, Finsbury Square, E.C., July 3rd, 1878.

"Madam.—It has always appeared to me that many members of the vocal and theatrical professions, whilst requiring special advice for any throat or ear-aflictions from which they may suffer, are not in a position to pay the usual fees to a physician who has made these diseases his sole study; neither can such persons, by reason of their respectability and cultivated tastes, resort for gratuitous medical relief to hospitals or dispensaries, where they would often have to wait many hours, in company with the poorest classes of society. In consideration, therefore, of there being here a want that is not met by an existing institution, I have determined to devote two days weekly (Tuesdays and Saturdays, from twelve to two o'clock) to the purpose of affording free advice and treatment to members of the vocal and theatrical professions of limited means, who are suffering from maladies of the throat or ear.—Yours faithfully, GORDON HOLMES, Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, formerly Chef-de-Clinique at the Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, etc."

DR. BOYD MUSSET's letter was duly communicated to the Committee.

CAVEAT.

SIR.—You will greatly oblige me by inserting the following in your next issue, viz.: That I, Frederick Rumold Greenwood, local secretary to the *Students' Journal* at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, E.C., am not the Mr. R. Greenwood, M.R.C.S., whose name has appeared as author of several letters which have been inserted in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL. Being the only Mr. Greenwood at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and having a well founded suspicion who the gentleman (?) is who has had the impudence to write letters, using my name in the manner he has done, I beg to give him notice, that if any more letters appear in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, or any other medical paper, I shall immediately take legal proceedings against him for so doing. Trusting you will insert this in your next issue, to avoid any further annoyance, I am, sir, yours truly,

July 15th, 1878.

F. R. GREENWOOD.

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.

CERTIFYING OF PAUPER LUNATICS.

SIR.—It appears that neither Dr. J. Rogers nor yourself are aware of the precise tenor of the lunacy law in the matter of medical certificates; and that, as a consequence, you reiterate with aggravation your charge against me, and give me the trouble of entering into details: I hope, therefore, that your deferred apology will include these circumstances of aggravation. You pass over without the slightest notice my distinct statement that the lunacy law left me no option—treat it, in fact, as untrue. Let me say, then, that in the admissions to this, as, I doubt not, to all asylums, it is the exception rather than the rule for the order and certificate to be in due form, and that a very large proportion have to be amended: the defects are very frequently in the medical certificate; and, though sometimes due to ignorance or stupidity, are usually the result of sheer carelessness. Realising to the full, as one who has the cases before him must do, the evils to the patient of sending him to and fro up and down the country, I always strain the law in the matter to its utmost, but should never infringe it, unless there were obvious danger to life; when, however, I should contend that the law was not broken, and that the person was not admitted as a lunatic, but as a dying person found at your gates would be admitted into any house; though, of course, the real responsibility rests with those who send the patient to the asylum with defective documents, not with those who find them to be so on his arrival.

I am in the habit of passing almost any defect, relying on its being amended. You will see, if you refer to 16 and 17 Vict, cap. 97, sec. 73, that a document is not a medical certificate within the meaning of the Act (and therefore cannot be amended) unless it is "signed by one physician, surgeon, or apothecary, who shall have personally examined him not more than seven clear days previously to his reception". To be a medical certificate it must be signed by a medical man, and he must have seen the patient within seven clear days: almost any other shortcoming admits of amendment, but the seeing within seven days is as essential as the being a medical man. A certificate by a non-medical person would not be more incapable of amendment than one by a medical man who had not seen the patient within seven days. I have been in the habit of accepting, as capable of amendment, a certificate where on the face of it the examination was not made within seven clear days, if I have satisfactory evidence that such an examination really was made, and that the different statement made in the certificate may be treated as (though very probably it is not in reality) a clerical error. In doing so, I certainly am stretching the law to its utmost limits, and there would be some colour for a contention that I am breaking it. I may add, that the indifference or ignorance of medical men has on one or two occasions left me in the lurch, when I had assumed, on good grounds, that apparently vital errors were really mere clerical ones.

In Mr. Powell's case the certificate was out of date, and there was no evidence whatever that the patient had been seen by the medical officer within seven clear days. I was left without option, therefore, in refusing to admit the case. The usual course, when order or certificate is hopelessly bad, is for the relieving officer to take the patient to Hereford to be recertified and admitted the same day, though I need not say his action is entirely beyond the control of the superintendent of the asylum. In this particular instance, the patient, when brought here, was apparently sane; and I expressed to the relieving officer my opinion that no medical man previously unacquainted with the case would be able to give a certificate. The patient has not since been brought to the asylum.

As to the last paragraph of Dr. Rogers's letter, let me assert that kindness and courtesy have nothing whatever to do with the matter. If I could legally have admitted the patient, I should certainly have done so. But the suggestion, which also underlies some of your observations, that a person is to be illegally confined as a lunatic in order to show kindness and courtesy to those signing medical certificates, and to gloss over their mistakes, is one which, stated clearly, you must see to be indefensible.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

T. A. CHAPMAN, Medical Superintendent.

City and County Asylum, Hereford, July 20th, 1878.

"* In the above case, the Poor-law medical officer, Mr. Powell, has been charged with the sum of £2 9s., mulcted in his fee, and subject to other annoyance, because the patient was sent back on the score of an informality in the date of the certificate. We did not dispute the legality of the course pursued by the superintendent of the Hereford Asylum, but we considered, and still consider, that a more lenient course was open to him under the section of the A. which we last week quoted. And we gather from the statement of Dr. Joseph Rogers—a highly experienced Poor-law medical officer—that under that section it is customary for superintendents of asylums to make a *locus primitus*. If this patient were accompanied by the relieving officer—as according to law she ought to be—would it not have been easy to ascertain from him the information that the patient in question had been seen by Mr. Powell on the 9th, 13th, 13th, and 25th—i.e., within the required period of seven clear days? We do not doubt that Dr. Chapman, like all other superintendents, feels the necessity of maintaining the requirements of the law. Our point is that, according to our information, there was here an opportunity of avoiding the annoyance and injury inflicted on the Poor-law medical officer without breaking the law. We should be glad, however, to hear a short discussion on the whole subject of the certifying of pauper lunatics in the Public Medicine Section of the meeting at Bath. For our part, our interest is pretty equally divided between the welfare of the patient, which comes first, and the protection of the medical superintendents and Poor-law medical officers, which comes next; and we do not doubt that Dr. Chapman is actuated by similar feelings and desires.

C. P. J. asks where he can obtain natural preparations of the human ear, illustrative of its development from birth till puberty.

PROVIDENT DISPENSARIES.

SIR.—If your correspondent "A Member" (in the JOURNAL for July 13th) will kindly write to me direct, I shall be happy to give him the information he desires with regard to provident dispensaries in country districts.—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM FAIRLIE CLARKE.

Southborough, Tunbridge Wells, July 20th, 1878.