

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## THE MEDICAL ACT AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2).

SIR,—It may be deemed advisable to reply more fully to Dr. Waters after the reports of the meeting of the Association at Bath have been laid before your readers. In the meantime, it would be well to point out to Dr. Waters that the fact of the Government Bill being, as he admits and I aver it to be, "an exceedingly bad Bill" does not excuse the Reform Committee for introducing into Parliament an *infinitely worse Bill*.

For the present, I will merely add that the *wording* of many of the clauses of Lord Ripon's Bill and the Bill of the Association is *identical*; that the proposed repeals in the two Bills are identical; and that the objections to the Association's Bill already published by Mr. Hardy and myself, but unreplyed to by Dr. Waters, are identical, *so far as they go*, with the objections we have to Lord Ripon's Bill; and that the evil consequences proposed by both Bills to be inflicted upon the profession and the public, in the event of either of them becoming law, are identical.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

London, August 5th, 1878.

R. H. S. CARPENTER.

## 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 26th.

Baker, Thomas, L.S.A., Cosham, Hants  
Bryden, Richard J., L.S.A., Uffculme, South Devon  
Claremont, Constantine C., Hampstead Road  
Davies, John, Caersws, Montgomeryshire  
Edington, James E., Southport  
Goyder, Charles McJ., Sunderland  
Herschell, George A., Arundel Gardens, W.  
Homes, James, L.S.A., Ledbury  
Lovell, Robert H., Fremington, North Devon  
Ozanne, Frederick N., Guernsey  
Shann, William A., Petergate, York  
Stevens, Lewis W., L.D.S., Swansea  
Tennant, William D., Stanford Road, Kensington, W.  
Tilston, Edward, Goldhawk Road, W.  
Wainwright, Robert S., L.S.A., Lee, Kent  
Williams, Lemuel E., Brighton  
Woodman, William E., Leighton Buzzard

Eight candidates were refused.

The following gentlemen passed on July 29th.

Bevor, Charles E., Harley Street  
Burnie, William G., L.S.A., Bradford, Yorkshire  
Davidson, Alexander, M.B. Toronto, Berlin, Ontario, Canada  
Duncan, Sydney E., Madras  
Hart, Marmaduke J., Sutton, Surrey  
Hodgson, Freeth F., L.S.A., Chesham, Bucks  
Moberly, Herbert J. R., Winchester  
Osborne, James, Southwell, Nottinghamshire  
Outhwaite, William, Denmark Hill  
Pardington, George L., Hereford  
Pearce, Henry, Eastbourne  
Rawson, Ernest, L.S.A., Taranaki, New Zealand  
Rhys, Joshua, L.S.A., Aberdare, Wales  
Smith, Robert P., Belvedere  
Taylor, Sidney J., Grantham  
Wells, Alfred G., L.S.A., Horselydown, S.E.  
Wood, Percy M., Aberclwyd, Corwen

Seven candidates were refused.

The following gentlemen passed on July 30th.

Appleton, Thomas A., L.S.A., Cathcart Road, W.  
Brown, Alexander S., L.S.A., Leamington  
Bullock, Charles, Congleton  
Collins, George D., L.S.A., Pembroke Gardens  
Cock, Morris F., Southmolton  
Dingley, Allen, L.S.A., Argyle Square  
Fox, Bonville B., Brislington  
Gardiner, Bruce H. J., L.S.A., Clapham  
Gill, John W., Clifton  
Hearnden, William F., Sutton  
Little, Edward, Worcester  
McCantland, Albert S., Gloucester Place, W.  
Margerison, Richard, B.A. Cantab., Bradford, Yorkshire  
Messum, Gordon B. W., Dulwich  
Smale, Morton A., L.S.A., Edgeware Road  
Symons, George F., Newton Abbot  
Wright, Henry C., Wynberg, Cape of Good Hope

Six candidates were refused.

The following gentlemen passed on July 31st.

Bamber, Charles J., L.R.C.P. Lond., Fulham

Boyd, James S. N., St. Heliers, Jersey  
Burton, Alfred H., Sevenoaks  
Bush, Erasmus, Bath  
Dennys, George W. P., Reading  
Floyd, John, L.S.A., Oxford  
Hawkins, Walter R. T., L.S.A., Bristol  
Margetson, William E., Dewsbury  
Shann, Henry C., York  
Stewart, John McD., L.S.A., Cambridge Gardens, W.

Twelve candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on August 1st.

Blott, Herbert, L.S.A., Basingbourne, Cambs.  
Charley, William, M.D. Cantab., Lancaster  
Cocksedge, Charles E., L.S.A., Clapton Park  
Hepburn, Alfred, L.S.A., Upper Bedford Place  
Hutton, Castle, L.S.A., Newport, Isle of Wight  
Marsh, Joseph H., L.S.A., Greenhithe, Kent  
Michael, Henry J., L.S.A., Colchester  
Protheroe, John, Adelaide Road, Surbiton  
Schön, Charles Henry, Chatham  
Wood, Charles, L.S.A., Trinity Square  
Young, Arthur, L.S.A., Hawkhurst, Kent

With this meeting, the examinations for the present session were brought to a close; out of the one hundred and ninety-six examined, ten gentlemen having passed in surgery, will be admitted members of the College when qualified in medicine, and the large number of seventy candidates having failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Court of Examiners, were referred to their professional studies for six months.

The preliminary examination in Arts, etc., for the diplomas of fellowship and membership of the College, will take place early in the ensuing month at Burlington House by the College of Preceptors.

## MEDICAL VACANCIES.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

BRAINTREE UNION—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £25 per annum. Applications to be made on or before the 10th instant.  
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, Birmingham—Non-Resident Assistant House-Surgeon and Registrar. Salary, £60 per annum, with lunch and dinner daily.  
CUMBERLAND INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and washing. Applications to be made on or before September 4th.  
DROITWICH UNION—Medical Officer for the Droitwich Medical District of the Union. Salary, £120 per annum and fees. Applications to be made on or before the 20th instant.  
KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL—Assistant House-Surgeon and Dispenser. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Application to be made on or before the 23rd instant.  
LINCOLN COUNTY HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon and Apothecary. Salary, £100, with board and lodging. Applications to be made on or before the 24th instant.  
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE INFIRMARY—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to be made on or before the 29th instant.  
NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE INFIRMARY, Hartshill.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, board, and washing. Applications to be made on or before the 28th instant.  
ROYAL ALBERT EDWARD INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with rations. Applications to be made on or before the 20th instant.  
ROYAL SEA BATHING INFIRMARY, Margate.—Resident Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging.  
ST. LEONARD'S, Shoreditch—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £120 per annum. Application to be made on or before the 19th instant.  
ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOLS—Assistant Demonstrator of Anatomy. Applications to be made on or before September 14th.  
STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon and Secretary. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodgings, and washing. Application to be made on or before the 22nd instant.  
WEST HERTS INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon and Dispenser, and also be Assistant Secretary. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Application to be made on or before September 5th.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

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

## BIRTHS.

EWART.—On the 3rd instant, at Limefield House, Cheetham Hill, Manchester, the wife of \*John Henry Ewart, of a daughter.

A LIBERAL OFFER.—Mr. G. Smeed, of Gore Court, has generously promised to give nearly four acres of ground for the proposed Infirmary for Infectious or Contagious Diseases, to be erected by the Milton Rural, the Milton Urban, and the Sittingbourne Urban, Sanitary Authorities.

BEQUESTS.—Mr. J. Morrison, 11, Monteith Row, Glasgow, has bequeathed two legacies of £500 each to the Royal and Western Infirmarys, Glasgow. Both sums are free of legacy-duty.

## 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.**

## CHARGE FOR DEATH CERTIFICATES.

A CHARGE of one guinea for merely signing a document seems (the *Globe* thinks) rather extortionate on the face of it; but it doubts whether the County Court judge at Sheffield was quite justified in giving judicial expression to this view when a case of the sort lately came before him. A medical practitioner sought to recover from a tradesman the above sum for giving a certificate as to the cause of death of the defendant's wife. Here there was something much more important involved than a mere attesting signature. Were any contention hereafter to arise as to the real cause of death, the gentleman who gave the certificate might be put to an infinity of trouble in proving the soundness of his opinion. Cases of the sort are by no means unknown, and it is only fair, therefore, that the amount of remuneration for death-certificates should be in proportion to the responsibilities incurred. The judge in question seems to have forgotten this important consideration, for we find him reported as saying to the plaintiff, "You ought only to charge for work and labour done, and you have therefore to show me that your work and labour are worth a guinea." If this language really fell from the bench, justice most, our contemporary thinks, have been momentarily needing to propound so strange a theory. In some cases, it is just as fair to demand payment for prospective as for retrospective work. Suppose a job is performed which entails on the workman many future visits of inspection: these are surely taken into account by both parties, even if the work be paid for on original completion. The case is very similar when a medical man gives a certificate of death. It may involve many pounds' worth of unremunerated labour in some instances, and he therefore seeks to insure himself against such loss by charging an apparently high sum for each certificate. The judge declared that he saw no reason why the plaintiff, who only charged 1s. 6d. for each visit to a patient, should demand a guinea for merely writing his name. The distinction seems obvious enough. If a medical visit entail subsequent calls, these latter are separately paid for. But the signature of a death-certificate may bring the signer a great deal of worry and labour, for which he will find it exceedingly hard to obtain any remuneration.

## CLITORIDECTOMY.

**SIR.**—Is clitoridectomy admissible under the following or any circumstances? We are told that it is as unscientific an operation as cutting off the glans penis. But take the following case.

A woman, unmarried, who has had venereal disease, has had an illegitimate child, who puts herself in every man's way whom she meets; allows six men successively to have connection with her; who frequently goes upstairs, wholly undressed in the day-time, and exposes herself full in the window to passers-by; ultimately gets taken into custody for assault (because called a strumpet), and the police-surgeon is asked to examine her as to her sanity. After repeated examinations, alone and otherwise, he can detect no indication whatever of insanity, and gives his evidence accordingly. Some will say she is insane; so is the habitual drunkard. The case has now passed out of the hands of the police, and I only bring it forward to learn the views of the profession as to the advisability of this operation in such a case, or in any.—I am, sir, your obedient servant.

July 1898.

"THE EXAMINER."

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.**—Advertisements for insertion in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, should be forwarded direct to the Publishing Office, 36, Great Queen Street, W.C., addressed to Mr. FOWKE, not later than *Thursday*, Twelve o'clock.

## THE SMALL-POX HOSPITAL AT FULHAM.

MR. FRANCIS GODRICH has written to us again on the subject of his contention, that the Small-pox Hospital at Fulham is the "great focus from which the disease is spread" at Kensington, and asks for our opinion on the whole question. After a careful perusal of all the papers which Mr. Godrich encloses with his letter, we regret to have to express our decided conviction that he has failed to prove his case. Dr. Duffield's report on Mr. Godrich's allegations seems to us quite conclusive; and, whilst we are sure that every one will cordially acknowledge Mr. Godrich's energy in the cause of vaccination and the prevention of small-pox, we cannot but regret that he should have seen fit, by his letters in the local journals, to scare heedless and unthinking people into the belief that the Hospital at Fulham is a source of injury to the district, instead of being, as it undoubtedly is, an incalculable boon to the neighbourhood.

**SIR.**—May I, through the medium of your widely circulated *JOURNAL*, ask Mr. W. C. Small, lately residing at Lower Norwood, to send me his present address? I am anxious to communicate with him, and do not know his present whereabouts. Perhaps this letter may meet his eye.—Yours faithfully,

New Malden, August 7th, 1898.

EDWIN CHILD.

## PUERPERAL FEVER.

**SIR.**—As some cases have lately been recorded in the *JOURNAL* of abnormal temperature in puerperal cases, and their treatment, I think by relating such cases we may be able the better to judge of the efficacy of the remedies adopted.

A healthy primipara, aged 27, was delivered of a female child. The labour was normal, except that towards the end the pains were rather short (and here I may suggest the great advantage of beef-tea when the patient is becoming wearied). The labour was completed in about five hours, without any untoward complication. After the first few days, the case did not progress as satisfactorily as we would have wished. The lochia had a strong smell, and were rather profuse; temperature 99.5 to 100 deg.; pulse over 100. Milk appeared abundant; but the symptoms being unfavourable, it was thought better not to put the child to the breast. For ten days the symptoms varied little. Quinine, acetonite, and chlorate of potash were all tried. The patient was a butcher's wife, and confined over the shop, but everything was scrupulously clean. There was no diarrhoea, but rather constipation. The tongue was pretty clean; there was no eruption. On the seventh day the patient was removed to another house, fearing lest the air from the shop might be keeping up the temperature; but for three or four days things were little or no better. Was this a case of puerperal fever, and would Warburg's tincture have acted as a specific? Suddenly on the twelfth day the temperature fell. There was a rise; and I now learn for the first time that a couple of days before she was confined she had not felt very well, but attributed this to the exceedingly hot weather.

I have no doubt but that the disease was "typhoid fever." May or may not the other recorded cases have been the same? If I recollect rightly, the patients had been ill some days before Warburg's tincture was given. The question which suggests itself to one's mind is, was it administered about the time the crisis would have occurred?—I am, etc.,

J. F. B.

**DR. CARROLL** (New Brighton).—We fear that we shall be unable to publish the report forwarded.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Western Morning News; 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 Southport Visitor; The Wrexham Advertiser; The Edinburgh Courier; The Glasgow Evening News; The Liverpool Mercury; The Weymouth Telegram; 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 Kelso Chronicle; The Fife Herald; The Merthyr Express; The Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald; The Surrey Advertiser; The Stroud News; The Scotsman; The Manchester Courier; The West Middlesex Advertiser; The Western Mail; etc.

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

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

Dr. R. W. Falconer, Bath; Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, London; Dr. H. F. A. Goodridge, Bath; Mr. G. W. Callender, London; Mr. C. G. Wheelhouse, Leeds; Dr. Douglas MacLagan, Edinburgh; Mr. R. S. Fowler, Bath; Dr. R. Shingleton Smith, Clifton, Bristol; Dr. Brabazon, Bath; Mr. Richard Davy, London; Dr. Murphy, Kensington; Mr. J. Kemp, London; Dr. A. H. Benson, Dublin; Mr. E. F. H. Burroughs, Bridgewater; Dr. Bradbury, Cambridge; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; W.; Dr. T. Grainger Stewart, Edinburgh; Our Dublin Correspondent; Dr. J. H. Gramshaw, Gravesend; Dr. A. C. Godfray, St. Helier's; Dr. J. Symington, Glasgow; Dr. J. Matthews Duncan, London; Dr. J. Meredith, Wellington; Mr. A. Winkfield, Shirley; Mr. J. H. Morgan, London; Mr. R. H. S. Carpenter, London; The Secretary of Apothecaries' Hall; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; X.; The Registrar-General of England; Dr. G. H. Phillips, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; The Registrar-General of Ireland; Dr. Cook, London; Mr. H. Richardson Thomson, Mogador; Mr. W. D. Husband, York; Mr. H. Robinson, Preston; The Editor of the Sheffield and Rotherham Independent; Dr. Grimshaw, Dublin; Dr. Bond, Gloucester; Mr. A. C. B. Smyth, Brighton; Dr. Sandby, Birmingham; Dr. Russell, Glasgow; Dr. W. H. Wright, Derby; Dr. Tripe, Hackney; Mr. H. S. Taylor, Guildford; Mr. E. Child, New Malden; Dr. A. Collie, London; Mr. C. Eastes, London; Dr. J. Rogers, London; etc.