

secretary of the department, who, while fully recognising the "unsanitary" evils of the present want of system of house-drainage, took exception to some of the remedies proposed, and agreed with Mr. Robinson that the whole difficulty lay in the apathy of the public and the negligent inertia of the local authorities. He advocated the necessity of a central controlling authority to compel and to enforce local action, and he advised that every house before being occupied should be certified as being one fit for habitation.—An animated discussion followed, in which Mr. Baldwin Latham, Mr. Brown, Q.C., the borough surveyor, and the Chairman took part, it being concluded by the expression of opinion that, if any great improvement is to be made in sanitary matters with regard to existing buildings, more powers will have to be given to the local authorities through the means of further legislative enactments.

Circular System of Hospital Wards.—In a paper on this subject, Mr. JOHN MARSHALL urged that, besides the important questions to be determined in the erection of a hospital, as to the suitability of situation, soil, and aspect, it was evident that the essential considerations in the construction of the hospital itself were those which related to frontage, exposure to air and light, the wall space and floor space allotted to each bed, the cubic ward space per patient, the number of patients under one roof, the ventilation and the warming of the wards, the isolation of the wards from each other, the severance of the cooking places, and the detachment of the administrative from the sick department. All these advantages he claimed for the circular system of construction advocated in his paper.—Captain DOUGLAS GALTON did not consider that any advantage would accrue by the adoption of the plan proposed, nor did he approve of the system of ventilation suggested. Oblong wards permitted of proper window lighting and natural ventilation, which circular wards did not.—Dr. HILL of Birmingham concurred with the last speaker, and could not perceive that the circular system suggested was any improvement in hospital design.—Mr. CHADWICK, C.B., Dr. HARDWICKE, Dr. BOND, Dr. FERGUSON, and Mr. H. H. COLLINS continued the discussion. The general opinion of the section appeared to be adverse to Mr. Marshall's propositions.

The Working of the Public Health Acts of 1865 and 1872.—Dr. GILBERT W. CHILD read a paper, the aim of which was to indicate the points in which they failed to attain the objects with which they were passed. These were presumably the promotion of healthy dwellings, proper water-supply, and effectual drainage. Drainage, in his experience, had been imperfectly carried out. Something, it was true, had been done to check the spread of epidemic diseases depending upon unsanitary conditions, but less to check those spread by personal intercourse, such as scarlet fever, measles, and whooping-cough. He held that the ordinary removal of nuisances was the only object reasonably well fulfilled in the rural districts. He held that legal decisions had weakened the law in regard to nuisances. The principle of the law was radically vicious, and its machinery unworkable. The permissive principle was fatal, because in the country it was a question of rich and poor, and the larger taxpayers taxing themselves for the benefit of those who were the chief sufferers. He held that there was no proportion between the expenses incurred, the complication of the machinery, and the results attained.—Lord NORTON held that, in the main, the Act (for which he was responsible) had answered its purpose.

THE SALARIES OF MEDICAL OFFICERS.

A SUBJECT of considerable importance was discussed at a special meeting of the Forde Board of Guardians, on the 9th ultimo. On the appointment of a new medical officer for the Worthen district a short time ago, the salary was reduced from £80 to £60, upon which a gentleman, who disapproved of the reduction, gave notice of a motion for reconsidering the salaries of the other medical officers of the Union. The meeting on the 9th was specially convened to discuss the question, but nearly all the speaking was on one side, and in the end no further alteration was made; the notices which had been given to the medical officers, terminating their engagements, being withdrawn. The argument in favour of reduction was an alleged diminution of work. Since the present Union was formed, eight years ago, there has been a remarkable decrease in the number of paupers. In the work of discouraging pauperism and reducing the rates, the medical officers have taken part; and it would, to say the least, be a very singular return for their services to lessen their pay. But the crass ignorance and perverseness of some Boards of Guardians are such, that we are not surprised at any indignity which they may inflict on the medical men with whom they contract, for most insufficient remuneration, to attend to the wants of the sick and suffering poor.

THE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF CAMBRIDGE.

THE governing body of Trinity College, Cambridge, have conveyed to the Council of the Senate some copies of statutes to which they propose obtaining the approval of the Queen in Council, one of which provides the establishment of a new professorship, to be called the Trinity Professorship of Physiology, at the annual stipend of £500.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH.

THE autumnal meeting of this Branch will be held at the Infirmary, Huddersfield, on Wednesday, November 6th, 1878, at 2.30 P.M.

The major subject will be a discussion on the subject of Obstruction of the Bowels, which will be introduced by T. P. Teale, Esq.

Members desirous of reading papers are requested to give early notice to the Secretary.

The members will dine together at the George Hotel at 5 P.M.

WM. PROCTER, M.D., *Local Secretary*.

York, October 8th, 1878.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.

THE next meeting will be held in the Library of the County Hospital at Canterbury, on Thursday, November 14th, at 3 o'clock.

The discussion on Alcohol will be resumed by Dr. Parsons and Mr. Tyson.

Dr. Fitzgerald will contribute a paper on Wines.

Dinner will be provided at the Fountain Hotel, at 5 o'clock; charge 6s. 6d., exclusive of wine.

W. KNIGHT TREVES, *Honorary Secretary*.

Margate, October 30th, 1878.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH: AUTUMNAL MEETING.

THE autumnal meeting of this Branch was held at the Palatine Hotel, Sunderland, on Tuesday, October 8th. The President, Dr. MOORE, occupied the chair; and there were present thirty members.

New Members.—James Barron, Esq., of Sunderland, was elected a member of the Branch; and H. Drinkwater, M.B., Sunderland, and J. R. Morison, Esq., Hartlepool, were elected members of the Association and Branch.

Papers.—The following papers were read.

1. Dr. PHILIPSON: Notes of a Case of Hæmaturia, successfully treated with Gallic Acid.

2. Dr. J. MURPHY: Notes of a successful case of Double Ovariotomy, which he performed last summer with antiseptic precautions. The patient was up on the sixteenth day, and progressed without a bad symptom till the sixth week, when she was attacked with double pneumonia, from which she also made a good recovery. Dr. Murphy diagnosed a multilocular tumour of each ovary before operation, and the result proved his diagnosis correct.—He also reported a case of Multilocular Cyst of Neck, successfully treated by repeated tapping and injection.—Tarnier's Obstetric Forceps was also exhibited and explained by Dr. Murphy.

3. Dr. E. C. ANDERSON read reports of Three Cases of Intestinal Obstruction; also notes of Five Cases in which Leucine and Tyrosine were abundantly present in the Urine. He also showed some interesting microscopical slides illustrative of these cases.

4. Mr. E. A. MALING showed a very interesting case of tumour. The patient was a man aged 42, who had been admitted into the Sunderland Infirmary, suffering from a large fibro-cellular tumour of the left leg and other similar tumours of the left upper eyelid, neck, and back. A few days after birth, the upper lid of the left eye was observed to be a little larger than natural; this increased in size until he was four years old, when a small raisin-sized body was removed from the side of the eye, and about this time a small swelling appeared on the back and upper part of the left thigh; this swelling and that of the left eyelid had been gradually increasing until his admission into the Infirmary. The upper eyelid entirely overlapped the eye and rested on the cheek-bone. The tumour on the leg extended from the gluteal fold to an inch above the heel. Several other growths had made their appearance during the last twelve years; two on the back of the neck,

eight or nine on the back, and a large one over the left gluteal region. Dr. Byrom Bramwell, Pathologist to Newcastle Infirmary, had kindly examined the structure of one of the tumours removed from the neck, and found it to consist of (1) connective tissue elements, white and yellow; (2) musculo-fibre cells, very abundant in some sections; and (3) blood-vessels, in some places very numerous and large.

Interesting discussions followed the reading of each paper.

Dinner.—The members and their friends afterwards dined together at the hotel; the President, Dr. Moore, in the chair; and the Honorary Secretary, Mr. T. W. Barron, in the vice-chair.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PHYSICIANS' FEES.

SIR,—It is anomalous to talk of raising the scale of fees or of distinguishing between eminent consultants and ordinary practitioners, so long as the present state of things exists which frequently comes under my notice. Ladies and gentlemen who live within a mile or so of doctors of eminence, or country visitors who can take a room within easy reach of a well-known medical man, need be under no difficulty as to the fee expected of them. They have only to drop a line to any doctor, no matter how eminent, requesting a visit *at the patient's own convenience*. At the close of the visit, after having detained the great man as long as they please, they have only to place a guinea (or rather a sovereign) in his hand. No man in London will decline it. If such a man exist, I should be happy to make his acquaintance. *Bien entendu*, the patient must belong to the upper ten; for it is a well understood thing that, while the *hoi polloi* must come to the doctor's house, receive his advice at his convenience, and pay two guineas for the same, the aristocrat expects his medical wares served to him at his own residence and at his own convenience, on the same terms as other goods served by his tradesmen.

R. S. F.

PROFESSOR VON NUSSBAUM ON OVARIOTOMY.

SIR,—In the generally excellent translation of Professor von Nussbaum's "Remarks on Ovariectomy" published in your issue of to-day, a verbal inaccuracy occurs, to which I desire, with your permission, to draw attention in your columns, because it introduces confusion into the report of a very remarkable case.

The words "Entartung des Gekröses" are rendered in the translation "hardened omentum", whereas their true meaning is "degeneration of the mesentery". Your readers, therefore, supposing the disease to have been in the omentum, must be greatly puzzled to understand how its removal could lead to a coil of the small intestine sixteen inches long being left "free and unattached in the abdomen like a sausage". This is, of course, rendered quite plain when we understand that the mesentery was the seat of the multilocular cystic tumour, which was clipped away close to the gut.

That a portion of intestine of such considerable length should have retained its vitality and continued to serve the purposes of the animal economy after the fold of peritoneum containing its vascular and nervous* supply, together with its efferent lacteals, had been entirely removed, is a fact, so far as I am aware, as novel in physiology as it is in surgery.—I am, sir, yours, etc.,

JOSEPH LISTER.

October 26th, 1878.

METALLOTHERAPY.

SIR,—I observe that my name is mentioned in Professor Gamgee's report on M. Charcot's cases at the Salpêtrière, as that of one among several Englishmen who witnessed the phenomena which he describes.

Will you allow me to say that, whilst I am very willing to bear testimony to the accuracy of Dr. Gamgee's record of observations, yet I am equally anxious to prevent the supposition that I can give the slightest support to the inferences which Dr. Gamgee has connected with those observations? I saw nothing whatever at the Salpêtrière which could warrant any person there present in speaking of "the fact" of the action of magnets and solenoids at a distance on the nervous system. All that I witnessed, and Professor Gamgee describes, tending to support the hypothesis of such action, can be explained by

* It is of course to be remembered that the intestine has its intrinsic nervous apparatus by which the peristaltic movements might be maintained.

reference to a class of phenomena which are not sufficiently familiar to physiologists and medical men: I mean those known as the phenomena of hypnotism or artificial somnambulism. We owe a deep debt of gratitude in this country to Dr. Carpenter for the admirable exposition which he has given of the chief laws of these phenomena, and the successful application of them to the explanation of cases of imposture and delusion similar to the metallic and electric cures at present in vogue in Paris.—Yours truly,

Oxford.

E. RAY LANKESTER.

THE MEGAPHONE.

SIR,—In July last, I received from a patient resident in Halle a newspaper cutting, in which the above-named instrument was extolled as an aid to deaf people and dull hearers. Notwithstanding my suspicions to the contrary, I thought it quite possible that what had been affirmed of it might be true; and if this were so, then such an instrument, with all its apparently exaggerated qualifications, I thought would be really "a boon to the deaf". In this state of indecision, I wrote to the celebrated American inventor himself, in August last, asking him if he had invented a megaphone for deaf people, and if it were the case, that it did for the dull hearer what the opera-glass did for the bad seer. His courteous replies I beg to enclose. They speak for themselves; and it is a matter of interest, as well as of hope, for us to know that there is a likelihood of such an instrument being made and introduced to general use.—I am, sir, yours truly,

Glasgow, October 1878.

JAMES PATTERSON CASSELLS.

"Menlo Park, N.J., September 14th, 1878.

"Dear Sir,—Your favour of the 31st ult. was duly received. The newspaper accounts of the megaphone have been greatly exaggerated. It is true, I have been experimenting in that line, and have been successful in producing what I term a 'field megaphone', to be used at coast signal stations and for wrecking companies. I am in hopes of being able to find a modification of this suitable for those partially deaf, but the idea and instrument are still an embryo.—Very truly,

"T. A. EDISON."

"Menlo Park, N. J., U.S.A.

"Dear Sir,—I have now two assistants engaged at my laboratory in experimenting upon an apparatus for the benefit of the deaf. The results so far have been quite satisfactory, and I hope soon to have a practical apparatus for introduction to the public. The only drawback as yet is the large size of the apparatus. I cannot at present say what the cost will be. Your letter will be filed for future reference.—Yours truly,

"THOMAS A. EDISON."

THE CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACTS.

SIR,—I have received a large number of applications for the Rev. E. P. Grant's Parliamentary Paper since you were good enough to insert my notice in the JOURNAL of the 19th instant. To each applicant I have sent a copy or copies by next ensuing post, and trust that all have been received. Should any have miscarried, I shall be glad to send more copies on application; also to any who may not have seen my former notice.

It may interest your readers to learn that the Mayor and Town Council of Exeter, at a recent meeting, unanimously resolved to use every effort to secure for that city the benefits of these Acts.

I am, sir, etc., FRED. W. LOWENDES.

62, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool, October 28th, 1878.

RESULTS OF OVARIOTOMY BEFORE AND AFTER ANTISEPTICS.

SIR,—In a paper with the following title, "Results of Ovariectomy before and after Antiseptics", by Dr. Thomas Keith of Edinburgh, published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of October 1900, I find the following passage: "I regret to have to add that, in his recent lectures at the College of Surgeons, Mr. Wells incorrectly gave the entire credit of these investigations to Mr. Thornton, who, to say the least of it, as ungenerously tried to claim it." With regard to that portion of the passage which relates to Mr. Wells, he has himself told me that he regrets that he did not mention Dr. Foulis as well as myself in his lecture, although he does not admit that he was "incorrect" in the way he referred to my investigations. I may add that I have from the first regretted the omission as much as anyone.

In the part of the passage which refers to me, Dr. Keith has—unintentionally, no doubt—done me a great injustice. I have already fully stated my position in regard to the investigations alluded to, in a

tory to find that, in spite of so valuable a weapon of defence, the disease is now more fatal than ever. If, as we have good reason to believe, the hospital is not being systematically used for isolating scarlet fever cases, it is important to know why it has not been so utilised. The provision of such hospital accommodation is being, most properly as we firmly believe, pressed upon sanitary authorities in all parts of the country; but its failure, in Birmingham, even to keep the present scarlet fever epidemic within the bounds of previous epidemics, is a discouraging fact that seems to require explanation. The last weekly return of the Registrar-General reports that the Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals contained 107 and the London Fever Hospital 54 scarlet fever patients on Saturday last; and yet, in London, scarlet fever, although recently showing a somewhat increased mortality, can scarcely be said to be epidemic. It is to be regretted that similar information is not available, showing to what extent the Town Council and Medical Officer of Health of Birmingham are using their Corporation Hospital to control the present remarkable fatality of scarlet fever in that town.

ATTENDANCE BY POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS IN URGENT CASES.

THE following letter, addressed to the President of the Local Government Board, has been forwarded to us for publication.

"To the Right Honourable George Selator-Booth, M.P., President of the Local Government Board.

"3, Bolt Court, Fleet Street, E.C., October, 1878.

"SIR,—I am directed by the Council of the Poor-law Medical Officers' Association to forward for your consideration a copy of a memorial, adopted at an aggregate meeting of Poor-law Medical Officers held during the annual meeting of the British Medical Association at Bath in August last, and respectfully to request that you will take such memorial into consideration, with the view of complying with the prayer thereof.

"The members of the Poor-law Medical Officers' Association present at the meeting, having had their attention drawn to the case of Mr Buck of the Saffron Walden Union, and to the reply of the President of the Local Government Board in answer to the inquiry made by Dr. Lush, much regret that the President should have been misinformed as to the facts of the case, and feel certain that, if a further inquiry had been made, the unfairness of refusing the medical order would have been apparent, as well as the great injustice done to Mr. Buck necessarily resulting from such procedure.

"They also much regret that similar cases are far too numerous, especially in rural districts, and they would beg respectfully to remind the President, that the consolidated order was framed for the purpose of providing proper remuneration to the medical officer for attendance in case of urgency, but that the object of this order is constantly evaded by the formal order for medical attendance being subsequently refused by the proper authorities when the period of danger is passed, and when the necessary attendance has been given to the patient by the medical officer in just expectation of the order being subsequently granted. The members of the Association beg further to remind the President of the Board that, as public opinion is every day becoming stronger in favour of urgent cases of accident or illness amongst the poorer classes receiving immediate medical assistance; and, as a large section of the public appear to think that the Poor-law Medical officer is bound to attend all cases of an urgent character without any delay for compliance with formalities, that the present system, which provides only doubtful, and, in many cases, no remuneration at all to the medical officers, should be supplemented by one which will fairly and equitably remunerate them for such professional services, rendered often at very great inconvenience to themselves, and not unfrequently at some pecuniary loss. The members of this Association beg, therefore, most respectfully, and at the same time most urgently, to submit that attendance upon urgent cases among the poorer classes, in accordance with general public opinion, might with greater justice become a charge upon the community instead of, as at the present time, being too frequently a serious tax upon the individual.

"The members of this Association, therefore, hope that you will issue such general orders as shall secure the payment of a fee in all cases where an urgent demand for assistance has been made and has been rendered.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"J. WICKHAM BARNES, Honorary Secretary."

MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

The deaths of the undermentioned officers were officially reported at the War Office in the course of last month:—Surgeon-Major E. Parsonage, M.D., half-pay; Surgeon Geoffrey Chaucer Purcell; and Surgeon Robert Robinson.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations, were admitted Licentiates in Dental Surgery at a meeting of the Board of Examiners, on October 29th.

Messrs. Edward George Betts, Holloway; Burton Llewellyn Harding, Oldbury; Allan Frederick Jones, Argyll Square; and Frederick Russell Whatford, Brighton (students of the Middlesex Hospital); Charles Augustine Hayman, Bristol (of the Bristol School); and Walter Henry Ridge, Kennington Road (of St. Thomas's Hospital).

All the candidates passed.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, October 24th, 1878.

Anderson, Joseph William Townsend, 49, Belgrave Road, S.W.
Bridges, Ashley Colston, Worcester
Brown, Percy, Lower Clapton, N.
Cameron, John, Bilston, Staffordshire
Jackson, William Thomas, 11, Stoke Newington Road

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

Ratson, William Lascelles, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Glanville, Francis Ferratus, St. George's Hospital

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

BELGRAVE HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN—House-Surgeon.

CENTRAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL—Assistant-Surgeon. Applications on or before the 9th instant.

CHELTEMHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL—Resident Surgeon. Salary, £125 per annum, with house, gas, and coals.

LANCASTER UNION—Medical Officer for the Southern District. Salary, £45 per annum, and fees.

LIMAVADY UNION—Medical Officer for Dungiven Dispensary District. Salary, £130 per annum, and £15 per annum as Sanitary Officer, together with Registration and Vaccination Fees. Election will take place on the 2nd instant.

ST. PETER'S HOSPITAL, Berners Street—House-Surgeon.

SALOP INFIRMARY, Shrewsbury—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and residence.

TINGWALL, Parochial Board of—Medical Officer. Applications to Mr. C. Macpherson, Bonar, Ardgay.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

*HEMMING, W. Douglas, M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Surgeon to the Notting Hill Provident Dispensary and Maternity.

*JACKSON, R. A., L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Surgeon to the Notting Hill Provident Dispensary and Maternity.

*WILLIAMS, Wm., M.D., appointed Physician to the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool.

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.

BIRTH.

NICHOLS.—On October 1st, at Dominica, West Indies, the wife of H. A. Alford Nichols, M.D., of a son.

MARRIAGE.

BANHAM—BROWN.—On October 24th, at St. Martin's Church, Scarborough, by the Rev. W. Banham, B.A., Vicar of Worsborough Dale, Yorkshire, brother of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. R. Hemming Parr, M.A., Vicar, H. French Banham, M.A., M.B., Sheffield, to Edith Maria, only daughter of the late J. Bower Brown, Esq., J.P., of Woodthorpe Hall, near Sheffield.

THREE Lectures will be given at the West-End Hospital for Paralysis, 73, Welbeck Street, London, W., by Dr. Herbert Tibbits, Physician to the Hospital, on "The Essentials of Electro-Therapeutics". The lectures will take place on Tuesdays, November 5th, 12th, and 19th, at 8 P.M. precisely. Medical practitioners and senior students will be admitted to the lectures on presenting their visiting cards.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY..... Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.

TUESDAY..... Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—West London, 3 P.M.—National Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.

WEDNESDAY.. St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Mary's, 1.30 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, 2.30 P.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 3 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Peter's, 2 P.M.

THURSDAY.... St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.—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.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Clinical Cases, etc. Dr. Sullivan, "On the peculiar Malarial Fever of Cyprus".

TUESDAY.—Pathological Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Gay: Gangrene of the Penis. Dr. Ralfe: Spontaneous Cure of an Aneurysm. Dr. Lediard: Aneurysm of Abdominal Aorta. Dr. P. Irvine: Dermoid Cyst in the Brain. Dr. Crisp: Brain, Spinal Cord, etc., of a Dog dead from Rabies. Dr. Hoggan: On the Condition of the Lymphatics in Eastern Leprosy. And other Specimens.

WEDNESDAY.—Epidemiological Society of London, 8.30 P.M. The President will deliver an Inaugural Address on the "Epidemic Diseases of 1875 and 1876".—Obstetrical Society of London, 8 P.M. Dr. Galabin, "Two Cases of Rupture of the Vagina during Labour"; Dr. George Roper, "Some Clinical Researches on a Certain Class of Cases of Antelexion of the Uterus, with Certain Correlated Conditions".

THURSDAY.—Harveian Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. Squire, "On Surface Thermometry"; Dr. Fothergill, "On the Premurmuric Stage of Aortic Valvulitis".

FRIDAY.—Clinical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. The President, "Severe Lacerations of Brain, treated by Drainage". Dr. Farquharson, "Case of Quinine Rash". Sir James Paget, "Case in which Watery Fluid drops from a Nostril". Mr. A. Barker, "Ogston's Operation for Genu Valgum: Death". Mr. Reeves, Mr. Barwell, and other members will show cases of Osteotomy. Dr. C. T. Williams, "Case of Bronchiectasis and Localised Empyema, treated by Tapping".

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, are requested to communicate beforehand with the printer, Mr. Thomas Richards, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.—We shall be much obliged to Medical Officers of Health if they will, on forwarding their Annual and other Reports, favour us with Duplicate Copies.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting editorial matters, should be addressed to the Editor, 161, Strand, London; those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the *JOURNAL*, etc., should be addressed to the General Manager, at the Office, 161, Strand, London.

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

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

A QUESTION OF FEE.

SIR,—Would you kindly give your opinion on the following case? A. having been called to see a man that had his hand and part of his forearm crushed in a machine, before A. arrived the manager sent a second messenger for B.; but as the messenger had to wait a little at the station for the train, A. sent him a note addressed to C., whom he preferred to meet in consultation, and asked C. to bring his amputating instruments, as A. knew that they would be wanted. Now, can C. compel A. to pay his fee in such case?

. Certainly not, nor should he think of doing so; but if C. performed the amputation he could recover from the man or manager.

BRUSSELS M.D. DEGREE.

SIR,—I shall be very much obliged if some of your readers who may have obtained the above degree would kindly inform me what are the books generally read for that examination, and to whom is application to be made for particulars concerning the examination.—Yours,

SRGEON.

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, 161, Strand, London, and not to the Editor.

THE CASE OF MRS. WELDON.

SIR,—I trust you will allow me to state in your columns a few circumstances connected with the case of Mrs. Weldon, especially as from my professional connection with it I am unable to do so in the daily press.

I was requested by Mr. Weldon to visit his wife at his house in Tavistock Square, and give an opinion on her mental state. In my absence from home, Dr. Winn had the first interview with Mr. Weldon at my residence. I subsequently saw him, and it was agreed that Dr. Winn and myself should visit Mrs. Weldon conjointly on the following day. This visit being made, a written opinion was sent to her husband, such a proceeding being customary in cases of a similar character before any decisive steps are taken by the relatives.

I have no desire to enter into the question of her present mental state, as my visit was made more than six months ago. The opinion then expressed by me induced her husband to take the necessary steps for her further examination by two medical men, in order to legally certify as to her mental condition, should they deem such a course necessary. Dr. Rutherford and Dr. C. E. Armand Semple examined her the same evening, and signed the lunacy certificates; Sir Henry De Bathe, who had also seen her the same day, having previously signed the "order", and her husband the "statement". These documents were given to me, and I was legally empowered by 8 and 9 Vict., c. 100, s. 99, to make the necessary arrangements for the removal of Mrs. Weldon to the asylum. The course here pursued is that universally adopted in similar cases. In addition to the documents required by Act of Parliament, I obtained a written request and authority from the husband. Mrs. Weldon, however, evaded my nurses before they could act on the legal authority they held in their possession, and since that time she has written numerous letters to the papers and distributed circulars vilifying me, with the view of directing the attention of the public to her case. As, however, only one side has appeared in print, the public have formed an erroneous view of the part I took in the matter.

My absence on the Continent during the last month has prevented my attention to the matter before this; I therefore trust you will insert this letter. I have this morning received an envelope from Mrs. Weldon, containing two tickets for a meeting to be held by her at St. James's Hall. The envelope is conspicuous for having on the outside two stamps, the ordinary Queen's head above, whilst below is a picture of herself, on which is printed these words, "Lunacy Laws" and "Musical Reform".—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

L. S. FORBES WINSLOW, D.C.L., M.A., M.D. Camb.,

Lecturer on Mental Disorders, Charing Cross Hospital Medical School.

23, Cavendish Square, October 25th, 1878.

DR. JOHNSON.—Sir J. J. Trevor Lawrence, M.P. for Surrey, is the only son of the late Sir William Lawrence, Bart. He was admitted a member of the London College of Surgeons in 1853, soon after which he became a member of Her Majesty's Indian Army.

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

A **RESPECTED** correspondent writes:—In your reply to "Nemo's" query in the *JOURNAL* of the 19th October, page 616, column 2, and headed "Medical Etiquette", you state that "the titles proposed (Physician and Surgeon on door-plate, etc.) are perfectly proper, usual, and unobjectionable in the circumstances stated". Have you not, allow me to ask, by such advice committed an error? If such be the case in London, I think I may venture to assert that it is not so in the provinces—at least during my somewhat long experience in the country. Fast approaching to a half century. I have never noted it, nor can I regard it otherwise than objectionable. Hitherto we, the public—in the country at least—have been accustomed to look upon the "physician" as a pure medical consultant of mature age and hospital experience, in contradistinction to the general practitioner (be he an M.D. or otherwise); and, I fear, if the opinion expressed in your answer to "Nemo" be generally acted upon by the 1,300 and odd physicians and M.D.s with whom England was unhappily flooded by the Edinburgh College and St. Andrew's University, without examination, in the year of (dis-) "grace", door-plates innumerable will spring up all over the country with physician and surgeon thereon, and thereby tend to mislead the public.

. The querist was a Licentiate of a College of Physicians, and therefore a *Physician*; in the words of his diploma, a member of the College of Surgeons, and therefore a Surgeon. If such a man be neither a Physician nor a Doctor, what is he?

VARIOLA.—There is a statue of Edward Jenner in the French Exhibition, but we cannot say much for it, either as a likeness or high work of art.

MEDICAL TITLES.

SIR,—Can you inform me if Licentiates or Fellows of the King and Queen's College of Physicians have any right to the title of "Doctor", as they universally use it in the Sister Isle? The only satisfactory explanation I could get there was, that in a law-suit on the subject between the authorities of Trinity College, Dublin, and the authorities of the College of Physicians, the judge decided that the latter body had the right to confer the title of "Doctor of Physic", though not that of "Doctor of Medicine". Is it so? and can you inform me where a copy of the said judgment may be obtained? The favour of a reply in an early issue will oblige, faithfully yours.

. We are not aware that any such pretension or any such judgment exists.

THE following communications have been handed to the General Manager:—Mr. John Langton, London; Mr. H. R. Gregg (with enclosure), Kirkby Lonsdale; Dr. C. D. Ball, Blaenavon; Mr. W. Taberner, Wigan; Mr. R. Vernon Musgrave, Margate; Z. A.; Dr. Banham, Sheffield; Dr. T. F. Chavasse, Birmingham.

MARTIN'S SOLID INDIA-RUBBER BANDAGE FOR ULCERS OF THE LEG.

THE recent communications in our columns of Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Callender appear to have attracted professional attention vividly to the advantages of the use of the solid India-rubber bandage in the treatment of ulcers of the leg. This treatment originated with Dr. Martin of Boston, whose detailed and able paper in our columns last week has brought us many further queries on the subject. In reply to some of these, we may state that we find that the rubber bandage is supplied by Messrs. Maw, Son, and Thompson, of Aldersgate Street, at 45. In a brochure by Dr. L. D. Bulkeley of New York, which has reached us this week, that physician fully endorses the favourable results of Dr. Martin, the author of this bandage, and especially also recommends its use in chronic eczema, varicose veins, etc. The bandage may, with care, be worn for six months, or even for two or three years. Dr. Bulkeley is as enthusiastic as to the merits of this solid rubber bandage as Dr. Martin himself. He has, in fact, known no failure.

TEXT-BOOKS.

"A STUDENT" would do well to consult his teachers as to the best text-books, as this is a subject on which opinion is likely to differ. We may quote favourably as good text-books on the subjects mentioned—Medicine: Roberts, Bristowe, and Aitken. Midwifery: Playfair and Leishman. Chemistry: Fownes. Pathology: Payne and Green. Medical Jurisprudence: Taylor and Meymott Tidy. Surgery: Erichsen, Holmes, and Bryant. Materia Medica: Ringer and Garrod; or, best of all, Wood. Physiology: Foster, Herrman, and Kuss.

FREQUENT AND PAINFUL MICTURITION.

SIR,—Having used most of the ordinary remedies for the cure of a case of frequent and painful micturition, due to chronic cystitis, of two years' standing, I shall be glad if any of your readers can suggest anything. The patient is twenty-one years of age. She is obliged to micturate every half-hour, which also causes a severe cutting pain. Liquor ferri perchloridi, in thirty minim doses, has lessened the amount of pus and albumen. I have injected the bladder several times with a weak solution of belladonna and nitrate of silver, which has caused severe pain at the time, and but very little benefit afterwards.—Yours, etc., M. O. H.

SALICYLIC ACID SNUFF IN HAY-COLD.

THE following appears in the *Louisville Medical News*. It won't do to swallow or snuff up every thing one sees in print. Even so voracious a journal as the *Louisville Medical News* may lead into error. Last week, you published among the selections an extract from the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, in which was related the experience of "W. J. H. Wood" with salicylic acid in hay-fever. He used the acid as a snuff, given pure, to the amount of "ten or fifteen grains daily". I innocently gave the prescription to a patient, who, after trying it, asked if it were not a "little strong". Whereupon, having said "Oh, no", I illustrated my faith with words, and took a pinch myself. Shades of Macaboy, of Rapee, of cayenne pepper, of all mixed! Faint and puny outlines are ye of the "salicylic acid pure". Was my faith shaken? Yes, my friend, and the very foundations of the house in which I stood, by the sneeze which followed the snuffing of that innocent-looking powder. I said I thought it was a little strong, and would have it diluted. And now a most curious sequel: I took that powder to a drug-store (there were about forty grains of it), and had successively stirred into it a drachm of bismuth, half-an-ounce of powdered gum arabic, a lot of borax, and a handful or so of powdered slippery elm, and at no stage of the proceeding was there any compound which could be snuffed without fear of sneezing one's eyeballs loose. Indeed, I might say, as the result of no little anxious experimentation, that the snuffing of all ordinary and many of the extraordinary dilutions of salicylic acid is far worse than the majority of hay-colds. "W. J. H. Wood's" patient (he had one who liked the acid) was evidently copper-lined.—Yours, "NO-MORE-IN-MINE."

P.S. You will be glad to learn that the drug-clerk, upon whom most of my later experiments were conducted, is recovering, though slowly.

PEACE WITH HONOUR.

A CORRESPONDENT forwarded to us recently a very reprehensible report in a Scotch newspaper of some absurd speeches in honour of Dr. Wolfe's ophthalmic operations, made by some of his students. Dr. Wolfe wrote to us, explaining that he concurred in the professional reprobation which such a paragraph called for, but that some one else was performing very antiquated operations, and that the enthusiasm of his students was excusable. A long article now forwarded to us, cut from the *Glasgow Evening News* of October 22nd, opens thus.

"Interesting Operation by a Glasgow Eye Doctor.—Dr. Wolfe, of the Glasgow Ophthalmic Institution, gives in the *Lancet* the following account of an interesting operation performed by him for the cure of detachment of the retina, an affection still classed among incurable diseases. Miss A. L., aged 58, who has enjoyed perfectly good health all her lifetime, felt her eyes beginning to get dim in October 1877. In January last, she consulted an eminent oculist in the east country, who pronounced her case to be disease of the retina, and therefore incurable."

Then follows a long account of the cure of the case. Dr. Wolfe will, no doubt, again agree with us in repeating "haud tui auxilio". But as his newspaper friend is unconsciously doing him and his profession a very great injury by transferring the account of his operations to the pages of a political newspaper, and if Dr. Wolfe be conscious of possessing among his acquaintances any student of the technical papers in the medical journals, he will certainly do well to entreat him not to extract his communications for the admiration of *gobemouches*, and to let him pursue his professional career in "peace with honour".

ADDER-BITE.

SIR,—Perhaps the following somewhat unusual case may be of interest to the readers of the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*. In the early part of last September, a young gentleman, while out ferreting, was bitten on the third finger of the left hand by an adder. He immediately ran home, where a lady promptly placed a ligature round his wrist and sent him into the town. Here he was seen by a chemist or assistant, who foolishly unfastened the ligature, and almost directly the boy fainted. He was seen by a doctor some hours afterwards, who prescribed for him. Twenty-five hours after the occurrence, I was called in to attend the case. I found the arm enormously swollen, hard and painful to the touch, especially at the bend of the elbow and in the axilla. The swelling was extending up the side and back of the neck, across the chest, down the side of the thorax, and correspondingly over the back and shoulder. The patient complained of extreme pain in the epigastrium and forearm, increased on the slightest movement; some nausea and faintness; pulse 108, very compressible; countenance anxious; skin cold, though moist; temperature 99.4 deg.; tongue coated, red at edges; bowels confined;

urine not secreted. These symptoms continued to increase; depression became greater, the pulse more rapid and feeble, and the pain, though very severe at times, was intermittent. The urine was secreted in small quantities after the first forty-eight hours. The swelling increased so as to occupy nearly the whole of the front of the chest down to the umbilicus and on the left side as far as the groin, where there were some slightly enlarged lymphatics.

I applied hot anodyne herbs as a fomentation; a saline purge was given, and a mixture of ammonia and ether every four hours, with an anodyne draught at night, containing chloral and liquor opii sedativus. Plenty of nourishment was given, together with champagne and ice. The greatest relief was experienced from a vapour-bath which I extemporised à la Sir J. Simpson.

The youth made a good recovery, and at the end of eight days was well enough to be removed to the seaside. Towards the termination of the case, vomiting and nausea were very troublesome. (This nausea, etc., is extremely common after the bite of venomous reptiles abroad.) Probably most of your readers will have noticed in the newspapers lately the record of a similar case, which terminated fatally.—I remain, yours truly, SCUDAMORE K. POWELL, M.B.

Faversham, Kent, October 1878.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Western Morning News; The Southport Visitor; The Wrexham Advertiser; The Edinburgh Courant; The Kelson Chronicle; The Fifeshire 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; The Essex Advertiser; The Melbourne Argus; The Midland Free Press; The Cork Constitution; The East London Observer; The Leeds Mercury; The United Service Gazette; The Citizen; The Gloucestershire Standard; The Chicago Times; The Manchester Guardian; The Berkshire Chronicle; The Glasgow Herald; The Oswestry Advertiser; The Edinburgh Daily Courant; The Middlesex County Times; The Liverpool Evening Albion; The Daily Courier; The Glasgow Evening News; The Liverpool Mercury; The Weymouth Telegram; 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 Cornwall Gazette; 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:—

Sir Dominic Corrigan, Dublin; Dr. Hughlings Jackson, London; Mr. Callender, London; Mr. Lister, London; Dr. W. B. Carpenter, London; Dr. McKendrick, Glasgow; Dr. Dolan, Halifax; Dr. W. Williams, Liverpool; Dr. Edis, London; Dr. F. Ogston, Aberdeen; Mr. Wm. Stokes, Dublin; Mr. E. Owen, London; Dr. Urquhart, Aberdeen; Habberley; Dr. C. P. Coombs, Castle Cary; Dr. A. S. Taylor, London; Dr. Parsons, Goolle; Medical Officer R.N.; Dr. Joseph Rogers, London; Dr. C. B. Ball, Blaenavon; Mr. H. R. Gregg, Kirkby Lonsdale; Mr. Langton, London; Mr. Henry Robinson, London; Dr. J. G. Byrne, Great Horton; Dr. W. Milligan, Wirsikworth; Dr. A. H. Benson, Dublin; Dr. John Martin, Belfast; Dr. Thomas Keith, Edinburgh; Dr. W. A. Satchell, Groombridge; Mr. J. D. Bradburn, Brighton; R.; W. J. W.; The Secretary of the Epidemiological Society of London; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; Mr. H. G. Howe, London; M.D.; The Secretary of the Harveian Society of London; Surgeon A.M.D.; Mr. S. B. Mason, Pontypool; Indian Medical Officer; Dr. Glascott, Manchester; Mr. S. C. Noble, Kendal; Dr. Swayne, Clifton; Mr. Richard Davy, London; Dr. W. W. Young, Aldershot; Dr. Fletcher Beach, Clapton; Mr. Martindale, London; Mr. G. K. Sproule, Frome; Dr. J. Milner Fothergill, London; Dr. Ward Cousins, Southsea; Mr. W. J. H. Wood, Boston; Mr. Scattergood, Leeds; Dr. Hime, Sheffield; Dr. Banham, Sheffield; G. M.; Mr. Leonard Armstrong, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Dr. J. Broom, Clifton; Dr. T. F. Chavasse, Birmingham; Mr. S. F. Murphy, London; Dr. Menzies, Naples; Staff Surgeon Fairland, Lucknow; Mr. R. V. Musgrave, Margate; Mr. Eastes, London; The Secretary of the Obstetrical Society of London; Mr. Howard Marsh, London; Mr. Horace Turner, Norwich; Surgeon; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Mr. George Sturge, Woodthorpe; Mr. W. D. Hemming, London; Dr. John Alexander, Glasgow; Rusticus; Dr. L. F. Winslow, London; Mr. F. W. Lowndes, Liverpool; Mr. Balding, Royston; Mr. W. K. Treves, Margate; Dr. Dudfield, London; Dr. John Williams, London; Dr. Foulis, Edinburgh; Mr. D'Arcy Power, London; Dr. David B. Lees, London; Dr. Corfield, London; A Student; Mr. Hugh Hughes, Ashton-under-Lyne; Dr. H. Ashby, Manchester; Mr. Joseph Drew, Beckenham; Mr. Edward Sergeant, Bolton; A Member, London; Mr. S. M. Bradley, Manchester; Dr. Heywood Smith, London; A Member B.M.A.; A Member who Smokes; Our Dublin Correspondent; Mr. J. Knowsley Thornton, London; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

How to get Thin; or, Banting in India. Second Edition. By Joshua Duke. Calcutta: Thacker, Spink, and Co. Bombay; Thacker and Co., Limited. London: W. Thacker and Co. 1878.

Queries at a Mess Table. What shall I Eat? What shall I Drink? By Joshua Duke. Calcutta: Thacker, Spink, and Co., Bombay; Thacker and Co., Limited. London: W. Thacker and Co. 1878.

The Sight, and how to preserve it. By Henry C. Angell, M.D. London: Hardwicke and Bogue. 1878.

Manual of Therapeutics. Parts 1 and 2. Second Edition, according to the Method of Hahnemann. By Richard Hughes. London: Leath and Ross. 1878.

A Handbook on the Diagnosis of Skin-Diseases. By Robert Liveing, M.D. London: Longman, Green, and Co. 1878.

The Students' Guide to the Medical Profession. By C. Bell Keetley, F.R.C.S. London: Macmillan and Co. 1878.