

least idea of the proportion, but there were not so many as in the cavalry. Very few married men came into hospital with venereal disease.

By Mr. CAVENDISH BENTINCK: The necessity for prostitution was, unfortunately, practically inseparable from a camp or barracks; even if the prostitutes were to be removed by force and wholesale imprisonment, they, or others of a like class, would certainly find their way back. Where there was a demand, there would be a supply. In a letter lately published by Dr. Bell Taylor, there was a return, for a certain number of years, with regard to cases of constitutional syphilis; that return included the whole army, in protected as well as in unprotected districts without distinction, and was therefore unreliable as a test of the effects of the Acts.

Mr. Thomas Bond, Surgeon to the A. Division of Police and Assistant-Surgeon to the Westminster Hospital, was next examined.

By the CHAIRMAN: He gave evidence before the Royal Commission in 1871, and made various statements with regard to the prostitutes who frequented the haunts of soldiers; he still adhered to the evidence which he then gave. Syphilis, in Mr. Bond's opinion, had not changed in character during the last twenty years. Treatment had improved, but the severity of the disease had not lessened.

In reply to other members of the Committee, Mr. Bond stated that he had been surgeon to the Petty France Pauper Voluntary Lock Hospital. Under the provisions of the Local Government Board, no one suffering from a contagious disease was allowed to leave a workhouse or infirmary until cured. They came in voluntarily, but were detained compulsorily. Under those circumstances, Mr. Bond had cured many. He thought the power of detention should be unlimited as to time. About one-third of the sores he saw at the Westminster Hospital were syphilitic. He was of opinion that the Acts should be extended to all professional prostitutes throughout the country. He saw no insuperable difficulty as regarded the London district. Voluntary admission to hospital, and compulsory detention there until cured, would probably prevent many prostitutes from applying for relief. There was a clause in the Metropolitan Police Orders to the effect, that policemen, incapacitated from venereal disease, should be immediately suspended.

HEALTH OF WATERING PLACES AND SUMMER RESORTS.

In the recently issued Quarterly Return of the Registrar-General are published the rates of mortality, for the quarter ending June 1879, in 46 English and Welsh watering-places and health-resorts; and for the sake of comparison are also given rates of mortality for the year 1878, and for the ten years 1861-70. The mortality is for the district in which the watering-place is situated, which in some instances differs from the mortality of the watering place itself. The rate in the larger district is generally lower than that in the watering-place, but in Llandudno the reverse is the case; for the mortality in Llandudno itself last quarter was equal to 8 per 1000 annually, whereas the mortality of Creuddyn subdistrict, in which it is situated, was so high as 23 per 1000.

The mean annual mortality in these watering-places was 17.8 per 1000, which was not only lower than the mortality of the country generally, but lower than that in the rural districts. There were considerable differences; thus the following places experienced an exceptionally low mortality:—Littlehampton 10.6, Lyme Regis 11.4, Worthing 12.6, Bognor 12.6, Clifton 12.9, Buxton 13.3, Tunbridge Wells 13.5, Malvern 13.6, Weston-super-Mare 14.0, Torquay 14.5, Herne Bay 14.8, Yarmouth 15.1, Isle of Wight 15.2, Weymouth 15.4, Dover 15.9, Margate 15.9, New Brighton 16.3, Deal and Walmer 16.3, Penzance 16.4, Dartmouth 16.5, Eastbourne (notwithstanding the fatality of scarlet-fever) 17.3, Scarborough 17.5, and Lowestoft 17.7. On the other hand, the following places experienced a mortality above the average:—Brighton 18.0, Ramsgate and Broadstairs 18.2, Cheltenham 18.3, Matlock 19.2, Whitby 19.5, Bath 19.7, Bangor 19.8, Aberystwith 19.8, Southport 19.9, Southend 19.9, Dawlish and Teignmouth 20.1, Hastings and St. Leonards 21.2, Ilfracombe 21.5, Sidmouth 22.3, Rhyl 22.4, Exmouth 22.5, Tenby 22.7, Llandudno (Creuddyn subdistrict) 23.0, Folkestone 23.5, Leamington 24.0, Blackpool and Fleetwood 24.7, Beaumaris 24.7, and Harrogate 26.3.

The Local Sanitary Authority and the Medical Officer of Health for Llandudno report to the Registrar-General that the death-rate in their urban sanitary district last quarter did not exceed 8.4 per 1000, and that no zymotic death was recorded therein. Their statement is confirmed by the Registrar. In the remaining and more strictly rural part of the subdistrict of Creuddyn, over which the town authorities exercise no control, the annual death-rate last quarter must therefore have been equal to 38.6, and the zymotic rate to 4.3 per 1000. The

town, by spending upwards of £30,000 on a new system of sewerage, and a still larger sum on new waterworks, has shown great enterprise and public spirit, and is thus entitled to reap, as it does, the credit and benefit it has so well earned.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

NORTH OF IRELAND BRANCH.

A MEETING of this Branch will be held at the Belfast Royal Hospital, on Friday, September 5th, 1879, at 12 o'clock noon.

Members intending to read papers or to bring any subject before the meeting, will please communicate with

JOHN MOORE, M.D., *Honorary Secretary.*

2, Carlisle Terrace, Belfast, August 11th, 1879.

MEDICO-PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Tuesday, August 12th.

Local Government Board (Visitations).—On the motion of Mr. LOWE, a tabular return was ordered, in order of years, of all local visitations which have been made by medical inspectors under the direction of the Local Government Board, from the date of the establishment of the Board to the 31st day of March 1879, with regard to the prevalence of disease in particular places, and to questions therewith connected of defects in the sanitary administration, and stating in successive columns, in regard of each visitation, as follows: 1. Names and populations of the places or sanitary districts inspected; 2. Date of the visitation [or, where several visitations have been made, of the first of them] and name of the inspector; 3. On what ground of complaint, or otherwise, the visitation was ordered; 4. *Précis* of facts reported by the inspector with regard to the prevalence of disease, and to the existing defects of the sanitary administration; 5. Re-inspections (if any) which have since been made in the same areas with reference to the defects of sanitary administration, with date of each re-inspection and name of inspector; 6. *Précis* of the latest information had by the Local Government Board as to the sanitary state of the places, and when given and how authenticated.

PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

ELECTION OF MEDICAL OFFICERS BY BOARDS OF GUARDIANS.

SIR,—May I ask you kindly to give your opinion on the following in Saturday's JOURNAL?

A Board of Guardians advertises for a medical officer, and names a day for the election. On the appointed day, a candidate presents himself—in all points duly qualified. He is proposed and seconded; yet subsequently, without any alleged reason (but presumably in the interests of another candidate, who was then unable to appear), the election is postponed for a month. Is this an equitable, or even a legal, proceeding? Can a Board of Guardians, on their own authority, without notice, and under the circumstances stated, rescind a resolution passed at a previous meeting, namely, on a certain day to proceed to the election of a medical officer?—Your obedient servant,
MEMBER.
July 22nd, 1879.

. Although we are of opinion that our correspondent has been most ungenerously treated, and is therefore entitled to our sympathy, still we must state that the Board of Guardians have not exceeded their powers in determining to adjourn for a month the election of a medical officer; such determination is not rescinding their resolution, but merely postponing its further consideration, for a certain definite period.

THE WORKING OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

SIR,—I am delighted to see it stated on page 145 of the JOURNAL of July 26th that, at the request of Mr. Ernest Hart, Dr. Lush, M.P., has moved for an important return, which, in the words of the JOURNAL, "will afford most important information as to the working of the Public Health Act, etc." because from practical experience I am convinced that the time has arrived for such information to be forthcoming. I observe that under (c) the headings of the return it is to be stated "at what dates the medical officer of each district reports on the health of the district to the local authority, and whether such reports are in manuscript or printed". Will you permit me to suggest that some curious, if not instructive, information would be gained if the following addition were made to the foregoing? "and whether such reports are read, or even take notice of, at the meetings of the authority, special regard being had to rural sanitary districts". This query should apply both to combined and to separate districts. If truthful answers to it could be

secured, I doubt not that the central authority, the profession, and the public, would be enlightened and possibly surprised or amused.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,
ALFRED ASHBY, Medical Officer of Health,
 Grantham, Newark, and Sleaford Combined Urban and Rural Sanitary District.
 Grantham, July 28th, 1879.

THE DEATH-RATE OF BRIDGNORTH.

SIR,—You do not mention the name of the sanitary journal from which you make an extract referring to me: I am therefore unable to communicate with the editor of that paper, so reply to it through you. He refers to the death-rate of Bridgnorth for the first three months of this year (which he allows are probably the heaviest of the year) as equal to an annual rate of 32.2 per 1000. I am glad to state he is wrong either in his figures or his information. I have in front of me the monthly returns for January, February, and March, and I have divided the causes of death into the several heads given below. The total is 45. The population of the sub-district is above 6000: thus the average will be 30 per 1000 (about)—a high mortality, I allow, but not from any deficiency in sanitary arrangements. Out of the 45, there are eight between 70 and 80 years of age, and nine between 80 and 90; and one found drowned in the river floated from miles above. Under the head "zymotic," you will find only: whooping-cough, 4; diarrhoea, 2; scarlatina, 1.

Extract of deaths for sub-district Bridgnorth borough for January, February, and March, 1879:—Encephalitis, 1; old age, 11; bronchitis, 8; convulsions, 1; cancer, 1; whooping-cough, 4; laryngitis, 1; disease of heart, 3; diarrhoea, 2; scarlatina, 1; epilepsy, 1; bladder-disease, 2; atrophy, 2; drowned, 1; liver-disease, 1; softening of brain, 1; gangrene, 1; apoplexy, 3; total, 45.

With regard to his statement of the mortality during 1878, he is likewise wrong. Instead of the average being as he states (24.9), it was 22.5. Under the head "zymotic" there were the following: Diarrhoea, one case in each month, all arising from improper diet in infants, and one adult. Whooping-cough, 1; enteric fever, 1; rheumatism, 1; drunkenness, 2. The following is the list of mortality as to age: Under one year, 25; from one to five, 13; from five to sixty-five, 48; from sixty-five to seventy-five, 19; from seventy-five to eighty-five, 25; above eighty-five, 5.

In conclusion, I beg to inform him that the sanitary state of the borough is not superficially supervised, and the salary paid is adequate for the work done, or necessary to be done. In case of more being required, Mr. Mathias and the Board have that good understanding with each other, that he is not afraid of their not carrying out their promise of an increase.—I am, sir, yours truly,
ALFRED MATHIAS.
 Bridgnorth, June 12th, 1879.

* This question is not one of degree, as Mr. Mathias appears to think, but one of fact. According to the figures on which he relies, the death-toll for last quarter was at the annual rate of over 30 per 1000; and yet, in the face of this, he writes to his authority that "he has no report to make, and no sanitary defects to bring under their notice." Apparently, Mr. Mathias has yet to learn that a high death-rate such as this is inconsistent with wholesome sanitary conditions, and that the healthiness of a place is not only to be measured at a given time by the deaths from zymotic diseases. Unwholesome surroundings induce a generally lowered state of vitality amongst the persons exposed to them; and many diseases that would not otherwise kill, become fatal in dirty localities. We need not go at length into the discrepancies in the figures of Mr. Mathias and those of our contemporary (the *Sanitary Record*), since any calculation based on so unscientific an estimate of the population as Mr. Mathias has adopted must needs be fallacious. The fact remains that, at the most favourable estimate, the death-rate of Bridgnorth last quarter was enormously high, and that for 1878 it exceeded the rate of many of our largely and most densely populated cities. How far Mr. Mathias is, under these circumstances, justified in saying that this high mortality has nothing to do with deficient sanitary arrangements, we must leave to his own further consideration to decide for himself: others will also form their judgment.

MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

SIR,—Your able leader in the *JOURNAL* of June 28th calls attention to the deplorable condition of the medical department. Is it really much worse than the state of the army generally? Army reform and reorganisation are again under consideration, and a committee is nominated to inquire into and submit their remedy. There will never, in my opinion, be thorough organisation until a much more comprehensive scheme be adopted. Not a year passes without one branch or other of the service, one department or other, exhibiting defects calling for change; and when combination is required, what is the result? The state of affairs at the Cape at the present moment is the answer: "Glaring inefficiency and disaster." This must be the case, and the larger the war the more conspicuous will be the defects of our army system—better described, perhaps, as an absence of all system. I am no republican, but I would like to see a much more representative army than we have at present. Whether cause and effect I will not assert, but a result of the volunteer movement is that the "first line" has almost ceased to exist. In your article you admit that this has been the case in the medical department. Officially it is recognised by the head of the medical branch of the army, presiding and acting as prime mover of the great voluntary agitation in the metropolis; and the names of conspicuous members of the department will be found associated with the order of St. John and the Stafford House Committee—societies most praiseworthy and philanthropic, but surely never intended to displace or damage a most essential integral of a well ordered army. Can one expect a well organised army so long as affairs are conducted in the hazardous and spasmodic way which for long time past has characterised army reform? A war council is wanted, in which the civil element and its interests should be thoroughly and inseparably blended with what is designated military. Such terms as "combatant" and "non-combatant" should cease to exist. All officers should be placed upon an universal footing. If an officer, no matter what his calling, have attained the position of a field-officer, let him have all and everything appertaining to the rank. These are not nineteenth century vagaries, but the demands of the country's intelligence. Despotism has yielded, and cliquism must become a thing of the past. The success of a general depends as much upon his

transport, his food, his sanitary arrangements, as upon his destructive machinery; and without co-operation there cannot be harmony. Unification throughout the army is practicable and called for; but it is clearly impracticable for any one department to act in antagonism to the theory and practice of the army as a whole.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,
"L'UNION FAIT LA FORCE."
 July 3rd, 1879.

SIR,—Once more an appeal is made to young medical men to join the Army Medical Department, and a *quasi* promise of a new warrant has been made by way of attraction. When it suits the authorities, this, no doubt, will be rendered null and void with regard to any advantages it may possess, by meeting with the same fate other warrants have received at the hands of the powers that be. I sincerely trust that young men will not be induced to enter a service where so much injustice and ill treatment are to be met with, of which I have been a victim, a detailed account of which was so ably written in your *JOURNAL* of December 4th, 1875. I would refer all those who may think of entering the service to that article, the perusal of which and the statement of my wrongs has heretofore, I am glad to say, successfully dissuaded many from taking a step which they would have regretted all their lives long.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,

CHAS. SPURWAY, formerly Surgeon A.M.D.

Bellagio, Lago di Como, July 1879.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.—The following candidates for commissions as Surgeons in Her Majesty's Indian Medical Service were successful at both the London and Netley examinations, on August 4th.

	Marks.		Marks.
1. F. F. Perry	5535	8. W. F. Thomas	4398
2. P. W. Dalzell	4934	9. J. C. Smith	4388
3. S. Little	4930	10. H. G. L. Wortabet	4275
4. G. H. D. Gimlette	4910	11. E. P. Frenchman	4071
5. C. B. Hunter	4837	12. R. James	3949
6. M. Gaisford	4835	13. S. C. Sarkies	3846
7. C. H. Murray	4580	14. D. S. E. Bain	3622

Mr. F. F. Perry gained the Herbert Prize, the Martin Memorial Medal, and the Parkes Memorial Bronze Medal.

NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICE.—The following candidates for commissions as Surgeons in the Medical Service of the Royal Navy were successful at both the London and Netley examinations, August 1879.

	Marks.		Marks.
1. A. G. P. Gipps	4642	6. J. B. Clibborn	3366
2. J. Hunter	4407	7. W. G. Jack	2990
3. R. A. Simpson	3895	8. A. Emson	2713
4. J. F. Donovan	3494	9. R. E. Biddulph	2377
5. R. McIvor	3438		

OBITUARY.

SIR THOMAS MACLEAR, F.R.S.

By the last mail from the Cape of Good Hope, the death of this gentleman, long known as the Astronomer Royal, is announced. His age is not stated; but, seeing he was admitted a member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England so long ago as 1815, when he must have been at least twenty-two, he had, consequently, reached the great age of eighty-six at the time of his death. He commenced the practice of his profession in Bedfordshire; but, being very much attached to the science of astronomy, he made the acquaintance of the late Admiral Smyth, well known also as an astronomer. By him he was induced to give up the practice of his profession, and proceed to the Cape of Good Hope to make some important investigations, which soon obtained for him the appointment of Astronomer Royal and the Fellowship of the Royal and other learned societies. The deceased gentleman was knighted by patent; and, in June 1863, a pension of £100 *per annum* was granted him. Lady Maclear died in 1861.

MEDICAL NEWS.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—The following candidates have passed the recent Preliminary Scientific (M.B.) Examination. Pass List.

First Division.

Bennett, Frederick William, Owens College
 Bindley, Robert Alfred, Guy's Hospital
 Black, William Jones, Owens College
 Botham, Richard Henry, King's College
 *Caiger, Frederick Ford, St. Thomas's Hospital
 Cheves, James Trelawney, King's College
 Clarkson, Edward, University College
 Cockey, Edmund Percival, Epsom College
 Cooper, Henry Charles Evans, Guy's Hospital
 Corbin, Eustace Rhodes St. Clair, University College
 Dacre, John, Yorkshire College, Leeds
 Dent, Harry Lord Richards, King's College
 Duncan, Horace, University College
 *Dutt, Upendra Krishna, University College

Elgood, Charles Reginald, University College
 * Elliott, John, Owens College
 Ensor, Henry Collen, Guy's Hospital
 Floyer, William Wadham, Guy's Hospital
 Fox, Robert Fortescue, Private study and London Hospital
 * Gostling, William Ayton, University College
 Green, Albert, Guy's Hospital
 * Halford, Bernhard Frederick, University College
 Harvey, James, University College
 Hayman, William Speed, King's College
 Heatherley, Francis, University College
 Hind, Wheelton, Guy's Hospital
 Hinds, Frank, University College
 Hooper, Henry Walpole, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Hughes, Richard Benjamin, University College
 Joberns, William, Queen's College, Birmingham
 Lankester, Alfred Owen, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 * Lawrence, Laurie Asher, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 * Luff, Arthur Pearson, St. Mary's Hospital
 Marriner, William Herbert Lister, St. Thomas's Hospital
 Martin, Albert, Wellington College, New Zealand, and Guy's Hospital
 * Merrifield, Sydney Sargent, King's College
 Morgan, Thomas Whitworth Sewell, King's College
 Newland, Edward Oriol, Guy's Hospital
 Nunn, John Robert, University College
 Paley, Frederick John, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Penfold, Frederick William Henry, Guy's Hospital and Epsom College
 Pettifer, Edmund Cleaver, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Powell, John Joseph, University College
 Prideaux, Frances Helen, London School of Medicine for Women
 Relton, Bernard, St. Thomas's Hospital
 Reynolds, Ernest Septimus, Owens College
 Roberts, John Saunders Hughes, University College
 Roughton, Edmund Wilkinson, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Rouse, Rolla Edward, St. Thomas's Hospital
 Scharlieb, Mary Ann Dacombe, University College and private study
 * Settle, Henry, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 * Shore, Thomas William, Hartley Institution and Royal School of Mines
 Shove, Edith, London School of Medicine for Women
 Short, Thomas Sydney, King's College
 Slater, Druce John, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 * Slater, William Arnison, Guy's Hospital
 * Spencer, Herbert Ritchie, University College
 * Spong, Charles Stuart, Guy's Hospital
 * Stevenson, John, Owens College
 Strugnell, Walter Thomas, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Targett, James Henry, Guy's Hospital
 Taylor, Alfred Ernest, University College
 * Thorburn, William, Owens College
 * Tomlinson, Emily, Girton College, Cambridge
 Turner, Alfred Jefferis, University College
 Vann, Alfred Mason, King's College
 Vernon, John James Dean, Owens College
 Vinrace, Ernest Dennis, St. Bartholomew's Hospital and University College
 Walker, Ernest George Agars, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Whitcombe, Philip Percival, Epsom College and St. Mary's Hospital
 Wilson, Thomas, University College
 Winter, Thomas Bassell, Guy's Hospital
 Winterburn, Joseph Williamson, Owens College
 * Womack, Frederick, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Wynter, Walter Essex, St. Bartholomew's and Middlesex Hospitals

Second Division.

Birch, Henry Priestley, University College
 Brown, William Henry, University College
 Dudley, William, Queen's, Birmingham, University, and private study
 Evans, William Arnold, Owens College
 Finney, Robert Charles, Private study
 Graham, William Perceval, University College
 Green, Charles David, St. Thomas's Hospital
 Hodgson, Gerald George, King's College
 Hull, Walter, St. Thomas's Hospital
 Jones, John Hervey, Owens College
 Lucas, Charles Arthur, St. Thomas's Hospital
 Lynam, Robert Garner, King's College
 Maude, Arthur, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Ozzard, Albert Tronson, Private study and tuition
 Pilgrim, Herbert Wilson, Harrison's College, Barbadoes
 * Player, Charles Ernest, Private study and Guy's Hospital
 Pointon, James, Private study
 Smallpeice, William Donald, Guy's Hospital
 Stewart, Arthur Hastings Lanfear, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Thomson, Theodore, Owens College
 Voisey, Clement Bernard, Owens and Stonyhurst Colleges
 Walker, Alfred William Hinsley, Owens College
 Walters-Hope, Edward Alfred, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Ward, Anthony Arthur, Yorkshire College, Leeds
 Williamson, Herbert Holdrich, Epsom and University Colleges

First M.B. Examination. Pass List. Entire Examination.

First Division.

Adeney, Edwin Leonard, Guy's Hospital
 Barron, Alexander, Owens College and Liverpool Royal Infirmary
 Batterham, John Williams, Westminster Hospital
 Bull, George Coulson Robins, St. Mary's Hospital
 Buxton, Dudley Wilmot, University College
 Clarke, Ernest, St. Bartholomew's Hospital and Downing College, Cambridge
 Corbould, Henry Francis, Charing Cross Hospital

* These candidates have also passed in the Mathematics of the First B.Sc. Examination, and are now admissible to the Second B.Sc. Examination.

Crookshank, Edgar March, King's College
 Cuffe, Robert Ernest Gillhurst, St. Mary's Hospital
 Dakin, William Radford, Owens College
 Fenwick, Edwin Hurry, London Hospital
 Fielden, William Eckett, Guy's Hospital
 Harris, Thomas, Manchester School of Medicine
 Jefferson, Arthur John, St. Thomas's Hospital
 Lane, William, Guy's Hospital
 Laurent, Eugene Arthur, University College
 Lukis, Charles Pardey, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Mortimer, John Desmond Ernest, Westminster Hospital
 Pearce, Walter, B.Sc., St. Mary's Hospital
 Priestley, John, Owens College
 Rhodes, James Havelock Alexander, Liverpool Royal Infirmary
 Rice, Bernard, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Rogerson, John Thomas, Owens College
 Savill, Thomas Dixon, St. Thomas's Hospital
 Stoddart, Frederick Wallis, St. Thomas's Hospital
 Stonham, Thomas George, London Hospital
 Wells, Alfred Ernest, St. Thomas's Hospital

Second Division.

Anderson, Daniel Elie, B.A., B.Sc., University College
 Atkinson, John Mitford, London Hospital
 Bayes, Frederick Thomas, Guy's Hospital
 Blore, Isaac, Owens College
 Boswell, John Irvine, Guy's Hospital
 Brown, James Grierson, Liverpool Royal Infirmary
 Clarke, Walter James, Queen's College, Birmingham, and St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Currie, Oswald James, Guy's Hospital
 Daniell, Alfred, Edinburgh and Paris
 Dawson, Arthur George, Owens College
 Dobson, Joseph, Leeds School of Medicine
 Griffiths, Philip Rhys, University College
 Hall, Ben, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Harper, James, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Hopkins, John, University College
 Larmuth, Leopold, Owens College
 Maddison, William Thomas, King's College
 Maitland, Alfred Derwent, University College
 Meeson, Alfred, Liverpool Royal Infirmary
 Northcott, Arthur, University College
 Prothero, Richard, Liverpool School of Medicine and Guy's Hospital
 Robinson, Frederick, Leeds School of Medicine
 Rogers, James Macdonald, Middlesex Hospital
 Salmon, Arthur Guy, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Sanders, Charles, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Scarth, Isaac, Owens College
 Shaw, Lauriston Elgie, Guy's Hospital
 Sisley, Richard, St. George's Hospital
 Sutton, Samuel Walter, St. Thomas's Hospital
 Udale, Joseph James, Guy's Hospital
 Webb, Malcolm, Owens College

Excluding Physiology.

First Division.

Milligan, Robert Arthur, Guy's Hospital

Second Division.

Dingley, Arthur William, University College

Physiology only.

First Division.

Barnes, George Frederic, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Whiting, John, St. Bartholomew's Hospital

Second Division.

Herschell, George Arie, St. Thomas's Hospital
 Sellers, William, University of Edinburgh
 Smith, John, Guy's Hospital

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 28th.

Adams, A. F., Kingston (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Ashe, W. P., L.R.C.P. Lond., Lindon Gardens, W. (St. Thomas's Hospital)
 Bond, C. J., Lutterworth (University College)
 Colborne, W. W., Camden Town (University College)
 Crook, J. S., Northfleet, Kent (Guy's Hospital)
 Faulkner, Joseph, Ipswich (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Ford, R. W., Portsmouth (St. George's Hospital)
 Haig, Alexander, B.A. Oxon., Torquay (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Morse, R. E. R., Cheltenham (Guy's Hospital)
 Nadin, Joseph, Sheffield (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Newsholme, Arthur, L.S.A., Bradford, Yorkshire (St. Thomas's Hospital)
 Parker, H. S., Putney (King's College)
 Phillips, John, B.A. Cantab., Brighton (King's College)
 Pope, F. M., B.A. Cantab., Brighton (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Saunders, F. H., Haverfordwest (University College)
 Thompson, E. C., Hull (Hull School)
 Vivian, R. T., Camborne, Cornwall (St. Mary's Hospital)

Eight candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on July 29th.

Baker, W. J., Millbrook, Southampton (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Bowlby, A. A., L.S.A., Warrington Crescent, W. (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Cuthbert, C. M., L.S.A., Mendlesham, Suffolk (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Easmon, J. F., Sierra Leone, Africa (University College)

Grismoldby, G. H., Tetney, Grimsby (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Harwood, J. G., Boston (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Hubbard, H. W., Plymouth (St. George's Hospital)
 Pope, H. F. M., L.R.C.P. & S.Ed., West Malling, Kent (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Smith, John, L.S.A., Plumpstead Road (Westminster Hospital)
 Spackman, H. R., Wolverhampton (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Twelve candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on July 30th.

Banks, William, Falmouth (University College)
 Butler, H. P., Gipsy Hill (St. Thomas's Hospital)
 Clark, W. T. M., Twickenham (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Cronk, H. G., Sevenoaks (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Graves, T. W., L.S.A., Leominster (King's College)
 Hardy, H. L. P., Castle Street, W.C. (London Hospital)
 Howard, Henry, B.A.Cantab., Cambridge (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Lawton, J. W., Torquay (London Hospital)
 Lindeman, S. H., L.S.A., Hammersmith (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Read, Mabyn, B.A.Cantab., Falmouth
 Ross, Donald, Peshawur, Punjab (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Walker, H. E., L.S.A., Corwen, North Wales (Guy's Hospital)
 Williams, P. St. G., Compton Road, N. (Guy's Hospital)
 Williams, W. R., Ruthin, North Wales (St. George's Hospital)
 Wright, H. E., Edwardstone, Suffolk (Guy's Hospital)
 Yate, H. W., Godalming (St. Mary's Hospital)
 Four candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on July 31st.

Adam, C. D., St. Peter's Park, W. (St. Mary's Hospital)
 Alden, E. W., L.S.A., Oxford (Middlesex Hospital)
 Allnutt, John, Dartmouth (Manchester School)
 Bentham, E. C., Barbadoes (University College)
 Elliot, F. J., Paignton, Devon (Guy's Hospital)
 Fischer, Charles, M.D. Würzburg, Bloomsbury Square (Berlin and Würzburg)
 Gimlette, T. D., Southsea (St. Thomas's Hospital)
 Hall, Samuel, B.A.Cantab., Whaley Bridge (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Havell, C. G., Reading (St. Mary's Hospital)
 Higson, James, L.S.A., Blackburn (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Jago, E. O., Plympton, Devon (Guy's Hospital)
 Lillies, Herbert, Chudleigh, Devon (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Mark, L. P., Queen Anne Street, W. (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Norman, W. A., Dulwich (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Scott, Alfred, Brighton (Guy's Hospital)
 Sweeting, R. D. R., Clapham Park (London Hospital)
 Tait, E. S., Highbury Park (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)
 Watts, E. C., Bernard Street, W.C. (King's College)
 Webb, W. S., St. George's Road, S.W. (St. George's Hospital)
 Wyatt, W. T., B.A.Oxon, Regent's Park Road (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, July 31st, 1879.

Bowe, Francis, 29, Great Percy Street, W.C.
 Dartnell, William Abraham, Sutton Coldfield
 Hitch, Frederick, Bromley by Bow
 Jones, Thomas, Penddem, Cardiganshire
 Price, Edward Morris, York Road, Warrington Park, Acton
 Rudd, Charles Frederick, Petherton Road, Highbury
 Smith, Ernest Barratt, St. John's Street, Berkeley Square
 Smith, Henry, Plumstead, Kent
 Walker, John Sydenham, 3, Adelphi Terrace, W.C.

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

Cooper, Walter, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Grigg, William Henry, London Hospital
 Jay, Melville Richard Hindmarsh, St. Thomas's Hospital
 Tripp, Charles Llewellyn, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Vachell, Edward Shearman, London Hospital

The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, August 7th, 1879.

Betts, Edward George, Freegrove Road, Holloway
 Bothamley, William Parkinson, Donington, Spalding
 Heaven, John Cookesley, Queen Square, Bristol
 King, William Henry Tindal, Plymouth
 Nourse, William John Chichele, Clarendon Street, Paddington
 Whitehead, Thomas Kay, Hollymount, Rawtenstall

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

Bennett, Frederick Thomas, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Humphreys, William Carr, Queen's, Birmingham
 Robinson, Alfred, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
 Stephen, John Alexander Lewis, St. George's Hospital
 Willis, Arthur, St. Bartholomew's Hospital

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

Particulars of those marked with an asterisk will be found in the advertisement columns.

THE following vacancies are announced:—

CARRICK-ON-SUIR UNION—Medical Officer for Piltown Dispensary District, at a salary of £120 per annum, with Registration and Vaccination Fees. Election adjourned to the 20th instant.

CITY AND COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM, near Bristol. Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, board, and washing. Applications on or before the 20th instant.

***EAST LONDON HOSPITAL**—Resident Clinical Assistant. Applications on or before September 8th.

***EAST SUFFOLK HOSPITAL**—Honorary Physician. Applications to be made on or before August 20th.

***LONDON FEVER HOSPITAL**—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £200 per annum, with residence, coals, gas, and attendance. Applications on or before September 6th.

***LOYAL UNITED BRETHREN SOCIETY**, Oporto Stores, Bloomsbury—Surgeon and Apothecary. Salary, £40 per annum. Applications on or before August 25th.

***NEWPORT (Monmouthshire) ODD FELLOWS' MEDICAL AID ASSOCIATION**—Assistant-Surgeon. Salary to commence at £70 per annum, with board and residence. Applications on or before August 20th.

NORTHAMPTON GENERAL INFIRMARY—Physician. Applications not later than the 26th instant.

***NOTTINGHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL**—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board and residence. Applications on or before August 23rd.

PARISH OF ST. JOHN'S, Hampstead—Medical Officer of Health. Salary, £125 per annum. Applications on or before September 1st.

***QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S LYING-IN HOSPITAL**, Marylebone Road—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £60 per annum, with board and residence. Applications on or before September 1st.

ROYAL UNITED HOSPITAL, Bath—House-Surgeon. Salary, £60 per annum, with board and residence. Applications on or before September 6th.

***ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL**—Junior Resident Medical Officer. Applications on or before August 19th.

SHEFFIELD GENERAL INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £120 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing.—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications on or before August 16th.

***TORBAY HOSPITAL AND PROVIDENT DISPENSARY**, Torquay—House-Surgeon and Dispenser. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and attendance. Applications not later than September 9th.

***WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL**—Pathologist and Curator of the Museum. Remuneration, £52.10 per annum. Applications on or before September 13th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

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

***BEATTIE-SMITH**, W., F.R.C.S., appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Stockton-on-Tees Hospital, *vice* Joseph Laidler, M.R.C.S.Eng., deceased.

***BLENKARNE**, W. L'Heureux, M.R.C.S., appointed Vaccination Officer for the Leckhamstead District of the Buckingham Union, *vice* Robert De'Ath, M.R.C.S., resigned.

VIVIAN, Richard T., M.R.C.S.E., appointed House-Surgeon to the Male Lock Hospital, Dean Street, W., *vice* C. B. Lockwood, M.R.C.S.E., resigned.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

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

MARRIAGES.

BLENKARNE—HARRISON.—On July 24th, at the Parish Church of Buckingham, by the Rev. T. Whaddon Martyn, *W. L'Heureux Blenkarne, M.R.C.S., of Buckingham, to Annie, elder daughter of James Harrison, Esq., J.P., of Buckingham.

WEBB—BOYCOTT.—On August 7th, at Holy Trinity Church, Coalbrookdale, by the Rev. Horace S. Wood, Thomas Law Webb, L.R.C.P.London, etc., of Ironbridge, to Florence Elizabeth, eldest daughter of H. Boycott, Esq., The Firs, Ironbridge. —No cards.

DEATHS.

BLACK.—At Mauldslee Cottage, Eskbank, on August 13th, Jane, relict of the late James Black, M.D., F.R.S.E., of 2, George Square, Edinburgh, aged 88. Friends will please accept this intimation.

MANNING, Herbert Stanley, L.F.P.S.Glasgow, aged 27, at Derby, on July 23rd.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—During last week, the annual death-rate in London and twenty-two other large towns of the United Kingdom was 17 in every 1,000 persons living; it was 15 in Edinburgh, 16 in Glasgow, 18 in London, and 24 in Dublin. In the twenty English towns, the rate, ranged from Portsmouth 10, and Wolverhampton 10, to Liverpool 20, Salford 20, Oldham 20, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 21, and the highest rate 27, Sunderland. Measles showed the largest proportional fatality in London and Bradford; scarlet fever in Sunderland, Bradford, Oldham, and Leicester; and whooping-cough in Bristol and Birmingham. In London, 1,223 deaths were registered, being 422 below the average. These 1,223 deaths included 5 from small-pox, 54 from measles, 43 from scarlet fever, 9 from diphtheria, 34 from whooping-cough, 14 from different forms of fever, and 90 from diarrhoea; being 249 deaths altogether, or 256 below the average number from these diseases, and equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of 3.6 per 1,000. Different forms of violence caused 72 deaths; and twelve cases of suicide were registered, more than double the corrected average number. At Greenwich, the mean temperature of the air during the week was 59.5°, being 3.2° below the average. The general direction of the wind was south-west. Rain fell on six days of the week to the aggregate amount of 0.51 of an inch. The duration of bright sunshine in the week was equal to 22 per cent. of its possible duration.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 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.—St. Mark's, 2 P.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 3 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.—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 P.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.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.

SATURDAY....St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.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.

HOURS OF ATTENDANCE AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

CHARING CROSS.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, M. Th.; Dental, M. W. F., 9.30.

GUY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, exc. Tu., 1.30; Obstetric, M. W. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 1.30; Tu. F., 12.30; Ear, Tu. F., 12.30; Skin, Tu., 12.30; Dental, Tu. Th. F., 12.

KING'S COLLEGE.—Medical, daily, 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., M. W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th. S., 1; Ear, Th., 2; Skin, Th.; Throat, Th., 3; Dental, Tu. F., 10.

LONDON.—Medical, daily exc. S., 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30 and 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 9; Ear, S., 9.30; Skin, W. 9; Dental, Tu. 9.

MIDDLESEX.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 8.30; Ear and Throat, Tu., 9; Skin, F., 4; Dental, daily, 9.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, M. Th. S., 2; o.p., W. S., 9; Eye, Tu. W. Th. S., 2; Ear, M., 2.30; Skin, F., 1.30; Larynx, W., 11.30; Orthopaedic, F., 12.30; Dental, F., 9.

ST. GEORGE'S.—Medical and Surgical, M. Tu. F. S., 1; Obstetric, Tu. S., 1; o.p., Th., 2; Eye, W. S., 2; Ear, Tu., 2; Skin, Th., 1; Throat, M., 2; Orthopaedic, W., 2; Dental, Tu. S., 9; Th., 1.

ST. MARY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.15; Obstetric, Tu. F., 9.30; o.p., Tu. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 1.30; Ear, W. S., 2; Skin, Th., 1.30; Throat, W. S., 12.30; Dental, W. S., 9.30.

ST. THOMAS'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, except Sat., 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 2; o.p., W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th., 2; o.p., daily except Sat., 1.30; Ear, Tu., 12.30; Skin, Th., 12.30; Throat, Tu., 12.30; Children, S., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 10.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1 to 2; Obstetric, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; Eye, M. W. F., 2; Ear, S., 1.30; Skin, Tu., 1.30; S., 9; Throat, Th., 2.30; Dental, W., 10.3.

WESTMINSTER.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. F., 3; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 9; Skin, Th., 1; Dental, W. S., 9.15.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

FRIDAY—Quekett Microscopical Club (University College, Gower Street), 8 P.M. Ordinary Meeting.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, are requested to communicate beforehand with the General Secretary and Manager, 161, Strand, W.C.

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

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

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

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

SCIENCE OF ALCOHOL.—In answer to J. G. A., I think the best and most reliable articles he can find on the different actions of alcohol are those in the *British Medical Temperance Journal*, the organ of the British Medical Temperance Association.—DECCAM.

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 REVEREND NEWMAN HALL'S CASE.

SIR,—It is perhaps not too much to say, in the words of Lord Westbury, that by the issues of this long and painful case, "a new terror has been added to matrimony". The feebleness of the respondent's defence, the exhaustive address of the petitioner's counsel, and the so-called summing-up of the judge, who, as the *Times* newspaper says, "indicated very plainly his own views in his charge to the jury, and who concluded his remarks to them in a strain of animated rhetoric", all seem to show that the plaintiff proved too much and the defendant too little. Was there not, however, a physical side to the case that might have had important light thrown upon it by the lamp of medical opinion? The direct evidence adduced in support of the accusation that the defendant had committed criminal acts was certainly meagre. Now, we need not consult the French novelist to furnish us with an example of the purient heroine or the ignorant and undisciplined young wife. The note-book of many a practising physician contains an outline of the sad histories of such people—histories that can never see the light. Here is a sketch of one among a thousand. A young woman, with no dominant feeling towards the other sex, with no developed erotic tendencies, is trained by her parents to accomplish one object in life, namely, to marry. The consummation of matrimony disappoints her, and the necessary conditions under which she lives are repugnant to her temperament. Her life becomes a serious trial to her; and an element of disgust, not to say hatred, penetrates deeply into her feelings towards the person on whom she looks as the author of her misery. If she have children, she will probably enter into a compromise with her fate, and console herself with her natural love for them, burying her sorrow in her parental affection. If no children are born, she will translate herself, according to her taste and propensities, into some special action of modern life. She has no *besoin d'être*, and therefore to her "the female garden of the soul" is a wilderness. Under such circumstances, a sickly sentimentalism may follow and take possession of her, and then eventually comes the Divorce Court. Has medicine nothing to say to all this? Is there no unrecognised pathology at the bottom of such disastrous cases? My firm belief is, that no ordinary judge, who has been merely trained in the narrow precepts of English law, is competent to understand and deal with the abstruse equity of questions that affect the mysterious interests of the sexes. The President of the Divorce Court is a sound and conscientious lawyer, skilled in all the technicalities and ambiguous details of his profession; and, as in this case, most careful to exclude any "evidence that was legally inadmissible". He considered it his "duty to see that the rules of evidence are adhered to, though in some cases they may have a hard bearing". This axiom cannot be said to embrace those broad principles laid down by Lord Mansfield, who thought that in all unsettled cases the laws of evidence should be so enlarged as to offer no obstruction to the equitable administration of justice. John Stuart Mill says: "In organised beings there are abundance of propositions ascertained to be universally true of superior genera, to many of which the discovery hereafter of any exceptions must be regarded as supremely improbable. But these are, we have every reason to believe, truths dependent upon causation." Who, we may ask, is to do anything towards unraveling the complex phenomena of empirical laws, as they appear in the human subject, so that they may ultimately be resolved into more simple laws, except the medical expert? Who else, in a court of justice, can give an account of the subtle and delicate working of such laws in a woman's peculiar organisation? I do not mean to assert that Mrs. Hall's was an unmistakable case of "an observed uniformity"; at the same time, I cannot but think that, from a medical point of view, it was not dealt with on its merits.—I am, sir, yours, etc.,

August 11th, 1879.

MEDICUS.

CAN you or any of your readers give me the name of a series of French scientific diagrams lately referred to favourably in the JOURNAL? I am unable to find the reference. Any particulars as to where they may be got, and price, will be acceptable.—DECCAM.

FEES TO CONSULTANTS.

SIR,—Can you or any of your readers inform me what the usual fees are paid to consulting surgeons and physicians in the Midland counties?—I am, sir, yours obediently, A MEMBER.

August 6th, 1879.

CINCHONA RUBRA AS A REMEDY FOR DRUNKENNESS.

SIR,—I observe Mr. Barnardo is advertising bottles of cinchona rubra, at 8s. 6d. each, as a cure for drunkenness. As this gentleman takes credit for being a great philanthropist, as well as a doctor, I should be glad to know the real value, pecuniary as well as medical, of this drug.—Faithfully yours, ALESAKER HAY HILL.

August 9th, 1879.

PILL EXCIPIENT.—A formula for what can be called an universal excipient is given in the *Philadelphia Chemist*. Experience for many years with this preparation has shown that it is superior to any and all other articles whatsoever for this purpose, whether simple or compound, and that nothing else is needed. It remains of a firm but soft consistence, is exceedingly adhesive, and converts the most intractable substance for pill purposes, such as sulphate of iron, resin, guaiac, iodide of potassium, etc., into elegant pliant masses, and with a very small quantity of the excipient; of course, the pills so made will be always soft, and readily dissolve or disintegrate, according to their composition. It is important, when making pills, that the dry ingredients should be in a very fine powder. The following is the formula:—Dextrine, 30 grains; powdered tragacanth, 30 grains; glycerine, 1 drachm; and water, 2 drachms.

AN ADVERTISEMENT.

"Medical Institution for the Poor, 90, High Street, Aston-New-Town.—Midwifery, 10s. 6d.; vaccination, 1s. Hours: Morning, 9 till 11; evening, 6 till 9; Sundays, 6 till 8. Charges: Medicine and advice, 1s. for three times; if visited, etc., 3s. Messages taken any time. Mr. Hopkins, Surgeon, attends daily."

* Comment on the foregoing is needless. We believe the handbill refers to Mr. F. W. Hopkins, who is a Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries alone. Why, on the strength of this licence, does he style himself surgeon?

H. L. (Guy's Hospital).—The portrait of the late Mr. Hilton, recently presented to the College of Surgeons by his widow, may be seen in the council-chamber of that institution on applying to the Secretary.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.—Advertisements for insertion in the **BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL** should be forwarded direct to the Publishing Office, 161, Strand, London, addressed to Mr. FOWKE, not later than *Thursday*, Twelve o'clock.

MEDICAL QUALIFICATIONS.

SIR,—My attention has been drawn to a letter in your impression of July 26th, signed J. A. Hedges, etc., of this town, in which he has put forward certain allegations against "a medical practitioner". It is patent to all that I am "the junior" referred to, as the description entirely coincides with myself, except his statement with regard to the absence of qualifications. These statements are and have been seriously prejudicial to my reputation and practice. In May 1873, I obtained the double qualification of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Edinburgh. It is a matter of regret that Mr. Hedges did not ascertain the truth of his assertions before putting them in print. I am now taking legal proceedings against him. I trust to your sense of fairness to insert this letter in your first issue.—I am, sir, yours faithfully, FORSTER JOHN PILGRIM, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Edinburgh. Leighton Buzzard, August 13th, 1879.

DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT.—A report has reached us that a large gold pencil-case, presented by the late Sir William Fergusson, Bart., which had been passed *per annum*, has been abstracted from the bottle in which it was exposed in the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons.

VOMITING IN PREGNANCY.

SIR,—As the profession is still seeking after a remedy for this most distressing complaint, which shall be at once certain and efficacious, that the dreadful alternative of the induction of premature labour may be avoided, and as the latest method of treatment—viz., dilatation of the os uteri, no matter how thorough its efficiency—is seriously opposed by feelings of delicacy both on the part of patient and practitioner, I beg to call the attention of the profession to a remedy which, in my experience, has never failed, not only of giving relief, but of completely putting an end to the sickness. The remedy to which I allude is the bromide of potassium. I have been surprised, when reading of the different remedies for this complaint, to find no mention of this substance, although it ranks high as a general nerve sedative, as a sexual sedative, as an anæsthetic to the mucous membranes, as an antispasmodic, specially as a sedative in uterine neuralgia and in neuralgic menorrhagia. Whether or not it has been tried and found wanting I cannot say, but so far as I have an opportunity of referring to works bearing upon the subject, or of consulting my brother practitioners, I can find no evidence that it has ever been so used at all; nevertheless, I will not be astonished to learn that it has been and is being used, because there are *à priori* reasons which point to its use and to its probable benefit. When the action of the drug upon the uterus is considered, and also the reflex nature of the ailment, it is impossible almost to deny the probability of usefulness then indicated. My experience corroborates the induction: but as I may not have had cases of such severity as we read of occurring, I place the argument before the experience, that thereby others may be induced to give it trial and witness for themselves its effects. I have not yet seen the case wherein complete success did not follow its administration. I have never given more than twenty grains for a dose. I have always combined it with other agents applicable to the local gastric irritation which may have ensued from the time the sickness began. I hope that the experience of those who try it may confirm its efficacy. July 1879.

A HELPER OF NATURE.

A CENTENARIAN.

SIR,—On the 16th ultimo, I saw at Penrheol, near Talgarth, Breconshire, an old man over one hundred and five years old. His son showed me a copy of the baptismal entry in Glasbury church books, copied therefrom on October 16th, 1878, by the Reverend James Newman, Vicar of Glasbury. It was to the following effect: "1774. William, son of Thomas Bevan and Mary, his wife, was baptized March 27th. The old man gets up every day, and dresses himself; his appetite is good; but he is nearly blind. He is very fond of smoking. His wife died six years ago, when she was ninety-three years of age. He has lived at Penrheol over fifty years. He and his son are farmers.—I am, sir, yours respectfully, T. JONES. Brecon, August 13th, 1879.

SUBSCRIBER.—Drs. Dickinson and Hilton Fagge in Medicine; Messrs. Cooper Forster and Callender in Surgery.

THE SPREAD OF SMALL-POX.

SIR,—Over the heading "How Small-Pox is Spread", your Dublin correspondent gives a description of a "wake", for which a fine of £5 was inflicted. Permit me to add a few facts which are fully equal to "wakes" in disseminating contagious disease. I visited a court off a street in this city four weeks since, to see a "curious case", as stated to me by a clergyman. The court is entered by a narrow doorway: it consists of four fairly built houses. On entering the house, I found two children lying in bed in the vesicular stage of small-pox. On ascending a ladder, I arrived in a small badly ventilated room, in a corner of which was lying a boy sixteen years of age. He was on his left side, in a state of opisthotonos. The eyes protruded from their sockets, with rupture of the small arteries, and saliva was flowing from the mouth. There were large ecchymosed patches over the body. The temperature was below normal, and he had passed urine and feces involuntarily—probably during a convulsion. He was twenty-five hours ill, having only complained of occipital headache for three days before. Death occurred half-an-hour after I saw him. This was a case of cerebro-spinal meningitis from malignant variola. His death was returned to the Registrar as paralysis of the head; the friends fearing that the sanitary authorities might learn the true facts, and compel the children to be sent to hospital. I learned that two other members of the family had just recovered, and that the disease was in the house for six weeks. Two of the children, I since discovered, lay immediately before in scarlatina. There was small-pox up to this period in the court without the sanitary authorities being aware of it for three months. The house was not disinfected for ten days after the events narrated above, owing to a deficiency in the sanitary laws. The authorities could not compel those people to disinfect even on a physician's certificate, unless he were prepared to back it up by appearing in court and waiting for his turn to enter the witness-box.

Another fertile means of the spread of small-pox is due to the custom of giving the drivers of "sick cabs" so much to have a drink when they are sent to the hospital authorities for a case. These men carry the patient out, and, having placed him in a cab, adjourn to the public house. It is something awful to think of the frightful source of disseminating the disease this custom engenders. I could explain many other facts to you besides "wakes", that would to a large extent explain why it is we have small-pox in Dublin running an uninterrupted course for two years.—I remain, dear sir, faithfully yours, Dublin, July 21st, 1879. J. J. MURPHY, Physician and Surgeon.

HOMES FOR EPILEPTICS.

SIR,—I am open to correspondence with L. B. on the matter about which he applies through the **BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL**. I have one case, and aim at increasing the number.—I am, yours truly, WM. YOUNG, M.D. Castlegate House, Malton, August 9th, 1879.

If L. B. will write to me, I may be able to answer his query respecting epileptics. Street, Somerset, August 11th, 1879. E. W. PAUL.

TOPOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARIES AND MAPS.

SIR,—I shall feel obliged if any of our readers will kindly inform me what is the best and most recent English topographical dictionary, with maps of the various counties.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, VIATOR.

INSTRUCTION FOR MIDWIVES.

SIR,—Can you or any of your numerous readers inform me whether any of the lying-in hospitals in London or the provinces provide instruction to poor women, so as to enable them to undertake any ordinary case of midwifery amongst their poorer neighbours, who cannot afford to pay a medical man's fees and are not entitled to the Poor-law medical officer's services.—I am, sir, yours faithfully, Aspley Guise, Woburn, Beds, August 13th, 1879. G. A. D. MAHON.

HÆMOSTATICS.

SIR,—Having tried the various remedies for hæmorrhage, "matico" included, I beg to differ from "M. B. C. S., Dental Surgeon", as to the efficacy of matico and the unpleasantness of liquor ferri perchloridi fortior. In the first place, I had not a common case of hæmorrhage to deal with, but one from a vessel of some size—viz., the coronary artery. And again, perchloride of iron acts as a deodoriser and purifier, and at the same time is one of the most powerful hæmostatics known next to the actual cautery. I agree with "Dental Surgeon" that matico is very well in dental surgery, but not in actual surgical practice, where vessels are cut across; and again, perchloride of iron is always at the disposal of the surgeon, while very few surgeons keep matico.—Yours truly, J. BRINDLEY JAMES, M.R.C.S. 47, Jamaica Road, S.E., July 1879.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Western Morning News; The Glasgow Herald; The Manchester Guardian; The Yorkshire Post; The Leeds Mercury; The Cork Constitution; The Coventry Herald; The British Guiana Royal Gazette; The Ceylon Observer; The Wigan Observer; The Peterborough and Huntingdonshire Standard; The Sussex Daily News; The Liverpool Mercury; The Hampshire Journal; The Newport and Market Drayton Advertiser; The North Wales Guardian; etc.

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

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

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

A Systematic Course of Practical Qualitative Analysis. By Thomas Ekloft, F.C.S., F.I.C. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. 1879.
A Few Remarks on Proposed Lunacy Legislation. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. 1879.
Transactions of the American Gynecological Society. Vol. iii, for the year 1878. London: Trilbner and Co. 1879.
Association for the Oral Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb; Report for 1878. London: Wertheimer, Lea, and Co. 1879.
Other Symptoms of Nervous Exhaustion (Neurasthenia). By George M. Beard, A.M., M.D. Chicago: J. J. Spalding and Co. 1879.
Atlas of Histology. By E. Klein, M.D., F.R.S., and E. Noble Smith, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. Part vi. London: Smith, Elder, and Co. 1879.
Bibliotheca Therapeutica; or, Bibliography of Therapeutics, chiefly in reference to Articles of the Materia Medica; with numerous Critical, Historical, and Therapeutical Annotations; and an Appendix, containing the Bibliography of British Mineral Waters. By Edward John Waring, M.D. Vols. i and ii. London: The New Sydenham Society. 1879.
Annual Report of the Royal Edinburgh Asylum for the Insane, for the year 1878. Morningside: 1879.