

TURNING A SUBSTITUTE FOR CRANIOTOMY.

Dr. Simpson states that he has practised turning as an alternative for craniotomy and the long forceps, in several cases in which the head had been morbidly detained at the brim of the pelvis, from the slighter forms of disproportion between the two; and he believes it to present various advantages over embryulcio. It gives the child a chance of life; it is more safe to the mother, because it can be performed earlier in the labour, and more speedily; it enables us to adjust and extract the head of the child through the imperfect pelvic brim in the most advantageous form and direction, the head flattening laterally under the traction; the neck of the child (if it were living, or only lately dead,) is so strong as to allow us to exert such a degree of traction upon the obstructed head, that the sides of the cranium might become very greatly compressed, or even indented under it, and that without necessarily destroying the child; and, lastly, he observes, it is a practice which can be followed when proper instruments are not at hand, and the avoidance of instruments is generally desirable when it is possible.—*Monthly Journal of Medical Science*, Jan., 1847.

MATERIA MEDICA.

SYRUP OF HYDROCYANIC ACID.

At the request of several medical practitioners a very elegant syrup of prussic acid has been devised by Dr. Reich, affording an eligible means of administering that potent substance in a certain dose. He prepares it by adding to a syrup of sweet almonds a definite quantity of amygdaline. His recipe, is as follows:—Take of sweet almonds two ounces; immerse them for the space of a night in cold distilled water, and in the morning remove the skin by the pressure of the finger and thumb; then pound the almonds in a deep mortar, adding two ounces of the purest sugar. Pound together in a mortar, either of porcelain or marble; then by degrees add distilled water two ounces, and strain, with the application of slight force. To this emulsion add sugar of the purest kind two ounces, and promote the solution of the sugar by mixture alone, heat being avoided. To four ounces of this syrup add seventeen grains of amygdaline, and rub together in a porcelain mortar. Much of the syrup need not be kept ready prepared, as its extemporaneous formation is so easy. An ounce contains a quarter of a grain of real prussic acid.—*Buchner's Repertorium*.

THE MEDICAL REGISTRATION BILL:
REPLY TO MR. ALLISON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND
SURGICAL JOURNAL.

SIR,

Had I foreseen that the temperate remarks which I lately made respecting the conduct of the Council of the National Institute of Medicine, as regards Mr. Wakley's Medical Registration Bill, would have elicited from any respectable member of the profession such uncalled for insinuations as are contained in Mr. Allison's letter in your last Journal, I should never

have been at the trouble of writing them. I feel sorry to say, this is only another of the numerous specimens of ill feeling which are sadly too prevalent among us, and which, I fear, will prevent any Act of the Legislature doing us much good.

"Senescit in corde cacoethis."

It appears, on referring to the list, that Mr. Allison is a member of the Council of the Institute which he supports. I do not therefore blame him for sticking to "leather," but I cannot think any unprejudiced person can call my letter "*abusive*." I certainly reproached the conduct of the members of the Council, for they are like the dog in the manger. His "*leather*" and letter forcibly contradict the old proverb

"Raro in tenui facundia panno."

Those who have read much of medical biography know, that a large proportion of the late and present race of eminent physicians, were, originally, general practitioners; for instance, Jenner, Harvey, Smellie, Cullen, Brown, William Hunter, Mason Good, Johnson, Abercrombie, Wardrop, Pareira, A. T. Thompson, Babington, Clutterbuck, &c., &c. For the attainments of such physicians I have the highest regard, knowing that they have well earned the little honour which their title gives them. But I have no common fellowship with those physicians who wish to keep in ignorance the great body of general practitioners.

I regret I have not the honour of the personal acquaintance of Mr. Allison, because he would have known that my chief aim in medical reform is,—*first*, to ascertain that every person, before entering the profession, shall have received a very liberal education; *secondly*, after having studied regularly a sufficient length of time, to compel the candidate to pass through a most searching and practical examination as to his fitness to practise; *thirdly*, that he shall afterwards be sufficiently protected, not only from the interference of ignorant quacks, but from the opprobrium, ignominy, and insult too often unmeritedly directed against some of the most deserving and enlightened of our brethren, by persons under the control of Government; and *fourthly*, that by these means, we may be enabled to take and keep our proper rank in society. From these persons, after ten years practice, and another practical examination, I would select our future consulting physicians and surgeons.

Perhaps the most charitable mode of interpreting Mr. Allison's letter may be, that seeing the declining state of the Institute, he is acting on the old maxim

"Audacia magna superest malae causae."

I have the honour to remain, Sir,

In great haste, your faithful Servant,

E. J. SHEARMAN.

Rotherham, June 17th, 1847.

Medical Intelligence.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, BIRMINGHAM.

A meeting of the Council of Queen's College was held on Saturday last, the Rev. and Worshipful Chancellor James Thomas Law, Vice-principal, in the chair. The new Charter of Incorporation was submitted to

the members by William Sands Cox, Esq., the Dean of the Faculty, and warmly received.

Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to confer on the College most extensive privileges.

Full powers have been given to "the Principal and Council to embrace in their system of education, Laws, Literature, Science and the Arts."

Also to be able and capable in law to take, purchase, and hold for the use of the Queen's College and the Queen's College Hospital, any goods, chattles, or personal property whatsoever, and also to be able and capable in law, notwithstanding the statutes of mortmain, to take, purchase, and hold to them and their successors, not only all such lands, buildings, hereditaments, and possessions as may be from time to time exclusively used for the sites and immediate purposes of the College and Hospital respectively, but also for the use and maintenance of the College, any other lands, tenements, and hereditaments, and possessions whatsoever, not exceeding the annual value of £2,500, and also for the use and maintenance of the Hospital, any other lands, tenements, and hereditaments, and possessions whatsoever, not exceeding the annual value of £2,500.

Also to have power to accept on behalf of the College or Hospital, gifts and endowments for promoting particular objects of education or otherwise, in aid of the general purposes of the College or Hospital, on such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon for the purpose, between the said College and the person bestowing such gifts and endowments.

With respect to the mode of electing the Professors it provides—"that whenever a vacancy shall occur in any Professorship, the names of the Candidates shall in the first instance be referred by the Council to the Professors, who shall make a special report to the Council of the names of such Candidates, as in their judgment shall be qualified and eligible, professionally and otherwise, to fill the vacant Professorship, and that the Council shall then recommend to the Governors from the Candidates included in such report, one whom they think best qualified to fill the vacant Professorship."

It also provides—"that whenever in the opinion of the Council any Professor ought to be removed by reason of neglect of duty, incapacity from permanent illness, infirmity, or other sufficient cause, a report to that effect shall be laid by the Council before a special meeting of the Governors, to be called for that purpose, two thirds of whom shall have power to remove such Professor, the votes of such meeting to be taken by ballot."

It also enables the Council to confer on its distinguished students an honorary distinction. The Council shall have power from time to time to elect such members of the College holding a diploma in Medicine or Surgery, or being graduates in medicine, law, or arts, or such members of the "late Birmingham Royal School of Medicine and Surgery," as the Council may by their bye-laws determine to be "Fellows of Queen's College, at Birmingham," with power to vote at all special and general meetings of the Governors, and with such powers and privileges as may be determined upon from time to time by the Council.

It also provides "that all fees from students for attendance upon the Medical and Surgical practice of the Queen's Hospital, shall be paid to the Treasurers

of the College, for the use and purposes of the Hospital; provided nevertheless, that it shall be lawful for the Council of the College from time to time to pay over such proportion of the fees as they shall think fit to such Medical and Surgical officers as are engaged in the actual duties of Professors of the College, and of Medical and Surgical Officers of the Hospital."

A sub committee consisting of the Rev. Chancellor Law, Dr. Eccles, Dr. Birt Davies, and William Sands Cox, Esq., was appointed to draw up a dutiful and loyal address, praying her Majesty to be pleased to accept the most respectful and grateful acknowledgments of the College, for her Majesty's great kindness in granting to the College such important privileges, to be presented at an adjourned meeting to be held on the 28th instant.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Charles W. Bell, Esq., M.D., K.L.S., a nephew of the late Sir Charles Bell, and formerly attached to the British Embassy at the Court of Persia, has been elected one of the physicians to the Manchester Royal Infirmary, in the room of Dr. Satterthwaite, resigned.

Dr. George Dixon Hedley has been elected one of the Physicians to the Bedford General Infirmary, in the room of Dr. Mesham, deceased.

M. Laugier, Surgeon to the Hôpital Beaujon, Paris, has been appointed Surgeon to the Hôpital de la Pitié, in the room of M. Lisfranc, deceased.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

Gentlemen admitted Members on Friday, July 2, 1847:—J. O'Brien; J. Day; H. J. Rice; T. Park; F. Mason; C. D. R. Symons; G. A. H. Hepworth; M. Thomas; W. E. Hamby; W. Mott; A. Blyth; W. G. Cort; H. Crisp; E. W. Lowe; J. P. Badley.

Gentlemen admitted Members on Friday, July 9, 1847:—H. P. Harris; L. Truefitt; J. Tudor; J. Rogers; J. Farmer; J. Burgan; H. F. Barnett; J. Fayrer.

At a meeting of the Fellows of the College, held on the 1st instant, the President, William Lawrence, Esq., in the chair, Mr. Edward Cutler, Mr. Charles Aston Key, and Mr. Caesar Henry Hawkins, were re-elected Members of the Council. Mr. Soden, of Bath, presided at the annual dinner.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES.

Gentlemen admitted Licentiates, Thursday, June 17th:—John Richardson, Hindon; Edward Lund, Faversham; Charles Palmer, Liverpool; C. Warren Price, Abergavenny; Jonathan Wybrants, Shepton Mallett; William Davies, Merthyr; Joseph W. Raleigh Baxter, England.

Thursday, June 24th:—Herman H. Tribe, Chatham; John Riggs Miller Lewis; George Augustus Jeffery, London; William Jones, Anglesey; George Hawkesford, Birmingham; William Crosby, York; Thomas Clayton Mourilyan, Deal; John Dickson, Ebrington; John Griffiths Doidge, Cornwall; C. Broughton, Mundham, Loddon; John Taylor Rowland, Mytton.

Thursday, July 1st:—James Henry Thomas Vaughan Hughes, Nannerch, Flintshire; Joseph White, Nottingham; Thomas Rhodes Armitage, Leeds; Francis William Merry, Shottesham, All Saints.

OBITUARY.

Died, May 20th, at Erzeroum, aged 33, George Joseph Bell, Esq., M.B., K.C.L.S., Radcliffe Travelling Fellow of Oxford, and Physician to her Majesty's Mission in Persia. Dr. Bell was a son of the late Professor George Joseph Bell, of Edinburgh.

June 28th, in Welclose Square, of acute laryngitis, aged 38, Edwin John Quekett, Esq., F.L.S., surgeon to the Tower Hamlets Dispensary. Mr. Quekett was a member of the Council of the Linnæan Society, and well known as a contributor to the Transactions of that Society, and as a supporter of the Microscopical Society, of which he was one of the founders.

June 28th, at Bath, Charles C. Langworthy, M.D., one of the oldest practitioners of that city.

July 3rd, aged 76, M. Pariset, the Secretary to the Academie de Médecine, Paris.

July 4th, at Camden Town, aged 47, Joseph Curtis, Esq., Surgeon.

July 5th, at Paris, aged 44, M. Casimir Broussais.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

On Pulmonary Consumption; and on Bronchial and Laryngeal Disease, &c. By Sir Charles Scudamore, M.D., F.R.S., of the Royal College of Physicians, &c. &c. London: Churchill. 1847. 8vo. pp. 259.

On the Pathology and Treatment of Dysentery; being the Galstonian Lectures delivered at the College of Physicians, in February, 1847. By William Baly, M.D., Physician to the Milbank Prison, &c. (From the London Medical Gazette.) 8vo. pp. 33.

Anecdota Sydenhamiana: Medical Notes and Observation of Thomas Sydenham, M.D. Second Edition. Oxford: Parker. 1847. 16mo. pp. 56.

On the Duties of Physicians, resulting from their Profession. By the late Rev. Thomas Gisborne, M.A. Oxford: Parker. 1847. 8vo. 16mo. pp. 56.

The Half-Yearly Abstract of the Medical Sciences. Edited by W. H. Ranking, M.D., Cantab., late Physician to the Suffolk General Hospital. Vol. V. January—June, 1847. London: Churchill. 1847. pp. 413.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNALS FOR MAY, 1847.

Kept at Sidmouth, by W. H. CULLEN, M.D.; at Honiton, by Mr. ROGERS; at Romsey, Hants by F. BUCKELL, Esq., Surgeon; at Uckfield Sussex, by C. L. PRINCE, Esq.; and at Harrogate, by G. KENNION, M.D.

		SIDMOUTH.	HONITON.	ROMSEY.	UCKFIELD.	HARROGATE.
External Thermometer.	Mean at 9 a.m. - -	52.98	53.87	58.09	.	54.80
	„ at 9 p.m. - -	51.38	8p.m. 51.67	52.32	.	50.76
	„ of the Maxima - -	60.01	61.27	64.70	69.35	.
	„ of the Minima - -	46.34	45.45	45.75	45.57	.
	Absolute Mean - -	53.25	55.26	55.23	56.96	52.78
	Mean of 10 preceding years	53.98
	Extreme highest - -	24th 68.00	27th 73.00	28th 81.50	28th 87.00	29th 70.00
	„ lowest - -	4th 38.50	4th 35.00	1st 34.00	1st 29.00	2nd 38.00
	„ range - -	29.50	38.00	47.50	58.00	22.00
	Mean daily range - -	13.21	15.80	18.97	24.12	.
	Greatest ditto - -	21st 21.00	.	27th 37.50	.	.
	Least ditto - -	8-9th 5.00	.	8th 7.50	.	.
	Maximum in the Sun - -	.	:	.	28th 98.00	.
	Minimum on the Grass - -	.	.	.	1st 27.00	.
Barometer.	Mean at 9 a.m. - -	30.057	30.02	29.294	.	29.69
	„ 9 p.m. - -	30.077	8p.m. 30.04	9p.m. 29.277	.	29.658
	Extreme highest - -	31st 30.700	31st 30.80	31st 29.790	31st 30.46	31st 30.34
	„ lowest - -	8th 29.550	8th 28.82	8th 28.790.	8th 29.20	29.15
	„ range - -	1.150	1.98	1.000	1.26	1.19
Dew Point.	Mean at 9 a.m. - -	46.70	.	49.142	50.87	.
	„ 9 p.m. - -	45.40	.	49.563	.	.
	Days fine - - -	15	15	13	.	19
	„ dull and variable	2
	„ on which any rain fell	15	16	18	.	12
	Quantity of rain in inches	2.91	.	2.580	1.63	.
	Evaporation - - -	.	.	3.015	3.27	.
	Thunder and lightning - -	.	.	15th & 18th	.	.
	Prevailing Winds - -	S. SE.	SW. SE.	SW. SE.	SW.	SW. SE.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from Dr. R. H. Powell; Mr. Prince; Dr. Payne; Mr. Nunneley; Mr. J. Staines; Mr. H. L. Smith.