closed, observe carefully the appearance of the eye, the pupil of which will be found, in most cases, after about a minute's inhalation, to be considerably dilated; after eight or ten more inhalations the pupil will remain stationary and fixed for a period, varying from two to three seconds; it will then turn towards the upper eye-lid. This motion will be repeated several times. If the vapear be continued the pupil will be observed to turn under the eye-lid and remain fixed; three or four inhalations more and the operator can commence.

"In operations which are protracted and require any length of time, cut off the vapour by means of the stop-cock attached to the apparatus; permit the patient to breath the atmosphere through the nose five or six times; again let on the vapour, breathing alternately atmospheric air and the vapour of ether, at intervals of half a minute, until within two or three minutes of the completion of the operation, when the pipe, &c., can be removed with perfect safety."

7, Gower Street.

J. ROBINSON.

INHALATION OF ÆTHER IN SURGICAL OPERATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

Sir,

The Lancet of January 9th, page 49, publishes a communication from a physician, reinforced by an opinion upon a supposed case, given by a Queen's Counsel, tending to diminish the value of the patent for the Letheon. Will you do me the favour to give publicity to the following answer to that communication ?

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant, JAMES A. DORR. London, 18, Duke Street, St. James's, Jannary 11, 1847.

Reply to the opinion of Queen's Council, published in the Lancet, January 9th, page 49.

lst. No counsel can give a client valuable, or even sa/e, advice, as to danger of infringement, who has not read the specification, and does not know the claim of the patent. The patent for the Letheon has been duly sealed, but the specification is not yet made public.

2nd. So far as the general principles of law enunciated go, they confirm the views of the patentees.

JAMES A. DORR.

[We question much, notwithstanding Mr. Dorr's letter, whether such a patent can be sustained, and certainly it ought not to be so. Any particular form of apparatus may without doubt, be made the property of the inventor; but the attempt to place restrictions on the mode of using a known medical agent by qualified medical practitioners, is as absurd, as its success would be mischievous.—ED.]

Medical Intelligence.

OPERATIONS PERFORMED UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ÆTHER.

The following successful operations, performed under the influence of the inhalation of the vapour of sulphuric æther, have been reported since our last number:-

At Guy's Hospital, by Mr. Morgan, lithotomy, on a country lad; by Mr. Key, on a man aged 26, for strangulated scrotal hernia, with removal of a large mass of thickened omentum.

At King's College Hospital, by Mr. Fergusson, for phymosis, on a man aged 43; for abscess and fistula in ano, in a delicate female aged 26; passing a catheter through a tight stricture in the bulbous part of the urethra, in a man aged 32; removal of warts from the glans and prepuce, in a man aged 21.

At St. Thomas' Hospital, by Mr. Mackmurdo, the removal of a finger, from a child aged 6.

At the London Hospital, by Mr. Adams, amputation of the leg.

At Charing-Cross Hospital, by Mr. Hancock, removal of the nail from both great toes, in a man aged about 34.

At the Westminster Hospital, by Mr. Hale Thomson, removal of condylomatous growths from the labia, in a woman of middle age; for phymosis, in a young man.

At St. Georges's Hospital, by Mr. Johnson, amputation below the knee, in a young man.

At the Queen's Hospital, Birmiugham, by Mr. Knowles, amputation of the leg, in a female.

At the Lynn Hospital, by Mr. Cotton, removal of cataract, in a female, and in augold man; of a cancerous tumour of the lip, in an old man.

Operations have also been successfully performed by Dr. Brett, (extraction of a cataract; ptosis;) by Mr. Lawrence, (removal of a tumour from the orbit;) by Mr. Partridge, of Birmingham, (strangulated hernia;) by Mr. Parker, of Liverpool, (for strabismus;) by Dr. J. C: Hall, of East-Retford, (removal of a tumour;) by Mr. Rudkin, of Derby, (removal of a sequestrum of diseased bone from the leg;) &c., &c.

Mr. R. Lucas, a veterinar urgeon at Liverpool, has also performed an operation on a Newfoundland dog under the influence of æther vapour; the animal did not evince the slightest sign of suffering.

CAUSE OF DEATH IN STILL-BORN INFANTS.

Dr. King, of Sackville Street, has just submitted to the Medico-Chirurgical Society, an Essay "On the cause of Death of Infants Pretermaturally Still-born," wherein he insists, that death is not from asphyxia, as hitherto supposed, but from syncope; and proposes an entirely new practice, by which means the still-born nfant will be of comparatively rare occurrence.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

M. Begin has been elected President of the Académie de Médécine, Paris, for the year 1847; M. Bouillaud has been elected Vice-President, and M. Métier, Secretary.

A Medical Lecturer has been appointed at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, to direct and superintend the studies of the Medical Students in the College.

Mr. Paget, Mr. McWhinnie, and Mr. W. Pennington, are candidates for the appointment of Assistant Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, vacant in consequence of the resignation of the office of Surgeon, by Mr. Vincent.

Dr. Robert Lee has resigned the appointment of Physician Accoucheur to the Brownlow Street Lying-in-Hospital; and Mr. South that of Professor of Surgery to the Royal College of Surgeons.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

Gentlemen admitted Members on Friday, January 22nd, 1847:-S. M. C. A. A. Smith; G. Goodlad; J. L. Johnston; E. D. Allinson; T. Bridgwater; A. G. Willington; H. G. Grayling; G. R. Skinner; C. H. Dunhill; J. Hyslop; W. E. Hughes; J. Beecroft; C. W. Wray; W. A. Salmon; W. Weston; W. F. Tomkins; T. H. Tanner.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

AWARD OF THE ROYAL MEDAL IN PHYSIOLOGY, FOR 1845.

The following important requisition for a Special General Meeting has been presented by Mr. Wharton Jones :--

We the undersigned, Fellows of the Royal Society of London for improving natural knowledge, do hereby, in conformity with the Statute, chap. xii., § 2, require a Special General Meeting of the Society to be convened, for the purpose of considering and determining on the legality of the circumstances under which the award of the Royal Medal in Physiology for 1845 was first recommended by the Physiological Committee, and under which it was actually made by the President and Council.

T. WHARTON JONES. W. F. CHAMBERS. JAMES COPLAND. JOHN WEBSTER. ROBERT LEE JAMES CLARK. RICHARD BRIGHT. MARSHALL HALL. JAMES R. MARTIN. ROBERT E. GRANT.

GEORGE GULLIVER.

January 7th, 1847.

OBITUARY.

Died, January 4th, at Andover, aged 82, Philip Henry Poore, M.D.

January 5th, at Edinburgh, J. Henry Davidson, M.D., one of the Physicians in Ordinary to the Queen in Scotland.

January 6th, at Studham, Herts, Thomas Sweeny, Esq., surgeon.

January 10th, äged 35, J. E. Jones, Esq., surgeon, Gravesend, Kent.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL FOR DECEMBER, 1846.

Kept at Sidmouth,

By W. H. Cullen, M.D., Surgeon.

Mean of External Thermometer at 9 A.M.	36.07
••••••	35.75
the Maxima,	41.61
Minima,	30.3 1
Absolute Mean	36.25
of eight preceding years	40.56
Extreme highest on the 20th	50.50
. lowest 14th	22.
••• range •••••••••	28.50 [,]
Mean daily range	11.15
Dewpoint at 9 л.м	31.71
9 р.м	30.61
Mean of Barometer at 9 A.M	30.045 [,]
9 р.м	30.061
Extreme highest on the 30th	30.70 1
lowest on the 23rd	28.85 0
••••range••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	1.851
Number of days fine	18.
••••• dull ••••••	3.
••••• snowy •••••	2.
••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	8.
Quantity of rain in inches	1.404

PREVAILING WINDS.

N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W
20	1	0	1	0 -	1	2	6

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Retrospect of Medicine, &c. Edited by W. Braithwaite, Lecturer on Obstetric Medicine at the Leeds School of Medicine, &c. Vol. XIV. July-December. 1846. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. 1847. pp. 455.

The Microscopic Anatomy of the Human Body, in Health and Disease. By Arthur Hill Hassall, F.L.S., &c. Part VI. London: Highley. 1847. 8vo.

A System of Surgery, by J. M. Chelius, &c. Translated from the German, and accompanied with additional Notes and Observations. By John F. South, Professor of Surgery to the Royal College of Surgeons, and Surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital. Part XV. London: Renshaw. 1846. 8vo.

Ninth Annual Report of the Suffolk Lunatic Asylum. December. 1846. Woodbridge: 1847. 8vo., pp. 29.

A Manual on the Principles and Practice of Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery. By T. Wharton Jones, F.R.S., Lecturer on Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology, at the Charing-Cross Hospital, &c., &c. London: Churchill. 1847. Fcp. 8vo., pp. 570.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from Dr. Cullen; Dr. Hastings; Dr. J. Black; Dr. Barclay; Mr. C. L. Prince; Dr. Addison; Mr. R. Reedall; Liverpool; Dr. A. W. Davis; Dr. Seddome; Dr. Wake; Dr. Durrant; A Sexagenarian; The Birmingham Pathological Society; Mr. J. M. Bryan; Mr. Cotton.

Inquirer must attach his name before his communication can be published. The subject of it is very important and requires a full investigation.