

the other occurred during my temporary absence from home. In the case I saw, the cramps of the extremities and abdominal muscles were so severe, that the individual could not lie still to undergo the necessary friction and applications; and the entire absence of pulse, together with the collapsed condition of the patient, forbade for the moment the smallest hope of recovery. The almost immediate effect of the chloroform was to allay the cramps, to restore the circulation, and, as a consequence, to diffuse general warmth; and without a figure, I may truly assert, the patient was rescued from the very jaws of death. I have no wish to claim for the chloroform more than it deserves; but I think, with a disease confessedly without its antidote, and now at our very doors, it cannot be too extensively known, that in at least two cases in my own practice, and in three others recorded since the publication of Mr. Brady's case, the internal exhibition of chloroform possesses the valuable property of allaying the cramps and vomiting, in spasmodic cholera, and of diffusing general warmth, by restoring the circulation, which is almost a sure precursor of recovery. The *modus operandi* of the remedy is fully and ably treated by Mr. Brady, in his published cases, and to him is due the merit of having first observed its invaluable properties in so formidable a disease.

If you deem the above observations of sufficient interest, I shall be obliged by an early insertion in your Journal.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

THOMAS HEWLETT.

Harrow, October 10, 1848.

### THE TAXIS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

SIR,

In corroboration of the opinion of Mr. Hunt, that "the taxis carefully and patiently applied will generally succeed in reducing a strangulated hernia," I beg to state that in an extensive general practice of forty years, during thirty-three of which I filled the situation of Senior Surgeon to the Bridgwater Infirmary, I have never had occasion to perform the operation but once, and then in a case of congenital hernia. I believe I have met with the average number of cases, and have frequently been called into consultation with others when the operation was considered necessary. The taxis has been so successful that I have rarely had recourse to bleeding, and never to the tobacco glyster. I have often employed the warm bath advantageously, and particularly in one case which I despaired of reducing, and went home (a distance of three miles,) for my instruments, leaving my patient in a warm bath, under the care of my assistant. I was detained by an accident which occurred immediately on my return before my own house, for more than an hour, and when I reached my patient, I found him still in the bath, (full two hours having elapsed since he was placed in it,) nearly parboiled, but not very faint, and on removing him, the hernia was returned with very little trouble.

I remain, Sir, Yours truly,

JONATHAN TOOGOOD.

## Medical Intelligence.

### THE CHOLERA.

The cholera has, within the last few days, made its appearance in this country in several districts. Cases are stated to have occurred at Hull, Sunderland, Edinburgh, Woolwich, and in several parts of the metropolis. It is questionable, however, whether many of the cases which have been reported are genuine instances of the disease.

On the Continent, in Egypt, and in Asia Minor, there is reason to hope that it is generally on the decline. It still, however, rages with intensity in some parts of Syria.

### MEDICAL REFORM.

The new Council of the National Institute of Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, held their first meeting on Wednesday, September 13th. It was very numerously attended, and much satisfaction was expressed at the prospect afforded of an early settlement of the question of Medical Reform, by the general agreement come to at the recent conferences at the College of Physicians, by the delegates from the various medical corporations of Great Britain and Ireland and the National Institute. A report, containing copies of the important documents recently issued by the Conference Committee, has just been published by the Council, which will doubtless be read with much interest by all classes of medical men.

### BURIAL CLUBS.

Mr. Tidd Pratt, in a letter to the *Times* says:—"That, by the late Friendly Society Act, 9 and 10 Victoria, chap. 27, sec. 1, it is expressly provided, 'That no person under the age of six shall be allowed to become a member of a Friendly Society for money payable on death, and that no insurance shall be effected on the life of any child under six years of age.' Any Society, therefore, which effects such an insurance after the 3rd of July, 1846, is acting illegally, and the officers are liable to be indicted; in addition to which the money payable on the death of such child is not recoverable." —*Medical Times*.

### APPOINTMENT.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Thomas Southwood Smith, M.D., to be the Medical Member of the General Board of Health.

### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

Dr. Charles J. B. Williams, has announced his intention of resigning the Professorship of Medicine at this Institution, at the close of the present Course of Lectures.

### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

The Degree of Bachelor of Medicine has been conferred on Henry Gode, Esq., of Pembroke College.

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

The following gentlemen were admitted Licentiates of the Royal College of Physicians, on Saturday, September 30th:—William John Fitton, Upper Harley Street; Charles Bland Radcliffe, Queen Square, Bloomsbury; William Addison, Great Malvern; Alfred Swaine Taylor, F.R.S., Lecturer on Medical Jurisprudence, &c., in Guy's Hospital.

William Slyman, of Newtown, Montgomeryshire, was admitted an Extra-Licentiate of the College on the same day.

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

Gentlemen admitted Members on Friday, October 6th:—J. A. Tapson; J. Laity; J. G. Lymes; J. O. Fletcher; C. E. B. Danson; T. Whitehead; W. Cox; W. Pattison; R. Barnwell.

Messrs. J. Hunter and T. E. Mouldsworth passed their examinations for Naval Surgeons.

### SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES.

Gentlemen admitted Licentiates Thursday, September 14th:—J. Wilmshurst, Reading; Walter Garslang, Clitheroe; James Parker, Aughton, Lancashire; James Thomas Jackson, Ulverstone; William Prowse, Bristol; John Jones Merriman, Kensington; William England, Dudley.

Thursday, September 21st:—Edwin James Hebers, London; Francis David Mudd, Gedding, Suffolk.

Thursday, September 28th:—Richard Thomason, Shiffnall; Henry Hooper; Henry Davies, Holloway; Charles Miles, Charterhouse.

Thursday, October 5th:—William Strong Browne, Camberwell; Matthew Lynch, Liverpool; William Tindall Robertson, Green Hill, Lincolnshire.

### OBITUARY.

Died, September 2nd, at Nevis, in the West Indies, W. T. Nicholson, M.D.

September 16th, at Beckenham, aged 49, William Merrick, Esq., Surgeon.

September 27th, at Chichester, aged 27, Edward Miller, Esq., Surgeon, late of Shanklin, Isle of Wight.

October 2nd, at Rye, aged 46, Francis Henry Wilson, Esq., Surgeon.

October 7th, aged 34, Richard Hicks, Esq., Surgeon, Argyle Square, King's Cross.

October 8th, in Great Surrey Street, Blackfriars, aged 84, Robert Mayhew Thompson, Esq., late Surgeon to the 14th Light Dragoons.

### BOOKS RECEIVED.

On the Signification of Fact in Medicine, &c. By William Seller, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., one of the Extraordinary Physicians to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, &c. (From the *Edin. Med. and Surg. Journal*, No. 177.) 8vo. pp. 20.

St. Luke's Hospital for Lunatics. Statistical Tables for 1847.

State of an Institution near York, called the Retreat, for Persons afflicted with Disorders of the Mind. Fifty Second Report. York: 1848. pp. 32.

On the Seat of Headache in the Sympathetic Nerve, &c. By William Seller, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., Extraordinary Physician to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, &c. (From the *Monthly Journal of Medical Science*, September, 1848.) 8vo. pp. 12.

Hints on the Probable Approach of Cholera. By T. M. Greenhow, F.R.C.S.E., Senior Surgeon to the Newcastle Infirmary. Newcastle: Charnley. 1848. 8vo. pp. 14.

Observations on Hospital Gangrene, &c. By John Boggie, M.D., Surgeon to Her Majesty's Forces. Edinburgh: Sutherland and Knox. London: Highley. 1848. 8vo. pp. 151.

Anæsthetic Midwifery; Report on its Early History and Progress. By J. Y. Simpson, M.D., Professor of Midwifery in the University of Edinburgh. Edinburgh: Sutherland and Knox. 1848. 8vo. pp. 51.

The Periodoscope: with its Application to Obstetric Calculations, and the Periodicities of the Sex. By W. Tyler Smith, M.B., Lond., Obstetric Lecturer in the Hunterian School of Medicine. London: Churchill. 1848. 8vo. pp. 47.

Lectures on the Diseases of Infancy and Childhood. By Charles West, M.D., Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Senior Physician to the Royal Infirmary for Children, &c. &c. London: Longman and Co. 1848. 8vo. pp. 488.

A Treatise on the Advantages and Necessity of Frequent Bathing. Wolverhampton: Price and Williams. London: Simpkin and Marshall. 1848. 8vo. pp. 40.

Guy's Hospital Reports, Second Series, Vol. VI. Part I. October, 1848. London: Highley. 8vo. pp. 200. Plates.

The Students' Clinical Memorandum Book, or Medical Practitioners' Remembrancer and Vade-mecum. London: Highley. Oblong-8vo.

### PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION.

#### VOLUME OF TRANSACTIONS: NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

The First Part of the Sixteenth Volume of the Transactions of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association is now ready for distribution to the Members. Gentlemen who have not yet paid their subscriptions for the current year, or who are otherwise in arrear, are requested to bear in mind that the "Transactions" can only be sent to those Members whose subscriptions are paid up.

ROBERT J. N. STREETEN, Secretary.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from Dr. Oke; Mr. Cowan; Dr. Collins; Mr. E. T. Roe; Mr. Bartrum; Mr. Hewlett; Dr. Toogood; Mr. H. Stubbs.

Dr. Wardell's request shall be attended to.