

If you think proper to insert this communication in the *Journal*, it may, perhaps, meet the eyes of some one who may have been more successful in the treatment of these cases than myself, and elicit observations through the same medium, which may prove the means of lessening human suffering.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

FREDERICK FRANCIS GIRAUD.

Faversham, Kent, November 21, 1849.

### ON THE PROPRIETY OF PETITIONING FOR AN ALTERATION IN THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF MEDICAL RELIEF.

*To the Editor of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal.*

SIR,—As the beginning of the Parliamentary Session is near at hand, I would call the attention of the Poor-Law Medical Officers to the wish of the Convention, which has been already expressed, namely, that each medical officer to a district should obtain the signatures of the respectable inhabitants of his neighbourhood, to one or more petitions requesting certain alterations in the present system of medical relief. If each will exert himself to obtain these, and have them presented by the local members of Parliament, at the same time drawing the attention of the representatives to the proposed requests, I have no doubt but that these gentlemen would see the justice and the necessity of endeavouring to obtain them. I have now several petitions in the course of signature, and I have found no objection on the part of the public to sign them. If each would assist in the good work, there is little doubt but that our *status*, as well as our income, would be greatly improved.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE FREDERIC WILLS.

Crewkerne, November 16, 1849.

### ON THE PROPOSED NEW CHARTER OF THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

*To the Editor of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal.*

SIR,—I have been an attentive reader of our *Journal* since its commencement; I have observed with pleasure the improvement which has year by year marked its onward course; I have gleaned many useful hints, and have obtained much information, from the lectures, the letters, and the critiques which its pages have contained. I must, however, *en passant*, take shame to myself that I have never contributed even a solitary case, but it is not too late to reform, and as I have now put pen to paper, the *cacoethes scribendi* may take hold of me, and I may, possibly, become a troublesome, if not an instructive contributor. I have not been able to resist the desire of expressing the very great pleasure I ex-

perienced on reading the brief announcement in your last number, that the Council of the College of Surgeons had decided, by a large majority, to take measures to repair the monstrous injustice which their Charter of 1843 had inflicted on the great body of its members. I have never ceased, in public and in private, to denounce that Act in the terms which it deserved. It can do no good to repeat the tale which your pages have so often told: it is, alas! but too familiar to every M.R.C.S. Let us, one and all, exult in the knowledge that justice is at length, (late though it be,) to be granted to us.

Proud shall I be, for one, to write Fellow to my name, when that honour is accorded to me as a right of membership of I care not how many years' standing. I cannot help expressing the opinion, that many of our esteemed members would have better consulted the dignity of the College, and have better maintained their own self-respect, if they had shown less eagerness to obtain the Fellowship through the portal of an examination, which could not be difficult, and which, in fact, every member had once submitted to, to place himself on a level, in point of standing, with the heads of the profession. There can be no doubt that this rushing up to the examination has been foremost amongst the means of perpetuating our degradation for six long years.

The Council of our Association must now be prompt and energetic in assisting, by all the means within their power, this remodelling of the Charter of the College of Surgeons of England.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

THOS. FAWSITT.

Oldham, November 21, 1849.

## Medical Intelligence.

### DEATH FROM CHLOROFORM.

An inquest was held on Wednesday last, at the Crown Inn, Pride Hill, Shrewsbury, before G. Gordon, Esq., coroner, and a respectable jury, on the body of Mrs. Jones. The deceased was a patient of W. J. Clement, Esq., surgeon, of Shrewsbury.

Mr. Clement deposed that the deceased was a patient of his, and that she came to town on the Saturday previously, from the neighbourhood of the Craven Arms, to undergo the operation of the removal of the eye-ball, which was degenerated; he saw her on Tuesday, and Wednesday morning was fixed upon for the operation. About one o'clock on that day Mr. Clement commenced the operation. There were present Mr. Heathcote, surgeon, Mr. Clement's two pupils, and Miss Wilson, the landlady with whom the deceased lodged. He administered chloroform to the deceased, the operation being exceedingly painful; she was fully aware of the effect of chloroform. He gave her but a small dose to commence with, imbibed from a sponge, and then commenced the operation. Finding that did not make her insensible, about a drachm more was poured on the sponge, which she inhaled again for a few seconds. He then went on with the operation, and shortly afterwards

heard a peculiar sound, which he could not describe, and she died in a moment; all the attempts to rouse her proved ineffectual. She spoke in Welsh before she died, but so quickly that he did not know what she said; he had no doubt that she died from the effects of the chloroform, which produced apoplexy. He had given patients three times the quantity that was administered to the deceased.

Mr. J. N. Heathcote deposed that he was present on the death of the deceased, assisting in the operation, and that the evidence of Mr. Clement was correct; he added that he mentioned to the deceased that the chloroform would ease her from her pain, and she was quite willing to take it; he was holding her when she died; she died quite suddenly, and without a struggle—as quick as if killed by prussic acid.

The jury returned a verdict of “Died of apoplexy, caused by inhaling one drachm of chloroform.”—*Eddowes's Shrewsbury Journal*.

### CHOLERA IN AMERICA.

The cholera has again made its appearance on the Mississippi river. Two steamers, both from New Orleans, had arrived at St. Louis with immigrants; on board one of these vessels there were thirty cases, seventeen of which proved fatal before arrival at that city.

### HARVEIAN SOCIETY.

At the last meeting of the members of this Society, the following appointments were made for the ensuing year:—*Presidents*: Dr. Ridge, 37, Cavendish Square; George James Squibb, Esq., 6, Orchard Street, Portman Square.—*Treasurer*: Dr. Stroud, 20, Great Coram Street.—*Honorary Secretary*: Dr. Powell, 21, Edward Street, Portman Square.

### CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

This disease, which has been reigning epidemically among the garrisons of some French towns, has made terrible havoc at Logrono and Ribafrecha, in Spain. In the latter place full one-tenth of a population of 300 souls were attacked, and twenty-two died. The natives call the affection *clavo* or *sarmiento*.

### MUNIFICENT BEQUEST.

The late Mr. Lewis Morris Cuthbert, of Lyon Terrace, Maida Hill, has bequeathed £3,000 to the Hospital for Consumption at Brompton, £1,000 to the Royal Free Hospital, £500 to University College Hospital, and £100 to the Western General Dispensary.

### APPOINTMENTS.

Dr. Corbett, Assistant-Surgeon to the *Centaur*, appointed to the *Snap Tender*; Mr. Walling, to be Assistant-Surgeon to the *Photo*; Howard R. Banks, Esq., to be Surgeon to the *Terrible* steam frigate; Dr. Gibson, to be Surgeon-Superintendent of the *Neptune*, convict ship; Assistant-Surgeon King, to be Surgeon

to the *Euridice*, *vice* Gibson, appointed to the *Neptune*; Assistant-Surgeon Elliott to be Surgeon to the *Castor*, *vice* Dr. Munro, deceased.

We have much pleasure in stating that the Secretary of State has appointed Mr. R. L. Hooper, of London Road, Southwark, to be Surgeon to the Queen's Prison, vacant by the lamented death of Mr. Thomas Morton, notwithstanding the great interest made by numerous candidates of high professional reputation. This must be considered an act of justice rendered to a gentleman who has performed nearly all the medical duties of the prison for the last twenty years, and, at the same time, reflects much credit upon Sir George Grey for his impartiality and discrimination. The office of assistant-surgeon to the prison (held so long by Mr. Hooper) has been abolished.

### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

#### M.B. SECOND EXAMINATION.—1849.

*First Division*.—Thomas Rhodes Armitage, King's College; William Ayre, London Hospital; Edward Enfield Barron, Guy's Hospital; Cornelius Black, Edinburgh School of Medicine; William Henry Colborne, University College; Joseph Drew, Royal Manchester School of Medicine; Samuel Weston Devenish, Guy's Hospital; James Morris, University College; Samuel James Augustus Salter, King's College; Sherard Freeman Statham, University College; Edmund Whitaker, University College.

*Second Division*.—Robert Trout Hawley Bartley, Bristol Medical School; Soorjocomar G. Chuckerbutty, University College.

#### EXAMINATION FOR HONOURS.

*Physiology and Comparative Anatomy*.—Cornelius Black, (Scholarship and Gold Medal) Edinburgh School of Medicine; James Morris, (Gold Medal) University College. William Ayre, London Hospital, and William Henry Colborne, University College, equal.

*Surgery*.—Joseph Drew, (Gold Medal) Royal Manchester School of Medicine; James Morris, University College, equal. Cornelius Black, (Gold Medal) Edinburgh School of Medicine.

*Medicine*.—S. F. Statham, (Gold Medal) University College; Cornelius Black, (Gold Medal) Edinburgh School of Medicine; Thomas Rhodes Armitage, King's College; William Hare, London Hospital; Joseph Drew, Royal Manchester School of Medicine; James Morris, University College.

*Midwifery*.—Thos. Rhodes Armitage, King's College; Cornelius Black, Edinburgh School of Medicine.

#### M.D. EXAMINATION.—1849.

*First Division*.—Thomas Snow Beck, University College; Soorjocomar G. Chuckerbutty, University College; John Owen Evans, University College; H. Fred. Augustus Goodridge, University College; Robert Dawson Harling, University College; Thos. Hawksley, King's College; Frederick John Hensley, King's College; Jabez Spence Ramskill, Guy's Hospital.

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

Gentlemen admitted Members on Friday, November 23rd, 1849:—Franklin Geo. Evans, Cardiff, Glamorgan-shire; James Newham, Lynn Regis, Norfolk; Henry Parker, Sheffield; William Robert Stewart, Hackney; Henry Herve Woolhouse, Army; John Weekes, Tavistock, Devon; Samuel Whitlow, Lower Whitley, Cheshire.

### SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES.

Gentlemen admitted Members on Thursday, November 22nd, 1849:—William Spence Brown, Strood, Kent; Fortescue John Morgan, Henley-on-Thames; James Rigby, Stockport, Cheshire; James Mozley Stark, Gainsborough; James William Henry Veitch, Portsmouth.

Gentlemen admitted Members on Thursday, Nov. 29th, 1849:—George Edwin Gains; Edward Humphrey Paget, Leicester; Samuel Reynolds, Debach.

### OBITUARY.

November 22nd, at Sydenham, Kent, Wm. Roberts, Esq., Surgeon, late of the 1st Royals, aged 71.

November 25th, at Weymouth, Dr. Cardew, late Physician to the Bath General and United Hospitals, and of Laura Place in that city. Dr. Cardew was a member of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association.

December 2nd, at No. 12, Grove, Hackney, Mr. Edmund Sheffield, Surgeon, aged 71.

December 3rd, at Burwood Place, Hyde Park, Louis Truefitt, Esq., Surgeon.

Lately, at Runcorn, Mr. Thomas Case, Surgeon.—At Blackburn, Mr. John Spencer Birch, Surgeon.—At the Cape, Dr. Deas, Surgeon-Superintendent of the *Neptune*, convict ship, and Dr. Munro, Surgeon of the *Castor*.—At Brompton Crescent, Thomas Gunning, Esq., Inspector-General Army Medical Department, aged 74.—At Longfleet, near Poole, Dorset, Robert Carruthers, M.D., Royal Navy.

### BOOKS RECEIVED FOR REVIEW.

Medical Report of the Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, presented to the Committee of Management, by the Physicians of the Institution. London: Churchill. 1849. pp. 42.

On Tic Doloieux and other Painful Affections of the Nerves, with Suggestions for their Treatment by the Aneuralgicon. By Toogood Downing, M.D., &c. Churchill. 1849. pp. 73.

The American Journal of Dental Science—April.

The Medical Examiner and Record of Medical Science—May, June, July, and August.

The New York Journal of Medicine—September.

Letters to the Lord Advocate of Scotland on Medical Reform. By James Syme, F.R.S.E. Edinburgh: Sutherland and Knox. London: J. Highley. Pamphlet. 1849.

The Account of a Remarkable and Highly Interesting Case of Uterine Hydatids. By J. G. Davey, M.D. Colombo. 1849. Pamphlet.

Monthly Journal and Retrospect of the Medical Sciences, December, 1849.

On Stricture of the Urethra and Fistula in Perineo. By James Syme, F.R.S.E. Edinburgh: Sutherland and Knox. London: S. Highley. 8vo, pp. 72. 1849.

### PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION.

#### NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

The Secretary presents his compliments to those members of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association whose Subscriptions remain in Arrear, and begs respectfully to call their attention to the following Law, which was passed unanimously at the Anniversary Meeting, held at Bath, in 1848:—

"If any Member's Subscription remain unpaid twelve months after it shall have become due, the *Medical Journal* and other publications of the Society shall be withheld from such Member till his arrears be paid."

He earnestly entreats all those gentlemen whose subscriptions are now in arrear, that they will cause them to be paid, either to himself, or to the Treasurer, Dr. Hastings, without further delay.

JAMES P. SHEPPARD,  
Secretary to the Association.

### ERRATA.

At page 645, first column, for "invalidates the fact" read "invalidates that fact."

At page 645, second column, for "Dean" read "Dease."

At page 646, first column, insert "in" before Charter-house Square.

At page 646, for "being any possible form" read "being all possible forms."

At page 646, second column, for "now more decarbonized" read "now once more decarbonized."

At page 647, second column, for "such an irritating medicine" read "such unirritating medicines."

At page 648, first column, for "which proves destruction" read "which proves destructive."

At page 648, second column, for "sleep after the injury" read "sleep off the injury."

At page 649, first column, for "reparation" read "separation."

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from Mr. Jennings, Dr. May, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Knowles, Mr. Ross, and Dr. Davis.

It is requested that all letters and communications be sent to J. H. Walsh, Esq., Foregate Street, Worcester. Parcels and books for review may be addressed to the care of Mr. Churchill, Princes Street, Soho.