

CASES OF PROJECTING COCCYX.

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

SIR,—I am somewhat interested by the account in your last *Journal* of a case of "projecting coccyx."

In February, 1845, I attended a case which very much resembled the one quoted. The woman had previously had many children, (I had attended her seven times myself,) and had always had particularly easy labours; but on this occasion I felt the os coccygis projecting far forward. The labour went on with the usual rapidity until the head came in contact with this unusually prominent bone, when I found that it could advance no further. The pains speedily became very severe, but without any effect. I tried in vain to force back the obstruction with my fingers, and at the end of an hour I was beginning to wonder what I should do, for I thought that, if I applied the forceps I should only be making the head of the child overcome a resistance which would be better overcome by other means, when I heard a loud snap; the bone had broken, and the head was expelled at once. The child was uninjured, but the head was indented.

I have attended the woman twice since, viz., in 1846 and 1847. On the former of these two occasions precisely the same condition prevailed, with the same result, though after fewer pains. On the last occasion there was very little trouble; the head was arrested for a short time, but the bone yielded without breaking; at any rate I heard no snap.

I fancy it would be difficult to imagine the causes which could have led to so unusual a condition of the bony parts of the pelvis, after so many easy and natural labours. The os coccygis must have been ankylosed to the sacrum in its unfavourable position. An absurd idea may suggest itself that my patient had sustained many a *kick* behind, but on inquiry I could not learn that any kind of injury had ever been inflicted.

I am, Sir, your most obedient Servant,

R. U. WEST.

Alford, Lincolnshire, Sept. 6, 1850.

Medical Intelligence.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, BIRMINGHAM.

The annual meeting was held on Wednesday, Aug. 28th. We extract from the report of the Council the following particulars:—"At the commencement of the ensuing winter session, twenty-five years exactly will have elapsed since Mr. Sands Cox, the founder of the Institution, first collected a body of medical students for systematical professional instruction. The magnificent support received from Dr. Warneford will always form a brilliant feature in the history of the College. It falls to the present report to record his donation of £1000 towards the stipend of the warden, which, being invested on the same principle as his former enlarged liberality, produces for that object £40 per annum. The Council express their gratitude to the Vice-Principal, Mr. Chancellor Law, for his large and costly donation of books to the College Library. During the present year, Mr. P. H. Bird, who quitted the College in the year 1847, has obtained the Jacksonian prize, awarded

by the College of Surgeons, for his "Essay on the Nature and Treatment of Erysipelas." The number of resident students in the College in Paradise Street has been greater during the present than any former year. The number of out-students is also satisfactory.

THE ASSISTANT-SURGEONS.

We have heard from good authority that it is the intention of the assistant-surgeons of the Royal Navy to present Dr. F. J. Brown, the talented and most able advocate of their class and cause, with a piece of plate, as some token of estimation and appreciation of his good services in their behalf. Dr. Brown was an assistant-surgeon of Her Majesty's ship *Howe*, where he was most highly respected by every one; but finding himself, as a doctor of medicine, in a false and degrading position, without hope of immediate relief, threw up his appointment, sacrificed his prospects in the navy, and devoted himself to the task of working out the emancipation of his late brother officers.—*United Service Gazette*.

CORONERS' COURTS.

The Middlesex Magistrates have a resolution under consideration to the following effect:—"That this court is of opinion, that measures should be taken for the substitution of a fixed salary in lieu of fees to the coroner, and for the appointing of a medical officer to the coroner's court, at a fixed salary, for the purposes of *post-mortem* examinations."

SIR B. BRODIE.

The Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland entertained Sir B. Brodie at dinner on Friday week; and presented him with a complete set of instruments for the treatment of aneurism by compression.

THE CHOLERA.

The Austrian papers state that cholera has been very bad in parts of that country. In constructing a railroad across the Semmering mountain an immense number of people were employed, but the Government had to discontinue the works. The *Times* states, *pulv. ipecac.* co. proved an excellent remedy.—The last accounts from Malta of the progress of cholera represent the epidemic as somewhat abating, but still many cases were fatal. Loud complaints were made of quarantine regulations recently imposed.

APPOINTMENTS.

Dr. Roser, formerly lecturer at the University of Tubingen, has been appointed Professor of Surgery at Marburg.

Dr. Wunderlich, Professor of the Medical Clinic at Tubingen, has succeeded Professor Oppolzer, at Leipzig.

Professor Griesinger, formerly in Kiel, has been appointed Director of the Medical Clinic in Cairo, and Surgeon to the Viceroy.

UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREW'S.

Last of Gentlemen who had the Degree of M.D. conferred upon them on the 3rd of August, 1850.

William David Adams, M.R.C.S., Edin., Edinburgh; John M. Bellendon, L.A.C., Eng., and M. Facul. Phys. and Surg., Glasgow, Staffordshire; G. Phillips Bevan, Breconshire, South Wales; Walter Thompson

Boddy, M.R.C.S., Eng., London; John Young Bown, M.R.C.S., Ed., Canada; John Campbell, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.A.C., Lisburn, Co. Antrim, Ireland; Richard Chapman, M.R.C.S., Eng., Yorkshire; Thomas Clarke, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.A.C., Bradford, Yorkshire; Wm. Simpson Craig, M.R.C.S., Ed., Edinburgh; John Thomas Dolman, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.A.C., York; William Dean Fairless, M.R.C.S., Eng., Hoxham, Northumberland; Richard Forde Foote, M.R.C.S., Eng., Faversham, Kent; Joseph Wilcox Haddock, D.A.C., Bolton Le Moors, Lancashire; Joseph Hewitt, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.A.C., Ipswich, Suffolk; Thomas Coke Higgs, L.A.C., St. George's, Bermuda, West Indies; James Harvey Lilies, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.A.C., Wisbeach, Cambridgeshire; Andrew Lorimer, Dumfriesshire; John Lyell, M.R.C.S., Ed., Newburgh, Fife; Henry Made, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.A.C., Clovelley, Devon; Robert Slater Mair, M.R.C.S., Ed., Renfrewshire; Charles Robbins Maxwell, M.R.C.S., Eng., Middlesex; Alfred Peskett, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.A.C., Pelcrofield, Hampshire; Benjamin Francia Popham, M.R.C.S., Ireland, Dublin; Robert Rooke Prance, M.R.C.S., Ed., Hampstead, Middlesex; William Richardson, A.M., M.R.C.S., Eng., London; Robert Ripley, M.R.C.S., Ed., Whitby, Yorkshire; Edward Scanlan, M.R.C.S., Eng., London; John Thos. Small, M.R.C.S., Ed., Toronto, Canada; Alexander Macfie Smith, M.R.C.S., Ed., Lanarkshire; Hugh Thomson, M.R.C.S., Ed., Renfrew; George Brown Turner, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.A.C., London; Henry Noble Watson, L.A.C., Clitheroe, Lancashire; Jas. Whitehead, F.R.C.S., Eng., Manchester.

August 5, 1850.

TORQUAY INFIRMARY.

The foundation stone of this institution was laid at Torquay, on Tuesday last.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES.

Gentlemen admitted Members on Thursday, August 29th, 1850:—Robert Turner Bywater, Leeds; Thos. Evans Evershed, Billingham, Surrey; Thos. Roberts, Hitchin, Herts; Charles Harriott Roper, Mount Radford House, Exeter; Robert Harrison Wilson, Howdon Pans, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Gentlemen admitted Members on Thursday, Sept. 5th, 1850:—John Fourness Brice, Pontefract, Yorkshire; John Lee Jardine; John White Keyworth, Axton-Tirrold, Berks; Walter Monday, Olveston, Gloucestershire.

OBITUARY.

May 11, Professor Hecker, of morbus Brightii.

August 30, aged 67, John Marshall, M.D., for many years a surgeon in the Hon. E. India Company's Service, late member of the Medical Board, Calcutta, and Physician-General of the Bengal Presidency.

BOOKS RECEIVED FOR REVIEW.

Every-day Wonders; or, Facts in Physiology which all should know. Illustrated with Woodcuts. London: John Van Voorst, Paternoster Row. 1850.

The Principles of Surgery. By James Miller, F.R.S.E., F.R.C.S.E. Second edition. Illustrated by Two Hundred and Thirty-Eight Engravings on Wood. Edinburgh: Adam and Charles Black. London: Longman and Co. 1850.

The Anatomy, Physiology and Pathology of the Eye. By Henry Howard, M.R.C.S.L., Surgeon to the

Montreal Eye and Ear Institution. Montreal: Armour and Ramsay. London: John Churchill. 1850.

The Natural History of the Varieties of Man. By Robert Gordon Latham, M.D., F.R.S., late Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. London: John Van Voorst, Paternoster Row. 1850.

The Races of Men: a Fragment. By Robert Knox, M.D., Lecturer on Anatomy, and Corresponding Member of the National Academy of Medicine of France. London: Henry Renshaw, 356, Strand. 1850.

Oratio Harveiana in ædibus Collegii Regalis Medicorum Habita, Die Junii 29, 1850. A Jacobo Arturo Wilson, M.D. Londini: 1850.

A Practical Synopsis of Diseases of the Chest and Air-Passages, with a Review of the several Climates recommended in these Affections. By James Bright, M.D. London: John Churchill, Soho, and Thomas Hatchard, Piccadilly. 1850.

The Lumleian Lectures for 1850, delivered at the Royal College of Physicians, London. By R. B. Todd, M.D., F.R.S. On the Pathology and Treatment of Delirium and Coma. (From the *London Medical Gazette*.) London: Wilson and Ogilvy 1850.

PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

Gentlemen who have not yet paid their subscriptions for the current year, or who are in arrears, are requested to forward the amount due either to the Secretary of the district in which they reside, or to the Treasurer or Secretary of the Association at Worcester.

The attention of Members is particularly requested to the following resolution, unanimously agreed to at the late Anniversary Meeting, held at Hull on the 7th and 8th of August, 1850:—

"But if any Member's subscription remain unpaid twelve months after it shall become due, the *Medical Journal*, and other publications of the Society, shall be withheld from such Member till his arrears be paid; and when any Member has been in arrears of subscription for the *space of three years'* application shall be made for the same by the General Secretary, and if the arrears be not paid in *three months* the name of that Member shall be omitted from the list of Subscribers; but the omission shall not be deemed, either in honour or equity, as releasing any gentleman from the subscription owing during his Membership."

JAMES P. SHEPPARD.

Secretary.

Worcester, Sept. 17th, 1850.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from Dr. Duncan, Mr. West, Mr. Bree, Mr. Salter, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Dayman, Dr. Burne, and Dr. Williams.

It is requested that all letters and communications connected with the *Editorial department* 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. But all communications respecting the routine business of the Association should be forwarded to James P. Sheppard, Esq., the Secretary of the Association.