

his observations that their disintegration might be much assisted by sulphuric acid, and being thus converted into sulphate of lime, it would afford an excellent soil for vegetation.

5. Mr. Prideaux related some results of experiments conducted with a view to the protection of the copper-sheathing of ships, in which he proved that the modern copper-sheathing, from the impurities it contains, is less durable than the copper prepared many years since. He also suggested the application of coal tar as a coating to protect the copper from the action of the saline matter of the sea.

6. Dr. R. D. Thomson communicated a paper on a new method of preparing hydrocyanic acid for medical use.

SECTION D.—ZOOLOGY AND BOTANY.

1. A report was read from the committee for the illustration of the geographical distribution of plants and animals.

2. A comparative view of animal and vegetable physiology, by G. Bartlett.

3. Effect of animal exhalations on plants, by Mr. Ball. This paper proved the injury, and often destruction, to plants in greenhouses from decomposing animal bodies.

4. A report on the botany of Devonshire, by the Rev. W. Hore.

5. A report of a committee for experiments on the growth and vitality of seeds.

6. On deposits in springs, rivers, and lakes, from the existence of infusoria, by Dr. Lankester.

The proceedings of this section were unimportant.

SECTION E.—MEDICAL SCIENCE.

This, the first meeting of the section, was well attended. The communications made were—

1. A statistical report of patients of the Plymouth Public Dispensary during the years 1838, 1839, and 1840, by Mr. Samuel Derry.

2. Observations on a pustular disease, hitherto undescribed by writers on diseases of the skin, by Professor A. T. Thomson, M.D.

3. Extraordinary case of albuminous ascites, with hyalids, by Sir David D. H. Dickson, M.D.

4. Facts as yet unnoticed in the treatment of squinting, by James Vose Solomon.

5. General observations on the pathology and cure of squinting, by Dr. Butler.

6. On the cure of asthma, by J. Q. Rumball.

TINEA CAPITIS.

It has recently been stated in a communication addressed to the French Academy of Medicine, that the pustules of tinea favosa are produced by the development of a cryptogamia under the epidermis. In the year 1839, M. Schoenlein inserted a letter in Müller's Archives, in which he attributed the development of tinea lupinosa to the same species of plant.

INSPECTOR-GENERALSHIP OF PRISONS.

THE office of Inspector-General of Prisons in Ireland is now vacant, and there seems to be some chance that it will be filled by a medical man. Many candidates are in the field, amongst whom are mentioned Mr. Francis White and Sir James Murray. For our own parts we know of no one who would make a better inspector than the active Editor of the "Medical Press," Dr. Maunsell.

COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

A CIRCULAR has been addressed to the Licentiates of the College of Physicians, intimating to them that they may have access to the museum and library of the college on the payment of one guinea annually.

DR. CHARLES PHILIPPS, a young Belgian surgeon, who has made himself rather conspicuous at Paris as an advocate of Dieffenbach's operations for squinting and stammering, has been made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Cyclopædia of Practical Surgery, &c. Edited by William B. Costello, M.D. Parts I. to VIII. Sherwood and Co., London.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN LONDON.

List of Gentlemen admitted Members on Friday, July 23, 1841.—Stephen Spranger, William Henry Sandham, John Wyatt Barnard, Edward Octavius Hocken, Winter Moody, Arthur Newell Jones, John Myers Cockcroft.

Friday, July 30.—Edward Dunn, William Potter, Richard Walton, George Tranter, Joseph Agar Locking, William Thomas Borthwick, Archibald John Little, William Druitt, George Young Hood, William Gurslave Marshall.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mr. Copeman's letter shall be published next week.

Printed by THOMAS ISOTSON, of 105, St. Martin's Lane, in the Parish of St. Martin in the Fields, and GEORGE JOSIAH PALMER, of 20, Regent Square, in the Parish of St. Pancras, at their Office, No. 3, Savoy-street, Strand, in the Precinct of the Savoy; and published by JOHN WILLIAMS RUMSKY, at his Residence, No. 6, Wellington-street, Strand, in the Precinct of the Savoy.—Friday, August 6, 1841.