

with fracture of the upper third of the thigh. The superior fragment projected through the integuments; the limb was enormously swollen, tongue dry, thirst great; the patient, who was drunk, could not be kept quiet. She was bled from the arm, and one hundred leeches were applied to the thigh, to prevent gangrene. When the inflammation was reduced, Boyer's splint was applied, and allowed to remain on for twenty-eight days; it had, however, been frequently displaced by the patient, and on taking it off, it was found that the fracture was united at an angle. Here, as in the former case, it was found impossible to break the bone again; hence, resection was had recourse to on the 26th of December, 1840. A vertical incision, about four inches long, having been made in the integuments, and the muscles separated, an inch and a half of the superior extremity, and half an inch of the inferior one, were removed with the chain-saw. No bad symptoms occurred after the operation, and on the fifty-fifth day the patient left the hospital with a shortened but useful limb.—*Fil. Sebezio et Exam. Med.*

URINARY CALCULI AND CHALK STONES.

M. de Bouys has confirmed the results of Mr. Ure's experiments, by converting uric into hipuric acid with the aid of benzoic acid. Uric acid and the urates are nearly insoluble, while hipuric acid and the hipurates are, on the contrary, very soluble. Thus ten parts of water will dissolve one of hipurate of lime, while it requires 440 parts to dissolve one of urate of lime. Two experiments made in the wards of M. Rayer, at La Charité, with benzoic acid, have produced encouraging effects.

MEDICAL CLUBS.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—The important additional information supplied by Mr. Copeman of Coltishall, relative to his medical club, in No. 46 of your journal, induces me to explain briefly those remarks of the Provincial Poor-law Committee which called forth his rejoinder.

In Mr. Copeman's original report to Dr. Kay, printed with the parliamentary evidence, there is not the slightest intimation that the "free subscribers" were all "heads of families;" so that we could only interpret his statement, in conformity with the reports of other self-supporting institutions, in which subscribers, or "free members," are generally understood to mean *all who are entitled to receive the benefit of the society.*

Had Mr. Copeman at first mentioned the actual number of persons entitled to relief, as he has now done, the misunderstanding would have been avoided. The number of heads of families, or persons held responsible for payment in these clubs, is, of course, very variable and uncertain, and would be useless in any attempt to estimate the soundness of their condition. It would greatly promote a correct and impartial judgment as to the real

value and advantage of medical clubs, if the surgeons to these institutions would furnish facts similar to those which Mr. Copeman has published, together with others equally important:—for instance,—the *total* number of members belonging to the club, at the end of each year, from the period of its establishment; the number of individuals who have received relief during each year; the number of cases attended; the average duration of these cases; the annual amount of the subscriptions of the members; and the amount actually received by the medical officers.

If any of your readers will supply such particulars, I am ready to engage, in behalf of my colleagues, that the materials thus collected shall be fairly analysed; and the result, whether it be for or against the club system, shall be laid before the profession.

Your obedient servant,

THE SECRETARY OF THE POOR-LAW COMMITTEE OF THE PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATION.

Gloucester, August 19, 1841.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Graveyards of London; being an Exposition of the Physical and Moral Consequences inseparably connected with the Custom of Depositing the Dead in the midst of the Living, &c. By G. A. Walker, Esq., Surgeon. Longman and Co., London, 1841. 8vo. pp. 46.

Three Memoirs on the Development and Structure of the Teeth and Epithelium, &c., with Plates. By Alexander Nasmyth. Churchill, London, 1841. 8vo. pp. 47.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN LONDON.

List of Gentlemen admitted Members on Monday, August 9, 1841.—Thomas Wharton Jones, William Henry Kater, Christopher Hill Dobson, Henry Albert Lee, Edwin Chesshire, Richard Shocklidge Leggatt, Richard Harris Williams, James Charles Wells, Charles White.

Friday, August 13.—Thomas Coates, John Rogers, George John Gates, John Cockin, Frederick William Richard Sadler, William Gregson Gregory, Thomas George Dixon, John Ligertwood Paterson, Richard Trafford Whitehead, George Edward Dunsterville, Edward Harris Derriman, George Robert Irons, Charles Lydial Leet, Henry Edward Beck.