

and cystic duct; there was a considerable quantity of dark-colored matter of the consistence of soft wax filling it, and completely blocking up the duct, sufficient to form a complete mechanical obstruction to the flow of the bile. In the other case, a female, eight days old, the liver was dark-colored, and rather congested; the gall-bladder filled with limpid mucus; no bilious matter in the intestines; no obstructions were detected in the bile ducts. The whole body was of a bright yellow color, and the internal membranes were tinged of the same color.—*Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal*, July, 1842.

COMPOSITION OF MUCUS.

At the suggestion and under the direction of Professor Liebig, Dr. Kemp performed a series of analyses in the laboratory of Giessen, with the view of ascertaining the elementary composition of mucus. The secretion operated on was obtained from the gall-bladder of the ox, and after having been separated by a chemical process from all extraneous matters, was dried at the temperature of 100° Celsius. When moist, the mucus thus obtained may be described as a greyish, gelatinous, opaque mass, not soluble in water, but becoming transparent in that menstruum. When dried at 100° Celsius, the color changes to a dark olive. From the result of his experiments, Dr. Kemp considers the following to be the quantity of the different elements per cent. :—Carbon, 52.84; hydrogen, 7.09; nitrogen, 15.40; oxygen and sulphur, 24.67. Or in atoms, carbon, 48; hydrogen, 39; nitrogen, 6; oxygen, 17. If we now compare the analysis of protein, which is—carbon 48, hydrogen 36, nitrogen 6, oxygen 14, we shall find that the composition of mucus is equivalent to that of protein plus three atoms of water. The middle coat of arteries Scherer found to be composed of carbon, 48; hydrogen, 38; nitrogen, 6; and oxygen, 16; or protein with two atoms of water.—*Medical Gazette*, July 29, 1842.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

We have been requested to state that the Charlotte-street School of Medicine, Bloomsbury, will reopen as usual on the 1st of October next. We were not aware that the establishment conducted by Mr. Dermott was a school of medicine.

COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY.

The Lord Chancellor has, under the authority of the acts 2nd and 3rd William IV., c. 107, and 5th and 6th Victoria, c. 87, appointed Lord Seymour, Lord Ashley, Robert Gordon, Esq., the Right Hon. Robert Vernon Smith, Colonel William Henry Sykes, James Milnes Gaskell, Esq., John Barneby, Esq., Francis Barlow, Esq., J. R. Gowen, Esq., J. W. Mylne, Esq., Bryan Waller Procter, Esq., J. Hancock Hall, Esq., R. Wilfred Skeffington Lutwidge, Esq., Dr. Thomas Turner, Dr. John Bright, Dr. Henry Herbert Southey,

Dr. John Robert Hume, Dr. Thomas Waterfield, Dr. Francis Bisset Hawkins, and Dr. James Cowles Prichard, to be the metropolitan commissioners in lunacy for the space of one year, for licensing and visiting all houses within the jurisdiction of the said commissioners, and for carrying into effect the several provisions of the said acts.

OBITUARY.

At Egham Hythe, Surrey, aged eighty-three, Wm. Tothill, surgeon., a member of the Society of Friends.

At Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, on the 30th ult., Mr. C. A. Crosswell, surgeon, of North Brixton, Surrey, aged thirty-three.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

MILITARY.

49th Foot—Staff-surgeon of the second class, William Michael Ford, to be surgeon, vice French, promoted on the staff.

53rd Foot—Assistant-surgeon Thomas Galbraith Logan, M.D., to be surgeon, vice Maclean, promoted on the staff.

Hospital Staff—Staff-surgeon John Marshall, to be staff-surgeon of the second class, vice Ford, appointed to the 49th foot.

NAVAL.

Surgeon—A. Stewart, to the Orestes.

Assistant-surgeon—C. Coffey, to the Caledonia.

Dr. M'Arthur, surgeon of the Howe, having obtained six months' leave, owing to ill health, his duties will be performed by Mr. Elliott, surgeon of the Devastation; senior Assistant-surgeon Campbell, of the Queen, to be acting surgeon of the Devastation; and Assistant-surgeon Gruggen, of the Impregnable, to be assistant-surgeon of the Devastation.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN LONDON.

Members admitted Friday, August 26, 1842.

J. Wickham, R. Morrah, J. P. Dickson, W. H. Addison, G. Birkett, H. Morgan, W. A. Leslie, W. B. Keech, G. Henderson.

Monday, August 29, 1842.

R. P. Chapman, J. D. Allen.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.

Licentiates admitted Thursday, August 25, 1842.

T. Loy, Stokesley; F. Boase, Penzance; C. R. Jones G. H. Mantell, Farringdon; J. Miller.

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