

and capillaries being distributed in the angles resulting from the intersection of the lamellæ.

The diseases on which M. Rochoux made his observations, are emphysema, tubercles, and empyema; and the following are the conclusions at which he has arrived:—

1. Emphysema from dilatation of the pulmonary cells, as admitted by Laennec, does not, and can not exist, and the state of hypertrophy or atrophy of the walls of the cells, although admitted by many physicians, has yet to be proved. Emphysema from infiltration of air into the pulmonary tissue, is the only form which can at present be established.

2. Tubercles, which, like other similar productions, liable to undergo degeneration, ought to be studied in the earliest stage of their formation, consist at first of an intricate filamentous mesh-work or tissue, of a pale orange tint, which quickly passes into the miliary and every other stage of degeneration described by authors.

3. The existence of a fibrous membrane, or at least the peculiar texture of the membranous tissue of which the lungs essentially consist, is the principal cause of the retraction, almost always irremediable, which this organ undergoes in inflammatory effusions from the pleura pulmonalis. Hence arises the practical conclusion to operate early in these cases, and before the pulmonary tissue has undergone that species of shrinking (*recoquillement*) from which it is no longer capable of returning to its normal state, although relieved from the pressure of the effusion.—*Gazette Medicale de Paris*.

#### MEDICAL LIBRARIES.

Dr. Thackeray, of Chester, has added to the many acts of bounty and patronage which he has bestowed on the Chester Infirmary in past years, by a donation of his medical library. A letter was received by the Chairman of the Weekly Board on Tuesday, March 4th, announcing the gift; and adding that it was the wish of the respected donor, that it might be the means of encouraging others, to send other and more valuable books; and that at no distant period the house might contain a collection of works, to which the practitioners of Chester and the neighbouring towns might have an easy access. "The benefit which a good library affords to a professional man," observes Dr. Thackeray, "is incalculable; and I indulge a hope, that your Board will see in this offer my earnest desire to promote a science to which humanity owes so much."

This act of munificence is not the only one of a similar description, for which the members of the medical profession are indebted to the family of Thackeray. The late Dr. Joseph Thackeray, of Bedford, a brother of Dr. Thackeray, of Chester, gave during his life, about the year 1820, his large and valuable library to the Bedford Infirmary, and Dr. Frederick Thackeray, another brother, who has been connected with Addenbroke's Hospital, Cambridge, for more than half a century, has recently done the same by that Institution.

#### NEW OPTICAL INSTRUMENT.

We have been favoured with the inspection of an optical contrivance adapted to the speculum uteri, for facilitating the examination of the uterus with that instrument. It consists of an eye-piece and reflectors,

by which the light of a wax-taper may be thrown on the parts under examination in a very satisfactory manner, and is capable of being applied also to the examination of the ear and fauces. The inventor of this ingenious and effective contrivance is Mr. J. Hutchinson, of Cheetham Hill, Manchester, through whose kindness we hope shortly to be able to give a more detailed description of the instrument.

#### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

Gentlemen admitted members on Friday, March 7, 1845:—H. B. Marsh; W. Davies; W. Ayre; C. R. Hall; J. Davis; T. Bennett; J. Daubeny; W. Tredrew; W. H. Clarkson; C. Palmer; T. Wise; J. Colegrave.

#### MEDICAL INTELLIGENCE.

Dr. Chambers has been elected President, and Dr. Theodon Gordon, Dr. Watson, Mr. Perry, and Mr. Welbank, Vice-Presidents of the Royal Medico-Chirurgical Society of London.

Dr. W. Camps, and Dr. W. H. Brown, have been appointed Physicians to the Farringdon Dispensary.

#### OBITUARY.

We regret to announce the death of Dr. Warner Wright, of Norwich, Consulting Physician to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Visiting Physician to the Norfolk Lunatic Asylum, and a Magistrate of the city of Norwich. Dr. Wright was in the 70th year of his age, and had resided and practised in Norwich for nearly half a century. In 1808, he became a Licentiate of the College of Physicians, and some years afterwards was made a Fellow of the College. For many years Dr. Wright was the leading physician in his neighbourhood, and supported his high position with urbanity and kindness, which will not fail to be brought to mind, with painful reflections, by a great proportion of the wealthy and influential families of the district, as well as by the humbler classes. The generous feeling and kind-heartedness which he exercised on all occasions, were mingled most effectively with his intercourse with his professional brethren, whom he never depressed to heighten his own fancied importance. He was in his usual state of health until Friday, the 22d ult., when he accidentally fell with his horse, dislocating his shoulder, and sustained an injury in the chest, by which last cause the fatal event was induced.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from the Sheffield Medical Society; Dr. Inglis; Mr. W. B. Francis; S. A. R.; A Country Surgeon; Mr. E. Ingram; and Mr. Newnham.

We have been compelled to postpone Dr. Simpson's reply to Dr. Radford until next week. Dr. Inglis will find a communication on the same subject as his letter in the present number.

The Birmingham Pathological Report, and Mr. Newnham's fifth letter, are in type.