

and then, by an interchange of professional facts and observations, these meetings would be very beneficial, not only to ourselves, but, in their result, to mankind in general.

How widely different from this must be the case, if your subscribers, or any of them, be liable to hear or enter into a controversial disputation on medical politics, whereby may be created a feeling of dissension and animosity, perhaps never to be overcome? Had I been present at the annual meeting held in June last, at Tunbridge, this unhappy consequence would most likely have occurred; for at that meeting the Committee availed themselves of the opportunity of expressing their medico-political sentiments: occupying too the valuable time of medical men to an unprofitable end.

I must most strenuously enter my protest against the introduction of politics of any kind, (whichever side of the question be agitated,) both in the Journal and at the annual meetings. It surely ought to suffice those practitioners who wish to give publicity to their political opinions to speak them at political meetings, and print them in political journals; in journals framed for, because supported by, the pleasing of the pampered appetites of political disputants.

This, Gentlemen, is a subject occupying the attention of other subscribers as well as myself; on this account, and upon a belief that the healthy growth of this Association, in no small degree, rests upon your reply, I must hope you will, at your early convenience, insert this and your response in the Journal, or make it known through any other medium you may think fit, that will give equal publicity.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE KELSON.

Sevenoaks, November 10, 1845.

At a meeting of the Council of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, holden Friday, December 2nd, 1845, the Council having taken Mr. Kelson's letter into consideration, came to the following resolutions—

"That the Council consider the Editor responsible for the articles contained in the Journal of the Association, and that it is quite manifest, without a full discretionary power be placed in him, the Journal could not be conducted."

"That Mr. Kelson's letter be handed over to the Editor, with a request that it be published in the Journal, together with the foregoing resolution."

CHARLES HASTINGS,

President of the Council.

CASE OF URINARY CALCULUS, THE NUCLEUS OF WHICH WAS FOUND TO BE A PIN: OPERATION.

The patient was a little boy, six years of age, who was admitted into the Sheffield Public Dispensary, under the care of Dr. Favell. The operation was performed by Mr. Ray, and is remarkable from the

ingenious manner in which he contrived to extract the calculus. The following is the account which Mr. Ray gives in a brief notice of the case:—

On sounding the bladder, a stone was distinctly to be felt. There was nothing in the operation unfavourable; the bladder was entered, and upon introducing my index finger I came in contact with the point of the pin which formed the *nucleus* of the calculus. I then introduced the index finger of the left hand into the rectum, and gave the fundus of the bladder a chuck or tilt, and caught the stone and pin in the bend of the finger, one end of the pin resting on the first phalanx, the other on the third. Had not this been the case, and I had been compelled to use forceps, it may be doubted whether I should have caught the stone in the right axis, so as to have effected the extraction, without injury to the bladder. I consider the accidental position a most fortunate circumstance, since the effort might have been repeatedly made without the same results. The stone, with the pin, did not exceed a drachm in weight, and consisted of the phosphate of lime, ammonio-phosphate of magnesia, and animal matter. The precise manner in which the pin had been insinuated into the bladder is unknown. I have no doubt in my own mind, that it was passed up the penis. The little fellow is in the enjoyment of good health.

HYDROCEPHALUS: EXTERNAL APPLICATION OF THE TINCTURE OF IODINE.

(Extract from a letter from JAMES RAY, Esq., Sheffield.)

I have been lately much pleased with the result of two cases of most clearly-marked hydrocephalus in young subjects, one two years, the other eighteen months old. After the disease had progressed to the stage in which you have exhausted all your remedial resources, the pupils being fully dilated with every unequivocal sign of most decided effusion, I have had the head *cleanly shaved*, and then freely painted with the tincture of iodine *undiluted*. This application being repeated *every four or five hours*. Both these little subjects recovered. The parents had each lost two children under, apparently, a similar disease.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

Gentlemen admitted Members on Friday, December 5th, 1845:—W. D. Sherwood; S. Hunt; C. W. Hind; J. Jenkins; C. A. Adey; B. A. Harling; J. R. Pretty; D. Carter; E. W. A. Day; J. B. Hicks; J. C. Collins.

OBITUARY.

Died, November 27th, Edward Tegart, Esq., Inspector-General of Army Hospitals.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from Dr. Durrant; Dr. Hull; W. A. G.