

tioners? The following appears in the *Lancet*, in a letter from a correspondent, regarding "*Defective Registration*". It confirms us in the opinion formerly expressed, that the Pharmacy Act was, in the present state of the medical profession, fraught with injustice and danger to the profession and the public.

"What is the use of my taking the trouble to fill up a 'Medical Certificate of the Cause of Death'?"

"I have a patient a Registrar, and sometimes I amuse myself by looking over the certificates which he has received; from my own observations and his statements, I find that he will grant an order for burial without first receiving my certificate, and this he asserts he dare not refuse; and that he accepts certificates from chemists who sign themselves 'Surgeon', and in one case, 'Consulting Surgeon'. On visiting him yesterday, I found the card of one of these quasi-doctors on his table, and he informed me that he had just let him have a blank book of certificates, as he says—how is he to know whether he is a doctor or not? One more question I should like answered—What is meant by 'If this should fall into the hands of an unlicensed practitioner, he is recommended not to fill it up', or some such words?"

"I can give you more information if necessary, and for my informant's sake, must sign myself, ——."

OUT-PATIENTS. A great delusion is practised at most of our hospitals by the indiscriminate bestowal of advice (?) and drugs on all comers—"out-patients" as they are called. The time in which persons are prescribed for is often only a fraction of a minute; and from the vast number of people who are officially reported to get this kind of advice at our various hospitals, we infer that one or two minutes is above the average amount of time which each applicant has devoted to his case—and that after hours of waiting! The out-patient system pauperises many by leading them to seek charity when they do not require it; it makes all lose valuable time—often a whole day—and the chances are that little if any good is done to the ailments. The monstrous character of this abuse must soon attract public attention; it is ruining some members of the profession by taking their patients: and by impressing the recipients of hospital advice (?) with the valueless nature of therapeutic resources.

WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL. Important alterations are rapidly approaching completion, which will tend to the comfort of patients and officers. In addition to the erection of an operating theatre in connexion with one of the wards, commodious premises are being built for the purposes of the school, so that on and after the 1st October, the education of the pupils will be carried on in premises entirely within the precincts of the hospital. This will doubtless prove of great advantage to the students, more especially as much time and attention are to be devoted to clinical instruction. New arrangements are also being made in the out-patient department, rendered necessary by the increased number of persons who daily seek advice for minor ailments.

APPOINTMENTS.

CORMACK, John Rose, M.D., has accepted the editorship of the *Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal*, offered to him by the Committee of the Association appointed at Oxford to make the necessary arrangements for its Journal being published and edited weekly in London, (after January 1853), in place of fortnightly in Worcester, as at present. The salary is £250 per annum.

Hood, Dr., elected Resident Physician of Bethlem, at a salary of £700 per annum, and the opportunity of greatly augmenting that stipend by clinical teaching.

- MACFARLANE, John, M.D.**, appointed by the Right Hon. Spencer Walpole, Secretary of State for Home Affairs, to the Chair of Medicine in the University of Glasgow, vacant by the death of Dr. William Thomson. Besides a free house in the College, graduation fees, and class fees, the chair is endowed with a stipend averaging nearly £300 per annum.
- MILLAR, J., Esq.**, Resident Assistant-Surgeon of the Asylum, Bethnal Green, appointed Resident Medical Superintendent of the Bucks County Asylum.
- TYERMAN, D. F., Esq.**, Medical Superintendent of the Cornwall County Lunatic Asylum, has been elected Resident Medical Officer of the male department of the Middlesex Lunatic Asylum, Colney Hatch, in the room of Dr. Hood, appointed to Bethlem. Salary £200 per annum, with a furnished residence, and an annual allowance of £150, (in lieu of board), with coals, candles, milk, and vegetables.

OBITUARY.

- ATKINSON, James, Esq.**, late Inspector-General of Hospitals, Bengal Medical Service, on 7th August, at his residence, 18, Dorset Square, London.
- BAILEY, Robert, Esq.**, Surgeon, on 6th August, at Wootton-under-Edge, aged 74.
- BENNETT, Lucas, Esq.**, Surgeon, on 26th July, at Winterton, Lincolnshire. The deceased was House Surgeon to the Leeds Infirmary in 1804, in which year he was admitted a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, after which he was Lieutenant-Surgeon in the West York Militia. During a practice of about fifty years he had been settled at Chew Magna, (Somerset), Colchester, (Essex), Deal, (Kent), and also at Barton-on-Humber. He died of paralysis, leaving a widow and eight children. The widow and two of the daughters are entirely unprovided for.
- BURKE, Dennis, M.D.**, a native of Ireland, aged about 100 years, died at Washington, on 28th June. He was an assistant-surgeon for many years at West Point.
- DEVONALD, E. L., Esq.**, of 71, Great Titchfield Street, and 6, Howley Place, Harrow Road, on 27th July, at 6, Howley Place. Mr. Devonald is described in the *Medical Directory* as "in practice prior to 1815".
- EBSWORTH, Richard, Esq.**, Surgeon, of Shillingford, on 3rd August, at Brighton, after severe illness, aged 41.
- GOODHART, Alfred H., Esq.**, Surgeon, at his residence, 84, Camden Road Villas, on 28th August.
- JONES, Edward Morse, Esq.**, Surgeon, only son of the late Thomas Jones, Surgeon, of Temple Cloud, Somerset, on the 6th of August, at Morro Velho, Minas Geraes, Brazil.
- KINNIS, John, M.D., F.R.S.E.**, Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, on 18th August, at Edinburgh, aged 58.
- KIRK, Rupert, Esq.**, on 31st May, Surgeon in the Bombay Medical Service, at Rajcote, Hattiwari, in the province of Bombay, aged 45.
- MAYO, Herbert, Esq.**, formerly Senior Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital, and Professor of Physiology at King's College, London, at Bad Weilbach, near Mayence (on the Rhine), on 15th August. Ten years ago, Mr. Mayo had a fair reputation: latterly he embraced hydropathy and Mesmerism, and went over to Germany to practise these heresies among the English fashionables who flock to Mayence, etc., when exhausted with the enervating whirl of a London season. In private life, Mr. Mayo is said to have been amiable, but rather conceited.
- O'FLINN, Daniel, M.D.**, Resident Magistrate, etc., at the Cape of Good Hope, on 28th June. Dr. O'Flinn was much respected. He had practised about thirty years at the Cape.
- RECKITT, William, Esq.**, on 6th August, at Boston, Lincolnshire, from apoplexy.
- ROBINSON, William, Esq.**, Surgeon-Dentist, (M.R.C.S.Eng.), at his father's residence, Spencer Street, Carlisle, after a week's illness of malignant scarlatina, aged 23.
- SWAYNE, John Champeny, Esq.**, Surgeon, late of Berkeley Square, Bristol, at his residence, Pucklechurch, Gloucestershire, on 8th August, aged 66.
- TUPPER, James Perchard, M.D.**, late of Paris, on 30th July, at Boulogne-sur-Mer, aged 77.
- UNDERWOOD, Charles, M.D.**, fifth son of the late Rev. T. Underwood, Rector of Ross, and Canon Residentiary of Hereford cathedral, on 1st July, at Malta.

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BOURGUIGNON. The Itch Insect and its Remedies	-	-	-	-	<i>ib.</i>
PERCY. Chinese Materia Medica	-	-	-	-	<i>ib.</i>
BUSHE. The Galbanum Plant	-	-	-	-	<i>ib.</i>
GARDNER (A. K.). Report on Milk	-	-	-	-	866
HEINTZ. Composition of Human Fat	-	-	-	-	867
NEUBAUER. Urine in Dropsy	-	-	-	-	<i>ib.</i>
BERTHOLD-SEEMANN. Antidote for Venemous Bites	-	-	-	-	868
POLL. Prevention of the Nauseous Taste of Medicines	-	-	-	-	<i>ib.</i>

Topics of the Day.

Journalism: Provincial Medical and Surgical Association: Quackery at Scarborough: Mullar <i>v.</i> the "Monthly Journal": Edinburgh Royal Infirmary: Artificial Production of Fish: Pharmacy Act: "Out-Patients": Westminster Hospital: Appointments: Obituary	-	-	-	-	868—874
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