

ASSOCIATION MEDICAL JOURNAL.

EDITED BY JOHN ROSE CORMACK, M.D.

No. XXXIII.

LONDON: FRIDAY EVENING, AUGUST 19, 1853.

NEW SERIES.

August 5th, 1853.

In consequence of the One and Sixpence Duty on Advertisements having been repealed, the following scale will be adopted for all Advertisements ordered to be inserted after this date:—

For three lines and under	:	:	:	- 10	2	6
For every additional line	:	:	:	- 0	0	6
For half-a-column	:	:	:	- 1	10	0
For a whole column	:	:	:	- 2	15	0
For a page	:	:	:	- 5	5	0

A line contains ten words, so that any one can calculate the cost of an Advertisement.

Advertisements ought to be delivered at the office on the Wednesday preceding publication, and paid for at the same time.

Post-Office orders are to be made payable to THOMAS JOHN HONEYMAN, 37, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London.

THE ASSOCIATION JOURNAL will, like the old series, consist of ANNUAL VOLUMES. The convenience of a single index for the year is obvious; and the expense of binding is less than if the year was divided into two volumes. The Association year is from January 1st to December 31st; and for that reason it is desirable that the Journal should represent the same period of time.

THE SWANSEA MEETING.

TO-DAY our columns contain a long and circumstantial report of the Twenty-first Anniversary of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association. Within the brief space of two days many important questions were considered, both in the departments of Association polity, and medical science. Much, we admit, was also left undone: but we are confident that upon the whole there was as great an amount of work accomplished as could have been performed by any body of men, of variously constituted minds, in an equal space of time.

The *Finances* of the Association occupied a large share of attention: but, had time permitted, they might with advantage have engaged still farther the consideration of members. While it is gratifying to be told in the Council Report "that the list of members is more perfect than it has heretofore been, and that fewer members are in arrear", it is most unpleasant to find, from the next clause of the same sentence, that "still £1093 are owing to the Association for subscriptions". As we are not informed how much of this sum is owing for the current, and how much for previous years, we cannot even guess at the proportion of this amount which is likely to be received; but, taking the most favourable view of the case, it is evident that £1,093 due to the Association on the 1st of January last (the day on which the Association year commences) had not been received by the treasurer on the 31st of July. This fact alone demonstrates the necessity of a more thorough organisation of our members under local discipline. Having no clue to the value of this large amount of arrears, it would be absurd for us to say what we think it is worth; but without entering the regions of speculation we may aver that, if every defaulter who reads these lines takes shame to himself, and at once remits his one, two, or three guineas to Mr. Sheppard, at Worcester, or to

some other authorised local receiver, we shall have a cleaner and more creditable balance sheet to greet us at Manchester.

At Oxford last year, the amount of arrears was stated to be £1000; so that we have added to our arrears £93. But there is a more cheerful contrast between the amount of subscriptions announced at Oxford as received during the year 1851-52, and the amount of subscriptions announced at Swansea as received during the succeeding twelve months. The year's income from subscriptions was reported at Oxford as £1,365 : 11 : 11; whereas at Swansea we have a return of £1,785 : 5 : 5—an increase of £419 : 13 : 6. At Oxford, the members on the roll were 1,629. Of this number 200 were, at January 1st of this year, struck off as persons who were either dead, or defaulters, or who had resigned: yet at Swansea our year's increase, both in numbers and in income from subscriptions, is more than twice as much as our surrender of unprofitable names.

So much will be found regarding the finances in subsequent columns of this number, that we shall for the present leave this subject, after stating the law of the Association with reference to arrears. The twenty-fourth law directs that THE JOURNAL SHALL BE WITHHELD FROM MEMBERS WHO ARE TWELVE MONTHS IN ARREAR: and, after the discussion which took place at Swansea, the Secretary cannot be expected to continue past forbearance towards those who have so much abused his kindness. Dr Tunstall was perhaps substantially correct, when he spoke of members having received the Journal gratuitously for three years; but when this has occurred, it has only been through indulgence, and we may add, through a species of indulgence never again likely to be allowed. At the request of the Secretary, we most earnestly call attention to a law which was made at the Hull meeting in 1850; and which for the future is to be vigorously enforced. It is as follows:

"If any member's subscription remain unpaid twelve months after it shall have become due, the *Medical Journal*, and other publications of the Society, shall be withheld from such member till his arrears be paid; and when any member has been in arrears of subscription for the space of three years, application shall be made for the same by the General Secretary, and, if the arrears be not paid in three months, the name of that member shall be omitted from the list of subscribers; but this omission shall not be deemed, either in honour or equity, as releasing any gentleman from his subscriptions owing during his membership."

It was gratifying to find, that notwithstanding the great expense which has attended the as yet unavailing efforts of the Association in the cause of *Medical Reform*, all were of one mind as to the propriety, nay, the necessity of continuing the struggle with unabated zeal under the auspices of the same committee who have hitherto so ably conducted this business. Last year £200 was voted to the Reform Committee from the funds of the Association: this year, the Committee is to be thrown upon the private generosity of the profession. A subscription has already been commenced in a very spirited manner, regarding which we shall be able