

# ASSOCIATION MEDICAL JOURNAL.

EDITED BY JOHN ROSE CORMACK, M.D.

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NEW SERIES.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

Three lines and under	-	-	-	£0	2	6
Every additional line	-	-	-	0	0	6
Half-a-column	-	-	-	1	10	0
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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 MEDICAL SCHOOLS. In compliance with the wishes of several correspondents, we propose, on the 23rd September, to give, in the body of the Journal, a condensed view of the prospectuses of the various medical schools which have appeared in our advertising columns, or which may appear on or before that date.

DISCIPULUS is requested to communicate his name and address.

## FINANCE:—THE JOURNAL AND THE TRANSACTIONS.

If associations have ever possessed great power, it has been in virtue of the union of many minds all tending in one common direction, and aiming at one common end. The stupendous achievements of past ages, which are only rivalled by the mechanical triumphs of our own day, show what even untutored physical strength could accomplish; and to-day the physical impossibilities of what we facetiously call the dark ages have succumbed to the associations which have developed by contact that faculty of mind which has in its vocabulary no such expression as *impossible*, and which has made even time and space but accessories to its strength.

Banded together in the PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION for no selfish purposes, seeking in no commercial spirit for profit or for gain, we too can look trustfully on, believing that, from the jarring elements which surround us, there shall arise a fair future to redeem medical science from many of the extraneous evils which prevent its progress, and hinder its advance. Our Association, though it may appear accidentally in a trading guise in returning to its members a tangible equivalent for their subscriptions, can, collectively, and we trust also individually, be actuated but by one motive, and be animated only by one generous impulse. It seeks, in raising and elevating the status of the medical profession, to relieve the destitute, to alleviate the pangs of the suffering, to bring joy where sorrow but now was imminent, and to chase away from the domestic hearth of our friends those dread shadows of death which disease had impended over their dear ones. So indissolubly are united together the best interests of our common humanity with the rightful practice and progressive improvement of our profession, that, even more than ourselves, the public are interested in all that tends to advance our knowledge or increase our facilities for good.

But much that we could accomplish, as an Association, would be lost, had we no power, by the free interchange of opinion, to correct our own impressions, and to fix these impressions on the minds of others. The Promethean spark which is to light up for the world's good many a slumbering and latent gift or discovery would never be struck, did we not afford to our fellows the fullest opportunity of knowing and making known all the varied incidents of life and death which bear upon the progress of medical science.

It must be evident that, with members scattered over all parts of the United Kingdom, and even in foreign lands, this can be accomplished only by an organ of communication to which all may have free access, and from which they may learn the opinions and be acquainted with the facts which, in the progress of discovery (to-day so active), are either developing or developed. It is thus that a weekly journal becomes an indispensable necessity, if we would fully and freely accomplish all that we have, as an Association, clearly placed within our reach. We thus become, to a certain extent, in our character of publishers, a trading firm carrying on an accidental commercial enterprise; not rivalling or precluding the necessity of other publications, but supplying a hiatus they could not fill; and, we trust, each week binding more closely together the ties which unite us, both as members of a liberal profession and as an association promoting the good, increasing the power and knowledge, and elevating the status of medical men throughout the world.

We cannot therefore pass over the important discussion on the Journal, at the anniversary meeting at Swansea, without appending a few remarks to illustrate the position so incontestably proven by the gentleman who moved the adoption of the Report of the Journal Committee; moreover, we are well assured that, in an Association like our own, good, and good only, can accrue from the possession by the members of the most complete knowledge on all points connected with its constitution, management, and finance. In a new undertaking, it is but right that the most scrupulous inquiry should be instituted into its condition and prospects; and as very limited means are placed at our disposal, it is necessary to be convinced that expenses are kept within the boundaries of income. Peculiarly placed as we are, in having a large guaranteed circulation, and having beyond that comparatively few sales, (from the fact that persons desirous of purchasing the Journal become members of the PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION,) we can still fall back upon those general principles which in ordinary business decide the success or failure of any commercial enterprise.\*

For this purpose, we may illustrate our present position by viewing the members of the Association as subscribers to a Medical Journal conducted in the ordinary manner, and thus estimate the revenue of the Journal issued to its

\* The extra-Association sale of the Journal is chiefly to colleges, societies, and public reading rooms.