

was known to the night attendant who accompanied me. I further found that the approach to the female patients was quite free to the male attendants, and even from the road by scaling the wall, and there was nothing to prevent either of these patients escaping. The master and matron were in bed, but were called up to witness the ingress of the attendants, who were out."

From the above extract, it is, we think, tolerably plain that the four visitors finding the feud between Dr. Foote and the steward-superintendent to be irreconcilable, have acted upon the principle of dismissing the party whose place it would be most easy to fill. The steward was formerly, we learn, master of the Malmesbury Workhouse; and it is very possible that in so improving a position he may have acquired habits of thought and action corresponding with those of the asylum visitors. Hence, he is probably regarded as a treasure by his employers; and they would justly argue that, while the ranks of our profession would furnish an abundance of learned and talented physicians, ready, in the interests of science and for the good of humanity, to eat the bread of tribulation at Thorpe, it might not be easy adequately to replace a steward trained in a school so admirable, and thoroughly prepared to carry out in practice the doctrines which he would doubtless advocate in theory.

The "visitors" of the Thorpe Asylum will, however, have to learn, that in the control of public servants, higher motives than convenience and expediency must sometimes regulate their actions. The questions which will be raised in connexion with the present matter, will make it necessary to determine who has indeed been in the wrong; and as by the confessions of the visitors themselves, Dr. Foote has "entirely fulfilled his duties", and "never in any way broken the laws of the institution", it is difficult to conceive how an official with whom he has constantly disagreed can possibly be in the right.

Moreover, we hope that this proceeding may work a total change in the management of the institution; and that the three hundred inmates of the Thorpe Asylum may for the future be placed under the entire control of a medical superintendent, with the steward and matron as his upper servants. By this arrangement—and by this arrangement only—the health and improvement of the patients will be made the first object of consideration; and when it is remembered that, since the appointment in 1845 of a resident physician, the mortality in this particular asylum has been diminished from upwards of nineteen per cent. to ten per cent. annually, it will be felt that the gentleman holding the office has an especial claim upon the support and confidence of the public: and in particular, that the circumstances to which we have now called attention should not be allowed to operate to the injury of his professional character.

EAST SURREY CHOLERA SOCIETY.

THE East Surrey Cholera Society, to which we last year (pp. 866, 926, and 933) directed special attention, at the time of its formation, is to meet on the 22nd instant, as will be seen by our advertising columns. We hope and believe that this Society is destined to collect a great amount of useful knowledge—in fact, to fulfil the object for which it was established, viz., "observing cholera in the parlia-

mentary boundaries of East Surrey, and of making the results of such observation subservient to the public good".

We greatly admire the simple and yet comprehensive schedule for the reporting of cases issued by the Council of the Society. The following is an exact copy of its essential parts:—

CASE OF CHOLERA.

Observed by _____

Name of patient.	Age.	Sex.	Occupation and general condition.	Residence.

Date of the commencement of symptoms _____

SYMPTOMS: Describe their character, duration, and result.

TREATMENT: Describe it; state when commenced; and with what apparent effects.

PATIENT'S RESIDENCE: its condition; especially with regard to a. Drainage; b. Water supply; c. Cleanliness; d. Ventilation.

STATE OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE DISTRICT when this case occurred. What other diseases most prevalent?

More elaborate queries would tend to discourage the too busy practitioner; and every fact of value can be here given in an available and sufficiently complete form. The schedule is printed on one side of a folio leaf. The reporters are recommended to be as concise as possible, to write legibly, to confine themselves strictly within the allotted spaces, recording additional matter relating to the case, or any meteorological or other observations of interest, upon the other side. A sufficient margin is requested to be left; so that the schedule, when returned to the Secretary, may at once be pasted into a book suitably prepared to receive and preserve the returns.

The only meeting of the Society which has yet taken place was held at Richmond on the 18th of October, 1853. It was well attended; but, from the more central locality of the meeting advertised for the 22nd, it is likely to attract a still more numerous assembly.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

LONG PAPERS are of course more difficult to find a place for than short ones: but good papers of considerable length when carefully composed, and without superabundant language, are, we find, very acceptable to the readers of the ASSOCIATION JOURNAL. This remark is intended as a reply to several correspondents. As regards brevity, we would say to all our contributors that they ought to cultivate it as much as is consistent with clearness and accurate composition. Prolix accounts of cases of a very ordinary character are frequently sent to us: this ought to be avoided.

We are still obliged to delay reports of societies, periscopic review, etc., and the papers of Mr. ANDERSON, Dr. RICHARDSON, Dr. LINDSAY, Dr. HARVEY, and Mr. SOLOMON.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED AND TO BE INSERTED:

1. FLETCHER, John S., Esq. Perforation of the Duodenum: Sudden Death.
2. GANGEE, J. S., Esq. Cystic Sarcoma and Cancer of the Female Breast.
3. SHAPTEL, Thomas, M.D. On Ozone.