

# ASSOCIATION MEDICAL JOURNAL.

EDITED BY JOHN ROSE CORMACK, M.D.

No. CXLI.

LONDON: FRIDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 14, 1855.

NEW SERIES.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS for the Journal may be addressed as formerly, till an Editor is appointed.

PAPERS AND LETTERS by the following are in type: Mr. COATS, Mr. J. S. FLETCHER, Mr. H. L. SMITH, and Mr. T. WIGLESWORTH. We continue to receive long letters regarding the proceedings of the York Meeting, which, from their length, are inadmissible.

## THE RETIRING EDITOR TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

THE substance of the following letter has been addressed to many inquirers. It is now published for the general information of those members who have not been in communication with the writer since the York Meeting.

*To the Members of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association.*

37, Russell Square, 10th September, 1855.

GENTLEMEN,—In justice to you and to myself I have resigned the Editorship of the JOURNAL of the Association. Public, not less than private considerations, have obliged me to retire.

I. The JOURNAL cannot, I find, be conducted with sufficient freedom and independence to render the office of Editor consistent with personal honour or public usefulness.

II. The financial affairs of the Association are allowed, notwithstanding repeated and earnest warnings, to remain in a dangerous condition; and the attempt of Dr. Cowan and others to raise a THOUSAND POUNDS by voluntary contributions to establish the JOURNAL on a safe basis, has been thwarted.

III. Medico-political combinations of a sectional character I regard as opposed to the true interests of the profession. In performing my editorial duties I have been guided by this maxim, and have endeavoured to promote the union and representative organisation of the whole profession in the United Kingdom and its dependencies. I cannot, therefore, without violating my convictions, recede with the York meeting to that exclusive English provincialism upon which the Association was founded, and desert those broader principles upon which, in later years, it has been rebuilt and enlarged. Exclusive English provincialism has, in my opinion, no right to dictate laws to the profession in the Metropolis, in Scotland, in Ireland, and in the Colonies.\*

With sentiments of esteem,

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN ROSE CORMACK.

\* The spirit of provincial exclusiveness was strongly expressed to an applauding audience by the President and by other speakers at the York meeting. It has also (in the form of jealousy of London co-operation) been a constant cause of difficulty to me in obtaining and selecting materials for the JOURNAL. J. R. C.

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

### FIRST MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION.

The First Meeting of the Executive Council of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association was held at Dee's Hotel, Birmingham, on the 7th instant; Sir C. Hastings, M.D., President of the General Council, in the Chair.

Present: Dr. Lyon, Mr. Hatton, Dr. Sibson, Dr. James Johnstone, Mr. Wickenden, Mr. Solomon, Mr. Cartwright, Dr. Drury, Dr. Williams.

A circular, announcing the time and place of meeting, had been previously sent to each gentleman who, in accordance with Law 9, was elected a member of the Executive Council at a special meeting held at York on the 16th of August last.

[The following is a complete list of the members of the Executive Council:—

Ten members of the General Council elected at York: viz., F. Sibson, M.D., and John Propert, Esq., London; James Johnstone, M.D., and J. Wickenden, Esq., Birmingham; E. Lyon, M.D., Manchester; Ellis Jones, Esq., Liverpool; J. Heygate, M.D., Derby; P. Cartwright, Esq., Oswestry; J. Malden, M.D., and H. D. Carden, Esq., Worcester.

Fifteen Honorary Secretaries, each being the representative of a District Branch:—J. V. Solomon, Esq., Birmingham; J. S. Bartrum, Esq., Bath; H. A. Arden, Esq., Dorchester; G. M. Humphry, Esq., Cambridge; John Hatton, Esq., Manchester; T. O. Ward, M.D., Kensington; Henry Lankester, Esq., Leicester; Edward Williams, M.D., Wrexham; T. J. Drury, M.D., Shrewsbury; Peter Martin, Esq., Reigate; C. H. Roper, Esq., Exeter; W. H. Michael, Esq., Swansea; John Kirkman, M.D., Melton; F. H. Woodforde, M.D., Taunton; W. Matterson, Esq., York.

Sir C. Hastings, President of the General Council; and Dr. P. H. Williams, General Secretary, are also *ex officio* members of the Executive Council.]

The following resolutions, being duly proposed and seconded, were unanimously adopted.

1. That a conciliatory address be framed by this Council, and published in the JOURNAL, calling upon the members to combine heartily for the promotion of the great objects of the Association, and imploring them to forego all minor differences of opinion, in the desire to advance the progress of medical science, and to maintain peace and harmony among the members of the Association. (Vide p. 846.)

2. That Sir C. Hastings, Dr. Lyon, Dr. Sibson, and Mr. Solomon, be requested to draw up the address; and that it be published in the next number of the JOURNAL.

3. That Dr. Cormack's resignation, as Editor of the ASSOCIATION MEDICAL JOURNAL, be accepted with regret (Dr. Cormack's letter of resignation having been previously read); and that the vacancy thus occasioned be advertised, once, in the *Times* newspaper, and in each of the London medical periodicals.