

sional communication with any stranger who might be induced to take it.

Mr. George Greaves, medical officer of the Chorlton Union, seems also to be in some danger from his Board of Guardians, on account of certain representations made by him with regard to the quality of the food of the inmates of the workhouse, which have not been altogether consonant with the opinions of the guardians. As Mr. Greaves has determined to appeal to the Poor-Law Board, the subject will probably again come under notice.

The recently published Report of the Society for Relief of Widows and Orphans of Medical Men in London and its Vicinity shows the institution to be in a flourishing condition. During the past year, the funds of the Society have been increased by a legacy of £5,000 from Mr. Thomas Copeland, and by one of £100 from Sir B. F. Outram. The total amount expended by the Society in grants, during sixty-five years, has been £51,087 : 19. The object of the Society is to afford pecuniary relief to the widows and orphans of medical men in London and the neighbourhood, who shall have been members of the Society for two years at the time of their decease. The members pay one guinea as an entrance fee, and a guinea twice a year for twenty-five years; or they may compound for a life-subscription.

The trial of Dr. James Michell Winn, the well-known and respected physician of Finsbury Square, has resulted, as we fully expected it would, in a verdict of acquittal. It will be remembered, that he and his servant were given in charge by a person of the name of Benham, for having attacked and beaten him. It appeared from the evidence, however, that Benham, who rented the upper part of the house, wished to obtain possession of the lease, and in order to do so annoyed Dr. Winn in every conceivable way,—he even went so far as to call him a swindler. Indignant beyond endurance at being thus insulted, he struck this person, who was a much heavier man, it appears, than himself, and the doctor was getting the worst of it, when his servant came to his rescue. A vast number of highly respectable witnesses testified to the mild and gentlemanly habits of Dr. Winn, and the jury by their verdict sufficiently vindicated their opinion that the thrashing he gave the prosecutor was heartily deserved.

The death of Dr. Hume has caused a vacancy in the list of Medical Commissioners in Lunacy, which, we have good reason to believe, will be filled by the appointment of Dr. Nairne, of St. George's Hospital.

The defeat of the Ministry on the China question on Tuesday night, will have the inevitable effect of delaying the progress of the Medical Bill. Much business of a pressing public nature will, we fear, prevent its introduction before the dissolution of Parliament, and the new House will not, in all probability, meet before the end of May. It remains to be seen whether that period will not be too late for its introduction, with any chance of carrying it through Parliament this year. We trust, however, that Mr. Headlam, if he be re-elected, will bring it under discussion as soon as possible, in the hope that some measure calculated to satisfy the great body of the profession will be finally sanctioned, before our senators are off to the moors.

## Association Intelligence.

### METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: ADJOURNED GENERAL MEETING.

AN adjourned General Meeting of the Metropolitan Counties Branch was holden at 37, Soho Square, on Tuesday, March 3rd, at 4 P.M.: GEORGE WEBSTER, M.D., President, in the chair.

#### EXPLANATION OF RESOLUTION.

Dr. O. WARD (Honorary Secretary) read a letter from Dr. S. Griffith, expressing his disapproval of the (supposed) intended advocacy by the Branch of compulsory residence in London, in the case of candidates for the fellowship of the College of Surgeons. Dr. Ward explained that the intention of the resolution was precisely opposite to that in which it had been interpreted by Dr. Griffith—that the Branch were desirous that the obligation (at present existing) on all candidates for the fellowship to study during three years in London, should be removed.

#### MEDICAL REFORM.

A letter was read from Dr. LANKESTER, regretting his inability to be present on account of illness. In his absence,

Mr. PROPERT moved—

“That this Meeting rejoices at the near prospect of the settlement of the question of Medical Reform, by the adoption, on the part of the British Medical Corporations, of the principal details of the Medical Reform Bill proposed by the British Medical Association; and would heartily approve of the proposal of the Medical Reform Committee of the Association, that one-third at least of the medical council constituted under the proposed Bill, should be chosen by the Government from among those members of the profession not constituting the Governing Bodies of the Corporations and Universities; and that the Branch strongly urges upon the Association the necessity of seeing that this arrangement is fully carried out.”

Mr. LORD seconded the resolution.

Dr. MURPHY proposed as an amendment—

“That the discussion of Dr. Lankester's motion be adjourned until Mr. Headlam's Bill be published.”

Dr. JAMES BIRD seconded the amendment.

After some discussion, in which Dr. Burnett, Mr. Charles, Dr. Edward Smith, Dr. Beck, Dr. Stewart, and the President, took part, the amendment was carried.

It was then agreed also to adjourn the discussion on the second resolution, viz.

“That this Branch do strongly recommend the Government to grant a new Charter to the College of Surgeons, on a more liberal basis as regards the elective franchise, and the residence in London as a qualification for the fellowship.”

#### SALE OF POISONS.

Mr. LORD proposed—

“That this Branch do petition Parliament to pass a Bill for the regulation or prevention of the sale of poisons.”

Dr. MURPHY seconded the motion, which was carried.

### ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS.

THE LAWS of the BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, with regard to the admission of new members, are the following:—

Any qualified medical practitioner, not disqualified by any bye-law, who shall be recommended as eligible by any three members, shall be admitted a member at any time by the Committee of Council, or by the Council of any Branch.

The subscription to the Association shall be One Guinea annually; and each member on paying his subscription shall be entitled to receive the publications of the Association of the current year. The subscription shall date from the 1st January in each year.

The names of new members should be forwarded to the Secretary, Dr. P. H. WILLIAMS, Worcester; or to any of the Secretaries of the Branches.

Therefore, on the sanitary condition of Newbiggin, independently of all its other claims on the consideration of the Government, I would beg leave to suggest the priority of its claims as a fit and proper place for a harbour of refuge on this iron bound coast, extending over two hundred and sixty miles, from Leith to Yarmouth Roads. Even within a radius of fifty miles of this, on the 4th of January, ninety-four ships are known to have gone on shore or foundered, by which, in a few hours, one hundred and sixty-seven valuable lives were sacrificed on the altar of national neglect, or penuriousness—which? Will the present Government wipe this stain from the most philanthropic and liberal-minded nation on the earth?

Medical men have devoted their lives to the preservation of human life; and surely it cannot be out of place to direct their attention to this willful waste of the defenders of the wooden walls of Britannia, who rules the waves.

I am, etc., J. C. REID.

Newbiggin-by-Sea, 24th February, 1857.

## Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Friday, February 27th.

### THE CATTLE DISEASE.

In reply to Lord POLWARTH—

Lord STANLEY of Alderley said, the Government had received no additional information of the existence of this disease; but the Custom-House officers had power by law to destroy foreign cattle supposed to be affected with any contagious disease. The Government would direct communications to be made to our consuls at foreign ports requesting them to send any information they could obtain: and the Custom-House officers, having their attention called to the existence of the disease, would watch narrowly all cattle imported from abroad.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday, February 26th.

### DISEASE AMONG CATTLE.

Mr. STAFFORD asked whether the attention of the Government had been called to the epidemic disease among cattle in Central Europe; and whether the Board of Control had taken any measures to prevent the landing of diseased cattle in this country?

Mr. LOWE replied, that the attention of the Board of Trade had been called to the subject, which had put itself in communication with the Foreign Office, requesting that department to obtain from consuls abroad all the information possible on the subject. The Board of Trade had likewise put itself in communication with the Customs, which department possessed an Act of Parliament, under which it had powers sufficient to prevent the importation of infected animals. As an instance that the officers of that department were not wanting in diligence, he could inform the House, that on a calf on board the *Concordia*, from Rotterdam, exhibiting symptoms of murrain, they had the animal killed. Investigation then confirmed the suspicion that the animal was infected, and the body was accordingly destroyed. The remainder of the cargo was examined, and found free from disease.

Mr. STAFFORD gave notice that to-morrow, on the motion that the House, at its rising, do adjourn till Monday, he should call the serious attention of the House to this question of disease among foreign cattle.

Friday, February 27th.

### THE MURRAIN IN CATTLE.

Mr. STAFFORD said that the answer given to him by the right hon. gentleman the Vice-President of the Board of Trade last evening had filled him and other hon. members with dismay. The right hon. gentleman had said that the Board of Customs had displayed extraordinary sagacity by the destruction of one calf; but it was a subject for alarm that the remainder of the cargo, of which this calf was one, had been allowed to be landed; and it was probable that they might have been infected by it. Would the right hon. gentleman state whether the Board of Customs, or any other department of the Government, had made arrangements for preventing the entrance into this country of one of the most tremendous scourges which could affect a thickly populated land like ours?

Mr. LOWE, in the absence of notice of the hon. gentleman's

intention to put this question, could only say that the Board of Trade had put themselves in communication with the Foreign Office, in order to obtain from our consuls all possible information on this subject, and had also communicated with the Board of Customs, from which they had received assurances that they were perfectly awake to the danger which threatened the cattle of this country. As a proof of that, they had stopped one animal and had it killed on suspicion of its being affected with this disease.

Lord NAAS thought that the answer of the right hon. gentleman was most unsatisfactory. In 1745 this murrain was introduced into England by two calves from Holland, and the consequence was the destruction of 40,000 head of cattle in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire, and almost as many in Cheshire. The disease raged with scarcely any intermission for eight years, and visited nearly every part of the grazing districts of England. The disease was of a most contagious character. It had been known to be carried in the clothes of persons who attended upon the cattle, and there had never been a case in which contact had occurred without the disease being communicated. The permitting a cargo of cattle to land one of which was affected with this disorder, must have resulted from the grossest ignorance, or from want of instructions on the part of the officials. The practice of every State in Europe was at once to prohibit the importation of cattle from countries where disease had broken out, and all who had studied the subject were of opinion that it was the duty of our Government to adopt the same system. He sincerely hoped, therefore, that measures would be taken without delay to prevent the extension of this dreadful scourge.

Mr. PACKE said this was a subject which concerned every consumer of meat in this country, as well as the graziers and breeders of cattle, and the answers given on that evening and the evening before by the Vice-President of the Board of Trade were most unsatisfactory. Since live cattle had been admitted duty free under Sir R. Peel's measures, there had been a very considerable increase in the fatal diseases to which cattle were liable, and the agricultural interest had been extremely patient under the losses to which it was thereby exposed. They knew that a shipload of diseased cattle had been dispersed over the country, causing great danger of contagion. Cattle bought at fairs sometimes did not show symptoms of the complaint till two or three weeks after they had caught the infection; and the most ruinous losses must ensue to the graziers if a check were not put immediately upon importation. He therefore entreated the noble lord at the head of the Government to take this urgent matter into serious consideration.

Sir J. TYRRELL said that attention had been called to this subject for many years by the Royal Agricultural Society; but in their report on the lungs complaint, that body had come to the conclusion that, unfortunately, nobody knew anything about it. A few years ago, small-pox spread extensively among sheep in this country, the disease having, no doubt, been the result of foreign importation; but it afterwards suddenly disappeared in apparently the most miraculous manner. The right hon. gentleman (Mr. Lowe) said he had destroyed one calf affected with the disease, so that his experience in the matter was plainly very limited.

Lord PALMERSTON promised that inquiry should be made by the Government, with a view to the adoption of whatever precautions were practicable to prevent the spread of disease among cattle.

ATTEMPT TO POISON THE FOREIGN RESIDENTS IN HONGKONG. The correspondent of the *Times* of March 2nd, in a letter from Hongkong dated January 15th, states that an attempt had been made that morning to poison a considerable portion of the foreign community. The author of this diabolical act was a Chinese baker named Esing, who (being doubtless induced by the promises of reward held out by the mandarins) mixed with his bread a large quantity of arsenic, and, after sending it round to his customers, left for Macao in a steamer at 8 A.M. All who partook of this bread were shortly afterwards seized with violent retchings and other symptoms; but, prompt remedies being applied, no deaths had ensued at the date of the letter, although great numbers had been ill, and some were still in a dangerous state. The quantity of arsenic was too large to answer the intended purpose, its presence being immediately betrayed, and antidotes forthwith administered. A steamer had been despatched to Macao, in hopes of intercepting Esing; but it was feared he would have gained the mainland ere she arrived.

## Medical News.

### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, AND APPOINTMENTS.

\* In these lists, an asterisk is prefixed to the names of Members of the Association.

#### BIRTHS.

- JONES. On March 1st, at Sydenham, Kent, the wife of Edward Jones, M.D., of a son.  
 KEYSER. On February 28th, at 21, Norfolk Crescent, Hyde Park, the wife of Alfred Keyser, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.  
 WESTMACOTT. On February 27th, at 10, St. Mary's Terrace, Maida Hill, the wife of John Guise Westmacott, M.D., of a son.  
 WILKINS. On October 21st, 1856, at sea, on board the ship *Agincourt*, from London to Madras, the wife of Jacob Wilkins, M.D., H.E.I.C.S., prematurely, of a daughter, who survived only a few hours.  
 \*WILKINSON. On February 28th, at Greenheys, Manchester, the wife of M. A. Eason Wilkinson, M.D., of a son.

#### DEATHS.

- COOPE. On February 23rd, at Surbiton, Surrey, George Frederick, infant son of A. F. Coope, M.D.  
 DAVIES, William, Esq., Surgeon, of South Hackney, at Horn-castle, suddenly, aged 57, on February 23rd.  
 EVANS, Thomas, M.D., of Stockwell Park House, Surrey, and Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire, of heart-disease and broncho-pneumonia, aged 57, on March 1st.  
 GAYE. On February 28th, at 14, Oxford Terrace, Chelsea, Emma Anne, fourth daughter of W. J. Gaye, Esq., Surgeon, aged 11.  
 GIBBS. On February 21st, at Exeter, aged 40, of chronic bronchitis, Sophia Maria Ann, daughter of Harry Leeke Gibbs, M.D.  
 HUME, John Robert, M.D., C.B., one of Her Majesty's Commissioners in Lunacy, at 9, Curzon Street, May Fair, aged 75, on March 1st.  
 McMANUS. On February 24th, in West Square, Georgiana Benigna, widow of the late David McManus, M.D., of Baker Street, Portman Square.  
 O'CONNOR, James, M.D., at Bath, aged 87, on February 13th.  
 O'DWYER, John, Esq., late of the Bengal Medical Service, at 20, Edward Street, Portman Square, on February 26th.  
 \*RYLAND, Frederick, Esq., Surgeon, of Edgbaston, Birmingham, lately.  
 SQUIRE. On February 21st and 22nd, at Brightlingsea, Essex, the infant twin sons of Samuel Nathaniel Squire, Esq., Surgeon.  
 SWAYNE. On February 21st, at Rochester, aged 73, Bessy, widow of the late Stephen Jennings Swayne, M.D., Deputy Inspector of Hospitals.

#### PASS LISTS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. MEMBERS admitted at the meeting of the Court of Examiners on Friday, February 27th, 1857 :—

- BROOKHOUSE, Joseph Orpe, Brighton  
 COPE, Ricardo, Spark Hill, Birmingham  
 HUTCHINSON, William Johnson Dawson, Barnard Castle, Durham  
 LE SAGE, William Louis, Ramsbury, Wiltshire  
 MACCORMAC, William, Belfast  
 MACGREGOR, John James, Melbourne, Australia  
 MILLER, Charles James, Brighton  
 PATERSON, Charles, Tarland, Aberdeenshire  
 PEMBERTON, Clarence Linden Henderson, Landport Terrace, Southsea, Hants  
 RENGIFO, Pio, New Granada  
 ROGERS, Braithwaite, Whitehaven, Cumberland  
 SMITH, Frederick Henry, Greenwich  
 SMITH, Samuel, Hudson's Bay Company  
 STUART, Kenneth Bruce, Calcutta  
 WILLIAMS, Joseph, Westerleigh, near Bristol  
 At the same meeting of the Court—  
 HUDSON, John, of H.M.S. *Rhadamanthus*, passed his examination for Naval Surgeon. This gentleman had previously been admitted a member of the College: his diploma bearing date April 25th, 1853.

### HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 28TH, 1857.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

THE deaths in London have exhibited a slow but constant decrease during the four weeks of February. In the week that ended last Saturday, the total number registered was 1216. In the ten years 1847-56, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1148. But the deaths now returned occurred in an increased population; and for comparison with the average, the latter should be raised proportionally to the increase, in which case it will become 1263. The result of the comparison is a difference of 47, showing that the rate of mortality last week was rather below the average.

The zymotic class of diseases was fatal last week in 197 cases: the corrected average is 243. These figures indicate a very favourable condition of health, especially amongst young persons, who are chiefly liable to many of the diseases included under this head. Hooping-cough is still the most fatal of the zymotic complaints, but it shows a decrease on previous returns, the weekly deaths from it in February having been 61, 70, 74, and 53. Of 45 deaths from typhus and common fever, only six occurred in the southern districts, although in the five divisions of the metropolis the south contains the largest population. The central districts also appear to have been comparatively free from fever, one death in that division having been from scarlatina, and four from typhus. A woman died in Long's Court, in the Charing Cross sub-district, from cholera, after forty-eight hours illness. Mr. Leonard, who attended her during the latter stage of the disease, states that it bore a close resemblance to the Asiatic type.

The deaths from pulmonary diseases were last week 304, whilst the corrected average of corresponding weeks is 276. The excess is not very considerable, and arises from bronchitis, which was fatal in 166 cases (the average being 134), a number greater by 75 than that referred to pneumonia. Phthisis, which stands in the tubercular class, carried off 142 persons. Two persons died of carbuncle; three of intemperance; a boy, nine years of age, died under chloroform administered with the view to an operation. Only two nonagenarians, both widows, and the oldest 91 years of age, are recorded in the returns.

Last week the births of 925 boys and 896 girls, in all 1821 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847-56, the average number was 1631.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 30.214 in. The mean reading was above 30 in. on every day from Wednesday, the 18th ultimo, to the end of the month. The barometer rose so high as 30.40 in. on Saturday. The mean temperature of the week was 41.2°, and was 1.9° above the average of the same week in 43 years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). The highest temperature occurred on Saturday, and was 56.9°; the lowest occurred on Wednesday, and was 24.9°. The range of the week was 32°. The mean dew-point temperature was 36.9°, and the difference between this and the mean temperature of the air was 4.3°. The air was frequently calm; the wind was very variable; at the beginning and end of the week it was in the south-west. There was no rain, except a little, not measurable by the gauge, on Wednesday.

GEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY. There has lately been discovered in the blue lias quarries belonging to Mr. John Crees, of Street, Somerset, a very perfect specimen of the plesiosaurus. It measures seven feet nine inches in length from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail. It was lying on its right side at about eighteen feet below the surface, deeply imbedded in one of the lowest of the blue lias rocks, with its beautiful swan-like neck turned very gracefully backwards, and its long tail bent upwards in a curve. Mr. J. E. Crees has spent a great deal of time and labour in cleaning it, and it is now exposed to public view. It is considered by some connoisseurs who have seen it, to be the most perfect specimen that has yet been discovered, there being not the smallest part missing. It is a very remarkable fact, that about eight months ago there was discovered in the same quarry, at about fifteen feet nearer the surface, and, as near as can be ascertained, in a direct line above, a very perfect specimen of the ichthyosaurus, in a bed of marl. The specimen was purchased for His Grace the Duke of Marlborough for nearly £100, and is now included in the collection of the noble duke at Blenheim, Oxfordshire.

## POOR-LAW MEDICAL REFORM.

## MEETINGS OF THE STUDENTS OF THE MANCHESTER SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

A PRELIMINARY meeting of the students of the Manchester School of Medicine, in support of Mr. Griffin's movement, was held on Thursday, February 19th, W. Ramsden, Esq., in the chair, when a committee, consisting of a chairman, secretary, treasurer, and seven members, was appointed.

A general meeting of the students was held on Tuesday, March 3rd, when the following resolutions were unanimously adopted: Edward H. Petman, Esq., in the chair.

1. Proposed by Mr. Ramsden, and seconded by Mr. Barrett—

"That the Manchester medical students are desirous of expressing their cordial approval of the measures undertaken by Mr. Griffin for the regulation of the salaries of the Union medical officers; and are willing to act in cooperation with other medical students in support of those measures."

2. Proposed by Mr. W. H. Broadbent, seconded by Mr. Payne—

"That this meeting considers that the power of fixing the salaries of Union medical officers, as at present vested, has been the source of great injustice and oppression, and ought to be transferred to a more disinterested and impartial tribunal."

3. Proposed by Mr. Brooke, and seconded by Mr. T. P. Smith—

"That this meeting, considering unity of purpose and good faith among members of the profession of vital importance to the cause of medical reform, desires to express its unqualified disapproval of the conduct of those who not only treat this movement with neglect and apathy, but even act contrary to its principles."

4. Proposed by Mr. Barrett, and seconded by Mr. Gould—

"That this School is in favour of a general meeting of students, representing the different medical schools, to express publicly their approval of, and their determination to assist to the best of their power, any measures taken to secure the more equitable and adequate remuneration of their medical brethren holding public appointments."

5. Proposed by Mr. Sephton, and seconded by Mr. Ramsden—

"That a member of the committee be appointed by ballot to represent this School at the aggregate meeting of students in London."

6. Proposed by Mr. Smith, and seconded by Mr. Brooke—

"That a subscription be entered into towards a fund for defraying the expenses incurred by these meetings and the sending up a delegate, and that the surplus be handed over to Williams' bank to the account of the Poor-Law Medical Reform Association."

7. Approved by Mr. Payne, and seconded by Mr. Sephton—

"That a report of the proceedings of this meeting be forwarded to the medical and local journals."

Mr. W. Ramsden having taken the chair:

8. Mr. T. P. Smith proposed, and Mr. Broadbent seconded—

"That a vote of thanks be awarded to Edward H. Pitman, Esq., for the able manner in which he has acted as chairman throughout the whole of these proceedings."

9. Proposed by Mr. Gould, and seconded by Mr. Pitman—

"That a vote of thanks be awarded to John D. Bird, Esq., for the able way in which he has discharged his duties as honorary secretary."

Thos. P. Smith was then chosen to represent the School at the general meeting in London.

JOHN DURHAM BIRD, *Hon. Sec.*

## MEETING OF STUDENTS OF THE YORK SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

A meeting of the students of the York School of Medicine was holden on March 3rd, for the purpose of considering the present position of the poor-law medical officers. Resolutions, similar to those passed at the meeting of the London students, were unanimously agreed upon; and subscriptions were entered into by the students and others.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. The course of lectures in the theatre of the College for the present year will be commenced on Tuesday, the 10th instant, by Professor Busk, who will deliver twelve lectures on the Anatomy, Physiology, and Classification of the Invertebrate Animals. Professor Quekett will, on Tuesday, the 7th of April, commence a course of twelve lectures on the Structure of the Skeleton of Plants and Invertebrate Animals. The course will be concluded by Professor Hewett's six lectures on the Injuries and Diseases of the Head, commencing on the 5th of May.

## ACTION FOR RECOVERY OF FEES.

ROBERTS v. KERFOOT.

Mr. HAWKINS appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. Turner for the defendant.

The plaintiff, Thomas Roberts, was a surgeon and apothecary in Bridge-street, Southwark, and he sued the defendant, Thomas Kerfoot, a publican at Stockwell, to recover the sum of £46 6s. 7d., being the amount of the plaintiff's bill for his attendance as a surgeon and medicines supplied to the defendant's wife. From the plaintiff's evidence it appeared that in the month of June, 1850, he was called in to attend the defendant's wife, and continued to do so daily, and often twice a day, down to the beginning of October. The defendant at that time was living in the New North Road, Hoxton, and was keeping a public-house there. The plaintiff paid in all about seventy visits, having to treat his patient for prolapsus uteri and femoral hernia. With the assistance of the surgeon from Guy's Hospital the hernia was reduced, and the patient recovered of her other complaints, though she died afterwards of consumption. The plaintiff charged 5s. for each visit, and when the defendant removed to Warwick Place, Pimlico, he charged 7s. 6d., and generally at Hoxton charged for two visits each day. The rest of the bill was made up of charges for medicines. The plaintiff was cross-examined to show that the case was a medical, and not a surgical case, and that he had undertaken to attend as a friend, upon the understanding that he should have refreshments, dinners, wines, and spirits, etc., in lieu of payment. The plaintiff denied this suggestion, though he admitted that he often had taken refreshment at the defendant's house, and had had wine (two dozen) sent to him by the defendant.

Mr. TURNER submitted that the plaintiff had no case. The bill was an apothecary's bill, and the Apothecaries' Act required that before an apothecary could recover on such a bill he should prove that at the time he was a licentiate of the company. The learned counsel cited the "Apothecaries' Company v. Lotinga" (2 M. and R., 495).

LORD CAMPBELL said there was evidence to go to the jury.

Mr. TURNER examined the defendant, who stated that in June, 1850, he called in the plaintiff to attend his wife for consumption, and that he attended as a friend, upon the understanding that he should have refreshments, dinners, etc., free of charge. He said he had sent the plaintiff wine, whisky, and rum. He also produced an account of refreshments which he said the plaintiff had had at his house. This amounted to about £22.

The plaintiff had accounted for the delay in enforcing his demand by saying that when he asked the defendant for payment of his bill the defendant pleaded his inability to pay. The defendant, however, stated that for some years the plaintiff had made no demand at all, and he relied upon the length of time which had elapsed since October, 1850, as confirmation of his statement as to the terms on which the plaintiff had attended.

LORD CAMPBELL, in summing up the evidence, said the first question for the jury was whether the plaintiff had attended on the terms suggested by the defendant; for, if so, he could not recover. If the jury thought there was no such agreement, they must then see how much of the plaintiff's bill was for attendance and medicines supplied as a surgeon. For so much the plaintiff could recover. But, as to the services and medicines supplied by the plaintiff as an apothecary, the plaintiff could not recover, for in the year 1850 he was not a licentiate of the Apothecaries' Company, though he was so now.

The jury found for the plaintiff—Damages, £20.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. The Fothergillian gold medal has been awarded to Mr. Edward Canton, for an essay on "Diseases of the Spine". A silver medal has been awarded to Dr. Edward Smith, for special services rendered to the Society during the four years in which that gentleman has held the office of Honorary Secretary. The silver medal which the Society offers to an Honorary or Corresponding Fellow, or to a non-Fellow, for a paper read before the Society, and which was last year awarded to one of our associates, has not been this year awarded.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. On this (Saturday) evening, a paper will be read by Graily Hewitt, M.D., "On the Diagnosis of Apneumotosis (Pulmonary Collapse)."

The general meeting for election of Officers and Council will take place the same evening at 7 o'clock.

DR. KANE, THE ARCTIC VOYAGER. Our American advices state that a despatch had been received in New York by Mr. H. Grinnell, conveying sad intelligence of the intrepid Dr. Kane. The despatch comes *via* Mobile, and is as follows:—

"Havannah, February 13th, 1857.

"Dr. Kane is still alive, but he can't last through the day. His mind keeps right. He has just left his friends, and bidden his countrymen farewell.

"W. MORTON."

Mr. Morton has been Dr. Kane's faithful servant and steward for the last seven years, and accompanied him twice to the Arctic regions. Dr. Kane is thirty-four years of age. His disease is of a scrofulous nature, arising from scurvy and exposure during his northern explorations. His life has four times been almost despaired of—once in Egypt, from an attack of plague; once in Africa, prostrated by the African fever; once in the Mediterranean, with lock-jaw; and he was dangerously wounded in the Mexican war, while carrying despatches for General Scott between Vera Cruz and Mexico. (*Times*.)

DISPENSING OF MEDICINES BY HOMŒOPATHIC PRACTITIONERS. The Imperial Court of Bordeaux, in November last, decided, in respect to a case brought before it, that the infinite small doses of homœopathic medicines had no active power which could bring them under the control of the law regulating the sale of drugs in France. An appeal against this decision having been brought before the Court of Cassation at Angoulême, it was there ruled that homœopaths have no right to dispense their own medicines, but that they must confine themselves to prescribing, and have their medicines furnished by druggists keeping open shops.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

LETTERS and other COMMUNICATIONS for the JOURNAL should be directed to the private address of the Editor, 39, Curzon Street, May Fair.

TO CONTRIBUTORS. The Editor would feel glad if Members of the Association and others, would cooperate with him in establishing as a rule, that in future no paper for publication shall exceed two pages of the Journal in length. If the writers of long communications knew as well as the Editor does, that lengthy papers *always* deter the reader from commencing them, this great evil would never arise. Brevity is the soul of medical writing—still more than of wit.

Members should remember that corrections for the current week's JOURNAL should not arrive later than Wednesday.

NOTICE.—DR. WYNTER will feel obliged if the Associates will address all Post Office Orders in payment of Subscriptions, to the Publisher, Mr. THOMAS JOHN HONEYMAN, 37, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W. C., "Bloomsbury Branch"; and he would also feel obliged by their sending all communications respecting the non-receipt of the Journal, to the same address; as both these matters are out of the province of the Editor.

A STUDENT is recommended to make the best use of the opportunities afforded him of acquiring such a knowledge of his profession as shall obviate embarrassment in emergencies. A clear knowledge of principles, and sound common sense, are the best guides of every medical man. But, if our correspondent wishes to have a portable book which he may use to refresh his memory in difficult cases, we would recommend to him "Shaw's Medical Remembrancer", published by Churchill.

A VILLAGE DOCTOR, whose letter on Professional Charges appeared in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of February 7, will much oblige by forwarding his name and address to the Editor. A letter for the "Village Doctor" has been forwarded to the Office of the JOURNAL, but his address, formerly given, has unfortunately been mislaid.

HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL PRACTICE. The subjoined Circular has been forwarded to us. Dr. Eadon's condescension in consenting to extend the benefits of Homœopathy to the working classes, at low charges, will no doubt be duly appreciated.

"With a view of bringing the system of Homœopathy within the reach of the well-to-do *Working Classes* of the Community, and at charges proportionate to their means, Dr. EADON has consented to see patients, at his Residence, 229, Lincoln Terrace, Stretford Road, from 9 to 11 o'clock every Morning, and on the Evenings of Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, from 7 to 8 o'clock.

"Fees each time (including Medicine) 2s. 6d.  
"For Domestic Servants - - - 1s. 6d.

"Employers wishing to subscribe for the benefit of their work-people, may have one patient continually on the books, at the following charges:—

"For One Month - - - £0 10 0  
"Six Months - - - 1 1 0  
"Twelve - - - 1 11 6

"229, Lincoln Terrace, Stretford Road, Manchester, Nov. 12, 1856."

THE TOBACCO QUESTION. An Associate, who does not wish his name to appear, is "surprised" at our defence of the moderate use of Tobacco, and

among others, asks us the following questions. "If the smoke does not enter the lungs, how is it that I have seen it come from an opening in the trachea as long as the pipe was kept in the mouth; and where does the black sputum come from in miners and others who are exposed to dust and smoke". In answer to the first part of this question, we must confess that we have never had the opportunity of seeing the smoke coming from an opening in the trachea; and with respect to the second, it answers itself; it is the coal dust of the *atmosphere* which enters the lungs and blackens the sputum, the tobacco smoke having nothing to do with it. The sputa of colliers, who never smoke, is just as black as that of those who do. Our correspondent again asks, "What does your statement of its consumption in the Asylums prove, except that it is has become necessary from abuse, and the habit cannot be abandoned all at once; does it not lead to the presumption that a many of the patients have smoked away their senses, and thus been sent to the Asylums to be cured?" The answer to this question is simple. Women preponderate in Lunatic Asylums, and women, as a rule, do not smoke.

W.B. Our series of Articles on the "Diseases of Special Occupations" will commence next week, with a Paper on the "Grinders' Disease", by our able Associate, Dr. J. C. HALL, of Sheffield. It will be continued weekly.

Communications have been received from:—DR. J. C. HALL; DR. J. BALLARD PITT; MR. AUGUSTIN PRICHARD; MR. JOHN BURROWS; DR. G. GODDARD ROGERS; MR. J. S. GAMGEE; MR. H. W. RUMSEY; DR. DAVID NELSON; MR. GEORGE GREAVES; DR. EDWARD SMITH; MR. WILLIAM MITCHELL CLARKE; DR. W. O. MARKHAM; MR. T. HOLMES; MR. THOMAS PAGET; DR. LITTLE; DR. F. BRITTON; DR. OGDEN; DR. H. REID; DR. HALFORD; DR. SIEVEKING; DR. MCWILLIAM; MR. ARTHUR B. RYE; DR. RADCLIFFE HALL; MR. E. McDERMOT; MR. W. H. WINCHESTER; DR. SLOANE; and MR. LUPTON.

## BOOKS RECEIVED.

[\* An Asterisk is prefixed to the names of Members of the Association.]

1. Cases and Observations illustrative of the Beneficial Results which may be obtained by close attention and perseverance in some of the most unpromising instances of Spinal Deformity, without the use of Steel Stays or other similar contrivances: with Engravings illustrative of the Cases. By \*Samuel Hare, F.R.C.S. Second Edition. London: John Churchill. 1857.
2. Clinical Lectures on Certain Diseases of the Urinary Organs: and on Dropsies. By Robert Bentley Todd, M.D., F.R.S. London: Churchill. 1857.
3. On Diseases of the Skin. By \*Erasmus Wilson, F.R.S. Fourth Edition. London: Churchill. 1857.
4. The Anatomical Remembrancer or Complete Pocket Anatomist. Fifth Edition. London: Churchill. 1857.
5. Cranial Presentations and Cranial Positions suggestions Practical and Critical. By \*R. U. West, M.D. pp. 60. W. Mackenzie, Paternoster Row, London.
6. Address to the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh, delivered on the taking the Chair of the Society, December 17th, 1856. By \*James Miller, F.R.S.E., Professor of Surgery in the University of Edinburgh. pp. 16. Edinburgh: Murray & Gibb.
7. The Monogenesis of Physical Forces: a Lecture delivered at the London Institution on February 18, 1857. By Alfred Smee, F.R.S. London: Longmans. 1857.
8. Statistical Society of London. First Report of the Committee on Beneficent Institutions. 1. The Medical Charities of the Metropolis. London: John William Parker & Son. 1857.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

Just published, Second Edition, price 1s. 6d.

Cases and Observations illustrative of the Beneficial Results which may be obtained, by close attention and perseverance, in some of the most unpromising Instances of SPINAL DEFORMITY, without the Use of Steel Stays or other similar Contrivances: with Engravings illustrative of the Cases.

By SAMUEL HARE, F.R.C.S., etc.

London: JOHN CHURCHILL, and may be had of all Booksellers.

## PRACTICAL ANATOMY IN PARIS.

An English Teacher, in conjunction with a French Professor of Anatomy, will give a Private Course, during the months of April, May, June, and July next.

Particular attention will be paid to the Surgical Regions. The Demonstrations will be given from the Subject and Examinations held daily. This Course offers peculiar advantages, as the time of the teachers is specially devoted to the assistance of their pupils. Arrangements may also be made for the ensuing long vacation. Fee, £10. 10. Apply to Mr. DEVILLE, 20, Rue des Gres, Quartier Sorbonne, Paris.

## POOR-LAW MEDICAL REFORM.

The Aggregate Meeting of the Students of Medicine throughout the Kingdom will be held at ST. MARTIN'S HALL, on Thursday next, March 12th. Doors open at Seven o'clock. Chair to be taken at half-past Seven precisely, by

A. H. LAYARD, ESQ., M.P.

Tickets may be obtained at any Medical School.

G. EVAN FARR, Lond. Hosp. } Hon.  
W. TILBURY FOX, Univ. Coll. } Secs.