

Amendment moved by Dr. ALEXANDER WOOD, and seconded by Mr. LAWRENCE—

"That whereas, by Clause XVI of the Medical Act, it is provided that the General Council shall make orders for regulating the Registers to be kept under this Act, as nearly as conveniently may be, in accordance with the form in Schedule D to this Act; and inasmuch as the Act and Schedule draw a distinction between qualifications and titles, be it enacted that the Registrar be instructed to fill up the first three columns according to the exemplars given in the Act, and the fourth column with the titles, given in Clause XI of the Act: and that those only be entered in the column of titles as physicians who are fellows or licentiates of a College of Physicians, or M.D.'s of Oxford, Cambridge, or London; those only as surgeons who are fellows or members of a College of Surgeons; and those only as apothecaries who are members of the Society of Apothecaries; and as surgeons and apothecaries those only who hold the double qualification."

Amendment moved by Dr. CHRISTISON, and seconded by Dr. LEET—

"That in pursuance of the discretion left to the Council by Clause XVI, in which it is provided that 'the Council shall, from time to time, as occasion may require, make orders for regulating the Registers to be kept under this Act, as nearly as conveniently may be, in accordance with the form set forth in Schedule D to this Act, or to the like effect', the Council consider it to be inconvenient, at this their first meeting, to fill up the Title column of Schedule D."

The last amendment was put and carried.

3. Moved by Dr. ANDREW WOOD, and seconded by Dr. SMITH—

"That the following members of Council, resident in London, viz., the President, Dr. Watson, Mr. Green, Mr. Nussey, Sir James Clark, Mr. Lawrence, and Dr. Storrar, form the Executive Committee." Agreed to.

4. Moved by Dr. ANDREW WOOD, and seconded by Dr. STOKES—

"That the publication of the Register be superintended by the Executive Committee." Agreed to.

5. Moved by Dr. CORRIGAN, and seconded by Dr. WILLIAMS—

"That the words 'or any qualification', in Clause XXX, line 2, mean any of the 'qualifications' mentioned in Schedule D, and none other." Agreed to.

6. Moved by Dr. ACLAND, and seconded by Dr. STORR—

"That the President, or any eight members of the General Council, may summon a meeting of the General Council at any time, by letter addressed to each member." Agreed to.

7. Moved by Dr. CHRISTISON, and seconded by Dr. CORRIGAN—

"That by virtue of the powers conferred on the Council by Clause XVIII of the Medical Act, the Secretary be instructed to require the delivery, on or before the 31st of March next, from the several colleges and bodies in the United Kingdom, mentioned in Schedule A of the Act, of a statement of the courses of study and examinations to be gone through, in order to obtain the respective qualifications mentioned in Schedule A, and the ages at which such courses of study and examinations are required to be gone through, and such qualifications are conferred; and generally as to the requisites for obtaining such qualifications. The returns to be made, in the first instance, to the Branch Councils, and corrections obtained by them when necessary; and the completed returns to be transmitted to the Registrar of the General Council." Agreed to.

8. Moved by Mr. TEALE, and seconded by Dr. WATSON of Glasgow—

"That these returns be printed and circulated among members of the Council, on or before the 31st of May." Agreed to.

9. Moved by Dr. CHRISTISON, and seconded by Mr. SYME—

"That the Minutes of the Branch Councils and Executive Committee be printed; and that copies of them, marked 'Confidential', be sent to every member of the General Council." Agreed to.

10. Moved by Dr. ALEXANDER WOOD, and seconded by Dr. CHRISTISON—

"That by the Stamp Act a duty is imposed on the diploma of M.D. of Universities; that by the same Act a duty is imposed also on Licentiates of Medicine and Fellows of the Colleges of Physicians: the Council is of opinion that such tax is injurious to the interests of the profession, and remits to the Executive Committee of the Council, to prepare and forward to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury,

a memorial, seeking to relieve the profession of the tax, and generally to use all exertions to secure its removal; and they authorise the memorial to be signed by the Chairman." Agreed to.

11. Moved by Sir JAMES CLARK, and seconded by Mr. SYME—

"That it be an instruction to the Executive Committee to apply to Government for apartments for the meetings of the General Council and Executive Committee." Agreed to.

It was agreed that, until the Council obtain an office, permission be given to the Registrar to transact business at his own house.

12. Moved by Dr. ANDREW WOOD, and seconded by Dr. EMBLETON—

"That the Petitions from certain Practitioners in the north of England be referred to the Executive Committee."—Agreed to.

13. Moved by Dr. CORRIGAN, and seconded by Dr. LAWRIE—

"That the Minutes of the several Meetings of the Council, from its commencement, as well as of Committees generally, be printed in uniform 8vo size; and that two copies be transmitted to each Member of the Council, as well as to the several Registrars." Agreed to.

14. Moved by Dr. ALEXANDER WOOD, and seconded by Dr. CORRIGAN.

"That the General Council, before separating at their first meeting, beg to record the comfort they have had in the apartments placed at their disposal by the College of Physicians of London, and again vote their thanks for their liberal accommodation. They also beg to express their appreciation of the services of Mr. William Copney, Secretary to the College of Physicians; and authorise the Executive Committee to vote him such gratuity as they may think desirable, for his services."

A letter was read, addressed to Thos. Watson, Esq., M.D., acknowledging, on the part of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the information that Sir Benjamin Collins Brodie, Bart., had been elected President of the Council.

Also an official announcement, by the Lord President of the Council, of the appointment by Her Majesty, with the advice of Her Privy Council, of Six Members of the Medical Council.

An opinion was expressed, unanimously, that the next Meeting of the General Council should take place on *Wednesday, August 3rd, 1859.*

Association Intelligence.

MEDICAL BENEVOLENT FUND.

A donation of Fifty Pounds has just been received from Bishop Malby, by the Committee of the above Fund, in addition to his previous grants.

LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

Letters or communications for the JOURNAL should be addressed to Dr. WYNTER, Coleherne Court, Old Brompton, S.W.

Letters regarding the business department of the JOURNAL, and corrected proofs, should be sent to 37, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH:

SOCIAL AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERS RESIDENT IN ROCHESTER, MAIDSTONE, GRAVESEND, DARTFORD, AND THEIR VICINITIES.

Social and scientific meetings of members of the South-Eastern Branch resident in Rochester, Maidstone, Gravesend, Dartford, and their vicinities, will be held on the undermentioned days:—

Friday, March 25th, 1859, at 3.30, at the Town Hall, Gravesend.

Friday, April 29th, 1859, at 3.30, at the Town Hall, Dartford.

The members resident in this district will be gratified by the attendance and assistance of any of the members of the British Medical Association.

JAMES DULVEY, *Honorary Secretary.*

Brompton, Chatham.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH: SPECIAL MEETINGS ON MEDICAL REGISTRATION.

I. MEETING IN LIVERPOOL.

A SPECIAL General Meeting of the above Branch was held at the Medical Institution, Liverpool, on Thursday, November 25th, to consider the propriety of forming District Registration Associations, with the view of aiding in effectually carrying out the provisions of the new Medical Act, as recommended by the Committee of Council of the Association, and by the Council of the Branch. The Chair was taken by ELLIS JONES, Esq., President of the Branch. There were also present: F. Ayrton, M.D. (Liverpool); J. Burrows, Esq. (Liverpool); F. D. Fletcher, Esq. (Liverpool); A. C. Gibson, Esq. (Bebington); N. S. Glazebrook, Esq. (Liverpool); T. Hensman, Esq. (Liverpool); C. Hill, M.D. (Liverpool); E. Lister, Esq. (Liverpool); W. McCheane, Esq. (Liverpool); W. H. Manifold, Esq. (Liverpool); T. Mather, Esq. (Ashton); J. B. Nevins, M.D. (Liverpool); J. O'Brien, M.D. (Liverpool); A. Stookes, M.D. (Liverpool); H. Swift, Esq. (Liverpool); J. Vose, M.D. (Liverpool); A. T. H. Waters, Esq. (Liverpool); E. Waters, M.D. (Chester); J. H. Wilson, M.D. (Liverpool); and H. G. Woolton, Esq. (Prescot).

The PRESIDENT, in opening the business, said the gentlemen would all be aware that the motive which had brought them together that morning was for the purpose of forming an Association, so as to assist in effectually carrying out the provisions of the new Medical Act with respect to the registration of the names of qualified practitioners. He believed that a registrar would by this time have been elected by the Council in London; and it would be the duty of the Branch Association to watch that no irregularly qualified person, by any possibility, got his name on the list of regularly qualified practitioners. He thought a great deal of credit was due to the British Medical Association for this Act, which had recently passed through Parliament; for, had it not been for the exertions of this Association, he believed that the Act would never have passed. [*Hear, hear.*]

Mr. WATERS, the Hon. Secretary, said, before the first resolution was put, he would read the circular convening that meeting. They were all aware that for some time the new Medical Act had been in force; that, some time ago, a movement was commenced in Cheshire for the purpose of organising Registration Associations, with the view of giving such information to the Registrar of the Medical Council as might from time to time assist him in his work, and of preventing illegal practitioners from having their names inserted in the register which is to be published. Another object which he thought must have been contemplated by those who formed this original Association, was the general protection of the profession. Now, it had occurred to him, and he had no doubt it had occurred to many members of the British Medical Association, that they possessed in the organisation of the Association, and especially in its Branches, an admirable machinery for carrying out the objects of this Registration Association; and, although it might seem that they had come somewhat late into the field, yet he ventured to think that, for all practical purposes, they were quite early enough. It had occurred to him that it was desirable some movement should be started in connexion with the Association; and accordingly, with the sanction of their President, Mr. Jones, a meeting of the Council of this Branch of the Association was called, for the purpose of laying the subject before them, and getting their authority for calling general meetings. This meeting of the Council took place at the early part of this month, and the Council then agreed it was desirable the Branch should take a movement with respect to this matter. It was also thought desirable that they should not have one general meeting, to include the whole members of the Branch, but that they should have district meetings, with the view of forming district associations. Accordingly, the Council decided that meetings should be held in Liverpool, in Manchester, and in Preston. As to the desirability of holding meetings in other towns, it was a matter for further consideration; the Council thought at first it was only necessary to have meetings in these three towns. Now, with regard to this Association, if any one had taken the trouble of reading the Medical Act—and he supposed there was no one present who had not done so—he would observe that there were certain clauses in the Act referring to registration, and also referring to protection. It might be said, as it had been

said—for he had heard it over and over again—that the Act would work very well, that it was the duty of the Registrar to see that none other than legally qualified men were entered upon the register. But it seemed to him that one Registrar, living in London, could not discharge the duty himself—that it was quite impossible for one Registrar living in London to give that time and consideration which were necessary in order effectually to carry out the terms of this Act. It seemed to him that the profession must take some voluntary steps on its own account, in order to prevent those persons who were not qualified getting on the register, and for the purpose of giving information from time to time with respect to those who were either assuming titles to which they had no claim, or were practising without any qualification. He therefore thought there was quite room enough—indeed, that there was a call for Associations of this sort, without taking any work out of the hands of the Medical Council.

Dr. WATERS (Chester) said a resolution had been put into his hands, which had for its object the carrying out of what had been so ably laid before this meeting by their worthy Honorary Secretary. He had said so much with regard to the necessity of the formation of some association of the gentlemen in the profession scattered throughout the country, to assist the Registrar, that it would be quite unnecessary for him to dilate further upon that point. It was required that the register should be published, as it would be, very early in the ensuing year, and consequently there was little more than a month from this time until then for its completion; so it was manifestly impossible for any one man, however great his energies, to investigate the claims of all those who might come before him with documents which they set forward as entitling them to be upon the register. The work was manifestly more than any single individual could get through, even though he was assisted by clerks, supposing those clerks to be resident in London. He therefore fully entered into the feelings under which the meeting had been called, and begged to propose—

“That an Association be formed, for the purpose of aiding in effectually carrying out the provisions of the new Medical Act; and that such Association be called the ‘Liverpool Medical Registration Association, in connexion with the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch of the British Medical Association.’”

Cheshire had certainly the merit of originating the first movement in this matter. It was started in Northwich, where Dr. Holmes and some other energetic members of the profession felt that it was impossible for the Registrar to get through his work. After failing in establishing a local association at Northwich, he came to Chester to constitute it the headquarters of a district, embracing the whole of Cheshire, which was subsequently divided into two divisions according to the parliamentary division. At the time the subject was brought before a section in Cheshire, a suggestion was thrown out that this was labour which the organisation of the British Medical Association was peculiarly adapted to carry out with effect, and that it could do so without the formation of other little societies having so slight an object to work upon. [*Hear, hear.*] That such a suggestion had been acted upon was a great satisfaction to him; and he had come there with a view of showing, though a member of a Branch Association, that it was better to merge all these little societies in a movement connected with the British Medical Association, which, through its Branches, would enable the country to be really efficiently worked, and without individuals incurring the odium of being actuated by personal motives, as it would have the feeling of the profession throughout the country in its favour. [*Hear, hear.*]

Mr. MATHER (Ashton) seconded the motion, and he referred to the aristocracy being the supporters, to a great extent, of the principal quacks in their profession.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Dr. VOSE proposed the next resolution—

“That all legally qualified regular practitioners of medicine, resident in Liverpool, Birkenhead, and the adjacent parts of Lancashire and Cheshire, be eligible as members of the Liverpool Medical Registration Association.”

He hoped that in moving this resolution, it would be acknowledged sufficiently stringent, so as not by the remotest chance to admit any other than regularly qualified practitioners. At this day, when empiricism was so rife throughout the land, he should most particularly wish to guard himself, and to guard themselves and those by whom he had the honour to be surrounded, against this hydra-headed monster; and he hoped they should be able to guard against men in any way tinctured with empiricism ever getting enrolled in the Association. If this resolution was not at present sufficiently

stringently worded, he should wish to disclaim the responsibility of it; but from the character of the gentleman who put it into his hand, he had full confidence. [*Hear, hear.*]

Mr. FLETCHER had great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Dr. O'BRYEN asked if there were not certain rules of the British Medical Association by which individuals guilty of a breach of other rules rendered themselves liable to be expelled, or became thereby non-members. He thought the motion ought to have additional words, to the effect, "provided always they are not incapacitated by a breach of any of the rules of the Association." He alluded to those gentlemen who were in the habit of meeting homœopathists. [*Hear, hear.*]

Mr. WATERS saw no objection to altering the resolution to meet Dr. O'Bryen's views. The wording of the resolution had been carefully considered. He thought "legally qualified" would not have met their views, and therefore the word "regular" practitioners had been introduced.

Dr. Vose suggested whether it would not be well to insert the words "who have not disqualified themselves by any conduct rendering themselves liable to expulsion from the society," or words to that effect.

Mr. WATERS said that would necessitate a retrospective action on the part of the Association. They would, perhaps, not be justified in going back.

Dr. O'BRYEN said he was very sorry to see many leading men of the profession—there were some honourable exceptions—who did not think it beneath them to meet homœopathists and to assist them, or at any rate to hold consultations with men such as "water doctors," as they were called, but who did not confine themselves to water. [*Laughter.*] At this day, with such an Act, they ought to have the energy to shut out all showmen of that description. They had a position to maintain, and he thought they ought to shut out little men who encouraged such things, and broke their rules.

Mr. GLAZEBROOK entirely agreed with the remarks of Dr. O'Bryen. He was very sorry to say there were medical men in Liverpool who thought it not undignified in them to enter the back door when the homœopathists had retired from the front. He had known several instances of this kind; and he thought medical men ought to record their disapproval of such conduct. By such conduct, a professional man gave his professional sanction to that with which he disagreed. He would have them to show that they entirely disapproved of homœopathy, and that they would not have its professors to mingle with them as medical men. [*Hear, hear.*]

Mr. WATERS proposed adding to the resolution, "Provided they are not disqualified as members of the British Medical Association."

Dr. O'BRYEN did not think that was strong enough; he thought it was much too general. He did not think they ought to fear taking the bull by the horns.

Dr. Vose asked if there was a distinct rule in the Association with regard to irregular practitioners.

Mr. WATERS said a member must be proposed by three members of the Association, and could then be elected; but if it was found that he was a homœopathist, he could be expelled at the first annual meeting succeeding his election.

Dr. O'BRYEN asked if the rule would apply to those who met homœopathists. He knew such men; and he thought such men ought to be marked.

Mr. WATERS said it would apply, if any member was accused of professional misconduct.

Dr. O'BRYEN. No; that will not do. I want this resolution to be made as stringent as the rules will allow us.

It was explained, that no homœopathist could be a member of this Association.

Dr. WATERS said, that one very important thing to take into consideration was, that homœopathists were entitled to register under this Bill. They were there forming themselves into an Association to assist the Registrar. He would really leave the matter of the homœopathists to themselves; by agitating the matter they did themselves no good, and only gave importance to those men. He would treat them as he would treat the proprietors of Parr's Life-Pills, or the proprietors of any such things. Hydropathists, homœopathists, and professors of such matters, he never troubled himself about. If he met the advocates of homœopathy in private society, he smiled at them. It was true, they had an homœopathist in Chester; but this was not to be wondered at, for a little quackery must flourish. Persons left without hope were glad to catch at straws. He would not mention their names at that meeting; and they were excluded from becoming members by the laws of the As-

sociation. He wished the resolution to be put as it was proposed in the first instance; and if it was the wish of the meeting that another resolution should be adopted excluding homœopathists and other quacks, it would be well to move separately for that special object.

Dr. O'BRYEN wished to introduce a clause excluding those who were in the habit of meeting homœopathists.

Mr. WATERS thought the rule was quite sufficient to exclude homœopathists, hydropathists, or any other quacks, but not those who met them.

Dr. WATERS said the object of this Association was very simple. It was merely to exclude from the register those who were not legally qualified. He was not aware that they had any other object in this meeting than to ensure the correctness of the matter. Persons might become associated with the objects of the Association without becoming members of the British Medical Association at all [*hear, hear*]; and if a homœopathist were to come there to the meeting, and say, "I will work with you," he did not see upon what principle they could possibly exclude him, he being desirous of excluding incompetent practitioners as well as they were. He gave an instance, that in a neighbouring town there was a homœopathic practitioner supposed to possess some degree from the United States. He walked away with some of the practice of an established homœopathist in the same town. The established homœopathist attended a meeting convened for a similar purpose to the present one, and he was exceedingly anxious that those foreign degrees should be well investigated [*laughter*]. There were numbers in this country who called themselves doctors of medicine, who held the title really by no other than a forged degree. A very striking instance of this kind occurred in the case of the late surgeon of the 1st Cheshire Militia, who was styled M.D., of Erlangen, in Germany. When his effects were overlooked, a number of blank diplomas were found, and no doubt he would have been ready to grant any one of them to those who felt inclined to meet his terms. There was a whole roll of these blank diplomas, and no doubt they were in his hand for the purpose of making them useful in any way he could.

Mr. STEELE had no desire to be connected with the homœopathists, but they knew very well they could demand to be registered [*hear, hear*]. He thought they could carry out the objects of the Association quite well, and assist the Registrar quite efficiently, without any assistance from the homœopathists [*hear, hear*]; and, upon the simple principle of avoiding any collision and any communication with homœopathists in any shape or way, he would advocate a resolution excluding homœopathists, and those who meet them, from this Association.

Mr. GIBSON observed, that they were wandering from the objects of the meeting; but he had observed that the principal homœopathic practitioner in this town claimed to be a member of the Medical Institution. [*A laugh.*]

The CHAIRMAN remarked, that they did not meet as members of the Institution.

Mr. WATERS asked Dr. O'Bryen to propose something.

It was then agreed to add the words to the resolution, "provided always they have not disqualified themselves by meeting those who practise irregularly."

Dr. NEVINS asked who was to judge of the disqualification. He thought they were travelling wide of the subject.

The CHAIRMAN said, he presumed the committee to be formed would be the judges.

Mr. FLETCHER said, one thing at a time was the best way of doing business; and as Dr. Vose had left the meeting, he thought it desirable to put the motion as it stood when Dr. Vose proposed it. He thought it would be somewhat absurd to make more stringent laws than those which regulated the Association, of which this was an offshoot. He disapproved as strongly as any man could do the practice of meeting homœopathists [*hear, hear*]; but he thought they had nothing to do with them at that meeting, and the further they kept away the better.

About half an hour was spent in discussing the regularity or irregularity of proposing Dr. Vose's motion,—a motion to which something had been added since he left. The difficulty was got out of by Mr. Fletcher withdrawing from the motion, and it was proposed with the alteration, as the motion, by Dr. O'Bryen. It was as follows:—

"That all legally qualified, regular practitioners of medicine, resident in Liverpool, Birkenhead, and the adjacent parts of Lancashire and Cheshire, be eligible as members of the Liverpool Medical Registration Association; provided always that

they have not disqualified themselves by meeting those who practise irregularly."

Mr. FLETCHER then proposed the original motion as an amendment. In doing so, he felt bound to protest against the imputation that he did not wish to stand clear of homœopathy. He never had met, never would meet, and had always opposed meeting homœopaths, simply because they had no common scientific ground upon which to meet, and therefore any consultation must be a sham. But he strongly objected to anything that should give to any council or any body a right to inquisition, which that motion certainly would endow them with. It seemed to him that certain questions, when brought before them, acted like a red rag shaken before a bull. The subject of homœopathy seemed to excite some, and to rob them of the reason they possessed. He felt ashamed of the report which would have to go before the public of these proceedings. Let them attack homœopathy in a fair way, but don't let them go out of their way. It was utterly absurd and ridiculous to think that attacks of that sort could ever overturn error, however glaring or absurd that error may be. He thought the object of the Association was to exclude those who were simply lying, when they said they had a proper medical qualification. They did not wish to attack those gentlemen who they might believe were the victims of one of the most absurd delusions that ever pestered mankind. Yet he was convinced some as firmly believed in the truth of those opinions as they themselves did of theirs. [*No, no.*]

Mr. BURROWS wished to know what meaning they would attach to the phrase "irregular practitioner".

The PRESIDENT said it would refer to those who had passed an examination and obtained a diploma, if they afterwards became homœopaths or hydropathists. They, as gentlemen, in order to keep up the profession, would not allow them to associate with them. [*Hear, hear.*] He could not meet homœopaths in private consultation; therefore he should not wish to meet them there. [*Hear, hear.*] Meeting them in private society was a different thing. He thought a man who became a homœopathist or hydropathist violated a form of oath he took in obtaining his diploma at College, in which he says he will not do anything derogatory to the profession.

Dr. WATERS also protested against any imputation of being in any way favourable to homœopathy or any other system of quackery, because he spoke against the motion. He begged to second Mr. Fletcher's motion.

Dr. AYRTON, in vindication of Mr. Fletcher, must say that he had applied to him frequently, to ascertain whether a certain professional man was or was not "orthodox".

Mr. GLAZEBROOK said he only wished to prevent the introduction of the sharp end of the wedge of homœopathy.

Mr. GIBSON would be inclined to refuse even to meet a homœopathist in private life.

On the amendment being submitted, it was lost by 10 to 7; the motion, as altered, was carried by 11.

Dr. STOKES said the motion he had now to propose related merely to the sinews of war. It was as follows:—

"That every member of the Registration Association shall, on admission, pay an entrance fee of 2s. 6d."

Mr. MANIFOLD seconded the motion, and it was adopted.

Mr. STEELE proposed—

"That the following gentlemen, in addition to the President and Secretary of the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch of the British Medical Association, Mr. Ellis Jones and Mr. Waters, constitute a Committee, with power to add to their number, for carrying out the objects of the Registration Association; and that any three members shall form a quorum: Drs. Vose, Dickinson, Turnbull, Inman, Macintyre, Stookes, Imlach, Chalmers, Hill, Nevins, O'Brien, Wilson, and Ayrton, of Liverpool; Craig, of Birkenhead; Messrs. Desmond, E. Parke, Fletcher, Manifold, Steele, Swift, McCheane, E. Lister, Burrows, and Hensman, of Liverpool; Bylesley, of Seacombe; Mather, of Ashton-in-Mackerfield; Woolton, of Prescott; and Gibson, of Lower Bebington."

Mr. Steele observed, that it was a singular circumstance that this Medical Act which had just been passed, and for which they were paying, and which Government had undertaken to carry out, after all could not be worked without the assistance of the Association.

Mr. WATERS. Ours is a voluntary aid.

Dr. BURROWS seconded the motion, and it was then carried.

Dr. NEVINS moved—

"That the Liverpool Medical Registration Association shall include within its limits such portions of the counties of Lancashire and Cheshire as the Committee shall decide; and that,

for this purpose, it is desirable that the Committee should co-operate with the Committees of other Registration Associations to be formed, so that every part of the two counties above mentioned may be brought into relation with one or other of such Associations."

Mr. MCHEANE seconded the resolution, and it was adopted.

Dr. O'BRYEN next proposed—

"That the duties of the Committee shall be—to procure a correct list of all the legally qualified practitioners of medicine resident in the district which the Association includes, and, as far as possible, the names of all those who are practising without any qualification; to give such information to the Registrar of the Medical Council, from time to time, as they may think desirable, with the view of aiding in effectually carrying out the provisions of the Medical Act, both with respect to registration and protection; and that they shall have the power of summoning a meeting of the members of the Association at any time, on giving four days notice of the same." He thought they should ascertain the names of those without proper qualifications.

Mr. WATERS said the Committee now appointed would be in communication with the other Associations formed in connexion with the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch of the British Medical Association. They would collect all the information they could, and give as much as they thought proper to the Registrar of the Medical Council.

Mr. GIBSON seconded the motion, and it was carried.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the business of the meeting.

II.—MEETING IN MANCHESTER.

THE meeting in Manchester was held at the Town Hall, on Friday, November 26th; ELLIS JONES, Esq., President of the Branch, in the chair. There were also present: Henry Abye, Esq. (Stratford); S. Beecroft, Esq. (Hyde); G. Bowring, Esq. (Manchester); J. Chadwick, M.D. (Bolton); R. Cooper, Esq. (Leek); T. W. Dyson, Esq. (Manchester); John Galt, Esq. (Ashton-under-Lyne); J. B. Harrison, M.D. (Manchester); J. Hatton, Esq. (Manchester); T. B. Knott, Esq. (Middletown); T. C. Leak, Esq. (Hyde); S. D. Lees, M.D. (Ashton-under-Lyne); St. John W. Lucas, Esq. (Manchester); F. C. Mallahieu, Esq. (Fairfield); G. Mallett, Esq. (Bolton); J. Martin, Esq. (Hindley); W. C. Matthews, Esq. (Longsight); T. Mellor, Esq. (Manchester); J. A. Pearson, Esq. (Buxton); H. Simpson, Esq. (Lymm); W. Skinner, Esq. (Manchester); J. Thorburn, M.D. (Manchester); G. Turner, M.D. (Stockport); A. T. H. Waters, Esq. (Liverpool); E. Wilkinson, M.D. (Manchester); H. M. Williamson, Esq. (Manchester); etc.

THE PRESIDENT and the honorary secretary (Mr. WATERS) explained the object of the meeting.

Mr. SOUTHAM moved,

"That an Association be formed for the purpose of aiding in effectually carrying out the provisions of the New Medical Act; and that such Association be called 'The Manchester District Medical Registration Association, in connexion with the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch of the British Medical Association.'"

Whether the duties of the Association would be heavy or light would depend very much upon the manner in which the Medical Council carried out the provisions of the Act. The Medical Council consisted almost entirely of members representing the different corporations. Great powers were given to the Council, and it would depend very much upon the manner in which they fulfilled their duties whether the Medical Act would be of any use to the profession or not. There could be no doubt that the Act would be very serviceable to the profession and the public if its provisions were strictly carried into effect. [*Hear, hear.*] Of course the duty of registering the names would devolve upon the Registrar, who would be appointed by the Medical Council; but it was quite clear that in many instances parties would endeavour to get on the register who had no right to be there. He had heard of several instances lately of parties who were practising who did not exactly come within the pale of the profession, nor were they exactly out of it; parties who had no qualification whatever, but who would, no doubt, attempt to show that they were at an early period of their lives in some measure connected with the profession, and in this way endeavour to register. Now these were the parties they would have to look after. There were several of them in the country practising illegally: of course there were others who were respectable members of the profession, and no person would attempt to interfere with their re-

gistration. Their chief difficulty would be with those illegal practitioners who would seek to register by declaring that they were practising the profession previous to the Act of 1815. With regard to other parties who were properly qualified, he did not think that the Registrar would have much difficulty.

Dr. BOWER HARRISON seconded the motion. He thought there could be no difference of opinion as to the desirability of aiding the government in carrying out the Bill, and checking the encroachments of those men whose quack advertisements appeared in the papers. He regarded the Act as a salutary measure for the better regulation of the profession.

A discussion ensued, in which the opinion was expressed that as wide an influence should be brought to bear as possible in support of the Association, and that the surrounding towns should be well represented. The resolution passed unanimously.

Dr. TURNER (Stockport) moved—

"That every member of the Registration Association shall, on admission, pay an entrance fee of 2s. 6d."

Mr. H. M. WILLIAMSON seconded the motion; which was carried unanimously.

Mr. HATTON moved—

"That a committee be appointed, to consist of the President, Vice-Presidents, and Secretary of the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch of the British Medical Association, together with five members to be nominated for Manchester, two for Bolton, Ashton, Oldham, and Stockport, and one for each Poor-law union, with power to add to their number, to carry out the objects of the Registration Association: and that any three members form a quorum."

Mr. MELLOR seconded the motion, which was carried after considerable discussion.

Dr. B. HARRISON referred with approval to the exertions of the Manchester Medico-Ethical Association in the same direction.

The following gentlemen were nominated on the Committee, with power to add to their number: Messrs. Southam, H. M. Williamson, T. Mellor, and Dr. Wilkinson, of Manchester; Messrs. Mallett and Wolstanholme, of Bolton; Dr. Lees and Mr. Galt, of Ashton; Mr. Halkvard and Dr. Murray, of Oldham; and Dr. Turner and Mr. Downs, of Stockport.

Mr. JOHN HATTON proposed—

"That all legally qualified regular practitioners of medicine, resident in Manchester and the surrounding districts, be eligible as members of the Manchester District Registration Association."

Mr. Hatton said they had now got what they had long been working for, or at any rate a fair instalment of what they wanted, in the Medical Act, and its good effects were already visible. Instances were mentioned in which the word "surgeon" or "doctor" had been removed from the doors of unqualified practitioners since the passing of the Act. One who formerly dubbed himself "Dr." now advertised himself as "Professor." It would have to be seen if they could not deprive him of that title also.

Dr. WILKINSON seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

A discussion took place as to the desirability of using the words "regular" practitioner. The Secretary had a strong opinion of the importance of the word "regular", and it was agreed to retain it. The Secretary stated, in answer to a question, that there was no positive rule forbidding irregular practitioners being members of the British Medical Association; but it was necessary that any one desiring to join should be nominated by three members; and that, if he should be accused of professional impropriety or misconduct, a majority of two-thirds at an annual or special general meeting might expel the offending member. The Liverpool resolution had been made still more stringent, it being declared that those should be excluded from the Association who had disqualified themselves by meeting those who practised irregularly.

Mr. MALLETT (Bolton) moved—

"That the Manchester District Medical Registration Association shall include within its limits such portions of the counties of Lancashire and Cheshire as the Committee shall decide; and that, for this purpose, it is desirable that the Committee should cooperate with the Committees of other Registration Associations to be formed, so that every part of the two counties above mentioned may be brought into relation with one or other of such Associations."

He did not think the Act was so good a one as they deserved, after all their agitation; still he cordially approved of making it as efficient as possible.

Dr. LEES (Ashton) seconded the motion, and it passed without comment.

Mr. MALLALIEU (Fairfield) moved—

"That the duties of the Committee shall be to procure a correct list of all the legally qualified practitioners of medicine resident in the district which the Association includes, and, as far as possible, the names of all those who are practising without any qualification; to give such information to the Registrar of the Medical Council from time to time as they may consider desirable, with the view of aiding in effectually carrying out the provisions of the Medical Act, both with respect to registration and protection. That they shall have the power of summoning a meeting of the members of the Association at any time, on giving four days notice of the same."

Dr. CHADWICK seconded the motion, and it was adopted.

The SECRETARY explained that the word "protection" in the resolution had reference rather to ulterior measures that might be necessary.

It was unanimously resolved that Mr. H. M. Williamson be appointed Treasurer and Secretary. Mr. Williamson's duties began at once, a number of gentlemen handing in their subscriptions.

Mr. Mallett having been requested to take the vacated chair, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman, which Mr. Jones acknowledged, and the meeting terminated.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

MEDICAL REGISTRATION.

At a meeting of the Council of the Bath Branch, held on November 19th, it was unanimously resolved:—

"That this Council, having given their best attention to those clauses of the Medical Act referring to the Registration of Medical Practitioners, are of opinion that the provisions of that Act do not require that a Local Registration Association should at present be formed for this city and neighbourhood. If, after the Registrar is appointed, it shall appear that local associations can aid him in the due performance of his duty, this Council will be ready to assist in the formation of one for this district."

At a meeting of the Council of the Bristol Branch, held on November 26th, it was unanimously resolved:—

"That this Council are of opinion that, unless the system of registration adopted by the Medical Council prove inefficient, there is no necessity for the formation of any Local Registration Associations."

ADMISSION OF MEMBERS, AND PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

THE General Secretary of the British Medical Association begs to call the attention of members to the Laws regarding the ADMISSION OF MEMBERS, and the PAYMENT of their SUBSCRIPTIONS.

"Admission of Members." 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.

"Subscriptions." 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 for the current year. The subscription shall date from the 1st January in each year, and shall be considered as due unless notice of withdrawal be given in writing to the Secretary on or before the 25th of December previous.

Either of the following modes of payment may be adopted:—

1. Payment by Post-Office Order to the Treasurer (Sir C. Hastings, M.D., Worcester), or to the undersigned.
2. Payment to the Secretary of the Branch to which the member belongs.
3. Members residing in the Metropolis and vicinity can make their payments through the publisher of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, Mr. Thomas John Honeyman, 37, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

PHILIP H. WILLIAMS, M.D., *General Secretary.*

Worcester, September 1858.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
METROP. COUNTIES.	11, Montagu Place,	Tuesday,
[Special General Meeting.]	Bryanstone Square.	Dec. 7th, 8 P.M.

READING BRANCH.

A special general meeting of this Branch will be held at the Royal Berks Hospital, on

Wednesday, December 15th, at 6.30 P.M.

Business.—To adopt measures to promote efficient registration.

GEORGE MAY, JUN., *Hon. Sec.*

Reading, November 22nd, 1858.

Editor's Letter Box.

INFRAMAMMARY PAIN.

LETTER FROM HOLMES COOTE, ESQ.

SIR,—The discussion upon inframammary pain between Dr. Inman, my brother Dr. Coote, and Dr. Fuller, must be interesting to all those who regard the phenomena of neuralgia in a proper light; namely, as pointing to some obscure or hidden disease, which it is the duty of the physician to investigate. Doubtless, this pain is excited by more causes than one; and I cannot pretend to explain the exact condition during its persistence of the nerve-fibrils or of the vessels which surround them. But I would remark, that inframammary pain is one of the very earliest and commonest symptoms of incipient lateral curvature of the spine. I know it so frequently in connexion with this deformity, that I should almost insensibly investigate the state of the spine upon hearing the complaint of pain; and, finally, it has been recognised and described in this point of view since the days of Delpach, and for all I know, anterior even to him. He says (*Orthomorphie*, tom. ii, p. 10, 1828): "Another interesting remark, and which it is necessary to know *à priori*, because the object which it concerns, can teach nothing by induction, is relative to a constant pain, somewhat vague in its seat, which takes place sometimes in the side of the chest below the mamma, sometimes in the epigastric region. This pain has no known cause; its duration is usually constant; but its intensity is variable; its periods of calm and of exacerbation have nothing regular; there is no disturbance of the functions of the organs in the seat of pain; nothing quiets it; nothing relieves it. It is accompanied by slow, progressive, and inexplicable deterioration of the general health. It is evidently allied to something grave but quite clandestine. . . . In the winter of 1817, I was consulted by a young person, aged 11, of pale complexion and naturally slight frame, who for two years had been suffering from pains, often co-existent, in the epigastrium and left inframammary region. She had become very thin; her sleep was often disturbed by her suffering. The pain was never acute, but its constancy made it intolerable. The girl had lost her gaiety and become very depressed, but respiration was good, the functions of the heart free, and the stomach did not appear the source of the disorder."

In this case curvature of the spine was recognised, so slight that Delpach was obliged to mark the apices of the spine as processes with ink, and then to let fall a delicate plumb-line in order to demonstrate the deviation.

The greater frequency of spinal curvature to one side may explain in some measure the obedience of inframammary pain to a similar law: its greater frequency in the dorsal region may account for the occurrence of the pain in the superior and not in the inferior part of the abdominal walls; and if there be any connection between the two, we may understand why it does not occur in other parts of the muscular system.

I put forward these replies to the questions of Dr. Fuller, with the hope rather of courting inquiry, than of offering a solution to a very difficult question.

I am, etc., HOLMES COOTE.

New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, Nov. 28th, 1858.

Medical News.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, AND APPOINTMENTS.

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

BIRTHS.

COLLINS. On November 16th, at Chew Magna, Somerset, the wife of *Charles Howell Collins, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

KIDD. On November 24th, at Blackheath, the wife of Joseph Kidd, M.D., of a son.

NEALE. On November 29th, at 18, Westbourne Terrace, Eaton Square, the wife of W. M. Neale, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

PEARSE. On November 22nd, at Cardiff, the wife of Frederick Pearse, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

RODEN. On November 22nd, at Droitwich, the wife of *Serjeant S. Roden, M.D., of a son.

WYNTER. On Nov. 29th, at Coleherne Court, Old Brompton, the wife of *Andrew Wynter, M.D., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

AUBERT—PARKINSON. Aubert, William Hobson, Esq., of Brussels, to Elizabeth Anna, second daughter of W. H. Parkinson, M.D., of the same place, on November 25th.

BRUNTON—BRISTOWE. Brunton, William Riddell, Esq., of Morpeth, to Lucy, eldest daughter of John Syer Bristowe, Esq., Surgeon, of Camberwell, on November 24th.

HOLLAND—TREVELYAN. Holland, Henry Thurston, Esq., eldest son of Sir Henry Holland, Bart., M.D., F.R.S., to Margaret Jean, eldest daughter of Sir Charles E. Trevelyan, K.C.B., at St. Michael's Chester Square, on November 25th.

HUGHES—TURNER. Hughes, Ambrose Cecil, Esq., Surgeon, of Liverpool, to Elizabeth Caroline, eldest daughter of Charles Turner, Esq., late of the Admiralty, Somerset House, at St. Mary's, Islington, on November 24th.

WILKIN—DODDS. Wilkin, Sydney James, Esq., third son of Henry Wilkin, Esq., Surgeon, of Connaught Place, to Sarah Mary, eldest daughter of the late William Dodds, Esq., at St. James's Church, Westbourne Terrace, on November 25th.

DEATHS.

ADAMS. On November 22nd, at Brighton, Lucy, youngest daughter of the late George Adams, M.D.

DUKE, Valentine, Knight of the Royal Swedish Order of Vasa, formerly Medical Officer in the British Navy, at Brighton, aged 82, on November 18th.

FRANKLYN. On May 23rd, during a voyage to Calcutta, on board the *Raby Castle*, Leila Adriana, infant daughter—and on September 13th, at Calcutta, Agnes Sophia Maria, wife—of Dr. Franklyn, Surgeon of H.M.'s 77th Regiment.

*HEDGER, Alfred, M.D., at Torquay, aged 28, on November 25th.

MACINTYRE. On November 21st, at 128, Duke Street, Liverpool, Ada Stewart, second daughter of *Peter Macintyre, M.D., aged 11.

NELSON. On November 26th, at Richmond, Surrey, Emily, wife of Robert Nelson, M.D., formerly of Montreal, aged 43.

ROBINSON. On November 26th, at Edgbaston, near Birmingham, Elizabeth Mary, wife of Edmund Robinson, Esq., Surgeon, of King's Norton, aged 23.

SALMON, William Reynold Deere, Esq., Surgeon, and Barrister-at-law, at Brighton, on November 26th.

APPOINTMENTS.

BRODIE, Sir Benjamin Collins, F.R.C.S., elected President of the Royal Society.

PENFOLD, Henry, Esq., appointed Surgeon to the Sussex and Brighton Infirmary for Diseases of the Eye.

*STEDMAN, Silas, M.D., appointed Physician to the Sussex and Brighton Infirmary for Diseases of the Eye.

*TAAFFE, R. P. B., Esq., appointed Assistant-Surgeon to the Sussex and Brighton Infirmary for Diseases of the Eye.

HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING

NOVEMBER 27TH, 1858.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

THE unusually heavy mortality, which the returns of London for last week announce, will be seen with regret. In the first week of this month the deaths were 1,317, in the two following weeks they were 1,349 and 1,487, and in the week ending last Saturday they rose to 1,802. The mean temperature of the air in the first week of November was 43.3°; in the last three weeks, it was successively 39.0°, 35.5°, and 37.4°. Without attempting at present an exact appreciation of recent meteorological conditions in relation to health, it is sufficient to state that the mortality of the month attained its highest point, which was far above the average, in a week in which the thermometer fell 12° below the freezing point of water, and frost was then suddenly exchanged for heat and moisture.

In the ten years 1848-57, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1,150; but as the 1,802 deaths now returned occurred in an increased population, they should be compared with the average when the latter has been raised in proportion to the increase, a correction which will make it 1,265. Hence, it appears that 537 persons died last week in excess of the number that would have died if only the average rate of mortality for the end of November had prevailed.

A comparison of the results of the last two weeks exhibits an increase, more or less important, in all the classes in which the causes of death are distributed. Deaths from zymotic diseases increased from 356 in the previous week to 413 last week; constitutional diseases from 253 to 288; local (which include those of the respiratory organs) from 695 to 859; developmental from 131 to 174; and violent deaths from 35 to 42. To take some special diseases: scarlatina increased in the two weeks from 133 to 163; phthisis from 166 to 190; bronchitis from 211 to 310; pneumonia from 166 to only 169; asthma from 20 to 28.

The deaths of three men and five women are recorded who had attained the age of 90 years or upwards. The two oldest were women, who died at the age of 97 years.

Last week, the births of 840 boys and 921 girls, in all 1,761 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1848-57, the average number was 1,508.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.563 in. The barometrical readings varied from 28.84 in. to 30.06 in. The mean temperature of the week was 37.4°, which is 3.9° below the average of the same week in 43 years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). On the first four days the mean daily temperature was below, on the last three above the average; the depression on Tuesday and Wednesday was equal to 15°; on Friday the excess was 11°. The lowest point attained by the thermometer was 20.5° on Wednesday; the highest 58° on Friday. The entire range of the week was therefore 37.5°; the mean daily range was 12.3°. The range on Saturday was only 5.2°. Tuesday was the coldest day in November since November 23rd, 1827; and the mean temperature of Tuesday and Wednesday was lower than that of any two consecutive days in November as far back as authentic records extend. The mean temperature of Friday was higher than that of Tuesday and Wednesday by 25°. The difference between the mean dew-point temperature and air temperature was 2.3°. The mean degree of humidity of the air was 92. The mean temperature of the water of the Thames was 38.9°. The wind blew from the east, afterwards from the south-east. Rain fell to the amount of 0.22 in.

LEPROSY IN PIEDMONT. The *Gazette Médicale de Lyon* announces that an infirmary for lepers has been established at St. Remy, a town of Piedmont, situated on the coast. In this locality there are about forty persons affected with leprosy. They were scattered about the country, and each received a pension. This bounty, derived from the religious order of St. Maurice, indirectly caused a deplorable result; for the unfortunate individuals, in consequence of the subsidy which they received, very easily found opportunities of marriage, and thus transmitted their disease to their offspring. The pension is henceforth suppressed; and the patients are to be received into an institution where they will have every care and enjoy every desirable convenience. If most of them resolve to enter, it is to be hoped that the malady, in the locality mentioned, will become extinct. (*L'Union Médicale*, Nov. 18.)

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

[THE following documents, in reference to the election of Dr. Storrar, have been forwarded for publication.]

Some misapprehension appears to exist in certain quarters as to the objects and sentiments of those graduates who have recently taken an active part in ascertaining and asserting the rights of themselves and of their fellow-graduates, in the matter of electing a representative to the Medical Council.

Having officiated as Secretaries to the public meeting of November 17th, at No. 5, Cavendish Square, we have been brought into communication (in most cases by letter) with more than one hundred of the medical graduates in town and country, and have, therefore, been able to ascertain the general feeling in respect to the question at issue. At the request of many, and in obedience to our own conviction, we think it desirable to state what appear to be the sentiments of the very large majority of those with and for whom we have hitherto acted.

1. It is almost unanimously regarded as a point of the first importance to ascertain with whom the right of election to the Medical Council, on behalf of the University, really lies—whether with the Senate exclusively, or with the whole Corporation as constituted by the charter.

This vital question can only be settled by an appeal to the Court of Queen's Bench, the highest legal authority in the matter; and the only method of raising it is by the issue of an information in the nature of a writ of *quo warranto* against Dr. Storrar, for which a rule *nisi* was obtained on the last day of Michaelmas Term (November 25).

Let it be remarked that no personal question is here involved; no personal feeling is manifested or can be gratified by the proceeding. It is a matter between the Senate and the graduates at large. Had the representative selected been one against whom no word of objection had ever been uttered, it would have been equally the duty of the graduates to assert their right (if it exists) to the exercise of an important function. It is a question wholly of principle, not of person. Further, we believe there is a general conviction, in which we unhesitatingly participate, that the Senate intended by this election to act conformably to the wishes of the graduates, respecting which, however, there can be no doubt that it had been seriously misinformed.

2. Certain objections have been made to Dr. Storrar, as a representative of the University in the Medical Council, on the ground that he is not the most fitting man to hold that position.

On this question it is sufficient to make the following statement. Seventy-five graduates, among whom are many of the most distinguished members of the Faculty of Medicine, have forcibly stated in writing their convictions to this effect, and have signed a copy of the resolution expressing them, with a view to its being laid before the Senate; while a considerable number who have not signed this document, have given adhesion to the sentiments which it expresses. The fact that Dr. Storrar does not represent a very large and important portion of that Faculty is now indisputable. Personally, and on behalf of our associates, we most emphatically disavow any objection to Dr. Storrar, except such as exists on purely public grounds. The duty of making a protest against his election has been to us an unpleasant and painful one; the more so, that we are aware how zealously he cooperated with the original Graduates' Committee in promoting the objects for which it was organised. But while according him all the credit he may claim for these services, we maintain that they confer on him no title to represent the interests of our profession in the National Medical Council.

An effort has been made to identify this movement with a section of the graduates who belong to the College of Physicians. A complete reply to this utterly unfounded allegation is the fact, that of the seventy-five medical graduates who have recorded their signatures, a large majority are not members of that body. Nothing can be more irrelevant to the question at issue than its complication with this subject. We are at a loss to understand how good service can arise to any cause by attempts to perpetuate party jealousies between the various sections of our profession.

The only question for our present consideration is briefly explained in the accompanying paper, to which we very respectfully request your attention.

EDWARD BALLARD, M.D.

HENRY THOMPSON, F.R.C.S., M.B.

November 30th, 1858.

Address to Members of Convocation.

November 24th, 1858.

The question that has been raised as to the right of the senate to appoint a representative to the Medical Council is entirely distinct from, and independent of, the qualifications of the gentleman in whose favour the senate has in this instance exercised an assumed right. The subject is one in which the whole body of graduates is equally interested; for although it happens that the graduates of the medical faculty are, to-day, more directly and vitally concerned, it may, to-morrow, be a question affecting exclusively the interests of the graduates in Arts and Laws.

The real point involved in this dispute is, whether a power conferred by an Act of Parliament, passed subsequently to the date of our charter, upon "The University of London," is vested in the senate alone, or in that body in conjunction with the graduates. The absolute necessity for at once obtaining an authoritative decision on this point will appear from the following consideration alone; namely, that, according to the interpretation which the senate has put upon the Medical Reform Act, if the Legislature should at any future time confer parliamentary representation upon "The University of London," the right of electing *our* members in the House of Commons would belong to the senate exclusively, unless the electors were specifically defined.

A number of the graduates have, therefore, resolved to bring this important question before the Court of Queen's Bench, by applying, during the present term, for an information in the nature of a writ of *quo warranto* against Dr. Storrar; and they have entered into a subscription for the purpose of defraying the expenses of this proceeding, which are estimated at between £80 and £100.

It is earnestly hoped that all graduates, without distinction, will add their names to the subscription list, and thus contribute to the fund which is to be expended in ascertaining and asserting their rights.

It may be added, that the senate has declined to comply with the request made to it by Convocation to submit a case on the question to the law officers of the Crown, having certified the election of Dr. Storrar to the Privy Council; so that no other course than that above indicated is open to the graduates, unless they are willing in this, and all similar cases, to abandon any of their rights which may be disputed by the senate.

[The sum already subscribed amounts to £48.]

Opinion of Mr. E. James, Q.C.

1. I am of opinion that the choice of a member of the Medical Council is not vested in the Senate.

This is not in anywise a matter falling under the description of "affairs, concerns, and property of the said University," nor does the nominee range under the category of "examiners, officers, and servants of the said University."

2. I am of opinion also that the choice does not rest with the Convocation.

At the time when the statute passed, the charter had already been granted, and by it the "University of London" is made to consist of the chancellor, vice-chancellor, fellows, and graduates. Parliament having such charter before it, as is shown by clause 53, and knowing, therefore, what the Senate and Convocation were, and what were their respective powers, does not give the choice to either of those bodies by name, as I conceive it would if the intention had been to confer the right of voting on a section of the University; but confers the choice upon the University at large, which it must have known consisted by the very terms of the charter, of the entire body of chancellor, vice-chancellor, fellows, and graduates. In my opinion, therefore, the senate, in electing a member of the Medical Council, have done that which they had no power to do, and that the gentleman so elected has no answer to a writ of *quo warranto*, if it shall be determined to question the jurisdiction of the Senate.

Upon the broad view of the statute I am clearly of opinion that the legislature intended to give to every one of the bodies named in the fourth section of the statute the privilege of electing a member to represent the entire body in the Medical Council, and that this could not be effected properly save by giving the right of voting to the entire body of graduates.

I may add that there are professorships at the University of Oxford for which all graduates (M.A.) are entitled to vote.

Suppose a statute were now to pass giving an additional member of Parliament *simpliciter* to the University of Oxford,

could it be contended for a moment with success that such additional member must be elected by any other body than the graduates at large? I think not.

EDWARD JAMES.

3, Paper Buildings, Temple, November 9th, 1858.

MEDICAL REGISTRATION: MEETING AT IPSWICH.

A MEETING of the medical practitioners of Suffolk, convened by private circular, was held at the Great White Horse Hotel, Ipswich, on Friday, November 26th. There were present; C. M. Durrant, M.D., in the Chair; A. H. Bartlet, Esq.; Dr. Bartlet; G. Bullen, Esq.; G. Bullen, jun., Esq.; Dr. Chevallier; G. C. Edwards, Esq.; W. Elliston, Esq.; J. O. Francis, Esq.; C. C. Hammond, Esq.; C. W. Hammond, Esq.; W. P. Mills, Esq.; W. Mumford, Esq.; T. Peacock, Esq.; J. Pilcher, Esq.; G. C. Sampson, Esq. (all of Ipswich); H. R. Cooper, Esq. (Ixworth); W. Cooper, Esq. (Bury St. Edmund's); W. Cuthbert, Esq. (Mendlesham); W. Ebdon, Esq. (Haughley); H. Gramshaw, Esq. (Laxfield); G. E. Jeaffreson, Esq. (Framlingham); R. Martin, Esq. (Holbrook); J. T. Muriel, Esq. (Hadleigh); W. Muriel, Esq. (Wickham Market); T. Radford, Esq. (Aspall). Letters were read from W. E. Crowfoot, Esq. (Beccles); H. L. Freeman, Esq. (Saxmundham); H. Garland, Esq. (Yoxford); R. V. Gorham, Esq. (Aldeburgh); W. E. Image, Esq.; and S. Newnham, Esq. (Bury St. Edmund's); E. Lock, Esq. (Debenham); S. Randall, Esq. (Yoxford); Dr. Williams (Southwold).

The following resolutions were unanimously agreed to:—

1. Proposed by W. MURIEL, Esq., seconded by C. C. HAMMOND, Esq.—

"That an Association be formed of duly qualified medical practitioners, to be called 'The Suffolk Medical Registration Association.'"

2. Proposed by R. MARTIN, Esq., seconded by H. R. COOPER, Esq.—

"That the object of the Association be to assist the Registrar to carry out the provisions of the new Medical Act."

3. Proposed by W. EBDON, Esq., seconded by W. CUTHBERT, Esq.—

"That a subscription of two shillings and sixpence be paid by every member of the Association, to defray the necessary expenses."

4. Proposed by A. H. BARTLET, Esq., seconded by G. C. SAMPSON, Esq.—

"That a Committee be now formed to carry out the objects of the Association, and to convene a general meeting of the members when necessary."

The following gentlemen were requested to act upon the Committee:—A. H. Bartlet, Esq.; G. Bullen, Esq.; G. C. Edwards, Esq.; C. C. Hammond, Esq.; G. C. Sampson, Esq. (of Ipswich); H. R. Cooper, Esq. (Ixworth); J. S. Gissing, Esq. (Woodbridge); H. L. Freeman, Esq. (Saxmundham); S. Freeman, Esq. (Stowmarket); R. Growse, Esq. (Bildeston); H. Gramshaw, Esq. (Laxfield); W. E. Image, Esq. (Bury St. Edmund's); R. Martin, Esq. (Holbrook); J. T. Muriel, Esq. (Hadleigh); W. Muriel, Esq. (Wickham Market); besides the President and Secretary, to whom a vote of thanks was given at the termination of the proceedings.

B. CHEVALLIER, M.D.,

Honorary Secretary and Treasurer.

MEDICAL REGISTRATION. A meeting of the medical profession of Stockport and the surrounding district was held on Tuesday, November 23rd, in the Board-room of the Stockport Infirmary, for the purpose of forming a Registration Association for the neighbourhood. Dr. Turner was called to the chair. It was resolved—1. "That this meeting recognises the necessity of forming an Association to watch the registration under the new Medical Act." 2. "That the gentlemen now present (twenty-one in number) form the Association (with power to add to their number), to be called the Stockport Medical Registration Association." 3. "That the business be transacted at general meetings (five to be a quorum), called by the secretary, at the written request of three members." 4. "That Mr. Pitman be secretary and treasurer." 5. "That a subscription of 2s. 6d. each be entered into to defray expenses." 6. "That a report be sent to the medical papers." Dr. Turner having left the chair, a vote of thanks to him was carried by acclamation.

THE HEALTH OF HER MAJESTY'S NAVY. To the numerous valuable volumes of sanitary literature recently presented to the public, has been added a *Statistical Report on the Health of the Royal Navy for 1856*, by Dr. A. Bryson. It has been drawn up exclusively from the returns lodged in the office of the Director-General of the Medical Department of the Royal Navy. The general report divides itself into a series of branch reports on the several stations—viz., the Home, the Mediterranean, the West India, and North American, the East Coast of South America, the Pacific, the West Coast of Africa, the Cape, the "East" Indian and China, and the Australian stations. The total mean force (corrected) at all these stations having been (in 1856) 51,730; the total number of cases on board was 73,195, the number of days sickness on board 814,084, the average number of men sick per diem 2,330.4, the ratio per 1,100 of mean force 43.2; the number of days sickness in hospital 329,235, and the average number of men daily in hospital 902, the ratio per 1,000 of mean force 17.4, the total average of sick per diem 3,132.4, the ratio per 1,000 of mean force 61.7; the number invalided 998, the ratio per 1,000 of mean force 19.3, the number of deaths from disease 629, and from all causes 801, the ratio per 1,000 of mean force 15.5, and the number of cases per man 1.4; 9 were killed in action, 61 by accidental hurts, 87 were drowned, 1 was frozen, while 14 committed suicide. The most fatal disease in the force was fever, of which 199 cases were fatal, including 130 of yellow fever. Next to fever consumptive diseases were most fatal, the deaths being in the ratio of 2.7 per 1,000 of mean force. 21.9 per cent. of the deaths arose from diseases of the respiratory organs, 4.9 from diseases of the heart and arteries, and 13.1 from diseases of the alimentary canal. Dysentery is very fatal on the coast of China. The mortality in the whole force from all ordinary causes very little exceeds the mortality in civil life. The aggregate loss of service through wounds and sickness in the entire service, estimated at 51,730 men, was about equal to 3,132 men, or 60.5 per 1,000, which exceeds the loss in the metropolitan and city police by a little more than one-third. This excess is not so great as might have been anticipated, considering that the seaman is more exposed to the weather. However, with all the improvements in the navy, the seaman, even when relieved and allowed to retire to his hammock, can seldom either dry his clothes or obtain, especially in the night-time (when most wanted), any kind of warm food or refreshment. As regards yellow fever, Dr. Bryson thinks that it may be safely predicted that as cholera, cradled in the East, passed westward through Europe to America, so yellow fever, the peculiar scourge of a few warm regions in the West, will travel eastward from America, until it reaches the European communities settled on the banks of the Ganges. Yellow fever has hitherto not been introduced into any region eastward of the Cape of Good Hope. How long it may be excluded from Asia must depend, the doctor thinks, upon the restrictions imposed on infected ships sailing westward from the coast of America to the Polynesian group of islands, and thence to the eastern shores of Asia and New Holland.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE. We have reason for believing that an increase will shortly take place in the medical staff already allowed for service in India, and that additions will be made thereto to the extent of about five staff-surgeons and fifteen staff-assistant-surgeons. (*Homeward Mail*.)

Dr. STORRAR. On the application of Mr. Edward James, Q.C., in the Court of Queen's Bench, on the last day of Michaelmas term (November 25), a rule *nisi* was granted for the issue of an information in the nature of a writ of *quo warranto*, against Dr. Storrar, as representative of the University of London on the Medical Council.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

POSTAGE OF MANUSCRIPT AND PRINTED MATTER.

Any amount of manuscript or printed matter, singly or together, provided it contains nothing in the form of a written letter, is transmitted through the post, in packets *open at the ends*, at the following rates: not exceeding 4 ounces, one penny; above 4 and not exceeding 8 ounces, twopence; above 8 ounces and not exceeding 1 pound, fourpence; for every additional half-pound or under, twopence.

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.

ANONYMOUS CORRESPONDENTS should always enclose their names to the Editor; not for publication, but in token of good faith. No attention can be paid to communications not thus authenticated.

Communications have been received from:—Dr. G. N. EDWARDS; Mr. MILTON; Mr. LANSDOWN; Mr. J. C. WORDSWORTH; Mr. W. CORNEY; Mr. A. T. H. WATERS; Mr. G. D. GIBBS; Dr. B. CHEVALLIER; Dr. MACINTYRE; Mr. W. SELF; Mr. HOCKLEY; THE REGISTRAR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON; Mr. HOLMES COOTE; Mr. WILLIAM MARTIN; Mr. R. GRIFFIN; Dr. R. J. BANNING; Mr. J. S. BARTRUM; Mr. J. R. HUMPHREYS; Dr. E. L. ORMEROD; Mr. T. HOLMES; Dr. G. G. ROGERS; Dr. F. COLLINS; Mr. JOHN RUSSELL; Mr. HENRY THOMPSON; Mr. W. ALLISON; and Mr. SEPTIMUS LOVE.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

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

1. An Inquiry into the Origin and Intimate Nature of Malaria. By Thomas Wilson. London: H. Renshaw. 1858.
2. A Treatise on Hysterical Affections. By George Tate, Surgeon. Third Edition, revised. London: John Churchill. 1858.
3. On Ether and Chloroform as Anesthetics. Being the Result of 11000 (?) Administrations of these Agents, personally studied in the Hospitals of London, Paris, etc., during the last Ten Years. By Charles Kidd, M.D. Second Edition. London: Renshaw. 1858.

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