

Association Intelligence.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Twenty-Seventh Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be holden in Liverpool, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 27th, 28th and 29th days of July.

President—W. P. ALISON, M.D., F.R.S.E., Edinburgh.

President-Elect—JAMES R. W. VOSE, M.D., Liverpool.

The Address in Medicine will be delivered by EDWARD WATERS, M.D., Chester, President-elect of the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch.

The Address in Physiology will be delivered by A. T. H. WATERS, Esq., Liverpool, Lecturer on Anatomy and Physiology in the Royal Infirmary School of Medicine.

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

Worcester, April 26th, 1859.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.

THE Twenty-third Annual Meeting of this Branch will be held on Wednesday, June 8th, at Chester, under the presidency of E. WATERS, M.D.

Gentlemen who intend to bring forward cases or communications are requested to send notice to the Secretary as early as possible.

A. T. H. WATERS,

Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH:

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

A social and scientific meeting of members of the South-Eastern Branch resident in Rochester, Maidstone, Gravesend, Dartford, and their vicinities, will be held on

Friday, May 20th, 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.

Reports of Societies.

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12TH, 1859.

F. C. SKEY, Esq., President, in the Chair.

THREE CASES OF ANEURISM OF OR WITHIN THE ORBIT, TREATED BY LIGATURE OF THE COMMON CAROTID ARTERY;
WITH OBSERVATIONS.

BY THOMAS NUNNELEY, ESQ., F.R.C.S.

AFTER mentioning the rarity of the affection, the author alluded to those few cases which have been recorded, of which four have been brought before this Society, and are published in its *Transactions*. Two of those cases were not only the earliest, but amongst the most interesting that have been related, and for a great number of years they stood alone. They are those of Mr. Travers, in the second volume; and of Mr. Dalrymple, in the sixth volume. Many years afterwards, Mr. Busk reported a case of his own, and also mentioned another treated by Mr. Scott, in the twenty-second volume. Two cases occurred in Paris, in 1839; one to Velpeau, and another to Jobert. Mr. H. Walton had published a case of an infant, in which he operated: and three instances had occurred in America, where Dr. Van Buren operated in a case of traumatic aneurism in the orbit, in a young man, who had also symptoms of fracture of the base of the skull; and Drs. V. Mott, and T. R. Wood, had each tied the carotid, for the cure of integumentary naevus, extending into the orbit. There were also three other cases, of

doubtful nature, mentioned by Dupuytren, Schmidt, and Frere; one of which, however, if not more, was quite as likely to have been malignant disease as aneurism. Three cases had lately come under the author's observation, in all of which the common carotid artery had been tied. Since Mr. Travers first declared the disease to be aneurism by anastomosis, it had commonly been so regarded; but from this opinion the author dissented, for the reasons given at the conclusion of the paper.

CASE I occurred in a healthy man, aged 31. The early history and origin of the complaint were at first very obscure, made purposely so by the patient to conceal the true cause of it—a hard blow upon the left eye in a drunken midnight fight. At first there was some protrusion of the ball, congestion of the conjunctiva, and dulness of vision, but no pulsation. It was suspected that a chronic abscess, or serous cyst, might be forming deep in the orbit. The eyelids gradually became much congested, swollen, and lobulated, as though about to burst. A minute puncture, followed by considerable effusion, clearly showed the distension to be caused by blood. Subsequently, aneurismal thrill and pulsation were detected. As pressure on the carotid at once arrested these, and allowed the protrusion and vascularity of the eyeball to subside, the artery was tied, with the effect of immediately removing some, and materially diminishing all the symptoms. The brain was unaffected on tightening the ligature. The patient progressed most favourably until the twenty-fourth day after the operation, when, without any assignable cause, the symptoms somewhat returned, but were soon checked by venesection and purgation. In a month he had returned to his work, the ligature being still fast on the artery. After continuing at it for the space of three weeks, suddenly, without, as he then said, any known cause, during the night, the injection, protrusion, and pulsation in the eye returned to such a degree as to render necessary consideration what further should be done. The propriety of extirpation of the contents of the orbit; the ignition, by a battery, of wires passed into the orbit; the introduction of threads or wires coated with nitrate of silver or sulphate of copper; the injection of perchloride of iron or tannin; and the ligature of the other carotid, were discussed, and the latter plan determined upon, if depletants did not succeed. Repeated venesection, purgatives, low diet, cold to the orbit, and upright position, were rigorously adopted, and with the best effect. The symptoms all subsided, when, before the case could be said to be complete, the man was put into gaol, and was subsequently lost sight of for some weeks. He then worked hard as an excavator, and housebreaker, for which he was sentenced to penal servitude. When seen, during the last month, in Wakefield prison, it was found that the sight of the eye was lost, but in every other respect he was perfectly well. He then voluntarily stated that he had only himself to blame for the recurrence of the symptoms, as on the first occasion he clandestinely left the house on a very cold day, walked some distance, and ate and drank freely; and on the second occasion he had been out all night poaching. The ligature did not come away until ninety-six days after the operation.

CASE II. In a man, aged 38, the affection came on without any assignable cause. It had existed many months. The operation was perfectly successful, and he returned to his work, as a weaver, in a month after it. In him also, while wheeling a barrow, there was a sudden renewal of some of the symptoms, which, however, a few days rest removed; and when seen twelve months after the operation, the eye was perfect, a little bogginess of the lids being the only vestige of the affection.

CASE III. In a woman, aged 65, the disease came on "suddenly as the crack of a gun," while she was stooping to take off her shoes. It was attended with more pain and more active symptoms than in the other two; the pain in the head and eye was most distressing. The operation was a difficult one. The neck was short and thick; there was a large bronchocele, with many congested veins, and the carotid divided unusually low in the neck. There was some hæmorrhage from an unseen vessel. The brain was seriously affected on the tightening of the ligature. There was convulsion of the same side of the body, and partial paralysis of the opposite side; the local symptoms, however, disappeared instantly. She sank on the sixteenth day after the operation, having had repeated losses of blood from the wound. There had been paralysis, more or less complete, of the right side of the body, with constant partially controllable movements of the left side; difficulty of speech, and some impairment of intellect. On examination of the body forty-eight hours after death, the external appearance of both eyes was the same. The brain was very pale, containing very little blood; but, so far as could be judged, the same on both

fees to the medical gentlemen for 'visiting the patients at their homes, and seeing the cases through', and also the benefit derived by the poor from this valuable charity, that I beg permission to enclose a donation of £26 in aid of those fees, or the fund of the institution. Probably some benevolent individual will contribute the other moiety of the £52.

"I remain, Rev. Sir, your obliged servant,
"SAM'L DOUBLEDAY."

THE TAUNTON "ATTENDANCE-BOOK."

LETTER FROM E. L. HUSSEY, Esq.

SIR,—In the report of the meeting at Taunton, when some of the medical officers were dismissed for not signing the new "Attendance-book", one of the speakers, in quoting the answers received from the medical officers of the different County Hospitals, mentions the Radcliffe Infirmary, as one from which an opinion had been obtained against such a book.

Your readers may perhaps think this opinion requires some kind of modification, when they hear that our governors have ordered a book to be kept in future, to be signed by the surgeons in proof of their attendance at consultations, and that I alone of the staff opposed the making of such an order.

I am, etc. E. L. HUSSEY.

Oxford, May 2nd, 1859.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ASYLUMS.

LETTER FROM J. KIRKMAN, M.D.

SIR,—I desire to convey my unqualified response to your "trust that some member of the public officers of asylums will yet be found to repudiate the assertion, that their brethren of the private asylums are only capable of acting on a great public question in a narrow and odious spirit of self."

I should have thought the simple fact of the two last annual meetings of Asylum Officers (public and private) having been presided over by private proprietors, and attended largely by public gentlemen, would in itself have been sufficient to prevent unworthy inuendoes, and to prove that an undivided feeling exists on the grand object of their mutual solicitude, the welfare of the insane. The meeting under Dr. Winslow's presidency in 1857, was the largest I ever remember to have seen, and I have attended almost all since the original formation of the association; there were very few public officers who were not present. The meeting last year, so powerfully presided over by Dr. Conolly, drew almost all who could venture on so distant a journey to Edinburgh; and there is little doubt, I think, that both these meetings were only preludes to that which we anticipate under the presidency of Sir Charles Hastings, another private asylum physician, in this coming July 1859, in Liverpool. These associate gatherings are surely progressive steps in development of that unity of feeling which must always be found amongst fellow-labourers in the same field, though it may be in different sections of it, and tend to show the conjoint possession of a common fund of good which extends its benefits to all.

I am, etc. JOHN KIRKMAN, M.D.

Suffolk County Asylum, May 4th, 1859.

MEDICAL ETIQUETTE.

SIR.—The recent case of irregular conduct has induced me to make the following statement.

On Thursday last, I was called to the wife of a respectable tradesman, who had previously *bespoke* my attendance upon her in June. I found her in bed, complaining of slight pains, not expulsive, os uteri undilated; I therefore gave an anodyne, and promised to call again in an hour or two. On my leaving the house, I was met by a messenger on horseback, who requested my immediate attendance on a case about two miles distant in the country. On arrival, my patient was progressing satisfactorily, and strong continuous pains soon brought my services to a conclusion. I returned, after a lapse of rather more than two hours, to the first case, which had advanced so rapidly, that about half an hour before my return, the husband had asked the oldest practitioner in the town to attend for me. He refused; I know not why; however, on being offered his fee, he either went, or sent his fully qualified assistant. The latter (who has since expressed his regret at the circumstance) was at the house when I called. On my hearing the particulars, of course I did not go up stairs, as the case had been so unceremoniously taken out of my hands.

I am, etc.,

VERITAS.

April 27th, 1859.

Medical News.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, AND APPOINTMENTS.

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

BIRTHS.

AMESBURY. On April 20th, at Harlow, Essex, the wife of J. W. R. Amesbury, Esq., Bengal Medical Service, of a son.
HANKS. On April 15th, at Mile End Road, the wife of *Henry Hanks, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.
PAYNE. On April 30th, at 58, Denbigh Street, Belgrave Road, the wife of G. Burton Payne, M.D., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CAPEI—GAMGEE. Capei, Lorenzo, M.D., of Florence, to Emma, second daughter of Joseph Gamgee, Esq., of Edinburgh, at Paris, on April 26th.
DAVIS—MACRAE. Davis, John, Esq., Surgeon, Sunderland, to Elizabeth Margaret, only child of the late Kenneth MacRae, Esq., of Her Majesty's Treasury, at Camden Church, Camberwell, on April 28th.
DIVER—FISHER. Diver, Thomas, M.D., of London, to Anna Wilhelmina, widow of the late Captain E. A. Fisher, of Bombay, at the Scotch Free Church, Regent Square, on April 29th.
QUAIN—MIDDLETON. Quain, Richard, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to University College Hospital, of 32, Cavendish Square, to Ellen, Dowager Viscountess Middleton, at St. John's Church, Paddington, on April 28th.
REEVE—SEWELL. Reeve, Edmund, Esq., Surgeon, of Swaffham, to Kate, eldest daughter of John Sewell, Esq., of North Pickenham, on April 27th.
REYNOLDS—DICKSON. Reynolds, the Rev. James J., M.A., incumbent of Bedford Chapel, Exeter, to Ann Rose Honor, daughter of the late Sir David J. H. Dickson, Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets, at Hougham, near Dover, on April 27th.
TATE—TAYLOR. Tate, William B., M.D., of Hereford Square, London, to Sophia, eldest daughter of W. Garnett Taylor, Esq., of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, on April 30th.

DEATHS.

BAMFORD, William, Esq., Surgeon, at Rugeley, aged 83, on April 17th.
BENT, Thomas, M.D., at Derby, on April 27th.
CORY. On April 13th, at Holsworthy, Devonshire, aged 45, Frances Amelia, wife of H. G. Cory, Esq., Surgeon.
GUY, William, Esq., Surgeon, late of Chichester, at Bowood, near Bideford, Devon, aged 78, on April 26th.
LAYCOCK, Charles R., M.D., at Bordeaux, aged 54, on April 27.
LEE, the Very Reverend John, M.D., D.D., LL.D., Principal of the University of Edinburgh, aged 79, on May 2nd.
LEMPRIÈRE. On April 27th, at Vergemount, Dublin, Marianne, widow of the late William Lemprière, Esq., Inspector-General of Hospitals.
PAXON. On April 27th, at Dorking, aged 11, Elizabeth, third daughter of G. K. Paxon, Esq., Surgeon.
*PRUEN, W. A., M.D., late Medical Missionary at Penang, at sea, on January 21st.

APPOINTMENTS.

OWEN, Professor Richard, F.R.S., appointed Sir Robert Reade's Lecturer in the University of Cambridge for this year.

PASS LISTS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS. At the Comitia Majora, held on Friday, April 29th, 1859, the following gentlemen were admitted Licentiates of the College, under the recently enacted bye-laws:—

ASHTON, Thomas Mather, M.D., Ormskirk
BEARD, Charles Izard, M.D., Brighton
BELL, William, M.D., George Street, Hanover Square
CAMERON, John, M.D., Liverpool
CARTER, William Grover, M.D., Clifton

DICKSON, Joseph Ritchie Lyon, M.D., Jermyn Street, "St. James's"
 FLEMING, Alexander, M.D., Birmingham
 GIDLEY, Gustavus, M.D., Sandgate
 HALL, Charles Radclyffe, M.D., Torquay
 HITCH, Samuel, M.D., Sandywell Park, near Cheltenham
 HITCHCOCK, Thomas, M.D., Week, near Winchester
 HOSKINS, Samuel Elliott, M.D., Guernsey
 LAWRENCE, Richard Moore, M.D., Connaught Square
 NASH, Joseph, M.D., Box, Wiltshire
 PARSEY, William Henry, M.D., Hatton, Warwick
 SUTRO, Sigismund, M.D., Finsbury Square
 TILT, Edward John, M.D., York Street, Portman Square
 VOSE, James Richard White, M.D., Liverpool
 WEBB, William Woodham, M.D., Kirtley, South Lowestoft
 WRAY, Septimus, M.D., Brixton

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. At a meeting of the Court of Examiners, on April 29th, the following gentlemen were reported as having undergone the preliminary examinations for the Fellowship of the College, in Classics, Mathematics, and French, to the satisfaction of the Court, viz.—

BRODIE, George B., Salisbury
 COOPER, John, Mornington Road
 LYELL, Henry, Thomas Street, Horselydown
 STONE, Thomas Westcott Gale, Lincoln's Inn Fields: diploma of membership dated April 11th, 1859

The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations in Anatomy and Physiology, at meetings of the Court of Examiners, on April 12th, 13th, 14th, and 20th, will be admitted to the pass examination, when qualified, viz.:

St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
 ANDREW, Wm. Wickes W. HUNTER, Richard H.
 ARNOTT, John Lovell LANGTON, John
 BUTLER, Thomas Mapleson LEEDS, Thomas
 CATT, Alfred MEAD, Harry
 COLEMAN, Alfred MITCHELL, T. C.
 COLLINS, John Boniface POCKINGTON, Evelyn
 EGLES, G. M. SCHOLLECK, Thomas James
 ELLICE, Thomas Smith SPRAGUE, Charles Gordon
 GIMSON, William Gimson STRICKLAND, Edmund
 GREENHILL, Joseph Ridge WARD, Samuel Meire
 HARVEY, Octavius C. WINKFIELD, Alfred
 HOCKING, Joseph

St. Thomas's Hospital.
 BLAKE, Thomas William HARDING, J. A.
 BRADDON, Charles H. HOOPER, John Harward
 DRAKE, Thomas METCALFE, R.
 EVERETT, Benjamin George MORRIS, Samuel
 FARRANT, Samuel SISSONS, William Harling
 FREEMAN, Delamarc WARD, Charles Parker

Guy's Hospital.
 APPELDEE, Edward LOVEGROVE, John Francis
 BRETTILL, Joseph TRUMAN, Edgar Becket
 CANN, Francis Mark WATKINS, Walter
 HAYNES, Allen L. WOODMAN, John
 LLOYD, Edwin

University College Hospital.
 GANNON, John Palmer PEDGRIFF, Harry
 HARRIS, Walter TOFTS, Henry
 HUNT, William John TRUMAN, William
 KING, William Clifford

St. Mary's Hospital.
 BELEMORE, Alfred John ROGERS, Frederick John
 DAVIS, George Henry SIMMONS, Benjamin
 HOCKING, T. Edward G. YOUNG, Edward Parker
 HODSON, John Clayton

London Hospital.
 CUMMING, John S. PAYNE, William George
 MITCHELL, Thomas STILLWELL, James

Middlesex Hospital.
 COLLINS, Charles Phillips MUNCASTER, T. Harbottle
 HORTON, Henry James

King's College.
 EDGER, William MACNAMARA, James
 HUTCHINSON, Francis Blake

Westminster Hospital.
 ADAMS, T. Rutherford SLAYTER, William Bruce
 MIDDLETON, John Wm.

Charing Cross Hospital.
 MAYON, George WORLEY, William Charles

St. George's Hospital.

ECCLES, Edmund
Manchester School.
 BARLOW, William Henry HOYLE, William
 DEAN, Peter Thomas TAYLOR, David
 DEAN, Octavius WALLS, William

Dublin.
 HOCKEN, Morland PARKER, Albany John
 MACKENZIE, Walter F. THOMAS, John Lloyd

Edinburgh.
 HOMFRAY, Francis Hamilton SEABROOK, T. E. Fraser

Newcastle-on-Tyne.
 BRUMWELL, George Murray WHEELER, Henry

Hull.
 NICHOLSON, Robert Hicks B.

Leeds.
 WOODHEAD, William Copley
Birmingham.

CORNBILL, John

HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING APRIL 30TH, 1859.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

THE deaths registered in London, which had been 1084 and 1126 respectively in the two previous weeks, rose to 1207 in the week that ended last Saturday. In the ten years 1849-58, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1061; but as the deaths included in the present return occurred in a population that has increased, they can only be compared with the average raised in proportion to that increase; namely, with 1167. The deaths of last week, therefore, exceeded by 40 the number which would have occurred under the average rate of mortality for the last week of April.

The births registered last week exceeded the deaths in the same period by 485.

The deaths from measles, which fell to 15 in the first week of April when the temperature was high, have again increased, and last week were 36. The deaths from scarlatina and diphtheria together were 73, having been 79 in the previous week. The cases recorded as "diphtheria" were 16, and occurred as follows:—one in Berkeley Mews West, Paddington; one in Queen Street, Brompton; one in Chester Terrace, Belgravia; one in North Street, Marylebone; one in Sherborne Street, Marylebone; one in the German Hospital, Dalston; one in Miles Place, Finsbury; one in Ireland Yard, City (south-west sub-district); one in the London Hospital; one in King Street, Aldgate; one in County Terrace, Newington; two in one family in Carter Street, Walworth; one in Aldred Road, Walworth; one in Richard Street, Lambeth; and one in Wickham Street, Lambeth. There were 15 deaths from small-pox, 11 of which occurred to children. The resident surgeon at the Small-pox Hospital states, that "owing to the increase of small-pox in London during the last three months, the hospital has become nearly full of patients; 313 have been admitted this year, of whom 111 were admitted in April." Five deaths occurred in that institution last week.

Fourteen deaths were caused last week by rheumatism and rheumatic fever; nine by syphilis; two by intemperance; besides five, where the cause of death is stated to be "delirium tremens"; 184 persons died from phthisis or consumption. Only two nonagenarians are recorded, both widows, aged 93 and 96 years.

Last week the births of 865 boys and 827 girls, in all 1692 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1849-58, the average number was 1633.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.678 in. The barometrical readings varied from 30 in., on Tuesday, to 29.42 in., on Thursday. The mean temperature of the week was 48.2°, which is neither more nor less than the average of the same week in 43 years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). The lowest point attained by the thermometer was 40.5°, on Sunday; it rose to its highest point, 67°, on Friday. The extreme range in the week was therefore 26.5°. The mean daily range was 12.2°; the range on Friday was 19.5°; that on Saturday was only 5.8°. The difference between the mean dew-point temperature and air temperature was 3.7°. The mean degree of humidity of the air was 88, saturation being equal to 100. The mean temperature of the water of the Thames was 49°. The rain-fall was 0.76 in.

SALE OF MEDICAL PRACTICE: ACTION FOR RECOVERY OF AGENT'S FEES.

Brompton County Court. Before J. L. ADOLPHUS, Esq.

LARA AND WALTERS v. WARD.

THIS action, brought to recover the sum of £30 : 5 : 6, was one of some interest to medical men disposing of their practice, and to medical agents. The plaintiffs were medical agents, of 6, Pump Court, Temple; and the defendant, Dr. Thomas Ogier Ward, was a surgeon in practice at Kensington.

Mr. Doyle appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Cooper for the defendant.

In opening the case the plaintiff's counsel stated, that the action was brought to recover commission on the sale of the defendant's medical practice. The defendant had paid into court £3 : 0 : 6, being 10s. 6d. for the registration fee, and £2 : 15 : 6 for three months advertisements, leaving £27 : 10 : 6 in dispute. The first communication between the parties was upon the occasion of the defendant calling upon the plaintiffs, stating his desire of procuring a practice in the south-west of England. At this interview the defendant also informed Mr. Walters that he wished to dispose of his own practice. Mr. Walters then gave the defendant a paper containing the plaintiffs' terms, and upon the construction of the words of these terms the case would no doubt rest. The learned counsel then quoted from the paper in question. "That on the completion of any agreement for the obtaining, disposing, or transfer of a practice, if the particulars be obtained from the plaintiffs, in whatever way the negotiation may be conducted, the commission shall be paid on all such transactions." On the 18th of December, 1858, these terms were made known to Dr. Ward; and on the 7th January, 1859, the defendant entrusted the plaintiffs to sell his practice for £450, and the lease of his house for £150. These sums the defendant had received from the medical gentleman who had purchased the business and lease, and the commission thereupon, he contended, was fairly due to the plaintiffs. He might remark, that respectable agents like his clients were a sort of guarantee of the respectability of medical men with whom they were effecting the transfer of practices, and on that respectability vendors and vendees depended. He should further state that the defendant, upon another visit to his clients, mentioned to the plaintiffs his intention of employing other agents to effect a speedy sale of his practice; and the plaintiffs then cautioned the defendant that if that course were adopted, Dr. Ward might be called upon to pay two or more agency fees. After this Dr. Ward, on March 12th, called upon his clients, and asked them to withdraw his name from the plaintiffs' books. If that were a *bonâ fide* withdrawal, the plaintiffs could merely claim expenses conditionally that the defendant withdrew the sale of his practice altogether; but on the very day that the defendant had sent £3 to his clients in payment of expenses incurred by them in advertising the defendant's practice, the plaintiffs ascertained that Dr. Ward had disposed of his practice to a medical gentleman named Williams, and was introducing that gentleman to the defendant's patients. Upon this the plaintiff wrote to the defendant, inquiring for what amount Dr. Ward had disposed of his practice, at the same time returning the cheque for £3.

Mr. WALTERS was called to confirm his advocate's statement, which the witness did up to a certain date.

Mr. LARA, the other plaintiff, said he represented to the defendant the unfairness of employing several agents, and that he would prefer removing the defendant's practice off his books. Dr. Williams called at their office, and said he did not object to £450 for Dr. Ward's practice, but he objected to pay £150 for the lease of the house. Witness then informed Dr. Williams that if he liked to take the house at £75 per year rent, he need not buy the lease. Dr. Williams afterwards said he did not like the practice in question, and, if possible, would like to get one of the same size; and witness gave him an advertisement of another practice. On the 12th of March the defendant called at witness's office, and said he had just called to say, he had made up his mind to stay where he was, at all events for six months; and witness took the practice off his books, and made a memorandum that it was not for sale, and at quarter-day sent in his account. He heard next day that defendant had introduced Dr. Williams to his business.

Mr. COOPER, having urged upon the court that the plaintiffs

were not entitled to a further sum than that paid into court, called the defendant, who swore that he never received the paper of the plaintiffs' terms on January the 7th; it was not until the second interview the terms were given to him. On February 24th Dr. Williams called upon witness, and the sale was completed on the 24th March, for £150 for the practice, and £60 a-year for the house, on a term of three years.

Mr. DOYLE, in reply, contended that the defendant could not and did not deny that Dr. Williams got the particulars of the business through the agency of the plaintiffs, and that they were entitled to their full claim.

The learned Judge said, that from the plaintiffs' own showing, they had taken the sale of the practice off their books as a termination to the transaction, and he was of opinion they could not receive more than was paid into court.

Verdict for the defendant, with full costs accordingly.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH.

THE following letter has been addressed by the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh to the President of the London College, in reply to the Resolution and Remonstrance of the latter College in the new regulations for the Edinburgh License:—

Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, April 26th, 1859.

SIR,—The Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh begs to acknowledge the receipt of a letter dated 19th April, and addressed to it through the President by the President of the Royal College of Physicians of London, under authority of his College, relative to recent regulations by the College of Edinburgh for admission of Licentiates into its body.

The College regrets that although the letter in question arrived in Edinburgh on the morning of the 20th, the College has not had an opportunity of considering, until this day, a document of so much importance and urgency.

The College begs to tender to the Royal College of London its thanks for the temperate terms in which the President of the London College has couched the Remonstrance of his constituents regarding a subject which this college can easily understand may have excited strong feelings among them. These feelings it is fortunately in the power of this college materially to allay. And it is the earnest hope of the College that, when the following statement has been calmly considered, the objections of the London College, which have been communicated by its President, will be greatly removed, and that harmony will be once more restored between the two institutions.

The College has, in the first place, to express its extreme regret, that owing to an inadvertence and precipitancy, the causes of which it is unnecessary to enter into, the New Regulations of the College respecting Licentiates were made public before having been duly considered, according to practice, and when they contained articles in a shape which may have been distasteful to the London College of Physicians. Since this premature publication, the Regulations have undergone revision, according to law, at three separate meetings, at which the following alterations have been made:—

1. Licentiates can become such only after having been subjected to the ballot by the Fellows of the College, besides having, as the original Regulations proposed, successfully undergone an examination first, on Preliminary Education, and then on Professional Subjects.

2. The professional examination, instead of being single, will consist of three series of examinations, which will be generally taken at considerable distances of time.

3. During the year of admission of Licentiates without examination, and without a university degree, no one will be admitted without a license from some other medical corporation; and persons in practice for fifteen years without any license, who were admitted under the original Resolutions, will not be allowed to apply for the license of the College at all.

4. All candidates under this act of grace, besides producing testimonials of character and experience, and being subjected to the scrutiny of the Council of the College, must be submitted to the ballot by the Fellows, of whom two thirds must concur, otherwise the candidate will be rejected.

With these restrictions, and under a conscientious application of all the rules, the College ventures to hope that no person will be admitted into its list of Licentiates who does not deserve to be enrolled as a Licentiate of a College of Physicians.

The only material difference subsisting between the Regulations of the College of London and the revised Regulations of that of Edinburgh, for the admission of Licentiates, regards the age of candidates, and the experience presumed to be connected with age. On this point the College of Edinburgh venture to submit the following statement to that of London:—

Since the commencement of the present century there has gradually sprung up in Scotland, under the demands of society, and on entire forbearance on the part of the medical corporations from enforcing their exclusive privileges, a class of practitioners, now numerous, of high importance, of much public consideration, and as yet comparatively little known in England.

These gentlemen practise essentially physic, some of them the minor operations of surgery, a few midwifery; but none pharmacy. Some in the course of time became consulting physicians. Their fees are intermediate between those of the ordinary class of general practitioners and those of consulting physicians. They are physicians to all intents and purposes, far more than anything else, though they are not physicians according to the legal interpretation of that term in England. Among them are many of the most esteemed practitioners in Scotland. The late Dr. Abercrombie, a consulting-physician for the last twenty-four years of his life, was, for eighteen years previously, a practitioner of the denomination now described. Many of the present Fellows of the Edinburgh College of Physicians belong to the same class with him.

This class of practitioners, in the humble opinion of the Edinburgh College, may belong to a College of Physicians quite as fairly as that class who practise only as consulting-physicians. Indeed, if this College has not been misinformed, there are not wanting practitioners of the same denomination in the London College of Physicians itself. It is surely a class which ought to be fostered in this empire by every reasonable encouragement, and by no means kept down by narrow corporate prejudices. But in truth, it is a class of such importance to the country that it will continue to grow in esteem and multiply in number, especially under the shield of the Medical Act, in spite of all coldness, and in face of all opposition on the part of the corporations.

It is out of this class that the Edinburgh College desires to constitute, in part, its order of Licentiates; under changes in medical organisation in Scotland which it is unnecessary to specify here, the order of Licentiates of the Edinburgh College of Physicians has died out entirely. The College at present consists of Fellows alone. It desires to re-establish an order of Licentiates, and to constitute it in part of the practitioners in question. The College is unanimous in this desire.

Unfortunately, a serious difference of opinion prevails among its Fellows as to whether the stamp of physician ought not to be more distinguishingly impressed on such Licentiates, by requiring them all to be graduates of a University. A majority of the College, however, has lately ruled that this shall not be a necessary condition; and are of opinion that respectable practitioners may be enrolled in its ranks, although not possessed of a University degree. There is no difference of opinion, however, as to the necessity of leaving the license of the College open to all candidates, whether graduates or not, at an earlier age than that proposed by the London College for its Licentiates.

The College is not particularly wedded to the age of twenty-one; but it is the natural limit of manhood, and, on that account probably, it is the age which has hitherto been adopted in Scotland for entering on the learned professions—for the Church, for the Bar, and for Medicine, as well as Surgery. It is the minimum: it can be, and will be, rarely taken advantage of. But, inasmuch as there may be medical men, no less than philosophers, politicians, soldiers, etc., whose talents and assiduity place them, at the age of twenty-one, on a level with others at twenty-six or more, this College cannot see why an arbitrary corporation rule should deprive such men of the advantages with which Providence may have been pleased to bless them. From former experience, the College believes that very few candidates for its license will come forward till at least two years later in life; but it deprecates any rigorous rule on that head, as being calculated to obstruct the progress of talent, and to interfere with the public usefulness of a College whose purpose is to foster, and not to obstruct, merit.

The London College is therefore entreated to consider that the views of this College, in regulating the admission of its Licentiates, rest on the organisation of the medical profession, and the practice of the other learned professions in Scotland, with neither of which does the organisation and practice of Eng-

land precisely accord, but towards which, nevertheless, that division of the kingdom tends in both respects. With a medical profession so organised as in Scotland, a College of Physicians cannot now exist, if it is to be composed only of consulting-physicians, as the London College seems to desire. Hence, if the London College should still retain its objections to the regulations of this College for its license, as finally altered on the 20th instant, it may be necessary for the College of London to require something more than the simple Edinburgh license for establishing an *ad eundem* admission into its body; such as a greater age, more opportunities of study, and the like. Nor will this College make any factious opposition to such new legislative measures as may be shown by the London College to be necessary or advisable for that purpose.

But, at the same time, as this College has taken in good part the remonstrance and good advice of its sister College so may it hope to find that College not unwilling to listen, in its turn, to a suggestion; viz., that it may be already full time to consider in England too, whether, under the operation of the Medical Act, a class of practitioners be not certain to arise, or be not already arising, akin to that which has been extensively established in Scotland, with great benefit to the nation; and which, consisting of men differing little from physicians, in a simple and liberal interpretation of the word, ought to be encouraged, in its growth in England, by every reasonable persuasion, to attach itself, through the medium of the license, to the Royal College of Physicians of that country.

I have the honour to be, sir, yours very faithfully,
ALEX. WOOD, P.

To the President of the Royal College of Physicians of London.

EXTENSION OF OPHTHALMOLOGICAL EDUCATION. The Board of Trinity College, Dublin, has recommended its students to take out a course of ophthalmic surgery. The governors of St. Mark's Hospital, Dublin, in their twelfth report, just published, beg to strengthen Dr. Mackenzie's memorial on this subject, by expressing their entire concurrence with the principles it advocates.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE. Professor Owen, the newly appointed Reade's Lecturer in this University, will deliver a lecture on the Classification and Geographical Distribution of the Mammalia, in the Senate House, on Tuesday, May 10th, at two o'clock.

SUSPECTED POISONING. On Wednesday last, Mr. Thomas Smethurst, residing in Richmond, who is said to have practised as a surgeon, was remanded to the county gaol by the magistrates of the Richmond police-court, under the suspicion of having caused the death of a woman with whom he was living by administering arsenic to her.

ROYAL MEDICAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH: ANNUAL DINNER. The Annual Dinner of this Society took place on April 30th. Mr. Dignum (in the absence of the senior President) took the chair, and was supported by the other two Presidents, Messrs. Garrington and Bell, and Mr. J. F. Macfarlan, Treasurer. Above forty gentlemen sat down, and amongst those present were Professors Syme, Traill, Bennett, Laycock, Allman, Balfour, and Kelland; the Presidents of the Colleges of Surgeons and Physicians; Drs. W. T. Gairdner, Matthews Duncan, Gillespie, P. H. Watson; and many members of the Society.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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.

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.