

not be possible on this ground to account for the vomiting, and even for the diarrhoea and the dysenteric symptoms? The experience of many of our associates will doubtless have shown them with what severity and danger the disturbances of the digestive canal in pregnant females are sometimes attended. On the other hand, the detection of arsenic by Dr. Taylor in one of the evacuations, and other circumstances pointing to the presence of an irritant poison, remain to be accounted for. It is, then, evidently impossible at present to arrive at any just conclusion regarding the merits of the case; and we therefore once again beg that no conclusions may be derived from that portion of the evidence which has been published.

The annual celebration of "Founder's Day" at the Royal Medical Benevolent College took place on Thursday, July 7th, when the prizes were distributed to the pupils of the school by the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, in the presence of a number of persons connected with the College, together with parents and friends of the pupils. The boys, after receiving prizes, were addressed in words of good advice by his lordship; and, after some votes of thanks, the proceedings terminated with a dinner, at which about one hundred and fifty sat down. The entire operations of the day were of the most satisfactory nature.

## 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 Meetings of the Association will take place at the Medical Institution, Mount Pleasant.

The following is an outline of the proceedings. A more complete programme will be issued at Liverpool.

#### WEDNESDAY, July 27th.

11.30 A.M. Meeting of Committee on Medical Legislation in the Committee Room.

1 P.M. Meeting of Committee of Council in the same Room.

2.30 P.M. Meeting of General Council of the Association in the small Theatre.

7 P.M. First General Meeting of the Association in the large Theatre. The retiring President will make a few remarks. The new President will deliver an Address. The Report of Council will be presented, and other business transacted.

#### THURSDAY, July 28th.

8.30 A.M. Public Breakfast at the Adelphi Hotel. Tickets 2s. 6d. each.

10 A.M. Meeting of the Members of the new Council in the small Theatre.

11 A.M. Second General Meeting of Members. The Address in Medicine will be delivered by Dr. E. WATERS of Chester. Cases and Papers will be read.

The meeting will adjourn at 1, and reassemble at 2 P.M.

2 P.M. The Report of the Benevolent Fund will be received. Cases and Papers will be read. The meeting will adjourn at 5.

8.30 P.M. *Soirée* at the Royal Institution, Colquitt Street. The Royal Institution, the Gallery of Arts, containing a fine collection of paintings, and the Museum of applied Sciences will be thrown open. During the evening some interesting

electrical phenomena will be illustrated by J. BAKER EDWARDS, Ph.D.

#### FRIDAY, July 29th.

11 A.M. Third General Meeting of Members. The Address in Physiology will be delivered by A. T. H. WATERS, Esq., of Liverpool. Papers and Cases will be read.

3.30 P.M. A Steamer will leave the North Landing Stage to convey the Members along the Docks, and round the Line of Battle Ships stationed in the river, to return at Five P.M.

6 P.M. Dinner. Tickets a Guinea each.

*Gentlemen intending to be present at the Dinner, are requested to send notice to the Honorary Secretary of the Committee, A. T. H. WATERS, Esq., 27 Hope Street, Liverpool, on or before Friday next, the 22nd instant. This arrangement is absolutely necessary, as local circumstances render it impossible for the Committee to provide accommodation for more than a given number. Numerous applications for tickets have already been received*

Members are requested to enter, on arrival, their names and addresses in the Reception Room in the Medical Institution, Mount Pleasant, where all the meetings will take place, and where cards will be supplied which will secure admission to all the proceedings, and contain such information as may be useful to those who are strangers to the town.

Members who wish for previous information may communicate with the Honorary Secretary, as above.

It is particularly requested that all Members who propose to read Papers will communicate with the General Secretary without delay. Arrangements will be made for the Sectional Reading of Papers, if a sufficient number be promised to render such a plan desirable.

Among the principal Hotels are:—the Adelphi, Ranelagh Place; the Waterloo, Ranelagh Street; the Angel, Dale Street; the Feathers, Clayton Square; the George, Dale Street; the Grecian, Dale Street; the Neptune, Clayton Square; the Queen's, Lime Street; the Royal, Moorfields; the Stork, Queen's Square; the Union, Parker Street; the Victoria, St. John's Lane; the Wellington, Dale Street.

The Reception Committee have made arrangements for securing the admission of members attending the meeting to the various places of interest in the town.

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

Worcester, June 30th, 1859.

### BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
METROP. COUNTIES. [Annual Meeting.]	32a, George Street, Hanover Square.	Tuesday, July 19th, 8 P.M.
NORTH WALES. [Annual Meeting.]	Royal Hotel, Rhyl.	Tues., July 19th, 1 P.M.

[To prevent delay, Reports of Branch Meetings should be sent direct to the office, 37, Great Queen Street.]

### ALTERATION OF LAWS.

THE following alteration in the wording of Law 25 will be proposed at the annual meeting:—

Instead of "any twenty members may unite," etc., read "any number of members may unite; but that no Branch consisting of less than twenty members shall have the privilege of sending a representative to the Council."

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

Worcester, July 1859.

### LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

Letters or communications for the JOURNAL should be addressed to Dr. WYTER, 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.

## MIDLAND BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of the Midland Branch took place at Derby, in the Board-Room of the Infirmary, on Thursday, June 23rd, when the following members were present: J. WHITAKER JOHNSON, Esq., President, in the Chair; J. W. Baker, Esq. (Derby); A. Cooper, Esq. (Leicester); G. A. Cope, Esq. (Etwell); S. H. Evans, Esq. (Derby); S. W. Fearn, Esq. (Derby); J. T. Featherstone, Esq. (Butterley); H. F. Gisborne, Esq. (Derby); H. Goode, M.B. and L.M. (Derby); C. Harwood, M.D. (Derby); J. Heygate, M.D., F.R.S. (Derby); J. Hitchman, M.D. (Mickleover); W. Hollis, Esq. (Alvaston); J. Jones, Esq., (Derby); T. Macaulay, Esq. (Leicester); E. Morris, M.D. (Spalding); G. B. Norman, Esq. (Ilkeston); T. Paget, Esq. (Leicester); G. Shaw, M.D. (Leicester); H. W. Watson, M.D. (Derby); and W. Webb, M.D. (Wirksworth).

The ex-President of the Branch, Dr. MORRIS, having vacated the chair, his successor, J. W. JOHNSON, Esq., read an address alluding to the general steps of progress in medicine and surgery; after which, a report of the Local Council was presented and read by Dr. MORRIS, from which it appears that this Branch still continues in a flourishing state, though there are many practitioners whom it does not include in its ranks.

## ANNUAL MEETING IN 1860: ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The next annual meeting was fixed to take place at Nottingham, and G. EATON STANGER, Esq., was proposed as President-elect for the ensuing year.

The Local Secretaries for the different counties composing the Branch were re-appointed; and the members of the General Council were re-elected.

## PAPERS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

Several interesting and instructive papers were read; and cases showing the results of operations were exhibited.

1. On Retention of Urine: Puncture of Bladder, and Perineal Section. By Thomas Paget, Esq. [This paper was published in the JOURNAL for July 2nd.]

2. Case of Pneumothorax with Paracentesis. By S. H. Evans, Esq. [This paper has been received for publication.]

3. Wound of the Cornea, Sclerotic, and Iris; from which an Iron Screw was subsequently extracted. By J. W. Baker, Esq. [This paper has been received for publication.]

4. Two Cases, illustrative of Syme's Amputation at the Ankle-Joint, were exhibited by T. Macaulay, Esq.

5. A case in which Removal of the Left Upper Maxillary Bone had been performed, was exhibited by S. W. Fearn, Esq.

All of these papers and cases excited a good deal of animated discussion among the members and their friends who were present; and, after the usual votes of thanks, an adjournment took place to the Royal Hotel, to take part in the customary social dinner, which terminated the proceedings.

## YORKSHIRE BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Annual Meeting of the Yorkshire Branch was held in the Museum of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society, at York, on Thursday, June 30th; the Lord Mayor (W. D. HUSBAND, Esq.), President, in the Chair. There were also present: J. Allen, Esq. (York); James Beaumont, Esq. (Wetherby); C. Chadwick, M.D. (Leeds); B. Dodsworth, Esq. (York); J. P. Garlick, Esq. (Leeds); H. Hare, Esq. (Cawood); R. Hey, Esq. (York); F. Hey, Esq. (Leeds); R. S. Hanbury, M.D. (2nd West York Militia); T. Hornby, Esq. (Pocklington); H. Jackson, Esq. (Sheffield); G. Kennion, M.D. (Harrogate); H. Keyworth, Esq. (York); Wm. Matterson, Esq. (York); J. Ness, Esq. (Helmsley); S. W. North, Esq. (York); James Paley, Esq. (York); T. C. Paley, Esq. (York); T. Simpson, M.D. (York); W. E. Swaine, M.D. (York); G. Shann, M.D. (York); T. P. Teale, Esq. (Leeds); C. Williams, M.D. (York); J. Watmough, M.D. (Pocklington); J. Wightman, Esq. (York).

The retiring President, J. P. GARLICK, Esq., after a short address, resigned the chair to the President-elect, W. D. HUSBAND, Esq., who addressed the meeting, and then called upon the Secretary to read the Report of Council.

## REPORT OF COUNCIL.

"Your Council have great pleasure in meeting their fellow-members of the Yorkshire Branch of the British Medical Association at this their annual meeting; and they would, in the first place, most sincerely congratulate them on the question of medical reform being for a time settled, and express a hope that the time so necessarily spent in discussing that important,

though somewhat tedious subject, may now be devoted more pleasantly to a free interchange of opinion on some of the difficult problems of medicine and surgery; that thus a greater scientific value may be imparted to these meetings, a greater intellectual treat enjoyed by our members, our noble science further developed and advanced, and our fellow-creatures in like proportion benefited.

"Your Council, in alluding to the new Medical Act, would express its approval of the most important feature of it, viz., the registration of the qualified members of our profession. They would here recall your attention to the special general meeting which they felt it their duty to convene in January last, for the purpose of considering if any, and what, means could be taken to secure efficient registration. At that meeting, as you are aware, certain resolutions were passed, which were forwarded by your Secretary to every qualified practitioner residing within the district of our Branch, and his co-operation earnestly solicited. In reply, your Secretary was furnished with the names of many persons practising illegally, and who were likely to apply to be registered. These names were regularly forwarded to the Registrar, with a request that, in case such persons should apply to be placed on the register, he would adopt every precaution to obviate fraud, and to prevent their obtaining their certificates falsely.

"Your Council deeply regret to find that one individual in this district, who possesses no legal qualification, has been placed on the register, notwithstanding a communication from your Secretary to the Registrar, informing him that such an individual was likely to make application to be placed on the register, and that he had no legal right.

"The following note, received from the Registrar, states (much to the surprise of your Council) that this extraordinary proceeding was ordered by the Medical Council.

"Medical Registration Office, June 28th, 1859.

"SIR,—I have seen your letter to Sir B. Brodie, and beg to assure you that, by desire of the Council, I wrote both to the Poor-law Board and to the Guardians, and learned from both that Mr. Richard Organ had a Poor-law medical appointment. This seemed to leave to the Council no option but to order him to be registered.

"I am, sir, yours faithfully,

"FRANCIS HAWKINS."

"Your Council feel it their duty to call your especial attention to the reasons assigned by the Medical Council for ordering his name to be placed on the register; as, if the principle be permitted, that an unqualified man is to be allowed to register merely because he holds a Poor-law medical appointment, and has been strongly recommended by the Guardians, all protection to the qualified medical practitioner will be virtually destroyed, and the intention of a published register of the profession entirely frustrated.

"Your Council hope that some expression of opinion will be forwarded to the Central Council of the Association from this meeting; and that some steps shall be taken to alter the provisions of the Act, if it shall be found to sanction the registration of unqualified persons, as in the case submitted to you.

"Your Council have only, in conclusion, to express a hope that these reunions may long continue to bring together the medical practitioners of Yorkshire, and thus promote not only the scientific interests of medicine, but also the cultivation of those professional friendships which tend so much to alleviate the labours of professional life."

After the reading of the Report, the President and other members expressed their astonishment at the order of the Medical Council, and protested against such extraordinary proceedings as the note from the Registrar seemed to reveal.

Mr. T. P. TEALE (a member of the Medical Council) explained that, according to the reading of the new Medical Act by a high legal authority, the Council could be compelled by mandamus to order the registration of all persons holding public appointments; and that, however unwilling the Medical Council might be, they had evidently no alternative but to carry out the law as it stood.

Dr. CHADWICK and several other of the members present contended that the Medical Council ought not to have been satisfied with any such interpretation of the Act, but, in case of a mandamus, to have tried the question fairly before the Court of Queen's Bench.

After much discussion, Mr. S. HEY proposed, Dr. KENNION seconded, and it was resolved—

"That the Council of this Branch be requested to obtain more complete information respecting the reasons which have induced the Medical Council to order the registration of Mr. R.

Organ, and to take such steps as may then seem to the Council best suited to obtain redress."

#### BRANCH COUNCIL FOR 1859-60.

Mr. J. PALEY proposed, Mr. S. HEY seconded, and it was resolved—

"That the following gentlemen form the Branch Council for the ensuing year:—The President; T. Simpson, M.D.; W. E. Swaine, M.D.; G. Shann, M.D.; C. Williams, M.D.; James Allen, Esq.; B. Dodsworth, Esq.; R. Hey, Esq.; and Wm. Matterson, Esq. (York); C. Chadwick, M.D.; J. P. Garlick, Esq.; W. Hey, Esq.; T. Nunneley, Esq.; S. Smith, Esq.; and T. P. Teale, Esq. (Leeds); F. Branson, M.D.; H. Jackson, Esq.; W. Jackson, Esq.; and G. Reedal, Esq. (Sheffield); J. Ness, Esq. (Helmsley); H. Y. Whitehead, M.D. (Crayke); and Dr. Sandwith (Beverley)."

#### REPRESENTATIVES IN THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

The following were elected:—W. D. Husband, Esq. (York); C. Chadwick, M.D.; J. P. Garlick, Esq.; W. Hey, Esq.; and T. Nunneley, Esq. (Leeds); W. Jackson, Esq.; and G. Reedal, Esq. (Sheffield); and H. Y. Whythead, M.D. (Crayke).

#### PLACE OF MEETING FOR NEXT YEAR.

Mr. H. JACKSON proposed, and it was resolved—

"That the next place of meeting be Sheffield; and that Wm. Farrell, Esq., be the President-elect."

Dr. KENNON hoped that the Branch would hold its annual meeting at Harrogate in 1861, and directed the attention of the members to the desirableness of changing the place of meeting from time to time.

#### VOTE OF THANKS.

Mr. TEALE proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring President, J. P. Garlick, Esq.

The PRESIDENT proposed that the Secretary be re-elected.

#### COMMUNICATION.

Mr. S. HEY then showed a very interesting specimen of bone to the meeting, and made some valuable observations on Spontaneous Fracture from Osteoporosis.

After a vote of thanks to Mr. Hey, the meeting broke up.

The members and their friends afterwards dined together at the Royal Station Hotel.

## Reports of Societies.

### ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, JUNE 14TH, 1859.

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

AN INQUIRY INTO THE NATURE OF THOSE CASES OF STRANGULATED OBLIQUE INGUINAL HERNIA, TERMED "REDUCTION EN BLOC OU EN MASSE", WITH SPECIAL RELATION TO THE ANATOMY OF THE ACTUAL LESION, AND PRACTICAL DEDUCTIONS DERIVED FROM AN EXAMINATION OF THE CASES.

BY JOHN BIRKETT, ESQ.

THE term *réduction en bloc ou en masse*, had been given by writers on hernia to those cases in which the hernial protrusion, together with its investing sac, has been pushed into the abdomen by the efforts made to reduce it. The principle was first enunciated by Le Dran, and since then it has been generally accepted as occasionally occurring in all forms of hernia. The object of this inquiry was to ascertain—

1. The applicability of the term to inguino-scrotal hernia exclusively; 2. The actual nature of the lesion; 3. The herniæ in which it most commonly occurs; and, 4. The practical inferences deducible from the cases on record.

The cases published by various surgeons were divisible into two classes:—1. Those in which the patient died without the strangulated bowel being relieved; 2. Those in which the constriction around the bowel was removed.

A brief history of some of the cases was given, to show the advance made in the science of the anatomy of the hernial sac, the causes of the impediment to the reduction of the hernia, and the way in which this accident was discovered. The lesion described in these cases was of three kinds:—1. When the hernia was pushed out of sight, and was found after death between the peritoneum and the abdominal walls; 2. When the hernia was found after death in a pouch within the abdominal walls; 3. When the orifice of the hernial sac had been torn off.

From the facts recorded by the various writers, the following conclusions were deduced:—

1. Although the hernial sac is *displaced*, it is not detached from its serotal envelopes.

2. The practicability of opening the hernial sac in the inguinal canal is good evidence that it was not pushed into the abdomen.

3. The difficulty in bringing out the sac containing the hernia from the abdomen, when it is said to be therein, is evidence that its connexions must be more firm in that region than would result from the mere pushing there.

4. The situation of the hernia has been pointed out in some cases, although the exact nature of the lesion has not been fully described.

5. The details of the cases are not in accordance with the presumed or accepted conditions of the accident.

6. The evidence of the practicability of the patient, or a surgeon, reducing into the abdomen a *serotal hernia*, together with the sac still strangulating its contents, is, at the present moment, equivocal.

7. And, therefore, the term *réduction en bloc ou en masse* is not so applicable to these cases of oblique inguino-scrotal hernia as to other species.

The author's explanation of the mechanism of the injury was next detailed, with the assistance of diagrams, and a few definitions of the parts immediately concerned were given. The mechanism of the lesion seems, first, to consist of a dilatation of the neck of the hernial sac by the force employed to reduce the hernia, which is prevented passing into the peritoneal cavity by the contracted orifice of the sac; secondly, of the laceration of the dilated neck of the sac, which permits the escape of its contents into the loose connective tissue between the peritoneum and internal abdominal fascia. Explanations were next offered of the manner in which the intra-abdominal pouch might sometimes be formed; although, from the extreme rareness of the occurrence, the fact of this slow development was very questionable.

The third part was devoted to an analysis of the cases recorded by numerous writers, and which the author reduced to the form of tables. These tables accompanied the paper. The following facts were especially considered:—

1. The age of the patient when the accident happened. It may occur at any age between ten and thirty; but it has been most frequent between thirty and forty years of age. 2. The age of the patient at the time the hernia was developed. In a large proportion the hernia was developed before thirty years of age. 3. The variety of inguinal hernia. All were *oblique inguinal*, a very large majority being in the scrotum. Those cases of hernia in which the protrusion passed into the vaginal process of the peritoneum constituted a majority. The importance of this circumstance was demonstrated, and an anatomical comparison was instituted between these cases and those inguinal herniæ of slow and gradual formation. 4. The site of the testis varied in several cases; this was an important fact to remember. 5. The protruded viscus was either reducible intestine only, or intestine with irreducible omentum; but, in the majority of the cases, reducible intestine, and that generally ileum, formed the hernia. 6. It appeared that this complication had occurred in cases of quite recent hernia, as well as in those of long standing. 7. The local means by which the hernia was pushed from the scrotum were employed in some cases by the sufferer; in others, by the surgeon; and in some, whilst the patient was under those influences which are employed to diminish muscular tonicity, especially chloroform. 8. In the majority of the cases there had been a local indication that the hernia was not returned into the peritoneal cavity. In all, constitutional symptoms had clearly demonstrated the fact.

In the fourth part, the practical deductions from the foregoing facts and observations were stated. They referred, first, to the diagnosis of the case; and, secondly, to its treatment. The diagnosis might be formed from the age of the patient; the age at which the hernia was developed; the variety of the hernia; its descent into the vaginal process of the peritoneum; the site of the testis; the viscera constituting the hernia; a disposition to the recurrence of the hernia after it is supposed to be reduced; the disappearance of the hernia after the application of the taxis, accompanied by persistent constitutional indications of strangulated intestine; and local indications more or less distinctly marked. The treatment consisted in immediately exploring the inguinal canal in every case in which the slightest suspicion of this accident existed; in freely exposing the internal abdominal ring; and, whilst

necessity and value of condensation in what is said and written.

My present purpose, however, is to revive the attention of the association to the importance of every branch having its "medico-ethical section." This recommendation was coeval with the formation of the first "ethical committee" by the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association at Worcester. But the attention and energies of the body were then, and have since been so absorbed by the "Medical Bill," that this, with other important subjects, has been left in abeyance. The coming annual meeting appears the time to recognise and revive it. The value of such a measure, I consider, would be incalculable. According to your excellent proposal, all the local medico-ethical societies would merge into the district branches; and, after so doing, the sections would include members from every locality in each branch—the number not to be too limited. By this constitution, the opinions and judgment of the body would not be liable to be influenced by local or party prejudices; and all decisions and arbitrations would be more impartial. On any question, when necessary, one section could communicate with or ask counsel from another; and thus uniformity in medical usage and practice would be approximated. This would likewise gain much to the profession. As an instance, among many, where an ethical section would have been of great value, I believe I can state that in a recent award by a local Medico-ethical Society, whose decisions have often been marked by a just judgment, an error was committed which had its source in local and partial views; and it is probable that if the question at issue had been before an ethical section of a Branch the judgment would have been reversed. Besides the value of these sections to their own districts and localities, a very large advantage would be gained by the assistance they would render to the Medico-ethical Committee of the Association in the construction of the "code," which, it is to be hoped, will not result in a mere "code of etiquette;" but really in one of medical ethics.

Leaving the subject to be introduced at the proper time in Liverpool, I am, etc., RICHARD FLINT.

Stockport, July 12th, 1859.

#### THE READINGS OF PAPERS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.

LETTER FROM P. H. WILLIAMS, M.D., GENERAL SECRETARY.

SIR,—In reply to the inquiry of Dr. Edward Smith, as to the time at which Papers and Cases will be read at the approaching meeting, I can only say that each contributor will have an opportunity of being heard according to the date of the intimation he has forwarded to the General Secretary.

It will be seen in the programme that Cases and Papers will be read on Thursday morning, after the Address in Medicine; also on Thursday afternoon, when the Report of the Benevolent Fund has been presented; and again on Friday morning, after the Address in Physiology.

Up to this date, the following members have favoured me with notices of communications—viz., Mr. Henry Thompson (London); Dr. Hibbert Taylor (Liverpool); Dr. Thomas Skinner (Liverpool); Dr. Nevins (Liverpool); Dr. Mitchell (Liverpool); and Mr. Whytehead Morris (Gildersome).

It is obviously impossible for me to inform Dr. Smith what length of time each paper will occupy, or how long any discussions upon them may continue. I can assure him that every thing that is practicable will be done to consult his convenience in every particular.

It is the wish of the Committee of Management in Liverpool that a sectional division of subjects should be established; and I am authorised to state that if members will kindly promise contributions on medical, surgical, obstetric, and physiological science, the Committee will do every thing in their power to facilitate the success of the arrangement.

I am, etc., PHILIP H. WILLIAMS, M.D., Gen. Sec.

Worcester, July, 1859.

#### RESULTS OF OVARIOTOMY.

SIR,—I am particularly sorry that I should have made a mistake as to the result in the five cases of ovariectomy by Mr. Brown, published in your columns. I wrote from memory, and do not think it worth while to defend myself from Mr. Brown's charge of making a "wilful misstatement." I am simply desirous to obtain information on a point of great scientific and practical interest, just now warmly debated; and I endeavoured

to ascertain as accurately as possible what are the real results of ovariectomy. Mr. Brown's twelve cases, published in his book and in your JOURNAL, give (subject to his correction) seven deaths and five recoveries. He alludes to other cases in his last paper; and I simply ask for references to the journals where those other cases appear, or request that Mr. Brown will simply state in how many cases he has performed ovariectomy, and in how many of these recovery has ensued. Surely this is not a question to make any surgeon angry, or lead him to put off his answer until "the autumn".

I am, etc., F.R.C.S.

London, July 11th, 1859.

## Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday, July 7th, 1859.

### ADULTERATION OF FOOD, ETC., BILL.

MR. SCHOLEFIELD, in moving the second reading of this Bill, said that its main provisions were to authorise governing bodies of the different districts of the country to appoint analysts; and to impose a penalty upon persons selling adulterated food.

MR. HARDY objected that the Bill would lead to a system of informing and spying, and treated the people of this country too much like children. Persons who bought adulterated food, had already a remedy by action or indictment. He asked the House to pause before they sanctioned such provisions as were contained in the second clause of this Bill, which empowered the town councils of every municipal borough to appoint one or more persons possessing competent medical, chemical, and microscopical knowledge, as analysts of all articles of food and drink, and which would lead to continual controversies between the analysts so appointed and all the other chemists in every town. He thought, however, that the fifth clause was almost calculated to cause as much amusement as the House derived from the Bill introduced some time ago for the prevention of cruelty to animals, for that clause provided that—

"It shall be lawful for the Privy Council from time to time to cause such analyses to be made, and to make such rules and instructions as the said Privy Council may think fit for regulating the use of any material or ingredient distinct from the natural composition of any article of food or drink with which it may be mixed."

Under this clause there might be an interference with every kitchen, and with the domestic regulations of every household, and rules and instructions might be issued as to the ingredients which any man should use in mixing his grog. He moved that the Bill be read a second time that day three months.

MR. COWPER said the Bill was intended to prevent frauds that could only be detected by persons possessing a certain amount of scientific knowledge. He thought that, considering the great amount of evil which was daily inflicted upon persons who unwittingly bought articles of food unfit for consumption, some legislative remedy was absolutely necessary.

LORD R. CECIL referred to the case of the Bradford poisonings. Would the honourable member for Leominster (Mr. Hardy) contend that Parliament ought not to interfere to protect the poor man from having arsenic supplied to him in his lozenges? This was a case in which the poor man could not protect himself; and he conceived that it was the duty of that House to interfere for his protection.

MR. WALTER thought the practice of the adulteration of food in this country was an universal evil and a national disgrace. There was, indeed, no country in Europe in which the system was carried to such an extent with impunity. In France, chiefly owing to the stringency of the law on this subject, bread and all the common articles of food, could be bought in a state of much greater purity than in this country. The only article of food to be bought unadulterated in a grocer's shop was, he believed, an egg, and that was simply because there were no means of introducing into it deleterious ingredients. If inspectors of weights and measures were employed to protect the poor from being cheated in respect of quantity, why should not some means be taken to afford them protection in respect of quality?

MR. BRADY said that the system of adulteration was carried on to an enormous extent, and there was scarcely an article of food used at the table of any poor man in this country which was not adulterated. He thought, therefore, that legislative

interference on the subject was absolutely necessary. The details of the measure might not be perfect; but they could be considered and altered where it was deemed requisite in committee. He hoped that, out of consideration for the poor of this country, who were daily and hourly not only robbed, but poisoned by tradesmen, the House would not refuse to assent to the second reading of the Bill.

Mr. E. JAMES said this measure certainly was one to which no honest tradesman could object. Its principle was perfectly correct, and it would confer great benefit on the poorer classes. He could scarcely think the honourable member for Leominster was serious in contending that the poor man had already the power of stopping frauds of this description.

Mr. CRAWFORD objected to the means of carrying out the principle of the Bill.

Sir G. C. LEWIS said that his chief objection to the Bill was the extreme vagueness and generality of its provisions, and the great impossibility there would be, if it were carried in its present form, of laying down any strict rules of interpretation. The first branch of the first clauses, laid down that any person who should sell, or expose for sale, any article of food or drink with which, to the knowledge of such person, any ingredient or material calculated to injure the health of persons had been "mixed," should be liable to the penalties of the Act. There was a school of physicians, and others, who held that alcohol was noxious to the health, and therefore the mixing of alcohol with any article of drink would, according to this school, fall under the provisions of the Act. The second part of the clause subjected to the penalties of the Act any person selling as pure and unadulterated any article of food or drink which to the knowledge of such person was adulterated and not pure. Any person mixing chicory with coffee would be liable to the penalties of the Act under this clause, and no doubt many magistrates would put that interpretation upon it. The case of unwholesome meat, however, was not touched by the clause. The machinery by which the Bill was to be worked—such as the appointment of analysts—the reference to the Privy Council—would lead to very heavy charges, and would be sure to give rise to great objections.

Mr. DEEDES and Mr. GRIFFITH supported, and Mr. BARROW opposed, the second reading.

The House divided, and the numbers were :—

For the second reading .....	227
Against it .....	103
Majority.....	—124

#### PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

This Bill was read a second time.

*Friday, July 8th.*

#### MEDICAL CHARITIES (IRELAND) AMENDMENT ACT.

Mr. DAWSON asked the Chief Secretary for Ireland whether it was the intention of the Government to introduce a Medical Charities Amendment Act during the present Session; and, if so, when such a measure would be laid upon the table of the House?

Mr. CARDWELL said the question was brought under the notice of the House not long ago, and was not susceptible of a satisfactory settlement during the present Session of Parliament.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

This Bill passed through Committee.

## Medical News.

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

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

#### BIRTHS.

DILL. On July 12th, at Hawthorn Villa, Chorlton Road, Manchester, the wife of \*John Dill, M.D., of a son.

FYFFE. On July 7th, at 48, Gloucester Place, Portman Square, the wife of W. Johnstone Fyffe, M.D., Surgeon 5th Dragoon Guards, of a daughter.

MACNAMARA. On July 8th, at Uxbridge, the wife of \*G. H. Macnamara, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.

WILLIAMS. On July 11th, the wife of Walter D. Williams, M.D., of Hackney and Reigate, of a son.

#### MARRIAGES.

CHEVES—HUTCHISON. Cheves, Alexander, M.D., of Millbrook, Devon, to Eliza Susan, eldest daughter of John Hutchison, Esq., of Mongrui, Aberdeenshire, at Erith, Kent, on July 12th.

COLLIS—DORIN. Collis, William, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon 98th Regiment, to Margaret Agnes, widow of the late Captain H. A. Dorin, 27th Regiment Bengal Native Infantry, at St. James's, Paddington, on July 7th.

HART—PHIPPS. \*Hart, Gratian C. B., Esq., Surgeon, of Chesterfield, to Mary Anne, eldest daughter of the late Filmer Phipps, Esq., of River, near Dover, at Colchester, on July 5th.

HARVEY—WOLSELEY. Harvey, Edward Robinson, M.B., to Helen Henrietta, daughter of Henry Wolseley, Esq., of Hillingdon, at Hendon, on July 2nd.

KEMP—HOWKINS. \*Kemp, Charles Godfrey, Esq., Surgeon-Dentist, Leicester, to Sara, youngest daughter of Thomas Howkins, Esq., Spaldwick, Huntingdonshire, on July 14th.

MOSS—PUTLEY. Moss, William Chapman, M.D., Resident Superintendent of Longwood House Lunatic Asylum, near Bristol, to Sarah, only daughter of Isaac Putley, Esq., of 44, High Street, Southwark, at St. Saviour's, Southwark, on July 6th.

MURCHISON—BICKERSTETH. Murchison, Charles, M.D., to Clara, daughter of the late \*Robert Bickersteth, Esq., Surgeon, of Liverpool, at Casterton, near Kirkby Lonsdale, on July 7th.

#### DEATHS.

DIX. On July 9th, at Long Buckby, Northamptonshire, aged 59, Eliza Worth, wife of William Dix, Esq., Surgeon.

THOMPSON. On July 4th, at Shrewsbury, aged 66, Amy, wife of \*Edward Thompson, Esq., Surgeon, Albrighton.

WINTERBOTTOM, Thomas, M.D., at Westoe, South Shields, aged 93, on July 8th.

#### PASS LISTS.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN. Degrees conferred on Wednesday, July 6th :—

##### Doctors of Medicine.

BENNETT, Edward H.	McDOWEL, Benjamin G.
CUSACK, James William	SMITH, Robert William

##### Bachelors of Medicine.

BAXTER, Patrick C.	DE LANDRE, George B.
BENNETT, Edward H.	KIDD, Leonard
CAMPBELL, John	NICHOLSON, Gilbert de P.

#### HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING JULY 9TH, 1859.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

THE London returns of mortality for the last three weeks exhibit a rapid increase. In the week ending July 2nd, the deaths were 1024; last week they rose to 1226, and exceeded the average (corrected for increase of population) of corresponding weeks in ten previous years by 128. Diarrhoea, which numbered 6 cases in the first week of June, rose to 132 in the first week of July. Nine of these occurred in the sub-district of St. John, Westminster. It should be observed, however, that the complaint was as fatal at the same early period of the year in 1857 and 1858. Besides the 132 deaths of last week, there were 11 from summer cholera, all, except two, amongst children. Small-pox was fatal in 24 cases, scarlatina in 38, diphtheria in 9. A widow died at the age of 95 years; and a man, formerly a private in the Scots Greys, died in the Westminster Workhouse on the 2nd instant, whose age is stated to have been 104 years. Two children died from the heat of the sun.

Last week the births of 833 boys and 785 girls, in all 1618 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1849-58, the average number was 1433.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 30.071 in. The mean daily reading of the barometer was above 30 in. on every day after Sunday. The instrument rose from 29.94 in. on Sunday to

30.20 in. on Tuesday, being the lowest and highest readings in the week. The mean temperature of the week was 67.4°, which is 5.8° above the average of the same week in 43 years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). The mean daily temperature was above the average throughout the week. The thermometer in the shade rose to 84.5° on Wednesday, and on the same day it rose in the sun to 108°, both being the highest in the week. The lowest temperature was 52.9° on Tuesday. The mean daily range was 25.4°. The mean temperature of the water of the Thames was 68.1°, which is 0.7° higher than that of the air. On four days the wind blew from the south-west. Rain fell on Sunday to the amount of 0.20 in.

In the thirteen weeks that ended Saturday, July 2nd, the mortality of London was comparatively low; it was at the rate of 20 per 1000 living, annually. In three out of the four corresponding quarters of the years 1855-58, the deaths ranged from fourteen thousand to fifteen thousand; in the quarter that has now terminated, they were 13,724. The mean temperature of last quarter was 54.1°, which is nearly as high as that of the same quarter in 1858, and is higher than that of any corresponding period in the three preceding years. Deaths arising from diseases of the respiratory organs (exclusive of phthisis) were decidedly low last quarter, for they numbered 1974, while they were not less than 2217 in any of the four corresponding quarters; and in 1855, when the temperature was low, they rose to 2552. Phthisis carried off nearly two thousand persons in the quarter; this number is high, and exceeds the aggregate mortality of other pulmonary complaints, which apparently are mitigated by causes that are not effectual in retarding the course of that most fatal disease in the list. The deaths produced by the zymotic class of diseases were 3135; whereas in the same quarter of 1858, they were 3604; for though small-pox and scarlatina have increased, measles, whooping-cough, and diarrhoea, have shown a decrease. Small-pox was fatal chiefly in the East districts, where the deaths from it rose to 96. The district of Bethnal Green in that division suffered most; there were also many deaths from this disease in Hoxton and Haggerstone. Of 173 cases in which diphtheria had a fatal issue, 159 occurred to young persons, 6 in the period of life 20-40 years, 4 at 40-60 years, and 4 at a more advanced age. The deaths from rheumatism and rheumatic fever were 109, which is considerably more than in corresponding quarters. Those from syphilitic disease also exhibit an excess. In the two spring quarters of 1858-59, both seasons of high temperature, disease of the kidneys was registered as the cause of death more frequently than in three former springs.

**TREAT TO HOSPITAL NURSES.** The managers of Guy's Hospital have this year, for the first time, set on foot an experiment of consideration for the toil of their servants, which we hope to see followed by other hospitals. On Friday, the entire staff of day-nurses, forty in number, were given a holiday, and treated to a picnic at Hampton Court. Two commodious *chairs-à-banc* conveyed the nurses to their destination, where they betook themselves to the usual amusements of the palace, and seemed heartily to enjoy themselves. The picnic is to be repeated for the staff of night-nurses at Guy's; and the "sisters" of the hospital wards are next week, we hear, to have a day at the Crystal Palace. (*Standard*.)

**STATUE OF MORGAGNI.** A subscription has been opened at Naples for the purpose of erecting a statue of Morgagni.

**STATUE OF DR. JENNER.** A statue of Dr. Jenner, by Eugene Paul, has just been cast in bronze, and set up temporarily opposite the river front of the Louvre.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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.

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

NOTICE.—DR. WYSTER 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.

*Communications have been received from:*—MR. PROPERT; MR. T. HOLMES; MR. J. C. S. JENNINGS; MR. T. H. SMITH; MR. HAYNES WALTON; DR. G. M. HUMPHRY; DR. WALKER; MR. I. B. BROWN; DR. G. E. PAGET; DR. BARHAM; MR. J. V. SOLOMON; MR. RICHARD GRIFFIN; DR. C. HANDFIELD-JONES; MR. A. T. H. WATERS; MR. JAS. REID; DR. P. H. WILLIAMS; MR. R. FLINT; DR. CHEVALLIER; DR. RANKING; DR. KIRKMAN; DR. DURRANT; DR. JOHN DILL; MR. W. DIX; MR. C. G. KEMP; MR. C. H. EVANS; DR. JAMES RUSSELL; DR. HENRY GOODE; DR. KELBURNE KING; DR. HYDE SAITER; MR. SQUIRE; DR. ADAM MARTIN; MR. T. M. STONE; and MR. RHODES.

## BOOKS RECEIVED.

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

1. *The Retrospect of Medicine.* Edited by W. Braithwaite. Vol. 39, January—June 1859. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. Edinburgh: Oliver and Boyd. Dublin: Hodges and Smith. pp. 451. 1859.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

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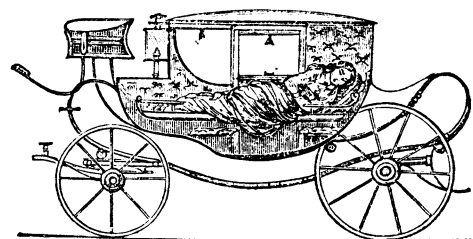
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# BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

**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 Meetings of the Association will take place at the Medical Institution, Mount Pleasant. The following is an outline of the proceedings. A more complete programme will be issued at Liverpool.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 27th.

- 11.30 A.M. Meeting of Committee on Medical Legislation in the Committee Room.  
 1 P.M. Meeting of Committee of Council in the same Room.  
 2.30 „ Meeting of General Council of the Association in the small theatre.  
 7 „ First General Meeting of the Association in the large theatre. The retiring President will make a few remarks. The new President will deliver an Address. The Report of Council will be presented, and other business transacted.

## THURSDAY, JULY 28th.

- 8.30 A.M. Public Breakfast at the Adelphi. Tickets 2s. 6d. each.  
 10 „ Meeting of the Members of the New Council in the small Theatre.  
 11 „ Second General Meeting of Members. The Address in Medicine will be delivered by E. WATERS, M.D., of Chester. Papers and Cases will be read. The Meeting will adjourn at One and re-assemble at Two. The Report of the Benevolent Fund will be received, and Papers and Cases will be read. The Meeting will adjourn at Five.  
 8.30 P.M. *Soirée* at the Royal Institution, Colquitt Street. The Royal Institution, the Gallery of Arts, containing a fine collection of paintings, and the Museum of applied Sciences will be thrown open. During the evening some interesting electrical phenomena will be illustrated by J. BAKER EDWARDS, Ph.D.

## FRIDAY, JULY 29th.

- 11 A.M. Third General Meeting of Members. The Address in Physiology will be delivered by A. T. H. WATERS, Esq., of Liverpool. Papers and Cases will be read.  
 3.30 P.M. A Steamer will leave the North Landing Stage to convey the Members along the Docks, and round the line of battle ships stationed in the river, to return at Five P.M.  
 6 P.M. Dinner. Tickets One Guinea each.

*Gentlemen intending to be present at the Dinner, are requested to send notice to the Honorary Secretary of the Committee, A. T. H. WATERS, Esq., 27 Hope Street, Liverpool, on or before Friday next, the 22nd instant. This arrangement is absolutely necessary, as local circumstances render it impossible for the Committee to provide accommodation for more than a given number. Numerous applications for tickets have already been received.*

Members are requested to enter, on arrival, their names and addresses in the Reception Room in the Medical Institution, Mount Pleasant; where all the Meetings will take place, and where cards will be supplied which will secure admission to all the Proceedings, and contain such information as may be useful to those who are strangers to the town.

Members who wish for previous information may communicate with the Honorary Secretary, as above. It is particularly requested that all Members who propose to read papers will communicate with the General Secretary without delay. Arrangements will be made for the sectional reading of Papers, if a sufficient number be promised to render such a plan desirable.

Among the principal Hotels are—the Adelphi, Ranelagh Place; the Waterloo, Ranelagh Street; the Angel, Dale Street; the Feathers, Clayton Square; the George, Dale Street; the Grecian, Dale Street; the Neptune, Clayton Square; the Queen's, Lime Street; the Royal, Moorfields; the Stork, Queen's Square; the Union, Parker Street; the Victoria, St. John's Lane; the Wellington, Dale Street.

The Reception Committee have made arrangements for securing the admission of members attending the meeting to the various places of interest in the town.

Worcester, June 30th, 1859.

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

## WATER BEDS.—EDMISTON & SON, 5, CHARING CROSS, (late

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