

dure laborious work or sickness, when assailed by disease, like peasant children, who, though not nearly so well fed, have the advantage of good open air and laborious exercise.—I am, gentlemen, your very obedient,
S. NICOLLS, M.D."

In the examination of candidates for medical appointments in Her Majesty's Indian forces, the examiners state that in determining the relative merits of the candidates, so far as they can be ascertained from answers to printed questions, regard will be had both to the number of questions answered, and to the accuracy and completeness of each answer. It is not, however, required that all the questions should be answered by every candidate; for they are not only intended for ascertaining whether each candidate is qualified for an appointment, but for testing, both by their number and their difficulty, the relative abilities of the best candidates; a design which is essential to a competitive examination, and which cannot be fulfilled unless some questions are asked to which only the best candidates can give good and complete answers.

A BILL

TO AMEND THE MEDICAL ACTS.

[Prepared and brought in by Mr. WHITESIDE and LORD NAAS.]

WHEREAS, by an Act passed in the twenty-first and twenty-second years of the reign of Her Majesty, chapter ninety, "The Medical Act" provision is made for the Registration of Members of the Medical Profession; and the said Act was amended by an Act passed in the twenty-second year of the reign of Her Majesty, chapter twenty-one; and certain disabilities are imposed by the said Acts, after a period mentioned therein, on Members of that Profession who are not then registered: and whereas Licentiate of medicine and Masters in Surgery of the Universities of the United Kingdom are authorised to be registered under the said first-recited Act; but no provision is contained therein for the registration of Licentiates in Surgery of such Universities; and whereas it is expedient that the said recited Acts should be amended as hereinafter mentioned. Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

I. From and after the passing of this Act, the Diploma or Licence in Surgery, as heretofore usually granted by any University of the United Kingdom, shall be considered a sufficient qualification to practise under the said first-recited Act; and every person to whom such Diploma or Licence has been granted shall be entitled to be registered under the provisions of the said first-recited Act, in the like manner, and with the like effect, and subject to the like provisions, as are prescribed by the said first-recited Act in respect of the registration of any Master in Surgery of any University of the United Kingdom.

II. The words "or Licentiate in Surgery" shall be added after the words "or Master in Surgery," to the qualifications described in the tenth head of Schedule (A.) of the said first-recited Act.

III. The first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and sixty shall be deemed to be substituted, in Sections thirty-two, thirty-four, thirty-six, and thirty-seven respectively of the said first-recited Act, as the same are amended by the said second-recited Act, for the first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, so far as the same relate to any person authorised to be registered under this Act; and the said several sections, as so amended, and all the provisions of the said Act having reference thereto, shall, with respect to any such person, so authorised to be registered under this Act, be construed and take effect as if the words "the first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and sixty" had been originally inserted in each of the said sections, instead of the words "the first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine."

IV. No person authorised to be registered under this Act who on the first day of October, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine shall be acting as Medical Officer, under an order of the Poor Law Commissioners, or Poor Law Board, shall, by reason of the said recited Acts, or either of them, be, or be

deemed to have been, disqualified to hold such office, or any appointment mentioned in Section thirty-six of the said first-recited Act, unless he shall have failed to be registered on or before the first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and sixty.

v. The said recited Acts, and this Act, shall be construed together as one Act.

vi. This Act may for all purposes be cited as "The Medical Acts Amendment Act, 1859."

THE MEDICAL COUNCIL.

BRANCH COUNCIL FOR IRELAND.

Thursday, June 23rd, 1859.

Present:—Dr. Williams, in the Chair; Dr. Apjohn, Dr. Smith, Dr. Leet, Dr. Corrigan, and Dr. Stokes; Dr. Maunsell, Registrar.

The minutes of last meeting were approved and signed.

The Registrar having submitted a third revise of the Irish Register, and reported that it was corrected in accordance with the MS. transmitted by him to the Registrar of the General Council, it was ordered to be forwarded to London.

Read—Letter from the Registrar of the General Council, asking for "information that may satisfy the minds of the Committee as to the diploma or qualification in surgery of the University of Dublin, and whether that university has by charter the power to make Masters in Surgery."

Resolved—In reply to letter of Registrar of General Council of 20th inst., inform: that the qualification of Licence in Surgery from the University of Dublin has been inserted on the General Register in accordance with a resolution of this Council of 25th May, transmitted in ordinary course to the Registrar of the General Council, and in virtue of cl. xxvii of the Medical Act, which declares that "Medical titles, diplomas, and qualifications, conferred by any corporation or university", shall be inserted in the General Registry. The power of the University of Dublin to grant a Licence in Surgery has never been impugned. The licence was instituted in 1851; and previously to conferring it, the opinions of the most eminent lawyers in England and Ireland were taken as to the power of the University of Dublin to confer such licence. Persons possessing it are deemed fully qualified to hold surgical appointments in the army and navy and civil service. The Council, under these circumstances, do not deem it now necessary to open the question of the right or power of the University of Dublin to grant a Licence in Surgery.
C. H. LEET.

Association Intelligence.

ADMISSION OF MEMBERS, AND PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

THE General Secretary of the British Medical Association begs to call attention 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, July 1859.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH:
ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of this Branch was held on Thursday, July 14th, 1859, at the Institution, Park Street: J. G. DAVEY, M.D., President, in the Chair. There were also present: J. S. Bartrum, Esq. (Bath); J. Beddoe, M.D. (Clifton); W. Budd, M.D. (Clifton); G. Burder, M.D. (Clifton); J. B. Burroughs, Esq. (Clifton); W. M. Clarke, Esq. (Clifton); C. Collins, Esq. (Chew Magna); J. Crang, Esq. (Timsbury); W. Davies, M.D. (Bath); F. Flower, Esq. (Chilcompton); R. S. Fowler, Esq. (Bath); E. L. Fox, M.D. (Bristol); J. Godfrey, Esq. (Bristol); T. Green, Esq. (Bristol); W. B. Herapath, M.D. (Bristol); J. Lancaster, M.D. (Bristol); F. P. Lansdown, Esq. (Bristol); C. Leonard, Esq. (Bristol); E. S. Mayor, Esq. (Bristol); S. Martyn, M.D. (Bristol); J. S. Metford, Esq. (Clifton); G. Norman, Esq. (Bath); H. Ormerod, Esq. (Bristol); A. Prichard, Esq. (Bristol); C. Rendell, Esq. (Westbury); R. N. Stone, Esq. (Bath); T. L. Surrage, Esq. (Clifton); J. G. Swayne, M.D. (Clifton); S. H. Swayne, Esq. (Clifton); J. A. Symonds, M.D. (Clifton); J. Tunstall, M.D. (Bath).

The Secretary read the minutes of the last annual meeting, which were confirmed.

JAMES CRANG, Esq., the retiring President, having briefly thanked the members, resigned the chair to Dr. DAVEY, who delivered an address, which will be published.

REPORT OF COUNCIL.

Mr. LEONARD (the Bristol Secretary), read the following report.

"In presenting their Annual Report, your Council congratulate the members on the continued prosperity of the Branch. The meetings have been numerous, attended, and the various subjects brought forward, as well as the subsequent discussions, have been highly interesting and important. The following papers and cases have been read.

"1. Case of Mollities Ossium. By J. K. Spender, Esq.

"2. On the Clinical Diagnosis of Glucosuria. By W. B. Herapath, M.D.

"3. Case of Gall-Stones voided through the Abdominal Parietes. By Joseph Hinton, Esq.

"4. Case of Stone-swallowing by a Lunatic. By J. G. Davey, M.D.

"5. Case of Loss of Speech following a slight Accident, the Understanding not being impaired. By Geo. Norman, Esq.

"6. On some of the Medico-Legal Relations of Infanticide. By W. B. Herapath, M.D.

"7. Case of Hydatid Cyst in the Brain. By F. Brittan, M.D.

"8. Case of Hydatid Cyst in the Liver, cured by Operation. By Wm. Budd, M.D.

"9. Case of Bite of an Adder. By Thos. Green, Esq.

"10. Case of Dislocation of the Knee. By Thos. Green, Esq.

"11. Treatment of Stricture of the Urethra. By G. Norman, Esq.

"12. The Application of strong Nitric Acid in some forms of Entropion. By E. Boulton, Esq.

"13. On Nyctalopia. By A. Prichard, Esq.

"14. Observations on Teale's Rectangular Flap Operation. By J. Godfrey, Esq.

"During the past year there has been an increase in the number of members; and your Council would again urge the members individually to use their influence in assisting the endeavours of the Secretaries, to secure the cooperation of the practitioners in their district who have not yet joined the Association; believing that with a little effort a great accession may be made to the ranks of the Association.

"Your Council have to deplore the death of an old member of the Bristol district, who has for many years been a regular attendant at the meetings; viz., Mr. Allen of St. George's.

"Since the last anniversary meeting at Bath, the Medical Bill has passed into law; and your Council refer with pleasure to the important part which for many years past the Association has taken in the cause of medical reform, considering that the result now obtained may in great measure be attributed to the influence which individually and collectively it has been enabled to bring to bear upon the legislature. The question of forming a Medical Registration Society, to assist the General Registrar appointed by the Medical Council, has been considered by both the Bath and Bristol District Councils, who came to the conclusion that unless the method of registration adopted by the Registrar appeared inefficient, there was no need of any such local society.

"Your Council notice with great satisfaction, that at last the government has recognised the just claims of the medical officers in the army and navy, who are now, under the new regulations, placed in a position more honourable to themselves, and more befitting them as members of a learned profession.

"The Medical Benevolent College and Fund, kindred institutions, continue their career of usefulness, and are earnestly commended to the favourable consideration of the members and the public generally; as, with increased resources, they are capable of conferring a vast amount of benefit amongst those of our profession who at present are excluded on account of limited funds.

"Your Council advert with much regret to the loss which the Branch is about to sustain by Mr. Bartrum's resignation as one of your honorary secretaries. During his thirteen years of office, he has laboured earnestly and indefatigably in promoting the welfare of the Association; and generally and especially in developing the Bath and Bristol Branch; and its present prosperous condition may in a great measure be attributed to the tact and good management he has displayed, not only in matters of business, but also in furthering harmony and good fellowship amongst the members. Your Council begs to recommend to your consideration as his successor, Mr. R. S. Fowler, a gentleman who from his industry and habits of business is, in their opinion, fully qualified for the office.

"The members elected to fill the vacancies in the local Council are Messrs. George, Flower, Vicary, and Bartrum, for the Bath district; and Drs. Symonds, Brittan and Budd, and Messrs. Smerdon and Prichard, for the Bristol district.

"The members of the Branch are called upon at this meeting to elect six representatives to the General Council of the Association for the ensuing year. The retiring members are Drs. Budd and Davies, and Messrs. Flower, Norman, Prichard, and J. S. Soden, who are eligible for re-election."

The financial statement, which was appended to the report, showed the receipts of the year 1858 to have amounted to £24:18, and the expenditure to £8:3, leaving in hand, on December 31st, a balance of £24:18.

Dr. TUNSTALL proposed, and Mr. BURROUGHS seconded—

"That the Report and Financial Statement now read be adopted."

This was unanimously agreed to.

REPRESENTATIVES IN THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

The following gentlemen were then elected by ballot, as representatives of the Branch to the General Council of the Association: Wm. Budd, M.D.; Geo. Norman, Esq.; Wm. Davies, M.D.; A. Prichard, Esq.; F. Flower, Esq.; and J. G. Davey, M.D.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Mr. PRICHARD moved and Mr. FLOWER seconded—

"That the best thanks of this Branch be tendered to James Crang, Esq., for regular attendance to the duties of his office during the past year, and for the interest he has always taken in promoting the welfare of the Branch."

Dr. MARTYN moved, and Mr. S. H. SWAYNE seconded—

"That the thanks of this Branch be given to the Council and Honorary Secretaries for their services during the past year."

These resolutions were unanimously adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. NORMAN moved, and Mr. MAYOR seconded—

"That John Soden, Esq., of Bath, be the President-elect of this Branch."

This resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. BARTRUM stated his intention of resigning the office of Honorary Secretary for the Bath district. During his thirteen years of office, he had devoted all his energies to the performance of its duties, and it had been to him a labour of love. He could no longer afford the necessary time; and retired, as he could not continue to fill the office in a manner satisfactory to himself.

Dr. DAVIES moved, and Dr. BUDD seconded the following resolution; which was supported by Dr. LANCASTER, and unanimously carried—

"That the members of the Bath and Bristol Branch of the British Medical Association desire to express in the strongest and most cordial manner their sense of the great services rendered to the Association by the late Bath Secretary, John S. Bartrum, Esq. Mr. Bartrum has held the office of Bath Secretary for a period of thirteen years, during which time the Association has passed through periods of great difficulty and some danger. On all these occasions, Mr. Bartrum has exerted himself most assiduously for the good of the Association.

We need only mention by way of illustration the difficulties—which even threatened to destroy the Association—which preceded and followed the annual meeting of 1852 at Oxford. It is only presumptuous to claim for the Bath and Bristol Branch of the Association a large share in settling the misunderstandings of that period, and of this end Mr. Bartrum was an unflinching and zealous promoter; and as such, and for the manner in which he has performed his various duties, this meeting desire to tender to him their most sincere thanks."

Mr. BARTRUM acknowledged the compliment.

Mr. FLOWER proposed, Mr. GREEN seconded, and it was unanimously resolved—

"That Mr. R. S. Fowler be appointed Honorary Secretary in place of Mr. Bartrum, resigned; and that Mr. Leonard be re-appointed.

Carried unanimously.

Dr. Fox proposed, and Dr. BUDD seconded—

"That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Committee of the Institution for kindly allowing the use of the theatre for this meeting."

A vote of thanks to the Chairman was carried by acclamation.

The members afterwards dined together at the White Lion Hotel.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE seventh annual meeting of this Branch was held at the rooms of the Medical Society of London, George Street, Hanover Square, on Tuesday, July 19th, at 8 p.m.: EDWARD W. MURPHY, A.M., M.D., President, in the Chair. There were also present: J. W. Barnes, Esq.; J. Bird, M.D.; J. Birkett, Esq.; W. Camps, M.D.; Sir J. Forbes, M.D.; G. D. Gibb, M.D.; A. Henry, M.D.; E. Lankester, M.D.; W. G. Marshall, Esq. (Colney Hatch); S. W. J. Merriman, M.D.; J. H. Paul, M.D.; C. H. F. Routh, M.D.; J. Seaton, M.D. (Sunbury); F. Sibson, M.D.; E. H. Sieveking, M.D.; A. P. Stewart, M.D.; G. Webster, M.D.; and A. Wynter, M.D. Sir Charles Hastings, being in London, was present as a visitor.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE BRANCH.

The following gentlemen, members of the parent-Association, were elected members of the Branch: L. S. Beale, M.B.; J. R. D. Bright, M.D.; Holmes Coote, Esq.; H. Hanks, Esq.; E. Hart, Esq.; T. Holmes, Esq.; Jonathan Hutchinson, Esq.; C. H. Jones, M.B.; J. Z. Laurence, Esq.; T. W. Nunn, Esq.; R. Quain, M.D.; H. H. Salter, M.D.; E. C. Seaton, M.D.; J. Stanton, M.D.; T. Taylor, Esq.

REPORT OF COUNCIL.

Dr. STEWART (one of the Honorary Secretaries) read the following report:

"In presenting a brief report of the proceedings of the past year, the Council of the Metropolitan Counties Branch feel it to be their first duty to express the deep regret they have experienced—in common, they are sure, with all the members of the Branch—in being deprived by death of the valuable counsel and assistance of their much respected President, Mr. Squibb, whose high integrity and earnest readiness on all occasions to advance the welfare of his profession gained him universal esteem, and made his accession to the chair an honour to the Branch.

"The number of members continues as at last annual meeting. Besides the loss to which allusion has just now been made, the names of eleven members have been removed from the last printed list; three, those of Mr. Dobson of Harlow, Dr. John Scott, and Dr. Snow, by death; and others in consequence of resignation of the membership either of the Branch or of the Parent Association. Since the list was issued, the death of Dr. Samuel Griffith has increased the number of losses to thirteen—a deduction which is nearly balanced by the admission of eleven new members, leaving the total number at ninety-three. The Council, while directing attention to the fact that a very large proportion of the members of the Parent Association resident within the limits of the Branch do not belong to it, are happy to report the adhesion of not fewer than fifteen who have just been admitted, raising the number of members to 108.

"At the last annual meeting the Council were desired to revise the laws of the Branch, with the view of increasing its usefulness. This they accordingly did in the course of the autumn; and at a special general meeting, held in December,

a new code of laws was submitted and adopted. With other modifications of a minor character, a provision was introduced to enable members of the Branch resident in various localities, especially in the country districts, to form societies for the promotion of the general objects of the Branch and of the Parent Association. This plan, when tried elsewhere, has been highly beneficial to the Association; and it is hoped that by its adoption, especially in the extra-metropolitan portions of the district included in our limits, the members both of the Branch and of the Association may be materially increased, and their usefulness greatly promoted. The new code of laws, having been enacted, and having received the assent of the Committee of Council on the 5th of April, is now in force, and has been printed and circulated among the members of the Branch.

At the meeting held in December, a Committee was appointed to attend closely to the progress of registration under the new Act—a subject which deserves more attention than has hitherto been bestowed upon it.

"Among the public events of the past year, in the development of which this Branch has always taken a deep and active interest, the foremost is the passing of the Medical Act. Though, in regard to some of its details, there is much difference of opinion, the Council believe that the members of this Branch, on a retrospect of their past proceedings in relation to medical reform, will be gratified at finding in the Act a general recognition of those principles which have been steadily advocated, and have sometimes originated, in the meetings of this body.

"An important question arising out of the passing of the Act led to the calling of a special general meeting of the Branch in the month of October. That meeting, numerously attended, was summoned to discuss a resolution proposed by Dr. Sieveking, and affirming the propriety of appointing a member of the medical profession as President of the Medical Council. Though on this occasion the supporters of the resolution were in a minority, it will not, we believe, be denied that the publication of the views then expressed led to a more general discussion of the question in the public journals and throughout the country, and evoked an unequivocal manifestation of feeling on the part of the medical profession in favour of the appointment of one of their own number as their head and representative in the General Council. This feeling has found appropriate expression in the election of our most illustrious surgeon, on whom, in his old age, science is now showering those honours he has earned so well and wears so gracefully.

"The grant, by Her Majesty's late Government, of the new warrants for regulating the rank and pay of the medical officers of the army and navy, is an event in the record of which the Council feel the highest satisfaction. After a long struggle, the surgeons of the two services are at last placed in a position at once of equality and of honour. The mention of the naval service especially will no longer carry with it the idea of professional degradation; and, what is of no less importance than professional honour, the efficiency of our land and sea forces cannot fail to be materially promoted by the inducements which are now held out for medical men of high acquirements to enter either of the public combatant services.

"The Council cannot conclude this sketch of the expiring year without expressing their conviction that this annual meeting of the Branch will cordially ratify the vote of thanks given by the Council to their late excellent Secretary, who has been compelled by the ill health of his family to give up his practice in town, and those duties in connexion with the Association which were to him a labour of love.

"As regards the future, there are several problems towards the satisfactory solution of which the efforts of the Branch might be directed, with advantage alike to itself and to the medical profession. To urge upon the Government the absolute necessity of some arrangements by which the benefits of vaccination shall be made coextensive with the area and the population of the British Isles; to insist on the adoption of some legislative provision which may effect an amicable adjustment, on some broad general principle, between the claims of local self-government, the health of the poor, and the much neglected rights of the medical profession; and finally, to aid in devising and carrying some measure regarding the sale of poisons which may render impossible the recurrence of such wholesale murder as that which last autumn gave to Bradford a painful and unenviable notoriety,—surely these are objects towards the attainment of which the ablest and the wisest of our noble profession might be proud to contribute their most earnest efforts."

On the motion of Dr. ROUTH, seconded by Dr. GIBB, the report was unanimously adopted and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

THE LATE HONORARY SECRETARY.

On the motion of Sir JOHN FORBES, supported by Drs. STEVENING and LANKESTER, a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the late Honorary Secretary, Dr. Ogier Ward, for the zeal and devotion with which he had performed the duties of his office from the time of the institution of the Branch.

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL FOR 1859-60.

The following gentlemen were elected the Officers and Council of the Branch for 1859-60:

President, E. W. Murphy, A.M., M.D. *President-elect*, J. Birkett, Esq. *Vice-President*, E. Lankester, M.D., F.R.S. *Treasurer*, E. Lankester, M.D., F.R.S. *Secretaries*, A. P. Stewart, M.D.; and A. Henry, M.D. *Other Members of Council—for the Metropolitan division*, S. S. Alford, Esq.; W. Camps, M.D.; S. W. J. Merriman, M.D.; J. Propert, Esq.; C. H. Rogers-Harrison, Esq.; E. Smith, M.D.; Spencer Smith, Esq.; J. Toynbee, Esq.; *for the extra-Metropolitan division*, C. T. Carter, Esq. (Hadley); E. Ray, Esq. (Dulwich); J. Seaton, M.D. (Sunbury); G. Webster, M.D. (Dulwich). *Representatives in the General Council*, E. Lankester, M.D.; B. W. Richardson, M.D.; C. H. F. Routh, M.D.; E. Smith, M.D.; and A. Wynter, M.D.; with one of the Secretaries.

SIR CHARLES HASTINGS.

Dr. LANKESTER said that the meeting would be glad to know that they were honoured that evening by the presence of Sir Charles Hastings, to whom thanks were due for his persevering efforts in behalf of his medical brethren. At the present time, Sir Charles Hastings stood in a peculiar relation to the Association. When the new laws were elected, the offices of President of the Council and Treasurer were offered to him for life; but it was resolved that these appointments should afterwards be triennial. Sir Charles had, however, three years having nearly expired since the enactment of the laws, offered to place his offices in the hands of the Association. Dr. Lankester thought that the Branch would not interfere with the privileges of the annual meeting of the Association if the members expressed an earnest hope that Sir Charles Hastings would consent to be reelected to the offices he was about to resign.

Sir JOHN FORBES, Dr. WEBSTER, and Dr. SIBSON, warmly supported the desire expressed by Dr. Lankester, which was evidently the unanimous sentiment of the meeting.

SIR CHARLES HASTINGS said that throughout life his earnest desire had been to gain the good will of the profession. Any one who remembered in what state the provincial practitioners were thirty years ago—perfectly powerless, incapable of giving expression to their views, and having no means of becoming heard—would be able to appreciate the results that had been effected by the Association. He took no other merit to himself than that of having been connected with men who supported his ideas in the foundation of the Association. As to medical reform, that subject had been brought forward by the Association twenty-five years ago; and a committee was formed which had, he believed, been the pioneer of all the exertions since made. At that time, the late Dr. Barlow, of Bath, enunciated these principles, which have been all along adhered to. He believed that the success obtained was owing to the resolution to fight the battle of medical reform in the House of Commons, and not merely to depend on the government. The government, indeed, had shewn no desire to settle the medical reform question until the table of the House of Commons was filled with petitions from the provincial members of the profession. As to the offices which he (Sir Charles Hastings) held, he felt that the time was come when he ought to be succeeded by a man better able to perform the duties [*No, no*]. He would not for one moment consent to hold office if it impeded the prosperity of the Association. He was thankful to the meeting for their kind expression. It had always been a solace and comfort to him that he was connected with the Association, and that he had the respect of the medical profession. [*Cheers*].

Mr. WEBBER observed that all present must have listened with interest to what had been said regarding Sir Charles Hastings. He then went on to make some remarks on the subscriptions of the Branch, the management of the JOURNAL, etc., but did not propose any resolution.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Dr. SIBSON proposed, and Dr. CAMPS seconded, a vote of thanks to the Officers and Council of the Branch for the past year.

On the motion of Dr. HENRY, seconded by Dr. LANKESTER, a cordial vote of thanks was unanimously given to the Council of the Medical Society of London, for their kindness in granting the use of their rooms for the Meeting of the Branch.

PRICE OF THE MEDICAL REGISTER.

Dr. SEATON (Sunbury) proposed, and Mr. J. W. BARNES seconded:—

"That in the opinion of this Branch it is inconsistent with the dignity of the profession that the Medical Council should issue a Register at a price higher than is sufficient to pay expenses."

Drs. ROUTH, E. SMITH, WYNTER, LANKESTER, and WEBSTER, each made some observations on the subject. It being the general opinion that there were not sufficient grounds apparent for consenting to the resolution, Dr. Seaton consented to withdraw it, with the understanding that the Association should express an opinion at the annual meeting.

NORTH WALES BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of this Branch was held on Tuesday, July 19th, at the Royal Hotel, Rhyl. FREDERICK THEED, Esq., President, in the Chair. There were also present:—Thos. Davies, Esq. (Llanfairtalhairn); J. C. Davies, M.D. (Holywell); T. F. Edwards, Esq. (Denbigh); J. R. Hughes, M.D. (Denbigh); R. Jones, Esq., retiring President (Carnarvon); G. T. Jones, Esq. (Denbigh); T. E. Jones, Esq. (Wrexham); Edwin Jones, M.D. (Rhyl); J. R. Jenkins, M.D. (Ruthin); D. K. Jones, Esq. (Beaumaris); Ll. Lodge, Esq. (St. Asaph); T. Morris, Esq. (Marford); W. Maugham, M.D. (Carnarvon); Hamilton A. Roberts, Esq. (Brynmeurig); O. Roberts, M.D. (St. Asaph); J. Turnour, M.D. (Denbigh); E. Williams, M.D. (Wrexham); and Evan P. Williams, M.D. (Denbigh).

Letters were received from Dr. Hughes of Mold, Mr. Griffith of Wrexham, Dr. Lloyd of Llangefni, and others, regretting their inability to attend the meeting.

The President delivered an address; after which, the Secretary read the following Report of the Council.

REPORT OF COUNCIL.

"It is usual at the annual meetings of the North Wales Branch of the British Medical Association, that your Council should lay before you whatever subjects of interest and importance may have occurred in the profession during the year that has elapsed since the last general meeting of this Branch.

"Among the most prominent matter for congratulation, is the settlement of the long-aggitated question of Medical Reform, which it is hoped will be found, upon the whole, to work satisfactorily. The most important element in the new Medical Act is the registration of duly qualified members of the profession. It was not until some time after the passing of the Medical Reform Bill, that the sentiments and views of the Parent Association were expressed in the MEDICAL JOURNAL, respecting the desirability of forming Registration Societies throughout the country where District Branches existed, in order to assist the registrar to place none except legally qualified persons on the register.

"Your Council were much pleased to find that in Carnarvon, Wrexham, Mold, and other places, through the active and indefatigable exertion of some of our associates, Registration Societies had already been established, and promised to effect much good in their localities.

"Your Council desire to express their satisfaction at the greatly improved position of the medical officers of the army and navy; and hope that the time is not far distant when the poor-law medical officers will obtain a redress of their grievances so long and unsuccessfully urged upon the Government.

"Your Council trust, in conclusion, that the members of this Branch will continue to use their influence to recruit their numbers, as it is by unanimity and cordial understanding in all the varied phases of an arduous and high calling, that we can alone hope to raise our character for usefulness, and, at the same time, achieve the respect, admiration, and gratitude of the public.

"The financial statement shewed an income for the year of £8:19:3, and an expenditure of £4:8:4, leaving a balance in hand of £4:10:11."

Dr. TURNOUR moved—

"That the Report of Council be received and adopted."

The motion was seconded by Mr. EYTON JONES, and unanimously approved.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE LATE PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL.

Upon the motion of Dr. WILLIAMS (Wrexham), seconded by Mr. FRANCIS EDWARDS, it was unanimously agreed to pass the following resolution:—

"That the most cordial thanks of this meeting be given to Robert Jones, Esq. of Carnarvon, the late President, for the able, efficient, and courteous manner in which he has discharged his duties; and also to the other members of the Council, for their kind and valuable services during the past year."

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT-ELECT AND OFFICERS FOR 1860.

Dr. ROBERTS (St. Asaph) moved, and Mr. LODGE seconded—
"That Dr. Turnour, of Denbigh, be the President-elect for 1860; and that Rhyl be the place of annual meeting."

It was moved by Mr. HAMILTON ROBERTS, and seconded by Dr. DAVIES (Holywell)—

"That the following gentlemen constitute the Council of this Branch for the current year, in addition to the President, ex-President, President-elect, and Secretary; namely—Ll. Lodge, Esq. (St. Asaph); G. T. Jones, Esq. (Denbigh); J. R. Hughes, M.D. (Denbigh); T. Francis Edwards, Esq. (Denbigh); J. C. Davies, M.D. (Holywell); and R. Davies, Esq. (Llanfair-ta'nairn)."

Dr. WILLIAMS (Wrexham) moved, and the PRESIDENT seconded—

"That Mr. Kent Jones be re-elected Secretary and Treasurer."

REPRESENTATIVES IN THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

Mr. LODGE moved, and Dr. J. R. HUGHES seconded—

"That Dr. Roberts of St. Asaph, and Frederick Theed, Esq., of Rhyl, be elected to represent this Branch in the General Council."

CASES AND COMMUNICATIONS.

The following cases and communications were read:—

1. A Preparation of Diseased Stomach, with an Ulcerated Opening of the size of a five-shilling piece. By J. Turnour, M.D. It was evidently a disease of old standing, the opening having smooth round edges. Adhesions had taken place externally to this opening between the peritoneum, etc., by which a sort of sac or second stomach was formed, large enough to hold a small orange. The history of the case was this:—Recurrent attacks of gastrodynia for three or four years prior to death, and generally yielding to ordinary treatment in a week or ten days. A sudden and increased amount of pain with symptoms of collapse, showed that perforation or rupture had taken place; and this was found to be the case in the outside of the sac, where there was a recent rent, through which the contents of the stomach had passed into the cavity of the peritoneum. The patient was a female servant, aged 40, and otherwise in good health.

2. A Case of Diphtheria. By O. Roberts, M.D. (St. Asaph.)

3. Dislocation of the Hip-Joint. By Hamilton A. Roberts, Esq.

4. A Case of Hernia. By Robert Jones, Esq. (Carnarvon).

Thanks were unanimously accorded to the gentlemen who brought forward the several papers.

NEW MEMBER.

Dr. Josiah R. Jenkins, of Ruthin, was elected a member of this Branch.

REGISTRATION UNDER THE NEW MEDICAL ACT.

It was agreed that this Branch should watch over the registration through the district, and that sub-committees be appointed in every town for that purpose.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE PRESIDENT.

A vote of thanks was carried with acclamation to the President for his conduct in the chair, and for his courteous hospitality to the members at his own residence.

DINNER.

All the members, with several guests, including the Rev. H. Morgan, incumbent of Rhyl; — Richards, Esq., judge of the County Courts and chairman of the Quarter Sessions of Flintshire; partook of an excellent dinner, and concluded the day in an agreeable and pleasant manner.

Editor's Letter Box.

THE MEDICAL REGISTER: FOREIGN DIPLOMAS.

LETTER FROM C. B. NANKIVELL, M.D.

SIR,—If there is one thing more than another from which I am disposed to shrink, it is from that of obtruding before my professional brethren, or any other body of men, anything personal to myself; but I feel that I should be wanting in a sense of justice to myself, and of regard for the esteem of the members of my profession, if I allowed to pass unnoticed a wrong which has been done me by the Registrar appointed under the new Medical Act.

Before the 1st of May—nearly three months before the publication of the *Register*, within the period advertised by the Registrar as entitling applicants to be included in the first registration—I made my application in the form supplied by the appointed officer, and as directed by the Act of Parliament.

My claims were founded on my diploma from the Royal College of Surgeons, London, on which I had extensively practised as a pure surgeon for twelve years in this country; and on my degree of M.D. from the University of Pisa, which I had received after four years residence and attendance on the university courses, and after a public examination, by the professors of the university, before a large audience. On this degree I have practised in Torquay since my return to England in 1848. In making my claims, I filled up the forms sent me by the Registrar; and to substantiate my statement that my medical degree was received after public examination, I forwarded to the office my diploma from Pisa, which explicitly and fully expresses this fact. I had thus done everything required by the Medical Act to entitle me to the first registration, and had complied with all the requirements sent me by the Council; I was therefore perfectly justified in expecting that my name and qualifications would be included in the first *Medical Register*. I had no intimation of any doubt on the subject, or of any delay, until, in answer to my inquiries, I was informed by the clerk of the office, *after the Register was published*, that my medical degree had not been inserted because the Council had received no return from the university stating that it had been granted after examination, a fact fully stated in the only document they had required of me—a printed document, authenticated by the seal and signatures of the university authorities.

Now, sir, I do not in the least question the right or the propriety of any investigations which the Registrar or the Council may think fit to make in order to satisfy themselves of the justice of any claims brought before them; but surely, when an applicant has complied with all the requirements of the Act of Parliament, and has produced all the documents necessary to substantiate his claims, the Council cannot consider it right to inflict upon that applicant the punishment of suspending his registration, and subjecting him to all consequent penalties, merely because the Registrar may have delayed the application for some corroborative testimony, or have sent for it to a country involved in revolution, or at a season when a university may be closed.

The new Medical Act expressly states that every person possessed of one or more of the qualifications described schedule (A) "shall be entitled to be registered on producing to the Registrar the document conferring or evidencing the qualification or qualifications whereof he seeks to be so registered." I am aware that the documents produced must be to the satisfaction of the Council, but this clearly must be a *reasonable* satisfaction; and whilst any "false or fraudulent representation" is punished by imprisonment, no right is either expressed or implied in the Act by which a legally qualified applicant, who has complied with all its conditions, can be deprived of his claim to be registered, or placed in a false position on the register, or suspended for several months from registration, on account of some fault or delay of the Registrar, or of the authorities to whom application may have been made to authenticate the documents produced. Such obviously would be to assume a penal power beyond the powers of the Act, and to make the applicant suffer for the delinquency of the Registrar, or the carelessness of the officer of some unconnected and uninterested institution.

But the object of this letter, sir, is not so much to point out the inequitable, and what appears to me the illegal, course adopted at the Registration Office, as to explain to my professional brethren that the false position in which I am placed on

the register, does not arise from any fault or disqualification of mine, but from the provisions of the Medical Act having been in my case wrongly suspended.

Torquay, July 23rd, 1859.

I am, etc., C. B. NANKIVELL.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Thursday, July 21st, 1859.

PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

Earl GRANVILLE moved the second reading of this measure. After a few words from Lord WYNFORD, the Bill was read a second time; and, on the following day, passed through Committee.

Monday, July 25th.

PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

The report of the amendments to this Bill was received.

Tuesday, July 26th.

PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

The amendments in this Bill were considered and agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Friday, July 22nd, 1859.

STAMP DUTIES ON MEDICAL DIPLOMAS.

Lord FERMOY asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he intended to remit or reduce the stamp duty on the diplomas for licence or fellowship of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, and the degrees granted by the Universities of Scotland?

Mr. LAING said it was proposed to reduce the stamp duty on the diplomas for licences of the Royal Colleges referred to; but it was not proposed to interfere with the stamp duty for fellowships or for degrees granted by the Universities of Scotland.

THE MEDICAL ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. WHITESIDE moved the second reading of the Bill.

Mr. GROGAN expressed a hope that this Bill would be postponed until the opinion of the profession in Ireland was taken upon it. The Bill had been only printed and sent over to Ireland yesterday.

Mr. WHITESIDE declined to postpone the second reading. The object of the Bill was merely to amend an omission in the Medical Acts.

Mr. VANCE supported the proposition for postponement.

The House then divided upon the question that the Bill be read a second time.

For the second reading.....	115
Against it	14

Majority in favour of second reading —101

The Bill was then read a second time.

Monday, July 25th.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD, ETC., PREVENTION BILL.

This Bill passed through Committee *pro forma*.

Medical News.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, AND APPOINTMENTS.

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

BIRTHS.

DAVIS. On July 20th, at 11, Brunswick Square, the wife of Maurice Davis, M.D., of a son.

HILL. On July 22nd, at 22, Mecklenburgh Square, the wife of Samuel Hill, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BROOK—JEFFERSON. Brook, Thomas George, Esq., Surgeon, of Caxton, Cambridgeshire, to Annie Adelaide, second daughter of the late R. Jefferson, Esq., of Jarron, Durham, at St. Pancras Church, on July 21st.

HAWKINS—HAYWOOD. Hawkins, Francis, M.D., of Bolton Street, London, to Sarah Jane, only daughter of the late George Haywood, Esq., formerly of Park Hall, Derbyshire, at Tamworth, on July 23rd.

DEATHS.

GORE. On July 23rd, Isabella Lucinda, eldest daughter of Henry John Gore, M.D., of Finchley New Road.

LEACH, Robert, Esq., Surgeon, at Martock, Somerset, aged 33, on July 15th.

STAFFORD, William, Esq., Surgeon, at Long Bennington, Lincolnshire, aged 51, on July 20th.

PASS LISTS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS. The following Fellows of the College were elected Censors at the last Quarterly Comitia Majora:—

BALX, William, M.D., Queen Anne Street

BARKER, Thomas Alfred, M.D., Grosvenor Street

GULL, William Withey, M.D., Finsbury Square

WEBER, Frederick, M.D., Green Street, Grosvenor Square

APOTHECARIES' HALL. Members admitted on Thursday, July 21st, 1859:—

DAY, William White, Acton Vale, Clifton

FISHER, Frederick

PAYNE, Charles William, Hoxne, Suffolk

RIGBY, James Morris, Chorley, Lancashire

TUCK, Buckmaster Joseph

HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING JULY 16TH, 1859.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

FOURTEEN hundred deaths were registered in London in the week that ended last Saturday. The numbers returned successively in the last four weeks exhibit the rapid increase of mortality under an increasing and unusually high temperature of the air; these were 970, 1024, 1226, and 1400. The mean temperature in each of the same periods was 60°, 63·5°, 67·4°, and 71°. The mean temperature of the first two weeks of July exceeded by 7° that of the last two weeks in June.

In the ten years, 1849-58, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1000; but, as the deaths of last week occurred in an increased population, they should be compared with the average raised in proportion to the increase, namely, with 1,100. The comparison gives an unfavourable result; for it shows that the deaths in the present return were higher by 300 than the number which the average rate of mortality for the second week of July would have produced.

The most striking feature in the returns for last week is the increase in the mortality from diarrhoea. Taking again the last four weeks, it appears that this disease was fatal in 34, 58, 132, and 264 cases. The mortality of last week from this disease was, therefore, exactly double that of the preceding week, and more than four times as great as that of the last week of June. In the corresponding weeks of 1857-8, the deaths from diarrhoea were 150 and 126: in 1857, the deaths reached 302; but not till the end of July. Of the 264 cases now returned, 245 occurred to infants before they were two years old. It may also be observed that more cases occurred in the north and east districts than in those on the south side of the river, although the population of either of the former groups is much less than that of the latter.

A girl, aged 6 years, died on July 10th, at 2, Circus Road, Gospel Oak Fields, from "exposure to the sun, effusion;" a Captain of the Royal Artillery (half-pay), aged 58 years, died on July 15th, in Kentish town, from "sunstroke, inflammation of the brain (40 hours);" a stoker in a steamboat, aged 22 years, died on July 11th, at 12, Globe Lane, Woolwich, from "apoplexy from exposure to excessive heat (3 hours);" and a widow, aged 68 years, died on July 14th, at 5, Duke Street, Bloomsbury, from "enterodinia (16 hours), and exhaustion from extreme heat."

Last week the births of 891 boys, and 876 girls, in all 1,767

children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1849-58, the average number was 1,434.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 30.058 in. The mean daily reading was above 30 in. on every day except Tuesday. The highest reading was 30.14 in. on Monday and Thursday; the lowest, 29.97 in., occurred on Tuesday. The mean temperature of the week was 71°, which is higher by 0.3° than the average for the same week in 43 years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). The mean daily temperature was above the average throughout the week, and on Tuesday this excess was so great as 1°, and on the next day was nearly as much. The thermometer in the shade attained its *highest* point, 92.5° on Tuesday; its *lowest* point was 52.1° on Friday. The range of the week was therefore 40.4°; the mean daily range was 30.3°. On Tuesday, the thermometer in the sun reached 116°, on Wednesday 115°. The difference between the mean dew-point temperature and air temperature was 12.3. The mean degree of humidity of the air was 61. The mean temperature of the water of the Thames was 71.4°, which is nearly the same as that of the air. No rain fell in the week.

WEEK ENDING JULY 23RD.

THE returns for the week that ended last Saturday show a further and rather formidable increase of the deaths in London. The weekly number was below a thousand in June, till near the end of the month; it then rose above a thousand; in the first week of July it was 1226, in the following week the number was 1400, and last week it rose to 1605. The mean temperature of the air in June was 61.4°; in three weeks of July it has been 69.1°. An increase in the heat of nearly 8°, acting in connexion with other circumstances that are necessarily unfavourable to health, has been attended by an increase of 600 in the deaths.

In the ten years 1849-58, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1064; but as the deaths included in the present return occurred in a population which has increased, they can only be compared with the average raised in proportion to the increase; namely, with 1170. The result of the comparison is unusually unfavourable as regards the present time, for the 1605 deaths of last week exceeded by 435 the number which the average rate of mortality would have produced.

On referring to the causes of death, the increase is found under diarrhoea, the deaths from which rose last week to 415, a number which is much greater than that of any week in previous years. The average number in corresponding weeks of 1849-58 (corrected for increase of population), is 108; the numbers previously ranged from 51 in the year 1850 to 259 in 1857. It is important to remark that the complaint was far more fatal last week in the east districts, particularly Shore-ditch, Bethnal Green, Mile End, than in the other metropolitan divisions. Of the 415 deaths from diarrhoea, 153 occurred in the east districts, although they comprise little more than a fifth part of the population of London. The disease was also fatal in Kentish Town, where no less than 16 deaths occurred from it. A large majority of the fatal cases, as was shown in former returns, are amongst infants, 381 out of the whole number in the present return having occurred to children who were not two years old. Of the remaining 34, ten occurred to children more advanced, only four between the ages 10 and 60, and twenty at 60 years and upwards. Besides the deaths from diarrhoea, 39 were returned as caused by cholera, "choleraic diarrhoea", etc., nine of which were the deaths of adults. Scarlatina was fatal in 48 cases; diphtheria in eight.

Four deaths were recorded in the previous week as the result of the unusual heat; last week eight of a like description were returned thus:—A boy, aged 6 years, died on the 14th inst. in Islington, from "congestion of the brain and convulsions, from heat of the sun (twelve hours illness)"; a girl, aged 9 years, on the 13th, from "convulsions and symptoms of cholera, brought on by exposure to heat"; a brickmaker's labourer, aged 21 years, on the 16th, at Rockhill, Sydenham, from "sun-stroke, congestion of the brain"; a sugar-baker, aged 32 years, on the 11th, in Whitechapel, from "congestion of the brain produced by heat and labour"; another sugar-baker, aged 34 years, on the 18th, in the London Hospital, "suddenly from sun-stroke"; a solicitor, aged 77 years, on the 17th, "natural decay, accelerated by the excessive heat of the weather"; a man, aged 68 years, on the 20th, from "natural decay, and debility from the heat of the weather (ten days)";

and a weaver, aged 46 years, at 36, New York Street, Bethnal Green, on 18th July, from "coup-de-soleil, from working in a factory with a glass roof." With reference to this last case, the deputy coroner states that "the medical evidence was conclusive, that the sun's rays produced inflammation and congestion of the brain, and coma."

Last week the births of 855 boys and 748 girls, in all 1603 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1849-58, the average number was 1491.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.756 in. The mean temperature was 69°, which is 7.4° above the average of the same week in 43 years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). The mean daily temperature was above the average on every day except Saturday; and on Sunday and Monday the excess was about 12°. On Monday the thermometer in the shade reached 93°, and in the sun 115.2°. On the same day, the thermometer in the shade fell to 56.7°, the *lowest* point in the week. The entire range of temperature of that day, and also of the week, was 36.3°. The mean temperature of the water of the Thames was 73.0°, or nearly 4° above that of the air. The wind was generally in the south-west. Rain fell to the amount of 2.15 in., more than half of it on Thursday.

PUBLIC VACCINATION.

THE following memorial has been addressed by Mr. Griffin to the Privy Council, the Poor-law Board, and the Registrar-General.

"12, Royal Terrace, Weymouth, July 4th, 1859.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—The Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury having, during the last session of Parliament, called the attention of Government to the defective state of vaccination, I have been induced to examine the public records on the subject, and find that, from the inefficient state of the registers, it is impossible to arrive at any accurate conclusion as to the extent to which vaccination is performed in England and Wales. To obviate this deficiency, and insure a perfect system of vaccination, requires that a joint committee should be appointed by your honourable boards, in order that uniform regulations may be issued; and then would cease that curious anomaly of the Privy Council, the Poor-law Board, and the Registrar-General, each issuing separate orders on this one branch of the legislature.

"I beg to submit that the present system requires amendment in the following respects.

"That order should be withdrawn which directs a medical man to fill up two sets of certificates, the one for the parent (No. 1), and the second for the Registrar (No. 2), with their duplicates on the fly-leaf; also Nos. 3 and 4, in the case of the public vaccinator, who has the additional task of making two sets of entries in his book for the guardians. The length of time occupied in completing these documents is of so serious a nature, that many medical men refuse to fill them up. In 1857, although 411,268 vaccinations were paid for by the public, only 376,798 were returned to the registrars; and, doubtless, very many of these were furnished by medical men who did not receive payment from the guardians; proving uncontestedly that, even in the case of the public vaccinators, the order is felt to be so irksome that it is not complied with. As a remedy for this uncertain mode of registration, I beg to suggest that in future the printed paper (No. 5) now given by the registrars to the parents or other parties registering the birth of a child should be abbreviated, and have No. 1 appended to its foot; the Registrar filling up the blanks therein with the names of the child and its parent, and the residence, leaving the other blanks only to be filled up by the vaccinator on the child being successfully vaccinated. On the return of this paper to the registrar, he should be authorised to pay the vaccinator a small sum for the same; and, in the case of the public vaccinator, his fee in addition; thus insuring at least a return to the registrars of all *public* vaccinations. On the registrar making a record of the vaccination in his books, he should affix his name and seal of office (a die-stamp) to the medical certificate, and give it to the parents of the child on application for it, he retaining the other half of the printed paper, which should contain the vaccinator's receipt for his fee, to produce to the guardians as his voucher that the payment has been made. Should the public vaccinators be paid by the registrars, and in accordance with the number of printed certificates they produce, it will be necessary for the registrars to furnish the public vaccinators with blank forms for re-vaccina-

tions; and some rule should be laid down as to the age at which re-vaccinations may be paid for.

"Mr. Simon, Medical Officer of the Privy Council, in the Appendix to his Report of 1858, says: 'Do not re-vaccinate persons who in infancy have been efficiently vaccinated, unless they be more than fifteen years of age, or if, during any immediate danger of small-pox, more than twelve years of age.' It has been said that a repugnance on the part of the people exists against vaccination; but, as far as my experience goes, this is not the case, except with the very few. Apathy with some, and procrastination or postponement with others until they hear of some neighbour's child who is healthy 'to have it done from,' are the prevailing obstacles to surmount. It is, therefore, most desirable that at the expiration of a given period (say twelve months from the birth of a child, for by that time most of the unhealthy will have ceased to exist, as 106,634, or about one-sixth of all the registered births, die during the first year of life), a quarterly list of those then living, and not registered as vaccinated, should be made out by the registrars, and sent to the vaccinators of their respective districts, whose duty it should then be to call upon the parents or other persons having the custody of those children, and urge upon them the necessity of immediate vaccination. Failing their compliance with this request, he should make his return accordingly; and the registrar should forthwith sue for the penalties, unless a medical certificate be produced to him that the child is not in a fit state to be vaccinated. For conducting this inquiry, and making a report to the registrar, the public vaccinator should be entitled to a fee of one shilling for each case, in addition to the usual fee for vaccination if performed by him.

"Registrars, who have not registered the birth of a child, receiving certificates of vaccination, should be ordered to forward duplicates of them to the registrar of the place where the child's birth was registered. As many vaccination districts are so small that it is impossible to keep up a supply of lymph from their own population, it is desirable, when vacancies occur among the public vaccinators (which average two hundred and seventy annually), the smaller districts should be united. By the table it will be seen there are nine hundred and fifteen vaccinators who receive less than £5 per annum each, and many of these only a few shillings. Should a fresh Act of Parliament be introduced on the subject of vaccination, or a Medical Poor-law Bill be brought forward, as promised by the Right Hon. T. Sotheron-Estcourt when President of the Poor-law Board, I trust the subject of the payment of the public vaccinators will be made a part of one of the said Bills, and a definite system laid down. At present, the payments are capriciously made, one board of guardians paying 1s. per vaccination, whilst another board gives 2s. 6d., or even higher. This remarkable disparity of payment exists even in whole divisions of the kingdom. In the south-midland division, 2s. 6½d. is the average remuneration, whilst in the metropolis it is only 1s. 0½d.; and the officers of union-houses have no fees at all. With such a system, it is no wonder the Acts of Parliament are imperfectly carried out. As the labour of vaccinating and inspecting five hundred cases would not occupy five times as long as one hundred cases, I would suggest a graduated scale of payment—say 2s. 6d. per case for the first hundred cases per annum, 2s. per case up to the next four hundred, and above this 1s. 6d. per case; and an extra sum to be allowed for all those cases vaccinated at a distance from the residence of the medical officer.

"Vaccinators not giving a certificate of having performed vaccination when it has been successful, or giving a certificate without having ascertained by inspection that the child has been successfully vaccinated, should be subjected to a fine of 20s., recoverable in like manner as other fines under the Vaccination Acts. One-half of all fines should go to the party suing for the penalties, and the other half to the poor's rate.

"Trusting these suggestions, which are of a practical nature, may meet with due consideration,

"I have the honour to be, my lords and gentlemen,

"Your obedient servant,

"RICHARD GRIFFIN.

"To the Honourable the Privy Council, the Poor-law Board, and the Registrar-General."

LADIES' ASSOCIATION FOR THE DIFFUSION OF SANITARY SCIENCE. The first annual meeting was held on July 22nd, at Willis's Rooms, the Earl of Shaftesbury in the chair. The report stated that the promoters of the Association had made

considerable progress in the objects contemplated by them. The committee had issued upwards of 20,000 tracts upon the management of children. The chairman, in the course of a long address, said, among the number of institutions that he was interested in, none gave him so much hope as this small one. He then mentioned the disorders of children, and what was proper for their management and education. He was certain that if the few things to which he had alluded were watched it would prevent many disorders among children. One hundred thousand deaths had occurred during the year from prevalent diseases. The Association would prevent many of these deaths. The Report was then agreed to, and a resolution to the following effect was carried unanimously:—"A great part of the premature mortality and disease in this country results from ignorance of the laws of nature. The efforts of the Ladies' Sanitary Association are worthy of great encouragement." A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings.

CONFLAGRATION AT JERSEY HOSPITAL. The particulars of a dreadful fire at the Jersey Hospital were received on Saturday. The outbreak took place late on the night of the 20th. It was a very large institution, and contained between 400 and 500 inmates. The fire was discovered to be raging on the second floor, and speedily extended throughout the whole of the upper part. A frightful panic ensued amongst the inmates, but, providentially, all were rescued. The 15th Regiment of Foot rendered very valuable aid in checking the progress of the flames, but it was some time ere that was accomplished, nearly the whole of the upper stories being consumed. The property was very largely insured in the London fire-offices.

TESTIMONIAL TO DR. BRUCE, R.N. Dr. William Bruce, staff-surgeon of the dockyard at Chatham, having completed his term of active service, has, on his retirement, been presented by the captain-superintendent, Captain G. Goldsmith, C.B., and the resident officers of the yard, with a very elegant and massive silver salver, bearing an inscription expressive of their high esteem and regard.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE SURGEON OF THE OSBORNE. We (*United Service Gazette*) have much pleasure in stating that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, in recognition of the services of Mr. J. R. Holman, surgeon R.N., serving in the Osborne, and specially appointed to attend upon his royal highness on his voyage home from Gibraltar, has transmitted to that gentleman a valuable gold ring set with diamonds, together with a letter from Colonel Sir Charles Phipps, expressive of the Prince's satisfaction at the attention received.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M.D. CANTAB. We are not aware that Doctors of Medicine of the British Universities are restricted as to the line of practice which they shall follow; indeed, we are acquainted with an Oxford M.D., possessing no other qualification, who has for years acted as a general practitioner near London. Even the Royal College of Physicians of London lays no other restriction on its licentiates admitted under the provisions of the "year of grace," than that they shall abstain from the dispensing of medicines.

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. 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.

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Communications have been received from:—DR. BARKER; DR. SKINNER; M.D. CANTAB; DR. BARHAM; DR. McEWEN; MR. WILLIAM MARTIN; DR. NANKIVELL; MR. GRIFFIN; MR. D. KENT JONES; DR. KIDD; DR. JOHN KIRKMAN; and MR. W. CORNEY.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

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

- Notes on Hospitals: being Two Papers read before the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science, at Liverpool, in October 1858; with Evidence given to the Royal Commissioners on the State of the Army in 1857. By Florence Nightingale. London: John W. Parker & Son. 1859.
- Remarks on the Anatomical Relations between the Mother and Fœtus. By Henry Madge, M.D. London: Renshaw. 1859.