

bine pleasure with business on that occasion: and Torquay, the queen of the south coast, will present attractions to the ladies which even the great manufacturing and commercial cities do not possess. We have always regretted that there is nothing in the shape of humanity to see but black coats at the annual *soirée*: and we must confess that, notwithstanding the loss we should thereby sustain in point of standing-room, a little crinoline would prove a graceful addition to those entertainments. The meeting at Torquay will form an admirable time for altering one of our social rules, which would, we believe, in the opinion of many, be better honoured in the breach than in the observance.

#### HOW DO WE BEST HONOUR THE MEMORY OF THE ILLUSTRIOUS DEAD?

THE Hunter Statue Committee have resolved that, after placing a marble statue of John Hunter in the Royal College of Surgeons, the surplus of the subscriptions, and any further funds that may be contributed for that special purpose, shall be devoted to the establishment of one or more scholarships in comparative anatomy. This determination is one which will meet the views of those members of the profession who have objected to spend the money altogether on a statue, but who will now doubtless contribute to so laudable an object as a scholarship in memory of the distinguished physiologist and surgeon.

For our part, we heartily approve of the resolution of the Hunter Statue Committee, and trust that funds will be liberally supplied by the public, as well as by the profession, to enable it to be carried out. Our ordinary practice of honouring the memories of our illustrious dead by mere statues of stone or bronze is a mistake: not that we object *in toto* to the erection of such memorials as outward and visible signs of the respect felt for a man, but we aver that they are, by themselves, insufficient marks of honour. They are mere passive, dead expressions—they have no life in them. The greatest honour, we think, that can be paid to any one who has signalled himself for the good of his fellow-men is to promote the object which he had in view during his life. Otherwise, even if a graven or a molten image were erected to such a man in every town in the kingdom, such an honour becomes no honour, but a solemn mockery. Would it not seem very like a farce to erect a statue to Jenner, and then to utterly neglect the propagation of that inestimable benefit which he first pointed out to mankind? Statues have been erected as testimonials of the respect and gratitude of mankind to the discoverer of vaccination; but the noblest memorial of his labour consists in the millions of human beings who, but for the application of his discovery, would have long ago fallen victims in life or in feature to a dreadful scourge.

And so it is with all our great men—so with Hunter. The best testimony we can give of our respect for his memory and appreciation of his labours is to encourage and enable our meritorious youth to follow his footsteps in the pursuit of one of the noblest and most mind-enriching sciences which it is permitted to man to study. In doing this, the Statue Committee are but following what would certainly be the wish of Hunter. Depend on it, he never desired—nor did any truly great man ever desire—that he should be the alpha and omega of that

object which had been the pursuit of his life; but that posterity should follow with steady step the path indicated and opened out by him.

In the establishment of scholarships of comparative anatomy in memory of Hunter, the committee will honour him far more than by a perishable statue. They will, indeed, raise to him a—

“Monumentum ære perennius,  
Regaliq; situ Pyramidum altius;  
Quod non imber edax, non Aquilo impotens  
Possit diruere, aut innumerabilis  
Annorum series, et fuga temporum.”

And not only is the kind of memorial we would have raised to our truly great men of the past “more lasting than brass”; it has life—it enables him for whom the honour is designed to live through all ages, and, as it were, to apply to himself the prophecy of the Roman poet—

“Non omnis moriar.....  
.....usque ego postera  
Crescam laude recens.”

#### THE WEEK.

VERY many complaints have been made with respect to the price charged for the *Medical Register*, and some very absurd comparisons have been instituted between its expense and that of parliamentary papers. Those persons who imagine that the official register would ever have a large sale, will, we imagine, be greatly mistaken. It must be possessed by all who wish to quote it officially; but these persons are comparatively few. The *Medical Directory* will always remain the popular work of the profession. Medical men will at all times rather have a record of the medical life and position of their fellows, than a bare record of titles, etc.; and, be it remembered, the *Directory* going to press a short time after the *Register*, will be able to correct its pages up to the last moment from the official source. For these reasons, we see no probability of any adequate sale of the official Register taking place: and the Council were therefore quite right in fixing a paying price for what, they doubtless anticipated, would command only a small sale. If, however, it should turn out that the *Register* sells largely, a reduction in price would be undoubtedly called for, and most certainly made; as we do not believe for one moment, that the Medical Council wish to squeeze more money—as it has rather coarsely been termed—out of the great body of the profession.

### Association Intelligence.

#### BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

##### ASSOCIATION FINANCE.

At the recent Annual Meeting of this Branch, a letter from Mr. Terry, jun., of Northampton, was read, proposing that the Branches should contribute towards paying off the existing debt of the Association.

It was proposed by Mr. BARTRUM, seconded by Dr. BUDD, and unanimously agreed to.

“That £15:0:0 from the balance in hand of the Branch funds be forwarded to the Treasurer of the Association, for the above object.”

[This paragraph was accidentally omitted in the report sent to the JOURNAL by the Secretary of the Branch. In the report which appeared in last week's JOURNAL, the word “only” has been misprinted for “not” at page 611, line 4. EDITOR.]

ings, and evacuate their contents, at an early period, before these changes could occur. But the success of these modes of treatment had been anything but encouraging, and hence Dr. RIGBY advised that the practice of Professor Nägele should be followed. This consisted literally in doing nothing. As long as the infant remained healthy, the effusion would gradually be absorbed, so that by the time the child was a month old the tumour would have entirely disappeared.

## Editor's Letter Box.

### INDIA MEDICAL SERVICE.

SIR,—Some months have now elapsed since the new warrant was granted to the Medical Department of the Indian Army; and since it was declared in your JOURNAL to be insufficient to remedy the evils existing in the service.

By the result of the late competition it is now seen that, in spite of the improvements in the service, the supply of medical officers falls short of the demand. A large number of candidates invariably compete at the Civil Service Examinations, and a small number at the Medical; plainly showing that appointments in the former service are highly prized, and that those in the latter are thought of little value. With the view of keeping up the numbers in the service, Government will, ere long, in all probability adopt one of three courses. *First*—Competition may be given up, and the old system resumed. *Secondly*—Competition may be retained, and some appointments granted by favour. *Thirdly*—The Service may be improved. Should the first method be adopted, I fear that the old system would not be found to work well at the present time. The medical services of the English Army and Navy have lately been so much improved that most men appear to prefer entering either of them to serving in the Indian Army. Besides, by the old system the service was always under officered, notwithstanding the repeated remonstrances, from heads of departments in India, representing to the Home Government the harassing nature of the general duty to which young medical officers were for years subjected, in consequence of the paucity of their numbers.

Should the second method be adopted, appointments must be given to men who are not up to the standard of those who pass at the competitive examination.

The third method, namely, the further improvement of the Service, is in my opinion the only course to be pursued calculated to induce a number of those in the profession who are well educated to apply for appointments. Promotion ought to be granted about eight years earlier than at present is the case. The shameful condition of the retiring funds of Bengal and Bombay ought to be remedied, and the scale of Government retiring allowances ought to be restored to what it formerly was by being placed on an equality with that enjoyed by military officers.

Trusting that you will excuse me for again trespassing on your space, I am, etc.,

ORIENTAL.  
July 27th 1859.

### WHAT MAY BE DONE BY THE MEDICAL REGISTER.

SIR,—The appearance of the Medical Register constitutes an era in the history of the medical profession. Notwithstanding all that may be said against the inefficiency of the Medical Act by those who are more expecting than reasonable in their views, there can be no doubt but that it will achieve much good, and form the basis and groundwork of a more goodly edifice.

It now only remains for the profession to make use of their volume. It is a volume that can be made of much service, inasmuch as it is of legal authority. In the first place, it may be desirable for the Registration Associations in different towns to inquire where the homœopaths, in their several localities, have acquired their diplomas, and whether such diplomas, or any of them were acquired subsequently to the practising of homœopathy. These points will be seen at once from the Register. In the cases, which are numerous, where degrees have been obtained by persons actually practising homœopathy at the time, it might be well to require from the university a repudiation of the graduate. It might further be thought advisable to ask, by whose advice the Archbishop of

Canterbury confers "the doctorate" on homœopathic practitioners?

As everything now depends on the activity of local Associations, instead of grumbling against the Act and the Register, let us be up and use them. I am, etc.

A VOICE FROM THE NORTH.

July 1859.

### CAUSES OF DEATH FROM CHLOROFORM.

LETTER FROM C. KIDD, M.D.

SIR,—In the JOURNAL for July 23rd, my friend, Dr. Martin, in referring to the various causes of death from chloroform, has the following passage. "Death may be the result of a cause not hitherto especially pointed out—viz., the impression made by the vapour upon the branches of the sympathetic and the vagus ramifying on the lining membrane of the air-passages, and communicated by them to the nerves of the heart; just as a blow on the epigastrium, or severe shocks to the nervous centres, cause sudden cessation of the heart's action." If this remained in the mild obscurity of a thesis at Cambridge, it would be all right, but as it tends to show that I have not especially pointed out this idea as well as M. Brown-Séquard, it requires a word of comment. It is an opinion I was laughed at for holding more than a year ago in a Dublin journal, and is referred to *in extenso* in my *Manual*, published this month. I hope I shall not be deemed captious in dwelling on such trifles; but those who have worked hard at chloroform do not like to see so many new ideas starting up, which in reality are old ideas, if men would read the journals.

I am, etc., CHARLES KIDD.

Sackville Street, Piccadilly, July 27th.

## Medical News.

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

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

#### BIRTHS.

ELLIS. On July 31, at Bristol, the wife of \*R. W. Ellis, Esq., surgeon, of a daughter.

KILGOUR. On July 31, at Castletown, Isle of Man, the wife of \*J. S. Kilgour, M.D., of a daughter.

WORSHIP. On July 26, at Riverhead, Sevenoaks, the wife of \*J. L. Worship, Esq., surgeon, of a son.

#### DEATHS.

CONNOLLY. On July 29, at Brighton, aged four months, Richard Matthew, infant son of \*G. S. Connolly, Esq., surgeon, of Bourton, Gloucestershire.

ELLIS, James, Esq., surgeon, at the Falklands, South America, aged 31, on March 12.

HANKS. On July 28, aged 3 years, Clara Frances, youngest daughter of \*H. Hanks, Esq., Surgeon, of Mile End Road.

\*ISAACSON, Wotton, Esq., surgeon, at Huntingdon, aged 45, on July 24.

\*LING, H. F., Esq., surgeon, of Stogumber, Somerset, lately.

\*MILSON, G. P. H., Esq., surgeon, at Collumpton, Devon, lately.

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

#### POSTAGE OF MANUSCRIPT AND PRINTED MATTER.

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

Communications have been received from:—MR. B. W. BROWN; DR. TILT; MR. B. REED; ORIENTAL; A VOICE FROM THE NORTH; MR. W. F. CLEVELAND; F.R.C.S.ENG.; DR. W. GARSTANG; MR. C. LEONARD; DR. C. L. ROBERTSON; DR. YOSE; DR. G. M. HUMPHRY; DR. E. WATERS; MR. DAYMAN; DR. C. H. JONES; MR. A. T. H. WATERS; MR. T. M. STONE; MR. WILLIAM MARTIN; and DR. G. E. PAGET.