

The members of the Medical Registration Association in Birmingham have resolved that none but orthodox practitioners shall belong to their body: and the homœopaths are very angry at being excluded. In the report of the proceedings at the formation of the Association at p. 784, there is a letter of remonstrance from some gentlemen of the globulistic school: and, since then, they have published in the local press an "Address to the Members of the Birmingham and Midland Counties Medical Registration Association," long enough to occupy a closely printed page of this JOURNAL. We think that the Birmingham medical men have done quite right in keeping the homœopaths out of their Association. As regards ignorant and unregistered pretenders to medicine, it will be the duty of the Association to see that they are brought to justice; but they are not, *per contra*, obliged to fraternise with every one whose name is on the Register. In that list there are the names of men, whose medical creed is so utterly at variance with that of their brethren, that any attempt at community of action in medical matters of any kind must be a mere mockery. We trust that the resolution come to at the meeting to which we have alluded, will remain unshaken. As one of the speakers remarked, the homœopaths may, if they please, form an association for themselves, and no one would think of molesting them; but we do not see how the members of the Birmingham Medical Registration Association, or of any similar body, could consistently place before the public the spectacle of an offensive and defensive alliance with those whose professional principles and practice they lose no opportunity of denouncing as fallacious and mischievous.

A country practitioner in France recently prescribed *santonine* for some children who had worms. The eldest, aged 7, who was the first to take the medicine, died in convulsions at the end of a few hours. On being analysed, five-sixths of the supposed *santonine* were found to be *strychnine*. The shop where the drug was bought was in a deplorable state; poisons were mixed with other substances, and the sale of the drugs was entrusted to a most illiterate shopman. The case was brought before the correctional tribunal at Tongres. The charge alleged against the practitioner was, that he had not analysed and verified the purity of his drugs. The tribunal condemned the druggist to a month's imprisonment, a fine of 200 *francs* (£8), and half the costs; the shopman to fifteen days imprisonment, a fine of 100 *francs* (£4), and one-fourth of the costs; the practitioner to a fine of 50 *francs* (£2), and one-fourth of the costs. The former two had appealed against the sentence.

THE MEDICAL COUNCIL.

BRANCH COUNCIL FOR IRELAND.

Wednesday, July 20th, 1859.

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

The minutes of last meeting were approved and signed.

Read—Letter from the Royal College of Surgeons, enclosing a copy of an opinion given by Mr. Lawson, Q.C., respecting Licences in Surgery granted by the University of Dublin.

Read—Letter from the same College, enclosing correspond-

ence respecting disqualifications, affecting Irish and Scotch Surgeons, in regard to Poor-Law Medical Offices in England.

Read—Letter from the King and Queen's College of Physicians, enclosing a copy of a letter addressed by the Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland to the Director-General of the Army Medical Department.

JAMES APJOHN.

Association Intelligence.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
SOUTH MIDLAND. [Ordinary Meeting.]	Swan Hotel, Leighton Buzzard.	Thurs., Oct. 6th, 2 P.M.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH:

ROCHESTER, MAIDSTONE, GRAVESEND, AND DARTFORD DISTRICT MEETINGS.

The first of the third series of the Rochester, Maidstone, Gravesend, and Dartford district meetings, in connection with the South-Eastern Branch of the British Medical Association, will be held at the Crown Inn, Rochester, on Friday, September 30th, 1859, at 5.15 P.M.

The members and their friends will dine together after the meeting, at 7 P.M. precisely.

Gentlemen intending to dine, are requested to give an intimation to that effect to Dr. Martin of Rochester, or Mr. Dulvey of Brompton, on or before Monday, September 26th. Dinner tickets, five shillings, exclusive of wine.

Trains will leave for London and all stations on the North Kent Line at 9.30, and for Maidstone at 10.30.

JAMES DULVEY, *Honorary Secretary*.

Brompton, Chatham, September 1859.

Editor's Letter Box.

EXPERIMENTS ON HEALTHY SUBJECTS.

SIR,—Your JOURNAL of August 27th contains a report of the transactions of the Medical and Chirurgical Society, and in it an abstract of a paper by Dr. Fuller, on the Administration of Belladonna, and on certain causes which modify its action. It is there observed that, with a view of having the matter tested with children on a larger scale than is possible at St. George's Hospital, the author requested a friend, who is attached to a large public institution for children, to administer it cautiously, in gradually increasing doses. Accordingly, to eleven children, varying in age from three to six, the medicine was given. These children were all in good health.

I do not enlarge upon the effect of the medicine, my object being to draw attention to the fact itself. Surely you cannot justify experiments with a known deadly poison on any healthy subject, more especially on poor helpless children, who, in consequence of the inability of their friends to support them, are entrusted to the supposed kind and Christian care of the managers of a charitable institution. I much fear, if medical men resort to such practices to obtain knowledge which may be applied even to the most useful and benevolent purposes, our profession, hitherto known and respected for the high principles of Christian philanthropy by which its members are actuated, will lose the confidence and respect of the public, and sink into well merited and universal detestation.

Should there be a mistake in the quotation, you will perhaps kindly put your readers right, that we may not remain under an erroneous impression of the conduct of a learned member of the profession. If the quotation is correct, a word from you may have a salutary effect in preventing a repetition of such unwarrantable and wicked experiments, the mere suspicion of which must cause intense distress to those who, from poverty or any other cause, have been induced to entrust their children to those who have hitherto professed to treat their adopted children with the same consideration as they would their own. What parent, even if a medical man, would willingly subject his healthy child to such experiments as those mentioned above?

I am, etc., SENEX.

Sept. 15th, 1859.

HYSTERIA IN CONNEXION WITH RELIGION.

SIR,—I have read with much interest your leading article in last week's JOURNAL, headed "Hysterical Religion". In the general tone of that article I recognise your usual candour; and, to a large extent, I agree with your conclusions. But, feeling as I do that the movement now in progress in Ireland, and in the west of Scotland, is one of very great importance, as well as most powerful in its effect on the public mind, I desire much that you had qualified the statement of your own opinion regarding it by a reference to the smallness of the proportion which the number of cases in which persons are affected with hysterical symptoms bears to that of those who pass through mental emotions of the most agitating kind without manifesting any such symptoms.

I could have wished, also, that you had referred to the wonderful moral transformation which has already been produced, in not a few communities formerly characterised by the prevalence in them of all kinds of evil—a transformation obviously connected with the great movement in question.

I have not been in any place where the religious excitement prevails; but I have listened to the statements of many men, some of them physicians, well qualified to form a sound judgment, who have seen much of it in Ireland. From their reports, I am thoroughly convinced that its effects on the great scale are productive only of the highest good; and that the occasional outbursts of hysteria, to which you refer as associated with it, are not worthy of notice, excepting as curious psychological phenomena, rather to be expected than wondered at.

I believe that very few ministers have done anything to encourage the manifestations which you condemn; and it consists with my knowledge, that some medical men in Ireland have uttered, through the press, the same warnings which you yourself have given, and even suggested the same treatment of the public displays as you have—without, however, in any degree appearing to call in question the reality or the importance of the great work of moral reformation in progress around them.

Let us not shut our eyes to a great good, on account of a little evil that may be incidentally associated with it. Let us rejoice that He who sometimes, in his inscrutable providence, lets loose upon us the terrible pestilence, is pleased also, at other times, to shed forth a benign influence, the effects of which are spiritual health, peace of conscience, righteousness, joy, and love.

Let all Christian physicians carefully watch this movement, and be ready to aid in repressing accidental outbursts of hysteria, while they do what they can to strengthen the hands of their clerical brethren. I am, etc., SCOTUS.

Sept. 20th, 1859.

Medical News.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, AND APPOINTMENTS.

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

BIRTHS.

Of a son, the wife of—

HAVILAND, A., Esq., Surgeon, Bridgewater, on Sept. 19.

Of daughters, the wives of—

BROWNE, Robert, Esq., Surgeon 83rd Regiment, at Nusserabad, on August 4th.

* COCKEY, Edmund, Esq., Frome, on September 20.

SHAW, James, Esq., Surgeon, at Bangalore, on Aug. 11.

* STEELE, A. B., Esq., Liverpool, on Sept. 9.

MARRIAGES.

DEMPSTER, T. E., Esq., late Superintending Surgeon Bengal Army, to Frances, eldest daughter of the late G. CLARK, Esq., of Dorchester, on Sept. 13.

SANDERS, A., Esq., Surgeon, of Cheltenham, to Frances, only daughter of W. L. WHEELER, Esq., of Northfleet, on September 14th.

NEWHAM, Thomas, M.D., to Maria Louisa, elder daughter of D. T. WILLIS, Esq., both of Winslow, on September 15th.

THOMPSON, J. J., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon Ceylon Rifles, to Isabella, eldest daughter of Lieut.-Col. A. WATSON, at Point de Galle, on July 28th.

* WILSON, John H., M.D., Liverpool, to Sarah Ann, youngest daughter of the late S. PRESTON, Esq., of Lancaster, on August 31st.

DEATHS.

BAILEY. On September 16th, aged 73, Maria, wife of *H. W. Bailey, Esq., Thetford.

MAY. On September 15th, aged 3, Arthur Edward, only son of *A. P. May, Esq., Great Crosby, Liverpool.

APPOINTMENTS.

BRACEY, Charles J., Esq., appointed Medical Tutor to Sydenham College, Birmingham.

PASS LISTS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL. LICENTIATES admitted on Thursday, September 15th, 1859:—

CRESSWELL, Alfred, Ballarat	RUMMIN, George, Bath
DOWELL, Robert, Hinderwell	THOMPSON, Abraham, Gosforth
LEACH, James, Shaw, Oldham	TREND, Theophilus W., Bridge-
NUNN, John R., Bedford	water

The following gentlemen, on the same day, passed their first examination:—

GAYTON, William, Spitalfields

PECHEY, William Crisp, Walthamstow.

HEALTH OF LONDON—SEPTEMBER 17TH, 1859.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

	Births.	Deaths.
During week	{ Boys .. 802 Girls .. 805 }	1607 .. 1092
Average of corresponding weeks 1849-58..	1506 ..	1039

Among the causes of death were—small-pox, 36; scarlatina, 92 (an increase from 68); diphtheria, 21; diarrhoea, 82 (decrease from 148); cholera or choleraic diarrhoea, 5. The registers will enable the public to judge whether an increase of mortality is produced by the strikes in London among persons in the building trades. Of bricklayers, two died in the week, of bricklayers' wives, one, of bricklayers' children, five; of carpenters, three died, of carpenters' wives, five, of carpenters' children, sixteen; of painters, six died, of painters' wives, one, of painters' children, twelve; of plasterers, one died, of plasterers' children, two.

Barometer:

Highest (Sun.) 30.18; lowest (Fri.) 29.31; mean 29.658 in.

Thermometer:

In sun—highest (Mon.) 95.2°; lowest (Wed.) 61°.

In shade—highest (Mon.) 73.2°; lowest (Mon.) 41.5°.

Mean—53.8°; difference from mean of 43 yrs.—3.1°.

Range—during week, 31.7°; mean daily, 20.7°.

Mean humidity of air (saturation=100), 79.

Mean direction of wind, variable.—Rain in inches, 0.83.

BIRMINGHAM MEDICAL REGISTRATION ASSOCIATION.

A GENERAL meeting of the medical practitioners of Birmingham and the Midland Counties was held at the Town Hall, on September 2nd, for the purpose of carrying out the resolutions adopted at the preliminary meeting, held at the Dispensary, regarding the formation of a Medical Registration Association.

Dr. HESLOP was called to the Chair.

Mr. SPRATLY, the honorary secretary, read the resolutions of the preliminary meeting, and those agreed to by the Committee with reference to the management of the Association.

Mr. POSTGATE moved—"That a Medical Association be formed, to be called the Birmingham and Midland Counties Registration Association, for the purpose of assisting the Registrar in securing a complete registration of duly qualified practitioners, and for protecting the profession and public against illegal practice, and when necessary, for watching the working of the new Medical Act."

Dr. HINDS, in seconding the resolution, said they were much indebted to those gentlemen who had taken the initiative in forming a Registration Society. He would, however, impress upon his brother practitioners that their object was not the extinction or suppression of quackery, but simply to draw a broad line of distinction between quackery and that of legal and legitimate practice. Their object should be to carry on the

Association in accordance with the spirit of the age, upon a liberal and enlightened policy, not making it merely a persecuting Society; but one in all respects calculated to elevate the tone and character of the profession, and ensure to the public all the benefits resulting from sound and honourable practice.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the second resolution—"That all orthodox practitioners of medicine and surgery, residing in Birmingham and the surrounding districts, who are entitled to be registered under the new Medical Act, shall be eligible as members."

The Chairman said as that was an important resolution, it would no doubt elicit discussion, and he should be glad to hear the opinions of any gentlemen present upon the subject. The following letter, bearing upon the term "orthodox," had been addressed to Dr. Bell Fletcher:—

"Birmingham Homœopathic Hospital, 2, Upper Priory,
September 1st, 1859.

"Dear Sir—An advertisement having appeared in the public papers of the proceedings connected with the formation of a Medical Registration Society, we have observed that one resolution states that only *orthodox* medical men are eligible for membership. The fact of our not having received any invitation to take part in the formation of the Association, while other medical men in the district have received such invitation, and the circumstance that an impression prevails among the public that the term 'orthodox' has been purposely made use of in order to exclude homœopathic practitioners, induces us to request of you, as chairman of the meeting, an explanation of the matter. Being legally qualified and duly registered medical men, does our approval of the homœopathic system of medicine, and our open practice of it, disqualify us from becoming members of the proposed Medical Association, founded, as that Association is, professedly for public objects, and based, as it is, on an Act of Parliament, which expressly discourages disqualification on the ground of difference of medical creed and practice?"

"We are, dear sir, your's faithfully,

"GEORGE FEARON, JOSEPH LAWRENCE,
"W. A. PARSONS, HENRY ROBERTSON,

"Medical Officers of the Birmingham Homœopathic Hospital
and Dispensary."

"To Dr. Bell Fletcher."

Mr. YATES seconded the resolution.

Mr. POSTGATE said the term "orthodox" was one that could be much criticised, and which admitted of a variety of interpretations. He should move that the words "legally qualified" be substituted for "orthodox." He thought they should admit into the Association all duly qualified practitioners, those who were entitled to be upon the Register, and whose names were duly entered by the Registrar.

Mr. GAMGEE seconded the amendment. It was all but impossible to define what "orthodoxy" meant with reference to the profession. He for one should not oppose heresy, although always ready to uphold the truth; but knowing that what had been termed the heresies of the world had proved it greatest truths—knowing that the heresy of to-day had often been the orthodoxy of to-morrow, and remembering that the profession were at first the bitterest opponents of Harvey and other heretics—that the College of Physicians had tried to crush the Apothecaries, and that the tendency to be a persecuting body had always been a stigma upon the profession, he could not think of excluding from the Association those whom the law had duly recognised. If they were to have a perfect registration let them have one, and conduct the Society efficiently, and it would no doubt be productive of great benefit. He did not like the idea of prosecution, but if they did prosecute all, let them by all means prosecute the villains who infested the country, and, by their misrepresentations, preyed upon and robbed the poor. In excluding those whom the act recognised they were not carrying out its spirit or intention. He wished it to be distinctly understood that he did not feel or express any sympathy with the branch called homœopathy; but medical men too frequently made the mistake of regarding those who differed from them as dishonourable men, whereas, he knew there were many able and conscientious practitioners among the homœopaths, and he should not like to see them excluded.

Mr. YATES said the subject was discussed at the preliminary meeting, and it was considered desirable that allopathic practitioners only should be members of the Association. Homœopathic practitioners might form an Association amongst themselves. There could be no doubt the term "orthodox" was in-

tended to confine the Society to gentlemen belonging to the allopathic branch.

Mr. PEMBERTON suggested that the word "registered" would be a better term for the amendment than "legally qualified." While entertaining the greatest contempt for the practice of homœopathy, he felt it would be inconsistent with the name of their Society, whose main feature was that of registration, if they prevented registered practitioners from being members. He would thank Dr. Heslop to inform the meeting of the view taken upon the subject by the London Medical Registration Society.

The CHAIRMAN said, the word "orthodox" was used in the London resolutions; and Dr. Ladd, the Secretary of the Society, in a letter addressed to Mr. Spratly, had said, "Keep out the homœopaths by some such rule as we have". The rule or resolution referred to was as follows:—"That all practitioners of *orthodox* medicine, who are entitled to be registered under the new Medical Act, shall be eligible as members."

Mr. PEMBERTON expressed himself satisfied, adding that, as the London Medical Society used the word "orthodox", he should vote for the original resolution.

Dr. ANTHONY said, the practitioners referred to were no doubt qualified to be registered under the Medical Act, but he objected to their admission into the Society.

The amendment, having been put, was lost, only the hands of the proposer and seconder being held up in its favour; and, with these two exceptions, the original resolution was carried unanimously.

The rules and regulations drawn up by the Provisional Committee for the management of the Association were then submitted and discussed *seriatim*, and unanimously adopted. The following resolution was carried unanimously:—

"That the election of members be referred to the General Committee, and take place by ballot, if necessary; and that the votes of a majority of those present shall be necessary for the admission of candidates for membership."

The CHAIRMAN said that, although he should have to submit the next resolution, he disagreed entirely with it, and felt confident that it would not be adopted. It was as follows:—

"That it shall be the duty of the Vigilance Committee to investigate all cases brought before them of persons practising in otherwise than an orthodox manner, and to report thereon to the General Committee."

If they were to discuss the opinions of persons practising in other than an orthodox manner, they would get into great difficulties. That was not the object of the Society; and the passing of such a resolution would make the profession a by-word in Birmingham.

Mr. YATES moved, and Mr. PEMBERTON seconded, the following resolution, in lieu of that submitted from the chair; and, on being put to the meeting, it was carried unanimously.

"That it shall be the duty of the Vigilance Committee from time to time to lay before the General Committee the names of such individuals as appear to be practising without a proper qualification, and therefore not entitled to be entered upon the Register."

The following gentlemen were unanimously elected officers of the Society:—*President*: Dr. Bell Fletcher. *Vice-Presidents*: E. Moore, Esq. (Hales Owen), Dr. Anthony and G. Taylor, Esq. (Birmingham), and W. E. Johnson, Esq. (Dudley). *Committee*: Dr. Heslop, Messrs. Berry, D. W. Crompton, J. Carter, Bartlett, Oliver Pemberton, George Yates, Charles Townsend, Bindley, W. C. Freer, Woody (Tamworth), John Houghton (Dudley), J. Postgate, Meeke, Yelloly, Warnock, Bassett, Yarwood, R. Jordan, Burbury, George Jones, Cartwright, and Smith (Redditch). *Treasurer*: E. Chesshire, Esq. *Hon. Secretary*: S. Spratly, Esq.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed a vote of thanks to the Provisional Committee for the time and labour they had bestowed in furtherance of the object in view; and to Mr. Spratly, for the valuable services he had rendered in the formation of the Society.

The motion, having been seconded, was carried unanimously.

Mr. POSTGATE proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

The motion, having been seconded, was carried unanimously; after which Dr. HESLOP briefly returned thanks, and the meeting separated.

ACCIDENT TO BARON LIEBIG. Baron Liebig, the eminent chemist, broke his leg at Passau on September 5th. He is reported to be doing well.

THE MILITARY HOSPITAL AT NETLEY. In a recent article on this hospital in the *Times*, the following remarks occur in reference to the locality of the institution:—"The question of the sanitary fitness of the spot selected for the hospital appears never to have been thought of until the building itself was considerably advanced, when the subject was forced on the attention of the authorities in the most disagreeable manner, by the presence of a heavy foul smell when the tide went out, and left some hundred acres of black mud in front of the building exposed to the rays of a summer sun. The discussions to which this unpleasing discovery gave rise, both in the House of Commons and in medical journals, will doubtless be in the recollection of our readers. From the conflicting statements which were then brought before the public, it appeared, on the one hand, that the site was one of the best and most salubrious in the kingdom. The mud, it was contended, was not mud at all, but an inorganic deposit, the smell from which, if not positively wholesome, was at least not injurious. On the other side, it was as distinctly asserted that the whole *locale* was unfavourable, the exhalations from the mud almost poisonous; and the site, therefore, as a matter of course, one of the very worst places that could have been chosen for the erection of an hospital. A sanitary commission of the most eminent medical and scientific men, who were appointed to decide upon the question, by no means tended to clear up the doubts. The mud left by the tide on the banks of the Southampton Water, and about the presence of which in front of the hospital there could, one would think, be no dispute at all, was examined, measured, smelt, and analysed, when, as might have been expected, almost every member of the commission came to a different conclusion, and left the dispute pretty much as they had found it. There can be no doubt, however, that those who did arrive at an opinion in favour of the site were considerably influenced by the fact that the hospital was half built, and it was too late to come to any other decision respecting it. If the same commission had been appointed to inquire into the sanitary conditions of the spot before it was finally decided on, we suspect their reports would have been unanimously against it; for medical authorities of all shades of opinion are at least agreed on one point, viz., that in choosing sites for hospitals, river-banks and estuary-shores should in all cases be carefully avoided. Not only is this great hospital built upon the banks of a very muddy estuary, but there are other local causes which especially render the choice unwise and improper. The die is now, however, effectually cast; for upwards of £200,000 are already spent, and the building is half finished. The country must therefore make the best of a bad bargain, give £200,000 or £300,000 more to complete the edifice, and rely on the rather feeble hope that the authorities will be wiser next time. . . . As regards that very vexed question, the healthiness of the site, perhaps, after all, the best evidence can be obtained from those who live near the spot, or who have been engaged upon the building since its commencement. From these sources it would appear that during summer, when the tide is out, and, above all, when vessels, resting on the mud, disturb it, there is a very perceptibly unpleasant odour in and round the place. This, however, is the least part, as the chief inconvenience is felt when the wind blows from Southampton, and brings down the miasma of the whole sewage of that town, which flows out upon the river mud about a mile above the building. All these facts, however, were known and pointed out before an acre was purchased or a stone laid. . . . The whole edifice is of the most expensive and substantial description, the only fault about it being that it is where it is; and, as this is exactly the fault which never can be remedied or improved, the country must submit to it with the best grace it can."

THE SALE OF POISONS. One of the objects of legislation is the protection of the people, not only from dangers that may arise through attacks of lawlessness and violence upon them, but from accidents to which their own ignorance may subject them, or which a rash and thoughtless course of conduct may bring about. Hence, while laws are passed forbidding the carrying of concealed weapons, and guaranteeing protection to life and limb, it is felt that some measures should be adopted to remove the means of suicide, and the substances which may be pernicious to life, from the hands of the ignorant and thoughtless. Still, very little is done in our land that shall prevent the free access of the unprofessional to the deadliest poisons. These are procurable without being subjected to annoying questions as to the uses for which they are intended. Persons, altogether unknown to the dispensing apothecary,

purchase, hourly, quantities of deadly material that may be the means of death to themselves or their enemies. Children, and those who are perfectly irresponsible, can procure opium and its preparations, purchase arsenic—for the destruction of rats—and obtain the powerful preparations of strychnia and cyanogen. This is an evil which all must admit. The question is, how can it be checked? and this question is a difficult one to answer in a country where liberty is interpreted, by the demagogue, to mean freedom to do as each one pleases. The cry is raised, when prohibitory laws are attempted, that an effort is made to infringe the liberty of the subject, and in this way the best efforts of good men are crushed. In England, a step was taken in the right direction when the "Act to regulate the sale of arsenic" was passed, June 5th, 1851. Each person selling the article was obliged to keep a record of its sale, the name of the purchaser, and that of the witness in whose presence it was sold. The purchaser was to be known to the vendor, or to be certified to by those who were known. Furthermore, no sale of arsenic was to be made in less quantity than ten pounds, unless it was mixed with soot or indigo in the proportion of one ounce of soot, or half an ounce of indigo, to one pound of arsenic, in order that the colour of the article might be of avail in arousing suspicion with those to whom it might be administered with homicidal intent. Such an Act, although not meeting all the requirements of the case, yet was immeasurably in advance of anything of the kind promulgated by proper authority in America. We need this, and more, because our laws do not demand any preliminary training from those who are licensed to vend drugs. Any illiterate person, with us, can take up the business of the pharmacist, and, through his ignorance, endanger the lives of a whole district in his putting up of prescriptions. A pharmaceutical education is not demanded of him who professes a knowledge of the intricate business of pharmacy. He may be as ignorant as the veriest boor, and yet is authorised by law to do exactly that which the most accomplished pharmacist can do. There must be some legal regulations connected with the practice of pharmacy, and the medical profession should leave no stone unturned that may lie in the way of the passage of such regulations. Duty to themselves and society, requires their untiring efforts in this direction. But even where such knowledge exists, there must be prohibitory laws as regards the indiscriminate sale of deadly poisons. (*American Medical Monthly*, August 1859.)

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. The library of this institution will re-open on Saturday, October 1st, and the museum on the following Monday.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

POSTAGE OF MANUSCRIPT AND PRINTED MATTER.

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

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.

Communications have been received from:—MR. J. V. SOLOMON; DR. J. B. NEVINS; MR. ALFRED FLEISCHMANN; MR. F. JONES; MR. J. WAKE; DR. J. H. WILSON; MR. J. CORNWALL; MR. F. G. HARCOURT; MR. T. HOLMES; DR. SLOANE; DR. C. HANDFIELD JONES; DR. WM. NEWMAN; MR. EDMUND COCKEY; MR. SAMUEL SPRATLY; DR. G. M. HUMPHRY; DR. C. COLLINGWOOD; and DR. W. O. MARKHAM.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

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

1. A Guide to the Treatment of Diseases of the Skin: with Suggestions for their Prevention; for the Use of the Student and General Practitioner. Illustrated by Cases. By *Thomas Hunt, F.R.C.S. Fourth Edition. London: T. Richards. 1859.
2. A Domestic Practice of Homoeopathy. By G. Calvert Holland, M.D. Edin. Part I. Edinburgh: Thos. C. Jack. 1859.
3. Homoeopathy and Hydropathy impartially appreciated; with Notes illustrative of the Influence of the Mind on the Body. By Edwin Lee, M.D. Fourth Edition, enlarged. London: Churchill. 1859.