

## Association Intelligence.

### BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
BIRMINGHAM AND MID- LAND COUNTIES. [Ordinary Meeting.]	Hen and Chickens Hotel, Birmingham.	Thursday, Oct. 20th, 6 P.M.

\*\*\* Associates will observe that the day of meeting has been postponed one week—viz., from the 13th to the 20th Oct.

MIDLAND BRANCH. The quarterly meeting of this Branch is postponed.

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

### ROCHESTER, MAIDSTONE, GRAVESEND, AND DARTFORD DISTRICT MEETINGS, IN CONNEXION WITH THE SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH.

THE first of the series of meetings for the present session was held at the Crown Inn, Rochester, on Friday, September 30th, at 5.15 P.M.; W. SANKEY, Esq. (Dover), President of the Branch, in the Chair. There were also present: John Armstrong, M.D. (Gravesend); John M. Burton, Esq. (Blackheath); W. Burton, Esq. (Brompton); D. Culhane, Esq. (Dartford); James Dulvey, Esq. (Brompton); F. J. Brown, M.D. (Chatham); W. B. Everest, Esq. (Rainham); Frederick Fry, Esq. (Maidstone); H. M. Gould, Esq. (Wateringbury); William Hoar, Esq. (Maidstone); William Keddell, Esq. (Aylesford); Adam Martin, M.D. (Rochester); E. Moore, Esq. (Dartford); J. Patrick, Esq. (New Brompton); and F. Plomley, M.D. (Maidstone); with the following gentlemen as visitors: J. Langston, Esq. (Strood); and H. Weeks, Esq. (Brompton).

The PRESIDENT congratulated the members present on the success which had attended these meetings, and stated that he had been trying to establish a similar series in the district of the county in which he resided; but he had not yet succeeded.

#### GENERAL BUSINESS.

*Secretary.* The minutes of the last meeting were then read by Mr. Dulvey, who reminded the members that his term of office as Honorary Secretary had then expired; and that, in accordance with Rule VII, they must elect a gentleman to fill the office for the succeeding year; whereupon, on the motion of Dr. MARTIN of Rochester, and seconded by W. B. EVEREST, Esq., of Rainham, the hearty thanks of the meeting were unanimously given to Mr. Dulvey, and he was requested to continue his services.

*Subscription.* The annual subscription of half-a-crown towards the moiety of the expenses not paid by the Council of the Branch, was paid by each member present to the Treasurer, Dr. Martin.

*Member.* Mr. Fry stated that he had been requested by J. Cordy Burrows, Esq., Mayor of Brighton, and late President of the Branch, to propose him as a member connected with these meetings, although not resident in the district—a proposition which was received and carried with acclamation.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

The following papers were read:—

1. Three Cases of Encephaloid Disease. By W. Hoar, Esq.
2. Some Points connected with Midwifery. By John Armstrong, M.D.

These papers elicited a discussion, after which the thanks of the meeting were unanimously accorded to their authors, and they were requested to allow them to be published in the JOURNAL of the Association.

Hearty thanks were also given to the President of the Branch, for his kindness in having come from so great a distance to preside on this occasion; after which the members and their friends adjourned to dinner.

It was arranged that the other meetings for the season shall be held—at Maidstone, on the last Friday in October; and at Gravesend and Dartford, on the last Fridays in March and April, 1860; and that, after each meeting, a dinner shall be provided for those who may be able to remain thereto.

### SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.

A GENERAL meeting of the above Branch was held at the Swan Hotel, Leighton Buzzard, on Thursday, October 6th, at 2 P.M.; J. H. WEBSTER, M.D., President, in the Chair. There were also present: T. H. Barker, M.D. (Bedford); R. Ceely, Esq. (Aylesbury); W. Collingwood, Esq. (Amphill); E. Daniell, Esq. (Newport Pagnell); J. Denne, Esq. (Winslow); B. Dulley, Esq. (Wellingborough); F. Farr, Esq. (Dunstable); D. J. T. Francis, M.D. (Northampton); G. Hammond, Esq. (Irthlingborough); C. J. Hicks, Esq. (Dunstable); E. Lawford, M.D. (Leighton Buzzard); B. Marsack, Esq. (Olney); F. H. Marshall, Esq. (Moulton); W. Percival, Esq. (Northampton); W. S. Slinn, Esq. (Amphill); R. S. Stedman, Esq. (Sharnbrook); R. Stevens, Esq. (Markyate Street); H. Terry, sen., Esq. (Northampton); H. Terry, jun., Esq. (Northampton); H. Veasey, Esq. (Woburn); J. F. Williams, Esq. (Cranfield); E. Woakes, jun., Esq. (Luton); and the following visitors: T. N. Gray, Esq. (Amersham); A. Henry, M.D. (London).

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

#### NEW MEMBERS.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Association and Branch: Thomas Chapman, jun., Esq. (Amphill); William Collingwood, Esq. (Amphill); William C. Daniell, Esq. (Stoney Stratford); J. W. Dryland, Esq. (Kettering); Frederick Farr, Esq. (Dunstable); Charles Hicks, Esq. (Dunstable); Hammelt Hailey, Esq. (Newport Pagnell); W. A. Hubert, Esq. (Markyate Street); Richard Stevens, Esq. (Markyate Street); Edward Woakes, jun., Esq. (Luton).

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

The following papers were read:—

1. Case of Poisoning by Lobelia. By T. H. Barker, M.D.
2. Case of Oedema of the Glottis, following the Accidental Drinking of Sulphuric Acid, in which Tracheotomy was performed. By E. Lawford, M.D. Dr. Lawford also exhibited a tracheal director of his own invention, for the purpose of steadying the trachea, and directing the knife during the operation of tracheotomy.
3. Case of Necrosis of the Tibia: with a Preparation. By H. Terry, jun., Esq.
4. Case in which a Biliary Calculus was ejected from the Stomach: with a Specimen. By J. F. Williams, Esq.
5. Case of Intestinal Irritation, simulating Cerebral Disease: with a Specimen. By J. F. Williams, Esq.
6. Mr. DANIELL then exhibited some interesting Specimens of Renal Calculi.
7. Mr. CEELY introduced the subject of the Preservation of Vaccine Lymph in a Fluid State, by several methods, the most perfect of which appeared to be the use of small capillary tubes, which were partially filled with recent lymph, and then immediately hermetically sealed, by the heat of a common candle. Mr. Ceely illustrated the method he usually employed, and stated that the lymph thus preserved would retain its virtue for an indefinite time.

#### MEDICAL REGISTRATION.

It was proposed and seconded—

"That the Registration Association of Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire should be amalgamated with the South Midland Branch of the British Medical Association."

After some conversation on the subject of medical registration, in which the advantages of joining the London Medical Registration Association were forcibly pointed out, the resolution was carried unanimously.

#### VOTES OF THANKS

Were proposed and carried—

1. To the readers of the cases and papers, with the request that they allow them to appear in the JOURNAL.
2. To the President, for his kindness in presiding over the meeting.

#### THE DINNER.

The members present afterwards dined together, being joined by the Rev. J. Stevenson (Vicar of Leighton); J. Proctor, Esq. (Chairman of the Leighton Board of Guardians); and Dr. Henry. The usual loyal toasts were given, and were followed by the "Bishop and Clergy", responded to by the Rev. J. Stevenson; "Success to the BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION and the JOURNAL", responded to by Dr. Henry; "the President"; "the Secretaries"; "Mr. Robert Ceely"; etc.

the amount of the salary of the General Secretary and of the ordinary expenses of the Association—say £200 or £250 altogether.

From these calculations, the following facts are evident:

1. That the relative cost of the JOURNAL decreases steadily in proportion as the number of members of the Association increases.

2. That, in proportion to the increase of members, there will remain an increasing balance: part of which might be applied to rendering the JOURNAL more efficient as the organ of the Association, while a large proportion could be disposed of in the form of grants for the investigation of matters connected with medical science, or for any other purpose which the Association might decide.

Mr. Dix must now see, that it was very far from my intention to say that the whole of the revenue from an increase of members should be applied solely to the purposes of the JOURNAL.

It may be objected, that I have made no allowance for defaulters. I have not forgotten them; but surely, if I have shewn that the surplus revenue of the Association increases in a greater ratio than the number of members, the question of defaulters can interfere with my argument only on the supposition that they would increase in a more rapid proportion than the members—a supposition which no one can entertain.

I will now leave these financial matters, into the consideration of which I should not have entered at such length, if Mr. Dix had not led the way.

As to the question raised by Mr. Dix, of the value placed on the JOURNAL by the members of the Association, I hope it will be amply discussed. I know that many of them regard the JOURNAL as the mainstay of the Association—as a medium which has so far the advantage of stated gatherings (however pleasant and useful these may be) that it enables them to hold weekly communication with each other.

The personal insinuation of Mr. Dix, as to my motives in offering my remarks at the Liverpool meeting, I will simply leave to the judgment of those members of the Association to whom I am known.

I am, etc.,

ALEXANDER HENRY.

51a, Paulton Square, Chelsea, October 12th, 1859.

## THE ASSOCIATION AND THE JOURNAL.

LETTER FROM HENRY MUNROE, M.D.

SIR,—Having, at the East York and North Lincoln Branch meeting, heard the paper read by Mr. Dix, and disputed the arguments advanced by him, I beg to offer a few remarks in the JOURNAL, in addition to those I made at the meeting.

Mr. Dix assumes that the JOURNAL is maintained at a cost considerably beyond the whole amount of the income; that it is a sore let and hindrance to the extension of members, and to the spread and power of the Association. But Mr. Dix gives no data, no statistics in proof of such an assertion; and fully persuaded am I that, if the members then present could have been in possession of your valuable leading article in the last number of the JOURNAL, giving the true facts of the Association's history, the resolution proposed would never have been passed. The feeling of the meeting was that, if the expense of the JOURNAL was detrimental, or, as stated, ruinous, to the interests of the Association, the sooner it was given up, or its publication modified, the better; but then the members present were of opinion that Mr. Dix had stated a true case—that the expenditure of the JOURNAL was greater than the income of the Association. Had they been aware of the fact that the annual income of the Association had for some years exceeded the expenditure, the resolution, partially only seconded by Sir H. Cooper, would have been one of compliment rather than condemnation; and had Mr. Dix been aware of the fact, it would have saved him the labour of preparing a paper the spirit and style of which were spoken of at the meeting as being too sarcastic and uncourteous.

The caustic remarks on the analysis of the contents of the JOURNAL might be applied to any other journal of a like character; and the unwise insinuation that the admirable lectures of Dr. Beale were read by no one, showed the author's unacquaintance with the fact that his medical colleagues, members of the Microscopical Society, have made the microscopic analysis of urine their study for years. This want of proper information on the part of the author relative to the points in question has been the occasion of this incomplete paper—incomplete as to facts and data, therefore valueless as an authority. Nevertheless, I feel glad that Mr. Dix has published his paper, as it will be the means of rendering

essential service to the Association, in eliciting views and opinions as to the utility of the JOURNAL; and moreover it will have a tendency, in the discussion of the subject, to strengthen the confidence of its true friends, and somewhat allay the irritable feelings of others, whose principal recommendation is, that they are happy only when they are grumbling. Any critique on the paper itself is rendered unnecessary by the sharp-shooting foot-notes written by yourself.

Mr. Dix's pet scheme of a diminution of the subscription, with a view to a large increase of members, would, I think, be a doubtful and hazardous experiment, and one especially fatal to the existence of the JOURNAL, which I consider the backbone of the Association. I think no one could doubt that, with all the energy and persevering industry of the promoters of the Medical Bill, their endeavours to obtain it would have been fruitless, had they not had the JOURNAL in which to disseminate their opinions and meet with encouragement from their professional brethren. Where would be the advantage to pay a paltry subscription to take one's place at a Branch meeting, to hear papers read, when non-associates have the same privilege from invitation? If you lower the subscription to a small sum, you make the membership too cheap, and hence valueless; for I deem that anything cheap may, like physic, be nasty also.

Some years ago, I thought, with others, that there was no positive advantage arising from being a member of the Association, and that the JOURNAL, in its then condition, was not worth the price; but now I find that the leading members of the Association, having the welfare of the profession at heart, have bestirred themselves, and earned golden opinions for having obtained a Medical Act, and given to their members a JOURNAL that may stand honourable comparison with any other periodical.

As there are about 15,000 medical practitioners in the kingdom, is it not rather humbling that the numbers of the Association do not exceed 2,310? Why should there not be 10,000 members? Why should we not have the means of publishing a journal that could have no rival? The argument that the *Lancet* and *Medical Times and Gazette* are so well supported that there needs no other periodical, is puerile. The *Lancet* had once a circumscribed circulation, had other periodicals to compete with, and its editor suffered much for the great cause of reform; but was this a reason why that periodical should have been discontinued? By the assistance of the profession becoming members of the Association, I cannot but believe that the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL must take the first place in our medical periodical literature; and that, instead of lessening the frequency of its publication, if properly supported, it would have to be published twice a week.

I consider that we are somewhat indebted to Mr. Dix for his paper; and, trusting that the discussion as to the propriety of continuing the JOURNAL may end in beneficial results to the Association,

I am, etc.,

HENRY MUNROE, M.D., F.L.S.,

Lecturer on Medical Jurisprudence and Histology at the Hull and East Riding School of Medicine.

Hull, October 11th, 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 sons, the wives of—

\*BELL, R. P., Esq., Goole, on October 4th.

\*STRETTON, Samuel, Esq., Kidderminster, on October 5th.

WYATT, George R., Esq., Oxford, on October 5th.

Of daughters, the wives of—

DOBIE, William M., M.D., Chester, on October 6th.

TAYLOR, J., Esq., Surgeon, Bayswater, lately.

#### MARRIAGES.

BENNETT, R., M.D., of Buxton, to Maria, youngest daughter of Wm. KIPPING, Esq., of Hadlow, Kent, on October 5th.

CAW, James, jun., Esq., St. Thomas's, to Frances, youngest daughter of the late William RUAN, M.D., of St. Croix, on September 14th.

CRAWFORD, Thomas, M.D., Surgeon 18th Regiment, to Clara Frances, daughter of the late R. MORRISON, Esq., of Dublin, on October 6th.

HIGGINS, Henry, Esq., Surgeon, of Peel, Isle of Man, to Louisa, fifth daughter of the late L. McWHANNELL, Esq., of Glendaff, Isle of Man, on October 11th.

HOLMES, Arthur P., M.D., Bengal Army, to Isabel, eldest daughter of J. D. MARSHAL, M.D., of Holywood, near Belfast, on October 4th.

LONG, Wm., Esq., Caldicott, Monmouthshire, to Frances, second daughter of \*Edward LONG, Esq., Surgeon, of Barham, Canterbury, on September 29th.

LYON, the Rev. James, M.D., eldest son of Gilbert Lyon, M.D., of Clifton, to Fanny, eldest daughter of Wm. FRIPP, Esq., of Dawlish, on October 6th.

MAUNDER, Charles F., Esq., Surgeon, of New Broad Street, to Catherine, youngest daughter of Wm. BEAUMONT, Esq., of Birmingham, on October 5th.

MOUAT, James, Esq., C.B. and V.C., Knight of the Legion of Honour, Deputy Inspector-General of Army Hospitals, to Adela Rose Ellen, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Nicolas TINDAL, on October 6th.

RALSTAN, Wm. H., Esq., of Keele, Staffordshire, to Isabella J., second daughter of the late Jonathan BOWMAN, M.D., of Liverpool, on October 6th.

STOKER, Wm., Esq., Surgeon R.N., to Margaret, youngest daughter of John TROTTER, M.D., at Durham, on Oct. 4th.

WARD, Thomas, Esq., Surgeon, of Southgate, Middlesex, to Agnes, eldest daughter of John WEBSTER, Esq., late of Southgate, on October 5th.

## DEATHS.

DEAN, J. H., Esq., at 32, Lucas Street, E., on September 29.

DIX. On October 5th, at Long Buckby, Northamptonshire, aged 2 years, John Albert, youngest son of \*F. W. Dix, Esq.

EDE. On October 9th, Mary Lydia, youngest daughter of J. R. Ede, Esq., Surgeon, of Barnsbury Park.

JACKSON. On August 6th, at Jaulrah, Matilda Sarah, eldest daughter of J. M. Jackson, Esq., 2nd Madras Light Infantry.

NEILL. On October 1st, at Liverpool, Elizabeth, wife of \*Hugh Neill, Esq.

SIMMONS, G., Esq., Surgeon, at 71, Judd Street, W.C., aged 50, on October 9th.

WEBBER, R. T., Esq., Surgeon, at Bromley, Middlesex, aged 53, on September 26th.

## PASS LISTS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS LICENTIATES IN MIDWIFERY admitted at a meeting of the Board, on October 12th:—

Bossy, Alfred Horsley, Stoke Newington: diploma of membership dated August 1st, 1859

BRIDGER, J., Cottenham, Cambridgeshire: March 11, 1859

ELLIOTT, C. H., Swan River, Australia: March 12, 1858

HUGHES, T. J., Woolwich: March 21, 1859

PARKES, Thomas, Woolwich: July 19, 1859

SWINDELL, John J., Whetstone, Middlesex: Aug. 1, 1859

UTTERSON, E. V., Balham Hill: May 16, 1859

## HEALTH OF LONDON—OCTOBER 8TH, 1859.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

	Births.	Deaths.
During week .....	{ Boys .. 917 Girls .. 840 }	1753 .. 996
Average of corresponding weeks 1849-58..	1407 ..	1002
Among the causes of death were—	diarrhœa, 34; scarlatina, 95; diphtheria, 11; small-pox, 28 (22 children and 6 adults).	
Barometer:		
Highest (Sun.)	30.062; lowest (Fri.)	29.691; mean 29.836 in.
Thermometer:		
In sun—highest (Tues.)	96.2°; lowest (Sat.)	71.4°.
In shade—highest (Tues.)	81°; lowest (Wed.)	52.5°.
Mean—	62.1°; difference from mean of 43 yrs.+9.4°.	
Range—during week,	28.5°; mean daily,	16°.
Mean humidity of air (saturation=100),	84.	
Mean direction of wind, S.E.—Rain in inches,	0.30.	

In the thirteen weeks that ended October 1st, the mortality in London was high; it was at the annual rate of 23 out of a thousand persons living. The total number of deaths was 16,010, of which 9056 occurred to persons in the first twenty years of life. In the corresponding quarters of four years,

1855-58, the deaths ranged from 13,042 to 14,345. The mean temperature of the quarter was high, 62.9°, though not so high as that of 1857; and in part of July the heat was excessive, on two days having reached 93° in the shade (the mean more than 12° above the average), and 115° in the sun. The consequence was an unusual amount of diarrhœa, which, however, gradually fell during the last two months, being checked by the fall of temperature, and also by the rain, seven inches of which, or about the average quantity, were measured during the quarter. The number of deaths from diarrhœa registered in the whole period was 2743, whilst only about half that number occurred in the same season of last year; and in the warm summer of 1857, the number was 2343. The disease committed its ravages almost entirely amongst young children. It was fatal in 768 cases in the East Districts, considerably more than in those on the south side of the river, which contains a larger population. Scarlatina was also very fatal, though in a less degree than it was in the summer of last year; and, like diarrhœa, it appears to have prevailed much in the Eastern Division. In all parts, scarlatina carried off 778 persons, diphtheria 190, small-pox 287. The largest contribution of deaths from small-pox (91) is also made by the eastern portion of the metropolis, although the hospital appropriated to this disease is not situated within its bounds. Six persons died in the quarter from want of food, 172 infants from want of breast-milk and inanition, 18 persons from purpura and scurvy, 59 from intemperance and delirium tremens, 20 by murder or manslaughter, 54 by suicide.

POISONING BY MUSHROOMS. Last week, an elderly man in the marshes, near Midhurst, who had been previously in robust health, was suddenly seized with violent vomiting, etc., which caused his wife to send off for their medical attendant, who, on arriving, and having made the requisite inquiry, without hesitation pronounced the symptoms to arise from having, thirty hours before, eaten a quantity of large, or what are commonly called "horse mushrooms". After a short stay, the medical man left his patient comparatively tranquil; a few hours after, however, he was again sent for; but, before he reached the house, the poor man had breathed his last, and this in less than sixty hours from the time of eating the mushrooms. The appearance of the corpse was singularly remarkable, as indicative of the cause of death, inasmuch as, besides considerable frothy exudation from the mouth, which smelt strongly of fungine, advanced decomposition had taken place within twenty-four hours. The body was of a dark purple hue, and so frightfully swollen that no single feature of the countenance was discernible.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE ASSOCIATION AND THE JOURNAL. Mr. Dix has sent us, in reply to our leading article of last week, a letter which would occupy about two pages of the JOURNAL. He will not, we presume, accuse us of want of courtesy if we defer the publication of his letter in consequence of the preoccupation of our space. Can he not, before another number appears, condense his ideas into a smaller compass?

Communications have been received from:—DR. COCKLE; MR. P. ADAMS; DR. W. F. WADE; MR. T. HOLMES; L.A.C. (Ireland); DR. G. VERNON BLUNT; DR. DAVID M'LAREN; DR. WM. MOORE; MR. HENRY THOMPSON; DR. W. O. MARKHAM; MR. JOSEPH HINTON; MR. R. P. BELL; DR. MACKINDER; MR. PARKIN; MR. H. TERRY, JUN.; DR. P. H. WILLIAMS; MR. J. DULVEY; DR. LAWFOED; DR. A. ROBERTSON; MR. JOHN DIX; DR. MUNROE; MR. T. M. STONE; DR. HEWITT; ASSISTANT SURGEON INDIAN ARMY; MR. F. W. DIX; and MR. W. J. MOORE.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

Just published, in post 8vo, with Woodcuts, price 6s. cloth,

**A Manual of Operative Surgery on the DEAD BODY:** With Illustrations. By THOMAS SMITH, F.R.C.S., Demonstrator of Anatomy and Operative Surgery at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and Surgeon to the Great Northern Hospital. London: LONGMAN, GREEN, LONGMAN, and ROBERTS.

Just published, in post 8vo, price 5s. 6d. cloth,

**Handbook of Hospital Practice; or, an Introduction to the Practical Study of Medicine at the Bedside:** With Case-forms, Glossary, and Index. By ROBERT D. LYONS, K.C.C., M.B.T.C.D., etc.; Physician to Jervis Street Hospital, Dublin.

Such a work affords abundant room for the display of extensive and well-digested information, sound practical knowledge, and cultivated powers of observation; and none but an accomplished practical physician could execute it with credit to himself and real benefit to the class of readers for whom it is intended. The manner in which Dr. Lyons has acquitted himself of this difficult and important task is deserving of all praise. —*Medico-Chirurgical Review.*

London: LONGMAN, GREEN, LONGMAN, and ROBERTS.