

tongue is flaccid, and the breath has a peculiar and almost putrid smell. The rumination ceases entirely. The alvine secretions are now watery, and are ejected or rather squirted out with violence. The animal suffers greatly from tenesmus. If there is no diarrhoea, which is sometimes the case, the hind part of the body is greatly swollen.

On the thirteenth or fourteenth day, when the complaint has reached the highest pitch, the fourth period begins. The animal can hardly keep on its legs, a thick ash-gray fluid runs from its glazed eyes, a corrosive secretion escapes from its nose, a thick phlegm fills its mouth, and the putrid exhalation becomes almost unbearable. The skin of the mouth and the gums is dried up, "and the tallow-like skin of the animal peels off in great flakes." The serous and even bloody alvine secretion is discharged almost without interruption; the head of the suffering animal is continually twisted round to its hind quarters. Death generally ensues on or about the seventeenth day after the infection.

The *Löser Dürre* has invariably been brought into Austria by cattle coming from Podolia, Bessarabia, or the Danubian Principalities, and the importation of beasts from those provinces is frequently prohibited. As soon as it is known that the plague is raging on the other side of the frontier a cordon is drawn, which is not raised until the disease has entirely ceased. If this government finds it necessary to have a number of beasts killed in order to put an end to a contagious disease, the proprietor receives £5 a-head from the state; but the sum is so ridiculously small that many sick cattle are driven away and sold before the authorities are aware that the murrain has made its appearance. If a butcher on killing an animal finds it to be diseased, and does not inform the police of the fact, he is liable to be fined £4 for each offence. If he announces his discovery he receives only £5 as an indemnification for his loss. The "*löser*," or third stomach of cattle which die of the real or steppe murrain is invariably diseased. On the outside it is generally covered with livid spots, and in the inside is found ruminated food, not in a pulpy mass, as it ought to be, but in the form of a dry, dark green, coarse powder, which is pressed in between the "leaves" of the *löser*. The fourth stomach is always either highly inflamed or gangrenous.

During the Russo-Turkish war in 1827 and 1828 Russian herds driven into Silesia brought the murrain with them, which carried off 30,000 head of cattle in Hungary, 12,000 in Galicia, and 9,000 in Moravia. According to a very moderate estimate made by M. Faust, the steppe murrain had at the end of the last century carried off 28,000,000 head of cattle in Germany.

Association Intelligence.

ADMISSION OF MEMBERS, AND PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

THE General Secretary of the British Medical Association begs to call the attention of members 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 of 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, *General Secretary.*

Worcester, May 1857.

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(Continued from p. 658 of ASSOCIATION MEDICAL JOURNAL for August 2, 1856.)

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ALL letters or communications for the JOURNAL should in future be addressed to Dr. WYNTER, Coleherne Court, Old Brompton, S.W.

Letters regarding the business department of the JOURNAL, and corrected proofs, should be sent to 37, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
METROP. COUNTIES. [Ordinary Meeting.]	37, Soho Square, London.	Tues., May 12, 4 P.M.
SOUTH MIDLAND. [Annual Meeting.]	George Hotel, Northampton.	Thurs., May 21, 2 P.M.

Reports of Societies.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH, 1857.

W. D. CHOWNE, M.D., President, in the Chair.

EXCISION OF THE HEAD OF THE FEMUR AND FLOOR OF THE ACETABULUM, FOR CARIES COMBINED WITH PELVIC ABSCESS. BY HENRY HANCOCK, ESQ.

EXCISION of the head of the femur had been performed for gun-shot wounds and other injuries of the part, and also for caries; but the case related by Mr. HANCOCK was the first in which the operation had been undertaken with the avowed object of excising the head of the femur and floor of the acetabulum, and relieving pelvic abscess. The operation of excision of the head of the femur in cases of injury did not appear to have excited any difference of opinion as to the propriety of its performance. But in regard to caries, some surgeons, as Mr. Syme and Mr. Skey, condemned the proceeding altogether; others, whilst advocating and performing the operation, restricted its employment to a certain class of cases, to the exclusion of others in which it appears to Mr. Hancock to offer equal, if not superior, advantages. The operation was thus partially advocated by Messrs. White, Fergusson, Knox, Smith, Walton, Dr. Bonino, and others. The opinions of surgeons on excision of the head of the femur, from its resuscitation in 1844 to the present time, might be thus summed up. Some condemn the

STOP THIEF! STOP THIEF! STOP THIEF!—ADVENTURE OF A SURGICAL POCKET-CASE.

LETTER FROM HENRY HANKS, ESQ.

SIR,—The facility with which the rapacious obtain entrance into the dwellings of medical men, either by a frivolous excuse, or by an apparently correct narrative of a feigned complaint, as pain, headache, etc. (the existence of which, although the physiognomy of the narrator render the truth of the assertion dubious, cannot safely be contradicted), subjects our habitations to be occasionally infested with those pseudo-patients, who pursue their dishonest avocations with a degree of success, the vigilance of the practitioner not being aroused until the treachery is detected contemporaneously with the loss of property. To thwart the stratagem of our obnoxious visitors, to forewarn others against the courage of an expert thief, is the object of this letter.

I. On Friday evening last, a female was shown into my waiting-room, and, when I was disengaged by the departure of a patient of a different character, she was removed into my consulting-room. Meeting me with a mien of extraordinary civility, she said that she required a few pills to relieve pain in her back; and that if I considered other medicine necessary, her mistress, Mrs. Kerby, with whom she lived fourteen years in Finsbury, and ten months at 24, Beaumont Square, would pay for it in a fortnight, as she caused the pain. I left her alone to prepare the pills. On my return, she was standing (a common attitude for patients of this description, who cannot be prevailed upon to sit), and instantly inquired what would be my charge for medicine if her mistress was desirous that she should have it. She was to be careful to go to the doctor's with the private house; and to convince her mistress that she made no mistake, she wished me to furnish her with a card. On leaving, she asked whether I should be at home within half an hour. Shortly after, I wanted my surgical pocket-case. Seeking for it, where I usually place it in my book case, I could not find it. My wife had overheard the noise, familiar to her ear, occasioned by the falling of the door together. I sent to the house in the square, where the thief stated she was in service. No person of the name mentioned resided there. I gave information at the police station, and supplied an account of the contents of the pocket-case. On Monday morning, a police messenger apprised me that my lost case was discovered. The thief attempted to pawn it near Finsbury, asserting that it belonged to a surgeon in that neighbourhood; my name and residence while a pupil, having eluded her observation. The case was retained without any loan upon it. I rejoice to add that it is again in my possession.

The thief was about twenty-eight years old, short, stout, with a fresh colour, smiling during conversation, and at the time her voice resembled that of a person with a cold. She wore a light brown bonnet, and a woollen shawl of the same colour, with red margins.

If she endeavours to plunder the house of any of the readers of this letter, and be arrested in her nefarious pursuit, I would, if an opportunity of identifying her be afforded me, promote the punishment which she deserves.

II. Early one morning, a man, aged about fifty, visited me to ascertain my fee for writing a certificate, that an infirm relative may obtain her pension. His manner was hurried: "he would call for it". This he neglected; but he did not omit to take a penknife with a pearl handle, embellished with silver.

III. A middle aged man, with round features, was an occasional visitor of mine. He always offered some article for sale: test-papers, gallipots, etc. If I refused to purchase, he begged, generally "in order to procure lodging for the night, until he went in the morning to a situation promised him by Mr. —." With a slate in my hand, I said: "Pray, what is your name?" (Recording it.) "And where do you live?" "That I could not exactly tell you", was his reply. I have not been troubled by him since.

These are examples of the schemes contrived by thieves for effecting their purpose. The exposure I have given may enlighten others, unsuspecting like myself, and may guard their instruments from the adventure attached to the surgical pocket-case of

HENRY HANKS, M.R.C.S.Eng.

9, Beaumont Street, Mile End, April 25th, 1857.

Medical News.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, AND APPOINTMENTS.

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

BIRTHS.

CREASY. On April 22nd, at Carshalton, Surrey, the wife of William Everard Creasy, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.

DIXON. On April 25th, at Lansdowne Terrace, Brighton, the wife of Joseph Dixon, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

*HARWOOD. On April 25th, at Derby, the wife of Charles Harwood, M.D., of a daughter, stillborn.

SCOTT. On April 22nd, at Whittlesea, Cambridgeshire, the wife of Robert Charles Scott, Esq., Surgeon H.M.S. *Fury*, of a son.

WORDSWORTH. On April 27th, at 41, Finsbury Square, the wife of John Cawood Wordsworth, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon to the London Hospital, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

*BROWN—COOPER. BROWN, George Dransfield, Esq., Surgeon, of Henley-on-Thames, to Eliza, eldest daughter of the late James Cooper, Esq., of Caversham Hill, at Caversham, on April 23rd.

MACROBIE—BOUTFLOWER. MACROBIE, D., jun., Esq., youngest son of *David Macrobie, M.D., of Liverpool, to Marianne, third daughter of the Rev. H. C. Boutflower, incumbent of Bury, at Bury, Lancashire, on April 23rd.

*TERRY—THORP. TERRY, George, Esq., Surgeon, of Mells, Somerset, third son of *Henry Terry, Esq., of Northampton, to Frances, eldest daughter of the late Rev. Thomas Thorp, rector of Burton Overy, Leicestershire, at the parish church, Ribblesford, Worcestershire, on April 23rd.

TOMS—READ. TOMS, Francis Yeates, Esq., Surgeon R.N., to Marianne, youngest daughter of R. Read, Esq., of St. George's Square, Belgravia, at St. George's, Hanover Square, on April 30th.

DEATHS.

BLAIR. On April 27th, Mary, widow of the late Thomas Blair, M.D., of Brighton, aged 72.

DAMPIER, Nathaniel John, Esq., Surgeon, after a long illness, on April 26th.

WAUGH. On April 23rd, at 38, Hertford Street, May Fair, Mary, eldest daughter of the late Robert Waugh, Esq., formerly Staff-Surgeon Royal Army.

APPOINTMENTS.

RADCLIFFE, Charles Bland, M.D., elected Physician to the Westminster Hospital.

REYNOLDS, J. Russell, M.D., elected Assistant-Physician to the Westminster Hospital.

HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING APRIL 25TH, 1857.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

In the week that ended on Saturday, 1065 deaths were registered in London, a number which differs only in a small degree from those of the two previous weeks. In the ten years 1847-56, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1048. But as the deaths of last week occurred in an increased population, the average, to admit of comparison, should be raised in proportion to the increase, in which case it will become 1153. The result is, that the number now returned is less by 88 than the deaths that would have occurred if the average rate of mortality had prevailed.

The births registered last week were 1788; they were numerous enough to supply the vacancies caused by deaths, and to contribute, moreover, 723 lives to the increase of population.

Although the weather has lately been changeable, and on some days of an ungenial character, it does not appear as yet to have fatally aggravated those complaints which are most subject to its influence. The deaths caused by diseases of the respiratory organs were last week 205, having been in the two previous weeks 222 and 200. The corrected average for last

week is 200. From bronchitis and pneumonia together, 179 persons died last week; of these, 83 were children less than three years old. Hooping-cough continues to be the most fatal of the diseases of the zymotic class; it numbers 57. One death from small-pox occurred in the West districts, and two in the North; there were none in any other part of the metropolis. The deaths from typhus (and common fever) declined to 29, of which 14 occurred in the East districts. The West districts return none from fever. A case of bronchitis and typhoid fever which proved fatal in Somers Town is stated by the medical attendant to have arisen from the opening of a foul drain in the house. Scarlatina was fatal in 20 cases, 3 of which occurred in the sub-district of Kennington (first part), in houses that are situated not a hundred yards from each other. In one of these houses six persons have been attacked with scarlatina, and two of them have died. Four nonagenarians, all women, died in the week; the oldest, a widow, in the Hornsey Road, had attained the age of 96 years. Two cases of intemperance are recorded in the present return.

Last week the births of 904 boys and 884 girls, in all 1788 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847-56 the average number was 1583.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.882 in. The mean readings on Monday and Tuesday were above 30 in. The highest reading was 30.14 in. on Monday. The mean temperature of the week was 46.6°, which is 0.6° below the average of the same week in forty-three years. On Sunday the mean temperature was 56.4°, which is 0.9° above the average of the same day; it continued above the average till Wednesday; and on the last three days it was from 7° to 9° below it. The highest reading was obtained on Sunday, and was 69°; the lowest was on Friday, viz., 28.2°, showing a range of temperature equal to 40.8° in the week. The mean dew-point temperature was 40.1°, and the difference between this and the mean temperature of the air was 6.5°. The wind in the beginning of the week was for the most part in the south-west; on the last three days it was generally in the north-east. Rain fell to the amount of 0.32 in., most of which fell on Wednesday. Hail fell on Friday. The last three days are described as very cold and bleak.

THE JENNER MONUMENT. The Piedmontese Committee, consisting of Professor Berutti, *President*; Commendatore Dr. Frompeo, *Treasurer*; Professor Buniva, *Secretary*; Professor Demaria; Dr. Parola; have transmitted, through the Sardinian Ambassador, to the London Committee, the sum of £93:1:8, being the amount of subscriptions collected by them. The statue of Dr. Jenner is now finished, and we understand that the Committee will shortly put themselves into communication with the Government as to the site for its erection.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

TO CONTRIBUTORS. The Editor would feel glad if Members of the Association and others, would cooperate with him in establishing as a rule, that in future no paper for publication shall exceed two pages of the Journal in length. If the writers of long communications knew as well as the Editor does, that lengthy papers *always* deter the reader from commencing them, this great evil would never arise. Brevity is the soul of medical writing—still more than of wit.

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.

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

DISEASES OF SPECIAL OCCUPATIONS. Dr. J. C. HALL's Article on the Diseases of the Sheffield File Cutters will appear next week.

THE MEMORIAL of the Manchester Medico-Ethical Association shall be inserted next week.

Communications have been received from:—DR. COCKLE; MR. T. HOLMES; DR. GARROD; DR. J. SLOANE; DR. J. RUSSELL; MR. HENRY HANKS; MR. RICHARD GRIFFIN; DR. J. C. HALL; DR. CHARLES HARWOOD; DR. ROULSTON; MR. L. OWEN FOX; DR. SNOW; DR. EDWARD SMITH; MR. WEBBER; MR. MOULIN; VOX ET PRÆTEREA NIHIL; DELTA; MR. ODRE; MR. JOSEPH STONE; MR. J. WILSON; MR. JAMES YEARSLEY; SIR JAMES L. BARDLEY; DR. CLAY; DR. SHAPTER; B. A. J.; THE LECTURERS OF ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL; DR. HANDFIELD JONES; DR. HILLIER; THE SECRETARIES OF THE WESTERN MEDICAL AND SURGICAL SOCIETY; DR. JOHN WEBSTER; MR. H. TERRY; DR. P. H. WILLIAMS; MR. IRVING; THE CHANCELLOR, VICE-CHANCELLOR, AND FELLOWS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON; MR. JOHN ROBERTSON; and DR. THOMAS RADFORD.

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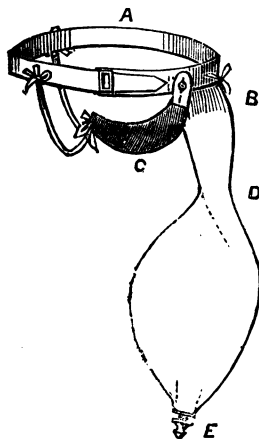
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