

hear the same representations, and they will give as united a voice as you will get from either the law or the church.

With much respect and good wishes to you and your worthy colleagues,

I am, sir, yours truly,

BENJAMIN BLOWER,

Consulting Surgeon to the Liverpool Lying-in Hospital and Dispensary for Women and Children.

August 22nd, 1860.

COMPLEMENTARY OCULAR SPECTRA.

LETTER FROM J. Z. LAURENCE, ESQ.

SIR,—Shortly after writing the notice on Complementary Spectra in the JOURNAL of the 11th instant, my attention was directed by Mr. Chatto to Darwin's *Zoonomia*, in which the passage quoted by Mr. Gorham occurs.

Mr. Gorham has so admirably conveyed my own views on the causation of this phenomenon, that I need do no more than refer your readers to his letter published in your impression of the 25th instant. I have, however, now to add that I have submitted the question to experiment. The following table exhibits the averages of a large number of observations on four different persons.

Lengths of Spectrum in Four Cases.

		Inches.
1	{ At 11 inches distance	0.625
	{ At 15 inches distance	1.25
2	{ At 15 inches distance	1.5 to 1.75
	{ At 30 inches distance	2.75 to 3
3	{ At 14 inches distance	1.5
	{ At 28 inches distance	3
4	{ At 152 inches distance	13 to 15
	{ At 29 inches distance	1.5
4	{ At 58 inches distance	3

It will be seen from the above observations (allowing for certain unavoidable errors), that the magnitude of a complementary spectrum is in a direct ratio to its distance from the eye.

I am, etc.,

J. ZACHARIAH LAURENCE.

30, Devonshire Street, August 29, 1860.

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—

FREEMAN, William H., Esq., Surgeon, Spring Gardens, on August 25.

GRIFFITH, John T., M.D., Peckham, on August 28.

MARSHALL, James, M.D., Norwood, on August 26.

TAPSON, Joseph A., Esq., Surgeon, Clapham, on August 24.

MARRIAGES.

DUNCAN, James M., A.M., M.D., of Edinburgh, to Jane Hart, youngest daughter of Jas. HOLCHKIS, Esq., Ladyfield House, Dumfriesshire, on August 21.

MOULE, the Rev. Frederick J., to Mary Alicia, third daughter of *Oswald FOSTER, Esq., of Hitchin, on August 22.

PEMBERTON, George R., M.D., Indian Army, to Winifred, youngest daughter of the late Rev. John LAFONT, rector of Hinxworth, Herts, on August 23.

DEATHS.

ACTON, Edward, Esq., Surgeon, Grundisburgh, Suffolk, aged 54, on August 25.

ELMORE, John R., M.D., at 27, Harley Street, aged 73, on August 25.

HUTCHINSON. On August 24th, at 70, Guildford Street, W.C., aged 75, Ann, widow of Scrope Hutchinson, M.D.

LEROY d'ETIOILES, M., of Paris, aged 62, lately. M. Leroy was distinguished for his contributions to the science and practice of surgery.

Row, Wm., Esq., Surgeon, of Homerton, aged 53, on Aug. 24.
SMITH, Thomas, Esq., Surgeon, Bow Lane, aged 51, on Aug. 29.
TAYLOR. On August 25th, at South Lambeth, aged 3 months, Herbert W., son of Richard Taylor, Esq., Surgeon, Whickham, Durham.

APPOINTMENTS.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL, BIRMINGHAM. The following appointments have been made and confirmed:—

ANDERSON, G. A., Esq., F.C.S., Professor of Chemistry.

*FLEMING, Alex., M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician to the Hospital.

FOSTER, W. B., L.K. and Q.P.I., Professor of Practical Anatomy, Assistant-Physician, and Medical Tutor.

*POSTGATE, John, Esq., Professor of Forensic Medicine.

*CLAY, John, Esq.

SUCKLING, Cornelius B., M.D. } District Surgeon-Accoucheurs.

*WADE, Willoughby F., B.A., M.B.T.C.D., Professor of Medicine and Physician to the Queen's Hospital.

PEPPER, William, M.D., elected Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, in place of *George B. Wood, M.D., resigned.

PASS LISTS.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON. M.B. First Examination. 1860.

First Division.

BAYLDON, John, University of Edinburgh

BELL, John William, Hull School of Medicine.

BEST, Palemon, University College

BOGG, Thomas Wemyss, University College

BROWN, A. Crum, M.A. Edin., University of Edinburgh

EDIS, Arthur Wellesley, Westminster Hospital

GALE, Henry Stanley, King's College

GRIFFITHS, Thomas, University College

HOOPER, John Harward, St. Thomas's Hospital

JONES, John Talfourd, University College

KING, Edmund Cornish, University College

LANCHESTER, Henry Thomas, St. Bartholomew's Hospital

LANGTON, John, St. Bartholomew's Hospital

LEE, Frederick Fawson, St. George's Hospital

MARCH, Henry Colley, St. Thomas's Hospital

MARSDIN, Frederic, King's College

MEGGY, Frederic, Guy's Hospital

MERCER, John Thomas, Guy's Hospital

MILLER, Richard May, B.A., University College

MORTON, Thomas, King's College

ORTON, Richard, Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland

PARSON, Edward, King's College

POWELL, William, London Hospital

ROBERTS, Frederic Thomas, University College

SMITH, Thomas Starkey, University College

TIBBITS, Edward Thomas, University College

TODD, Joseph, Queen's College, Birmingham

WATSON, Forbes, St. Thomas's Hospital

WOODHOUSE, Thomas James, St. Thomas's Hospital

Second Division.

BAKER, John Penning, University College

COOKE, John, University College

DAWSON, Richard, University College

DE NEGRI, Athenodore, University College

MAHONY, Edward, University College

POWER, Wilmot Horton Trevon, B.A., University College

LEGACIES TO HOSPITALS. The executors of the late Mr. R. Stephenson have paid to the governors of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Infirmary a legacy of £10,000, bequeathed by the deceased to that institution. Thomas Cotterill, Esq., of Birmingham, who died this week possessed of £1,100,000, has bequeathed £1000 to the General Hospital, £1000 to the Queen's Hospital, £1000 to the Dispensary, with other benefactions to local charities.

CHOLERA IN SPAIN. The *Siglo Medico* says that cholera has not quitted Spain since 1854; every year it has broken out afresh after an apparent disappearance. From June 1st to 29th of the present year, there died of this disease, in Malaga, 524 men, 649 women, and 1094 children; in all 2267, out of an estimated number of 5344 cases. It has also shown itself in the provinces of Jaen, Granada, and Almeria. Madrid appears to have remained free.

LUNACY IN SPAIN.

ALTHOUGH heretofore slow in adopting modern improvements, it is satisfactory to find that even Spain now begins to imitate more northern nations as regards the proper treatment of lunatics. In proof of this the following remarks, respecting insanity and asylums in that country, made by a physician who has lately visited the Peninsula, may be quoted from a recent number of the *New Monthly Magazine*. The writer here alluded to says:—

"Granada possesses several useful beneficent establishments which will interest strangers. Besides the large general hospital and that for foundlings, there is likewise an asylum for orphans, each of which was visited by the writer. Being a physician, they all had considerable value in his estimation, particularly the medical school attached to the first named institution. To these, however, he would add another, which not only to himself was most interesting, but to non-professional observers would likewise be esteemed worthy of more than a casual notice—namely, the Lunatic Asylum, founded by Queen Isabella after the Moslem expulsion. This 'Hospital de los Locos' is the most ancient receptacle for insane patients now existing throughout Europe, being instituted prior to Bethlehem Hospital, in London, which ranks the second oldest public asylum for the same class of sufferers. Considering the period when constructed, it is highly creditable to the royal foundress, and when first opened must have been greatly in advance of the spirit of the age, as also popular notions regarding the insane or their proper management. When visited by the writer, he found one hundred and fifty-two male, and sixty female lunatics; thus showing that insanity, here as elsewhere in Spain, prevails oftener among the former than the latter sex. The interior was clean; and the arrangements were better than could be expected. A judicious separation of patients did not always prevail, while occupying and amusing them was of secondary moment; many being allowed to associate together, without making much attempt to alleviate their afflicting malady. Several were in strait-waistcoats; the most dangerous being, however, kept separate from those more quietly disposed. As usual, female patients appeared much more noisy and talkative than male inmates.

"Contrasted with analogous institutions in France or England, the Granada hospital is far inferior. Nevertheless, remembering how isolated this country has been lately from the rest of Europe, and the severe trials, political as otherwise, she has passed through, foreign critics must not be too severe if Spain has lately lagged behind more northern nations in treating lunacy; and still less forget she set them a good example more than four centuries ago, which they showed for a long period of time little inclination to imitate. Indeed, it may be mentioned to her credit, while other Europeans did little or nothing towards the humane treatment of lunatics, an asylum for their protection was opened at Valencia in 1409, through the efforts of Friar Joffre, another at Saragossa in 1425, one at Valladolid in 1436, a fourth the same year at Sevilla, and a fifth at Toledo in 1483; thus showing they were then far in advance of adjacent kingdoms. Until very recently, little progress has been made, but in this, as in other respects, Spaniards are becoming awake; and it is now proposed to erect six large establishments for the insane, according to modern principles. These will prove a great boon to suffering humanity, seeing the ratio throughout Spain is about one lunatic to every 1667 inhabitants; while it is an established fact that, men much oftener lose their senses than women, seeing it has been found among 6851 demented patients, 4060, or nearly sixty per cent., were of the former sex, and therefore different from England, where females are oftener victims."

EXCESSIVE HEAT AT MALTA. Our Malta correspondent, under date of the 21st of August, reports the thermometer as having, for a week previous, ranged at from 88 to 96 degrees, with light winds and calms. In fact, so hot a season had not been experienced since 1847. There had been several fatal cases of fever among the natives, but upon the whole the garrison was healthy. A very prudent sanitary precaution had been adopted on board the ships of war in port, under the considerate command of Rear Admiral Codrington, C.B., the senior naval officer in port, with the best results. The usual routine of exercising guns, sails, and such like, is judiciously deferred to the cool of the evening, when the heat of the day is deprived of its extreme intensity. (*Standard*.)

HEALTH OF LONDON—AUGUST 25TH, 1860.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

	Births.	Deaths.
During week	{ Boys.. 827 }	{ 1607 .. 937 }
Average of corresponding weeks 1850-9	{ Girls.. 780 }	{ 1563 .. 1175 }

Among the causes of death were—bronchitis, 46; pneumonia, 41; phthisis, 118; small-pox, 4; scarlatina, 33; measles, 40; diphtheria, 8; whooping-cough, 22. The deaths from pulmonary diseases (exclusive of phthisis) were 104, being 20 above the corrected average.

Barometer:
Highest (Tu.) 29.791; lowest (Wed.) 29.333; mean 29.636.

Thermometer:
In sun—highest (Tu. & Th.) 115.0 degs.; lowest (Wed.) 82.0 degs.
In shade—highest (Tu.) 70.1 degrees; lowest (Th.) 47.4 degrees.
Mean—57.5 degrees; difference from mean of 43 yrs.—3.0 degrees.
Range—during week, 22.7 degrees; mean daily, 12.9 degrees.
Mean humidity of air (saturation = 100), 91.
Mean direction of wind, W.—Rain in inches, 1.30.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE MEDICAL DIACONATE. We beg to assure Dr. Swayne that we have no desire to act otherwise than with fairness and impartiality; but we must adhere to our determination expressed last week, not to make this JOURNAL the medium of a controversy—perhaps an angry one—between parties in religion. That the objectionable phrase in Dr. Watson's letter was inserted, arose entirely from an oversight on our part; but we cannot see that this act of oversight obliges us to open our pages to a series of replies and rejoinders. We trust that Dr. Swayne will at once see the reason for the course we have taken, and accept, for himself, our assurances of respect.

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.

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:—DR. D. NELSON; MR. T. L. PRIDHAM; DR. C. BARHAM; MR. WM. MARTIN; MR. SQUARE; DR. SWAYNE; DR. PURSELL; DR. R. T. WOODHOUSE; MR. R. FAIRCLOTH; MR. W. SANDS COX; DR. J. Z. LAURENCE; and MR. P. C. PRICE.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

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

1. Clinical Researches on Disease in India. By Charles Morehead, M.D. Second Edition. London: Longman & Co. 1860.

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