

cular branch of the profession in which his younger brother was destined to become so distinguished.

Having finished his preliminary studies, Charles Clarke was admitted a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, and spent the first two years of his professional life as assistant-surgeon in the Hertfordshire Militia, which he subsequently exchanged for the post of surgeon in the 3rd Regiment of Foot Guards. Of this part of his early career he always felt proud, and frequently in his later years it was his lot to return thanks on public occasions at once for the military and the medical profession. Subsequently, however, he was induced by his elder brother to give up the army, and to devote his whole attention to the diseases of women and children, and more particularly to the practice of midwifery. He associated with his brother as a lecturer on these subjects as early as 1804, and continued to deliver his regular courses of lectures down to the year 1821, during which time he could reckon almost all the eminent accoucheurs among his hearers and pupils. For many years he held the appointment of surgeon to Queen Charlotte's Lying-in Hospital, which he resigned about the same time that he ceased to lecture, though the interests and welfare of that institution continued to the last to be objects of his attention and regard. In 1825 he was chosen a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Hitherto Mr. Clarke had practised only as an accoucheur, in which capacity his rise to fame and celebrity had been speedy, if not sudden, though not more so than he well deserved; for no man ever threw himself more zealously into his professional duties, or showed more tenderness and sympathy in all his dealings with his patients, or more kindness and courtesy to his professional rivals. He always had a kind word for every one around him; and even when in the height of his London practice, and when carriages thronged his doors in Savile Row, he would go on any distant visit to the wife or daughter of a medical gentleman, regardless of the consequences to himself. By these means, aided by his great sagacity and knowledge of the world and mankind, he attained so solid and substantial a position that he was able to retire from the constant cares of his London practice at an age when most men are still climbing up the hill, and to purchase the estate of Dunham Lodge, in Norfolk, when he had scarcely passed his fortieth year.

Having obtained the degree of M.D. from Lambeth, in 1827 Dr. Clarke became a Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians; and, on the accession of King William IV to the throne, he was honoured by the appointment of physician to Queen Adelaide. On September 30th, 1831, he was created a Baronet, and in the year 1836 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians. In 1842 he had conferred upon him the honorary degree of M.A. by the University of Cambridge, and was created a D.C.L. of Oxford in 1845.

Incessantly engaged in the performance of the active duties of a most laborious department of his profession, Sir Charles Clarke had not the leisure for many literary productions, but it is observed by no less an authority than Dr. Pettigrew that the excellence of that which he published serves only to awaken regret that he should not have written more. His chief work, and that by which his name will be longest remembered among medical circles, is his *Observations on the Diseases of Women and Children*, which he published in two parts, in 1814 and 1821 respectively, and forms an essential part of every medical library. He was President of the Society for the Relief of the Widows and Orphans of Medical Men, in which he took the deepest interest to the last. He was the personal friend of nearly all the medical celebrities of the present century, and was beloved by all who knew him, whether in or out of his profession. Of late years he had resided almost entirely at Brighton.

Sir Charles Clarke married in 1806 Mary Anna, daughter of the late Wright Thomas Squire, Esq., of Peterborough, who

died in 1856, by whom he had a family of five daughters and also two sons, the elder of whom has now succeeded to the title as second baronet. He is in holy orders, and was appointed to the rectory of Hanwell, Middlesex, in 1847.

## Association Intelligence.

### LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

Letters or communications for the JOURNAL should 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.                        |
|--|----------------------|------------------------------|
| BATH AND BRISTOL.<br>[Ordinary Meeting.] | York House,<br>Bath. | Thurs., Sept.<br>24, 6½ P.M. |

### 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 for 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, September 1857.

**A BAD TENANT EJECTED.** In the engagement which took place between the French and the Arabs at the Col de la Monzala, in Algeria, seventeen years ago, Commandant Uhrich, of the 8th battalion of Foot Chasseurs, was struck by a ball in the eye, which penetrated the head, and remained there in spite of all efforts to extract it. Since then, M. Uhrich, who has risen to the grade of colonel, has suffered greatly from the presence of the ball, particularly when obliged to ride on horseback. A few months back, the inconvenience having greatly increased, he was sent by his medical advisers to Allvard, a watering-place in the Isere. About ten days ago, he had a slight attack of apoplexy, which shook him greatly, and a few nights afterwards, he was awakened from his sleep by a sense of suffocation. Jumping up, he found that the ball had by degrees worked its way down, and had at last fallen from the upper part of the mouth into his throat. By violent efforts he succeeded in dislodging it, and he is now doing well. The ball, though diminished by corrosion, was found to weigh 25 grammes (about four-fifths of an ounce).—*Galignani.*

which a condition approaching to asphyxia has produced." Now, I would ask, is blood, as a rule, *almost stagnant* in convulsions? because, if so, how can opening a vein prove beneficial? This mechanical influence, by the way, seems rather a favourite theory; thus we read of "the circulatory system being deficient in *mechanical* power over the central and spinal system."

After all, this is an interesting and instructive paper; and, for my own part, I am thankful to Mr. Daniell for the reflections to which his communication has given rise. With every apology for the length of my letter,

I am, etc.,

J. HAWKES.

The County Asylum, Devizes, September 1st, 1857.

## TOPICAL TREATMENT OF NEURALGIA.

LETTER FROM F. G. PROBART, M.D. EDIN.

SIR,—I have read with much interest the paper by Dr. Geo. Lindsay Bonnar in your number of August 29th, and venture to suggest to him, that as the success of Dr. Alex. Wood's method of treating neuralgia must depend mainly on the *manner* of applying the opiate to the affected nerve; and that as it is not in the power of many provincial practitioners to refer, as Dr. Bonnar directs, to the *Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal*, it might render great service to the profession if he were kindly to detail, through the pages of our own JOURNAL, the exact means pursued by Dr. Wood and himself, in the cure of the painful affections referred to.

I may take this opportunity of stating that I have frequent occasion to treat sciatica and the other neuralgic diseases, and that I rarely find them resist *heroic* doses of quinine; but that when they do so, not doubting that their persistence depends on some local atmospheric *taedentia*, I insist, where it is practicable, on change of air, and seldom without the sought-for result.

I am, etc.,

F. G. PROBART.

Bury St. Edmund's, August 31st, 1857.

[Abstracts of the communications on the topical treatment of neuralgia made by Dr. Alexander Wood to the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh and to the *Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal*, appeared in the ASSOCIATION MEDICAL JOURNAL for 1855; January 19th, p. 60; February 23rd, p. 165; and June 1st, p. 513.]

## BICHLORIDE OF MERCURY IN PHRENTIS AND MENINGITIS IN CHILDREN.

LETTER FROM THOMAS HAYES JACKSON, M.D.

SIR,—I have lately attended an unprecedented number of cases of phrenitis and meningitis, occurring in children under five years of age. The treatment consisted in free leeching; purgatives of jalapine and calomel; salines, in combination with large doses of tincture of digitalis and squills; acetate of potass and ipecacuan; calomel and antimony, in small and frequently repeated doses; cold applications to the head; quietude and exclusion of light; sinapisms to the legs and feet; enveloping the body in a blanket wrung out of hot mustard and water; blisters and croton oil behind the ears and nape of the neck; and prussic acid to allay vomiting.

The cases were of that severe type that this treatment was ineffectual, or but of little service; death occurring in more than one instance. I then altered my tactics, suspended the calomel and antimony, and, as a *dernier ressort*, combined with the diuretic treatment, bichloride of mercury, in doses, according to age, of one-sixteenth or one thirty-second part of a grain, every three hours. The following is the formula which I employ:—

℞ Hydrargyri bichloridi gra. xvj;  
Spiritus vini rectificati ꝑi. M.

Two drops contain one-sixteenth of a grain; one drop contains the thirty-second part of a grain.

The effect of this treatment was most marvellous; in a few days the gums became affected—mercurialised; convulsions ceased, intellect returned, the effused fluid became absorbed, and many of my little patients made a rapid recovery. It is most gratifying, when grim death has advanced a mile, to see him retreat a league.

After long antiphlogistic treatment, some exhibited symptoms of cachexia, which were relieved by small doses of tincture of sesquichloride of iron, or ammonio-citrate of iron, in combination with syrup of tolu as a placebo. In my last cases, I

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have administered an emetic of the wine of antimony or ipecacuanha, exciting free vomiting. Many associates may think emetics in head affections dubious treatment. All I can add in justification is, that all those cases in which the emetic had been administered at the commencement of the disease have been much more amenable to after treatment.

I have always found the administration of diuretics beneficial in head affections. There is, in such cases, a marked diminution in the quantity of urine excreted; and the kidneys being among the great emunctories, when they are stimulated to increased action, so as to produce free diuresis, and thus unload the cerebral vessels, mitigation of pain, etc., follow as "cause and effect".

I am, etc.,

THOMAS HAYES JACKSON.

Darlington, August 26th, 1857.

P.S. My associates need not be informed that caution and close attention to the gums are necessary during the administration of the bichloride of mercury.

T. H. J.

## SELF-SUPPORTING DISPENSARIES.

LETTER FROM JAMES COOPER, ESQ.

SIR,—Will you permit me, through the medium of the JOURNAL, to request that some of our associates will do me the favour to furnish me with the rules and laws laid down for the establishment and government of dispensaries in small towns or country districts, either on the self-supporting plan exclusively, or this principle combined with aid from honorary subscribers?

I shall be glad also to learn from those, whose connexion with these institutions enables them to form an opinion, their judgment of the results, beneficial or otherwise, of this mode of providing medical relief to the humbler classes.

I am, etc.,

JAMES COOPER.

Cromer, Sept. 7th, 1857.

## THE JENNER MONUMENT.

LETTER FROM DANIEL CROOME, ESQ.

SIR,—I was glad to observe in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of August 29th, that a statue of the late Dr. Edward Jenner is about to be erected. He has been dead now upwards of thirty-four years, and it is a disgrace and shame upon this kingdom that no public memento has been raised to him, nothing more than a little plain marble slab in the chancel of Berkeley church, and some sort of erection in Gloucester cathedral, mean and worthless to the memory of such a man. Statues are continually being made and set up to perpetuate the memories of very insignificant men (destroyers of life, etc.) compared with the illustrious Jenner, the greatest benefactor and protector of mankind that ever lived, or probably will in any nation. The site in Trafalgar Square may be very good for one, but why not place a handsome statue for him in the paddock opposite his residence where he died at Berkeley? This should be set on foot. It is most extraordinary and unaccountable that this matter should have lain dormant so very many years. Such a man never can or will be forgotten, yet more should be done by a grateful people towards his memory.

I am, etc.,

DANIEL CROOME.

Tintern Abbey, near Chepstow, Monmouthshire, 4th Sept., 1857.

## Medical News.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, AND APPOINTMENTS.

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

## BIRTHS.

KESTEVEN. On September 4th, at Upper Holloway, the wife of \*W. B. Kesteven, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

MANN. On August 19th, at Great Bridgewater Street, Manchester, the wife of \*Robert M. Mann, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

## MARRIAGES.

BAKER—PARSEY. BAKER, Thomas, Esq., Surgeon, of Upper Holloway, to Elizabeth, daughter of J. L. Parsey, Esq., of Claverton Street, at St. Gabriel's, Belgravia, on Sept. 8th.

**EVANS—MACINTYRE.** EVANS, John, Esq., tea-broker, London, to Margaret Stewart, eldest daughter of \*P. Macintyre, M.D., of Liverpool, on August 15th.

**HILLIER—DELF.** \*HILLIER, Thomas, M.D., of Upper Gower Street, to Susan, second daughter of William Delf, Esq., of Annerley Villas, at Upper Norwood, on September 4th.

**RICE—RICE.** RICE, Bernard, M.B., of Stratford-upon-Avon, to Emily, second daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Rice, of Christ's Hospital, at St. Barnabas, Kensington, on September 8th.

**SPARKE—BARKER.** SPARKE, Morton, Esq., of Liverpool, third son of J. G. Sparke, M.D., of Finsbury, to Lydia, second daughter of William Barker, Esq., of Huyton, Lancashire, on September 5th.

**VINEN—STEEDE.** VINEN, J. Northcote, M.D., of Southwark, to Caroline, eldest daughter of Joseph Steede, Esq., of the same place, on September 8th.

**WHITFIELD—BISHOP.** WHITFIELD, George Corpe, Esq., to Laura Caroline, youngest daughter of J. G. Bishop, M.D., of Monksherborne, Hants, on September 1st.

## DEATHS.

**ASHWELL.** On September 3rd, at Brighton, after a short illness, Eliza, wife of Samuel Ashwell, M.D., of Brook Street, Grosvenor Square.

**BARWELL.** On May 29th, aged 21, massacred in the fort at Hissar, with her husband, Margaret Anna, wife of Lieutenant Edward William Barwell, and daughter of Andrew Ross, M.D., Bengal Medical Establishment.

**BLOXAM.** On September 21st, at Ventnor, James Mackenzie Bloxam, Esq., son of Robert Bloxam, Esq., Surgeon, of Newport, Isle of Wight.

**BOWLING, Henry Hawkins, Esq., Surgeon 28th Regiment Bengal Native Infantry, son of the late \*John Bowling, Esq., of Hammersmith, murdered at Shahjehampore, by the mutineers of his corps, on May 31st: also, on or about June 9th, Jane, wife of H. H. Bowling, Esq., shot by some sepoy of the 41st N.I., near the fort of Mahomdee, after escaping from the massacre at Shahjehampore.**

**BRICKENDEN, Thomas, M.D., formerly of St. John's, Southwark, at Shepton Mallet, aged 86, on Sept. 4th.**

**CLARKE, Sir Charles Mansfield, M.D., at Brighton, aged 75, on September 7th.**

**FLETCHER.** On September 1st, at Upton-on-Severn, Carteret Halford Humphrey, infant son of John Welles Fletcher, Esq., Surgeon.

**MANTELL.** On or about June 21st, at Allahabad, aged 29, of cholera, Reginald Neville Mantell, Esq., civil engineer, second surviving son of the late G. A. Mantell, M.D.

HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING  
SEPTEMBER 5TH, 1857.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

The deaths registered in London, which rose in the previous week to 1177, declined in the week that ended on Saturday (September 5th) to 1084, of which 537 are deaths of males, and 547 those of females. In the ten years 1847-56, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week, was 1464; but as the deaths of last week occurred in an increased population, the average, with a view to comparison, should be raised in proportion to the increase, whereby it will become 1610. It will be seen, however, on reference to the returns of 1849 and 1854, that in the corresponding week of the former year, cholera carried off 2026 persons, and in that of the latter 2050, and that the average is, consequently, too high as a standard of comparison for seasons when only ordinary causes are in operation. After due allowance is made for this circumstance, the result is still very favourable as regards the public health at the present time.

Diarrhœa continues to decline, though by slow degrees; but it is more fatal than is usual at the beginning of September. The deaths from this complaint attained their maximum in the last week of July, when they were 302, after the mean weekly temperature had been for a fortnight 68°. In each successive week there was a decrease; and last week, when the mean temperature was 60.4°, the number of deaths returned from diarrhœa was 181. Besides these, 11 deaths are referred to dysentery in the table for last week; and only four to cholera; all the cases, in which the latter disease was fatal, having occurred amongst infants. As diarrhœa declines, typhus shows a tendency to increase; for though the deaths from it

(52) were less than in the previous week, they were more numerous than in the earlier part of the summer. Two deaths from small-pox, and one from chicken-pox, are returned. The deaths of two persons are ascribed to intemperance, and no less than eight to delirium tremens. Eleven infants died from want of breast-milk. Only one person of the 1084 who died in the week had attained the age of 90 years, and she was a widow of 92.

Last week the births of 790 boys and 784 girls, in all 1574 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847-56, the average number was 1483.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.620 in. The highest reading was 29.96 in., at the beginning of the week. The mean temperature of the week was 60.4°; which is 6.5° below that of the previous week, and is higher by 1.8° than the average of the same week in 43 years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). The mean daily temperature was from 6° to 9° above the average on the first three days; it was afterwards below the average till Saturday. The thermometer in the shade reached its highest point on Monday, when it was 86.5°. The lowest temperature occurred on Thursday, and was 46.9°. The range of the instrument in the week was 39.6°. The mean dew-point temperature was 54.2°; and the difference between this and the mean temperature of the air was 6.2°. At the beginning of the week the wind was in the east; on the last five days its general direction was south-west. Rain fell to the amount of 0.84 in., more or less of which fell on every day, except Sunday and Saturday. There was thunder on Tuesday and Friday.

## SANITARY STATE OF LONDON.

DR. LETHBY, the Medical Officer of Health, read the following report to the City Commission of Sewers on Tuesday last:—

*"To the Honourable the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London."*

"GENTLEMEN,—The inspectors' returns, which are before you, relate to 551 houses that have been inspected during the last six weeks; and I beg to submit a list of 81 places that require your orders for their sanitary improvement in various particulars.

"The mortality tables for the same period indicate an average condition of the public health, and show that it has not been disturbed by any unusual epidemic. The total number of deaths in the city of London during the last six weeks has been 322, of which 154 were among children of less than five years of age, and 52 among old persons of 60 and upwards. The principal causes of death were the usual summer complaints. Diarrhœa has been fatal in 50 cases, of which 45 were among the infant population. The mortality from this disease rose very rapidly up to the last week of July, when it reached one-fourth of the total death rate. Since that time, it has gradually declined, and the influence of the heavy thunderstorms in checking the progress of the disease has been very remarkable. Among the other causes of death, there were 30 from hydrocephalus and the convulsions of infancy; 29 from mesenteric disease; 26 from phthisis; 13 from hooping-cough; 12 from pneumonia; 13 from typhus; 9 from measles; 6 from bronchitis; 4 from scarlet fever; 3 from small-pox; and 1 from cholera. These numbers are not in excess of those which were registered during the corresponding period of last year, and they are much below the comparative death rates for all London. Taking the whole of the metropolis, the deaths from cholera during the last five weeks have been as one to 58 of the total mortality, whereas in the city they have been but as one to 322; and again, while the deaths from diarrhœa and dysentery have been throughout London as one to 4.73, in the city they have been but as one to 6.3. It must not be supposed, however, that all parts of the city have been relieved to a like extent from the pressure of disease. In the eastern division of it the proportion of deaths from diarrhœa has been as one to 3.9 of the total deaths; whereas in the western districts it has been but as one to 6; and in the central division it has been only as one to 9.7.

"These facts are confirmed by the reports of the medical officers to the city unions, from which I find that 550 cases of diarrhœa, 98 of fever, and 21 of cholera, have occurred among the city poor during the last six weeks. Much of this sickness has been occasioned by the unusual heat of the season, the mean temperature of which has not only been at all times above the average, but it has frequently ranged in the course

of twenty-four hours from upwards of 100° Fahrenheit in the sun to less than 60 degrees at night, and even in the shade the range has sometimes been as much as 30 degrees.

"Since the last meeting of the Commission, a complaint has been made to me by some of the inhabitants of Whitefriars, of a very serious annoyance from the offensive effluvia emitted at certain times from the osier tanks belonging to Mr. Walden, who is a rod merchant and basket maker at No. 1, Grand Junction Street, Whitefriars. I have visited the premises, and find that there is ground for complaint. Mr. Walden has five large tanks, in which he steeps the willow rods until certain parts of the bark become putrid. This occasions a very offensive smell, especially when the foul water is disturbed. I beg, therefore, to recommend that orders be given for the covering in of all the tanks with close fitting covers, and that the foul water be run off from the tanks into the sewer, and the rods flushed with fresh water before they are disturbed.

"This will have the effect of carrying away the putrid matter, and will not in any degree affect the trade operations.

"I have the honour to remain your obedient servant,

"HY. LETHEBY, M.B.

"Guildhall, September 8th."

**DISEASE AND DEFORMITY IN AMERICAN SCHOOLS.** In Miss Beecher's *Letters to the People on Health and Happiness*, it is claimed that the health of the American people is perishing at a fearful ratio, and that, while other nations, both in school and at home, train their children to be strong and healthy, we are training ours to be puny, sickly, and deformed. In proof of this, facts are exhibited showing, that of the American women, born in this century and country, probably not two in ten have the vigour and health of their maternal ancestors, while probably more than one-half of them are either invalids or very delicate. The object of this article is to direct public attention to the prospects of the coming generation, as indicated by the health of the children of our city schools. From the recent investigations there is reason to believe that more than one-half of the children of our public schools who were born in this country, and who are twelve years old and upwards, are either diseased or deformed. Will the public look at this? Bad air from stoves, rooms without ventilation, close sleeping-rooms, crowded school-rooms, improper food, poisonous medicines, want of proper exercise, and over-excitement of the brain by study, have all combined to produce a debility of the whole body, especially of the muscles. The result is often shown in a pale and sallow complexion, though this sometimes attends tolerable health. But the following are more sure indices of the debility and disease thus induced: the first is a sinking of all the intestines from want of this support of the muscles of the abdomen, which have become weak and flabby. It is the tight packing of the intestines by these and other muscles that sustain the spine and keep all the interior organs in place. These muscles becoming weak, the whole organism sinks downward, sometimes displacing the most important and delicate organs. One symptom of this condition is a flat chest; another is a flatness or caving-in near the pit of the stomach, with a consequent projecting at the lower part of the abdomen, instead of the curve outward from the breastbone to the lowest point of the body, which is seen in a perfectly formed young child. Still another symptom is such a weakness of the back and stomach as makes the child sit crooked. This is because the natural aid of tight packing and the strength of the supporting muscles are gone. Another index of disease and decay in schools, is curvature of the spine. When the spine is curved forward it is shown by a projecting neck, or by a crooked back, that no effort can straighten. If the curve is sidewise (lateral), it is shown by one shoulder or one hip being higher than the other, or by one shoulder blade being more prominent than the other. These deformities indicate the decay and debility which, sooner or later, bring on disease of various kinds. Teachers in our city schools say these marks of weakness and deformity are constantly increasing, and that the longer the pupils go to school, the more these indications increase; that is to say, they are found more in the upper departments than in the primary. Parents and guardians of our city schools, will you not look into this matter? (*New York Tribune*.)

**DISEASE ON THE CONTINENT.** The *Times* correspondent, writing from Berlin, on September 7, says: "The affection of the eyes which has lately exhibited itself in so virulent a form among the Prussian troops in garrison here is stated, by medical men, to be the Egyptian ophthalmia; it manifests itself in a number of small white vesicles beneath the lower eyelid,

which, if not promptly removed by a solution of lunar caustic, increase very rapidly, and soon extend in the form of a white crust or scab over the whole eye and dry up its fluids. Although some entire regiments have hitherto escaped this infection, others have had such considerable numbers of their men rendered unfit for duty, that the men of the reserve have been obliged to be called out in order to keep up the regiments to even their peace complement. The exertions of the regimental surgeons have, for the present, succeeded in mastering the epidemic; and, if no new outbreak occurs, it may be looked on already as in a fair way of disappearance. The same seems to be the case with the sickness which has affected the horses of the cavalry in Potsdam. Very shortly after they were distributed throughout the surrounding villages, it became apparent that they were recovering so rapidly that they would soon be able to be brought back to their own stables and do duty. What the nature of this affection of the horses has been I have not been able to learn.

In Denmark also the same causes, viz., lengthened drought and excessive heat, bringing in their train vitiated air and want of water, have produced the same results, and the King has found it necessary to postpone the usual military exercises of his troops *sine die*, and to send back to their homes all the men of the reserve, etc., who had been called out for the purpose of these autumn manoeuvres. The cholera is also showing itself in considerable force in Holstein and Sweden, as it has also done, nearly all this year, in St. Petersburg; this, together with the very unsatisfactory sanitary state of Copenhagen, which is becoming rapidly worse, gives rise to very anxious apprehensions. The Danish public is even dissatisfied with the above mentioned wise measure of preventing the aggregation of troops in confined districts, by dispersing those already in barracks, on the ground that in this way the *virus* of disease will be most rapidly spread from its *foci* to the utmost limits of the kingdom.

**THE MULBERRY-TREE AND THE SILKWORM.** From an interesting paper recently communicated to the Academy of Sciences by M. E. Guérin Méneville, it appears that the existence of an epidemic disease of the mulberry-tree, which had been denied, is now fully ascertained. M. Méneville states, from personal observation, that the disease exists in Switzerland, and in all the departments of France through which he has passed on his way from the Basses Alpes to Spain. It produces numerous red spots on the leaves, which soon shrivel up and fall off early in June. This disease is not new, and single cases of it have been frequently observed; but this is the first time it has made its appearance under an epidemic form. It is most virulent in those districts where the silkworm has suffered most, and there is every reason to believe that it is one of the principal causes of the disease of that insect. The latter is now called the *gattine* in France, but it had been remarked before in solitary cases; the silkworms attacked with consumption have long been called *luzettes* in France, because they have a shining appearance and do not grow. In the south of France they called *arpians* and *passis*. (*Dublin Hospital Gazette*.)

**THE AMERICAN QUARANTINE CONVENTION.** The following resolutions have been adopted: 1. That there are certain diseases which may be introduced into a community by foul vessels and cargoes, and diseased crews and passengers. 2. That of these diseases the most injurious are small-pox, and, under certain circumstances, typhus fever, cholera, and yellow fever. 3. That when the latter diseases are introduced in this manner, their action is limited to individuals coming within their immediate influence, and they cannot become epidemic unless there exist in the community circumstances which are calculated to produce such disease, independent of the importation. 4. That these circumstances consist in the vitiated state of the atmosphere from local causes, in connexion with peculiar meteorological conditions. 5. That efficient sanitary measures, including quarantine, will, in most cases, prevent the introduction of these diseases, and may, at any rate, disarm them of their virulence, and prevent their extension when introduced. 6. That the present quarantine regulations in most of our States are insufficient to prevent the introduction of disease, and are prejudicial to the interests of the community. Disease may be introduced, (1.) By a foul vessel, especially when measures are not taken to keep the hold free from stagnant and putrid bilge water, and more particularly when there exist in the hold droppings and drainings from putrefiable matters, which are allowed to penetrate and remain underneath the timbers of the ship. (2.) By cargoes consisting in whole or in part of rags, cotton, or other light porous sub-

stances, shipped from ports at which any malignant epidemic or disease of a contagious and infectious nature prevailed at the time when the vessel was loaded. (3.) By the filthy bedding, baggage, and clothing of emigrant passengers, particularly when they are crowded together in insufficient quarters, although the passengers themselves may be free from any actual disease. (4.) By the air that has been confined during the voyage in closely sealed and ill ventilated holds. (5.) By squalid and diseased passengers, landed and crowded together in unhealthy neighbourhoods, or in small ill ventilated dwellings. (6.) By passengers and crews who are actually labouring under, or infected with, any positively contagious disease; and by their bedding, clothing, or baggage. The above resolutions were adopted by a vote eighteen in favour, two against, and one tie-vote. (*Dublin Hospital Gazette.*)

**SPIRITUALISM IN BOSTON.** Professors Agassiz, Pierce, and Horsford of Harvard College, and Dr. Gould, the committee selected to pass upon the controversy between the *Boston Courier* and Dr. H. F. Gardner, respecting the alleged phenomenon of spiritualism, after a week's investigation, made the following report:—"The committee award that Dr. Gardner having failed to produce before them an agent or medium who 'communicated a word imparted to the spirits in an adjoining room,' 'who read a word in English written inside a book, or folded sheet of paper, who answered any question 'which the superior intelligence must be able to answer,' who 'tilted a piano without touching it, or caused a chair to move a foot;' and having failed to exhibit to the committee any phenomenon, which, under the widest latitude of interpretation, could be regarded as equivalent to either of these proposed tests; or any phenomenon which required for its production, or in any manner indicated a force which could technically be denominated spiritual, or which was hitherto unknown to science, or a phenomenon of which the cause was not palpable to the committee is, therefore, not entitled to claim from the *Boston Courier* the proposed premium of five hundred dollars. It is the opinion of the committee, derived from observation, that any connexion with Spiritualistic Circles, so called, corrupts the morals and degrades the intellect. They, therefore, deem it their solemn duty to warn the community against this contaminating influence, which surely tends to lessen the truth of man and the purity of woman. The committee will publish a report of their proceedings, together with the results of additional investigations, and other evidence independent of the special case submitted to them, but bearing upon the subject of this stupendous delusion."

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**

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Any amount of manuscript or printed matter, singly or together, provided it contains nothing in the form of a 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.

**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.

**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. HENRY THOMPSON; MR. T. HOLMES; DR. S. W. J. MERRIMAN; MR. J. V. SOLOMON; DR. T. INMAN; MR. J. WINDSOR; DR. T. HAYES JACKSON; MR. F. MELLAND; DR. P. MACINTYRE; MR. JAMES COOPER; DR. GREENHOW; MR. ROBERT MANNERS MANN; MR. DANIEL CROOME; THE SECRETARY OF THE BRISTOL HUMANE SOCIETY; MR. J. HAWKES; DR. PROBART; MR. FREDERICK ROBERTSON; MR. G. W. MOULD; MR. W. PRUEN; and MR. BARTRUM.

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