

fession have similar intellectual recreation? The state in which matters stand with this project at present is, that a preliminary meeting of gentlemen from the various hospitals interested in this question has been held, and certain resolutions passed, embodying in general terms the opinion of their authors of the advantages which would attend the founding of such a society. They now appeal for aid in the execution of their project, primarily to the medical press and their seniors in the profession, and next to the zeal and intelligence of their coequals. Mr. Ernest Hart, Demonstrator of Anatomy at St. George's Hospital, has been named Provisional Secretary; and any of our associates who wish to promote the success of this scheme would, we are sure, be doing good service to medical education in its widest sense by putting themselves in communication with him.

We have more than once drawn attention to the fact that clergymen have of late evinced a strong tendency to recover their ancient office of physician as well as priest. The number of advertisements which appear in the *Times*, from clergymen, proposing to take charge of "nervous invalids" (otherwise, of the insane), are indicative enough of the pretensions of the cloth; but these advertisements only evidence a portion of the encroachment. A friend, who had occasion to advertise in the *Times* for some gentleman qualified to take charge of a mentally afflicted invalid, informs us that fully one-third of the answers received were from clergymen, and that these gentlemen arrogated to themselves mental control and influence in an extraordinary degree. In fact, we feel convinced that a very large class of the clergy believe that insanity is to be treated by spiritual influence only. The amount of damage which may be inflicted by this mischievous notion is incalculable; and we feel called upon to protest in the strongest manner against this poaching of unlicensed and unqualified persons upon the legitimate province of the physician. The insane, at the present moment, are not sufficiently protected by the law. There are thousands of mentally afflicted persons in this country, at the present moment, hidden away in the houses of clergymen and females, and totally deprived of any kind of medical treatment, or, if treatment they have, it is of the spiritual kind which these pseudo-priest-physicians indulge in, the irritating and irrational nature of which, under the circumstances, will be thoroughly understood by those of our associates who have made psychological medicine their study.

In our weekly list of deaths it has been our mournful duty to record, during the progress of the Indian mutiny, the massacre of several regimental surgeons and assistant surgeons. The dismal list of our brethren who have been brutally murdered by the very men whom they were devoting their lives to assist in the hour of their greatest necessity, is daily augmenting in length. From a list, published lately in the *Times*, of those known to have perished up to the last receipt of news, we take the names of the following victims, some of whom were doubtless known to many of our associates. Dr. Carl Buch (Bareilly), Dr. John Macdowall Hay, Dr. and Mrs. E. M. James (Angur), Dr. John Kirk (Assistant-Surgeon), Dr. Robert Lyell (Patna), Mr. James Graham (Superintending-Surgeon), Mr. Henry Hawkins Bowling (Surgeon), Mr. John Pierce Bowling (Assistant-Surgeon), Mr. Kinloch W. Kirk (Surgeon),

Mr. Moore (Surgeon 60th Rifles), Mr. Anthony Dopping (Assistant-Surgeon), Mr. Joseph Fayrer (Assistant-Surgeon), Mr. John Colin Graham (Assistant-Surgeon), Mr. George Hansbrow (Assistant-Surgeon). We are afraid this is far from a complete list of the unfortunate victims. Peace be to their ashes, and may their manes be avenged! We trust that the names of our brethren who fell whilst doing their duty will not be allowed to pass into oblivion, but that they will be handed down on some memorial brass to show to future Englishmen how deeply our profession has suffered in the great Indian mutiny. Among the names given above, our readers will recognise those of the two sons of a highly respected member of our Association—the late Mr. John Bowling, of Hammersmith.

Association Intelligence.

LIST OF MEMBERS: NOTICE.

IN accordance with Law 24, a list of members of the BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION will shortly be published. Gentlemen whose designations or addresses are incorrectly given in the last list, or on the wrappers of their Journals, will oblige by at once forwarding the necessary corrections to the Editor of the JOURNAL, 37, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.

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.

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.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
SOUTH MIDLAND. [General Meeting.]	Harpur Charity Room, Bedford.	Tues., Sept. 29, 2 P.M.
BIRMINGHAM AND MID- LAND COUNTIES. [Ordinary Meeting.]		Thursday, Oct. 8th.

SOUTH WESTERN BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting of the South Western Branch was held at the Athenæum, Plymouth, on Wednesday, July 22nd, JOSEPH C. COOKWORTHY, M.D., President in the Chair.

The retiring President, Dr. PATERSON (Tiverton) took the chair for the purpose of resigning it to Dr. Cookworthy, who, he said, had already filled the chair at one of the annual meetings with marked success. He hoped that Dr. Cookworthy would have a peaceful year of office, but he confessed that he would rather look forward to the settlement, during the ensuing year, of some of those important medical questions which had occupied so much of the attention of members of the profession as well as of the House of Commons during the past session, and not find them all withdrawn as had hitherto been the fate of the measures brought under the consideration of Parliament.

Dr. COOKWORTHY then took the Chair, and gave the following

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

He believed it was customary for the President, upon such occasions, to prepare a written address, but he had not done so, feeling that the little he had to say could be better said than read. Had not the Branch met in Plymouth before, he might have thought it desirable to invite their attention to many subjects of local interest, with which they were probably now acquainted; he might have referred to the natural beauties of the district, unfortunately not to be seen to advantage on such a day as this; and to its medical charities—the South Devon Hospital, Public Dispensary, and Eye Infirmary—all of which institutions were creditable to the people, and beneficial to the sick poor, of the town and neighbourhood. He might have also asked them to look over the Government Hospitals—Naval and Military—in which the invalids of both arms of the national service received all the care and attention which they needed. He should have referred them, too, to the Naval Arsenals of this port—to the Dockyard at Devonport, the Royal William Victualling Yard, and the New Steam Yard at Keyham, all of which were establishments of national importance, and a visit to which would be well repaid by the inspection of many processes of mechanical science there in actual operation. He should also have directed their especial attention to the Railway Bridge at Saltash, which was an object of great attraction, and a day might be well employed in its inspection.

There were other subjects which were generally included in the address from the chair, and which related to questions of medical polity. In the repeated discussion of these matters, they had been worn almost threadbare; but still he hoped that the members of the profession would never abstain from agitating them, and in forcing them upon the attention of Government, until they succeeded in obtaining their just requirements. Although they had not yet secured the passing of any Bill on Medical Reform, he was not without the hope that a Bill of the provisions of which they could approve would soon become law. He could not but congratulate them upon the result—poor as it was—of the recent discussion on this matter in the House of Commons; the majority upon that occasion, though the Bill was opposed by the government and the Board of Health, was 197, a larger number of members than had ever been prevailed upon to give attention to the subject before. [Hear.] And when they considered the prominent part which medical men often took in the return of members to Parliament, he thought that they might very properly use their influence in inducing members of the legislature to give, at all events, a fair consideration to subjects in which the medical profession were so largely interested. He believed, too, that the success of any good measure for Medical Reform would, in no small degree, depend upon the success which attended that association. [Hear.] It at present numbered 2,000 members, which was less than one-tenth of the number of members in the profession in England alone. If the Association, however, were more numerous, they would speak with more power, and enforce, with a greater chance of

success, the wishes to which they might give utterance. He hoped that the committee of the Association would, previous to the next session of Parliament, be enabled to prepare such a Bill for Medical Reform as would be less open to objection, and prove more advantageous to the profession than would either the Bill of Mr. Headlam or that of Lord Elcho.

He believed that the extension and success of the Association would operate most beneficially upon the character of the relief and medical attendance given to the poor. They would find that medical men would be better paid, and receive more consideration as medical officers of Unions. Some of the evils, however, which the profession laboured under originated with themselves. If, for instance, they did not often underbid each other, they would be better paid, and the sick poor would be better attended to, which latter consideration was in itself an important matter; for at present he feared that more was often thought by Poor-law guardians of the amount of salary than of the character of the medical relief which the poor were likely to receive. [Hear, hear.] This was, as he had said, an important subject; and when attention was drawn to it, it would assist to form that public opinion which would facilitate the attainment of the objects they had in view. The meetings of the Association would also conduce to social intercourse between members of the profession, and to greater unity of spirit, and a larger amount of consideration for each other. And if the members of the profession generally could be prevailed on to recognise and to act upon the principle of "*Quod tibi, id alteri*," they would want no code of medical ethics, inasmuch as this principle was the basis of all ethics, whether clerical, medical, or general. [Hear.]

Another subject upon which he thought it right to touch, was the JOURNAL of the Association, in reference to which he thought there were very few who would not agree with him in the opinion that the JOURNAL had very much improved under the able editorship of Dr. Wynter [hear], and that it was characterised by a genial spirit which was well calculated to produce harmonious feeling among the members of the profession. He should very much like to see an accession of numbers to the Association, as it would give the JOURNAL a larger capital, and would tend to make it more valuable, both as a commercial speculation and as a literary production. It was a fact within his (Dr. Cookworthy's) knowledge, and many others would doubtless confirm the statement, that the principal object for which not a few of the members resident in the rural districts subscribed to the Association, was that they might have a weekly journal; and the improvement of the JOURNAL was therefore a matter of no small importance. [Hear.]

Dr. Cookworthy then thanked the meeting for the high honour which they had conferred upon him in appointing him a second time to the office of President, though he could not help thinking the appointment alike unfortunate for him and the Association: for him, inasmuch as by putting a light on the top of a hill, its deficiency, which, in a lower situation, might have escaped observation, became obvious; and for the Association, inasmuch as they might have had others better qualified than himself to discharge the duties of the office. Still he thanked them for his election, which he accepted as an evidence of their partiality and friendship. [Hear.] He was happy to see so many of his medical brethren from other towns, and could only wish that more of the profession resident in this neighbourhood had been present to welcome them. He could assure them, however, that their brethren of the Plymouth Medical Society were desirous of doing them honour, and had invited not only them, but every medical man within an area of thirty miles, to a *soirée* that evening, to which, also, many of the clergy, army and navy officers, and other gentlemen interested in the advancement of modern science, had likewise been invited.

In conclusion, he had to inform them that a paper had been received from Dr. C. Barham, of Truro, which contained an account of the poisoning of two children by the leaves of common rhubarb; and it was extraordinary that the *leaves* should poison while the *stalks* were employed so largely for domestic purposes. This paper would be read to them in the course of the afternoon. The President referred to other contributions which had been made to the society for the inspection of the members, and the ordinary business of the Branch was then proceeded with.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Mr. J. EDYE (Exeter) proposed that the best thanks of the meeting be given to the President, Dr. Cookworthy, for the

admirable address which he had delivered. He perfectly concurred with the observations which the President had offered upon the subject of Medical Reform, and trusted that a Bill would, by and bye, be prepared which would approve itself alike to the profession and to the public generally. With reference to the resolution which he rose to propose, he should observe that such sincere respect was felt for the personal character of the President, and so high an opinion was entertained of his professional abilities by the members of the profession resident at Exeter, that it was matter of great regret to many of these gentlemen that, owing to a variety of circumstances, they were prevented from meeting their professional brethren of Plymouth upon that occasion, and were denied the pleasure of seeing Dr. Cookworthy in the chair. [*Hear.*]

The resolution was seconded by Mr. W. POLLARD, jun., of Torquay, and carried.

Mr. P. W. SWAIN (Devonport) moved a resolution of thanks to Dr. Paterson for the ability with which he had sustained the office of President during the past year. He proposed the resolution with pleasure; for although he was precluded from giving his personal attendance at the meeting at Tiverton, he had heard from his friend, Mr. Whipple, that it was an exceedingly agreeable one, and that Dr. Paterson did everything in his power, to contribute to the pleasure of visitors from other towns. [*Hear.*]

Mr. EDYE, in seconding the resolution, remarked that he was one of those who were fortunately enabled to attend the meeting at Tiverton, and was therefore enabled to state, from personal experience, that the general arrangements were not only of the most satisfactory character, but that the address of Dr. Paterson was such as might have been expected of that gentleman; it was full of information, ably written, gracefully delivered, and possessed another good quality, that of not being too long.

PLACE OF MEETING IN 1858: ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.

Dr. PATERSON proposed that the next meeting be held at Exeter.

Mr. R. KERSWILL (St. Germans) seconded the motion, which was agreed to unanimously.

Dr. NANKIVELL (Torquay) proposed that JOHN EDYE, Esq., of Exeter, be requested to fill the office of President for the year 1858.

Mr. S. KERSWILL (Devonport) seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. EDYE said he considered it to be a very high position to be President of such an assembly, and he therefore felt all the more gratified that such an honour should have been conferred upon him. He hoped that all his professional brethren resident in these towns would endeavour to be present at the next meeting; and although they could not show them at Exeter anything that could compete in point of interest with the Hamoaze of Devonport, or the many objects which met the eye upon Plymouth Hoe, yet he could promise them that they would do what they could to make the visit agreeable to them.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE SECRETARY.

Mr. EDYE moved a vote of thanks to C. H. Roper, Esq., the Secretary.

Mr. W. POLLARD, jun. (Torquay) seconded the resolution.

The PRESIDENT said he wished also to state how largely the Association was indebted to Mr. Roper for the able manner in which he discharged the duties devolving upon him. He considered, however, that a great deal of unnecessary labour was thrown upon the Secretary, through a defect in the organisation of the Association, by which four or five persons were empowered to receive the subscriptions of members, the result of which was that not more than 25 of the 150 members included in the district Association remitted their subscriptions to the Secretary. Much confusion and unpleasantness were thereby often occasioned, for it happened that whilst some members omitted to pay their subscriptions for a period of four or five years, and were perhaps never reminded of the fact, there were others who were asked for their subscriptions after the same had been paid. [*Hear.*] He suggested that this was a point which should be brought under the notice of the forthcoming annual meeting of the general Association, to be held at Nottingham; and at a subsequent stage of the proceedings, the matter being again adverted to, it was resolved that the members of the Association residing in the South-Western District, be requested to pay their subscriptions to the district Secretary, and that a like arrangement for other Branches be recommended to the general meeting to be held at Nottingham.

COUNCIL OF THE BRANCH.

Dr. RADCLIFFE HALL (Torquay) proposed, and Mr. W. J. SQUARE (Plymouth) seconded the appointment of five members of the Council of the Branch, in the room of the gentlemen who retired by rotation.

NEW MEMBERS.

Dr. PATERSON moved that Messrs. J. S. Smith and H. Bate, of Tiverton, R. Bryden, of Uffculme, Milsom, of Cullompton, Dr. Littleton, of Saltash, and Mr. Puddicombe, of Silverton, be elected members of the Association; which was seconded by Mr. BURROUGH, of Dartmouth.

REPRESENTATIVES IN THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

Mr. J. HICKS (Plymouth) proposed, and Mr. CLARK (Saltash) seconded the appointment of Dr. Shapter and J. Edye, Esq., of Exeter, Dr. Nankivell, of Torquay, and T. Pridham, Esq., of Bideford, as representative members of the General Council.

VOTE OF THANKS TO DR. WYNTER.

Mr. T. PRIDHAM (Bideford) proposed thanks to Dr. Wynter, for the improvement which the JOURNAL had sustained under his management.

Mr. C. H. ROPER seconded the motion, which was carried.

CASES AND COMMUNICATIONS.

The SECRETARY then read a paper of Dr. BARHAM, on the poisoning of two children in consequence of eating of the leaf of rhubarb, which they had amused themselves by chopping up in imitation of mint-sauce.

Mr. W. J. SQUARE remarked that he thought the proof offered of the children having been poisoned was not strong, and Mr. EDYE said he too considered that the case, as it stood at present, was not proven.

Mr. J. ELLIOT (Kingsbridge) moved a resolution of thanks to Dr. Barham, which was seconded by Mr. W. J. SQUARE.

Dr. RADCLIFFE HALL (Torquay) read a communication in confirmation of his former observations, on the mode of origin of tubercle in the lungs in pulmonary consumption, and presented a drawing.

Mr. T. PRIDHAM (Bideford) mentioned three cases which he had reported since the last meeting. The first was one of idiopathic tetanus, which occurred during Palmer's trial, and was said to be so rare that Sir Benjamin Brodie had stated that he never saw but one case of the kind. The second was a case of perforation of the heart by a needle, the result in both instances being favourable; and the third case was spontaneous separation of the leg of a man, aged 87, who was still alive.

The proceedings of the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, moved by Mr. P. W. SWAIN, and seconded by Dr. PATERSON.

The members of the Association then adjourned to the Royal Hotel, where they dined together under the presidency of Dr. Cookworthy.

THE EVENING MEETING.

At 8 o'clock, the members of the Branch, with a large number of other gentlemen who had been invited to meet them, assembled at a conversazione in the hall of the Athenaeum.

A number of objects of interest to men of science were displayed upon the tables; and many powerful microscopes, furnished by Mr. Heath of Devonport, were exhibited.—A number of beautiful botanical specimens were also supplied by Mr. I. W. N. Keys.—After coffee had been served, Mr. P. W. Swain read an interesting paper on the means to be employed in the restoration of persons apparently drowned, strongly recommending the "ready method" proposed by Dr. Marshall Hall.—Mr. W. J. Square gave some particulars of the cases operated upon for stone in the South Devon Hospital, and mentioned the gratifying fact that, whilst the average of successful operations of this kind was six out of seven, no less than thirty-one of the thirty-two operations in the hospital had proved successful.—Mr. J. N. Header followed with some clever experiments on the induction coil; after which Mr. R. Oxland traced the history of the manufacture of sugar; and Mr. Hands explained his invention for the preservation of meat.

The proceedings were brought to a close about 11 o'clock; and it must have been very gratifying to the President, and to the members of the Association, to witness the marked success which had attended their efforts to please and interest the numerous company which assembled upon the occasion.

[This interesting report would have been inserted long ago: but it only recently came to hand, having been lost in transmission through the post. EDITOR.]

dering the platina plate to the bend of the iron wire 3, but it was found not to be so, as upon dipping the iron into chloride of zinc and then laying the platina plate against it, it was found that the soldering iron, with a small globule of solder, made a perfect joint along the entire extent. To prevent any chance contact of the wire 3 with 1 or 2 of the next element, a little cylinder of gutta-percha was put over each of these wires 3 which carried the platina plate. In putting the elements of the battery together, the platina plate 3 of each element was simply inserted between 1 and 2 of the next element, and so on throughout, and each element was then perfectly distinct from every other, and could be taken out or put in, or the cells belonging to it re-arranged as to charge of acids or otherwise, as occasion might arise, without interfering with the rest. When it is desired to stop work, the whole of these *u* formed wires, with the zinc and platina plates attached to them, are lifted together out of their cells by an oblong mahogany frame, one side of which slides in a groove, so that the sides at first are at a sufficient distance to go over the entire system of *u*'s, one side of the frame is then brought under one line of the bends of the wires, and the moveable side is then pushed in so as to come under the bends on the opposite side; the entire frame is then lifted with all the plates at once, and they are all plunged together into a trough of water placed near. Thus the fuming is almost entirely avoided.

Medical News.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, AND APPOINTMENTS.

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

BIRTHS.

- FOX. On September 20th, at Berkeley Square, Bristol, the wife of *Edward Long Fox, M.D., of a daughter.
 HOGG. On September 22nd, at 14, Finsbury Place South, the wife of Charles Hogg, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.
 IZOD. On September 21st, at Mortimer, near Reading, the wife of Freeman Izod, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.
 NEALE. On September 21st, at 18, Westbourne Terrace, Eaton Square, the wife of W. M. Neale, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.
 NICHOL. On September 18th, at Denmark Hill, Surrey, the wife of R. Nichol, M.D., of a son.
 VALPY. On September 20th, at 9, Bedford Street, Bedford Square, the wife of William Henry Valpy, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

- BOWEN—NORRIS. BOWEN, Simon Surman, M.D., of Tewkesbury, to Charlotte Mary, second daughter of Henry Norris, Esq., of Charmouth, on September 12th.
 FOTHERBY—EWEN. FOTHERBY, Henry J., M.B., of Trinity Square, London, to Marie Jane, eldest daughter of *Henry Ewen, Esq., F.R.C.S., at Sutton St. Mary, Lincolnshire, on September 17th.
 HESTER—MORLAND. *HESTER, James Torry, Esq., Surgeon to the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, to Ellen, youngest daughter of the late Benjamin Morland, Esq., at Shebbington, Bucks, on September 22nd.
 HUMPAGE—DICKSON. HUMPAGE, Edward, Esq., Surgeon, of Well Street, Hackney, to Janet Emma, eldest daughter of the late James Dickson, Esq., of Hamilton Place, New Road, at Hackney, on September 22nd.
 JONES—MEIKLEHAM. JONES, Richard Francis, Esq., of Liverpool, to Euphrasia Oriana, daughter of the late William Meikleham, M.D., of La Pique, Trinidad, at Dunfermline, on September 16th.
 LA FARGUE—COBB. LA FARGUE, George F. H., Esq., Surgeon, Husbands Bosworth, Leicestershire, to Gertrude, daughter of Thomas Cobb, Esq., of New Romney, Kent, at New Romney, on September 15th.
 LLOYD—WILLIAMS. LLOYD, Edward, M.D., of Suffolk Place, Pall Mall, and Ty-yn-y-Rhyl, Flintshire, to Matilda Susanna, widow of the late W. Williams, Esq., of Aberpergurn, Glamorganshire, at St. George's, Hanover Square, on September 17th.
 MAY—LOWE. MAY, Thomas, Esq., of Durdlam Down, Bristol, to Charlotte, widow of the late *Edward William Lowe, Esq., Surgeon, of Congleton, Cheshire, at Plymouth, on September 17th.

WALTON—WALKER. WALTON, James Edwin, Esq., to Emma Elizabeth, only daughter of the late B. G. Walker, M.D., of Colchester, at Islington, on September 15th.

DEATHS.

- ANDERSON. On September 20th, at Albion Street, Hyde Park, Jane, Lady Alderson, widow of the late Sir James E. Anderson, M.D., aged 62.
 BOWLING, John Pierce, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon 56th Regiment Bengal Native Infantry, youngest and last surviving son of the late *John Bowling, Esq., of Hammersmith, killed at Cawnpore, on June 27th: also, supposed to have fallen about the same time, Charlotte, wife of the above J. P. Bowling, Esq.; and William Kinsey, their infant son.
 CARPENTER. On September 19th, at Amersham, aged 7 weeks, Harry, infant son of W. G. Carpenter, Esq., F.R.C.S.
 GARNER, Heartwell, M.D., 12th Irregular Cavalry, massacred at Segowlie, on July 23rd: also, at same time and place, Susan, wife of the above Dr. Garner; and one of their children.
 HALL. On September 16th, at Exeter, Charlotte Cotton, wife of William Hall, M.D.

PASS LISTS.

APOTHECARIES' HALL. Members admitted on Thursday, September 17th, 1857:—

HARRIS, Alfred Hunt, Butterfield
 SMYTH, David, Brighouse, Yorkshire

HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 19TH, 1857.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

AFTER the summer heat, and when the conditions that attend it, and that are so fatal to children, are to some extent removed, London begins to enjoy a period of health, in which the mortality is usually lower than at any other time of the year, except the months of May and June. In conformity with this rule, the deaths which were previously above 1000, and in July rose above 1200, fell in the week that ended on Saturday (September 19th) to 946. It is further to be observed, that though diarrhoea continues to exhibit more than its ordinary degree of prevalence, the health of the population generally appears to be better than it usually is in the third week of September, for if the weekly deaths from cholera at two epidemic seasons be withdrawn from the calculation, it will be found that nearly 200 persons survived last week, who would have died if the average rate of mortality, as derived from corresponding weeks in ten previous years, had prevailed.

The number of children born last week exceeded that of persons of all ages who died, by 776.

The fatal cases of diarrhoea now decline more rapidly, as will be seen from the numbers returned during the last five weeks, which were: 215, 198, 181, 144, and (last week) 111. Only three deaths, two of which were those of children, are referred to cholera; eight to dysentery. Small-pox was fatal to only two children; measles to 19, of whom 13 died in the central and east districts; scarlatina to 39, of whom 26 died in the same districts. The deaths from typhus and common fever are 53. Nineteen persons died of cancer, six of hernia, two of diabetes, ten women from diseases incidental to child-bearing, one of whom, a young woman of 18, died from puerperal convulsions, in consequence of excessive joy; a girl, of 2 years, died from mumps; a house painter from painter's colic; a girl who had lived ten years with spina bifida; one person from carbuncle; three from delirium tremens; and one from intemperance. Two widows died at the ages respectively of 91 and 92 years, the oldest persons in the return of the week.

Last week the births of 883 boys and 839 girls, in all 1722 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847-56, the average number was 1445.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 30.041 in. The mean daily reading was above 30 in. on the last five days. The greatest barometric pressure was 30.24 in., on Saturday. The mean temperature of the week was 62.1°, which is 5.6° above the average of the same week in 43 years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). The mean temperature was above the average on every day of the week, and on Wednesday and Thursday the excess was about 10°. On the latter day, the highest point of the thermometer in the shade was attained, viz., 80.7°; the

lowest point was 48.9°, and was obtained on Saturday. The whole range of the week was therefore 31.8°. The mean dew-point temperature was 57.9°; and the difference between this and the mean air temperature was 4.2°. On Thursday, the thermometer in the sun rose to 104.8°. The wind was nearly always in the south-west, till Friday afternoon, when it changed to north-east. There was rain to the depth of 0.25 in., on Monday; none on any other day.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, BIRMINGHAM. The Examiners for honours in the respective departments of this College have declared the following awards:—The Degree of Bachelor of Civil Engineering (B.C.E.), which the Council, under Royal Charter, is empowered to confer—Tuxford, Boston. The Warneford Theological Scholarships, four in number, £10 each, to be conferred upon students "who have resided in College not less than three terms, and who shall, in the judgment of the Council, be most deserving"—Robinson, Godson, and Hill. The Warneford Medical Scholarships, "£10 each, to be held for two years, to be conferred upon students who have resided in the College at least twelve months, who have been distinguished for their diligence and good conduct, and who have been regular in their attendance on Divine service in the College Chapel"—Harris, Reading; and Abbey, Wellingborough. The Warneford Gold Medal, value £20, for an essay on an anatomical, physiological, or pathological subject, to be handled in a practical or professional manner, and according to those evidences of facts and phenomena which anatomy, physiology, and pathology, so abundantly supply, but always and especially with a view to exemplify or set forth by instance or example "the wisdom, power, and goodness of God," as revealed and declared in Holy Writ; subject, "The Anatomy and Physiology of the Kidney"—Mould, Tutbury. The Principal Booth's Prize, 10 guineas annually (books), to be adjudged to the best clinical, medical, student, alternately in the College, by the majority of the hospital physicians and surgeons, æquales—Mould, Tutbury, and Wilders, Birmingham. The Baron Webster Prize, 5 guineas annually (books), for proficiency in the French language—Holland. The Clay Prize, 5 guineas annually (books), for Prize Essay; subject, "The Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology of the Placenta"—Lloyd, Birmingham.

The following prizes have also been awarded:—*Anatomy*—Bracey (medal); Dunn (certificate). *Physiology*—Senior Class—Mould (medal); Bracey (certificate); Junior Class—Lloyd (medal); Herbert (certificate). *Practical Anatomy*—Dunn (books); Bracey (certificate). *Chemistry*—Mould (medal); Bracey (certificate). *Materia Medica*—Herbert (medal); Lloyd (certificate). *Medicine*—Wilders (medal); Mould (certificate). *Surgery*—Mould (medal); Jordan (certificate). *Forensic Medicine*—Wilders (medal); Mould (certificate). *Midwifery*—Mould (medal); Lloyd (certificate). *Botany*—Cornbill (medal); White (certificate). *Heslop Stethoscopic Prize*—Wilders (books). *Clinical Prize*—Mould (medal); Wilders (certificate). The public distribution will take place in the College Theatre, by the Principal, Dr. Booth, on the 2nd of October next, when an address on "Middle Class Education" will be delivered by him.

ANÆSTHETIC SUBSTANCES. Our readers may recollect that a few months ago amylene was recommended as preferable to ether and chloroform in producing stupefaction or anæsthesia, on the special ground that its employment was unattended with danger to the patient, or nearly so. MM. Foucher and Bonnet have, however, in a recent communication, addressed to the Academy of Sciences, recorded facts leading to quite a contrary result. In twelve experiments performed on rabbits they have ascertained that the anæsthetic effect of amylene is produced within three and six minutes after its application. Before stupefaction is produced the animal utters piercing cries, and throws its head backwards; its breathing is accelerated, the globe of the eye is strongly injected and moves convulsively; a tracheal hoarseness always accompanying the above symptoms. The period of insensibility does not last long if the application of amylene be not continued; in the contrary case, however, a complete collapse takes place; the animal, stretched out without motion, obeys every impulse of the hand, and resembles a flabby mass, in which breathing is hardly perceptible. This state may last twenty minutes without causing death. The blood drawn from the arteries during this period still preserves its usual colour. Animals subjected to the action of amylene for a certain length of time continue after the operation in a state of stupor and imbecility, which sometimes lasts seven or eight hours; but in none of the cases

observed by the authors of the communication has death followed the application of amylene. The conclusions resulting from their experiments are as follows:—1. Sulphuric ether, chloroform, and amylene are, of all volatile substances experimented on, the only ones that produce anæsthesia. 2. Amylene does not produce stupefaction unless the quantity of air with which it is diluted be very small; but then it acts upon the animal economy, and especially upon the respiratory organs in a manner which may produce dangerous effects. 3. Chloroform has all the advantages of amylene, without the evils which accompany the use of the latter. 4. None of the substances above mentioned produce anæsthesia, whether local or general, when applied to any peculiar part of the body by injection under the skin. (*Galvani's Messenger*.)

A NEW FOOD FOR BEES. Two agriculturists of the Department of the Var observed one day, in the month of May last, that all their bees had left their hives, although the latter were well filled and exceedingly heavy. Towards evening the fugitives returned heavily laden, but on the following morning set out again in a direction which was this time carefully noted by the farmers, who had been watching their doings. They immediately followed them, and soon arrived at a farm where cakes of tilseed, which had been previously subjected to the oil press, were being beaten up into a paste with water, to be used as manure for potatoes. There, to their surprise, they saw their bees clustering round the tubs containing the paste, evidently enjoying a luxury hitherto unknown to them. The lesson was not lost upon the agriculturists, who immediately procured their bees abundance of this food, and have now been rewarded with nearly ten times the usual quantity of produce, besides an immense increase in the reproduction of the insect.

EXPLORATION OF AFRICA. The exploring expedition to the river Niger and its tributaries, in charge of Dr. Baikie, R.N., left the Brass River for the Niger on the 10th of July, all well. The expedition is composed of fifty Kroomen, twenty-five natives of the countries bordering on the Niger and Chadda, and fourteen Europeans, including Dr. Baikie, Lieutenant Glover, Mr. May, and Dr. Davis of the Royal Navy, a naturalist and a botanist from Kew Gardens, with Captain Grant and engineers in the employ of the contractor, Mr. Macgregor Laird. It is said to be the intention of Mr. Laird to form trading posts on the banks of the river, at the most eligible situations for the collection of cotton, shea, butter, and other productions of the interior, provided the climate offers no insuperable obstacles. As by this contract with the Admiralty he is bound to convey deck passengers of the negro race who can read and write English from Fernando Po to all parts below the Niger and Chadda, it is hoped that a new element of civilisation will be introduced into the interior by the return of liberated Africans to their native country in considerable numbers.

IMPORTATION OF BONES. We a few days ago stated that the brig *Leopoldine*, with a cargo of bones, had been restrained from discharging in consequence of an order in Council of the 27th ult. A reply to a memorial on the subject has since been received from the Privy Council, directing the Board of Customs "to permit the importation of all bones which were shipped, or in course of shipment, or ordered, or contracted for, previously to the said order in Council." The cargo in question has therefore been discharged. (*Northern Daily Express*.)

THE CHOLERA. The *Daily News* states that the cholera has broken out at Hamburg. Between the 29th of August and the 6th of September there were 239 cases, of which 136 proved fatal.

ARMY HOSPITAL CORPS. A warrant has just been issued from the Horse Guards for the formation of a new corps, to be designated "the army hospital corps"; and when sufficiently organised and in efficient working, it is expected the present "medical staff corps" will be broken up. It is to be formed of soldiers of the line—sergeant-majors, company sergeants, sergeants, and privates—whose pay, according to rank, will be 4s., 3s., 2s., and 1s. a-day, irrespective of rations and messing, which are to be supplied free of charge.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

POSTAGE OF MANUSCRIPT AND PRINTED MATTER.

Any amount of manuscript or printed matter, singly or together, provided it contains nothing in the form of a 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. H. EWEN; MR. H. TERRY, JUNR.; DR. COOKWORTHY; THE PRESIDENT AND TREASURER OF ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL; MR. SANDS COX; DR. T. HERBERT BARKER; DR. COCKLE; MR. T. HOLMES; DR. G. GODDARD ROGERS; DR. H. W. FULLER; MR. W. H. COOKE; DR. GIBB; DR. FRAUEN (Penang); MR. H. W. R. DAVEY; MR. W. BRIGHAM; DR. J. R. BENNETT; MR. CUSACK; MR. R. WYNNE JONES; and DR. J. G. SWAYNE.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

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

1. The Science and Art of Surgery: being a Treatise on Surgical Injuries, Diseases, and Operations. By *John Erichsen, Esq., Professor of Surgery and Clinical Surgery in University College, and Surgeon to University College Hospital. Second Edition, enlarged and carefully revised. Illustrated by 400 engravings on wood. London: Walton and Maberly. 1857.
2. England and France before Sebastopol, looked at from a Medical Point of View. By Charles Bryce, M.D. London: John Churchill. 1857.
3. A Speech on Medical Reform, delivered by Lord Elcho, M.P., in the House of Commons, July 1, 1857, on the Second Reading of the Medical Profession Bill (No. 1). With Appendix. Pamphlet. London: T. Hatchard. 1857.
4. Observations on the Human Crania contained in the Museum of the Army Medical Department, Port Pitt, Chatham. By George Williamson, M.D., Staff-Surgeon Second Class. Dublin: McGlashan and Gill. 1857.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Sydenham Society.--Notice is hereby

given, that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Sydenham Society will be held at the Society's Rooms, 45, Frith Street, Soho, on Monday, the 6th day of October, at 8 o'clock, p.m., with a view of determining on the propriety of dissolving the Society, or of adopting such other measures as may appear most expedient.

By order of the Council. JAS. R. BENNETT, M.D., Secretary.

Sept. 25, 1857. N.B. The first Volume of KÜCHENMEISTER on Animal and Vegetable Parasites is now in course of distribution.

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