

He is evidently unaware how much the views he has enunciated are open to severe criticism, or he would have appreciated more favourably the manner in which I introduced my cases to the profession and himself.

I am, etc.,

THOMAS INMAN.

Liverpool, November 16th, 1857.

## Medical News.

### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, AND APPOINTMENTS.

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

#### BIRTHS.

- ADAMS. On November 1st, at Toronto, Canada West, the wife of Joseph Adams, M.D., of a daughter.
- BASSETT. On November 2nd, at St. Paul's Square, Birmingham, the wife of \*John Bassett, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.
- BIDDLE. On September 14th, at Simla, the wife of Thomas James Biddle, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon 8th Regiment of Foot, of a son.
- ELLISON. On November 5th, at Windsor, the wife of James Ellison, M.D., of a son.
- GILL. On November 15th, at 5, Cambridge Place, Regent's Park, the wife of W. Battershell Gill, M.D. Lond., of a daughter.
- HABERSHON. On November 14th, at 22, Wimpole Street, the wife of S. O. Habershon, M.D., of a son.
- LLEWELLYN. On November 10th, at 9, Mount Place, London Hospital, the wife of Evan Llewellyn, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.
- THOMAS. On November 15th, at Hartland, North Devon, the wife of R. R. G. Thomas, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.
- WINTER. On November 8th, at Hampstead, the wife of James Winter, M.D., of a daughter.

#### MARRIAGES.

- JACOBSON—BRANDER. JACOBSON, Thomas Edmund, Esq., Surgeon, of Sleaford, Lincolnshire, to Emma Augusta, younger daughter of the late William A. Brander, Esq., of Southwark and Greenwich.
- WAY—BROWN. WAY, John, M.B., to Caroline Handley, youngest daughter of the late Francis Brown, Esq., of Welbourn, Lincolnshire, at St. Peter's, Eaton Square, on November 18th.

#### DEATHS.

- BAYNE, Alexander Fraser, Esq., Surgeon, aged 28, in the wreck of the *Dunbar*, off Sydney, on August 20th.
- BODDINGTON, W. E. Esq., Surgeon, formerly of Chesterfield, in London, on November 13th.
- CLARKE, Sir Arthur, M.D., for many years Physician to the Bank of Ireland and to the Dublin Police Force, aged 83, in Dublin, on November 9th.
- \*DAVIES, John, Esq., Surgeon, at Tipton, Staffordshire, aged 48, on November 11th.
- GREENHOW. On November 11th, at Hampstead, Elizabeth, wife of \*Edward Headlam Greenhow, M.D., of Upper Berkeley Street, Portman Square.
- NASMYTH, Robert, M.D., late of Brook Street, London, at 5, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, on November 8th.
- SMITH. On November 10th, at Park Place, Leeds, Amelia, only surviving daughter of \*Samuel Smith, Esq., Senior Surgeon to the Leeds General Infirmary.
- WESTMACOTT. On November 14th, at 10, St. Mary's Terrace, Paddington, aged 8 months, Henry Fearon Percy, infant son of John Guise Westmacott, M.D.

#### APPOINTMENTS.

- BEDDOME, J. R., M.D., elected Mayor of Romsey for the ensuing year.
- \*BURROWS, J. C., Esq., Surgeon, elected Mayor of Brighton for the ensuing year.
- \*DIXON, Joseph, Esq., elected Honorary Surgeon to the Brighton Dispensary.
- \*GAMGEE, Joseph Sampson, Esq., elected Surgeon to Queen's Hospital, Birmingham.

HAWKINS, Cæsar H., Esq., appointed Surgeon-Extraordinary to the Queen.

\*HILLIER, Thomas, M.D., elected Assistant-Physician to the Hospital for Sick Children.

\*MICHAEL, W. H., Esq., Surgeon, elected Mayor of Swansea for the ensuing year.

PROCTER, Sidney E., Esq., elected resident Surgeon to the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital.

#### PASS LISTS.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON. M.B. Second Examination, 1857.

##### First Division.

ANSTIE, Francis Edmund, King's College  
 BOND, Francis Thomas, B.A., Queen's College, Birmingham  
 BRODRIBB, Uriah Perrin, B.A., Guy's Hospital  
 BUZZARD, Thomas, King's College  
 CRIBB, Arthur John, Middlesex Hospital  
 DE LA GARDE, John Lempriere, St. Bartholomew's Hospital  
 EDWARDS, St. John, University College  
 FAWCUS, James, University College  
 FOX, William Tilbury, University College  
 GILES, Samuel, B.A., Guy's Hospital  
 JONES, William Price, University College  
 LAURENCE, John Zachariah, University College  
 LAWRENCE, George William, King's College  
 MEADOWS, Alfred, King's College  
 MOON, Frederick, Guy's Hospital  
 ORD, William Miller, St. Thomas's Hospital  
 PROPERT, John Lumsden, King's College  
 RAMSBOTHAM, Walter Basnett, University College  
 SADLER, Michael Thomas, B.A., St. Bartholomew's Hospital  
 TURNER, William, St. Bartholomew's Hospital  
 WALKER, Thomas James, University of Edinburgh  
 WHITFORD, Antony, King's College  
 WILSON, Frederick William, Westminster Hospital

##### Second Division.

CARNLEY, Henry, Hull and East Riding School of Medicine  
 CASTANEDA, Michael, University College  
 DEVONSHIRE, Charles James, B.A., King's College  
 KING, Henry Stavely Thaddeus, King's College  
 PONT, Augustus, King's College  
 SMITH, Henry Montague Duncan, University College  
 WAY, John, King's College

#### HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 14TH, 1857.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

IN the week that ended on Saturday (November 14th), the total number of deaths registered in London was 1161, which approximates very closely to the number in the previous week. In the ten years 1847-56, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1068; and in the present population, which has received an increase, the same rate of mortality would produce 1175 deaths. The difference, therefore, between the actual number of deaths and the number as estimated is inconsiderable.

But the returns show that there has been a decided increase of deaths in the last two weeks; for the weekly number in October was only about a thousand. Old persons appear to have suffered from the weather that has lately prevailed; for whereas in the last week of October the number of persons who died between the ages of 60 and 80 years was 152, last week it was 207; and though of those who had attained the age of 80 years and upwards there were in the former period only 32 deaths, the number last week was 50. Diseases of the respiratory organs (exclusive of phthisis and hooping cough), which in August were fatal in 70 or 80 cases weekly, and in the last week of October in 190 cases, rose last week to 291. Of the number last mentioned, 152 deaths were referred to bronchitis, 108 to pneumonia or inflammation of the lungs, 19 to asthma. At this time when influenza is common, only six cases are returned under this specific designation in the medical certificates. Phthisis attests to some extent the presence of the same atmospheric influence, the deaths under this head having risen from about 130 to 151. There were only 19 deaths last week from diarrhoea; and it is satisfactory to find that no deaths from cholera were reported. Scarlatina is prevalent in the west districts, and in that part of London it was fatal in 22 cases; the number returned in all the metropolitan districts is 56. Typhus (including under this head common fever) carried off 54 persons.

Five nonagenarians are returned as having died in the week: the oldest of these had arrived at the great age of 99 years; he had been formerly a farmer, and he died at 3, Brewer Street North, Clerkenwell.

Last week the births of 907 boys and 830 girls, in all 1737 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 30.341 in. The mean daily barometrical reading rose above 30 in. on the 7th instant, and continued above it through the whole of last week. The mean reading on Thursday was 30.569 in. The highest reading in the week occurred on that day, and was 30.61 in. The mean temperature of the week was 45.1°, which is 1.1° above the average of the same week in 43 years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). The smallest range of temperature occurred on Tuesday, and was 5.1°; the greatest on Thursday, when it was 17.2°. On the latter day, the thermometer fell 2° below the freezing point of water. The mean daily range of temperature in the week was 10.3°. The mean dew-point temperature was 44.2°; and the difference between this and the mean temperature of the air was only 0.9°. On four days, the humidity of the atmosphere was 99, complete saturation being represented by 100. The temperature of the water of the Thames fell daily during the week. On Sunday and Monday the highest temperature of the river was 54.7°; the lowest occurred on Saturday, and was 48.2°. The wind was almost always in the north or north-east. No rain fell to an amount measurable by the gauge.

#### CASE OF RETAINED PLACENTA: DEATH: INQUEST.

An inquiry was opened on Wednesday, November 11th, before Mr. W. J. Cooper, Coroner for Portsmouth, into the circumstances attending the death of a woman named Mary Berry, the wife of a rigger, living in Portsea. The inquiry was, virtually, made for the purpose of ascertaining whether there had been any neglect on the part of the medical gentleman who attended her—Dr. Rolph—and whether her death was the consequence of that neglect.

HANNAH PLUCKNETT, a married woman, deposed that she had assisted the deceased, as friend and nurse, in her last confinement. Mrs. Berry was 32 years of age, of general good health. She had seven children. In her last labour but one she had had a rather severe illness, from which she recovered, but complained at times of pain in her right side. The witness was called to Mrs. Berry on Thursday, October 29th, at about half-past six; and on her arrival found it advisable to send for Dr. Rolph. He came as soon as it was possible, a little after seven. The pains were then active and continuous, and the deceased gave birth to a living healthy male child, at a quarter to 8. In three minutes after the birth, Dr. Rolph removed something which he said was the afterbirth; but which the witness did not think like an afterbirth at all. It was, she said, more like a clot; and had no navel string attached to it: it might have been contained in a good sized egg cup. During the night there was some flooding and much pain: but the witness did not send for Dr. Rolph, "although she knew it was dangerous." On Friday the hæmorrhage continued: the abdomen was swollen and very painful. On Saturday, the same state continued; and the witness gave a dose of castor oil, as Dr. Rolph said that the cause of the pain was wind. On Sunday, Dr. Rolph examined the tongue and pulse, and said the former was moist and the pulse good. He gave the patient a draught. About 1 P.M. of that day she had a severe shivering, followed by perspiration. The same recurred in the middle of the night. On Monday morning, about 1 o'clock, the deceased complained of great pain in her "stomach"; and soon afterwards the witness removed what she was sure was the afterbirth. Dr. Rolph came at 10 on Monday morning, and promised to send some medicine, but did not do so, and the witness had to send for it at night. Another attack of rigors occurred on Monday. Dr. Rolph said it was ague. On Tuesday there was an offensive discharge from the vagina, attended with much fever and thirst. On Wednesday Dr. Rolph prescribed quinine; after taking which, the patient began to be purged; on account of which Dr. Rolph next day ordered some laudanum to be added to the mixture.

On Friday morning, Mr. Berry called in Mr. Smith. No medical man saw the after-birth. The witness related to Mr. Smith the circumstances relative to Mrs. Berry's confine-

ment and subsequent illness. He said he didn't like to take another gentleman's patient away, but he considered it his duty to attend the present case, as it was dangerous. He did not propose to meet Dr. Rolph, nor did he see him. Mr. Smith sent her half a dozen powders, which were administered as directed. On Saturday the deceased was no better, and she wished to have further advice. Mr. Garrington came on Sunday, with Mr. Smith, about one o'clock. The powders were continued. The deceased became worse, and was frequently delirious. She died about five o'clock on Monday morning, November 9th.

The witness further said that the deceased had had hæmorrhage in her previous pregnancy. She (witness) said that Dr. Rolph had attended her daughter, who had had a "bad bout" of it; and since that time she had not had a high opinion of him.

MARY ANN BUTT, a married woman, had also assisted at the confinement of Mrs. Berry. After the labour she was shown some substances by Mrs. Plucknett, which resembled clots, not the after birth. She saw the after birth on the Monday in a putrid state. She perceived an offensive smell in the room on Monday. She went for Mr. Smith in consequence of Mr. Berry not being satisfied.

Mr. EDWARD ALFRED SMITH, surgeon, saw the deceased at 10 o'clock on Monday, November 6th. He found her exceedingly weak; pulse about 120, small; tongue flabby and white, not furred; the countenance exsanguineous. The skin was not particularly hot, not so hot as in a high fever; the abdomen was tumid, not tense. She complained of considerable pain in the belly; but it was not increased by pressure. He was informed that she had violent diarrhœa; and there was also a retention of urine of twenty-four hours duration, but he did not use the catheter. There was no hectic flush. On Saturday, when asleep, she moaned, but when awake she did not complain. He saw her thrice on Friday. He did not attend with Mr. Rolph. He prescribed for her calomel and compound ipecacuanha powder. On Saturday morning he thought there was a slight improvement. In the evening she was not so well; there was no hectic flush; there was a continued pallor. He continued the medicine until Sunday morning, but had no recourse to external application. On Sunday morning she appeared very much worse, and her breathing was embarrassed. Her mouth was drawn; and he apprehended that it was something like paralysis, but found that it was not so. He saw her a second time, in company with Mr. Garrington. Mr. Garrington recommended the omission of the calomel and the substitution of camphor and opium. The deceased was hardly delirious, but there was a muttering incoherently sometimes, just as of a person waking from sleep. The last time he saw her alive was Sunday night; she died on the following morning.

On examination by the Coroner, the witness said that he considered the patient, when he first saw her, to be suffering from exhaustion, the effect of hæmorrhage, and this opinion was confirmed by the *post mortem* examination. He did not think there was inflammation of the uterus. He gave the calomel on account of diarrhœa. His practice was never to leave the bedroom or house until the placenta was delivered. If retained, it would be likely to produce hæmorrhage and pain: he did not know of any other effects. The placenta is sometimes indurated and firmly attached to the walls. He thought that, in all his extensive practice, it had not been retained more than two hours. He had read of cases where it has been retained for many days. In such a case he would not lacerate the womb by using great force so as to produce retroversion, but rather leave the placenta there. He would sooner let the patient die than kill her. He had never observed a double placenta to one fœtus. Hæmorrhage would not be a positive indication that the placenta had not been removed. In retention of the placenta, if there were no flooding, he would wait three or four hours, not more; if there were hæmorrhage he would remove the placenta at once. He was present at the *post mortem* examination. There was a very small quantity of blood in the body, and very little external ecchymosis. He believed that the primary cause of death was hæmorrhage; and the secondary very likely the absorption of putrid matter from the retention of the placenta. There was about a tablespoonful and a half of fluid at the base of the brain; but this would not account for death. There were no appearances indicating that death was the result of fever. Diarrhœa for twenty-four hours would not of itself have depressed the patient so much as she was when the witness first saw her. He would not give calomel in putrid fever, because he did not think it right; but

there was a difference of opinion. The calomel was given to correct the state of the bowels; and was omitted at the suggestion of Mr. Garrington. The patient at first improved under the witness's treatment. He did not consult Dr. Rolph—very likely from want of friendship.

Mr. WILLIAM HAWKINS GARRINGTON, surgeon, attended on the deceased Mary Berry, on Sunday, November 8th, at the request of Mr. Smith. He found her lying in a drowsy state, but when spoken to she understood what was said, and gave proper replies. Her countenance was rather pale, and expressive of anxiety. Her pulse was very quick: and her breathing, although for the most part regular, was every now and then interrupted by a gasp. There was not the least tenderness on firm pressure with the points of the fingers on the belly; and there was no peculiarly offensive odour in the room. He considered she would very soon die. He understood from Mr. Smith that he had given her some calomel and Dover's powder for a purging under which she was labouring when he first saw her, but which was entirely removed from her when the witness saw her. He recommended tincture of opium and camphor mixture, and nourishment. At that time she was in a sinking state from some exhausting disease, but what that was he could not tell. She was rather pale, but not of that extreme pallor which persons have who have recently lost large quantities of blood. Her appearance was not inconsistent with the fact of her having lost blood between the 29th of October (the time of her delivery) and the 31st of October. If there had been severe flooding on the 30th and 31st, any fatal effect, the consequence of that flooding, would have occurred at an earlier period. He was not prepared to say that any peritonitis had existed. In any fever, the appearances may, during life and on *post mortem* examination, leave no trace of organic lesion. He could discover nothing to lead him to believe that the deceased was the subject of putrid fever. There had been a good deal of fever at Portsea of a low type; he had had one severe case in the immediate neighbourhood of a typhoid type. He had also attended several other cases in the town of Portsea, and two deaths. He was present at a *post mortem* examination. The appearances were of an almost negative character; and, from the result of that examination, he was of opinion that the death of the deceased was the result of ordinary childbed fever. He thought the appearances would not justify the opinion that the cause of death was uterine hæmorrhage. The only morbid appearances were some slight effusion of serum in the cavities of the chest on each side under the membranes generally, and in the base of the brain. The partial detachment of the placenta left in the uterus would occasion hæmorrhage and pain. If the placenta remained long enough to become putrescent, it might be partially absorbed, and give rise to septic fever. He should consider it an imperative duty to remove the placenta, if possible. He had never met with a case where he was not able to bring it away; but he had read and heard of such cases. Every effort should be used, without undue violence, to remove it. The retention of the placenta in the uterus may be an exciting cause of childbed fever, in common with other causes, such as taking cold, confinement of bowels, improper diet, taking spirits, and cold or damp applications. The retention of the placenta for several days would not necessarily produce a fatal result. He would not be satisfied to leave the placenta in the uterus for twenty-four hours. He found it a constant error on the part of nurses and attendants to present for inspection clots of blood which they believe to be a fleshy substance.

Mr. GEORGE JOHN SCALE, surgeon, of Landport, made a *post mortem* examination of the body of Mary Berry on Tuesday, November 10th, about two in the afternoon, in the presence of the following medical men:—Mr. Smith, Mr. Garrington, Dr. Engledue, Mr. Wiblin, Mr. Norman, and Mr. Scale, jun. The following report, signed by those gentlemen, is the result of that *post mortem* examination.

"The abdomen being opened, we found an entire freedom from peritoneal inflammation. The womb was about the size which might be expected within a fortnight after delivery. On its being removed from the body with its appendages and a portion of the vagina, and opened, the muscular structure appeared to be perfectly healthy. The lining membrane was rugged, and of a greyish ash colour; free from softening, and of any putrefaction or sloughing. The neck was of a purplish hue, not presenting any other known sign of disease. The kidneys presented no appearance of disease; the liver was healthy. There was an entire freedom from inflammation or disease either of the pleura or the organs contained of the chest, unless it was a certain degree of pallor or flabbiness of

the heart. Otherwise that organ was healthy. The head was opened by removing the upper part of the skull and membranes of the brain. There was more fluid at the base of the brain than is observed naturally, without any sign of inflammation or other disease of the membranes themselves or of the brain to account for it. From the whole examination, we conclude that the various organs and structures were generally sound."

The rugged appearance in the womb was not indicative either of disease or strong adhesion of the placenta. The only conclusion he could arrive at from the *post mortem* examination was that death was the result of puerperal fever. There was less blood in the vessels than usual, and a general pallor of the organs. The appearances denoted that the deceased had been the subject of hæmorrhage, but they were not of such a character as to lead him to believe that death was the result of hæmorrhage. If death had been the result of putrid fever, the uterus would not have been free from odour, and he should have expected to have found in some organ of the body purulent deposits, which did not exist.

Mr. JOHN WIBLIN, surgeon, residing at Southampton, said he was a fellow, by examination, of the Royal College of Surgeons. He was present at the examination of the body of Mary Berry. There were no appearances which would lead him to form any opinion other than that death was caused by a mixed form of child-bed fever: that opinion being confirmed by the presence of a liquid effusion into the cavity of the chest and within the membranes of the brain. And that mixed form of fever might have been produced totally independent of the retention of placenta or the presence of any foreign body in the uterus. The patient resided in a locality where fever of low type did prevail at the time. He mentioned a typhoid type of fever in contradistinction to the acute form of child-bed fever, with a view to bring prominently forward the total absence of the symptoms observed in that disease, and the marked prevalence of typhoid symptoms. There was no appearance in the body to warrant the opinion that death was the result of hæmorrhage; nor was there anything to warrant the opinion that death was the result of putrid fever. He had had considerable practice as an accoucheur. He considered it to be the imperative duty of a medical attendant to deliver the after-birth as soon as possible after the delivery of the child, in all cases where practicable. There were circumstances which would form an exception to the general rule, in cases, certainly rare, of adhesion of the placenta. There was an appearance on the inner surface of the uterus, pointed out by Mr. Scale, jun., as being somewhat harder or more condensed than the other portions of the uterus, and to which it is possible that a portion of an adherent placenta might have been attached. He had in his own experience had a case where the placenta had been retained for three days. There was no hæmorrhage; at the end of three days the placenta was thrown off by the efforts of nature, and there was what would be called by a nurse a very offensive smell. The woman did well afterwards. He would not hesitate to leave a patient for a reasonable time—five or six hours—being within call, where a placenta was retained by adhesion, if no flooding or other urgent symptoms required attendance. He should not justify the conduct of a medical man in leaving his patient in three minutes after the birth of the child, if the placenta was retained; indeed, he regarded such conduct as impossible. A man must be a madman to do so. He had no hesitation in stating it as his opinion that it was equally as probable that the child-bed fever originated from local causes as from any other cause. It was highly probable that the retention of the placenta for four days, or even a less period, might generate fever of the typhoid type. Smellie gives a case of retained placenta, where the medical man removed it, the patient dying. The same learned authority quotes another case, where an adherent placenta was allowed to remain, and the patient perfectly recovered.

The CORONER summed up, commenting on the conduct and opinion of Dr. Rolph and the medical witnesses; and the jury, after a long deliberation, returned the following verdict, by a majority of twelve to five:—

"That Mary Berry died of child-bed fever; but they must express their condemnation of Dr. Rolph's treatment and conduct, as they consider him chargeable with great neglect during child-birth."

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHRISTIANIA IN NORWAY. Dr. Lauder Lindsay, in a note to an article in the November number of the *Edinburgh Medical Journal*, says:—"I cannot here resist a slight digression from my subject, in order to avail myself of

an opportunity of recommending to the medical tourist, who has become tired of the beaten and hackneyed track of the Rhine, France, and Switzerland, or of Paris, Berlin, and Vienna, and who pants for 'fresh fields and pastures new'—Norway, as a suitable locality for some subsequent holiday ramble. He will find in Christiania an admirable Medical School, and a comparatively young but model University, with a staff of professors, distinguished no less for their affability and kindness to strangers, than for their eminence in science. Holst and W. Boeck in medicine, Faye in midwifery, C. B. Boeck in physiology, Sars and Esmarek in zoology, Blytt in botany, Munch and Keyser in archaeology, and Hansteen in astronomy, may favourably compare with the staff of any continental university. Great pains are taken for the *practical* teaching of the medical student. Rooms are provided for study, and for the prosecution of experimental research; and professors are constantly in attendance, watching over and directing the progress of their pupils more as fathers and friends than as mere lecturers. The university library is most extensive and valuable, and is particularly liberal in its dealings—the citizens in general, as well as the students, having the privilege of consulting or borrowing books. The museums of zoology, human anatomy, comparative anatomy, pathology, etc., though yet comparatively in their infancy, are exceedingly well arranged, and contain the nuclei of most valuable collections. When I visited the Museum of Zoology, I found Professor Esmarek in attendance, for the purpose of affording every information and explanation to the public, to whom the museum is thrown open gratuitously. With me, a perfect stranger, he entered at once familiarly into conversation, exhibiting his new and most ingenious method of so arranging fluid preparations of great size on the museum-shelves, as greatly to economise space; pointing out the most interesting and rarest of his own captures on the Mediterranean coasts; and affording me much valuable information regarding the Norwegian fauna. It was not necessary to be provided with introductions in order to be received with equal kindness by other professors, to whom the mere fact of one's being a stranger, and desirous of seeing this or knowing that, was at once a passport to their friendly offices. The medical visitor will further find the Rigshospital, or City Infirmary, conducted very much like our own city hospitals, and all its physicians and surgeons ready to afford him every facility for visiting it; while the State Lunatic Asylum at Gautsød, the State Penitentiary, and other institutions, are equally worthy of his attention. Again, at Bergen, he may study, under the celebrated Dr. Danielssen, that peculiar and rare affection, endemic on the west coast of Norway—the *elephantiasis græcorum*—with other allied skin diseases."

**THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE IN PARIS.** The session of the Faculty of Medicine in Paris opened on Saturday, November 14th, with an introductory discourse by M. Nélaton. The following are the lecturers for the session now commenced. *Pharmacy*, M. Soubeiran. *Physiology*, M. Berard; his place being supplied by M. Béclard, *agrégé*. *Medical Pathology*, M. Natalis Guillot. *Operations*, M. Malgaigne. *Medical Chemistry*, M. Wurtz. *Anatomy*, M. Jarjavay. *General Pathology and Therapeutics*, M. Andral; his duty being at present performed by M. Lasègue. *Surgical Pathology*, M. Denonvilliers. *Clinical Medicine*, MM. Bouillaud, Piorry, Rostan, and Trouseau. *Clinical Surgery*, MM. Langier, Jobert (de Lamballe), Velpeau, and Nélaton. *Obstetric Clinic*, M. P. Dubois.

**LEECHES.** M. de Quatrefages has recently communicated to the Academy of Sciences a series of experiments concerning the preservation of leeches. It appears that the Algerian leech is quite equal in quality to that of Bordeaux, provided proper caution is used in exporting it. M. de Quatrefages recommends that measures be taken to regulate the trade in Algeria, to prevent its marshes, which are very rich, from being too soon exhausted. He recommends an apparatus for preserving leeches, invented by M. Vayson, whom the War Department had sent over last year to Algeria to explore the marshes. This apparatus consists in a kind of large earthen pot, in the shape of a cone with its base downwards, pierced with small holes; it is filled with earth taken from the swamps; the pot is placed in an earthen dish containing water to the height of about three inches; this suffices to keep the earth within sufficiently moist. The mouth of the vessel is covered with gauze. In this apparatus leeches are said to have been kept without nourishment for a whole year without any mortality.

**STATISTICS OF SUICIDE.** The "European Statistics of Suicide," recently published in France by M. Lisle, show that England is no longer at the head of the dreary poll. The French author proves that France is highest in the scale, and Russia lowest. In London we have one suicide in 8250 people. Paris gives one in 221. For the whole English population the suicides reckon one in 15,900; France, one in 12,489. The north of France is the most prolific in suicides, that district yielding nearly half of the whole number in the entire empire.

**MEDICAL OFFICERS FOR INDIA.** The authorities connected with the medical department of the army having decided on having an additional number of medical officers stationed at Chatham, in order that they may be in readiness to embark for India immediately their services are required, eight additional assistant-surgeons have been directed to be attached to the medical staff, and will perform duty in the Garrison Hospital.

**PRACTICAL METEOROLOGY.** The Academy of Science, Art, and Literature, of Bordeaux, offers a prize of 300 francs for the best essay on the following subject:—"Review the actual state of our knowledge as to the grand phenomena of meteorology: such as the temperature, pressure, humidity, and electricity of the air; the currents of the atmosphere and the ocean; the quantities of water which annually fall in different places, their distribution through the seasons of the year; the moisture which escapes by evaporation from the surface of cultivated or uncultivated soils, etc., and as to the various influences which these phenomena exercise upon living creatures: and deduce therefrom the particular direction which should be given to future observations, in order to aid the progress of this department of science." The essays are to be forwarded to the office of the secretary, No. 1, Rue St. Dominique, before Oct. 21st, 1858.

## 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.

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.

NOTICE.—DR. WYNTER will feel obliged if the Associates will address all Post Office Orders in payment of Subscriptions, to the Publisher, Mr. THOMAS JOHN HONEYMAN, 37, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W. C., "Bloomsbury Branch"; and he would also feel obliged by their sending all communications respecting the non-receipt of the Journal, to the same address; as both these matters are out of the province of the Editor.

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

Communications have been received from: — DR. R. U. WEST; DR. S. T. CHADWICK; MR. W. NEWMAN; DR. J. SLOANE; MR. T. HOLMES; MR. T. M. HARDING; DR. BRYDEN; MR. G. RUSSELL; MR. S. F. ACTON; DR. HILLIER; MR. RICHARD GRIFFIN; DR. C. HANDFIELD JONES; MR. J. V. SOLOMON; MR. JOHN RUSSELL; MR. W. D. HUSBAND; DR. T. INMAN; DR. H. GOODE; DR. CAMPS; MR. B. EDDISON; MR. S. SMITH; MR. BASSETT; MR. J. S. GANGE; THE DONCASTER CHRONICLE; MR. G. SOUTHAM; DR. RADFORD; MR. W. WEBBER; DR. G. G. ROGERS; DR. J. M. BELL; and MR. W. WALKER.

### BOOKS RECEIVED.

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

1. A Manual of the Practice of Medicine. By T. H. Tanner, M.D., F.R.S. Third Edition, revised and improved. London: Renshaw. 1857.
2. Ophthalmic Hospital Reports, and Journal of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital. Edited by J. P. Streetfield. October 1857. No. 1. To be had at the Hospital; and of Mr. Churchill, New Burlington Street.
3. Atlas of Human Anatomy and Physiology. By William Turner, M.R.C.S. Eng., Demonstrator of Anatomy in the University of Edinburgh; selected and arranged under the superintendence of \*John Goodsir, F.R.S.S. L. and E., Professor of Anatomy in the University of Edinburgh. Accompanied by a Handbook fully explaining the Plates. Edinburgh: W. and A. K. Johnston. 1857.
4. Recherches sur les Lois de l'Irritabilité musculaire, de la Rigidité cadavérique, et de la Putréfaction (premier mémoire). Par M. E. Brown-Séquard.
5. Recherches Expérimentales sur les Propriétés et les Usages du Sang rouge et du Sang noir (4me Mémoire). Par M. E. Brown-Séquard. (Extraits des Comptes Rendus des Séances de l'Académie des Sciences, 1857.)