

Association Intelligence.

TO THE HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE BRANCHES.

THE General Secretary will feel particularly obliged if the Honorary Secretaries will inform him, with as little delay as possible, of any subscriptions for the current year received by them since their last lists were forwarded to Worcester.

December, 1857.

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.

Reports of Societies.

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH, 1857.

SIR C. LOCOCK, Bart., M.D., President, in the Chair.

THE INFLUENCE WHICH LIQUOR POTASSÆ AND OTHER CAUSTIC ALKALIES EXERT UPON THE PREPARATIONS OF HENBANE, STRAMONIUM, AND BELLADONNA. BY A. B. GARROD, M.D.

DR. GARROD first alluded to the frequent exhibition of henbane with liquor potassæ. He then detailed experiments, which demonstrated that the active principle of henbane was destroyed by liquor potassæ and other caustic alkalies; and that such a combination was inert, both when topically applied (as evidenced by the absence of power in causing dilatation of the pupil of the eye), and also when internally administered. Similar observations were next detailed upon the preparations of stramonium and belladonna, and the results were found to be the same. The carbonates and bicarbonates of the alkalies, however, were devoid of the property of destroying the activity of the plants. In some of Dr. Garrod's experiments, as much as a drachm of the extract of henbane and an ounce and a half of the tincture were administered in combination with potash, without the production of the slightest symptom.

The results arrived at in the communication may be thus summed up:—

1. Caustic alkalies, such as exist in liquor potassæ or liquor sodæ, entirely destroy the activity of henbane, preventing its action on the pupil when topically applied, and its influence upon the system when internally administered; and, combined with a proper amount of these alkalies, the largest doses of the preparations of henbane may be given without the production of any symptoms.

2. The same influence is exerted by the fixed caustic alkalies upon belladonna and stramonium.

3. The carbonates and bicarbonates of potash and soda produce no injurious effects upon the preparations of any of the three above-named plants.

The deductions to be drawn from these results are:—

- a. Neither liquor potassæ nor any caustic fixed alkali should be prescribed with tincture or extract of henbane, as the virtues of the latter drug are thereby completely neutralised.

- b. When it is desirable to administer an alkaline remedy with henbane, either a carbonate or bicarbonate should be selected, which would probably be equally efficacious upon the stomach, if such influence be required, and certainly as efficient in altering the condition of the urine, and the mucous membrane of the urinary passages.

- c. The same precautions should be observed with regard to belladonna and stramonium, if at any time prescribed in conjunction with alkalies.

THE PRESIDENT remarked that a combination of liquor potassæ with henbane was very frequently prescribed. The paper before the Society showed the reason why many had been disappointed in the effects of the remedy. He inquired whether caustic alkalies could be employed with success as antidotes to the poisons of belladonna, henbane, and stramonium. He had nearly poisoned a patient on one occasion with stramonium; and had seen another case in which a patient nearly fell a victim to belladonna. It seemed from the paper that it took two hours for the alkali to destroy the poisonous properties of those drugs. Could a more concentrated or larger quantity of caustic alkali be safely applied as an antidote?

DR. GARROD thought the caustic alkalies never could be employed as antidotes in these cases, as the quantity given must be so large, or the strength so great, as to make it dangerous. There was, however, a certain antidote for henbane, belladonna, or stramonium. This was animal charcoal. If we took a solution of any of these poisons, and added but a small amount of animal charcoal, the effect on the system was instantly destroyed, or rather neutralised. It required less to neutralise stramonium than belladonna, and less for henbane than stramonium. He narrated two cases in which, by accident, twelve grains and a quarter of an ounce respectively of the dried leaves of belladonna were swallowed. In both these cases animal charcoal was administered, and, though somewhat late, both recovered. He need not say that it was necessary that the antidote should be given before the poison had been absorbed into the system; if it had passed from the stomach, of course no antidote would be effective. In illustration of his statements, he related the following experiments, which he had repeated on several occasions. He gave a dog a certain dose of aconite, which destroyed him. He gave another dog forty times the quantity of the same poison, combined with a small quantity of animal charcoal. This animal was unaffected. In these experiments it was not necessary to have purified animal charcoal, as the common bone-black would answer all purposes.

IN answer to questions from Drs. E. SMITH and BARCLAY, DR. GARROD said he was quite ignorant of the mode of action of animal charcoal upon vegetable poisons, nor could he explain why vegetable charcoal did not answer equally well. But such was the fact. It could be proved in this way:—Take a certain quantity of vegetable charcoal, and add to it a solution of henbane, stramonium, or belladonna; it did not in any way influence the solution, and when it was applied to the eye, it would still dilate the pupil. If animal charcoal, however, were substituted for the vegetable charcoal, the solution would fail to dilate the pupil. Animal charcoal, it was known, had an intense absorbing power compared with vegetable charcoal. That animal charcoal did possess the property in question might be determined easily. If to a solution of quinine or morphia animal charcoal were added, it neutralised it; vegetable charcoal did not act upon it.

DR. MARCET referred to the experiments of Dr. Hofmann, for the detection of strychnia in beer: these experiments had shown that the strychnia was taken up by the animal charcoal, which rendered it insoluble, and prevented its absorption when steeped in animal matter. This circumstance tended to prove that animal charcoal destroyed the poisonous effects of the vegetable alkaloids.

DR. BENJAMIN RIDGE made some remarks on the propriety of determining the kind of narcotic, and the proportion in which it should be combined with an alkali, to effect the object of the prescriber.

DR. GARROD inquired the experience of members of the sedative effects of henbane when combined with caustic alkalies. He had himself often been disappointed with the effects of this combination, and he had found that a great number of practitioners of whom he had made inquiries had been equally disappointed.

MR. URE had frequently prescribed henbane with the liquor potassæ: the good effects resulting had, doubtless, been owing to the alkali and not to the henbane.

CASE OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE STOMACH THROUGH THE ABDOMINAL PARIETES, PRODUCED BY ULCERATION FROM EXTERNAL PRESSURE; WITH OBSERVATIONS ON THE CASES OF GASTRO-CUTANEOUS FISTULÆ ALREADY RECORDED. BY CHAS. MURCHISON, M.D., L.R.C.P.

The author had seen the subject of the following history,

THE ELECTION AT QUEEN'S HOSPITAL, BIRMINGHAM.

LETTER FROM JOSEPH SAMPSON GAMGEE, ESQ.

SIR,—Without any desire to elude just criticism, I beg to be allowed publicly to protest against the fairness of the strictures editorially passed upon me in the last number of the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*. It appears to me that a member of Parliament would be as open to censure for addressing, for a philanthropic object, the ladies of the town he represents, as you represent me to be for the simple fact of appealing to the ladies of Birmingham on behalf of the Queen's Hospital Ball. This festivity is the agency through which several hundred pounds are annually collected for the Queen's Hospital; and, as my election to the surgeons'hip, in opposition to the canvassing party, was being made a pretext for damaging the institution, I took early opportunity to set myself right on several points in which I had been maliciously misrepresented.

I beg to invite you to consider all the bearings of the contest in which I have been engaged. You may possibly find that I have suffered more than "slight provocation"—that I have done something else besides "writing fluently". I cannot but feel, and I believe that many besides myself feel, that something more than a personal question is at issue; and, while I recognise in you the full right of criticising me, I invite you to do so fairly, and not to lose sight of the several bearings of a great question in a good humoured appeal to the lady patronesses of a hospital ball.

I am, etc.,
JOSEPH SAMPSON GAMGEE.

Queen's Hotel, Birmingham, December 7th, 1857.

[We can assure Mr. Gamgee that we are doing him infinite service by recommending him to restrain his too fluent pen. He is only compromising his position and losing his friends by rushing into fiery print on every possible occasion. EDITOR.]

STUDENTS AT ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.

SIR,—I trust that you will allow me to acquaint the numerous readers of your *JOURNAL* with the fact that the occasion on which "One who wishes Reformation" visited the chemical lecture theatre of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, was that on which the usual exhibition of laughing gas took place at the close of the lecture; and also, on the same day, the mottoes and number of marks obtained by some of the students at a previous examination were given out; of course giving rise to various exclamations of applause or disapprobation.

Although not wishing to defend any students causing improper interruption in a lecture room, still I must express my surprise that an individual, visiting a lecture theatre through courtesy, should publish occurrences, however improper, which he might witness in that place.

I am, etc., STUDENS.
St. Bartholomew's Hospital, December 10th, 1857.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday, December 6th, 1857.

MEDICAL CHARITIES (IRELAND).

Mr. H. HERBERT obtained leave to bring in a Bill to amend the laws in force for the relief of the destitute poor in Ireland, and to amend an Act of the 15th year of Her Majesty, providing for the better distribution, support, and management of Medical Charities in Ireland.

The Bill was brought in and read a first time.

Medical News.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, AND APPOINTMENTS.

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

BIRTHS.

BELL. On December 2nd, the wife of *Charles W. Bell, M.D., K.L.S., of Barlaston-under-Stone, Staffordshire, of a daughter.

BERNEY. On December 1st, at Croydon, Surrey, the wife of *Edward Berney, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

MACLIMONT. On December 4th, at Guernsey, the wife of Robert MacLimont, M.D., of a son.

MARSDEN. On December 6th, a 2A, Hyde Park Place, Cumberland Gate, the wife of Alexander Marsden, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

RICHARDSON. On December 5th, at 16, King's Place, St. George's-in-the-East, the wife of Alfred Richardson, M.D., of a daughter.

RODEN. On December 1st, at Llandudno, near Conway, the wife of *T. C. Roden, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

SMITH. On December 7th, at Corsham, Wiltshire, the wife of *M. Bass Smith, M.D., of a son.

TURNBULL. On October 17th, at Bangalore, Madras Presidency, the wife of Gavin Ainslie Turnbull, Esq., Surgeon 12th Royal Lancers, of a daughter.

TURNER. On December 7th, at 37, Sussex Gardens, the wife of George Turner, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BARROW—MERRIMAN. BARROW, the Rev. John Croker, to Emily Jane, eldest daughter of the late James Nathaniel Merriman, Esq., Surgeon, of Kensington Square, at St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington, on December 2nd.

BOXALL—NAPPER. BOXALL, Henry, Esq., Surgeon, to Frances, fourth daughter of Henry Frederick Napper, Esq., of Wimbrough Green, Sussex, on December 9th.

JONES—BROWN. JONES, Joseph Turner, Esq., Surgeon, of Farthingstone, to Caroline Emma, second daughter of the late Mr. Robert Brown, at Bramstone, on December 1st.

PARR—BROUGHTON. PARR, Harington W., Esq., H.M.C.S., Labuan, to Mary Elizabeth Hyde, niece of *H. H. Broughton, M.D., of Preston, at Preston, on December 3rd.

WILDASH—WIGHTWICK. WILDASH, Henry C., M.D., of Hythe, to Rose Mame, younger daughter of the late William Wightwick, Esq., of New Romney, at Selling, Kent, on Dec. 1st.

DEATHS.

*BALLY, William Ford, Esq., Surgeon, of Bath, aged 59, on December 2nd.

BARLOW. On December 1st, at Ardwick, near Manchester, Mary Ann, wife of *Joshua Barlow, Esq., Surgeon.

BENSON, James F., Esq., Apothecary to the County Dispensary, Norwich, of scarlet fever and pleurisy, aged 24, on December 3rd.

BIRD. On December 4th, aged 26, Alfred Eustace, eldest son of *James Bird, Esq., Surgeon, of 6, Seymour Street West, Connaught Square.

HOOPER, Charles, Esq., Surgeon, formerly of Kempsey, Worcestershire, at Notting Hill, aged 57, on December 4th.

LUARD. On November 25th, at Florence, Mary Magdalene, wife of Peter Francis Luard, M.D.

WOODWARD, Thos. Hewlett, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon H.E.I.C.S. in camp, before Delhi, on August 31st.

PASS LISTS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. MEMBERS admitted at the meeting of the Court of Examiners, on Friday, December 4th, 1857:—

ANGUS, James Acworth, Newcastle
BOWER, William Eliot, Nantwich, Cheshire
COOPER, Vincent Morton, Bow Road
CROUCHER, Alexander Richard, Shadwell
EVEREST, George John, Cork
FLEURY, Charles Robert, Passage, co. Waterford
GRANGER, William Slocombe, Bradford Yeovil, Somerset
HILLMAN, William, Army
HOLMES, John, Chesterfield
HOWARD, John Simpson, Madras
LAND, John Fullarton, Patrington, near Hull
LEET, Charles Henry, Army
PEMBERTON, John McLeod, H.E.I.C.S.

At the same meeting of the Court—

EVANS, Edward Higgon, of the Naval Hospital, Plymouth, passed his examination as Naval Surgeon. This gentleman had previously been admitted a member of the College: his diploma bearing date January 23rd, 1851.

THE FELLOWSHIP. The following gentlemen have just passed

the preliminary examination (in Classics, Mathematics, and French) for the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons:—

BROWNE, James Herbert, West Street, Brighton
LEE, Frederick Fawson, Charles Street, Trevor Square
MASON, Francis, Bedford Place
WALFORD, Walter Gilson, Cambridge

APOTHECARIES' HALL. Members admitted on Thursday, December 3rd, 1857:—

Dow, John, St. Martin's-le-Grand
MAY, John, Gerranarworthal
TUNMER, James Robert, Ipswich

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

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

The mortality of London continued high last week, and even showed a tendency further to increase. In the two previous weeks, the deaths were about 1380; in the week that ended last Saturday (December 5th), they rose to 1428. In the ten years 1847-56, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1318. But, as population has increased, the average for comparison must be raised proportionally to the increase, in which case it will become 1450. Hence it appears that the deaths of last week were rather less than the corrected average; but, on reference to the return for the first week of December in 1847, it will be seen that, in consequence of influenza being epidemic, the deaths from all causes then rose to the extraordinary number of 2454, and the average which embraces that period is higher than would have been obtained if only ordinary causes had been in operation.

It may be stated that at least a hundred persons died last week who would have survived if the season had not been in more than a usual degree unfavourable to health. These deaths are the results of influenza, terminating, as the medical practitioners believe, in bronchitis.

The number of deaths referred in the present returns to pulmonary diseases (exclusive of phthisis and whooping-cough) is 415, which is not much less than a third part of the total number returned in the week. In the nine years 1848-56, the deaths from the same class of complaints ranged from 171 to 379. The deaths caused by bronchitis continue to increase, for in the two previous weeks they were respectively 227 and 217; last week they were 242; the corrected average for last week is 158. The table shows the greatest number of deaths from bronchitis during that period of life which extends from 60 to 80 years, 92 persons having died in that interval. Beyond 80 years, the number falls to 20, the disease then finding a much reduced number of living subjects for its attacks. Pneumonia, which carries off chiefly the young, is far from being so fatal during the present period of sickness; for the deaths from it, which were in two previous weeks 127 and 143, fell last week to 120, which is hardly equal to the average. The number of cases in which influenza is specially mentioned is 22. Nine nonagenarians are returned, all of whom were women, except one.

Besides a fatal case of "infantile cholera," the death of a seaman from "cholera, pneumonia," is recorded. He died on November 24th, on board the *Dreadnought* Hospital Ship. Three children died of scarlatina within four days in a family in George Street, Somers Town; and two in another family in Exmouth Street, in the same subdistrict. In the family last referred to, the mother and another of her children died also of the same disease in November.

Last week the births of 938 boys and 874 girls, in all 1812 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847-56, the average number was 1504.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean reading of the barometer in the week was 29.858 in. The *highest* reading was 30.16 in., at the end of the week. The mean temperature of the week was 46.1°, which is 4.5° above the average of the same week in forty-three years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). On Wednesday and Thursday, the excess above the average was 9° and 11°. The *highest* temperature occurred on Wednesday, and was 56.4; the *lowest* on Tuesday, which was 35.8. The range of temperature on Thursday was only 6.8°; the mean daily range in the week was 12.7°. The difference between the mean dew-point temperature and mean air temperature was 2.9°. The mean temperature of the water of the Thames was 43.6°. The mean daily degree of humidity of the air was 91°, complete saturation being represented by 100; on Wednesday the hu-

midity was 98. After Tuesday, the direction of the wind was generally south-west. The rain measured in the week was only 0.10 in.

ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE.

A GENERAL meeting of the Governors of this Institution took place on Friday, December 4th, at the office in Soho Square, HENRY POWNALL, Esq., in the chair, when the following resolutions were passed:—

1. Moved by Mr. PROPERT, and seconded by Mr. RAY—

"That the following words be substituted for the last paragraph but one in the 15th bye law: 'A Governor who has one vote or more may at all elections use such vote or votes for as many candidates as there are vacancies to be filled up, and those votes may be divided at pleasure, or accumulated on any one candidate, provided they do not exceed the number to which the Governor is entitled according to the vacancies declared.'"

2. Moved by Mr. CHARLES HOGG, and seconded by Mr. FINCHAM—

"That the following words be omitted from the 15th bye law: 'All new subscriptions must be paid one month before the election, in order to entitle Governors to vote.'"

3. Moved by Sir JOHN FORBES, and seconded by Mr. WEBB—

"That the following words be added to the 13th bye law: 'After the election of a pensioner, and before admission, a certificate must be given by two householders that, in case of the decease of the pensioner, they, or either of them, will be bound to bury the deceased or guarantee the burial expenses.'"

4. Moved by Mr. JONSON, and seconded by Major MILLES—

"That the following words be added to the 16th bye law: 'Each pensioner must take up his or her residence within two months after his or her election, unless for reasons approved by the Council; otherwise the election of such pensioner will become void.'"

A vote of thanks to the chairman was then moved by Mr. PROPERT, and carried unanimously.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.

Mr. GRIFFIN has addressed the following letter to the Poor-law Medical Officers, accompanying it with a draft of an Act of Parliament.

"12, Royal Terrace, Weymouth, December 8th, 1857.

"DEAR SIRS,—I have much pleasure in submitting to your opinion the Draft of an Act of Parliament, and shall feel obliged by your informing me *within fourteen days* of any suggestions you may wish to offer in regard to any of the Sections, the numbers of which please to quote, that my time may be saved. It is most desirable to have the Bill laid before Parliament as speedily as possible after the adjournment of the House for the Christmas recess. It will be necessary to reprint the Bill and again submit it to you, as doubtless many alterations will have to be made in accordance with the general views of the entire body. It will be important to lay a copy before the individual Members of both Houses, and with it a reprint of the present Rules, Orders, and Regulations of the Poor-law Board having reference to the Medical Officers, and it will require comments on many of the sections, with quotations from various sources, to prove the necessity of them. I need scarcely remind you that to do all this will be very expensive, and cannot be carried out unless you will aid the Association with money.

"Bear in mind the battle the Association is fighting is your battle; it is the battle of the children of many of us; it is the battle of the weak against the strong; it is the battle of the profession against long and cruel injustice and grinding misrule; it is a battle for the welfare of the poorer classes; and, I may add, it is a battle for the good of the rate-payers, as an improved state of health of the community must tend to a diminution of the poor-rates. Of the three thousand and odd officers composing the medical staff of the Poor-law, but few over one-third have contributed to the fund of £600 already subscribed. Of this sum, a part has been contributed by gentlemen not Union officers; amongst these stands the name of Joseph Toynbee, Esq., who within the last few days has, unasked, sent me £1 1s. as an annual subscription—the other names I have before published. The Association requires your pecuniary assistance, as upwards of £500 have been spent during the last two years, and a like sum is now necessary. It requires your energetic aid in other respects; it requires you to petition the Legisla-

ture to carry the Bill through Parliament—for which purpose I will send you petitions to sign—if you say you will attach your signature to them, as the writing them out costs money, therefore it will not do for me to send them in vain: it requires you to write to the Members of the Legislature with whom you are personally acquainted, and request their support.

"As soon as I have ascertained your sentiments, I will call the Committee together, and I feel confident, however inconvenient it may be to many of them, that they will do their best to get the Bill introduced into both Houses, and aid the cause in every possible way; but, to render success certain, it will require you—and each of you—to put your shoulders to the wheel; for although we ask nothing but what is just and reasonable, public bodies are slow to grant redress, unless a little gentle pressure be put upon them.

"I am, dear Sirs, faithfully yours,

"RICHARD GRIFFIN, *Chairman*.

"To the Poor-law Medical Officers.

"P.S.—Stamps for 10s. and under will be very convenient, as about £40 will be required for postage during the next two months.

"Every Poor-law Medical Officer communicating with Mr. Griffin is requested to head his letter with the name of his Union as well as his address."

Mr. Griffin requests us to state that, as the Poor-law Board express their regret that they "cannot forward a list, showing the changes in the appointments of Poor-law Medical Officers which have taken place during the last eleven months," he must trouble those gentlemen who have received appointments since December 1856, to write to him for a copy of the draft petition.

ALLEGED FORGERY OF A WILL BY A SURGEON.

On Friday, December 4th, Mr. Thomas Monk, surgeon, a borough and county magistrate of Preston, was brought up at the Town-hall in custody on charge of forging a will. The case excited great interest and the court was crowded. Mr. Ascroft, the town clerk, and Mr. R. Segar, barrister, prosecuted; Mr. R. A. Cross, M.P., barrister, instructed by Mr. W. Blackhurst, being for the defence. On Thursday a coroner's inquest was held, arising out of the same matter. Edward Turner, reed-maker, St. Paul's-road, died on the 25th of September. During his illness he was attended by the prisoner. He died in a fortnight, and at his death it was found that the prisoner had succeeded to deceased's effects, which amounted to about £100 after his debts were paid. The rumours which were circulated led to the exhumation of Turner's body at the cemetery, and to the transmission of the stomach and intestines to Professor Taylor for examination. Professor Taylor's examination is not yet finished. The inquest on Thursday was adjourned after the evidence of Alice Chadwick, the housekeeper, had been given. That evidence showed that deceased during his illness was attended by Mr. Monk, who in an hour after his patient's death demanded the keys and removed money and books from the house. The man died on the Friday and Mr. Monk ordered the funeral for the Sunday, on which day he took some silver spoons away in his pocket. Subsequently he disposed of the stock in the workshop, and the household furniture. The inquest was adjourned till the 11th inst.

Immediately after the inquest Mr. Monk was taken into custody by the superintendent of the police, and lodged in the lock-up.

Mr. Segar briefly stated the facts, and expressed the pain and embarrassment he felt in being engaged in the case.

Mr. WILLIAM H. HINDER, of the Consistory Court, Lancaster, produced the will alleged to have been forged.

The Rev. THOMAS CLARK, surrogate, said he remembered the 26th of September. The prisoner came to his house and said that a man named Turner was dead, and money was wanted to pay his workmen's wages; that he had been to the bank, and they declined to give him any without proper authority on his part to receive it. He said there was no will found, or words to that effect, and that there were no relations to deceased known or likely to be heard of, and therefore letters of administration could be granted to him, as principal creditor. He further stated that he had had repeated conversations with the deceased, and knew exactly what he wanted to do with his money. The housekeeper was to have 5s. a-week paid to her as long as she lived. He applied for letters of administration, and witness read him the following instruction which is given

to surrogates:—"No creditor can obtain administration without first issuing a citation, and obtaining a decree of court." Mr. Monk then wished him to apply at Lancaster for that purpose. On the following Tuesday he came again, and witness told him he had an answer from Lancaster. The prisoner said no answer was required, as a will had been found. He produced a will, and witness administered the oath to the prisoner as sole surviving executor.

The following is a copy of the will:—

"This is the last Will and Testament of me Edward Turner of St. Paul's Road Reed Maker of Preston in the County of Lancaster. I direct my Executors to pay all my just debts funeral and testamentary expenses so soon after my decease as may be convenient and it is my Will and desire that my said Executors pay to my God-Daughter Elizabeth Wilkinson of Preston the sum of Ten Pounds in Two months after my decease. I then order and direct my Executors to pay to my housekeeper Alice Chadwick the sum of Three Shillings per week and all the rest residue and remainder of my real and personal estate I give absolutely to Thomas Monk Surgeon of Preston in the County of Lancaster and I appoint Thomas Clark Iron and Brass Founder of Preston and Thomas Monk Surgeon both in the County of Lancaster to be my Executors under this my last Will and Testament and I hereby declare that the receipt or receipts in writing of my said Executors for any moneys payable to them under or by virtue of this my Will shall be an effectual discharge and I hereby declare that my said Executors may reimburse themselves out of the monies which shall come to their hands under this my Will all expenses which may be incurred by them in and about the said Executorship. In witness whereof I the said Edward Turner the Testator have to this my last Will and Testament set my hand Seal this fourteenth day of February in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

"Signed published and declared by me the said

Edward Turner the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us present at the same time and who in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witness.

"James Holden

Preston.

"Joseph Wilkinson

Preston."

(Seal) O
Edward Turner

Witness stated further that he afterwards received the probate from Lancaster, and gave it the prisoner, who paid the charges.

Mr. JOHN FISHER, manager of the Lancaster Bank in Preston, proved that on the 26th of September the prisoner applied for Turner's balance at the bank, £56 odd. He produced a sheet of letter paper containing writing, on which witness declined to pay him the money. He paid it on the 2nd of October, on the production of the will.

The paper in question on which payment of the balance was refused was not produced, the prisoner pleading that he had not time.

ROBT. FARNWORTH said he knew the deceased's handwriting. The signature in the will was not his. He did not know such a man as Holden. Never heard deceased say anything about a will. Worked for him five years, and knew him well.

JOSEPH WILKINSON said the signature of his name in the will was not his handwriting. He knew nothing about it. He was acquainted with Turner fourteen years.

The prisoner was then removed.

On Tuesday the inquiry was resumed.

A report was current on Monday to the effect that the writer of the will had been discovered. The will is in the handwriting of a female, and on Tuesday Mrs. Pipe, the wife of a hair-dresser in Preston, was taken into custody.

Mr. Segar, barrister, again prosecuted; Mr. R. A. Cross, M.P., being retained for the defence.

Mr. FISHER, manager at the Lancaster Bank, said that Mr. Monk called upon him at the Lancaster Bank on Saturday, the 26th of September. He produced a paper about the size of a sheet of letter paper. It purported to be a disposition of Edward Turner's property in favour of "his dear friend, Thomas Monk." There was no mention of any other name that he could remember: but there was a disposition of 5s. a-week in favour of the housekeeper. The document appeared to be in the handwriting of Mr. Monk, but he would not swear positively to it. It purported to be signed by Edward Turner. He believed there was no witness's name to it. He (Mr. Monk) retained the document, and took it away with him. Witness said the bank could give no money on a document like that;

and that they never paid money except upon the production of probate or letters of administration.

Mrs. ANN EDNA PIPE, wife of John Wilkers Pipe, hairdresser and perfumer, had resided at Preston between five and six years. She knew the prisoner, Mr. Thomas Monk. Since she had been in Preston, he had been the medical attendant of the family. She remembered having occasion one morning to call at his surgery. It was between two and three months ago. She saw Mr. Monk that morning at his surgery; he appeared to be preparing to go out. He asked witness if she had time to copy him a paper. He produced the paper, and also a blank sheet on which to make the copy. He gave directions to write it large like a man. Witness did copy it on a sheet of paper he gave her for the purpose. She copied it in his surgery. Mr. Monk was up and down the stairs of his surgery while she was copying it. Witness could not say positively in whose handwriting the paper was that she copied.

Mr. Cross objected.

Mr. SEGAR. It is a matter of opinion.

Mr. Cross. Of course my friend is going to ask whether it is in the handwriting of prisoner. Of course, before he does that, he ought to know whether she is prepared to answer the question.

Witness continued. The document (produced by Mr. Winder, Clerk of the Consistory Court at Lancaster) now put into her hands is the copy she made. The whole of it was in her handwriting, except the signatures, "Joseph Wilkinson, Preston," and "Edward Turner, Preston." The word "day" in the last line put in the body of the will was her handwriting. She thought she discovered the omission of the word "day" herself. After she had copied the document, she left it with Mr. Monk. She could not say whether the name "James Holden" was upon the document when she copied it. It was either on or she was directed to put it on the document by Mr. Monk. At the time, she had never before heard of Edward Turner. She did not see Edward Turner sign the document. When she left it with Mr. Monk, there was no other writing upon it but her own.

The depositions having been read over, the witness said she did not now know what she called at the surgery for. It was not to consult him.

This closed the evidence for the prosecution.

The prisoner was then committed for trial, bail being refused. The utmost sensation pervades the town of Preston, and the inquiry engrosses all conversation.

CANTERBURY DISPENSARY. The annual meeting of the Governors of this institution was held on December 1st. From the report, which was read by Mr. Rigden, it appeared that during the past year a much larger number of patients than in any former years had availed themselves of its assistance—amounting to 1382, exactly one hundred more than in the preceding year. Of these, 1141 had been attended at their own homes, and 241 had attended at the Dispensary for medical aid. There had been cured 845; more or less relieved, 305; 44 had died; 3 had neglected to return their cards to the surgeon; and 125 remained under treatment. A very large proportion of the patients who applied for and received assistance were of the female sex. During the past year, while 36 per cent. were male patients, 63 per cent. were female; and many of the latter sex, but for the Dispensary, would not have been able to obtain medical attendance. In consequence of the more than usual prevalence of zymotic diseases during the past year, the number of patients so afflicted had formed a larger proportion of the total number than had generally been observed; and the mortality from these diseases, in comparison with the absolute mortality as shown by the public register of deaths, had borne about the same proportion. One hundred and ninety-eight cases of *fever* (of which twenty-one have been intermittent or agues, and twenty-one remittent) had been brought under treatment, nearly half of which presented themselves during the last three months; four had proved fatal. Fifty-four cases of *scarlatina* had been admitted, forty-six of which were in the months of December 1856, January, June, July, and August, 1857; of these, five proved fatal. Eighty-eight cases of *diarrhoea* had been admitted, seventy-six of which occurred in the months of July, August, September, and October; of these, two proved fatal. Twelve cases of *erysipelas* had been under treatment, four of which were in February, two in July, and one in each of the following months—viz., November, December, January, May, August, and November, 1857. *Diphtheritis*, although prevalent in several other counties and in some of the neighbouring villages for several months past, did

not present itself in Canterbury until within the last two months. Eleven cases had already been brought under treatment at the Dispensary; of these, two had died. The remaining cases from zymotic diseases had been three from measles, seven from erythema, five from carbuncle; and of mumps, whooping-cough, chicken-pox, and purpura, of each one case.

PROJECTED NEW LUNATIC ASYLUM FOR THE CITY OF LONDON. At a meeting of the Court of Aldermen on Tuesday last, Alderman Wire, in the absence of Alderman Finnis, presented a petition from the Board of Guardians of the City of London Union for the establishment of a new lunatic asylum, and moved, "that it be referred to the General Purposes Committee to take the advice of the law officers of the corporation upon the subject, and to report thereon to this court." Alderman Sidney seconded the motion. The motion, after some discussion, was put and carried unanimously, and the court adjourned.

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, twopenny; above 8 ounces and not exceeding 1 pound, fourpenny; for every additional half-pound or under, twopenny.

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. P. H. WILLIAMS; MR. WILLIAM SCOTT; DR. B. SMITH; MR. PROPERT; MR. E. BOULT; YOD BETH GIMEL; MR. JOSEPH FOSTER; MR. STONE; MR. J. S. GANGE; DR. BADER; MR. I. HARRISON; INK DART; MR. WILLIAM STUART; MR. SOUTHAM; MR. BOOTH EDDISON; DR. BROUGHTON; MR. RICHARD GRIFFIN; DR. WILLIAM DIX; MR. THOMAS CROSSE; MR. C. A. BARRETT; MR. HAYNES WALTON; MR. C. R. THOMPSON; MR. JOSHUA BARLOW; MR. J. BIKETT; MR. EDWARD BARNES; MR. T. HOLMES; DR. C. HANDFIELD JONES; MR. T. C. ROSEN; STUDENS; MR. CROSBY LEONARD; DR. THOMAS WILLIAMS; A MANCHESTER STUDENT; and MR. THOMAS SOUTHAM.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

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

1. Handbook of the Science and Practice of Medicine. By William Aitken, M.D. Edin. London and Glasgow: Richard Griffin and Co. 1858.
2. Introductory Address delivered at the London Hospital Medical College, at the opening of the Session 1857-58. By John Cawood Wordsworth. London: Edgingham and Wilson. 1857.
3. A Sketch of the History and Progress of Medicine: with Remarks on Medical Study. An Introductory Address delivered at the Liverpool Royal Infirmary School of Medicine. By *A. T. H. Waters. Liverpool: Adam Holden. London: Longman and Co. 1857.
4. A Treatise on Rheumatic Gout, or Chronic Rheumatic Arthritis of all the Joints. Illustrated by Woodcuts and an Atlas of Plates. By Robert Adams, M.D. London: John Churchill. 1857.
5. On Epilepsy and Epileptiform Seizures: their Causes, Pathology, and Treatment. By *Edward H. Sieveking, M.D. London: John Churchill. 1858.
6. On Consumption: its Nature, Symptoms, and Treatment. An Essay to which was awarded the Fothergillian Gold Medal of the Medical Society of London. By Richard Payne Cotton, M.D. Second Edition. London: John Churchill. 1858.
7. The Phenomena of Spinal Irritation and other Functional Diseases of the Nervous System explained, and a Rational Plan of Treatment deduced. By *Thomas Inman, M.D. London: Churchill. 1858.
8. A Manual of Qualitative Analysis. By Robert Galloway, F.C.S. Second Edition. London: John Churchill. 1858.
9. The Effect of Climate on Tuberculous Disease; being (with Additions) the Essay for which the Fiske Fund Prize was awarded to Edwin Lee, M.D. With an Appendix of Corroborative Observations and Notices of several Places of Winter Resort. London: John Churchill. 1858.
10. The Medical Profession in Great Britain and Ireland. With an Account of the Medical Organisation of France, Italy, Germany, and America. By Edwin Lee, M.D. Part II. British Medical Organisation. London: Churchill. 1857.
11. John Scott on the Treatment of Diseases of the Joints: and of Ulcers and Chronic Inflammation. A new Edition. With an Introduction and a Chapter on the Constitutional Origin and Treatment of Diseases of the Joints. By William Henry Smith. London: Longmans. 1857.