

## Association Intelligence.

### BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
METROP. COUNTIES. [Special General Meeting.]	Dr. Lankester's, 8, Savile Row, London.	Tuesday, April 27th, 4 P.M.

### 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.

### ROCHESTER, MAIDSTONE, AND GRAVESEND DISTRICT MEETINGS, IN CONNEXION WITH THE SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH.

THE concluding meeting for the present winter session was held at the Town Hall, Dartford, on Friday, April 9th, at 3.45; F. FRY, Esq., Senior Surgeon to the West Kent Infirmary, in the Chair. There were also present: W. Addison, M.D. (Maidstone); John Armstrong, M.D. (Gravesend); F. J. Brown, M.D. (Chatham); John J. D. Burns, M.D. (Chatham Prison); James Dulvey, Esq. (Brompton, Chatham); W. B. Everest, Esq. (Rainham); J. H. Gramshaw, Esq. (Gravesend); Samuel Gould, Esq. (Northfleet); William Hoar, Esq. (Maidstone); Adam Martin, M.D. (Rochester); C. J. Pinching, Esq. (Gravesend); F. Plomley, M.D. (Maidstone); J. C. Seccombe, Esq. (Greenhithe); John W. Woodfall, M.D. (Maidstone); and the following gentlemen as visitors: J. E. Crook, M.D. (Northfleet); J. Lucas Worship, Esq. (Riverhead, Sevenoaks).

The HONORARY SECRETARY read the minutes of the proceedings at the meeting held at Gravesend in March.

#### NEW MEMBER.

J. E. Crook, M.D., of Northfleet, was admitted a member of the Branch, having been duly proposed, seconded, and supported, in accordance with the laws of the Association.

#### TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

The TREASURER (Dr. Martin) then submitted his statement of accounts to the meeting. This was approved, and signed by the Chairman. The Treasurer was requested to send a copy of the same to the Secretary of the Branch, that it may be submitted to the Executive Council.

#### PAPERS READ.

The following papers were then read:—

1. Observations on a Case of Disease of the Suprarenal Capsules. By Adam Martin, M.D.
2. On the Partial Heats which are sometimes manifested in Consumptive Cases. By William Addison, M.D.
3. On the Induction of Premature Labour. By W. Hoar, Esq.
4. On the Common Symptom of Rigor or Shivering. By J. H. Gramshaw, Esq.

Considerable and important discussions arose out of these papers. The thanks of the meeting were given to the various gentlemen who had read them, and they were requested to allow them to be published in the JOURNAL of the Association.

On the motion of Dr. ARMSTRONG of Gravesend, seconded by Dr. Martin of Rochester, unanimous thanks were accorded to Mr. Dulvey for his zeal and perseverance in promoting the establishment of these meetings, and the efficient manner in which he has fulfilled the duties of Honorary Secretary.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE NEXT SESSION.

It was then resolved that, during the next session, the meetings be held in the months of September, October, March, and April; that the first meeting of the second series be held at Rochester, on Friday, September 24th, and be followed by a dinner.

Refreshments were introduced as usual; and, thanks having been voted to the Chairman, the meeting broke up at 6.20, every one present acknowledging the benefit and pleasure he had derived from this new movement in connexion with the Association.

## Reports of Societies.

### MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH, 1858.

FRANCIS HIRD, Esq., President, in the Chair.

ON SOME OF THE INFLAMMATORY AND OBSTRUCTIVE DISEASES OF THE CÆCUM: WITH REMARKS ON THE ABUSE OF VIOLENT PURGATIVES. BY W. R. ROGERS, M.D.

THE author commenced by alluding to the slight and cursory notices of these diseases in systematic treatises on medicine, and how frequently they are confounded with essentially different diseases of the intestinal canal. They are of frequent occurrence, are dangerous, and often fatal, and are characterised by a train of symptoms which render their recognition certain. He believed that the cæcum may be the seat of fatal diseases without any other part of the digestive tube being implicated; and that it often is first in the chain of causation of other disorders, with which it has been generally believed to be only accidentally related, these evincing the most marked disturbance, while the cæcum apparently exhibits but little disorder. Thus its diseases are not unfrequently mistaken for hysteritis, cystitis, enteritis, peritonitis, puerperal fever, and pelvic abscess. The author quoted Tiedemann and Gmelin, Drs. Copland, Carpenter, and others, to prove the importance of the cæcum in the animal economy, partaking of the nature of a stomach in the gaminivorous and ruminating animals, and that it is the viscus in which the last act of digestion is performed, secreting an acid, albuminous, and solvent fluid, and also pouring out of its numerous follicles an unctuous and oily material, with hydro-sulphuretted gases, to be eliminated from the economy. Thus, like the lungs, kidney, and skin, it is a depurating organ, so that when costiveness exists there is danger of these excretions being reabsorbed and contaminating the blood. He stated that he had within the last twenty years met with not a few cases of these diseases, some of which he would class as "acute", others "chronic", inflammation of the cæcum—tuphlo-enteritis; they had not appeared to arise from the ordinary causes of inflammation—viz., exposure to the vicissitudes of the weather, or alternations of temperature, but seemed to be produced by some mechanical exciting, and irritating cause, the lodgment of impacted, hardened faeces, undigested food, fruit, skins and stones of fruit, and concretions of varied and different kinds, and often arise while the person is in good health. The symptoms may begin mildly, and gradually proceed to greater intensity; or they may, in excitable subjects, be violent from the onset. There is but little febrile disturbance compared with the local pain and suffering; less anxiety of countenance than in enteritis; pulse not small, or much quickened at the commencement; there is great tension and tenderness over the cæcum, so that the least pressure cannot be borne; there are no rigors; the pain is constant, does not intermit, and its area goes on extending till the whole abdomen is involved; but the right ileo-inguinal region is ever the most tender part. There is obstinate costiveness; nausea and violent vomiting may set in, especially when drastic purgatives have been persevered in; the position is characteristic—the patient lies on the right side, body bent, and thigh drawn up; the countenance has not the anxious aspect of enteritis. If neglected or wrongly treated, the abdomen becomes tense and tympanitic, and general enteritis or peritonitis may supervene. Should the appendix be inflamed or ulcerated, all the symptoms are more acute, and likely to terminate fatally by peritonitis or faecal abscess. In the progress of these diseases, adhesions are often formed in its interior, or to other parts; the areolar tissue around may inflame, suppurate, and give rise to abscess, which may tend upwards and downwards, and require to be opened; they may either open externally, or find their way into other parts of the intestinal canal, the patient recovering, or may die worn out by the discharge. Should the ulceration open into the peritoneum, peritonitis of a diffused and fatal character will be set up, as in one of the cases related by the author. This termination is fortunately most rare, though not uncommon in typhoid and dysenteric fevers. When resolution takes place, it is preceded by action of the bowels and gradual subsidence of the pain, tenderness, sickness, and fever, about the fourth, sixth, or even the eighth day. This result can only be obtained by most judicious treatment; but when mistaken, and treated too

out the kingdom, and in registration, and those minor matters which all bills have alike provided for; but surely the profession generally have an interest in those really important questions concerning the constitution of examining boards and the schools of medicine; and will not, I feel assured, quietly permit the spoliation of the existing colleges of our profession, or of existing schools, simply for the benefit of an exclusive and already over privileged few, as would directly or indirectly result from the bills of Mr. Cowper and Lord Elcho. Let me ask, in conclusion, what has become of Mr. Headlam and his bill, which was emphatically the bill of the profession (though not of the Scotch universities), was so favourably received by the House of Commons, and required only some little pruning in Committee? I inclose my card, and am, etc.

April 12th, 1858.

FAIR PLAY.

#### TREATMENT OF CONTRACTED KNEE-JOINTS.

LETTER FROM J. V. SOLOMON, ESQ.

SIR,—The method of treatment that my neighbour, Mr. Gamgee, claims for Professor Palasciano was originated with Dieffenbach, and will be found described and, what is of still more importance, clinically illustrated in his work *Ueber die Durchschneidung der Sehnen und Muskeln*. Berlin: 1841. In the division of the tendons and fascia of the ham by subcutaneous incision, Dieffenbach was anticipated by Stromeyer, who, instead of using forcible extension and flexion immediately after the tenotomy, waited till the wounds were cicatrised, and then applied gradual extension. Stromeyer's work was published in 1839. In Dr. Little, Stromeyer's views have had an able apostle and practical exponent; and to him I was indebted, in 1842, for an opportunity of witnessing the capability of scientific orthopædic surgery to overcome old standing contractions of the knee-joints. Valuable as I believe excision of the knee-joint to be when performed in properly selected cases, I am quite sure that in some instances death would have been averted, and in others, more useful limbs secured, had the operator substituted the tenotomy knife for the giant scalpel, and a proper extending apparatus for the saw.

I am, etc., JAS. VOSE SOLOMON, F.R.C.S.

Formerly Surgeon to the Birmingham Gen. Disp.

New Hall Street, Birmingham, April 1858.

#### CASE OF PROFESSIONAL DISTRESS.

LETTER FROM C. W. CHALDECOTT, ESQ.

SIR,—Will you be good enough to allow the following appeal to the benevolent members of our profession to be inserted in the columns of our JOURNAL? I ask for this indulgence in the hope that it may induce many, with whom I am personally unacquainted and to whom I cannot write, to assist me in a work which I have every reason to believe will be one of substantial charity and usefulness.

A very worthy and intelligent medical man, a member of both College and Hall, and otherwise well educated, having fallen into great adversity and distress, with a wife and seven young children, has been prevailed on to go abroad, and I have undertaken to collect subscriptions to enable him to do this in such manner as may give a good hope of success. His fall is not attributable to any unprofessional or disgraceful conduct, but to a really chronic adverse condition of things. He, perhaps very imprudently, married without sufficient means or connection to establish himself securely; the consequence of which marriage was, that in the first year, he became father of twins (both living), and has had, I think, annually a single addition at least to his family, while, most unfortunately, his business has not increased in anything like commensurate degree. With the help of friends, he has till lately struggled on with all his encumbrances and difficulties; but having used up all the assistance his friends could afford him, and been otherwise disappointed by the death of a gentleman with whom he was likely to become associated in partnership, he is now fairly down; and without some very active and prompt assistance, he and his poor family will soon be in a state of starving destitution. I have already succeeded in collecting as much as £96, and this, with £100 guaranteed by a gentleman if we can succeed in obtaining a certain sum, gives very good promise of our object being attainable, especially if the profession continue to respond to my application with the ready and generous liberality that it has hitherto done. We think it absolutely

necessary to acquire at least another hundred pounds; and of course, as the family is so large, we should be glad to have this sum far exceeded. Every sort of economy and pains will be practised, and of course a surgeoncy on board the vessel which takes the family out will be procured for him.

After this statement, it only remains for me to invite most earnestly those who have not already contributed, to add whatever they can afford to this project for restoring a ruined family to happiness and prosperity.

I am, etc.,  
CHARLES W. CHALDECOTT.

Dorking, Surrey, April 14th, 1858.

#### DEATH FROM CHLOROFORM.

SIR,—*Apròpos* of the recent discussion between Dr. Snow and Mr. Prichard on the inhalation of chloroform, perhaps you will allow me to refer your readers to some useful remarks on this subject by Mr. Syme, and reported as part of a clinical lecture in the *Lancet* for January 20, 1855.

It appears that, as far as Mr. Syme's practice at Edinburgh is concerned, no questions are asked about the state of the heart or the constitution of the patient. "In all cases where chloroform is required for an operation, it is freely given." A folded towel or a handkerchief is the usual vehicle of administration; no limit is set to the quantity of the agent used, and the degree of stertor in the breathing is taken as a practical guide to an estimate of the constitutional effects. In cases where danger is apprehended, the mouth is opened, the tongue seized with an artery-forceps, and pulled well forward.

I am, etc. AN ASSOCIATE.

Bath, April 7th, 1858.

## Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Tuesday, April 13th.

#### MILITIA SURGEONS.

Mr. BRADY asked the Secretary for War if a memorial was received by him from the Militia Surgeons of the embodied regiments, asking to be placed on a permanent footing; and, if so, what were the intentions of the Government on the subject?

General PEEL said he had received the memorial, and had returned answer that he could not, under present circumstances, increase the expense of the permanent staff of the militia, which at present amounted to £150,000.

#### PETITIONS.

Petitions against Lord Elcho's Bill have been presented from the College of Surgeons of Edinburgh; and from the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.

## Medical News.

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

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

#### BIRTHS.

- BRAND. On April 12th, at Stoke Newington, the wife of Samuel Elwin Brand, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.  
COWAN. On April 11th, in Edinburgh, the wife of George H. Cowan, Esq., Surgeon, of Calcutta, of a son.  
JONES. On April 12th, at 10, Lower Seymour Street, Portman Square, the wife of William Jones, M.D., of a son.  
NOURSE. On April 6th, at Eltham, Kent, the wife of W. E. C. Nourse, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.  
WISE. On April 7th, at Gisburne, Yorkshire, the wife of Thomas Wise, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.  
WITHECOMBE. On April 7th, at Swansea, the wife of — Withecombe, M.D., Bengal Army, of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

- CALLAGHAN—GRAHAM. CALLAGHAN, Gerard Stanley, Esq., of Cork, to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Henry G. Graham, Esq., Superintending Surgeon H.E.I.C.S., Rangoon, at Glastonbury, on April 13th.
- CAPARN—MARRIOTT. CAPARN, John, M.D., of Banbury, Oxfordshire, to Sarah, second daughter of the late Francis Marriott, Esq., at Nottingham, on April 7th.
- DUIGAN—HAMPTON. DUIGAN, John Philip, M.D., of Gainsborough, to Elizabeth Heaton, eldest daughter of T. F. Hampton, Esq., of Liverpool, on April 8th.
- HOUNSELL—WRIGHT. HOUNSELL, Henry Strangways, M.D., of Bridport, to Emma Natalie, widow of the late Thomas Wendt Wright, Esq., of St. Petersburg, at Bradpole, Dorset, on April 7th.
- LEFROY—MAGRAT. LEFROY, Benjamin Langlois, Esq., Lieutenant Royal Navy, to Eleanor Jane, only daughter of Nicholas Magrat, M.D., of Guernsey, at St. Peter-le-Port, on April 7th.
- LONG—HICKES. LONG, Edward, Esq., Surgeon, of Thornbury, Gloucestershire, to Elizabeth, third daughter of John Cox Hickes, Esq., of Berkeley, on April 6th.
- MARTYN—FRIPP. \*MARTYN, Samuel, M.D., of Bristol, to Katharine Spencer, eldest daughter of G. D. Fripp, M.D., of Albert Road, Regent's Park, at St. Pancras Church, on April 8th.
- SHARPE—HOUGH. SHARPE, A. Barclay, M.D., of Norwood, to Julia Marian, daughter of the Rev. George Hough, rector of Yelford, Oxon, at Severn Stoke, Worcestershire, on April 8th.
- SMITH—KENDALL. SMITH, Samuel M. C. A. Anderson, Esq., Surgeon, to Jessie, youngest daughter of the late Henry Kendall, Esq., Surgeon, at Hammersmith, on April 8th.

## DEATHS.

- BATES, D. N., Esq., Surgeon, at Sudbury, Suffolk, on April 10.
- BOYER, M. Philippe, Surgeon to the Hôtel Dieu, last week.
- CAPIES. On April 9th, Fanny Augusta, eldest surviving daughter of G. A. H. Capes, Esq., Surgeon, of 22, Philpot Lane, aged 11.
- CHOMEL, Professor, at Paris, after a long illness, on April 9th.
- EDWARDS, Henry, Esq., Surgeon, at Windsor, aged 58, on April 8th.
- GATTY, Henry, Esq., Surgeon, at Market Harborough, aged 67, on April 6th.
- GOODALL, Charles William, Esq., Surgeon, of Shanghai, China, aged 28, on January 28th.
- JAMESON. On April 6th, at Glasgow, Mary Jane, only daughter of Ross Jameson, M.D., Staff-Surgeon first class.
- LOYD, W. W., Esq., Surgeon, late of Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury, at Melbourne, on January 30th.
- PAGE, George, M.D., at Calne, Wilts, aged 75, on April 12th.
- SÉNAC, M., Professor in the School of Medicine at Lyons, lately.
- TURNER, James, M.D., at Brighton, aged 40, on April 9th.

## APPOINTMENTS.

- TAYLOR, Alfred Swaine, M.D., F.R.S., elected Examiner in Chemistry in the University of London.
- WORMALD, Thomas, Esq., Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, elected a Member of the Court of Examiners of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, in the room of the late Benjamin Travers, Esq.

## PASS LISTS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. MEMBERS admitted at the meeting of the Court of Examiners, on Wednesday, April 7th, 1858:—

- ALLEN, John, Longton, Staffordshire
- ARNISON, William Christopher, Allendale, Northumberland
- BACON, George Mackenzie, Lewes, Sussex
- CARSON, Richard Beresford, Killyshandra, co. Cavan
- DAVIES, Henry Harries, Llandyssil, Carmarthen
- GROVES, Wm. George, Maidencombe, Teignmouth, Devon
- HARRIS, Abraham, Gwennap, Cornwall
- LLOYD, Edward Harford, Thornbury, near Bristol
- LOCKWOOD, Joseph, Armitage Bridge, Huddersfield
- SHIRTLEIFF, Edward Matthew, Chiswell Street, Finsbury
- TARDY, Elias Napoleon, Trinidad, West Indies
- THOMAS, William Smith, Haverfordwest

Friday, April 9th:—

- ALLAS, John Leonce, the Mauritius
- BLANDFORD, George Fielding, Grove, Brompton
- CREW, John, Tetbury, Gloucestershire
- DONNE, Jeremiah Moulton, Castle Cary, Somerset
- DOW, John, Keith, Banffshire
- EATON, James William, Bingham, Notts
- HEMSTED, Henry, Whitchurch, Hants
- PARRY, Henry Hitchcock, Allington, Devizes
- ROBINSON, Enoch, Marsden, near Huddersfield
- WYATT, Arthur, Bedford

Monday, April 12th:—

- ADSETTS, John, Derby
- BLACKLEY, Charles Harrison, Manchester
- DRAKE, John Jeffery, Newton Abbot, Devon
- GEORGE, Hugh, Chepstow, Monmouthshire
- GRIGG, Joseph Collings, Exeter
- HARLEY, John, Ludlow, Shropshire
- LYNES, Edward, Coventry
- MIREHOUSE, Thomas, Workington, Cumberland
- OUGHTON, Tyler, Sutherland Square, Walworth
- REED, Robert Rhodes, Cambridge
- ROBERTS, Griffith William, Clynog, Carnarvonshire
- SENIOR, Charles, Bradford, Yorkshire
- WILSON, Francis, the Mauritius
- WINKFIELD, William Benjamin, Bedford
- WOOD, William James, Exeter

The following gentlemen have just passed the preliminary examination for the Fellowship:—

- DE LA GARDE, John Lempriere, Exeter: diploma of membership dated April 16th, 1855
- GASCOYEN, George Green, Oxford Terrace: July 30, 1855
- GRAY, James Foster, Blackfriars Road: April 18th, 1856
- LUSH, William George C., Wilton, Salisbury
- SMITH, Thomas, St. Bartholomew's Hospital: July 7, 1854
- VERNON, Bowater John, Sussex Hospital, Brighton
- WOOD, Robert Henton, Leicester: February 29th, 1856

APOTHECARIES' HALL. Members admitted on Thursday, April 1st, 1858:—

- COCKS, Benjamin, Oxford Terrace, Hyde Park
- PRITCHARD, Edward William, Filey, Yorkshire
- THORNLEY, Joseph, Harton-Mersey, near Manchester

Thursday, April 8th:—

- BARRATT, Edgar, Sydenham College, Birmingham
- BEALE, George Bewsher
- BROWN, Henry Osmund, Twickenham
- DAVIS, Henry Robert, London
- DAY, Frederick Augustus Edwin, Hambrook, Bristol
- GEORGE, John Winnall
- MULLAR, Frederick George William, Moncontour, Brittany, France
- WORTS, Edwin, Colchester

## HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING

APRIL 10TH, 1858.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

THE deaths in London exhibit a decrease: the total number registered last week (ending on Saturday the 10th inst.) was 1221. In the ten years 1848-57 the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week, when it is raised for comparison with the deaths of last week, is found to be 1242. The number now returned, therefore, shows a very close approximation to the result obtained by calculation.

The cases in which diseases of the respiratory organs were fatal have decreased from 284 in the previous week to 263 last week: the corrected average for last week is 265. The mortality from measles is still high, 58 children, nearly half of whom were under two years of age, having died of this complaint last week. Dr. Balfour states that the epidemic of measles, which prevailed among the boys of the Royal Military Asylum, Chelsea, has entirely ceased, only one case, and that a very mild one, having occurred among them since the 23rd ult. The ages of six women, all widows, and of two men, in the present return, varied from 90 to 93 years.

Last week the births of 852 boys and 790 girls, in all 1642 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1848-57, the average number was 1525.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.672 in. The highest barometrical reading was 30 in. on Sunday. The mean tempera-

ture of the week was 40·3°, which is 4·9° below the average of the same week in 43 years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). The mean daily temperature was below the average throughout the week. The highest point attained by the thermometer was 57° on Thursday, the lowest was 34° on Saturday. The mean daily range was 12·3°. The wind blew from an easterly point. Rain fell to the amount of 1·05 in., more than half of which fell on Thursday; there was more or less every day, except Saturday; on Friday there was snow and sleet, and in the evening of that day an unusually great magnetic disturbance.

In the last quarter, viz., the thirteen weeks that ended on Saturday, April 3rd, the deaths registered in London were 17,308, of which 8193 occurred under 20 years of age, 2149 in the period of life 20-40 years, 2874 at 40 and under 60, 3247 at 60 and under 80, and 767 at 80 years and upwards. The average annual rate of mortality at all ages for the first quarter of five years (1853-57) was 26 to a thousand persons living; in the quarter that has just terminated the annual mortality was nearly the same, namely 25·6. The mean temperature of the quarter was 38°, which is but slightly below the average; but the mean weekly temperature was below it in seven weeks (five of which were consecutive) out of the thirteen. In the same quarter of 1855, the mean temperature of the air fell to 34·1°, and the deaths rose to 19,627, a number which, though the population was at that time less, exceeds the deaths in last quarter by 2319. In both periods pulmonary diseases were in the ascendant. The present return shows that 4440 deaths were referred to diseases of this character, exclusive of phthisis and whooping-cough, being rather more than 25 per cent. of the total number. The two most fatal epidemic diseases were whooping-cough and measles, the former numbering 757 in the quarter, the latter 714. The east districts contributed a larger proportion of the deaths from these two complaints than any other of the five great divisions. The southern division, or all that part of London which lies on the south side of the river, contains a population which exceeds that of the eastern, but which lives on an area seven times as great.

The following are the deaths in the quarter from diseases of the dietetic order: 18 from want of necessities, besides 71 of children from want of breastmilk; 9 from purpura and scurvy; 30 from intemperance, besides 27 from delirium tremens. These last numbers do not include deaths from injuries received by persons when drunk.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY. At the meeting of this Society, on Monday, April 5th, the following officers and other members of Council were elected for the year 1858-1859. *President*: Benjamin Guy Babington, M.D., F.R.S. *Vice-Presidents*: Thomas Addison, M.D.; Richard Bright, M.D., F.R.S.; Sir B. C. Brodie, Bart., F.R.S.; Sir Wm. Burnett, K.C.B., K.C.H., F.R.S.; Rev. Thomas Dale, M.A., Canon Res. of St. Paul's; R. D. Grainger, Esq., F.R.S.; Sir Charles Hastings, M.D., D.C.L.; Sir John Liddell, C.B., M.D., F.R.S.; John Nussey, Esq.; John Probert, Esq.; John Simon, Esq., F.R.S.; Andrew Smith, M.D., F.R.S.; Thomas Southwood Smith, M.D.; Colonel Sykes, V.P.R.S.; Thomas Watson, M.D. *Treasurer*: Thomas Addison, M.D., *Vice-President*, 24, New Street, Spring Gardens, W.C. *Honorary Secretary*: J. O. McWilliam, M.D., F.R.S., R.N., 14, Trinity Square, Tower Hill, E.C. *Foreign and Colonial Secretaries*: Belgium—A. Sayer, M.D. East Indies—James Bird, M.D., and C. Finch, M.D. Egypt and Syria—William Camps, M.D. France—Waller Lewis, M.B. Germany and Russia—Hermann Weber, M.D., and W. E. Swaine, M.D.; Portugal and the Brazils—J. O. McWilliam, M.D., F.R.S., R.N. Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Iceland—R. Gordon Latham, M.D., F.R.S. West Indies and North America—G. Milroy, M.D. *Other Members of Council*: C. J. B. Aldis, M.D.; C. L. Bradley, Esq.; A. Bryson, M.D., F.R.S., R.N.; Burford Carhill, M.D.; W. D. Chowne, M.D.; Robert Cross, M.D.; E. Headlam Greenhow, M.D.; T. Hunt, Esq.; — Learmouth, M.D.; C. F. J. Lord, Esq.; J. F. Marson, Esq.; E. W. Murphy, M.D.; R. Nichol, M.D.; W. Odling, M.D.; B. W. Richardson, M.D.; E. C. Seaton, M.D.; J. Snow, M.D.; Professor Symonds.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. On Saturday, April 17th (this day), at 8 P.M., a paper will be read by Dr. Burke Ryan, "On some of the circumstances influencing the practice of exposure and child-murder in different ages."

THE JACKSONIAN PRIZE. This prize has been awarded to Alfred Poland, Esq., of Guy's Hospital, for his Essay on Gun-Shot Wounds and their Treatment.

## UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT: OPINION OF THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS IN READING.

A MEETING of the undermentioned practitioners in Reading and neighbourhood was held at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, on March 31st, 1858; Dr. Cowan in the chair. There were also present: Dr. Woodhouse, Dr. Wells; Messrs. May, Bulley, Blomfield, Kidgell, Workman, Harrinson, Brown, Breech, Harcourt, Luce, G. May, jun., Moxhay, Walford, Young, Waldron, Taylor, Little, Dryland, Izod, and Haynes. The following resolutions were passed:—

"That this meeting regards newspaper and other analogous advertisements by legally qualified practitioners as unprofessional and disreputable, and in the hope of discouraging such conduct, resolves that such persons shall not be met in consultation.

"That no qualified medical man practising homœopathy shall be met in consultation.

"That the above resolutions be published in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, the *Lancet*, and the *Medical Times and Gazette*."

Mr. Maurice, who was absent from indisposition, concurs in the above resolutions.

## MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF A LADY IN BISHOP AUCKLAND: CENSURE OF A COFFINITE BY THE CORONER.

On Saturday, March 13th, an inquest was held at Bishop Auckland, before W. Trotter, Esq., coroner, on the body of Mrs. Eleanor Dorothy, the wife of Mr. Wooler, a retired gentleman, residing in the above town. Mrs. Wooler was confined on Feb. 20th, of a boy. Up to March 1st, Mr. Hutchinson, surgeon, of Bishop Auckland, attended, and had hopes of her recovery until the latter day, when he despaired, and so told Mrs. Wooler's relatives. During his two weeks attendance the proper remedies were applied, but without effect. Strange to say, at this period, when medical skill failed, Mr. Hutchinson was summarily dismissed without notice, and without knowing the cause of his attendance being dispensed with. A man named Young, residing near Bishop Auckland, and a somewhat famous follower of Dr. Coffin, was called in as Mr. Hutchinson's successor, by whom it is not positively known, though stated by two of the witnesses to be at Mrs. Wooler's request. For eight days after the herbalist first attended Mrs. Wooler, that lady lingered between life and death, feeling by turns the most exquisite agony and momentary relief, having "fits" which rendered her insensible, and during which she had to be held in bed. In one of these fits the unfortunate lady expired. The medicine administered by Young consisted of cayenne and other ingredients found in the herbal chest of Dr. Coffin. A quantity of "something black", which Mr. Wooler and Young believed to be opium (probably hard scybalæ) was found amongst the evacuations after Young was called in. Mr. Hutchinson never used opium except in small quantities in solution, and Young says it formed no part of his medicines. The jury questioned Young respecting his knowledge of medicine, when he confessed to having no proper qualification for the duties he had undertaken.

The CORONER, in summing up, commented on Young's conduct, and observed that he had little doubt that many people lost their lives by a similar course of treatment; and he only lamented that the friends of the deceased had sent for a person who had not the means of obtaining an accurate knowledge of medicine. Young was in a most respectable position, and there was not the least excuse for him. He censured persons for employing men not acquainted with medicine, showing gross ignorance in doing so. There was nothing in the case which they could bring home to any one. He was satisfied about the opium being more imaginary than real, as Mr. Hutchinson said he never gave it except in solution. If they had proof that Young, without proper qualification, had undertaken to administer medicine not knowing the effects, and the treatment had resulted in death, then he would be guilty of manslaughter.

The jury then retired, and after some consultation, one of them asked the Coroner if he would caution Mr. Young for administering medicine without knowing the effect.

The CORONER said the public were more to blame for employing such men. If they got the medicine, these men could not recover any part of their bills, and it would be altogether a voluntary payment; and if they charged they could be prosecuted by the Apothecaries' Company.

Mr. Young was then called in, and the CORONER read the following verdict:—"The majority of the jury are in favour of

accompanying their verdict with a few words touching Mr. Young. We find that Mrs. Wooler died from natural causes; nevertheless, there is sufficient evidence to convince us that Mr. Young is not sufficiently acquainted with the properties of the medicines he used."

The CORONER, addressing Mr. Young, said the jury had found that he had not the proper qualification required by Act of Parliament, and a great responsibility rested with him unless he knew the properties of medicines. If any dangerous medicine was proved to have been given, and if this had been the cause of death, then he would have been guilty of a criminal offence. He cautioned him for practising without the proper qualification or diploma. Neither he (the Coroner) nor any one else wanted to interfere with him if he had that qualification; but when he (Young) interposed his opinion against those duly qualified, then he incurred a grave responsibility. If any medicine had been given to cause death, he would have been amenable to the law.

#### FERMANAGH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

At the first annual meeting of this Association, held at Enniskillen, on March 11th, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

"That this Association, having considered Mr. Herbert's Amended Bill, are of opinion that it does not meet the wishes or wants of the profession; and that we therefore suggest to the Parent Association the propriety of calling a general meeting of deputies from all the Branch Associations in Ireland, to be held in Dublin, to form a deputation to wait on Lord Naas, and request him to introduce a Bill redressing the many grievances under which the Poor-Law Medical Officers at present labour.

"That the thanks of this Association are due, and are hereby given, to the Poor-Law Commissioners, for the protection they have afforded to the medical officers of Carrick-on-Shannon Union; and we trust that the same just course of proceeding will be adopted by them in reference to the medical officers of the several other unions throughout the country requiring it; and that our Secretary be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Poor-Law Commissioners.

"That this Association desire to record the high sense they entertain of the indefatigable exertions of Mr. Griffin, in his attempts to organise the Union Medical Officers of England, and the deep debt of gratitude under which he has thereby placed the profession in all lands. They rejoice at the success, although small, which has attended his laudable efforts, and wish him all prosperity in the good work in which he is engaged.

"That the thanks of this Association are due, and are hereby given, to the Cork Medical Protective Association, for the manly and independent course which they adopt in all matters involving the interests and welfare of the profession, and especially for having so warmly taken up the case of the noble-minded McCarthy, as otherwise the profession generally were little likely to have had it brought before them.

"That this Association have seen with much pain a case recorded wherein a medical man, or one representing himself as such, in Coleraine, has publicly advertised that he is prepared to undertake the duties of a medical appointment there at a less sum than that fixed by the parties having power to do so; and that we denounce such a proceeding as inconsistent with his duty to the profession of which he claims to be a member, and disgraceful to himself individually.

"That a copy of the resolutions founded on our petition be forwarded by our Secretary to the Attorney-General; who has kindly undertaken to submit them to Lord Naas for consideration."

ENGLISH OPIUM EATING. It has always been understood that Holbeach is a great "laudanum district," and, as might be expected, the drug is sold in immense quantities, not only by our druggists, but by almost every little country shopkeeper and general dealer in the neighbourhood; and that there are so few deaths known to be caused by its use is something surprising. Judging from a single druggist's weekly return of retail sales shown to us the other day, we think we are within the mark in estimating the amount of money spent by the working classes in this parish (though they are by no means the only consumers) in laudanum and opium at not less than £700 or £800 a year. (*Stamford Mercury*.)

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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.

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

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.

A MEMBER OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. We were not aware that the gentleman referred to was a Homœopathic practitioner.

DR. CHARLES COTTON. It is somewhat late now to insert the printed slip you sent as *news*. But we are quite alive to the value of the excellent institutions to which you refer, and shall not omit to bring them under notice at the most favourable opportunity, and in the way best calculated to produce a good result.

Communications have been received from:—DR. BROWNE; SIR CHARLES HASTINGS; DR. JOHN DICKSON; DR. R. T. WOODHOUSE (with enclosure); MR. B. HALL; MR. T. L. FRIDHAM; MR. JOHN B. FRY; DR. CHARLES COTTON; AN ASSOCIATE; MR. J. DULVEY; DR. LIONEL BEALE; DR. BURKE RYAN; MR. EDWARD BARBER; MR. J. A. HINGESTON; DR. HAYES JACKSON; DR. C. H. F. ROUTH; MR. S. S. DYER; MR. T. HOLMES; MR. JOHN WINDSOR; MR. STONE; DR. C. HANDFIELD JONES; MR. HOLMES COOTE; MR. JOHN BIRKETT; FAIR PLAY; MR. J. V. SOLOMON; MR. R. W. JONES; MR. RODEN; and MR. C. W. CHALDECOTT.

#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

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

1. The Human Mind in its Relations with the Brain and Nervous System. By \*Daniel Noble, M.D. London: Churchill. 1858.
2. Transactions of the Odontological Society of London. 1856-57. London: Churchill. 1858.
3. Evil Results of Overfeeding Cattle. A new Inquiry. Fully Illustrated by Coloured Engravings of the Heart, Lungs, etc., of the Diseased Prize Cattle lately exhibited by the Smithfield Cattle Club, 1857. By Frederick James Gant. London: Churchill. 1858.
4. Report presented to and read at a General Meeting of the Odontological Society of London, March 19, 1858. Pamphlet. London: 1858.
5. Observations on Venereal Diseases; derived from Civil and Military Practice. By Hamilton Labatt, A.B., T.C.D. Dublin: Fannin & Co. 1858.
6. Fourth Report of the Postmaster General on the Post-Office. Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. London: 1858.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS.

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CONTENTS OF No. II.—CLINICAL OBSERVATIONS.—On the Treatment of Acute Disease, by Dr. Todd—On Measuring the Configuration of the Chest, Dr. Alison—On Exfoliation of the Epithelial Coat of the Vagina, Dr. Farre—On the Influence of Solidification of the Lung upon Vocal Vibration, Dr. Johnson—Effects of Arsenite of Copper on Paper-stainers, Dr. Guy—On the Treatment of Varicose Veins, Mr. Lee—Calcareous Deposit on the Substance of the Brain, Dr. Ogle.

ORIGINAL RESEARCHES IN PHYSIOLOGY AND MORBID ANATOMY.—On Excretine, Dr. Marceet—Observations on Tumours connected with Bones, Mr. Hulke—On the Lymphatics of the Liver, Dr. Beale—On the Morbid Changes occurring in "Cirrhosis," Dr. Beale.

CHEMICAL AND MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF MORBID SPECIMENS.—Cancer diffused through the entire Liver, Dr. Ceoley, Aylesbury—Case of Cystine, with Analyses of the Urine, Dr. Milner Barry, Tunbridge Wells—Liquor Amulii containing much Urea—Case of Rape with Microscopical Examination of the Linen, Dr. Munroe, Hull—Fungi from the Ear, Dr. Sturt—Examination of Fæcal Matter.

PRACTICAL PROCESSES FOR CARRYING OUT SCIENTIFIC INQUIRIES CONNECTED WITH MEDICINE.—On the Estimation of Phosphoric Acid in the Urine, Dr. Von Bose—On the Determination of Urea according to the Methods of Liebig and Davy, Dr. Handfield Jones—On making Transparent Tissues more Opaque, and Opaque Tissues more Transparent, Dr. Beale—On measuring Objects in the Microscope—On ascertaining the Specific Gravity of the Brain in Health and Disease—Of Vessels for preserving Canada Balsam in—etc.

The Editor will be happy to receive communications for the October number.

Communications to be addressed to the Editor, 27, Carey Street, W. C. Copies will be forwarded on the morning of publication, post free, to gentlemen who send their addresses, accompanied with a remittance for 3s. 6d. for each Number, to H. BARNARD, 10, Grange Court, Carey Street, W. C.

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