

## Association Intelligence.

### BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Twenty-sixth Annual Meeting of the BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION will be holden in Edinburgh, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the 29th, 30th, and 31st of July.

PHILIP H. WILLIAMS, M.D., *General Secretary*.

Worcester, April 26th, 1858.

### MEETING OF THE MEDICAL REFORM COMMITTEE.

A MEETING of the Medical Reform Committee was held at 3, Waterloo Place, Pall Mall, on Friday, April 23rd: Sir Charles Hastings, M.D., in the Chair. There were also present:—G. Bottomley, Esq.; Sir John Forbes, M.D.; G. W. Hastings, Esq.; A. Henry, M.D.; B. W. Richardson, M.D.; F. Sibson, M.D.; G. Southam, Esq.; J. Stedman, Esq.; and G. Webster, M.D.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Cowper's Medical Bill was again taken into consideration; and the following amendment, in addition to those already proposed, was unanimously agreed upon; its object being to guard against the institution of a third grade in the profession.

"That any person, who has passed the examination to be instituted by the Council for general practice, shall be allowed to assume the title of 'surgeon'."

The Committee subsequently had a long interview with the Right Honourable W. Cowper, at which there were present:—Sir Charles Hastings, M.D.; G. Bottomley, Esq.; A. Henry, M.D.; E. Lankester, M.D.; G. Southam, Esq.; J. Stedman, Esq.; and G. Webster, M.D. The various amendments proposed were fully discussed and explained to Mr. Cowper, who expressed his readiness to have such alterations made in his Bill when in Committee of the House as would meet all the wishes of the Medical Reform Committee already mentioned; as well as to provide that the examination for general practice should in all cases include medicine, surgery, and midwifery.

The following resolutions were thereupon passed unanimously:—

"That, the interview with Mr. Cowper having been highly satisfactory, and he having expressed his desire to carry out the alterations proposed by the Committee, a petition, signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee, be presented to the House of Commons in favour of Mr. Cowper's Bill."

"That the Secretary be desired to write at once to the Secretaries of the Branches, urging them to call meetings, and to petition in support of Mr. Cowper's Bill."

ALEXANDER HENRY, M.D., *Secretary*.

### BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH: SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

A SPECIAL General Meeting of the above Branch was held at the Hen and Chickens Hotel, Birmingham, on Thursday, April 22nd—G. H. Marshall, M.D., of Birmingham, in the Chair—to take into consideration the Medical Bills now before Parliament. There was a numerous attendance of members. The following resolutions were passed:—

"1. This meeting having considered the recommendations of the Medical Reform Committee in regard to certain alterations and amendments in Mr. Cowper's Bill,—Resolved, That they be approved of by this meeting, on behalf of the Birmingham and Midland Counties Branch.

"2. That this meeting considers the claims of those gentlemen practising in England under qualifications derived from the universities and colleges situated in the British colonies are worthy of consideration. That it be a recommendation to the Medical Reform Committee of the Association to take such claims under their notice, with a view to their being provided for in any Medical Reform Bill submitted to Parliament; but as regards those persons in practice with only continental or foreign diplomas, this meeting believes that too much latitude is given in Mr. Cowper's Bill."

### METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

A Special General Meeting of the above Branch was held at the residence of the President, 8, Savile Row, on Tuesday last, at 4 p.m., for the purpose of receiving a Report of the Council on the Medical Reform Bills now before Parliament. There were present: EDWIN LANKESTER, M.D., F.R.S., President, in the Chair; W. Camps, M.D.; C. T. Carter, Esq.; R. Dunn, Esq.; A. Henry, M.D.; S. W. J. Merriman, M.D.; E. W. Murphy, M.D.; W. Ogle, M.D.; C. H. F. Routh, M.D.; G. J. Squibb, Esq.; T. O. Ward, M.D.; G. Webster, M.D.; and A. Wynter, M.D.

The PRESIDENT stated that the Council of the Branch had resolved to take up Mr. Cowper's Bill, and to propose such amendments in it as seemed necessary. Many of the provisions of Mr. Cowper's Bill were in accordance with the resolutions passed by the Branch last year.

The SECRETARY then read the following

#### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

"The Council, deeming it an important part of their duties to watch the progress of the efforts that are being made for the furtherance of Medical Reform, and having instituted a comparison between the two Bills now before Parliament, have determined to recommend that of Mr. Cowper to the support of the Branch generally; though there are several clauses in it which, keeping in view the principles hitherto maintained by the Branch, appear to require modification.

"Excluding, therefore, the consideration of Lord Elcho's Bill, the first point they would notice in Mr. Cowper's Bill is the omission of a clause repealing former Acts; which, however, they have reason to believe, is accidental.

"In the list of Corporations entitled to be represented in the General Council, they observe that two bodies are mentioned, whose claims to such a privilege they cannot admit. One is the University of Durham, a comparatively recent institution, and which does not possess a medical school in connection with itself; the other is the Society of Apothecaries of Ireland, which is a trading company, enjoying a monopoly of all the pharmacy in that part of the United Kingdom. If, therefore, these two bodies be excluded from representation, and the number of Government nominees be increased by two, the number of the latter will be eight, which will make a third at least of the General Council government nominees, in accordance with a resolution of this Branch passed on February 10th, 1857.

"There is no President of the General Council appointed.

"The duties of the General Council being to define the qualifications which authorise registration, the degrees, diplomas, and certificates of the different examining bodies are only evidence to this point. If, therefore, former Acts remain unrepealed, the Council must be governed by them in their definition, and can recognise no qualification contrary to, or unacknowledged by existing laws.

"The want of a preliminary education by many of its members is evidently one of the causes of the low status of the medical profession; and hence, in defining the qualifications required of candidates for registration, it is most important that the Council should insist upon an education preliminary to the professional one, in classics, mathematics, and general science, such as was urged by the Branch at a general meeting held on December 13th, 1853. If, then, a sound preliminary general education be essential to that in medicine, and this can hardly be obtained so well as by going through the curriculum of a university (because all grammar schools, or other places for the education of boys, are governed by the curriculum of some university), the Council should require from the universities which grant M.D. degrees, that the education for that degree should be a *bonâ fide* education, both general and medical; and then there would be no necessity for any preliminary examination to be ordered by the Council. Indeed, a mere preliminary examination to the special one would be open to the objection, that candidates would frequently cram for it, instead of subjecting themselves to a long and progressive system of education in an university. It is for these reasons that the degrees of universities, affording proof of sufficient education and efficient examination, should be recognised as adequate qualifications for practice without any further examination by a corporation independent of and perhaps opposed to them; and that all the universities under the supervision of the Council should be required to make the education for their degrees, both general and medical, a *bonâ fide* education.

"The last clause of Mr. Cowper's Bill is highly objectionable, as reserving to the Apothecaries of Ireland their rights and privileges as apothecaries—provided they are regarded as medical practitioners."

The report concluded by recommending the adoption of certain resolutions, which will be found in their places below.

Dr. MERRIMAN proposed, Dr. ROUTH seconded, and it was resolved—

"That the Report now read be received."

Dr. ROUTH said that Clause XIII of Mr. Cowper's Bill reserved to the College of Physicians of London the exclusive right of practice within seven miles round London.

Dr. MURPHY proposed the first resolution:

"That a clause repealing the same Acts as those repealed in previous Bills be introduced into Mr. Cowper's Bill."

In all previous Bills, there had been a clause providing for the repeal of certain Acts of Parliament: but this clause was omitted in Mr. Cowper's Bill. He (Dr. Murphy) had been told that the object of the omission was to leave the whole power in the hands of the Council. But he could not, however disposed in favour of Mr. Cowper's Bill, willingly consent to the institution of a Council which should have a power superior to that of existing laws. If a case of dispute arise, it might well be decided that the provisions of Mr. Cowper's Bill were not sufficiently precise to set aside a previously existing Act of Parliament. Therefore, both on account of the objections to a Council which should have greater powers than the law, and as the simplest remedy against confusion, he would have old Acts of Parliament repealed. As to the point mentioned by Dr. Routh, he would observe that no charter is valid unless confirmed by Act of Parliament. The forty-second clause of Mr. Cowper's Bill proposed to give power to repeal the Act which rendered valid the charter given to the College of Physicians by Henry VIII, and consequently the exclusive powers they possess under that charter would fall to the ground.

Dr. MERRIMAN seconded the resolution.

Dr. WYNTER believed that Mr. Cowper was ready to agree to any suggestions that might be made, and that he would not give the General Council greater weight than the profession desired.

Dr. WARD said there were other bodies besides the College of Physicians whose exclusive power conferred by Act of Parliament ought to be removed. He would mention the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, and the Apothecaries' Company of London.

Dr. WEBSTER said that the reasons for not inserting a repeal clause had been twofold: first, to avoid reviving opposition; and, secondly, because the Apothecaries' Company had a certain amount of power which it might be well to retain.

The resolution was then carried.

The second resolution recommended by the Council was then read. It was:

"That the names of the University of Durham and of the Society of Apothecaries of Ireland be struck out of the list of bodies entitled to send representatives to the General Council."

Dr. MURPHY said that the apothecaries of Ireland had the exclusive right of compounding drugs; but that they practised medicine only in consequence of there being no law in Ireland to prohibit any one from so doing.

Dr. WEBSTER thought it would be unwise to stir up opposition on the part of so powerful a body as the Irish apothecaries. We should rather endeavour to obtain a footing in medical reform by making some compromise. It appeared to him that the apothecaries of Ireland were a well educated and accomplished class of men, and that though not legally recognised, they were generally acknowledged as practitioners.

Dr. ROUTH objected to the proposed omission of the University of Durham. It might have a school hereafter.

After some further remarks, it was agreed that the resolution should not be pressed.

Dr. WEBSTER moved—

"That no person be allowed to enter on the study of medicine, without giving proof of a competent preliminary education in languages and science."

A similar proposal had been brought by the Reform Committee of the Parent Association before Mr. Cowper, who had at once promised that it should be carried out.

Mr. SQUIBB seconded the motion, which was carried.

Dr. MERRIMAN proposed—

"That the duties of the registrar require modification, in respect to the time given for the answer of letters to persons previously registered."

Dr. WYNTER seconded the resolution, which was carried.

Dr. CAMPS proposed, Mr. DUNN seconded, and it was resolved—

"That this Branch recommends the Association and the profession generally to use their influence with members of Parliament, and to petition the Houses of Lords and Commons, in favour of Mr. Cowper's Bill, with the foregoing amendments."

Dr. HENRY proposed—

"That the following gentlemen be a Committee to watch over the progress of the Bill through Parliament, to take measures as they think necessary, and to report to the Branch: viz.—W. Camps, M.D.; E. Lankester, M.D.; E. W. Murphy, M.D.; C. H. F. Routh, M.D.; G. J. Squibb, Esq.; A. P. Stewart, M.D.; T. O. Ward, M.D.; G. Webster, M.D.; and A. Wynter, M.D.:—with power to increase their number to twenty-five."

Dr. MERRIMAN seconded the motion, which was carried; the names of the proposer and seconder being added.

Dr. HENRY proposed, Dr. WARD seconded, and it was resolved—

"That a copy of the resolutions now passed be forwarded to Mr. Cowper."

A petition was then signed by the members present in support of Mr. Cowper's Bill. It lies at the office of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for signature by members of the Branch.

## Reports of Societies.

### ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23RD, 1858.

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

ON ANCHYLOSIS OF THE STAPEDIO-VESTIBULAR ARTICULATION, ASSOCIATED WITH RHEUMATISM AND GOUT; WITH AN ACCOUNT OF 136 DISSECTIONS OF THE DISEASE.

BY JOSEPH TOYNBEE, ESQ.

THE author commenced his paper by showing that there is a distinct joint between the circumference of the base of the stapes and the inner surface of the fenestra ovalis, and that this stapedio-vestibular joint (perhaps more constantly used than any other in the human body) is very subject to be affected with rheumatic gout (rheumatic arthritis), producing in various stages of its progress various degrees of deafness. He considered the poisons of gout and rheumatism to be thus far identical in their nature, that they both consist of an excess of the nitrogenous element of the blood, and that this nitrogenous element in the case of rheumatism is fibrine, and in that of gout albumen. The view that the element in the blood causing rheumatism is fibrine in excess, was supported by the following facts:—1. That this fibrine is found in so great excess in the blood of rheumatic patients, that Lehmann asserts that of all diseases the fibrine is in general increased in the largest proportion in acute articular rheumatism and pneumonia. 2. That this excess of fibrine also manifests itself by the excess of urates eliminated from the blood in patients with the so-called rheumatic diathesis. 3. That attacks of acute rheumatism come on contemporaneously with the inability of the system to use the excess of fibrine in the blood, and to eliminate the excrementitious urates. 4. The attack of rheumatism is produced by any cause which prevents the conversion of the fibrine of the blood into the fibrous elements of muscles and other fibrous organs, and the due elimination of the urates. 5. In cases of acute rheumatism, the excess of fibrine in the blood finds an outlet in fibrinous effusions; whilst in chronic rheumatism it finds an outlet in hypertrophy of the fibrous structures. 6. All curative measures for rheumatism do good in proportion as they cause the excess of fibrine to be eliminated in the form of urates or consumed in the process of assimilation. 7. All preventive measures in rheumatism consist in the use of dietetic or other hygienic rules, whereby the entrance of an excess of fibrine into the blood is prevented, or when it is introduced that it may be assimilated, and the effete matter eliminated as urates. That the nitrogenous element in the blood which causes gout is albumen in excess, was indicated by the following facts:—1. Whether known to us as globuline, gelatine, chardine, gluten, etc., the textures containing albumen are those implicated in gout. These textures may be divided into four classes:—the blood-

While thanking Mr. Braid for his hints, I may state that, though my hopes are not very sanguine, I still mean to try the remedy, if opportunity offers. Our instructions require us to examine the whole subject carefully. The result will be communicated to the Royal Society.

Your notice of Dr. Flint's reports, in the *Periscope* of February 13th, has suggested to my mind that I ought to draw the attention of my medical brethren to the central parts of the Cape Colony, and the interior generally as far as Kolobeng, as presenting a most desirable climate for those threatened with pulmonary complaints. On the coast, we do find consumption among the Hottentots; but even there the climate is not inferior to that of Madeira. Witness the medical reports of the army. The troops, who are placed generally in the least favourable localities, enjoy better health than at any other station except Corfu. The central and western districts; the mission stations Ebenezer, Scheit Fontein, Kurnman, Kolobeng, etc., which are quite removed from the moisture of the ocean, present just the opposite characteristics of climate to those which are believed to favour the development of scrofulous or tuberculous matter; and consumption is quite unknown. Then, as to exercise in the open air, in the way of hunting, botanising, geologising, riding, walking, or even sleeping, there is no country like it. I have always felt the difference sensibly as soon as I came near the sea. Nowhere else will either man or horse go through so much work with so little wear and tear of constitution. I have seen East Indian gentlemen spending fourteen to sixteen hours in the saddle, day after day, who could not have ridden half that time in India without being knocked up; and the only refreshment the horses got was a roll in the sand and the dry grass of the country. All the Indian invalids who came inland were benefited, and, more than that, became enamoured of the climate. It is a mistake to detain patients in the vicinity of the sea who are affected with phthisis. But the expense of going inland is a serious consideration. This would not weigh with patients in the better or higher ranks. A waggon complete, made in the Roggefelt, which would stand the drought, would cost £75; then £10 or £50 for oxen; a good tent, cooking utensils, and a stock of provisions, would require at least £100 more. But then you are independent. A good driver and leader would cost not more than £5 or £6 a month; and, if you follow the less frequented paths, you will find the Dutch farmers all very hospitable and friendly, and, by arrangements with them, you will be allowed to go where fancy may dictate. If I had any relative affected with lung-disease, I would unhesitatingly prescribe this course, as much more likely to arrest the disease than Madeira; and I am certain that, even though the result might be unfavourable, nowhere else would they have enjoyed so much pleasure. They would be under English law, and get religious sympathy in death and burial.

I am, etc., DAVID LIVINGSTONE.

Screw Steamer *Pearl*, at Sea off Senegal, Africa,  
March 22nd, 1858.

## Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Wednesday, April 28th.

### MEDICAL CORPORATIONS.

Mr. DUNCOMBE obtained leave to bring in a Bill to define the rights of the members of the Medical Profession, and to protect the public from the abuses of Medical Corporations.

### PETITION.

Petitions in favour of Mr. Cowper's Medical Bill have been presented from members of the Salopian Medical Society residing and practising in Broseley, Dawley, Madeley, Wrockwardine Wood, and Upton Waters; from Ludlow, Church Stretton, Cleobury Mortimer, Dorrington, Clun, Clunbury, Streford; from the medical practitioners of Wem, Oswestry, Ellesmere and Ruyton-of-the-eleven-towns; also from Newtown and Welshpool.

Petitions for adequate remuneration to Poor-Law Medical Officers have been presented from the practitioners of Newington; Thomas Crowther, of Luddenden, near Halifax; from the medical officers of the following unions—Rye, Bridport, Bedford, Woburn, Newcastle Emllyn, Stow, Barnstaple, Shipston-on-Stour, Newmarket, Bromsgrove, Wakefield, Brentford, Sam-

ford, Helmsley, Kirkby Ravensworth, Easingwold, Godstone, Faversham, Cerne, Plomesgate, and Hereford; from the inhabitants of St. Mary, Newington; also from the Poor-Law Guardians of the Union of Clonakilty, county of Cork, praying that the law of Ireland with respect to the payment of medical officers may be assimilated to that of England.

## Medical News.

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

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

#### BIRTHS.

AMBLER. On April 22nd, at Hemel Hempstead, the wife of Edward H. Ambler, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.  
CRISP. On April 25th, at Lacock, Wilts, the wife of \*J. H. Crisp, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.  
LANKESTER. On April 25th, at 8, Savile Row, the wife of \*Edwin Lankester, M.D., F.R.S., of a daughter.  
REECE. On April 16th, at 45, Sussex Gardens, Hyde Park, the wife of \*George Reece, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

#### MARRIAGES.

RYDING—BARFOOT. RYDING, Geo., M.D., to Henrietta Amelia, second daughter of Robert Senior Barfoot, Esq., late of Melbury, Dorset, at Lymington, on April 21st.  
WEBSTER—DURIE. WEBSTER, Stephen, Esq., eldest son of \*George Webster, M.D., of Dulwich, to Annie, second daughter of the late James Durie, Esq., at Fettercairn, Scotland, on April 22nd.

#### DEATHS.

GREGORY, William, M.D., Professor of Chemistry in the University of Edinburgh, on April 26th. Professor Gregory was one of a race of distinguished Scottish professors, his father having been the celebrated James Gregory, Professor of Medicine in the same University, and several of his ancestors having held a high place in the academic literature and science of Scotland. William Gregory was a very able and accomplished chemist. He was a favourite pupil of Liebig, and was the translator of some of his master's works from German into English, besides being the author of several treatises of great merit. He successively filled the Chairs of Chemistry in the Andersonian Institution, Glasgow; King's College, Aberdeen; and Edinburgh University—having been appointed to the latter 1843. He was very little past the prime of life; but had been long in a state of ill health, and during part of last session was unable to fulfil his duties personally. He leaves a widow, and a son named after his great master.

HARRISON, R., A.M., M.D., Professor of Anatomy in Trinity College, Dublin, of apoplexy, last week. For forty years, and up to the day of his death, Dr. Harrison was a popular and successful teacher of anatomy; at the same time discharging the duties of Hospital Surgeon, and as Secretary of the Dublin Society, lending his aid to promote science in general. As a public man, he was not indebted to any ostentatious display for the character he maintained or the position he occupied; these followed as a natural consequence of his pursuits and exertions: and in the arduous struggle which rivalry and competition entailed, he made no enemies. The institutions of Dublin have sustained a serious loss by the death of so active a member of the profession.

#### PASS LISTS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. MEMBERS admitted at the meeting of the Court of Examiners, on Friday, April 23rd, 1858:—

BRAITHWAITE, Robert, Whitby, Yorkshire  
BURLAND, Benjamin, Fairfield, near Liverpool  
BURY, John Walter, Wandsworth  
EASTON, John, Russell Square  
HOWITT, Francis, Newcastle  
HUGHES, James, Middlewich, Cheshire  
JENVEY, John Henry, Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square  
LEACH, Henry, Wisbeach, Cambridgeshire

McCOULL, George, Newcastle-on-Tyne  
 OLDMAN, John, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire  
 RIDING, William Steer, Euston Square

Monday, April 26th:—

FEATHERSTONE, John Tyler, Bristol  
 GOOCH, James Wyard, Stradbroke, Suffolk  
 HAMILTON, Hezlett William, Pattigo, co. Donegal  
 HARRISON, Henry, Carlisle  
 HIGGS, Thomas Frederic, Cradley Heath, Staffordshire  
 JOHNSTONE, James Woodruff, Rotherfield, Sussex  
 PROBYN, Alfred, Pontypool, Monmouthshire  
 PROSSER, Roger, Brecon  
 SMITH, Samuel Evans, Manchester  
 WALKER, Thomas Shadford, Burslem, Staffordshire  
 WILKINS, Walter, Royal Crescent, Bath

LICENTIATES IN MIDWIFERY admitted at a meeting of the Board, on April 21st:—

BANNING, Robert Joseph, Fairfield, near Liverpool: diploma of membership dated March 29th, 1858  
 BARRETT, James, Banbury, Oxford: March 26th, 1858  
 BERKELEY, Richard William, Blackheath: March 12, 1858  
 BICKFORD, Thomas Leaman, Newton Abbot, Devon: March 19th, 1858  
 BLACKMAN, Frederick, Ramsgate: Nov. 7th, 1856  
 BROAD, James, Stoke Newington: March 26th, 1858  
 DAVIES, William Broughton, Wellington, Sierra Leone: April 5th, 1858  
 HARGOOD, Frederick Hezekiah, Highbury Place: June 30th, 1854  
 HORTON, James Africanus Beale, Gloucester, Sierra Leone: April 5th, 1858  
 HUGHES, Thomas Hunter, Pwllheli, Carnarvonshire: March 26th, 1858  
 NOEL, Ange Ferdinand René, the Mauritius: March 29, 1858  
 PHILLIPPS, Edward, Aberystwyth: May 8th, 1857  
 RAND, John, Hadleigh, Suffolk: March 12th, 1858  
 RIDLEY, Joseph Simpson, Preston, Lancashire: March 19th, 1858  
 SKINNER, Horatio George, Gerrard Street, Soho: Feb. 19th, 1858  
 TOTHILL, John Henry Halked, Topsham, Devon: November 20th, 1857

UNIVERSITY AND KING'S COLLEGE, ABERDEEN. The following, after examination, had the degree of M.D. conferred on them on April 15th, 1858:—

BRUCE, William, Aberdeenshire  
 DIXON, Frederick B., Norwich  
 DRUMMOND, James, Kincardineshire  
 DUNCAN, John, Morayshire  
 HENDERSON, George, Banffshire  
 HOLMES, John, Derbyshire  
 ROBERTS, Charles, Kent

The following was admitted as M.B.:—  
 GRANT, George, Banffshire

#### HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING APRIL 24TH, 1858.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

THE deaths registered in London were 1144 in the week ending Saturday, April 24th; they show a decrease on those of the previous week, when the number was 1207. In the ten years 1848-57 the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1054; but the deaths of last week occurred in an increased population, and they should be compared with the average, when the latter has been raised in proportion to the increase, a correction which will make it 1159. The rate of mortality that now prevails, therefore, agrees very closely with that which is obtained by calculation from former experience in the third week of April.

Of the 1144 deaths returned last week, 1138 are distributed amongst the five classes, in which all the causes of death are arranged, in the following numbers:—262 are referred to zymotic diseases, the corrected average of which in corresponding weeks is 260; 237 are referred to the class of "constitutional diseases," the average of which is also 260; 477 to "local diseases," of which the average is 466; 139 to "developmental diseases," the average being 131; and 23 to mechanical and chemical injuries, the average being 18. Of the 23 violent deaths, 22 are accidental; of these 9 are caused by fractures and wounds, 3 by burns, one by poison, 3 by drowning, 6 (all of which, except one, are deaths of infants) by suffocation. The

only death not accidental is a case of suicide by hanging. The deaths arising from bronchitis and pneumonia, which in the previous week were respectively 130 and 103, declined last week to 120 and 62.

Eighty-one children died of whooping-cough, a considerably higher mortality than occurred in any corresponding week of ten years, except that of 1854, when the deaths from this complaint were 83. Whooping-cough is at present twice as fatal as either measles or scarlatina. The deaths from measles are not so numerous as they were in some previous weeks. Forty deaths are referred to scarlatina; no less than 4 of these occurred in one family in a house on the top of Shooter's-hill. The Registrar states that to the casual observer there is nothing in that elevated situation which would be noticed as the probable cause of so great a mortality; but it is understood that medical men attribute it to an open ditch in the neighbourhood. One child died on the 12th inst., one on the 14th, and two others on the following day.

Six persons died last week at the age of 90 years and upwards; the two oldest were a woman in Newington Workhouse, 98 years old, and the widow of a dock labourer in Redman's Row, Mile-end Old Town, who is said to have died at the age of 101 years.

Last week the births of 894 boys and 916 girls, in all 1810 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1848-57, the average number was 1598.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the readings of the barometer were high. The mean reading of the week was 30.054 in. The highest reading was 30.27 in. on Thursday. The mean temperature of the week was 52.8°, which is 5.8° above the average of the same week in 43 years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). The mean daily temperature was above the average throughout the week. The range of temperature was great on every day, and its mean was 29.2°. On Wednesday the thermometer in the shade rose to 71.1°, and fell to 38.1°. The highest point attained in the week was 72.9° on Thursday; the lowest point was 34.3° on Monday. The extreme range was therefore 38.6°. The difference between the mean dew point temperature and air temperature was 10°. The mean temperature of the water of the Thames was 53°. The mean degree of humidity of the atmosphere was only 65; on Saturday it was only 59, complete saturation being represented by 100. The wind blew from an easterly point. No rain fell.

#### MEDICAL REFORM: DEPUTATION TO THE EARL OF DERBY.

ON Tuesday last, a deputation from the Medical Corporations of London, consisting of Dr. Mayo, president, Dr. Alderson, treasurer, Dr. Jeaffreson, senior censor, and Dr. Hawkins, registrar, of the Royal College of Physicians; Mr. Stanley, president, Mr. Lawrence, and Mr. Caesar Hawkins, vice-presidents of the Royal College of Surgeons; Mr. Tegart, Dr. Ansell, and Mr. Simoons, from the Apothecaries' Hall; waited on the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby, at his lordship's official residence, Downing Street, for the purpose of urging on the noble earl the advisability of opposing the Medical Bills of Lord Elcho and Mr. Cowper, now before Parliament, and of supporting a measure similar to that introduced by Mr. Headlam in the last session of Parliament. The deputation was accompanied by the following members of the House of Commons: Sir R. Levinge, Bart., Mr. Headlam, and Mr. P. Beuet.

Dr. MAYO, in introducing the deputation, condemned the Bills introduced by Lord Elcho and Mr. Cowper, as taking out of the medical corporations all their rights and privileges, and vesting them in one council appointed by the crown; and he urged upon his lordship the advisability of supporting such a measure as that introduced in the last session by Mr. Headlam, which conduced to bring about one uniform licensing system throughout the United Kingdom, effected a good system of registration, which was so much required in the profession, and organised an efficient educational basis.

Dr. HAWKINS next read communications from the medical corporations of Scotland and Ireland, in which they gave their firm support to an amicable measure like that brought forward by Mr. Headlam; and Dr. Hawkins contended that far from removing the evils so much complained of, and uniting the medical corporations of the United Kingdom, Lord Elcho's and Mr. Cowper's Bills tended to greatly increase them, while, at the same time, directly interfering with the rights and privileges held by the corporations for years past.

In reply to a question from the Earl of DERBY,

Dr. HAWKINS said, that what was sought was an uniformity of education and privileges throughout the United Kingdom, and this would be gained by Mr. Headlam's Bill; and if his lordship would support such a measure it would be conferring a great boon on the profession; and, if passed, an enactment of the kind would be the means of settling the question of medical reform that had been so long before parliament, as also all the unhappy differences that had arisen amongst the various medical bodies.

Mr. HEADLAM, M.P., explained that the length of the agenda of the House, which would have prevented the subject from going into committee until too late in the last session, caused him to withdraw his proposed measure which had given such general satisfaction. On its second reading the Bill obtained a majority in its favour of 147, and he felt firmly convinced that it only required to be again brought before parliament by the government in order to have it at once passed into a law.

After some further observations from the deputation, The Earl of DERBY replied, saying that the subject was then under his consideration, and he would peruse the three Bills, those of Lord Elcho, Mr. Cowper, and Mr. Headlam, and see which was the most advisable. The whole question should meet with his most attentive consideration.

The deputation then thanked his lordship, and withdrew.

#### THE SANDS COX TESTIMONIAL.

The following correspondence has been published:—

"Cherry Street, April 26th, 1858.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I have the gratifying honour of inclosing, in obedience to the accompanying resolution, a cheque in your favour for the sum of £500 on account; and, in doing so, I am desired by the committee to state that they hope very shortly to close the account, and to be able to present you with another cheque, in furtherance of the objects you have in view.

"Yours very faithfully,

"JOHN SUCKLING, *Hon. Secretary.*

"William Sands Cox, Esq., F.R.S.

"Resolved,—That the treasurers of the fund are hereby requested and empowered to draw a cheque upon the Birmingham Banking Company for £500, and to place the same in the hands of Mr. Sands Cox, to enable that gentleman immediately to found scholarships bearing his own name, as founder of the Queen's College, in accordance with the generous intentions referred to in his letter to this committee, and by this committee previously approved of.

"GEORGE TAYLOR, *Chairman.*"

"Temple Row, Birmingham, April 26th, 1858.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I have this day received the inclosed cheque for £500, which I have much pleasure in forwarding to you, to be presented to the council at their next meeting, for the purpose of founding two scholarships of £10 each, to be held for two years, to be competed for according to regulations hereafter to be established, with a view to test the proficiency of Queen's College and Queen's Hospital students in clinical medicine and clinical surgery. May I express a hope that the council will appoint John Ratcliff, Esq., Frederick J. Welch, Esq., Mr. Thomas Uphill, Mr. James Shaw, Mr. Samuel Haines, and Mr. John Suckling, trustees, to whose warm and generous friendship I feel deeply indebted.

"I remain, dear sir, yours faithfully,

"WILLIAM SANDS COX.

"The Rev. Chancellor Law, Warden of Queen's College."

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Dr. INMAN, of Liverpool, will feel particularly obliged if any Member can give him reliable information respecting the condition of the muscles in an animal which has been hunted to death.

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.

Communications have been received from:—Dr. JOHN SLOANE; Dr. T. INMAN; Dr. EDWARD W. MURPHY; Mr. RICHARD GRIFFIN; Dr. LIVINGSTONE; Mr. HAYNES WALTON; Dr. C. HANDFIELD JONES; Mr. HOLMES COOTE; Dr. P. H. WILLIAMS; Mr. T. HOLMES; Dr. F. SIBSON; Dr. MC WILLIAM; Dr. CAMPS; Mr. O. PEMBERTON; Dr. B. W. RICHARDSON; Mr. T. M. STONE; Mr. W. COPNEY; Mr. J. H. CRISP; Dr. J. B. MONTGOMERY; Mr. T. C. RODEN; Dr. F. J. BROWN; Mr. DAYMAN; Sir C. HASTINGS and Dr. J. ROGERS.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS.

Just published in 8vo., cloth, price 22s.

**Redwood's Supplement to the Pharmacopœia;** being a concise but comprehensive dispensatory and manual of facts and formulæ, for the use of practitioners in medicine and pharmacy. Third edition, corrected, enlarged, and much improved.

London: LONGMAN & Co., SIMPKIN & Co., JOHN CHURCHILL, HENRY BOHN, and HENRY RENSHAW.

Just published, price 4s.

**An Essay on Physiological Psychology.**

BY ROBERT DUNN, F.R.C.S. Eng.

London: JOHN CHURCHILL, New Burlington Street.

With Six Illustrations by Bagg, price 6s.

**Spinal Irritation Explained, and a RATIONAL PLAN OF TREATMENT DEDUCED.**

BY

THOMAS INMAN, M.D.,

Lecturer on Medicine, Liverpool Royal Infirmary School of Medicine, etc.

"Dr. Inman argues with such force and clearness, that we should be surprised if he does not gain many adherents, and do more to undermine the stronghold of hysteria and spinal irritation than any previous writer.....

"Spinal Irritation is merely the call to excite the attention of the passer by; the whole tenour of the book is to show that such a thing has no existence.

"We cannot, however, part from him without cordially acknowledging the high merit of the work before us; the lucid and scientific manner in which the various topics are handled, nor without especially adverting to the evidence that pervades the whole, that it is written by a sound practitioner and a thoroughly enlightened physician."—*British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review*, April 1856.

London: JOHN CHURCHILL, New Burlington Street.

Now ready, Part VII of

**The Grasses of Great Britain.**

Illustrated by JOHN E. SOWERBY. Described by C. JOHNSON, Esq. To be complete in 30 Parts, at 1s.: uniform with "The Ferns of Great Britain." The work will contain about 140 Coloured Plates. Prospectuses may be had through all Booksellers; or of the Publisher,

JOHN E. SOWERBY, 3, Mead Place, Lambeth, S.

**Sowerby's English Botany. Second EDITION.** Reduced 25 per cent.

Twelve volumes, 2754 Plates, £20 cloth boards. Vols. I to VII, Flowering Plants (1576 Plates), £10 10, cloth, boards.

**Sowerby's Ferns of Great Britain.**

49 Plates, cloth boards, full coloured, 27s.; partly coloured, 14s.; plain, 6s., with coloured Frontispiece.

**Sowerby's Fern Allies.**

Flexible boards, 31 Plates, full coloured, 18s.; partly coloured, 9s.

**British Poisonous Plants. By C.**

JOHNSON, Esq. Flexible boards, crown 8vo., with 28 Plates. Full coloured, 7s.; plain, 5s.

JOHN E. SOWERBY, 3, Mead Place, Lambeth, S.

**H. Silverlock's Medical Label Ware-**

HOUSE, LETTER-PRESS, COPPER-PLATE, & LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTING OFFICES, 3, Wardrobe Terrace, Doctors' Commons, London.

The members of the Medical Profession are respectfully informed that at H. SILVERLOCK'S establishment they will find every kind of Label they can possibly require; and also that every description of Engraving, Letterpress, Copper-plate, and Lithographic Printing is executed by competent workmen, and at the lowest charges.

Catalogues of each sort of Labels are published separately, and will be sent per post on application.

**Dr. Caplin's Electro-Chemical Bath**

ESTABLISHMENT, 9, York Place, Baker Street, Portman Square, for the extraction of Mercury and other Metallic or Extraneous Substances, and the Treatment of Chronic Diseases. For the demonstration of this new system, vide the Second Edition, price 1s., 8vo., of Dr. Caplin's Treatise on the Electro-Chemical Bath, and the Relation of Electricity to the Phenomena of Life, Health, and Disease. Sold at the Author's Establishment.

**Glenfield Patent Starch.**

USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY,

AND PRONOUNCED BY HER MAJESTY'S LAUNDRESS TO BE

THE FINEST STARCH SHE EVER USED

Sold by all Chandlers, Grocers, etc. etc.