

## Association Intelligence.

### BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: ANNUAL MEETING.

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

The Address in Therapeutics will be delivered on Friday morning, by Professor Christison.

The Address in Surgery will be delivered on Friday afternoon, by Professor Miller.

The Address in Midwifery will be delivered on Saturday morning, by Professor Simpson.

Further particulars will be published shortly.

Members who propose to read papers at the meeting are requested to communicate their intention, as early as convenient, to the General Secretary,

PHILIP H. WILLIAMS, M.D.

Worcester, June 8th, 1858.

### BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
SOUTH EASTERN. [Annual Meeting.]	Royal Pavilion, Brighton.	Wed., June 23rd, 1 P.M.
EAST ANGLIAN. [Annual Meeting.]	Town Hall, Ipswich.	Friday, June 25, 2 P.M.
LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE. [Annual Meeting.]	Medical Institution, Liverpool.	Wednesday, June 30th, 11½ A.M.
NORTH WALES. [Annual Meeting.]	Uxbridge Arms Hotel, Carnarvon.	Tuesday, July 6th, 1 P.M.
METROP. COUNTIES. [Annual Meeting.]	11, Montagu Place, Bryanstone Square.	Tuesday, July 6th, 5 P.M.
SHROPSHIRE. [Annual Meeting.]	Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury.	Monday, July 19, 2 P.M.

[To prevent delay, Reports of Branch Meetings should be sent direct to the office, 37, Great Queen Street.]

## Reports of Societies.

### HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON.

MAY 20TH, 1858.

E. HART VINEN, M.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

INFRAMAMMARY PAIN. BY CHARLES COOTE, M.D.

THE author remarked, that pain immediately below the left breast, not of rheumatic origin, and unattended by symptoms of visceral disease, had been recognised for about forty years as a very frequent, and often a severe and intractable malady. Nevertheless, its pathology might be regarded as absolutely unknown, and its treatment was of course proportionately uncertain. It seemed therefore worth while to reopen the subject by the observation of fresh facts. He had therefore analysed a series of fifty cases, with the view of determining, firstly, the true characters of the pain; secondly, the conditions under which it was prone to occur.

In the first place, it was necessary to distinguish between two painful affections, to both of which the inframammary region was liable, and the confusion of which seemed to account for many contradictions in earlier descriptions. The one (to which the name of "intercostal neuralgia" ought to be restricted) might affect any part of the thoracic wall. Its character was acute, plunging, paroxysmal. It was seated in one or more intercostal spaces, chiefly in those parts where the cutaneous branches of the nerves were most freely distributed; and it sometimes appeared to shoot round the chest, as if along the course of a nerve. There was occasionally much superficial tenderness, and the pain was sometimes periodical. The author thought it probable that the pain of herpes zoster, and that of mastodynia, belonged to this category.

The other pain (improperly confounded with that just described) was much more common. It was a dull aching pain, situated in one definite locality under the left breast, and extending generally over the seventh, eighth, and ninth ribs, with the seventh and eighth intercostal spaces; never appearing to shoot along the course of a nerve, but often darting through the chest to the back, or into the throat; in the former case, seeming to give rise to the interscapular pain; in the latter, being intimately connected with the hysterical globus. It was rarely marked by any considerable tenderness on pressure, and it was not periodical.

It was to this affection alone that the author wished to draw the attention of the Society, under the (provisional) appellation of *infra-mammary pain*.

Having discussed in detail each of the characters of the pain, he examined briefly the most popular hypotheses which had been devised to account for it. He dissented from Dr. Inman's view (that it is a true muscular pain, the exponent of fatigue or of malnutrition), on the ground that it entirely failed to explain the localisation of the pain. There was no condition in the modes of life of the patients calculated specially to affect the pectoral and abdominal muscles of the left side. A more plausible hypothesis connected *infra-mammary pain* with uterine or ovarian disorder. Here a preliminary question arose, which the literature of the subject entirely failed to solve—Whether the pain was peculiar to females? It was certainly of rare occurrence in the male; but the author thought he had noticed two unambiguous cases of it within the last eighteen months. Leaving this question open, and assuming, for argument's sake, that it was limited to females, he proceeded to inquire whether, *in them*, it was dependent upon uterine disorder.

With respect to *age*, he found that the period of uterine activity was the favourite, but not the *exclusive* epoch of the pain.

Marriage exercised no perceptible influence upon it. Overlactation and excessive child-bearing were recognised in a few instances only. Four women were sterile; seven had a liability to abortion.

The menstrual function was *physiologically* absent in twenty. Of the remaining thirty, it was perfectly normal in eleven; regular, but scanty, in seven; regular, but profuse, in four; irregular or absent in eight. Leucorrhœa was acknowledged in ten cases only, in six of which uterine disease existed.

These facts appeared to be conclusive against the hypothesis. That uterine disorder frequently accompanied *infra-mammary pain*, was certain; that it should be the cause of it, was impossible; for those two things could not stand to each other in the relation of cause and effect, each of which might exist in the absence of the other.

The next hypothesis was that of "spinal irritation". This term had been so stretched as to become meaningless; but the original idea differed very little from that of "central neuralgia". That *inframammary pain* depended upon some central (spinal) disorder, might or might not be true, but it was wholly unproved; and the attempt to prove it from spinal tenderness in such cases was doubly unfortunate. For, firstly, spinal tenderness was by no means a constant companion of *inframammary pain*; and, secondly, if it were so, it would be no evidence of spinal disease.

The next hypotheses discussed were those of Ollivier and of Brown of Glasgow. Both agreed that the pain was the result of *pressure* upon the roots of spinal nerves; the former referring it to a congestion of the intravertebral plexus of veins; the latter to a transient curvature of the spine, occasioned by disproportioned fatigue of some one set of spinal muscles. These opinions were out of the sphere of argument; for, first, it was very doubtful whether such pressure would produce *pain* at all, and not rather *anæsthesia*; and, secondly, there was absolutely no evidence of the existence of any such pressure.

Another explanation, also based on the idea of *pressure*, had been propounded by Henle; and this possessed the singular merit of recognising, and in some measure accounting for, the *localisation* of the pain. The anatomical character by which the left *inframammary* region was distinguished was the peculiarity of its venous circulation, the effect of which was that, if any obstruction existed to the return of the venous blood by the azygos vein, the brunt of the pressure would fall upon the intermediate intercostal spaces on the left side. Henle thought that such pressure, acting upon the peripheral extremities of the intercostal nerves, might occasion the pain; and he

me by giving me your opinion whether, if the portion of diseased bone of the size of a hazel-nut, noticed in your report, had been removed by a smaller operation, the fistulous openings would not have healed. The portions of dead bone removed by myself on several occasions, consisted of parts of the metatarsal of the little toe—the same bone, and first phalanx of the great toe; and, perhaps, some portions of adjoining metatarsal bones. Once or twice the wounds were healed, and the patient used considerable exercise, walking a mile or two at a time with the aid of a stick. That the foot should be somewhat thickened and less symmetrical than in its natural condition, is no matter of surprise; but it would be interesting for me to know the condition of the amputated portion,—what efforts nature had made to restore the bony deficiency, and whether, supposing the dead bone to have been entirely removed and the wounds healed, it would not have been a very useful appendage, notwithstanding the necessary departure from its original symmetry?

"The patient had, when under my care, more than one attack of erysipelas, which, though sharp in its character, was always of short duration. He derived benefit from opiates, stimulants, and the muriated tincture of iron. The attack he sustained after the operation you performed was certainly of the most formidable description, and it was a happy circumstance that, in the end, the treatment with opium was so successful. You have great reason to be well pleased with the results.

"In what I have said, you must not suppose that I in any degree impugn the propriety of the partial amputation you performed. Indeed, in a hospital patient, and under the circumstances taken altogether, you could not, perhaps, avoid it. But I should be glad to be furnished with data, principally dependent on the condition of the amputated portion, for the belief that, with careful home treatment, a final cure might have been effected, the patient retaining the foot, though, no doubt, somewhat impaired in form and usefulness, and that his condition would, in that event, have been the best attainable by surgical art.

"I remain, dear sir, yours very truly,

"T. M. GREENHOW."

"Newcastle upon Tyne, June 14th, 1858."

#### IS THE APPLICATION OF COLD AS AN ANÆSTHETIC USUALLY ATTENDED WITH PAIN?

LETTER FROM GEORGE RUSSELL, ESQ.

DEAR SIR,—I should feel obliged to any gentlemen who have had experience of cold as an anæsthetic, if they would inform me, through the medium of the JOURNAL, whether its application is usually attended with severe pain. I this morning employed a mixture of ice and salt for the purpose of rendering the matrix of the great toe nail insensible whilst I removed the nail, when the patient complained so of pain during the application of the freezing mixture, that it appeared to me he suffered as much as he would have from the operation itself, had none been applied.

I am, etc., GEORGE RUSSELL.

Bawtry, Yorkshire, June 7th, 1858.

## Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Thursday, June 10th, 1858.

#### SALE OF POISONS BILL.

THE House went into Committee on this Bill, and the clauses were agreed to with some verbal amendments.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday, June 10th, 1858.

#### POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS.

In answer to Mr. BOOTH—

Mr. ESTCOURT said that he had endeavoured to frame a measure which should give satisfaction both to the Poor-Law Medical Officers and to the public, with respect to the complaints which were urged on both sides: by the former, that their salaries were inadequate, and their position not such as their professional status entitled them to; and by the latter, of the want of proper attention on the part of the medical officers. He did not expect that that measure could receive the sanction of Parliament in the present Session; but he hoped to be able to lay it upon the table, so that it might receive some amount of consideration. [*Hear, hear.*]

## Medical News.

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

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

#### BIRTHS.

BEARPARK. On June 10th, at Leeds, the wife of \*George E. Bearpark, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.  
BORRETT. On June 11th, at Ilfracombe, the wife of James Borrett, M.D., of a son.  
BRENCHEY. On June 9th, at Brighton, the wife of Horatio C. Brenchley, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.  
DAUGLISH. On June 12th, at Brighton, the wife of John Dauglish, M.D., of a daughter, stillborn.  
TYERMAN. On June 13th, the wife of D. F. Tyerman, Esq., Medical Superintendent, Colney Hatch Asylum, of a daughter.

#### MARRIAGES.

BURSTALL—LUNN. BURSTALL, Arthur, Esq., to Jane, youngest daughter of William Lunn, Esq., Surgeon, of Hull, at Sculcoates Church, on June 3rd.  
KERR—HUSTAN. KERR, Captain John H. L., 26th Regiment Madras Native Infantry, to Matilda Marianne Clara, only daughter of Robert Todd Hustan, M.D., of Hannor House, Carlou, at St. Peter's Church, Dublin, on June 1st.  
LEE—FRITH. LEE, John, Esq., eldest son of \*John Lee, M.D., of Ashbourne, Derbyshire, to Fanny, widow of Charles Frith, Esq., barrister-at-law, at St. John's, Paddington, on June 12th.  
MILLER—CLARKE. MILLER, Captain Dugald Stewart, 67th Regiment, eldest son of \*Patrick Miller, M.D., of Exeter, to Elizabeth, third daughter of Sir Bowcher Clarke, Chief Justice of Barbadoes, at St. John's, Barbadoes, on May 20.

#### DEATHS.

BROWN, Robert, D.C.L., F.R.S., Keeper of the Botanical Collections in the British Museum, Foreign Associate of the Academy of Sciences of the Institute of France, and formerly President of the Linnean Society, at 17, Dean Street, Soho, aged 84, on June 10th.  
BUNKER, Francis, Esq., Surgeon, at Sunbury, aged 54, on June 3rd.  
CRAMPTON, Sir Philip, M.D., in Merrion Square, Dublin, after a long illness, aged 85, on June 10th.  
CURRIE, Thomas Henry, Esq., Surgeon, at Charlton, Kent, aged 23, on June 8th.  
IMPEY. On June 10th, at North Cove Hall, near Beccles, aged 30, Georgiana Mary, widow of the late Alfred Impey, M.D., of Great Yarmouth.  
MACNAIR. On June 5th, while bathing near Ambleside, James, eldest son of the late Benjamin MacNair, M.D., aged 22.  
RYE. On June 11th, at Banbury, Joanna, wife of \*Arthur Brisley Rye, Esq., Surgeon.  
SCOTT, Robert, Esq., late Madras Medical Service, at 2, Warwick Villas, Kensington, suddenly, aged 70, on June 10th.  
\*SNOW, John, M.D., at 18, Sackville Street, after a week's illness, on June 16th.  
SOUTHEY. On June 12th, in Harley Street, Cavendish Square, Clara, wife of Henry Herbert Southey, M.D., aged 60.  
STATHAM, Sherard Freeman, Esq., Surgeon to the Great Northern Hospital, at Maidstone, aged 32, on June 12th.

#### PASS LISTS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. MEMBERS admitted at the meeting of the Court of Examiners, on Friday, June 11th, 1858:—

CLAYTON, Richard, Accrington, Lancashire  
EVANS, Benjamin, Duffryn, Pembrokeshire  
HUGHES, Benjamin Augustus, St. Vincent, West Indies  
KEMP, Benjamin, Leeds  
McCANN, John, Tonge, co. Waterford  
MORGAN, Walter, Bridgend, Glamorganshire  
OWEN, Owen, Leamington  
RAY, Sidney Keyworth, Milton, near Sittingbourne, Kent  
SELOUS, Edric, Gloucester Road, Regent's Park  
WATLING, Charles Wyat, Tredington, Shipston-on-Stour

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD. In a congregation held on Thursday, June 10th, the degree of M.B. was conferred on—  
GRAY, Edward Benjamin, Exeter College  
OGLE, William (Fellow), Corpus Christi College  
WALLACE, Alexander, Trinity College

### HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING JUNE 12TH, 1858.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

THE population of London now appears to be in a very healthy condition. In a metropolis which in a few years more will be able to count its third million of inhabitants, the deaths in a week do not often fall below a thousand; for a reduction of the weekly deaths below this point occurred only nine times in 1857, though the total mortality of that year was less than the average. At this season of the year, the mortality has been observed to be least; and last week, ending June 12th, the deaths, which had been about 1100, fell to 963. In the ten years 1848-57, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 982; but as the present return is for a population which has annually increased, for the purpose of comparison the average should be raised in proportion to this increase, and it will then appear that the deaths of last week were less by 117 than would have occurred under the average rate of mortality for the early part of June.

The births of last week exceeded the deaths in the same period by 663.

The deaths of children from measles declined in the last two weeks from 62 to 56; those from whooping-cough from 69 to 58; while deaths of persons at all ages from typhus and common fever decreased from 43 to 21; and fatal cases of zymotic diseases in the aggregate from 291 to 253. Eighteen persons died of diarrhoea last week, which is just the average for this season; and four of cholera. With one exception, the cases of cholera occurred to children not above seven years of age, and are described as "English cholera". Of fourteen deaths that occurred in the sub-district of Somers Town, five were from scarlatina, three from whooping-cough, and one from measles; that is, nine from diseases of the zymotic character. In the sub-district of All Souls, Marylebone, three children died of measles, one of whooping-cough, one of diarrhoea, one of influenza, one of diphtheria, one of inflammation of the throat, one of remittent fever, and one of croup; the registrar states that measles and inflammation of the throat are very prevalent in his locality. It is stated that frequent cases of fever have occurred in Highbury Vale, and that they are supposed to owe their origin to a large open sewer which runs near the dwellings, and to which public attention has been repeatedly called, but hitherto without effect. The nuisance is not to be abated till it can be included in the general drainage of the north of London.

The two oldest persons who died in the week were women, aged respectively 94 and 95 years.

Last week, the births of 854 boys and 772 girls, in all 1626 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1848-57, the average number was 1507.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.846 in. The highest barometrical reading was 30.04 in., on Sunday (the 6th), which decreased to 29.71 in., on Tuesday. The mean temperature of the week was 63.8°, which is 6.2° above the average of the same week in forty-three years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). Wednesday was the warmest day, and on it the thermometer in the sun rose to 105.7°, and that in the shade to 82.9°; the lowest point was 55.6°, and the mean temperature 68.5°, which is 11° above the average. The lowest temperature of the week was 49.1°, on Tuesday, and the entire range was therefore 33.8°. The mean daily range was 24.5°. The difference between the mean dew-point temperature and air temperature was 8.1°. The mean degree of humidity of the air was 74, complete saturation being 100. The mean degree of temperature of the water of the Thames was 65.8°. The direction of the wind, which was north-east on the first two days, was afterwards generally south-west. No rain fell, except a few drops, on the evening of Tuesday, when there was a thunder-storm of short duration.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. In reply to numerous correspondents, we may state the new regulations will be advertised in this JOURNAL very shortly.

### DEPUTATION OF ST. ANDREW'S GRADUATES TO MR. COWPER, M.P.

A deputation of St. Andrew's Graduates waited on the Right Hon. W. Cowper, M.P., at his residence, on Wednesday last, June 16th, in reference to the recognition of the University in the right honourable gentleman's Bill. The deputation consisted of Dr. B. W. Richardson, Dr. Paul, Dr. Newnham, Dr. Henry, Dr. Chapman, and Dr. Halford. Mr. Brady, M.P., attended with the deputation.

Dr. RICHARDSON, in opening the business of the deputation, said:—We have waited on you, sir, to-day, to ask the simple right that your Bill, which has met with so much favour from the Government and the profession, should contain an amendment by which the University of St. Andrew's may have a separate representative in the Medical Council, and the same position as the other universities. We also take this opportunity of removing certain unfounded and absurd prejudices against our University—prejudices which are not in character with the candour of the English people, but which serve to place our University in a false position whenever its claims are canvassed. First, it is no uncommon thing to hear the St. Andrew's medical degree spoken of as a *modern* institution. This has been suggested even in the House of Commons. The fact, however, is, that this University was one of the first in the United Kingdom that conferred the degree of M.D. after proper examination. During the seventeenth century, and long afterwards, it was the custom of English physicians to graduate in foreign universities, because in this country degrees were not then given by examination. But I have lately ascertained that, in the seventeenth century, the University of St. Andrew's was an exception to this rule. In the British Museum there is retained a portion of a Graduation Thesis by the distinguished Arbuthnot, the friend of Pope, addressed to the Senate of the University; and the records of the University, as lately examined, show that Arbuthnot graduated there; and that, at that early period, degrees were given to graduates who showed themselves properly informed by examination in the science of medicine. Again, it has been urged, both in and out of Parliament, that the St. Andrew's degree could be obtained by a mere payment of money. Nothing can be more distinctly untrue. The facts are, that, in the early part of the present century, all medical degrees and diplomas were obtained by what may be called a nominal examination. The University of St. Andrew's shared with the rest of the universities in this error. But it was one of the first to reform; and now it is foremost amongst the reformed. About the year 1825, the character of the examination was remodelled; and improvement on improvement has gone on unceasingly. At the present time, the examination extends over three days: it comprises five written examinations and one oral; and it includes a classical examination, and examinations in chemistry, materia medica, anatomy, physiology, pathology and medicine, surgery, midwifery, and clinical history. Lately, competition for honours has been introduced; and examinations at the bedside have been instituted. It would be difficult for a body of examiners to do more. Moreover, the examiners are all unbiassed. Two of them are purposely selected from other schools; they are unknown to the examined; and the number of rejections shows the thorough character of the examination. At a late deputation to Mr. Walpole, Mr. Lawrence chose to speak disparagingly of the St. Andrew's examination; and Mr. Lawrence's disparagement of the examination has gone through the whole country, in support of the Royal College of Surgeons, at the expense of our University. It is not our business to institute comparisons; and least of all would we wish to say a word in opposition to Mr. Lawrence, whose position and great ability are well known. But Mr. Lawrence has provoked a reply, which we will now give. The rejections at St. Andrew's during several years have not been less than one in every six or seven, and recently not less than one candidate in four has been rejected. Now to the statistics of these rejections. Out of the last *eighty* rejected candidates at St. Andrew's, it is the fact that no fewer than *thirty-nine* have been members of the College of Surgeons; so that every other man thus rejected at this University has been considered competent to practise by the examiners of the Royal College. The examination of the University of St. Andrew's, by its practical tone, as well as by its fairness, is at this moment second to that of none of the other examining boards, except the University of London.

Another argument urged sometimes against the St. Andrew's University is, that it has no medical school. This is hardly

true. But, granting it so, there are ten other examining boards (some of them universities, as London and Durham) acknowledged in the Bill as deserving special representation, not one of which has a school in connexion with it. It has been urged, that the University of St. Andrew's does not require special residence for its degree. It does not. But is this fortunate, or unfortunate? What is the true object and meaning of residence in universities? That of securing a larger amount of fees. It cannot matter where a man has been educated, so long as he shows that he has remained the necessary period of education, and possesses the knowledge to pass the required examination. The effect of residence is also to make the examined the pupil of the examiner, and to destroy the fairness of the examination.

None of these assumed objections, then, against the St. Andrew's degree, hold good; but, on the other side, the University has achieved much to advance medical education and medical reform.

For example, the principle of reciprocity of practice introduced into the Bill is, and has been for a long time past, acknowledged and practically acted upon by the St. Andrew's University. For the University, assuming, in a liberal spirit, that every qualified man should possess the same privileges, has admitted to its honours all qualified medical men who have shown themselves able to pass the examination for such honours. This has been a great boon to the profession. We refer further, with much satisfaction, to the numbers of St. Andrew's graduates, and to the many celebrated names that have in past times belonged to our University, such as Jenner and Arbuthnot. For the last eight years the number of graduates has averaged sixty-four per annum, and the united body of graduates yields a constituency equalling any other similar body.

With these facts before us, we hope that you, sir, will not enforce so unjust a measure as that of giving to the Saint Andrew's University but a third of a representative (which practically would mean no representative at all), while the University of Durham, with its two or three graduates, and the Apothecaries' Company of Ireland, which gives no qualification to practise at all, shall each possess a distinct representative. The argument in favour of this unfair division is, we believe, that there should not be a preponderance of representatives in any of the three kingdoms. But this, which really is an argument of expediency, is not just, and therefore not likely to be satisfactory. Nay, the combination of the three universities of Glasgow, Aberdeen, and St. Andrew's would be fatal to the success of the Bill as a practical measure. These universities have each similar, though rival, objects and interests, and it is impossible for them to select one man who shall equally represent them all. Or if they should each nominate a representative, and the crown should select one out of the three named, the man selected will represent only his own university. On these grounds we claim that our University shall be individually represented, and respectfully submit that, if the plan proposed in your Bill is acted on, a slight will be most undeservedly passed on the University and on its large constituency of graduates.

A long and interesting conversation then ensued, in which Mr. Cowper, Mr. Brady, Dr. Chapman, and the other members of the deputation took part, but which we have not space to report.

Mr. Cowper intimated that a new and more equitable division of representatives for Scotland was open for arrangement. He would give this point his best and immediate consideration, and communicate to the deputation the result. The claims of St. Andrew's would not be overlooked.

The deputation then withdrew, after thanking Mr. Cowper for the kindness and courtesy with which they had been received.

**GASLIGHTS IN A COAL-PIT.** It is well known that one of the greatest difficulties coal-miners have to contend with, in the prosecution of their arduous labours in the bowels of the earth, is a deficiency of light, the artificial means of illumination afforded by the Davy lamp being very inadequate to the requirements of the men in the thick darkness of a coal-pit. It has recently been found safe and practicable, under proper precautions, to introduce gaslights in coal mines, thereby vastly facilitating the operations of the colliers. This valuable improvement has now been adopted at the High Elsecar Colliery, near Barnsley, the property of Earl Fitzwilliam, and naked gaslights are now burning in all the board-gates and stables. After the experiment thus made has been fairly tried and found successful, gas will be introduced into every part of the workings, and, where absolutely necessary, through the medium of the Davy lamp.

## ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE: THE ADJOURNED GENERAL MEETING.

THE adjourned general meeting of this institution was held on Tuesday, June 8th, in Freemasons' Hall. There was a very full attendance of members, and it was quite evident that the proposed change in the council had excited more than ordinary interest. Earl Manvers took the Chair a little after two o'clock.

His lordship asked for a fair hearing for every one, in order that the discussion might go on without interruption or loss of time.

Mr. CATTILIN then brought on his motion for the nomination of the new members of council; and, after some prefatory remarks with respect to the fairness of public discussions, proceeded to say, that the charge of factious opposition which had been levelled at himself and those who thought and acted with him was quite untrue; they denied such an imputation, and had only one motive in the line of conduct they adopted, namely, the good of the institution. [*Cheers.*] It was not because men entertained different opinions that they were to be set down as factious. He wished to be distinctly understood as entertaining no feeling of animosity against his respected friend, Mr. Probert, whom they all honoured [*hear, hear*]; for he wished to see his name immortalised with the College he had founded; but public must override private feeling. The speaker then went on to show that the acts of himself and friends, so far from being factious, proved how much they had the interest of the institution at heart. He said they had not taken their present course without due advice, and the accounts they were going to lay before the meeting had been examined by professional accountants. They had spent £63,273:14:2 up to Christmas, 1857. Out of that sum, less than £3000 had been expended on the object they had all so much at heart, namely, the relief of their poorer brethren. He looked upon it as an act of injustice that the pensioners had only received £192:10. The profession, again, were promised education for the sons of its members at £26 per annum, exclusive of books, whereas the council had raised it to £40, and it had become a subject of great grievance. [*Hear, hear.*] He could not tell how it was. Perhaps the council had accepted an Act of Parliament to its injury; but he put it to the meeting whether it would be worth while to spoil the institution for the sake of an Act of Parliament. [*Hear, hear.*] He would readily put his hand into his pocket to obtain another one, and his friends would do the same. [*Hear, hear.*] No one could shut his eyes to the fact that there had been a misapplication and mismanagement of the funds. He did not use the term offensively, but one claimant's fund had been wrongly appropriated to another. He could not but again advert to the fact, that £63,000 had been spent in carrying out an object which had been promised for £18,000; nor was it now complete, for eighty-four residences were still unbuilt, and he would ask any reasonable man whether that was not something like mismanagement. [*Hear, hear.*] He called upon the meeting to adopt measures that would tend to restore public confidence by stopping the mania for bricks and mortar, which was causing such a heavy expenditure. [*Hear, hear.*] He was willing, if the council would withdraw three names, to withdraw three from his list, in order that harmony might be restored, and to show how little there was of factious opposition in him and his friends.

Mr. PROBERT said that the council would not do anything of the kind. [*Cheers*, and cries of "*No compromises.*"]

Mr. CATTILIN. Then let the cry of factious opposition for ever cease. [*Cheers and counter-cheers.*]

At this point the meeting began to assume rather a lively aspect, and unheard compliments were passed about, of a "more free than welcome" nature, when Mr. Cattlin read the following as his list for the Council:—Dr. E. Ballard, Dr. C. P. Croft, Mr. T. B. Curling, Mr. J. F. Harding, Dr. W. Munk, Mr. T. Pollock, Mr. R. Quain, Mr. E. Ray, Mr. J. Ward, and Mr. J. Warwick.

The Rev. Mr. WHITE seconded the nomination as a lay member, and challenged Mr. Probert to prove that he was actuated by "factious opposition." Mr. Probert had threatened to leave the institution if the council were removed.

Mr. PROBERT. And so I will.

Mr. WHITE said such an intention was a mistake of judgment, and proceeded, in a very energetic speech, to confirm the statements of Mr. Cattlin, adding, that with respect to the educa-

tion question, he knew from personal experience that it could be done for £30 a year, which was amply sufficient for the purpose. [*Cheers.*] The charter told them to get £40, but it did not say, "You could not take £30 if you choose." Mr. Probert had publicly spoken of him (Mr. White) as being actuated by factious motives; but he trusted his conduct in connexion with the institution would disprove that charge, and he called upon Mr. Probert as an Englishman and a gentleman, to withdraw that imputation. [*Cheers,* and "No, no."]

Mr. HANCOCK rose to defend the proceedings of the council of the College, and to correct some of Mr. Cattlin's errors, as well as to refute that gentleman's charges. He was surprised that gentlemen should charge the members of a common profession, as those gentlemen opposed to him had done, in the way they had all seen, in the different journals. [*Hear, hear.*] One of those gentlemen had said that the council had misapplied the funds, and had obtained an Act of Parliament to deprive the governors of their legal rights. [*Hear, hear, and No, no.*] Those gentlemen allowed the charge to slumber, they allowed the poison to do its work, and did not come forward to give the explanation which Mr. Cattlin had done. They repeated the accusation that the council had prevented children being educated for £30 a year. [*Hear, hear, cheers and counter-cheers.*] He hoped to prove to the meeting that the council was worthy of their high confidence. [*Hear, hear.*] That confidence should not be given to men who made mistakes such as those which had been made in that letter. [*Cheers.*] The first accusation was that of improvident and extravagant expenditure in building. [*Hear, hear, and cheers.*] They were charged with having spent upwards of £60,000; in a few months the charge had diminished to £45,000; whereas the actual cost was only £31,457, exclusive of the chapel, which cost £3,050, including the commission to the architect. In that alone a misstatement had been made against the council amounting to £1,500. It had been said that they spent £1700 in law expenses, exclusive of the Act of Incorporation. [*Hear, hear.*] There, again, was a mistake of £500. The Act of Incorporation cost £611, and the actual cost of the legal expenses up to present time was £1800, including the Act of Incorporation. [*Cheers.*] That balance included also £900 which had been spent in the enfranchisement of their land, and in converting copyhold into freehold property. The cost of the land after all these charges, with draining, fencing, planting, and sinking a well, was only £140 an acre, whereas the freeholders of the surrounding grounds at the present time are asking £350 an acre, exclusive of legal expenses. [*Cheers.*] They could not charge the council of 1858 with the shortcomings of the council of 1851. Why, they might as well charge the ministry of the Earl of Derby with the shortcomings of that of the late Sir R. Peel. The council of 1852 invested £13,000 in consols—a course which was not at the time to be commended, and which had produced a loss, and it was the same council that entered into a number of contracts, and the present council are only carrying them out. [*Hear, hear.*] It was the council of 1851 who published the original estimate of £18,000, and had nothing to do with the present council. [*Hear, hear.*] With regard to the alleged loss of £1169 upon the consols invested, it was more; it was 1188:19; but the persons who found fault forgot to state that up to the time of the selling out there had been received £1145 for interest, so that the actual loss was only 39:15. [*Hear, hear.*] The cause of the loss was the Russian war, and Mr. Cattlin might as well charge them with being the cause of the Russian war as of the loss occasioned by it. [*Hear, hear, cheers, and laughter.*] Mr. Cattlin had charged them with only giving the poor recipients £3000 out of the £63,000; he forgot that it cost between £500 and £600 for the clothing of the boys; furnishing the houses for pensioners cost £250; and 2718:14 were expended on the foundation boys, exclusive of pocket money, and exclusive of their share of accommodation in that noble building. [*Great cheering.*] There had been £2380 expended in the purchase of land. It was stated that the pensioners had only received £193; but nothing was said of the cost of building the residences, which amounted to £6250, and £1400 in furnishing the houses. At the present period there was £3377:17 for the endowment fund, and the building fund to complete the structure amounted to £507, whilst the balance in hand, which recent expenses would somewhat diminish, was £4450. The 1851 estimate of £18,000 was for a different kind of building altogether; and he asked if any gentleman could expect a building in the Elizabethan style, with a house of two rooms for each pensioner, to be built at a less cost than £192. At the time the contract was taken, bricks had risen from 20s.

to 50s. per 1000. The council found it impracticable to carry out the proposal, and reported the fact to their constituents. [*Hear, and cheers.*] Passing to the charge for education being raised to £40, no one deplored it more than he did. If they could in justice have charged £30, he would have been very glad, as then all parties would have been pleased; but they had a stern duty to perform; the Act of Parliament states that they must not do so, and as there was a difference of opinion amongst lawyers upon the point, it would not do to jeopardize the institution by giving an opposing governor power to file a Bill in Chancery to make them keep up to their own Act of Parliament. [*Hear, hear.*] There was a mortgage of £7000 incurred to meet the wants of the profession in giving full effect to that school, and he asked them if, in the face of that, they were going to add £1200 a year to the expenses for the sake of the exhibitors. They had 150 of them, and if they could accommodate double the number, the wards would be full in a week. With respect to educating children at the price named, he had made inquiries, and found that at the Royal Navy School, where there were 270 children, which would lessen the degree of expense in some things, that school had lost above £1000 last year. The Wellington College, which had just started, charged £40 a year; and the Marlborough College had been obliged to raise their charge from £30 to £45 for members' sons, and from £50 to £60 for others. [*Hear.*] He called upon them to think first of their old worn-out brethren; and concluded a most telling speech by imploring the meeting to continue to support the council in its good work until that structure was completed in all its requirements, which would be made by them one of the noblest in the world. Mr. Hancock resumed his seat amidst loud and vociferous cheering, which lasted some minutes.

Mr. POWNALL addressed the meeting, and urged a mild and conciliatory policy as the most desirable.

The Rev. Mr. WHITE again rose, but the cry of "*Ballot, ballot,*" became so universal that he was obliged to resume his seat, although he took up his position on the top of one of the forms.

The ballot was then proceeded with, and after the usual time the following gentlemen were declared duly elected as the council for the ensuing year:—Henry Blenkarne, Esq., Dowgate hill; T. Blizard Curling, Esq., Grosvenor-street; Robert Dunn, Esq., Norfolk-street; Richard D. Edgcombe, Esq., Shaftesbury-crescent; Geo. Fincham, Esq., Marlborough-hill; Charles F. J. Lord, Esq., Hampstead; Richard Quain, Esq., Cavendish-square; Edward Ray, Esq., Dulwich; Henry Sterry, Esq., Paragon, New Kent-road; Joseph Ward, Esq., Epsom.

The announcement was received with tremendous cheering and uproar, which lasted for several minutes.

Some formal business was then transacted, and, after a vote of thanks to the noble chairman, the proceedings terminated. (*Lancet.*)

**NAVAL PRIZES.** The Gold Medals founded by the late Sir Gilbert Blane, have just been awarded to Messrs. William Richard Edwin Smart, M.D., of H.M.S. *Diamond*, 1855; and Alexander Eugene Mackay, M.D., of H.M.S. *Fantome*, 1855. Dr. Smart is known as the author of several interesting papers on the Climate of the Crimea, and other subjects, published in the *Sanitary Review*.

**HYDROPHOBIA.** About two months ago a poor woman named Susan M'Kinney, residing in Tattycor, in the parish of Dro-more, was bitten on the finger by a cat. Very little was thought of the matter at the time, the wound being very slight; but on Monday, June 8, the woman was taken so suddenly ill that Dr. Marshall, of Dro-more, was sent for. He at once pronounced her to be labouring under hydrophobia, and directed every precaution to be taken. She had, as is usual, fearful emotions at the sight of liquids of any kind, and at intervals was in the most lucid state of mind, warning all about her to take care, as she could not control herself. On Wednesday she was brought to Omagh on a car, expecting to be admitted into the County Infirmary, which, from the nature of the case, could not be done, and she was then taken to the Lunatic Asylum. On her way there, and in the street opposite this office, she conversed freely with many persons; but she was even then dying, for she was only a few minutes in the asylum when death relieved her from her sufferings. She had not taken the slightest nourishment for several days. (*Tyrone Paper.*)

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

## POSTAGE OF MANUSCRIPT AND PRINTED MATTER.

Any amount of manuscript or printed matter, singly or together, provided it contains nothing in the form of a letter, is transmitted through the post, in packets *open at the ends*, at the following rates: not exceeding 4 ounces, one penny; above 4 and not exceeding 8 ounces, twopence; above 8 ounces and not exceeding 1 pound, fourpence; for every additional half-pound or under, twopence.

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.

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.

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.

M. M. We take the earliest opportunity of correcting an error which was made last week in our reply to you concerning the respective costs of this JOURNAL and of the *Medical Times and Gazette*. The annual value of the latter periodical was there assumed to be £1:14:8, being 52 times the value of a single stamped number. It has since been brought to our notice, however, that the *Medical Times and Gazette* is supplied, post free, for an annual subscription of £1:10. This will reduce the excess of income over the annual receipts from the Members of the Association to £900; which, with the £300 set aside for general Association purposes, raises the available sum which the *Medical Times and Gazette* has in excess of this JOURNAL to £1200. With this correction, our argument remains as before.

M.D.EDIN. We have not space for your communication this week. While we differ from you as to the course to be adopted, we recognise much soundness in the abstract principles which you lay down, and intend to express our views on the subject in an early number.

DR. W. T. GAIRDNER. The document came too late for insertion in the present number.

M.D. We have received your communication on the subject of Homoeopathy; but can take no notice of it unless you make us acquainted with your name, in accordance with our rule regarding Anonymous Correspondents.

Communications have been received from:—MR. JOHN ATCHERLEY; DR. HENRY JOHNSON; MR. J. V. SOLOMON; MR. HAYNES WALTON; MR. WILLIAM MARTIN; MR. T. HOLMES; MR. STONE; DR. OWEN DALY; MR. R. M. CRAVEN, JUN.; DR. KELERNE KING; DR. P. H. WILLIAMS; MR. J. R. HUMPHREYS; MR. G. RUSSELL; DR. T. M. GREENHOW; MR. H. TERRY; DR. T. H. BARKER; MR. W. A. N. CATTLIN; DR. LYON; MR. GRIFFIN; X; M.D.; MR. W. COOKE; MR. DYER; MR. A. T. H. WATERS; DR. B. W. RICHARDSON; DR. W. T. GAIRDNER; and M.D.EDIN.

## BOOKS RECEIVED.

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

1. An Essay on Wasting Palsy (Cruveilhier's Atrophy). By \*William Roberts, B.A., M.D. Lond. London: Churchill. 1858.
2. Observations on Naval Hygiene and Scurvy, more particularly as the latter appeared during a Polar Voyage. By Alexander Armstrong, M.D., R.N. London: Churchill. 1858.
3. An Effectual and Simple Remedy for Scarlatina and Measles, in a Letter to John Simon, Esq., F.R.S.: with an Appendix of Cases. By Charles Witt. Pamphlet. pp. 24. London: George Philip and Son. 1858.
4. Notes on the Surgery of the War in the Crimea, with remarks on the Treatment of Gunshot Wounds. By George H. B. Macleod, M.D. London: Churchill. 1858.
5. On the Causes of Idiocy; being the Supplement to a Report by Dr. S. G. Howe, and the other Commissioners appointed by the Governor of Massachusetts to inquire into the Condition of the Idiots of the Commonwealth, dated February 26, 1848. With an Appendix. Edinburgh: Macleachlan & Stewart. 1858.
6. Four Letters to Sir James Clark, M.D., F.R.S., on Administrative Reform, in Relation to the Medical Schools and Examining Boards. By \*Alexander Harvey, A.M., M.D. London: Churchill. 1858.
7. On the Reciprocal Action of Metals, and the Constituents of Well and River Waters. By H. Medlock, Esq. Pamphlet. (From the *Philosophical Magazine* for January 1858.)

Universities of Scotland Bill. Remarks on the Condition, Necessities, and Claims of the Universities of Scotland: with an Appendix. By a Graduate. London: Edward Stanford. 1858.

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