

xxvii. (Same as xxiv.)

xxviii. The following is substituted for (xxv): "Every person registered under this Act who may have obtained any higher degree, or any qualification other than the qualification in respect of which he may have been registered, shall be entitled to have such higher degree or additional qualification inserted in the register in substitution for, or in addition to, the qualification previously registered, on payment of such Fee as the Council may appoint."

xxix. (xxvi.) The words "Her Majesty's dominions" are substituted for "the United Kingdom."

xxx to li (inclusive). These, the remaining Clauses, are the same as (xxvii to xlviii).

SCHEDULE (A).

In paragraph 11, after "foreign" is inserted "or colonial."

SCHEDULE (C).

Certificate of Approval from Examiners in General Education.

This to certify, That [Name of Candidate examined] has been carefully examined by us, the Examiners in [England] in General Education, after the scheme approved of by the Medical Council, and has passed such Examination to our satisfaction.

(Signed) [Name of Examiner or Examiners.]
Dated

Association Intelligence.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: ANNUAL MEETING.

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

President: BOOTH EDDISON, Esq., Nottingham.

President-elect: WILLIAM P. ALISON, M.D., F.R.S.E., Edinburgh.

The Committee of Council will meet at twelve o'clock on Thursday.

The General Council of the Association will meet at one o'clock.

The following is an outline of the proceedings connected with the Annual Meeting:—

Thursday, 29th, 4 o'clock P.M. First General Meeting of the Association.

In the evening, a conversazione will be holden at the Royal College of Surgeons, when Dr. SANDERS, Conservator of the Museum, will make some remarks on many of the objects of interest contained in it.

Friday, 30th. Morning. Public breakfast. Second General Meeting of Members. The Address in Therapeutics will be delivered by Professor CHRISTISON.

Afternoon. The Address in Surgery will be delivered by Professor MILLER.

Evening. There will be a conversazione at the Royal College of Physicians; when Dr. WILSON, Regius Professor of Technology, will read a paper on Chemistry.

Saturday, 31st. Morning. The Address in Midwifery will be delivered by Professor SIMPSON.

Afternoon. Professor BALFOUR will meet the members of the Association in the Royal Botanic Gardens.

Evening. Dinner.

Further particulars will be announced as early as possible. All local information may be obtained on application to Dr. W. T. Gairdner, 52, Northumberland Street, Edinburgh.

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

PHILIP H. WILLIAMS, M.D.

Worcester, June 1858.

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL.

THE Committee of Council will meet at the Queen's Hotel, Birmingham, at 1 o'clock, on Thursday, July 8th.

Business.—To arrange the Report of Council for the Annual Meeting.

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

Worcester, June 29th, 1858.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

NAME OF BRANCH.	PLACE OF MEETING.	DATE.
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.
CAMBRIDGE AND HUNTINGDON. [Annual Meeting.]	Rose and Crown Hotel, Wisbeach.	Thursday, July 8th, 2 P.M.
BATH AND BRISTOL. [Annual Meeting.]	General Hospital, Bath.	Thurs., July 15th, 4 P.M.
SHROPSHIRE. [Annual Meeting.]	Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury.	Monday, July 19, 2 P.M.
READING. [Annual Meeting.]	Council Chamber, Reading.	Wed., July 21, 4 P.M.

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

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

THE fourth annual meeting of the Birmingham and Midland Counties Branch, was holden at the Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton, on Friday, June 18th: E. H. COLEMAN, Esq., President, in the Chair. There were present:—E. Bartleet, Esq. (Birmingham); T. Boisragon, M.D. (Birmingham); C. E. Busigny, Esq. (Ombersley); E. Cheshire, Esq. (Birmingham); W. Dunn, Esq. (Wolverhampton); Bell Fletcher, M.D. (Birmingham); J. Fraser, M.D. (Wolverhampton); J. Froyssell, Esq. (Willenhall); H. Hancox, M.D. (Wolverhampton); W. M. Hancox, Esq. (Bilston); G. Jones, Esq. (Birmingham); J. W. Keyworth, M.D. (Birmingham); J. B. Melson, M.D. (Birmingham); E. Moore, Esq. (Halesowen); C. A. Newnham, Esq. (Wolverhampton); R. Nugent, Esq. (Wolverhampton); O. Pemberton, Esq. (Birmingham); R. Sandford, Esq. (Wolverhampton); G. N. Smith, Esq. (Wolverhampton); J. V. Solomon, Esq. (Birmingham); S. Thomson, M.D. (Burton-on-Trent); T. Underhill, Esq. (Great Bridge); T. W. Williams, Esq. (Birmingham); and as visitors, A. G. Osborn, Esq. (Stourbridge); and Messrs. J. Bunch, Reed, and E. W. Thomas (Wolverhampton).

Mr. BARTLEET, on retiring from the presidency, thanked the members for the consideration received from them during the past year, and introduced to the meeting his friend Mr. Coleman, who would now assume the duties of President for the ensuing year.

Mr. OLIVER PEMBERTON, one of the Honorary Secretaries, read the following

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

"The Council of the Birmingham and Midland Counties Branch of the British Medical Association congratulates the members on the arrival of the fourth anniversary of its foundation.

"During the past year, the following subjects have been brought before the meetings for discussion by various members; forming the materials of original papers and essays not only of practical interest to the profession in this neighbourhood, but which, by publication in the pages of the JOURNAL of the Association, have been the means of diffusing generally many valuable facts gathered by men engaged in the daily responsibilities of their profession:—

- "1. Post Mortem Appearances in a Case of Coloration of the Skin from Pancreatic Disease. By Bell Fletcher, M.D.
- "2. On Unilateral Cataract. By J. Vose Solomon, Esq.
- "3. Case of Depression of the Superior Maxillary Bone from an injury, in which marked relief was afforded by raising the part. By J. H. Houghton, Esq.
- "4. Spasmodic Croup, as observed in six out of eleven children of the same family: fatal in two. By J. Russell, M.D.
- "5. Cutaneous and some other Non-Traumatic Hæmorrhages. By J. W. Keyworth, M.D.
- "6. Cases of Uterine Hæmorrhage treated by Transfusion. By J. Wheatcroft, Esq.
- "7. Syphilitic Affections of the Uterus. By Langston Parker, Esq.
- "8. Amputation as a remedy for Tetanus. By Alfred Baker, Esq.

"In addition to these, the Society had the opportunity of examining that remarkable specimen of malformation, as illustrated in the person of M. Groux, of Hamburg, whose congenital fissure of the sternum attracted a large attendance of members on an evening specially devoted to the consideration of his case.

"Yet another year, and the question of Medical Reform remains unsettled. Your Council have to report that a special general meeting of the Branch was held in April last, with the view of lending its support to the provisions of Mr. Cowper's Medical Bill, then before Parliament. The President and several members of the Branch formed part of a deputation to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with the view of aiding the Medical Reform Committee of the Association in its attempt to obtain that recognition from the State as regards the political and general position of our profession, which we have, from the supineness of ministers and our own dissensions, so long been denied. The efforts of the Reform Committee of the Association, and generally of the profession at large, would appear to promise some return; as there is reason to believe that Mr. Cowper, Lord Elcho, and Mr. Walpole, have at length agreed in regard to their various Bills; and that even ere this Session terminate the profession may be actually in possession of an Act of Parliament which will, it is hoped, protect not only the public, but themselves, from the iniquitous frauds of those who plunder unrestrained on all sides and on all ranks under our titles.

"The Poor-law Surgeons as yet maintain their efforts, under the leadership of Mr. Griffin, to effect a change in the character of their labours and remuneration. Your Council regrets to hear that at least a third of the union surgeons in the kingdom have withheld that active support to the cause of reform in this matter, so urgently needed, and in the success of which, sooner or later, they will be only too prompt to rejoice.

"During the past year, the influence of the Branch in Birmingham and its neighbourhood has been well maintained, tending no less to gather the profession together for scientific than for social enjoyment; and thus binding closer in relationship the various medical districts of the midland counties.

"Your Council feels deeply the loss sustained by the Branch in the sudden death of Mr. Wickenden, in July last, whose long connection with the Association—as one of its founders—and subsequently with this Society, had been attended with such signal advantage to its interests. Mr. Wickenden's merits are so well known and so thoroughly appreciated, that your Council feels that it can only here again record those sentiments of sorrow which his sudden removal from amongst the profession occasioned amongst all classes in Birmingham at the time.

"The Branch has also sustained a loss in the sudden removal, by death, of Dr. Patrick Brown, of Leamington, well known as a militia surgeon of experience; whose departure from an active career was within a few weeks of the last annual meeting of the Branch, which he had attended in the apparent possession of vigorous health.

"In conclusion, your Council, having a regard in these times to the true interests of the profession, cannot but insist on the importance of members exerting themselves to bring before individual legislators the present disjointed character of the laws relating to the qualifications of practitioners in all parts of the British dominions; in the hope that, by so doing, some scheme may be adopted which shall tend to correct the evils now so apparent and so inseparable from a system guided by divided authorities, and strengthened too often by personal and professional misgivings."

Dr. KEYWORTH proposed, Mr. BARTLEET seconded, and it was carried—

"That the Report now read be received, adopted, and entered on the minutes."

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mr. T. W. WILLIAMS (Treasurer) read his balance-sheet; by which it appeared that there was cash in the Treasurer's hands to the amount of £24:18:5.

Mr. BUSIGNY (Ombersley) proposed, Dr. MELSON (Birmingham) seconded, and it was carried—

"That the Treasurer's Report be received, adopted, and entered on the minutes."

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Dr. BELL FLETCHER (Birmingham) proposed, Mr. NEWNHAM (Wolverhampton) seconded, and it was carried—

"That Dr. Melson, of Birmingham, be President-elect for the ensuing year."

Dr. BOISRAGON (Birmingham) proposed, and Dr. SPENCER THOMSON (Burton-on-Trent) seconded—

"That the following gentlemen be the Council of the Branch for the ensuing year:—E. Bartleet, Esq.; Alfred Baker, Esq.; Bell Fletcher, M.D.; A. Fleming, M.D.; J. J. Hadley, Esq.; J. W. Keyworth, M.D.; G. H. Marshall, M.D.; and W. Wade, M.B. (Birmingham); Sir Charles Hastings, M.D. (Worcester); S. B. Bucknill, M.D. (Rugby); J. H. Houghton, Esq. (Dudley); E. Moore, Esq. (Halesowen); C. Male, Esq. (West-bromwich); J. Pritchard, Esq. (Leamington); and F. Wyley, Esq. (Coventry)."

Dr. BELL FLETCHER gave notice that at the next general meeting of the Branch he should propose an alteration in the mode of electing the Council of the Branch and the Council of the Association.

Mr. CHESHIRE also gave notice in reference to the same subject.

Mr. BARTLEET proposed, Mr. BUSIGNY seconded, and it was resolved—

"That the following members be elected representatives of the Branch in the General Council:—E. Bartleet, Esq. (Birmingham); H. D. Carden, Esq. (Worcester); F. F. Debane, Esq. (Wolverhampton); J. Johnstone, M.D. (Birmingham); J. V. Solomon, Esq. (Birmingham); T. Watkin Williams, Esq. (Birmingham); R. Wise, M.D. (Banbury); with O. Pemberton, Esq., one of the secretaries, as an *ex officio* member."

Dr. MELSON proposed, and Mr. MOORE seconded—

"That Mr. J. Vose Solomon and Mr. Oliver Pemberton be re-elected Honorary Secretaries for the ensuing year."

Dr. MELSON proposed, and Dr. FLETCHER seconded—

"That Mr. Watkin Williams be re-elected Treasurer for the ensuing year."

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The PRESIDENT delivered an address, embodying an interesting sketch of the present and future aspects of the profession, and its social and political relations.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Mr. PEMBERTON proposed, and Mr. WILLIAMS seconded—

"That the best thanks of the meeting be given to E. H. Coleman, Esq., for his able address, and for his courteous conduct in the Chair that day."

Dr. FLETCHER proposed, Mr. SOLOMON seconded, and it was carried by acclamation—

"That the best thanks of this meeting be given to Edwin Bartleet, Esq., for his able and considerate conduct as President during the past year."

NEW MEMBERS.

The following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Association:—W. M. Hancox, Esq., of Bilston; J. Froy-sell, Esq., of Willenhall; and W. Dunn, Esq., E. R. Nugent, Esq., and G. N. Smith, Esq., of Wolverhampton.

THE DINNER.

The annual dinner subsequently took place at the Star and Garter, and was most numerous attended by the profession in Wolverhampton and its neighbourhood. Mr. Coleman presided, and Dr. Melson occupied the vice-chair.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the South-Eastern Branch was held on Wednesday, June 23rd, in the Royal Pavilion, Brighton. By the kindness of the Mayor and Corporation, the whole splendid suite of rooms was devoted for the day to the uses of the Branch. The President, J. CORDY BURROWS, Esq., was in the Chair. There were also present: J. Amesbury, Esq. (Brighton); G. Bottomley, Esq. (Croydon); H. Boxall, Esq. (Wishborough Green); H. C. Brencley, Esq. (Brighton); C. Bryce, M.D. (Brighton); R. Bushell, Esq. (Horley); T. S. Byass, M.D. (Cuckfield); C. W. Chaldecott, Esq. (Dorking); H. Collet, M.D. (Worthing); J. M. Cunningham, M.D. (Hailsham); R. Dill, M.D. (Brighton); J. Dixon, Esq. (Brighton); T. E. Fden, Esq. (Brighton); A. G. Field, Esq. (Brighton); R. Gravely, Esq. (Newick); W. A. Greenhill, M.D. (Hastings); A. Hall, M.D. (Brighton); G. F. Hodgson, Esq. (Brighton); H. Holman, Esq. (East Hoathley); H. M. Holman, M.D. (Hurst-pierpoint); F. A. Humphrey, Esq. (Brighton); T. Hunt, Esq. (London); G. Lowdell, Esq. (Brighton); P. Martin, Esq. (Reigate); A. Napper, Esq. (Cranley); L. Newnam, M.D. (Camberwell); E. L. Ormerod, M.D. (Brighton); R. Pearce, M.D. (Brighton); F. W. Pittock, Esq. (Ashford); T. H. Silvester,

M.D. (Clapham); A. Sisson, Esq. (Reigate); J. P. M. Smith, Esq. (Brighton); C. F. Stainton, M.D. (Brighton); J. Stedman, Esq. (Guildford); S. S. Stedman, M.D. (Brighton); J. S. Steele, Esq. (Reigate); G. Stilwell, Esq. (Epsom); R. C. B. Taaffe, Esq. (Brighton); C. R. Thompson, Esq. (Westerham); R. N. Trew, Esq. (Stevington); C. Trustram, Esq. (Tonbridge Wells); W. Wilton, Esq. (Brighton); J. N. Winter, Esq. (Brighton); T. B. Winter, Esq. (Brighton); J. L. Worship, Esq. (Riverhead). Many visitors were also present.

At half-past twelve, the President-elect entertained the members and their friends, to the number of about sixty, to a very handsome luncheon, which was served in the banqueting-room of the Pavilion. At one o'clock the business of the meeting commenced, when the retiring President, Charles M. Thompson, Esq., of Westerham, being unavoidably absent, Mr. Stedman, of Guildford, introduced to the meeting the President-elect, J. CORDY BURROWS, Esq., who took the Chair.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The PRESIDENT said he had great pleasure in welcoming the Association to Brighton, and he had looked forward to it as one of the anticipatory pleasures of the year. It might be expected that something more might be done in this large and beautiful town—the metropolis of the south coast of England—than was generally done in small provincial towns. Therefore he hoped that, if anything more than ordinary was done, it must not be altogether taken as a precedent; but it so happened that, since his nomination to the Presidency of this Association, he had been elected to the office of Mayor of this town. [*Loud cheers.*] He was quite sure that they must all feel that the elevation of one of the profession to a high municipal office was in reality a compliment paid to the profession generally; and, so long as he had the honour of filling that appointment, he trusted that he should so act that the profession would be advanced in the estimation of the public. They had a Committee which took very considerable pains to bring to their notice objects of interest illustrative of every thing which the town afforded. They were aware that an invitation had been sent to the wives and families of the members of the Association; and, in addition, he had paid the same compliment to persons resident in the town, who, he was quite satisfied, would feel great pleasure in doing honour to their reception. [*Applause.*] They would find, throughout the suite of rooms, collections illustrative of the collateral sciences of medicine. They would find a collection of botany, the Flora of Brighton—a credit to the town and this Association; and he questioned whether, in any provincial town there was such a complete collection of local Flora ever brought before an institution. There was a geological collection, illustrative of our chalk hills, for which they were indebted to Mr. Henry Catt; and a very admirable collection it was, and well worthy their consideration. They had a collection of every kind connected with our sea-coast; they had a microscopic collection, for which they were indebted more particularly to the Committee; and they had an archaeological collection.

On these occasions, it was the usual custom to say something of the locality in which the institution met; but really the history of Brighton, and everything connected with it, had been so often repeated, and was so well known as the "Queen of Watering Places", it was scarcely necessary to enter upon that portion of the subject. He would only mention that, amongst other objects brought for their consideration illustrative of bygone times, they would find a specimen of an amber cup, perfectly unique, found two years since in a tumulus, and which had been deposited in the grave of a chieftain, most probably of great note, living in the neighbourhood; and with it were buried other implements of war. He believed there was no other specimen of the kind in England. It proved that Brighton was a place of considerable importance, and had been the residence, in all probability, of persons of high position. The cup was buried, in accordance with the customs of the time, with a chieftain, who, when he arrived at the end of his journey, should have not only implements to defend himself, but a cup to refresh the vigour of his nature. [*A laugh.*] In works of art and interest, the Committee had taken great pains and care that Brighton especially should be well represented; and they would find works in sculpture, painting, and many objects of interest, the greater portion of which were the production of native talent.

However great were the pleasures which this meeting naturally produced, there was a cloud which overshadowed it. Last year the society elected Dr. Branfoot and Mr. Lowdell Vice-Presidents. He was sorry to say that Dr. Branfoot had, after

a very painful and serious illness of no long duration, been taken from them that morning. So there was no day, however sunny, but had its cloud and its drawbacks.

In conclusion, he might say that, so far as the profession itself was concerned, looking to its history during the past year, they had nothing to regret, but much to congratulate themselves upon. Wherever the members of the profession had appeared in public, whether in India or elsewhere, they had added to the honours and laurels of the profession; and he was quite satisfied that the estimation in which the profession was held by the public generally had very considerably increased, from the fact that, whenever its members had been called upon, they had displayed the greatest judgment, skill, forbearance, and unselfishness, and had ever come forward to aid in the great cause of humanity. [*Cheers.*] With respect to ordinary topics brought before meetings of this Association, the subject of medical reform was still going on; and he, for one, felt certainly somewhat doubtful—in fact, in a state of complete uncertainty, as to what should be done.

REPORT OF COUNCIL.

Mr. MARTIN, Honorary Secretary, read the following Report

"The Council of the South-Eastern Branch of the British Medical Association have the pleasure to congratulate their brother members on the marked increase of their numbers during the past year. The number of new members entering the Branch in 1858 is, up to the present time, thirty-seven; whilst those lost by death and resignation are but four. Of this large increase of members, the Council have the satisfaction to state, that twenty have joined in consequence of the district meetings in the Chatham district which have been held during the winter.

"In obedience to the direction of the last annual meeting, the Secretary corresponded with members in several towns of the south-eastern district, in order to induce them to take advantage of the eighth bye-law, by meeting in smaller circles, and with greater frequency than is possible with regard to the entire Branch. The only district which responded to this appeal was that of which Rochester and Chatham are the centre. By the zealous cooperation of Mr. Dulvey and several other gentlemen in the neighbourhood, a series of district meetings have been held in Rochester, Maidstone, Gravesend, and Dartford. These meetings have been most agreeable, as well as useful; and they have added, as has been above stated, twenty members to the Branch. This has been done at the very small expense of £3: 16, half of which will be paid from the Branch Fund. The Council earnestly exhort members in other districts to imitate the example of their friends in Kent, and to establish occasional meetings of a similar character.

"In the course of last autumn, a serious attack of an unusual character was made upon the moral conduct of a member of this Branch. The Council deemed it expedient to call a general meeting of the Branch, which resulted in the passing of a resolution which must have afforded great moral support and comfort to their colleague, and demonstrated the great value of this Association in preventing the isolation in which members of the profession are too often placed, and holding out the hand of brotherhood to men struggling against prejudice and calumny. Want of union has been long the greatest evil felt by members of our profession. May we in this district be always able, as on this and former occasions, to adopt and realise the motto, 'Vis unita fortior'.

"With regard to Medical Reform, two Bills have been again before Parliament. The Council of the Branch would most gladly see the political affairs of the profession so far improved as to put an end to the vast amount of unprofitable discussion which has annually arisen on this topic; but, considering the varied opinions which still exist, the great changes which have been introduced into successive Bills, and that, notwithstanding the general uneasiness of the profession, public opinion is by no means yet fixed on the mode by which change and improvement are to be effected, the Council cannot recommend to the Branch, at the present moment, to pass any resolution in favour of any existing scheme. The evils of the present system are known; the objects to be obtained in an improved system have been often declared by this Association; but it does not appear to the Council that any scheme at present before the profession will so effectually obtain these objects as to command our unhesitating support.

"The Council greatly regret to state that they have received the resignation of Mr. Newnham, late of Farnham, who has also withdrawn from the Association. Considering the great services rendered to the Association and to the

profession by the long continued and self-denying labours of Mr. Newnham in behalf of the Medical Benevolent Fund, the Council think that some recognition of these services is due to that gentleman, and will be honourable to the Association. They therefore recommend the Branch to propose, through the General Council, the election of Mr. Newnham as an honorary member of the Association.

"Annexed is a statement of the accounts of the South-Eastern Branch to the 23rd of June, by which it appears that there is a balance in hand of £31 : 8 : 11.

<i>Cr.</i>		£	s.	d.
June 24th, 1857.	Balance in hands of the Treasurer	28	6	11
June 22nd, 1858.	By Branch subscriptions to this date	17	9	0
		45	15	11
<i>Dr.</i>		£	s.	d.
Postages		3	10	0
Advertisements		0	17	11
Expenses of meetings		1	6	6
Printing and stationery		4	1	7
A moiety of the expenses of the Rochester District Meetings		1	18	0
Copying minutes		0	5	0
Secretary's railway expenses to Birmingham		2	8	0
Balance in hands of the Treasurer		31	8	11
		45	15	11

Mr. STEDMAN (Guildford) proposed, Mr. STILWELL (Epsom) seconded, and it was carried—

"That the Report of the Council now read be received and adopted."

PLACE OF MEETING IN 1859: ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. HODGSON (Brighton) proposed, Mr. TRUSTAM (Tunbridge Wells) seconded, and it was resolved—

"That the Annual Meeting in 1859 be held at Dover, and that the following gentlemen be elected officers for the next year:—President: W. Sankey, Esq. (Dover). Vice-Presidents: A. W. Baird, M.D. (Dover); S. Eastes, Esq. (Folkestone). Local Members of Council: James Reid, Esq. (Canterbury); P. Roscow, Esq. (Folkestone); F. Sankey, Esq. (Wingham)."

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE OFFICERS OF THE PAST YEAR.

Dr. GREENHILL (Hastings) proposed, Mr. Sissons (Reigate) seconded, and it was resolved—

"That the cordial thanks of this meeting be given to Charles M. Thompson, Esq., for the able manner in which he has performed the duties of President during the past year; also to the Vice-Presidents and other officers of the Branch."

NEW MEMBERS.

The following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Branch:—J. Amesbury, Esq. (Brighton); H. C. Brechley, Esq. (Brighton); C. Bryce, M.D. (Brighton); T. E. Eden, Esq. (Brighton); W. H. Fry, Esq. (Brighton); J. H. Paul, M.D. (Camberwell); A. Sharpe, M.D. (Worthing); — Smith, M.D. (Lamberhurst); and C. F. Stainton, M.D. (Brighton).

REPRESENTATIVES IN THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

The SECRETARY stated that, on examination of the voting-papers which had been returned to him, the following gentlemen were found to be elected members of the Council of the Association for the ensuing year:—W. Addison, M.D. (Maidstone); J. Milner Barry, Esq. (Tunbridge Wells); F. J. Brown, M.D. (Chatham); J. Cordy Burrows, Esq. (Brighton); James Stedman, Esq. (Guildford); William Street, Esq. (Reigate); and C. M. Thompson, Esq. (Westerham).

COUNCIL OF THE BRANCH.

The following members were chosen as the Council of the Branch:—George Bottomley, Esq. (Croydon); Alfred Carpenter, Esq. (Croydon); R. Elliott, Esq. (Chichester); F. Fry, Esq. (Maidstone); W. A. Greenhill, M.D. (Hastings); Adam Martin, M.D. (Rochester); F. Sankey, Esq. (Wingham); Thos. Heckstall Smith, Esq. (St. Mary Cray); James Stedman, Esq. (Guildford); William Street, Esq. (Reigate); Charles Trustam, Esq. (Tunbridge Wells); H. Whitfield, Esq. (Ashford).

HOMŒOPATHY.

Mr. TRUSTAM (Tunbridge Wells) moved, and Mr. BOTTOMLEY (Croydon) seconded—

"That this meeting, deeply regretting that individual members of the profession should by their conduct have appeared to dally with and countenance that most ridiculous and unnatural form of quackery called homœopathy, thereby injuring the true interests and well-being of science in general, and more particularly the science of medicine,—pledges itself to hold no professional intercourse with homœopaths, or empirics of any description, or with those of its own members who in any way sacrifice the honour and dignity of their profession to expediency or mercenary motives."

On the question being put, the following amendment was proposed by Mr. FIELD (Brighton), and seconded by Mr. LAWRENCE (Brighton)—

"That the meeting proceed to the next business."

A second amendment was proposed by Dr. BRYCE (Brighton), and seconded by Mr. TATHAM (Brighton)—

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the subject of homœopathy is undeserving of its serious consideration, and ought to be passed *sub silentio*, in the belief that this mode of proceeding is the best calculated to disabuse the public mind of a dangerous delusion."

The Chairman having put Dr. Bryce's amendment to the meeting, it was carried by a large majority.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The following papers were read:—

Pneumonia in its less familiar Forms, and its Relation to other Diseases. By E. L. Ormerod, M.D.

Spinal Irritation. By S. S. Stedman, M.D.

On Diseases of Bone capable of Relief by Operation. By G. Lowdell, Esq.

Dr. SILVESTER had given notice of his intention to read a paper on a New Mode of Restoring Suspended Animation; but, considering the lateness of the hour, he reserved it for publication in the JOURNAL.

Mr. TRUSTAM proposed, Mr. TAAFFE (Brighton) seconded, and it was resolved—

"That the best thanks of this meeting be given to the gentlemen who have kindly read papers on this occasion; and that they be requested to furnish them for publication to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL."

THE LATE J. H. BRANFOOT, M.D.

Dr. HALL (Brighton) proposed, Dr. DILL (Brighton) seconded, and it was resolved—

"That this meeting learns with deep sorrow the loss which this Branch and the medical profession of Brighton have this day sustained in the death of Dr. Branfoot, one of the Vice-Presidents; and that the President be requested to offer sincere condolence to the family of the late Dr. Branfoot, on the part of the Association."

MR. NEWNHAM'S RESIGNATION.

Mr. BOTTOMLEY proposed, Mr. STEDMAN seconded, and it was carried—

"That this meeting deeply regrets to receive the intimation of the resignation of Mr. Newnham, late of Farnham; that the meeting, recognising the great, disinterested, and long continued services rendered to the British Medical Association by Mr. Newnham, requests the Central Council to propose, at the ensuing Annual Meeting, the election of Mr. Newnham as an honorary member."

VOTES OF THANKS.

Dr. COLLET (Worthing) proposed, Dr. BYASS (Cuckfield) seconded, and it was resolved—

"That the best thanks of this meeting be offered to the Mayor and Corporation of Brighton, for the liberal way in which they have placed the Royal Pavilion at the disposal of the Association, and for the great facilities they have afforded to the meeting."

Dr. CARPENTER (Croydon) proposed, Mr. TRUSTAM (Tunbridge Wells) seconded, and it was carried—

"That the cordial thanks of this meeting be offered to the President, for his able conduct in the chair, and for the generous hospitality which he has exercised on this occasion."

THE DINNER.

At five o'clock, the Mayor, the gentlemen of the medical profession, and the friends favourable to the meeting, sat down to a splendid cold collation in the Banqueting Room. The Mayor occupied the Chair, and was supported on his right by Lieut.-Colonel Shute, the commanding officer of the Inniskillen Dragoons; and on his left, by the Rev. Dr. Winter, the Rev. J. Griffith, etc.

On the removal of the cloth, the CHAIRMAN proposed the usual loyal toasts of "The Queen", "The Prince Consort and the rest of the Royal Family", and the "Army and Navy", the name of Colonel Shute, of the Inniskillen Dragoons, being coupled with the latter toast.

Colonel SHUTE, on rising to reply to the toast, was received with much applause. The gallant Colonel said he felt the great honour paid to the service; and he was sure that every soldier would be most ungrateful if he did not appreciate the services rendered by the medical profession; for, during the trying war in the Crimea, they had great reason to be grateful to their medical officers. [*Cheers.*]

The MAYOR proposed "The Bishop of the Diocese and the Clergy"; which was responded to by the Rev. J. GRIFFITH.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed "Success to the South-Eastern Branch of the British Medical Association", prefacing the toast with a few remarks in favour of the establishment of such Associations as these, which were likely to advance the position of the medical profession, and to be of essential advantage to the country.

Mr. E. J. FURNER proposed "The Health of the President of the Branch Association" (Mr. Burrows). The proceedings of the day would show his capabilities of carrying out the arrangements. His kindness and the urbanity of his disposition endeared him to all who knew him; and his disposition precluded the possibility of any feeling of enmity entering into the breasts of any well disposed person. [*Cheers.*] He had been of essential service to the profession; and, independent of his talent as a medical man, he had been placed in a position, as chief magistrate of Brighton, so as to reflect honour upon the profession to which he belonged. [*Loud cheers.*] He had a very great pleasure in proposing the health of their worthy President.

The CHAIRMAN, in responding to the toast, said that, placed in such a position as he was, he must expect to meet with rebuffs, but the kindness of his friends enabled him to stand up and battle with the enemy. He had buckled on his armour, and he had endeavoured to ward off the shafts directed towards him, and he trusted, so far as his public conduct was concerned, he had done so successfully. [*Cheers.*] He cared not for the vituperation of the unprincipled, which might find its level; and so long as his conduct was countenanced by men whose opinion he regarded, the shafts of the designing were directed towards him in vain. He thanked them for this cordial and kind expression of feeling towards him.

Several other toasts were proposed, and at eight o'clock the company retired.

THE CONVERSAZIONE.

At the close of the dinner, the gentlemen present adjourned to a conversazione given in the magnificent suite of rooms of the Royal Pavilion, by the President, to the members and friends of the Association. About five hundred of the principal inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood attended to do honour to the profession. The rooms were most tastefully arranged, and objects of the greatest interest were exhibited, illustrative of natural history and of the arts and sciences, amongst which most deserving attention were a perfect collection of the flora of Brighton and its neighbourhood, tastefully and scientifically arranged by Messrs. Montague Phillips and Wonfor, a rare and valuable geological collection illustrative of the chalk formation, and a microscopical exhibition not easily surpassed.

The evening was enlivened by a vocal and instrumental concert, including the enlivening strains of the band of the Inniskillens, to which, as the evening was fine, a number of the younger visitors tripped on the light fantastic toe upon the lawn. Refreshments were provided upon the most liberal scale, and it was after midnight before the visitors had all retired, thus terminating a meeting which will long be remembered for its success and the cordial reception given to the Branch Association by the President and Brighton Committee.

LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

Letters or communications for the JOURNAL should be addressed to Dr. WYNTER, Coleherne Court, Old Brompton, S.W.

Letters regarding the business department of the JOURNAL, and corrected proofs, should be sent to 37, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

Reports of Societies.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

MONDAY, JUNE 7TH, 1858.

B. G. BABINGTON, M.D., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE MORTALITY FROM HYDROPHOBIA IN ENGLAND, AS AN ILLUSTRATION OF CERTAIN PECULIARITIES IN THE MODE OF EXTENSION AND PREVALENCE OF EPIDEMIC DISEASES: WITH SUGGESTIONS FOR THE BETTER OBSERVATION OF EPIDEMICS. BY J. N. RADCLIFFE, ESQ.

MR. RADCLIFFE commenced his paper by stating that the sources from which he had obtained the particulars that he was about to lay before the Society were the Bills of Mortality for the metropolis, and the Annual Reports of the Registrar-General.

The Bills of Mortality for London were commenced as a regular series in 1603, but no death from hydrophobia is recorded in them until the year 1728. In the annual bill of that year is the entry: "Died from the bite of a mad dog." The term hydrophobia was first made use of in the year 1819. The absence of any record of death from so well marked a disease as hydrophobia in the bills of mortality for a period of a hundred and twenty-five years subsequent to 1603 is a fact of considerable interest; and the great rarity of the disease, if not its entire absence from the metropolis during that period, may be assumed, notwithstanding the imperfect character of the mortality records of that period.

After 1728, deaths from hydrophobia were frequently recorded in the yearly bills, although intervals of one, two, three, or more years, when no deaths were returned, are not uncommon; but in no instance does the number of deaths from the disease entered in a yearly bill exceed 4, until 1824, when 7 deaths occurred. After this year, intervals when no deaths happened are rare; and in 1825, 4 deaths were recorded; in 1826, 4; in 1827, 1; in 1828, 2. The bills for 1829-30 are wanting. In 1831, 6 deaths were returned; in 1832, 3; in 1833, 4; in 1834, 8; in 1835, 0; in 1836, 1; in 1837, when the Registrar-General's Returns commenced, 7 deaths occurred in the latter half of the year alone; and in 1838, 12 deaths happened. After 1838, the number of deaths annually did not exceed 4, until 1854, in which year 9 deaths from the disease occurred.

The Registrar-General's Returns date only from July 1st, 1837. Brief as is the period over which the returns extend, an hiatus of five years occurs, from 1843 to 1847 inclusive, during which period no account of the causes of death in the different registration districts is given. So far as the returns are available, they show considerable variations in the amount of mortality from hydrophobia in the whole of the registrative districts from year to year. Fourteen deaths from the disease occurred from July 1st to December 31st, 1837, alone; and from 1838 to 1842 inclusive, the deaths in the several years respectively were 24, 15, 12, 7, 14; and from 1847 to 1855 inclusive, the deaths were 5, 7, 17, 25, 15, 11, 16, and 14. The distribution of this mortality in London, in the different counties of England, and in Wales, presents several facts worthy of particular attention. With the exception of four years, 1847, 1849, 1852, and 1853, one or more deaths from hydrophobia were recorded in London every year from the commencement of the Registrar-General's Returns in 1837 until 1855. In 1838, the deaths from hydrophobia were distributed in seven shires, exclusive of the metropolitan registrative district, and in South Wales. The shires in which deaths from the disease occurred were Hampshire, Cornwall, Somersetshire, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Leicestershire, and Lancashire. In 1839, the mortality was distributed in eight shires, and in South Wales. In the eight shires—to wit, Kent, Berkshire, Devonshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Nottinghamshire, and Monmouthshire, no instance of death from the disease had occurred in the previous year. In 1840, the deaths were distributed in nine shires; and of these, six, viz., Oxfordshire, Essex, Dorsetshire, Shropshire, Cheshire, and Durham, had not returned any instance of death in the two previous years. In 1841, the mortality was distributed in three shires, and in North Wales. In the North Wales district, no instance of death from the disease had been recorded in the three preceding years. In 1842, the mortality was distributed in seven shires, in one of which, Yorkshire (the West

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Friday, June 25th, 1858.

STATE OF THE THAMES.

The Duke of Buccleuch asked the Government what had been really done by the different Boards supposed to have charge of the sewage of the metropolis towards purifying the Thames? They knew what those bodies had proposed and attempted to do, but not what they had actually done. One plan for conveying away the sewage of London had been proposed by the Metropolitan Board of Works, but it was not approved, and the subject remained still to be considered. Practically, nothing had been effected. The foul state of the river was a grievous nuisance to large masses of the population, especially the poorer classes, who could not remove from its banks. The members of both Houses of Parliament could withdraw to a distance from the Thames, but there were thousands who could not so protect themselves, and who must submit to the injury they sustain from their proximity to the river. The disgraceful state of the Thames had been gradually increasing, and during the last three years the evil had increased more rapidly than at any former period. The Government must deal with the matter and take some strong measures, in which they might reckon on the assent and assistance of Parliament.

The Earl of Malmesbury felt that the condition of the Thames was a perfect disgrace to the country, and had been suffered to become dangerous to the inhabitants of the metropolis. It was the duty of the Government to remedy the evil if possible; but an Act of Parliament would be required to enable it to do anything. He feared they must bear the annoyance patiently till the Committee of the House of Commons had made its report.

In the discussion that followed no less than twelve peers reiterated and strengthened the complaints of the nuisance the Thames has become. The Duke of Newcastle, the Earl of Hardwick, Earl Granville, Lord Campbell, Lord Portman, the Marquis of Salisbury, Earl Grey, Lord Redesdale, Lord Ebury, Lord Winford, Lord De Ross, and Lord Stanley of Alderley spoke on the subject with great unanimity as to the extent of the evil, differing only in their suggestions as to some of the causes and the means of remedying it.

The Duke of Buccleuch hoped the Government would next week be prepared to state what it proposed to do in the matter; and the question was allowed to drop.

Monday, June 28th.

Lord Ravensworth complained of the defective ventilation in the Committee Rooms of the House.

The Earl of Malmesbury stated that the Government had ordered some temporary measures to alleviate the inconvenience produced by the bad air from the river; but any permanent operations that would disturb the deposits on the shore could not be undertaken till the cooler weather of the autumn.

Lord Brougham thought there was great danger of the appearance of cholera in the first fortnight of August. The Government ought to assume very complete powers in this matter.

After some remarks from the Earl of Hardwicke and the Duke of Newcastle, on the efficiency of these palliative expedients—

The Earl of Malmesbury explained that more extensive measures were contemplated by the Government; but they could not be adopted without careful consideration.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Friday, June 25th, 1858.

STATE OF THE THAMES.

Mr. O. Stanley called attention to the putrid state of the river Thames, which he described as an intolerable nuisance, that, with the continuance of a high temperature, threatened a pestilence. He referred to cases of disease arising from this cause. Something, he observed, must be done; and the first thing was to place the responsibility of action upon the Minister of the Crown. He adverted likewise to the state of the Victoria Street Sewer, respecting which he put certain questions.

Mr. Tite explained the causes of the evil, which arose from

the vast amount of sewage water discharged into the river; great part of which, after being carried down by the tide, was returned. The remedy, he observed, was difficult; but he offered suggestions towards the alleviation of the evil.

Sir J. Paxton, though he could not recommend any particular scheme, suggested the carrying intercepting sewers through London, and the discharge of the sewage below Sea Reach.

The discussion was carried on by Mr. Roupell, Mr. Kendall, and Mr. Mangles.

Lord J. Manners, in reply to Mr. Stanley's question regarding the Victoria Street Sewer, read a communication from the Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works. With respect to the river and the sewage of London, it was perfectly impossible, he said, to give anything like a satisfactory answer. The law gave the Government no power to submit any plan to the Metropolitan Board of Works. He could assure the House, however, that the subject was engaging the most serious attention of the Government; and before the Session closed, steps would be taken to confer, if necessary, powers upon the Board of Works or some other department, that would provide more perfect machinery.

Monday, June 28th.

Mr. Roupell called attention to the noxious state of the Thames, and moved that the House considered it the duty of the Executive Government to take immediate measures for abating this dangerous nuisance. He contended this was not a local, but an imperial question. All agreed that the work for getting rid of the sewage should be a grand work, and he contended that it would not be practicable, and, if practicable, it would be unjust to charge the expenses upon the metropolitan districts. The honourable gentleman concluded by moving "that this House considers it the duty of the Executive Government to take immediate measures for abating the dangerous nuisance which now existed."

Sir J. Paxton seconded the motion. He thought the best present remedy, although not a permanent remedy, would be to pour lime into the sewers about three-quarters of a mile from their mouths. He was told by Mr. Bidder that the same plan had been recommended last year to the Board of Works, but had not been noticed. His plan would deodorize the sewage, but it would kill the fish and discolour the water. Deodorization was always accompanied with these results, but if it prevented the killing of human beings he thought it was worth a trial. (Hear.)

Lord J. Manners stated the steps which had been taken by the Government, who had authorized the Metropolitan Board of Works to apply a preparation of lime, in a manner suggested by Sir J. Paxton, as a palliative.

Some further conversation followed, touching chiefly the question whether the charge should be local or national, in the course of which the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that the lime remedy would cost £1,500 a-week.

The motion was withdrawn.

Medical News.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, AND APPOINTMENTS.

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

BIRTHS.

- ANDERSON. On June 24th, at Devonshire Place, Old Kent Road, the wife of J. Anderson, M.D., of a daughter.
- DALTON. On June 23rd, at 13, Mecklenburgh Square, the wife of Frederick Dalton, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.
- DONNET. On June 18th, at Lisbon, the wife of James Donnet, M.D., Surgeon R.N., of a son.
- JOHNSTON. On February 24th, at Wellington, New Zealand, the wife of Alexander Johnston, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.
- PARKER. On June 30th, at Kirkdale, Liverpool, the wife of *Edward Parker, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.
- WEBSTER. On June 22nd, at Peckham Rye, the wife of George Webster, Esq., Surgeon, of a son, who survived his birth twenty-four hours.

MARRIAGES.

- BARRETT—MOLSON.** Barrett, W., M.B., Staff-Surgeon, to Mary Anne E., second daughter of Thomas Molson, Esq., Montreal, on June 3rd.
- BINGHAM—BEGGIE.** Bingham, the Honourable Albert Yelverton, to Caroline, youngest daughter of James Begbie, M.D., of Edinburgh, at St. Mary's, Windermere, on June 24th.
- CHARTRES—HENRY.** Chartres, John Smith, Esq., A.M., Staff Assistant-Surgeon, Belfast, to Margaret, only daughter of *James Henry, M.D., of New Brighton, Cheshire, on June 17th.
- COLEMAN—BOULTBEE.** Coleman, William Stephen, Esq., eldest son of *W. T. Coleman, M.D., of Horsham, Sussex, to Henrietta Augusta, only daughter of the late Henry Boulton, Esq., Surgeon, at St. Pancras Church, on June 24th.
- LAWRENCE—LE MAITRE.** Lawrence, James E., Esq., Surgeon, of Wandsworth, to Clara Marguerite, daughter of the late William Frend Le Maitre, Esq., at St. Giles's, Camberwell, on June 29th.

DEATHS.

- BEALE,** John Evans, Esq., Surgeon, of Plaistow, at Brighton, aged 64, on June 26th.
- *BRANFOT,** J. H., M.D., at Brighton, aged 43, on June 23rd.
- BURROWS.** On June 24th, at 7, Northampton Square, aged 56, Harriet, wife of Walter Burrows, Esq., Surgeon.
- GREENWOOD.** On June 23rd, at Huddersfield, Martha, the wife of Frederick Greenwood, Esq., Surgeon.
- JAMIESON,** William, Esq., Fellow of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, at Bellshill, Bathwell, on June 25th.
- *PHENE,** Henry, Esq., Surgeon, of Ryde, Isle of Wight, aged 52, on June 26th.
- PLANK.** On June 24th, at Clapham, Annie, wife of Charles Plank, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon H.E.I.C. Service.
- POLLOCK.** On June 23rd, at Brighton, Malcolm, second son of *George D. Pollock, Esq., Surgeon, of 27, Grosvenor Street.
- PRESTON,** James Blair, Esq., Physician-General Madras Army, at Totton, near Southampton, aged 56, on June 28th.
- WILLS,** Joseph, Esq., Surgeon, at Crewkerne, Somerset, aged 70, on June 21st.
- WOOD.** On June 26th, Edith Mary, infant daughter of Fredk. Wood, Esq., Apothecary to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

APPOINTMENTS.

- PLAYFAIR,** Lyon, Ph.D., F.R.S., elected Professor of Chemistry in the University of Edinburgh, in the room of the late Professor Gregory. The votes were: for Dr. Playfair, 25; Dr. Thomas Anderson, Professor of Chemistry in the University of Glasgow, 9.
- QUAIN,** Richard, Esq., F.R.S., re-elected a member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. The numbers polled were—Ayes, 83; Noes, 3.
- SHAW,** Alexander, Esq., elected a member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, in the room of the late Benjamin Travers, Esq. The numbers polled were—Ayes, 74; Noes, 11.
- WORMALD,** Thomas, Esq., re-elected a member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. The numbers polled were—Ayes, 77; Noes, 7.

PASS LISTS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS. At the usual quarterly meeting of the Comitia Majora, held on Friday, June 25th, the following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations, were admitted Licentiates of the College:—

Dr. CLAPTON, St. Thomas's Hospital
Dr. W. H. DICKINSON, Lymington

The following were admitted as Extra-Licentiates:—

Dr. HENRY BIRD, Newnham, Gloucestershire
Dr. E. J. SLADE KING, Stroud, Gloucestershire
Dr. H. OXLEY STEPHENS, Dighton Street, Bristol

At the same Comitia, the following were elected Censors for the ensuing year:—

Dr. BALY, Queen Anne Street
Dr. RISDON BENNETT, Finsbury Square
Dr. BENCE JONES, Brook Street
Dr. SUTHERLAND, Richmond Terrace

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. MEMBERS admitted at the meeting of the Court of Examiners, on Friday, June 25th, 1858:—

ALLISON, Thomas Dunlop, Balgray, near Irvine, Ayrshire
BENNETT, Edward Augustus, Manchester
HALL, Frederick, Bangor, Carnarvon
HAWKINS, Frederick Rawnsley, Lynn Regis, Norfolk
HICKMAN, William, Grove End Place, St. John's Wood
SIMON, George, Glass, Aberdeenshire

APOTHECARIES' HALL. Members admitted on Thursday, June 24th, 1858:—

ABLETT, Edward
EATON, James, Grantham, Lincolnshire
GREGORY, George, Westhoughton, Lancashire
NEALE, Charles
RIDING, William Steer

HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING
JUNE 26TH, 1858.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

THE deaths in London in the week ending Saturday, June 26th, were 1092. In the ten years 1848-57 the average number of deaths was 984; but as the deaths of last week occurred in an increased population, the average should be raised in proportion to the increase, when the comparison will show that the mortality of last week approximated very closely to the calculated amount.

Diarrhoea was fatal last week in 54 cases, which is double the average for corresponding weeks; its recent increase is evident, the numbers of the two previous weeks having been 18 and 31. There were also 8 deaths from cholera, or "choleraic diarrhoea."

In the above statement the mortality of the population of London, in the last week, is compared with its own average mortality in previous weeks; and it shows whether the mortality is higher or lower than it is usually in London.

The method does not show whether the average mortality of London is relatively higher or lower than it should be; and if it were employed in the most unhealthy city of Europe, the mortality would appear to be often below as well as above the average.

An absolute standard is required, applicable, like other measures, under all circumstances. Man was made to live a definite time, and to experience an average rate of mortality. But the natural lifetime has not been revealed to us, and the circumstances of no city are such as to give us an opportunity of determining the average mortality of a people living under the most favourable circumstances. We cannot, like the ancient writers, refer to a model republic: we cannot point to a single town in England on the slope of some of her hills, looking southward over fertile fields or distant seas; bathed in a pure atmosphere; supplied with "a river of water of life, clear as crystal;" with no impurities resting in its houses or streets for a single day; occupied by a people fed on fruits, grain, meat from healthy places, and leading an active, good, intellectual life. No such city has ever even been projected, and is certainly not shadowed out by the watering places of our own, and still less of other countries.

Hence, the only standard to which we can resort is derived from the least unhealthy districts of England. The mean lifetime of the people in those districts is 49 years; and the mean annual rate of mortality would be 20 in 1,000, were it not that the increasing population gives them an undue proportion of young and middle aged people, by which the proportional number of deaths is reduced to 17 in 1,000.

To apply the standard to London. The population consists now of about 2,721,000 persons; they are of all ages; but, upon comparing them with the comparatively healthy districts the proportion of young children under five years of age is the same; before the age of 15 is attained, the London children are greatly reduced in number by untimely deaths; at 15 to 25 immigrants restore the lost numbers, and, from the same source, the men and women of the ages from 25 to 45 grow into great excess; at the ages 45 to 55 the proportions are the same; after the age of 55 the excessive mortality in London speedily reduces the numbers: the old people, who naturally experience everywhere a high rate of mortality, are not in due proportion in the population of London. By applying the ascertained rates of mortality in the sixty-three comparatively healthy districts, it is found that the annual deaths, if the chances of life were the same in London, would be 41,668 on

on the above population, or at the rate of 15.32 in 1,000 annually.

The weekly deaths in London on the above population, in such a state of health as is actually experienced in those districts, would be 799 on an average.

The actual rate of mortality in London during the last ten years exceeded 24 (it was exactly 24.46) in 1,000, which implies 1,275 weekly deaths, or 476 above the healthy average.

In the last week 1092 persons died in London, or 293 persons in excess of the healthy average. That 293 persons died unnatural deaths during the week is the finding of this great inquest.

What were the causes of these unnatural deaths? The people of London live as well as the people of the sixty-three districts; and they now suffer nothing from cold. Many drink spirits to excess. Too many sleep in the same rooms; and, as in our barracks, this destroys large numbers. Crowding in ballrooms, in theatres, in churches and chapels to hear popular preachers, where no adequate ventilation is carried on, propagates zymotic diseases. Impure water is the cause of several deaths; but the companies have of late years supplied water infinitely purer in quality than the water which they drew previously from the parts of the Thames, now admitted by everybody, even their retained chemists, to be offensive. The impurity of the air was unquestionably the cause of a large number of the 293 deaths. This impurity is most noxious in the houses where the people sleep. The cesspools are still numerous; half a million waterclosets and sinks discharge large quantities of impure air into the 353,326 inhabited houses. This incommodity is lessened in London by the system of drains, which, however, are badly constructed, and emit their volatile impurities under the faces of the people. The drains again pour their contents into the Thames; from which, in its course through London in ordinary times, more than four million gallons of water are evaporated daily, carrying with the vapour, and diffusing all over the town, impurities which are breathed by the whole population.

The mortality of London has been already reduced by the purification of the water; cholera will be less fatal than it has been; and if the air the people breathe be cleansed, the happy results will soon appear, and the registers will less frequently record the untimely deaths of husbands, wives, children, and "youths intombed before their fathers' eyes."

The deaths of two centenarians were registered in the week. Three children in a family in Gloucester Terrace, Belgrave sub-district, died within three days of typhoid diphtheria, all after six days illness.

Last week, the births of 823 boys and 839 girls, in all 1662 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 30.091 in. The highest reading was 30.21 in., and occurred on Wednesday. The mean temperature of the week was 64.5°, which is 4.3° above the average of the same week in 43 years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). The thermometers in the sun and the shade attained their highest points on Tuesday, which were 112.4° and 86° respectively. The lowest temperature was 48.9° on Friday. The mean daily range was 27.2. The difference between the mean dew-point temperature and air temperature, showing the dryness of the air, was so much as 11.5°. The mean degree of humidity was only 65. The mean temperature of the water of the Thames was 69.7°. The rain measured was only 0.06 in.

THE STATE OF THE THAMES. In the course of the sittings at Queen's Bench on Thursday week, Mr. James called the attention of his Lordship to the foul state of the court and passages. Lord Campbell said that if he were assured that the state of the atmosphere was such as to be dangerous to the lives of the counsel, jurymen, and witnesses, he should feel it to be his duty to adjourn the Court. His Lordship inquired whether there was any medical man in court? Mr. John Bredall, who was attending the Court as a witness in the cause which was being tried, here came forward, and being sworn, in answer to questions put by Lord Campbell, he said he was a surgeon, at No. 3, Moor Hall Place, Kennington Lane, and had been compelled to leave the court three times in consequence of the bad smells. The atmosphere in court became irrespirable, and it was quite as bad in the passages. The smells came from the Thames, or from sewage of some kind. He gave it as his opinion, as a medical

man, that it was dangerous to breathe this atmosphere. He thought it would be dangerous to the lives of the jurymen, counsel, and witnesses to remain. It would produce malaria, and perhaps typhus fever. Lord Campbell said that, in the discharge of his duty, he would adjourn the Court; but, addressing the counsel, his Lordship said that if they were willing to remain he was quite ready to do so. Mr. Sergeant Shee said the counsel were ready to do whatever his lordship thought best. Lord Campbell said he would not keep the jurymen against their will. The jury said the smell was very offensive in the passages, but they did not smell it so much in court. The trial then proceeded.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY. On Monday, July 5th, a paper "On the difficulties attending the study of prevailing diseases, commonly called Epidemic," by W. H. Michael, Esq., of Swansea, will be read.

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.

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.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION: RETURN RAILWAY TICKETS. SIR,—I believe inducements for members at a distance to attend Anniversary Meetings are generally held out by Railway Companies in the form of return tickets on a reduced scale, and available over a given number of days. This year it is to be hoped the fullest liberality of the Railway Companies (converging on the Scottish capital) will be evoked; for while the expense of a journey to Edinburgh might deter many, on the other hand, the attractions are so numerous and powerful, that I doubt not, could the obstacle of the expensive journey be removed, our Meeting would prove one of the most numerous the Society has ever enjoyed.

I am, etc.,

A MEMBER OF THE WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.

ROYAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL: OPERATING DAYS. SIR,—May I request you to apprise your readers (by giving insertion to this letter, or in any other way you may approve) of a change of day for operations at the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital?

The great amount of time required by the use of the ophthalmoscope, as a means of diagnosis, has so much increased the labours of the Staff, that it is impossible to continue the long-established practice of operating on Fridays only; and we are, therefore, compelled to operate, for the future, on our respective days of attendance.

I am, etc.,

JOHN CAWOOD WORDSWORTH.

41, Finsbury Square, June 28th, 1858.

*Communications have been received from:—*MR. O. PEMBERTON; MR. PETER MARTIN; MR. G. SOUTHAM; DR. J. THORNBURN; DR. JAMES ARNOTT; DR. T. SKINNER; MR. G. MITCHINSON; DR. MCWILLIAM; DR. D. MACKINDER; MR. J. V. SOLOMON; MR. HAYNES WALTON; MR. HOLMES COOTE; MR. T. HOLMES; DR. KELBURNE KING; MR. J. RHODES; MR. E. PARKER; DR. SILVESTER; MR. J. C. WORDSWORTH; MR. T. M. STONE; MR. G. LOWDELL; DR. E. L. ORMEROD; DR. LAUDER LINDSAY; DR. P. H. WILLIAMS; MR. W. COPNEY; MR. G. H. BOLTON; THE LECTURERS OF THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL; DR. W. T. COLEMAN; DR. W. OGLE; DR. B. W. RICHARDSON; AND A MEMBER OF THE WEST SOMERSET BRANCH.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

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

1. Epilepsy and other Convulsive Affections; their Pathology and Treatment. By Charles Bland Radcliffe, M.D. Second Edition, revised and enlarged. London: Churchill. 1858.
2. On Medicine and Medical Education: three Lectures. With Notes and an Appendix. By *W. T. Gaidner, M.D. Edinburgh: Sutherland and Knox. 1858.
3. Practical Hints upon the Administration of Galvanism in the Treatment of Disease. By Harry William Lobb. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. 1855.