

on the axis. The patient might be placed in a half-sitting posture, with his back supported by a bed-rest, so constructed as to reach rather above the occiput, having pieces on either side of the head opposite the temples, to which a screw with pad is attached, so that the patient's head may be fixed, as in a vice, and all movement of the divided parts prevented. By this means, the arterial tube would be in the most favourable condition for reunion or retraction and perfect occlusion. Perhaps the inclination of the head a little towards the wounded side would have the effect of preventing the gaping of the artery, should its tube not be quite cut through. This position should be maintained for at least ten days or a fortnight; for the hemorrhage in Mr. Pritchard's case began seven days after the accident. The application of ice at intervals would also tend to quiet the circulation in the wounded tissues, and perhaps by these means would be accomplished the "little all" that human art can do to remedy so serious an injury.

I am, etc.,

ASHLEY G. OSBORN.

24, York Parade, Northampton, April 21st, 1863.

GRATUITOUS MEDICAL SERVICES.—SIR: While the important and difficult question of gratuitous medical services is under discussion, permit me to suggest a plan whereby all hospitals and infirmaries that are in want of funds may largely increase their incomes, provide ways and means for duly remunerating their medical officers, and largely extend their sphere of usefulness.

Let them exact a fee of ten shillings from every person applying for instant admission as an in-door patient, whose case was such as to permit of admission at all; and a fee of five shillings from each person applying for immediate out-door relief. The number of in-door admissions to be dependent upon the number of beds vacant, at the discretion of the resident competent authority; the number of out-door patients may be obviously unlimited. These fees should be exacted in every instance, where application for admission is made, without the usual recommendation from a governor, or where a governor has exceeded his privilege.

The poorest person, when so afflicted as to require the medical aid and other advantages that a public hospital affords, would, without a moment's hesitation, either from his own resources, or with the assistance of friends, cheerfully pay such small fees to secure an immediate entrance in the one case, and immediate attention in the other: for no money could be more advantageously applied, saving valuable time, and avoiding the trouble and inconvenience of hunting for a governor who may or may not have the power of acceding a letter of admission.

To the public, the boon would be invaluable. For instance, a servant, suddenly taken ill in a small house where bed-room accommodation is scarcely enough for the family, may, with perfect independence and propriety, be sent where he or she would be far better cared for, on the payment of a small entrance fee; relief being thus afforded in its widest sense to all parties. There may be many little matters of detail necessary to render this suggestion generally applicable to particular institutions; but I fully believe that the principle will be found very acceptable to the public, and the proceeds of material service to hospitals and infirmaries now languishing for want of funds.

I am, etc.,

JAMES BIRD.

Seymour Street West, Connaught Square, April 1863.

[We quite agree with our correspondent as to the general principle involved in his proposition. We are fully satisfied that payment by hospital patients is a necessary part of the doing away with gratuitous medical services; but the practical working of the plan is full of difficulties. We sincerely wish our correspondent would turn his attention to the dealing with the "little matters of detail" to which he refers. EDITOR.]

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Dr. JAMES RUSSELL; Dr. DAY; Mr. FELCE; Mr. M. FOSTER; Dr. GEORGE BURN; Dr. MEYON; Mr. G. P. DUNN; Mr. STONE; Dr. HYDE SALTER; THE HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY; Dr. BARNES; Dr. KIDD; Dr. FORBES WINKLOW; Mr. J. C. ROOPE; Dr. S. MARTYN; Mr. REDFERN JAMES; Dr. J. THORBURN; Dr. MURCHISON; Dr. BALLARD; Dr. FOWLER; Dr. W. A. SMITH; Dr. BRETT; Dr. GIBB; Mr. FURNEAUX JORDAN; and Dr. J. B. SANDERSON.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

1. Report of the Richmond Lunatic Asylum, Dublin. By the Medical Superintendent.
2. The Seventh Annual Report of the Lunatic Asylum, Nottinghamshire. By W. P. Stiff, M.D.
3. Catalogue of the Museum of Guy's Hospital. London: 1863.
4. Transactions of the Obstetrical Society of London. Vol. iv. London: 1863.
5. Syphilitic Diseases of the Eye and Ear, consequent on Inherited Syphilis. By Jonathan Hutchinson. London: 1863.
6. Jaundice: its Pathology and Treatment. By G. Harley, M.D. London: 1863.
7. On Malaria and Miasmata. By T. H. Barker, M.D., F.R.S. Edin. London: 1863.
8. The Pharmacopœias of Thirteen of the London Hospitals. By Peter Squire, F.R.S. London: 1863.
9. The Cure of Club-Foot without cutting Tendons. By R. Barwell, F.R.C.S. London: 1863.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Medical Psychology;

comprising a Brief Exposition of the Leading Phenomena of the Mental States, and of the Nervous Apparatus through which they are Manifested, with a View to the better Understanding and Elucidation of the Mental Phenomena or Symptoms of Disease. By ROBERT DUNN, F.R.C.S. Eng., Author of an Essay on Physiological Psychology, etc. Price 3s. 1863.

JOHN CHURCHILL and Sons, New Burlington Street.

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On Human Entozoa: comprising

the Description, Pathology, and Treatment of the INTES-TINAL, HYDATID, and other Species of WORMS found in MAN. Partly translated, by permission, from M. DAVAINES' "Traité des Entozoaires." By W. ABBOTTS SMITH, M.D., M.R.C.P. Lond., Senior Assistant-Physician Metropolitan Free Hospital, late Senior Physician City Dispensary, etc.

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On ENURESIS (Incontinence of Urine) in

CHILDREN and in ADULTS: its Nature, Causes, and Treatment. "We can recommend this little book to our readers."—*Med. Circular.*

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London: T. RICHARDS, 37, Great Queen Street.

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The Addresses delivered at the

THIRTIETH ANNUAL MEETING of the BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, held in the Royal College of Physicians in London, on August 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th.

London: THOMAS RICHARDS, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.

Society for Relief of Widows and

ORPHANS of MEDICAL MEN in London and its Vicinity. Instituted 1788. The SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY DINNER of this Society will take place on WEDNESDAY, MAY 20th at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street.

THOMAS ARTHUR STONE, Esq., President, in the Chair.

Tickets, One Guinea each, to be obtained from the Stewards, from the Secretary, or at the Tavern. Dinner to be on table at half-past Six o'clock precisely. Any registered member of the Medical Profession residing in the County of Middlesex, or within the limits of the London District Post, is eligible as a Member of the Society, at a Subscription of Two Guineas a-year. Widows and Orphans of Members of not less than two years standing are eligible for relief, and to such applicants relief was granted last year to the amount of £2,023 : 10 : 0.

53, Berners Street, W.

S. W. J. MERRIMAN, M.D., Secretary.

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Board Room, April 1863.

RICHARD HALL, Secretary.

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A Series of CLINICAL LECTURES will be delivered by the Medical Officers of the Hospital, every WEDNESDAY, at Four o'clock.

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The Lectures are free to Practitioners on presenting their card, and to Students after their first year, by Tickets obtainable on application by letter to the Secretary, at the Hospital.

April 1863.

SAMUEL WHITFORD, Secretary.