

## THE NEW LUNACY ACT.

Sir.—There is a rumour that, since the new Lunacy Act has been brought before the public, parents and guardians have withdrawn a great many of their relatives and friends, and placed them at foreign asylums, where there is neither publicity, difficulty, or trouble. Now, a clause should be inserted in the new Act, prohibiting any English lunatic from being placed in any foreign asylum without, at least, a special permit.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,  
12, Landridge Road, Fulham.

AUGUSTUS HARVEY.

## CHARITY COMMISSIONERS AND CRAMMING.

REV. G. F. BROWNE.—We are glad to have the assurance of this gentleman, referred to in our remarks on Charity Commissioners and Cramming, April 25th, that he is much opposed to overpressure. He writes: "We have no concern or power in the arrangements of the schools which send candidates to our local examinations. From the nature of the case, we are bound to offer opportunities for examination in all the subjects ordinarily taught in schools, and the complete list of subjects is a formidable one. The most abnormal boy could not cover them all; and, to make quite safe, we have made a rule which prevents his attempting to do so." We are glad that such is the case, and regret that Mr. Browne is not (as we had supposed) a Charity Commissioner himself. Nothing which Mr. Browne says leads us to alter the opinion we expressed in favour of Mr. Allen's protest.

## A CAUTION.

Sir,—Having recently returned to England, after an absence of several years, I am disgusted to find that an individual, calling himself Dr. Batchelor, of Dunedin, New Zealand, has been touting round the profession here for pecuniary assistance, on the plea of poverty, ill health, etc. I have practised in Dunedin over ten years, being the only medical man of the name in New Zealand. Consequently, the fellow who has been assuming and trading upon my name is an impostor. I write partly to put the profession upon their guard, partly in the hope that any who have been victimised will give me the information necessary to put the police upon his track.—I am, yours truly, FRED. C. BATCHELOR.  
90, Brockley Road, Brockley.

## ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

At the primary, or anatomical and physiological, examination, which was commenced on Friday, the 8th inst., there were 138 candidates, to whom the following questions on Physiology and Anatomy were submitted. Four questions in each division were required to be answered. A. *Physiology*.—1. Enumerate the various proteins, and state the physical and chemical properties of serum-albumin. 2. Describe the red corpuscles of the blood. 3. Give the structure and distribution of the sweat-glands. What is their function (a) in excretion, and (b) in regulating temperature? 4. Describe the mechanism of accommodation. 5. What do you understand by the term "blood-pressure"? Compare the mean blood-pressure in the arteries, capillaries, and veins. 6. Enumerate the constituents of urine. What circumstances increase or diminish the (a) water, (b) the urea, and (c) the salts? B. *Anatomy*.—1. Describe the lower third of the femur, and enumerate the muscles and ligaments attached to it. 2. Describe the dissection required to expose the anterior surface of the brachialis anticus. 3. State the position and boundaries of the third ventricle of the brain. 4. Describe the distribution of the arteries in the scalp. 5. Give the connections and relations of the stomach. 6. Give the origin, course, and distribution of the posterior interosseous nerve.

## THE LUNACY ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

Sir,—Clause 10 of the above, Sections 5, 6, and 7, make it compulsory on every workhouse medical officer to give notice to the relieving officer to take every lunatic before a justice in order to obtain a certificate for detention in the workhouse, together with a certificate under the hand of a duly qualified medical practitioner, not being a medical officer of the workhouse.

According to the Local Government Report, 1883-1884, there were, on the 1st January, 1883, 17,330 lunatics in the workhouses. Consequently, as soon as this Bill becomes law, the above course must be followed with all these lunatics. The cost will be £1 1s. each medical fee, 5s. each court-fee, and, say, 4s. each relieving officer's expenses; total for 17,330, £26,995. This is a nice little item to begin with.—Yours, etc., THOMAS J. VALLANCE, M.D., F.R.C.S.

## CUCUINE IN HAY-FEVER.

Sir,—May I, through your columns, ask some of those who are now familiar with the use of cucaine, whether they consider it probable that the application of a weak solution to the conjunctive and the mucous membrane of the nose would, by virtue of its remarkable anæsthetic properties, be likely to prove of benefit to sufferers from hay-fever? Before many days, the intolerable miseries of this complaint will be again inflicted upon us; and if there is a likelihood of this suggestion proving serviceable, it behoves medical men to give the drug a trial, with the hope of adding another to its numerous virtues.

I have had no experience in the use of this valuable aid to the oculist, etc., and am, therefore, unable to say what would be the proportions of a solution strong enough to be of service without causing discomfort by affecting the accommodation of the eye. I am afraid expense would be an obstacle; for, on inquiry, I find that the present price of a 4 per cent. solution of hydrochlorate of cucaine is 35s. an ounce.—I am, sir, yours obediently, C. A. OWENS.  
Long Stratton.

## CATALPSY.

MR. A. GAIRDNER LACY asks of any place suitable for a person suffering from catalepsy; the terms must be moderate.

## MILK-TESTING.

IV "Vera," who writes for information on this subject in the correspondents' column of the JOURNAL of May 16th, will communicate with the Manager of the Experimental Dairy of the Sanitary and Economic Association, Gloucester, he will obtain all the information in regard to it which he may desire.

## MEDICAL GRADUATION AND EDUCATION IN AUSTRALIA.

MR. E. DU CAÑE (Peterborough) asks for information as to the fees and necessary qualifications for medical degrees in the Australian universities.

\* Information as to the conditions under which degrees are to be obtained may be found in Hardwicke's *Medical Education and Practice*. The fees, however, are not stated, and we are not aware of their amount.

II. H.—We should say not.

## COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, etc., have been received from:

Dr. Wickham, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. T. G. Lithgow, Farnborough; Our Berlin Correspondent; Dr. Ward Cousins, Southsea; Dr. Strachan, Monkwearmouth; Mr. E. Sharpley, Newark; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Mr. C. H. Taylor, Bradford; Mr. J. Hodgson, Oldham; Mr. T. Whitehead Reid, Canterbury; Mr. John Ritchie, Glasgow; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; Dr. S. Werner, Dublin; Mr. H. Drinkwater, Sunderland; Dr. Jelly, Valencia; Mr. J. S. Ward, Lisburn; Mr. C. D. Batt, Witney; Brigade-Surgeon Orton, Newcastle-under-Lyme; Mr. T. Jenner Verrall, Brighton; Our Dublin Correspondent; Mr. E. J. Spitta, London; Dr. J. Curnow, London; Dr. Marshall, Nottingham; Our Birmingham Correspondent; Dr. W. H. Daly, Pittsburgh; Dr. Grant Bey, Cairo; Mr. Otto Hehner, London; Mr. Leonard M. Bickle, Queensland; Dr. Sheen, Cardiff; Our Aberdeen Correspondent; Mr. J. B. Bailey, London; Dr. F. Taylor, London; The Secretary of the Sanitary Institute; Mr. W. II. Doyle, Shanghai; Mr. J. Mercas, London; Mr. W. Greenwood, Liverpool; Mr. R. Hamilton, Cawood; Dr. Heywood Smith, London; Dr. W. H. Dawson, Malvern; Mr. J. Betts, Lincoln; Mr. H. E. Spencer, York; Dr. G. Cresswell, Huddersfield; Mr. S. Glen Allen, Woolwich; Mr. C. E. Paget, Kendal; Dr. S. West, London; Dr. A. Downes, Chelmsford; Messrs. Chester, Mayhew, Broome and Griffiths, London; Messrs. C. Griffin and Co., London; Mr. Victor Horsley, London; Mr. J. Booth Clarkson, Liverpool; Mr. J. J. Goodlake Murray, Belfast; Dr. W. Ewart, London; Mr. A. J. Barnard, Wigan; Dr. Graily Hewitt, London; Mr. Norman Reed, Aldershot; Mr. R. J. Bryden, Gravesend; Miss H. Morcom, Liskeard; Dr. Cosgrave, Dublin; Mr. Robert Jackson, Richmond; The Registrar of the University of London; Dr. A. R. Turnbull, Cupar; Mr. John Morgan, London; Mr. Thom. Crieff; Dr. E. West Symes, Halifax; Surgeon-Major Cavanagh, Liverpool; Dr. James McNaught, Newchurch, near Manchester; Mr. Arthur J. Moss, Manchester; Dr. Mickle, London; Mr. W. W. Cooke, Hay; Dr. Bond, Gloucester; Mr. C. R. Walker, Brussels; Mr. G. P. Atkinson, Pontefract; Mr. M. A. Adams, Maidstone; Mr. Major Greenwood, Jun., Dalston; M. E.; Dr. T. W. Trend, Southampton; Mr. A. H. Benson, Dublin; Mr. H. G. F. Taylor, London; Mr. R. Davy, London; Dr. Suckling, Birmingham; Mr. John Lunn, London; Mr. W. Sinclair Dobbin, Dublin; The Secretary of the Local Government Board; Dr. Champneys, London; Mr. Charles Benson, London; Mr. Henry H. Master, Ixworth; Mr. W. J. Mason, Carlisle; Dr. T. J. Barnardo, London; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Mr. G. Eastes, London; Dr. Danford Thomas, London; Dr. T. J. Walker, Peterborough; Our Paris Correspondent; Mr. W. Rivington, London; Dr. Farquharson, M.P., London; Dr. Norris, South Petherton; Mr. J. Paul Bush, Clifton; Dr. Robertson, Ventnor; Mr. C. T. Dent, London, etc.

## BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Handbook of Geographical and Historical Pathology. By Dr. A. Hirsch. Vol. II. Translated by C. Creighton, M.D. London: New Sydenham Society. 1885.

Physical Expression. By F. Warner, M.D., F.R.C.P. With Fifty-One Illustrations. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co. 1885.

Diagnosis and Surgical Treatment of Abdominal Tumours. By Sir T. Spencer Wells, Bart. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1884.

Royal University of Ireland Calendar for the year 1885. Dublin: A. Thom and Co.

A Practical Treatise on the Diseases of Women. By J. Thorburn, M.D. London: C. Griffin and Co. 1885.

Face and Foot Deformities. By Frederick Churchill, C.M. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1885.

The Pathology and Treatment of Stricture of the Urethra and Urinary Fistula. By Sir Henry Thompson. Fourth Edition. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1885.

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