

and the attitude of the College of Surgeons cannot be much longer maintained without a great loss of profit as well as of reputation. It is hardly to be believed that the chief surgical corporation of this country should continue to issue diplomas to practise on an examination which not only is limited to a fraction of the subjects necessary to every practitioner, whether surgical or medical, but does not apply any bedside tests of knowledge or practical trials of skill. (*Lancet*.)

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 9 A.M. and 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.
TUESDAY.....Guy's, 1½ P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.
WEDNESDAY...St. Mary's, 1 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.
THURSDAY....St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—London Surgical Home, 2 P.M.—Royal Orthopædic, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.
FRIDAY.....Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.
SATURDAY....St. Thomas's, 9.30 A.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Lock, Clinical Demonstration and Operations, 1 P.M.—Royal Free, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY. Royal College of Surgeons of England, 4 P.M. Professor Huxley, "On the Classification and Structure of the Mammalia."
WEDNESDAY. Royal College of Physicians, 5 P.M. Dr. Fuller. Lumeian Lectures. "On Certain Derangements of Digestive Organs, their Causes and Effects."—Royal College of Surgeons of England, 4 P.M. Professor Huxley, "On the Classification and Structure of the Mammalia."
THURSDAY. Harveian Society of London, 8 P.M. Dr. Meredith, "On the Duality of Venereal Ulcers."
FRIDAY. Royal College of Physicians, 5 P.M. Dr. Fuller. Lumeian Lectures. "On Certain Derangements of the Digestive Organs, their Causes and Effects."—Royal College of Surgeons of England, 4 P.M. Professor Huxley, "On the Classification and Structure of the Mammalia."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * All letters and communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the EDITOR, 37, Great Queen St., Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

COMMUNICATIONS.—To prevent a not uncommon misconception, we beg to inform our correspondents that, as a rule, all communications which are not returned to their authors, are retained for publication.

CORRESPONDENTS, who wish notice to be taken of their communications, should authenticate them with their names—of course, not necessarily for publication.

UNDERSELLING IN CLUB PRACTICE.—SIR: For upwards of twenty years past, my father and myself have been surgeons to a large benefit-club in this town. About four or five years since, it was deemed advisable by some reformers in the club to increase the medical staff; and two more were added to it. The club is one of very few in the district, who pay a moderate but fixed sum for medicine as supplied, which to me is more satisfactory than the prevalent custom of contracting at so much per head. The other day, a deputation from the club waited on me to ask me to lower my charges to those of Mr. —, hinting, that in case of my refusal, I should probably lose the club. My charges for upwards of twenty years have been:—mixture, 2s.; liniment or lotion, 1s. 6d.; box of more than two pills, 1s. 6d.; two pills, 1s. The charges of Mr. — were:—mixture, 1s. 6d.; liniment or lotion, 1s.; box, twelve or more pills, 1s.; two pills (or less than twelve), nil. There were also numerous smaller and less important differences. Of course I was obliged to consent; and indeed I was inclined to offer to attend the whole number gratuitously.

Now, sir, I consider that this gentleman, on joining himself to

the medical staff, should, in courtesy to me as the senior, have inquired what my charges were and, always had been, and have followed them strictly—which he plainly did not do.

March 1866.

I am, etc., A CLUB SURGEON.

HOSPITAL-CARRIAGES.—A correspondent says: "When Sir Macdonald Stephenson brought forward his scheme for special hospital carriages, I ventured in your JOURNAL to point out the extreme unfitness of the vehicle suggested for the purpose. You will remember that a coupe for the friends, patent India-rubber tires, and several other equally absurd novelties, were to be adopted. To-day the secretary for the carriage fund, in a letter to the Times, adopts all my suggestions, and gives my reasons, without one word of acknowledgment, either public or private. The carriage is to be in form like an ordinary long-bodied carriage, so that when drawn up at the houses of even the wealthiest classes, it may not attract attention as an undoubted fever conveyance; it being often a matter of serious importance to give no unnecessary alarm in a respectable house or street where fever may have occurred."

PUBLIC ROADS.—SIR: The enclosed letter has appeared in our local paper, and been widely circulated by me in this neighbourhood. No class of men can be more largely concerned in the matter than ourselves, and none are better endowed with the means of carrying it to a successful issue. From the temper of the Government, and the universal feeling that some radical alteration in road legislation is required, I feel convinced that if one medical man in each place or district would get up and forward a petition to Parliament, founded on the enclosed scheme, a system which disgraces our nineteenth century civilisation would soon be abolished for ever.

Frome, February 26th, 1866.

I am, etc., JOSHUA PARSONS.

The following is the scheme proposed by Mr. Parsons for abolishing turnpike trusts in England and Wales.

1. Public roads, of all descriptions, to become highways, be placed under the control of highway boards, and repaired at the expense of the county rate.
2. Every union to be divided into the requisite number of districts, over each of which a surveyor is to be appointed, who, like the Poor-law district officers, should have the sole responsibility of his own district, and be accountable to the board.
3. The salaries of such surveyors, with that of clerks and other (if any) necessary officers, to be paid by Government from the Consolidated Fund.
4. Government to reimburse itself by an extra tax on private horses and carriages, apportioned as the wisdom of Parliament may see fit, so as to impose no burden upon occupiers of land, or others who may be fairly excused.
5. Government to pay off at once, at fair valuation, the whole existing debts of turnpike trusts.
6. The existing tolls and trusts, property to become the property of the Government. The tolls to be farmed to lessees, and collected or received by excise or tax officers, until the debt has been so far reduced that the sale of toll-houses and other trust property complete the re-payment of the money advanced.

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Mr. RICHARD GRIFFIN; Dr. F. W. GIBSON; Dr. MACKINDER; Mr. T. PRIDGIN TEALE, JUN.; Dr. SAMUELSON; Dr. GUY; Dr. DREW; Mr. WILLIAM EDDOWES; Mr. C. HOLTHOUSE; Dr. J. B. HICKS; Mr. THOMAS NUNNELLY; Dr. C. STEELE; Dr. RICHARDSON; Dr. SPENCER THOMSON; Dr. TUBBS; Mr. C. JOHNSON, JUN.; Mr. W. B. KESTEVEN; Mr. T. MARTIN; Dr. H. DAY; Mr. W. J. CHURCH; THE HON. SECRETARY OF THE ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY; Dr. W. M. KELLY; Dr. JAMES RUSSELL; A CLUB SURGEON; Dr. J. F. ANDERSON; Mr. R. V. BLYTHMAN; Dr. JOHN WADE; and Dr. J. BULLAR.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

1. On a New Method of applying Remedial Agents to the Cavity of the Tympanum. By E. Bishop, M.D. London: 1866.
2. On the Cattle-Disease. By Surgeon-Major Logie. London: 1866.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Chester General Infirmary.—

WANTED, a HOUSE-SURGEON, who must have a double qualification, Medical and Surgical, and be duly registered. Unexceptionable testimonials will be required of moral conduct. Salary to commence at £80 a year, with residence and maintenance in the House.

Also, an ASSISTANT HOUSE-SURGEON, whose qualification and testimonials must be the same as those above stated. Salary to commence at £60 a year, with residence and maintenance in the House.

Testimonials to be addressed to the "Chairman of the Board of Management," not later than the 26th March.

By order of the Board,
Board Room, March 6, 1866.

J. JONES, Secretary.