

ease and neglect of ventilation. The effect of the increased temperature during the summer and autumn months was demonstrated to be the cause of the diarrhoea so generally attributed to errors in diet and to the use of fruit.

ALLEGED UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF DEAD BODIES. Charles Law, surgeon, of 24, Virginia Row, Bethnal Green, was some days ago admitted to bail on a charge of unlawfully disposing of the dead body of a female child by throwing it into an unfinished building in the King's Head Yard, Kingsland Road, Shoreditch; and also with having in his possession the dead body of another female child, with the intent of unlawfully disposing of it. He was to have appeared for further examination on Saturday (to-day); but on Wednesday the police officer who had the case in hand came to the court (Worship Street) with a medical certificate announcing that Law had died early that morning in a state of "raving madness".

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 1.15 P.M.—Samaritan, 2.30 P.M.
TUESDAY....Guy's, 1½ P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.
WEDNESDAY...St. Mary's, 1 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—London, 2 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 Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.
FRIDAY.....Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.
SATURDAY....St. Thomas's, 1 P.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.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY. Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. C. H. F. Routh, Lottsonian Lecture "On Midwifery and Diseases of Women."
TUESDAY. Pathological Society, 8 P.M.—Photographical.—Ethnological.—Royal (Anniversary).
WEDNESDAY. Obstetrical Society of London, 8 P.M. Papers by Mr. Marley, Dr. Earle, Dr. Braxton Hicks, Dr. Gervis, Dr. Barnes, and Mr. I. Baker Brown.—Society of Arts.—Geological.—Pharmaceutical, 8 P.M. Professor Bentley, "On a New Kind of Matico"; Mr. H. Deane, "On the Acetic Acids of the Three Pharmacopœias"; Mr. Tichborne, "Administration of Bismuth in a Soluble Form"; Mr. D. S. Kemp, "On Goa Powder"; Mr. T. B. Groves, "Note on the Recovery of Essential Oils from their Watery Solution"; Mr. Howard, "Note on the Root-Bark of Calisaya"; Mr. Hanbury, "Note on *Cassia moschata*."
THURSDAY. Harvelian Society of London, 8 P.M. Clinical Discussion, "On Diphtheria."—Antiquarian.—Linnean.—Chemical.
FRIDAY. Western Medical and Surgical Society of London, 8 P.M. Dr. Gibb, "A General Discourse on Affections of the Throat, with the Practical Use of the Laryngoscope."—Archæological Institute.

POPULATION STATISTICS AND METEOROLOGY OF LONDON—NOVEMBER 21, 1863.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

	Births.	Deaths.
During week.....	{ Boys.. 999 } { Girls.. 971 }	1970 1475
Average of corresponding weeks 1853-62		1861 1503
Barometer:		
Highest (Sun.) 30.089; lowest (Sat.) 29.582; mean, 29.967.		
Thermometer:		
Highest in sun—extremes (Fri.) 81 degs.; (Sun.) 57.2 degs.		
In shade—highest (Sat.) 56.2 degs.; lowest (Tu.) 39.4 degs.		
Mean—48.6 degrees; difference from mean of 43 yrs. 46.3 deg.		
Range—during week, 16.8 degrees; mean daily, 9.7 degrees.		
Mean humidity of air (saturation=100), 86.		
Mean direction of wind, S.W.—Rain in inches, 0.13.		

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.

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

THE FELLOWS OF THE CHEMICAL SOCIETY are admitted to the privilege of attending the sittings of the Royal Society.

F. P.—A correspondent asks us for the meaning of the terms "developmental disorder".

A. T.—The criticism alluded to is founded, from first to last, on a series of misrepresentations. Of course, criticism of this kind, when called in question, can only be defended by a still further indulgence in misrepresentation; and, of course, it is so defended by critics of the class alluded to. You never can convict this sort of people, for they have always in their hand another card of the "old sort" to play out. The only way is to expose their fallacies to the public, and leave them to themselves; for nothing in the way of instruction or advice can make their nature other than it is.

SKILLED ADMINISTRATION OF CHLOROFORM.—SIR: I quite concur in the observations made in the JOURNAL, of November 14th, on the importance of appointing an experienced person to administer chloroform in hospitals, and of not entrusting this duty to a house-surgeon or advanced student, who may prove incompetent or careless. But I demur, in some degree, to the remark, "that the operation of giving chloroform is too highly considered by our surgical authorities." At one of the metropolitan hospitals, in which a fatal case of poisoning from chloroform recently occurred, I know that the medical officers have more than once strongly represented to the authorities the importance of appointing a skilled administrator—of course, with a salary; but, on both occasions, the committee declined to make any appointment. The lay authorities must, therefore, bear the responsibility of deaths from chloroform occurring in that hospital. I am, etc.,

November 14th, 1863. CHIRURGUS.

[Surely the surgeons in such a case could bring the hospital governors to their senses, by refusing to operate unless their proper demand was complied with. Feeling, as they do, the danger attending the administration of chloroform by incompetent persons, we think they are bound to insist on the appointment of a competent and responsible administrator. EDITOR.]

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Dr. FREDERICK J. BROWN; Dr. E. L. ORMEROD; Mr. BRODHURST; Mr. J. VASE SOLOMON; Dr. D. A. ROBERTSON; Mr. R. W. DUNN; Dr. JAMES RUSSELL; Dr. ARMSTRONG; Mr. W. BOWMAN; THE HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE WESTERN MEDICAL AND SURGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON; Dr. COCKLE; Mr. J. Z. LAURENCE; Mr. T. MARTIN; Dr. DUCKWORTH; Dr. KELLY; Mr. G. F. HODGSON; Mr. S. G. FREEMAN; Dr. GRAILY HEWITT; and Mr. T. M. STONE.

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