

NEWS AND TOPICS OF THE DAY.

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strongly in favour of the resolution, which was accordingly carried.

Mr. LISTER then proposed—

“That this meeting, therefore, strongly deprecates this proposal, and earnestly calls upon the students of Edinburgh to sacrifice, on public grounds, any private advantages which it may seem to offer.”

He had been told that public-spirited benevolence was not to be expected of medical students; that the pecuniary remuneration or personal professional advantage of any offer made to them would alone be considered by them. He did not believe this. He thought that if a man was about to be philanthropic in after life, he would show evidence of this virtue during his studentship. And he believed that if the students of Edinburgh saw clearly that an offer made to them would, if accepted, have a most prejudicial influence on the medical profession at large, as well as on an important branch of the public service, they would think twice before embracing such an offer, however tempting; but indeed he was far from thinking that this one was so. Then, as to professional advantage, it was very uncertain whether the ship to which a dresser was appointed would come into action at all. It was not for him to repeat what had been said of the condition of assistant-surgeons in the navy; but he would remark, that if their position was degraded, surely that of these dressers would be still more so. With no opportunity for study, and without any certainty of seeing active service, few, indeed, he believed, would not bitterly regret that they had accepted these dresserships. Then, on the other hand, what would the student give up for such an office? Why, he gave up his studies at the most important period. He (Mr. Lister) had been told that the students were for the most part lazy fellows, who spent the whole six months from April to November in idleness. This he did not believe; and even if it were true, they were bound in considering a public question like the present, to make provision, not for the idle and dissolute, but for those who were active in study, and of good moral character, as he believed the majority of Edinburgh students to be.

Mr. LOCKING seconded the resolution, which was carried.

Thanks having been voted to the Chairman, the meeting separated.

NAVY MEDICAL SERVICE:—MEETING OF LIVERPOOL STUDENTS.

At a meeting of the students of the Liverpool Royal Infirmary Medical School, held on Wednesday, March 14th, after hearing a circular from the sub-committee of deputies from the various metropolitan hospitals

It was proposed by Mr. CAMPION, seconded by Mr. MACKINLAY, and carried unanimously—

“That this meeting fully agrees with the objects of the one held in London, with regard to the condition of the assistant-surgeons of the navy, and pledges itself to use its utmost efforts to carry out the purposes for which the meeting was held.”

It was proposed by Mr. FRYER, seconded by Mr. KERMAN, and carried unanimously—

“That in accordance with the preceding resolution, the students be requested to attach their names to the following statement:

“The following medical students of the Liverpool Royal Infirmary School of Medicine refuse to enter the naval service under the existing Admiralty regulations.”

It was proposed by Mr. GLOVER, seconded by Mr. KELLY, and carried unanimously—

“That a copy of the above resolutions be forwarded for publication to the *Medical Times and Gazette*, the *Lancet*, and the *ASSOCIATION MEDICAL JOURNAL*.”

It was proposed by Mr. BRIDE, seconded by Mr. FLINN, and carried unanimously—

“That a vote of thanks be given to Mr. Fletcher, for the able manner in which he has occupied the Chair.”

F. D. FLETCHER, *Chairman.*

R. FRYER, *Hon. Sec.*

BRITISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY. On Tuesday, March 27th, at 7 p.m., a paper will be read, “On the recent Cold Weather, and on the Crystals of Snow observed during its Continuance,” By James Glashier, Esq., F.R.S.

THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL. On Tuesday a grand dinner was given at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, in aid of the funds of the North London or University College Hospital, which, it seems, stands in much need of pecuniary assistance. The Hospital, it appears, is embarrassed with a debt of £5,000, gradually accumulating since the year 1847, and more rapidly of late, in consequence of the exorbitant price of provisions. Owing to this deficiency of assets, the committee are reduced to the painful necessity of limiting the number of beds to 120, although the hospital has ample accommodation for 200 in-patients. The support of the public is, therefore, earnestly solicited by the hospital committee. At the dinner yesterday the chair was taken by Lord Granville, supported by the Hon. E. Strutt, Sir E. Ryan, the Hon. Mr. Denman, Sir R. W. Carden, and many of the highest ornaments of the medical profession. In proposing “Prosperity to the University College Hospital,” the noble Chairman expressed the gratification which he had experienced from a visit paid to the hospital that morning, and that, too, at an hour when visitors were usually excluded. He was most struck by the cleanliness of the hospital, its ample accommodation, and its efficient and well-ordered staff of nurses. A medical friend of his had told him that it was one of the best hospitals in London, and a first-rate school of comprehensive medical education. His Lordship then alluded to the deficiency in the funds, and urged the necessity of liberal contributions. That his Lordship's speech produced its effect may be inferred from the fact that a list of subscriptions was read during the evening, amounting altogether to £1,287. The report shows that during the last three years relief has been afforded to 3,067 in-patients, to 13,550 out-patients, to 1,296 lying-in cases, to 2,084 ophthalmic cases, and to 28,070 casualty cases without recommendation. The festivities of the evening were prolonged to a late hour, and were seasoned with some excellent vocal music from Messrs. Hatton, Francis, Lawler, and Benson.

AGASSIZ AND THE VACANT EDINBURGH CHAIR OF NATURAL HISTORY. The Town Council of Edinburgh have decided that upon theological grounds Agassiz is not a fit successor to the late Professors Jameson and Edward Forbes. Though not the patrons of the Professorship, the Town Council have the appointment of Conservator of the Museum, an office which is generally vested in the same person presented by the Crown to the Chair; and for this and other reasons the Council will naturally have much influence in determining who is to succeed to the two offices rendered vacant by the lamented death of Edward Forbes.

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Fig. 1.

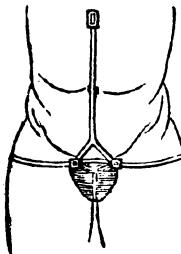


Fig. 2.

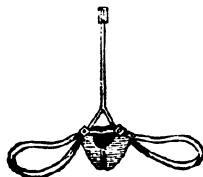


Fig. 1. MR. BOURJEAURD'S NEW SUSPENSORY BANDAGE as applied to a patient.—The bag supporting the scrotum is made of a delicate webbing of silk and India-rubber; the bands running round the thighs consist of the most yielding elastic tissue, and will stretch to twice their length; a third band is adapted to the upper part of the bag, the former being intended to be fastened to the flannel waistcoat of the patient. The scrotum is thus kept raised and fixed *in situ*, without distress, allowing the organ in the least, the suspensor allowing of the most varied movements of the body.

Fig. 2. The same suspensory bandage, taken off.