

**PROFESSOR OWEN.** Lord John Russell, in moving a vote of £60,000 for expenses connected with the British Museum, on the 21st instant, referred in very flattering terms to the new appointment of Professor Owen. "A determination had been arrived at on the part of the trustees to appoint a Superintendent of Natural History; and it was understood a person whose name was known not in this country alone, but throughout Europe, would receive that appointment." Mr. Milnes, Mr. Disraeli, and several other speakers of opposite sides of the House, also spoke in terms of satisfaction at the appointment.

**DOCTOR M'ILREE**, who recently volunteered to go into Russia to attend to the health of General Williams, taken prisoner at Kars, has returned to Sebastopol. He states that General Williams is now residing near Moscow, having regained his health: Sir J. Hall recommends Dr. M'Ilree to the favourable notice of Lord Panmure, for this act of intrepidity and surgical valour, and for "undertaking a dangerous journey in winter across mountain passes," and through a Russian population adverse to his mission.

**MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.** At the last meeting of this Society, a very interesting paper was communicated by Mr. Arnott from Mr. Sibley of the Middlesex Hospital, on the true nature of "colloid" growths and their relation to cancer. Some nine or ten cases were recited, where the disease had been found in the stomach or bowels, in the parotid, breast, etc. The experience of the Middlesex Hospital went to show that colloid is not so frequently associated with cancer as popularly believed; that there is no marked cachexia as in cancer; that it is a disease not essentially malignant, but completely *sui generis*; that it is found associated with tubercle; and that in some organs, as the liver, it occurs as "secondary" but not primary colloid.

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

LETTERS and other COMMUNICATIONS for the JOURNAL should be directed to the private address of the Editor, 39, Curzon Street, May Fair.

**TO CONTRIBUTORS.** The Editor would feel glad if Members of the Association and others, would cooperate with him in establishing as a rule, that in future no paper for publication shall exceed two pages of the Journal in length. If the writers of long communications knew as well as the Editor does, that lengthy papers *always* deter the reader from commencing them, this great evil would never arise. Brevity is the soul of medical writing—still more than of wit.

**AN ASSOCIATE.** The Letter of John Gibbs, Esq., on Compulsory Vaccination, which in some strange manner has been printed by order of the House of Commons, can be obtained at any of the State Paper Offices. It will not repay you for reading, unless you wish to see how madly a man can write. The evidence he gives in support of his opinions respecting the injuriousness of Vaccination, is almost entirely drawn from the writings of homeopaths and other quacks, whilst the following rabid quotation from page 14 of his letter, gives a specimen of his reasoning powers:

"It may be in place to notice the increase of another scourge—insanity—of which the *Illustrated London News* of 17th February, 1855, says, 'In the City of London, without any increase of population, the number of lunatic poor has doubled within the memory of some of the guardians, and the cause has baffled their inquiries. Some are inclined to attribute this dreadful visitation to excess of eagerness and strife in commercial pursuits, or in mental exertions; others to diet, and some partially to the effects of railway travelling.' Why not to Vaccination?"

What Next and Next? as Cobden says.

**A COUNTRY STUDENT.** There is no work especially devoted to beginners. A Country Student will, however, find all that is essential to be known in Mr. Bell's work on the Anatomy of Diseases of the Teeth, and also in a work recently published by Mr. Tones.

**MR. GRIFFIN'S MOVEMENT.** We have been obliged by press of matter to omit the Reports of Five Meetings in favour of Mr. Griffin's movement. They shall appear next week.

**THE REPORT OF THE BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH** shall appear next week.

Communications have been received from:—MR. CHARLES WARDEN; MR. J. V. SOLOMON; MR. FRANCIS EDWARDS; MR. J. K. SPENDER; MR. J. C. MARTIN; DR. SIEVERING; A COUNTRY STUDENT; MR. OLIVER PEMBERTON; MR. GRIFFIN; MR. JAMES YEARSLEY; DR. KIDD; DR. H. PAYNE; MR. ROBERT H. WHITEMAN; MR. CHARLES HOLMES; MR. G. MALLETT; DR. DUNCAN; DR. COLLINS; MR. C. HOLTHOUSE; DR. THUDICHUM; DR. TURNALL; DR. KEYWORTH; MR. BASSETT; DR. P. H. WILLIAMS; MR. STEELE; MR. W. D. HUBBARD; MR. H. J. PAYNE; DR. JOHN SNOW; MR. W. H. ACKLAND; DR. RADFORD; MR. J. C. CLETON; and MR. WALKER.

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### Sydenham Society.—The Members

of this Society are respectfully informed that the ANNUAL MEETING will be held at the SOCIETY'S ROOMS, 45, FRITH STREET, SOHO, on THURSDAY, MAY 1st, at Four o'clock P.M. precisely.

The following Works will be ready for Distribution in the course of a few days, viz.—

VELPEAU ON DISEASES OF THE BREAST, and  
THE WORKS OF ARETÆUS.

Copies of the following, among other Publications of the Society, are on hand, and may be had on application.

ROKITANSKY'S PATHOLOGICAL ANATOMY, 4 vols., 8vo.

KÜLLIKER'S MANUAL OF HUMAN HISTOLOGY, 2 vols., 8vo.

WEDL'S PATHOLOGICAL HISTOLOGY, 1 vol., 8vo.

ROMBERG ON DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM, 2 vols., 8vo.

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2nd. With the machinery necessary for carrying out the foregoing purpose to establish a means of privately negotiating the transfer of Practices and Partnerships.

3rd. A Register is kept for Assistants and Pupils.

4th. To raise a Benevolent Fund by devoting to that object the profits arising from the general operations of the Society.

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