

"2. That Law 2, Chapter xx, be so modified, that one silver medal shall be awarded yearly to the author of the best paper read before the Society, unless the Council shall by vote decide that no paper was worthy of that honour.

"That all the papers read shall be considered as open to the award, unless the authors shall in writing withdraw theirs from competition.

"That the points of merit shall be value to medical and surgical science, and to the public health, original observations, and general talent evinced by the communication.

"That a Committee of members of Council do recommend to the Council the award: the final decision to rest with the Council.

"The other silver medal shall continue to be awarded to a Fellow for special services.

"3. That no Fellow shall be a member of Council otherwise than *ex officio* during more than three consecutive years, but may be re-elected after the interval of one year."

CHILDREN POISONED BY LABURNUM SEEDS. Scarcely an autumn passes without some one being poisoned by ignorantly eating the seeds of the well-known laburnum tree, the yellow flowers of which in spring and the early part of summer form attractive objects in our English parks and gardens. An instance of the kind has just occurred at Otley, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, happily not attended with fatal results; but at the time this paragraph was written, one or two of the children who had eaten the poisonous seed were not quite out of danger. The facts are these:—On Thursday morning last, about a dozen young children of both sexes were simultaneously seized with severe illness, some of the chief features of which were frigidity of the limbs, closing of the eyes, and a livid appearance of the face. Mr. Ritchie, surgeon, was sent for, and he administered emetics, having ascertained that the children had freely partaken of seeds gathered from some laburnum trees which had been cut down in the neighbourhood. The emetics produced their natural effects, and most of the sufferers were soon out of danger. The case at first excited great consternation among the parents of the children and the families living near them.

DR. DE JONGH. His Majesty the King of the Belgians has conferred the dignity of a Knight of the Order of Leopold upon Dr. de Jongh, who is well known for his elaborate chemical and therapeutical researches into the nature and properties of cod-liver oil. It may be recollected that the same sovereign, and also the King of the Netherlands, some time since awarded to Dr. de Jongh medals of Merit, in approval of the services rendered by his scientific and practical investigations.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AN EDINBURGH STUDENT is very positive and exceedingly severe upon our correspondent, but he forgets to send his name; and we cannot admit anonymous attacks into our Journal.

MR. THOMAS MORRIS. We will write to you upon the subject.

Communications have been received from:—MR. PYE H. CHAVASSE; MR. J. D. JEFFERY; DR. G. W. BALFOUR; MR. THOMAS MORRIS; DR. PAYNE; MR. T. HOLMES; DR. OKE; DR. ROUTH; DR. DAY; DR. NOBLE; DR. LINVY; MR. CHURCHILL; DR. BELL FLETCHER; MR. JOSEPH HINTON; MR. THOMAS PAGET; MR. W. COLLINGS; DR. EADE; DR. BARKER; MR. POLLOCK; DR. KIDD; MR. ROYSTON; MR. AUGUSTIN PRICHARD; DR. G. G. ROGERS; DR. P. H. WILLIAMS; MR. JAMES RHODES; MR. JOHN BIRKETT; MR. J. SIMON; MR. T. W. NUNN; SIR CHARLES HASTINGS; AN EDINBURGH STUDENT; MR. CECIL WEBSTER; and DR. J. BALLARD PITT.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

[* An Asterisk is prefixed to the names of Members of the Association.]

1. The True Art of Healing: a Discourse in the Rational System of Medicine, introductory to the Winter Session at St. Mary's Hospital. By Thomas K. Chambers, F.C.P.
2. Introductory Address delivered at the Middlesex Hospital at the commencement of the Medical Session, October 1st, 1856.
3. A Manual of Physiology. By William B. Carpenter, M.D., F.R.S. John Churchill.
4. A Manual of Elementary Chemistry. By George Fownes, F.R.S. Sixth Edition. John Churchill.
5. Clinical Lectures on Paralysis, of Certain Diseases of the Brain, and of other Affections of the Nervous System. By Robert Bentley Todd, M.D., F.R.S. Second Edition. John Churchill.
6. A Manual of Materia Medica and Therapeutics. By James Forbes Royle, M.D., F.R.S., and F. W. Headland, B.A., M.D. Third Edition. John Churchill.
7. Surgical Anatomy. By Joseph Maclise, F.R.C.S. Second Edition. John Churchill.
8. An Introductory Address delivered at Sydenham College, Birmingham, October 1st, 1856. By *George Elkington, M.R.C.S.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Francis L. Puckridge, Sole Inventor

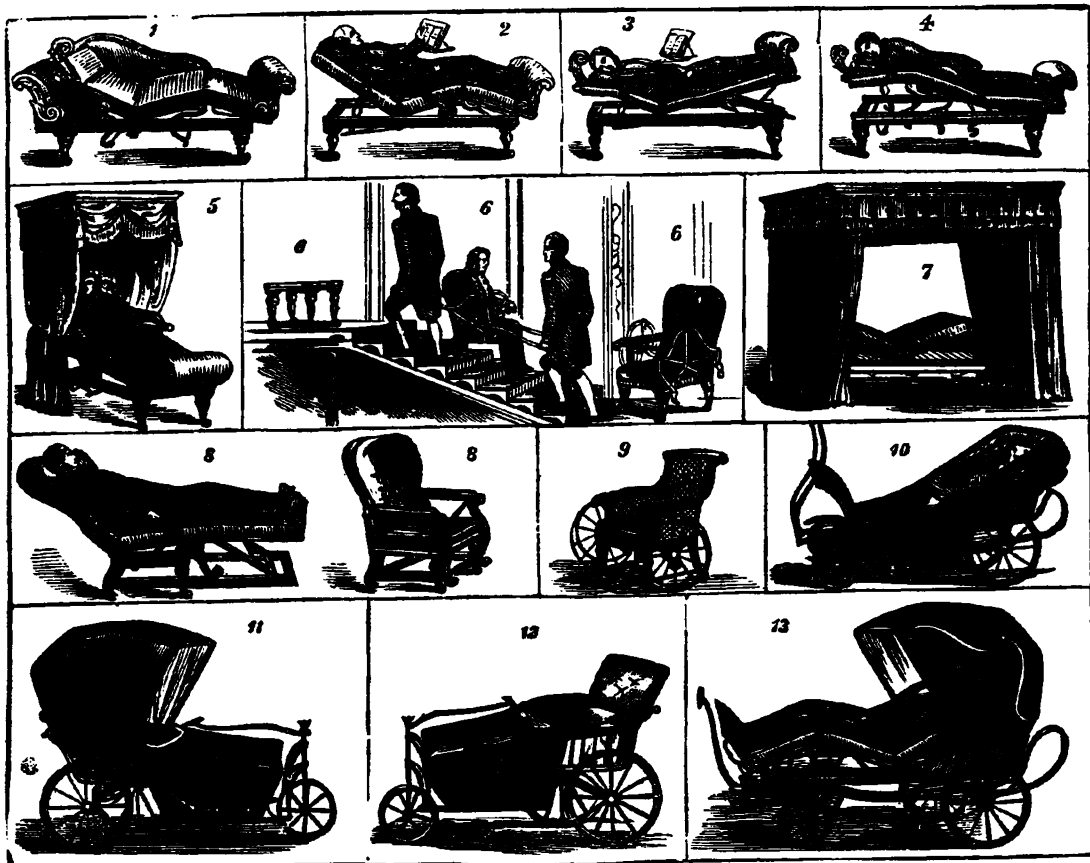
and Manufacturer of the late Mr. R. Liston's WATERPROOF TRANSPARENT ISINGLASS MEMBRANE PLAISTER, now patronized by Mr. Liston's successor, Mr. Quain, in his hospital and private practice. Patronized likewise by Mr. W. Fergusson, Surgeon at King's College Hospital; Mr. P. M. Arnott, and Mr. Wormald, at Bartholomew's Hospital; used for amputations and other serious wounds requiring observation without exposure to air. F. L. P. begs to state there are two qualities, and it is particularly beneficial for spinal complaints, ruptures, sprains, burns, scalds, and any weakened part; also a defensive skin to apply between the wound and lint, and causes less pain in dressing; likewise a superior Waterproof Gauze Lisse and Linen, spread with the same adhesive properties as the membrane; also superior Tinted Cotton Plasters, and Gold Beater's Skin by the yard, and in cases. F. L. P. offers his most grateful thanks for the encouragement and kind patronage he has received from the Medical gentlemen of England and foreign parts, and hopes to merit a continuance of their favours by manufacturing his Plasters with the same unremitting care as heretofore.

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J ALDERMAN, Nephew and Successor to Mr. CHAPMAN, begs most respectfully to inform his Friends and the Medical Profession, that after many years experience in the manufacture of all kinds of Invalid Beds, Couches, Chairs, Carriages, etc., and more especially the well-known Earle's Fracture Bed, he has obtained Her Majesty's Letters Patent for his imperceptibly Graduating, Mechanical, and Elastic Adjustments, which he has invented for the comfort and convenience of Invalids; he has also made them applicable to all kinds of Operating Couches

and Chairs, for surgical and dental purposes. Earle's Bed, a few years ago, was used principally for Fractures, it being too hard, and its movements too coarse, for general use; but by carefully studying the properties of this Bed, or Couch, the Patentee saw that by proper mechanical and elastic adjustments it might be made the most perfect, useful, and elaborate piece of Furniture extant. To accomplish this would be a work of time and expense, and could only be attained by being constantly working for Invalids, and making careful experiments to alleviate the sufferings of the various patients, so as to render the Bed or Couch suitable for every case.



The Patentee is now happy to say, that after many years' experience in trying every mechanical action and elastic adjustment that could be thought of, to alleviate the sufferings by every possible change of position, and that imperceptibly to the patient, at the same time avoiding all pressure by his elastic adjusting foundation and mattress, to prevent bedsores, so as to supersede the use of water, he has at length succeeded in making his mechanical and elastic adjustments so simple and perfect as to be able to apply them to all sorts of Invalid Furniture. Earle's Bed, or Couch, can now be safely said to be the most perfect, useful, and elaborate piece of furniture in use, and will be found the greatest boon to all those who are suffering from Spinal Affections, Hip Complaints, Paralysis, Fractures, and in all cases where perfect rest is required. Ladies, who require complete rest before and after their Confinements, will find this Couch a great luxury. The Illustrations—1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7—will show the various ways and positions in which this Couch can be fitted-up and used.

These Beds, or Couches, are also fitted-up for Hospital use, and with every necessary arrangement to prevent the patient being removed. The Patentee would particularly recommend them for the use of our Military Hospitals, where they would be found of the greatest comfort and convenience, both to the surgeon and patient.

Nos. 8, 9, 10, is an illustration of J. Alderman's Patent Portable Equilibrium Carrying Chair, by which a patient can be carried up or down stairs with perfect ease and safety, the Chair always adjusting itself, which enables the two persons who carry to walk up or down stairs in the usual way, and quite erect, with their arms down, so as to avoid any strain upon the muscles; it has also a shifting stand upon very easy Castors, so that it can be used as an easy Chair to prevent the patient being disturbed.

Nos. 8, 9, 10, is the Patent self-adjusting Invalid Chair, which is adjusted by Graduating Imperceptible Mechanism. This Chair, like the Couch, has been a work of time, the Patentee having followed Nature in every part of it: for instance, when the back is depressed, the arms, the seat, and the leg-rest, all work together imperceptibly, so that not a muscle of the patient is disturbed. In order that the patient may get on and off from either side while the leg-rest is up, either of the arms can be taken off.

No. 9 is a self-propelling Chair, which renders a patient quite independent, being able to go from room to room without any assistance.

No. 10 is a four-wheeled Brighton Chair, suitable for either hand or Pony.

Nos. 11 and 12 are three-wheeled Garden or Bath Chairs, with and without a hood.

No. 13 is J. Alderman's Improved Spinal or Sofa Carriage, mounted upon C and under-springs; also the patent noiseless wheels, if required. The couch being made to slide on and off the carriage, and having a stand upon easy castors for the room, prevents the necessity for the patient's removal from the couch.

J. A. begs to state that, in order to bring these general comforts within the reach of all those who do not wish to purchase, he intends Lending them on Hire, and where the hirer wishes to become a purchaser within the third month, the hire will be deducted.

N.B. Inclined Planes, Prone Couches, Bed Chairs, and every other article required by invalids.