

Medical News.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, AND APPOINTMENTS.

* In these lists, an asterisk is prefixed to the names of Members of the Association.

BIRTHS.

- *COATES. On March 4th, at 10, Circus, Bath, the wife of C. Coates, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.
COLLINS. On March 3rd, at 46, Gloucester Road, Regent's Park, the wife of W. J. Collins, M.D., of a daughter.
*COOPER. On March 10th, at Cromer, the wife of James Cooper, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.
HEWARD. On March 9th, at 56, Grosvenor Street, Grosvenor Square, the wife of Thomas Spencer Heward, Esq., of a daughter.
LEDGER. On March 4th, at Kensal Villa, Harrow Road, the wife of Matthew Ledger, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.
WILKINSON. On January 30th, at the Ventine, Barbadoes, the wife of J. Lyte Wilkinson, M.D., member of the General Assembly, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

- GODFREY—RUSH. GODFREY, John Blennerhasset, M.D., to Mary, third daughter of John Roger Rush, Esq., of Craven Hill, Hyde Park, at St. James's, Paddington, on March 7th.
WISE—SIBBALD. WISE, Thomas, Esq., Surgeon, to Anne, third daughter of Thomas Sibbald, Esq., of George Street, Edinburgh, on March 4th.

DEATHS.

- BAKER. On March 9th, at Staines, Middlesex, Sophia, wife of James Baker, Esq., Surgeon.
CLARK. On March 5th, Harriet, wife of Frederick Le Gros Clark, Esq., Surgeon, of Spring Gardens.
JOSEPH, E., Esq., Surgeon, of Manchester Street, aged 52, on March 7th.
MACINTYRE, William, M.D., late of Harley Street, at Brighton, aged 65, on March 2nd.
MACKINNON. On March 3rd, at Wiesbaden, Nassau, Jane Pryce, third daughter of the late Donald Mackinnon, M.D., formerly of Great George Street, Westminster.
PHILP. On February 27th, at Nice, aged 19, Eleanor Read, eldest daughter of Francis R. Philp, M.D.

HEALTH OF LONDON:—WEEK ENDING MARCH 7TH, 1857.

[From the Registrar-General's Report.]

THE deaths registered in London, which in the first week of February rose to 1368, have continuously decreased since that time, and in the week that ended last Saturday were 1175. In the ten years 1847-56, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1160. For the purpose of comparison, this average must be raised proportionally to increase of population; in which case it will become 1276: and it will appear that the public health is at present so far good that the deaths last week were less by 100 than the number that would have occurred if the average rate of mortality had ruled.

The mortality from diseases of the zymotic order was last week unusually low, for the deaths referred to these did not exceed 171; whilst the corrected average for corresponding weeks is 244. Small-pox was fatal in only two cases, both of which were those of young children, and occurred in Clerkenwell; and it may be stated that London enjoyed almost complete immunity from this distemper or from its fatal attacks. Whether it be the result of causes that are temporary in their operation or otherwise, it is probable, considering the greatly increased population, that small-pox has never been less prevalent, or more subdued in its character, than at the present time. Measles in the previous six weeks averaged 27 deaths weekly; the number fell last week to 10. Twenty-two children died of scarlatina, a number which shows a decrease also in this complaint. The deaths from typhus declined to 26, and those from diarrhoea to 12. The most fatal complaint in the zymotic class was whooping-cough, which carried off 70 children.

The deaths caused by diseases of the organs of respiration, which in the previous week were 304, declined last week to 262, of which 136 were from bronchitis, and 100 from pneumonia. Two deaths are recorded as caused by privation; two by intemperance. Six persons are returned who had attained the age of 90 or more years; and in this number is a pensioner in the Royal Hospital at Chelsea, whose age is stated to have been 100 years.

Last week the births of 970 boys and 888 girls, in all 1858 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847-56, the average number was 1649.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 30.122 in. The mean reading of this instrument was above 30 in. daily during the last ten days of February, and the first five of the present month. The highest reading last week was 30.43 in., and occurred on Sunday (the 1st instant). The mean temperature of the week was 43.1°, and was 2.9° above the average of the same week in 43 years (as determined by Mr. Glaisher). The highest temperature in the week occurred on Sunday, and was 55°; the lowest occurred on Thursday, and was 25.5°. The range of the week was therefore 25.5°. The mean dew-point temperature was 37.9°; and the difference between this and the mean temperature of the air was 5.2°. The wind which blew on the first two days from the east, was afterwards generally in the west. There was no appreciable amount of rain. The horizontal movement of the air varied from 10 miles a day to 150.

THE LATE SNOW STORM. Mr. J. W. Carr, of Colchester, thus writes to the *Times* of March 10th:—"The most remarkable change of temperature took place yesterday (March 8th) that I ever observed. The morning was clear, with a brisk wind from the north-west. A few minutes past 10 a.m. there was thunder and a terrific gust of wind from the south-east, which lasted about forty seconds. The wind again veered to the north-west, but the temperature rose to 56° Fahrenheit in the shade. At three minutes past 11 a.m. there was a heavy fall of hail and snow, and in the course of seven minutes the thermometer fell 19½°. This extraordinary change was registered on two instruments, one with a north aspect and the other south. The barometer was 29½ inches."

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.

Members should remember that corrections for the current week's JOURNAL should not arrive later than Wednesday.

MR. PAGET's paper on Laringismus, published in last week's number, was read before the Leicester Medical Book Society on February 11th.

Communications have been received from:—DR. JOHN GREEN; MR. J. S. GAMGEE; MR. RICHARD GRIFFIN; MR. H. W. RUMSEY; DR. COCKLE; DR. HAYES JACKSON; DR. J. C. HALL; MR. W. H. WINCHESTER; DR. G. GODDARD ROGERS; MR. AUGUSTIN PRICHARD; DR. C. HANDFIELD JONES; MR. JOHN BURROWS; DR. DAVID NELSON; MR. J. SCHOLFIELD; MR. W. M. CLARKE; DR. EDWARD HOWELL; MR. DREW; MR. HOLMES COOTE; MR. R. H. DAWSON; MR. HINTON; DR. W. BUDD; DR. W. PRUEN (Penang, East Indies); B. L. (Cheadle); DR. E. H. NIVEN; MR. J. HUTCHINSON; MR. C. F. J. LORD; MR. HOLMES; DR. H. JONES; MR. W. T. FOX; DR. T. BOISRAGON; MR. JAMES COOPER; MR. GEORGE TERRY; and MR. STONE.

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