

POISONOUS BUNS. Six of the pupils in a large boarding school at Clifton, were last week nearly poisoned by Bath buns coloured with chromate of lead. Three of the youths had been walking at Redland, near Bristol, and purchased some Bath buns at the shop of a confectioner named Farr. In the course of the afternoon three other lads from the school went to the same place and bought some more buns. In the evening all six were seized with violent sickness, and presented symptoms of poisoning. Mr. Cross, surgeon, of Clifton, was called in, and prescribed the necessary remedies, but the patients continued so ill during the night that two of them were not expected to survive. After great suffering, they all recovered. Some of the buns were analysed, when it was found that each of them contained seven grains of chromate of lead, which was used as a cheap substitute for eggs, for the purpose of colouring the buns. Farr, on being sent for, admitted having used this preparation for some time, without being aware of its injurious effects, and it is supposed that a larger dose than usual was, through carelessness, placed in the buns in this case.

SURGICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND. The meetings of the Society for the session 1859-60, will take place at the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland, on the undermentioned evenings, at half-past eight o'clock precisely, viz., **Saturdays, Jan. 14th and 28th, Feb. 11th and 25th, March 10th and 24th, and April 14th and 28th.** Members who intend to read papers before the Society, are requested to inform the secretaries of their intention a few days previously. Discussion on any paper is not permitted unless the writer calls for it or desires it. When the contributor of a paper wishes that the secretary should read it to the Society, he will please forward it to them some days before the meeting. Naval and military surgeons are admitted as honorary members of the Society on sending their names to the secretaries.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE NEW VOLUME. The first number of the New Volume of the **BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL** will be published on Saturday, January 7th. The names of gentlemen wishing to join the Association should, as far as possible, be transmitted to the General Secretary on or before the 1st of January, in order that an estimate may be formed of the number of copies to be printed weekly. Members will oblige also by forwarding to the Publisher any alterations they may wish to have made in their addresses.

AN ASSOCIATE. The Order of the Privy Council regarding Public Vaccination does not interfere with the present public vaccinators who are likewise legally qualified medical officers of unions. These are exempted from the operation of the order by the portion of the first clause which states that "in respect of persons legally admitted to practise before this regulation comes into effect, the special certificate may be dispensed with, on condition that the contract, during one year from its making, continue subject to the approval of the Poor-Law Board." The regulation obliging contractors for vaccination to produce a special certificate of fitness for the duty is prospective rather retrospective. At all events, we see nothing in it likely to disturb the present holding of vaccination contracts by persons who have given practical proof of their competency.

A CORRESPONDENT, who is a Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, calls our attention to the disputed point, whether the holders of such title have a right to be called "Dr.," and he encloses a note received from the Medical Register, stating that he has "no legal claim to the title of Dr." He has no legal claim, it is true; but we are of opinion that he may put "Dr." on his door-plate and cards, and appeal in support of the act to custom—"quem pene imperium est, et jus, et norma," as our correspondent, will probably remember. Extra-Licentiates of the Royal College of Physicians of England, not holding University degrees, have used the title of Dr. and the right has always been conceded to them. Although the Medical Act does not positively give a Licentiate of a College of Physicians the right to call himself "Dr.," it is not likely to interfere with him for doing so, except by a most forced and vexatious interpretation.

ANONYMOUS CORRESPONDENTS should always enclose their names to the Editor; not for publication, but in token of good faith. No attention can be paid to communications not thus authenticated.

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

POSTAGE OF MANUSCRIPT AND PRINTED MATTER.

Any amount of manuscript or printed matter, singly or together, provided it contains nothing in the form of a written letter, is transmitted through the post, in packets open at the ends, at the following rates: not exceeding 4 ounces, one penny; above 4 and not exceeding 8 ounces, twopence; above 8 ounces and not exceeding 1 pound, fourpence; for every additional half-pound or under, twopence.

Communications have been received from:—**DR. JAS. EDWARDS**; **MR. J. GODFREY**; **MR. SAML. STRETTON**; **MR. JNO. ORMOND**; **DR. W. O. MARKHAM**; **MR. R. S. FOWLER**; **DR. O'BRYEN**; **MR. DUNCALFE**; **DR. WM. CAMPS**; **DR. W. A. SMITH**; **MR. WM. HOAR**; **DR. JOHN W. OGLE**; **DR. FAYTON**; **MR. A. JOHNSON**; **MR. H. MUNROE**; **T. H.**; **DR. SLOANE**; **DR. W. V. BIRD**; **MR. A. R. GRIFFIN**; **MR. T. HOLMES**; **DR. PARKES**; **MR. JAS. WILLIAMS**; **MR. G. KIDGELL**; **DR. E. WELLS**; and **DR. BIRCH**.

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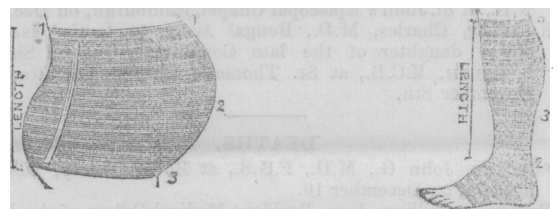


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