

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH: SPRING MEETING.

THE spring meeting of this Branch was held at the Royal Hotel, South Shields, on Wednesday, April 25th. In the absence of the President, Matthew Brummell, Esq., through indisposition, the chair was occupied by Dr. FRANK of South Shields; and there were present twenty-seven members.

New Member.—Dr. W. Sutherland of Muirlaw House, Capheaton, Northumberland, was elected a member of the Branch.

Unqualified Medical Practitioners.—Dr. EASTWOOD of Dinsdale Park proposed: "That it is the duty of the General Medical Council to prosecute unqualified medical practitioners." Dr. REID of Newbiggin-by-Sea seconded, and Dr. LEGAT of South Shields supported the resolution. Dr. EASTWOOD suggested that a copy of the resolution should be forwarded to the General Medical Council. The resolution was then put, and carried unanimously.

Habitual Drunkards Bill.—Dr. EASTWOOD presented a petition in favour of the Habitual Drunkards Bill, 1877, which he invited every-one present to sign.

Papers.—The following papers were read.

1. Dr. E. C. ANDERSON: Objection to the use of the term "Typho-malarial Fever", that it is not a hybrid of the enteric and malarial forms of fever, but a manifestation of two separate concurrent diseases, one of which may cease to exist in the system, and the other pursue its course.

2. Dr. E. C. ANDERSON: Notes upon a Case of Rheumatic Fever, in which, after apparent complete recovery, the patient suffered from a relapse.

3. Dr. J. C. REID: Milk, as a Therapeutic Agent.

4. Dr. M. M. BRADLEY: The relative merits of the several methods used for the Treatment of Prolapsed Funis, illustrated by Cases.

5. Dr. T. W. CRASTER: A Peculiar Case of Epileptiform Convulsions.

Vote of Thanks to the Chairman.—On the motion of Dr. REID, seconded by Dr. EASTWOOD, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman.

Dinner.—The members afterwards dined together in the hotel. Dr. Frain presided; and the vice-chair was filled by Dr. Philipson, Honorary Secretary.

WEST SOMERSET BRANCH: SPRING MEETING.

THE spring meeting of this Branch was held at the Railway Hotel, Taunton, on Thursday, April 5th, at five o'clock; FREDERICK FARMER, L.K.Q.C.P.I., President, in the chair. Fifteen members were present.

Letters of Regret.—The SECRETARY laid before the meeting seven letters and two telegrams from members accounting for their absence.

President-elect.—A letter from Mr. Alford was read, stating that, being out of health, he felt quite unequal to the duties of office; and he, therefore, begged that some other member might be appointed as President-elect in his stead. Great regret was expressed by the meeting on hearing Mr. Alford's letter read. Samuel Farrant, Esq., was then proposed as President-elect, and unanimously elected.

Legislation for Habitual Drunkards.—A petition to Parliament on this subject was signed by all the members present. The Secretary was requested to obtain the signatures of other members of the Branch to the petition, and to have it presented to Parliament before the end of the month.

Militia Surgeons.—A letter and statement on this subject, forwarded on behalf of the Parliamentary Committee by the Chairman, were laid before the meeting.

Artificial Feeding of Infants.—To the question (as sent by circular to each member)—"What in your opinion is the best mode of feeding infants artificially, both as regards food and method?"—written answers from Dr. Cordwint and Mr. Alford were read by the Secretary; and the members present severally stated their views on it.—Mr. WINTERBOTHAM embodied his answer in a carefully written paper, the title of which is given below.—The PRESIDENT summed up, passing in general review the answers which had been given; and remarking that it was quite clear that our great resource was milk from the cow, diluted as required by the constitution of the child.

Papers.—The following were read.

1. On Condensed Milk and Liebig's Food as Articles of Infant Diet. By W. L. WINTERBOTHAM, Esq. (Bridgwater).

2. A Case of Hydrophobia, or its "Eikon". By HUGH NORRIS, Esq. (South Petherton). The case presented features involving doubts

whether the patient, a man aged 42, who died after seven days' acute illness, had really been bitten; and, if so, whether his dog, which he had caused to be destroyed six weeks previously, really was affected with rabies.

3. On the Advantages of Minehead as a Winter Residence. By THOMAS CLARK, Esq. (Dunster). Mr. Clark highly eulogised the salubrity of Minehead; and, from the extraordinary mildness of its climate, which, he believed, was greater during the winter months than that of any of the other British health-resorts, he considered it well worthy the attention of the profession as "an outlet for all kinds of chest-diseases".

4. On Some Osseous Remains found in Dulverton. By R. B. ROBINSON, Esq. (Dulverton).

A paper on a Case of Dangerous Poisoning by Carbolic Acid, which ended in Recovery, by the PRESIDENT, was postponed for want of time.

Note of Thanks.—The cordial thanks of the meeting were awarded to the readers of the several papers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY.

SIR,—The information on which you have based your annotation, under this heading, in the last week's JOURNAL, is so inaccurate that I must ask leave to remonstrate against its insertion on untrustworthy authority, and to tell you the true story. So far from its being true that a defence was made, and that the jury, after hearing the evidence of Dr. Bucknill and Dr. Tuke, did not think it necessary to hear the defence or to see the lady, the truth was that no defence was made or contemplated. Mr. Digby Seymour, acting upon the advice of "a well-known alienist", who is incorrectly said to have "appeared for the defence", admitted entirely the propriety of placing the lady under the protection of the Court of Chancery, agreeing to accept a verdict after one witness had been formally examined, as was necessary; but he contended that to place her, as she had hitherto been placed, in a cottage under the charge of two attendants, with no person of her own class in life to associate with, was not desirable treatment for a lady who was a courteous and, apart from her delusions, a singularly intelligent person; and who, having been accustomed to travel a great deal, to dine at *tables d'hôte*, and to mix freely in society, felt bitterly her isolation. He hoped the jury would append to their verdict the expression of their opinion—and Master Warren concurred cordially in the propriety of their doing so—that she should not be left to the care and companionship of mere servants, but should be placed in some suitable family, or allowed to reside with a lady-companion at the seaside or elsewhere. It was to support this view of the matter by his evidence, if necessary, and not "for the defence", that "a well-known alienist" appeared; and that was the purport of his affidavit. The jury assented unanimously and heartily to this view, Dr. Bucknill having admitted under cross-examination that the lady was fitted for the sort of care proposed, and appended to their verdict, in writing, a strong recommendation to that effect.

The Master took occasion to express, in emphatic terms, his entire approval of the course which Mr. Seymour had adopted, and of the medical advice under which he had acted; assuring the jury, from his official knowledge of those who were acting for the lady, that they might rest perfectly satisfied that her interests had been carefully considered; and that they, therefore, need have no hesitation in returning their verdict, without going further into a painful inquiry, and without seeing the lady. One reason which he gave for this course was that Mr. Seymour was acting with the advice of a well-known physician.

I will not now discuss the statement which you make, that "the conjunction of insane delusions with civil capacity is a possibility which the law does not at present recognise", in face of the fact that a person with an insane delusion may make a sane and valid will, and, for aught I know to the contrary, a valid marriage. I am disposed to think that the absolute statement is not founded on competent knowledge of the law; my present purpose is simply to correct a paragraph, which, as it stands in your last number, is, as you will now see, an improper misrepresentation of the facts, and very much like an unwarranted slander of your obedient servant,

"A WELL-KNOWN ALIENIST".

* * We have before us the affidavit of this writer, in which he states his opinion that, "although the said J. S. is undoubtedly labouring under delusions regarding her family"..... "I do not think the said J. S. unfit to manage her affairs". It was, however, given in evidence

that the said J. S., acting solely under the influence of her delusions, made a will in October last, by which she left the whole of her property away from her family. It is the duty of the Lord Chancellor and the Lords Justices, advised by their officers, to direct the treatment of Chancery lunatics; and the jury of an inquisition, which pretends to interfere with this duty, is attempting that which is plainly *ultra vires*.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE DUBLIN POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS.

SIR,—I find in your last issue that a correspondent objects to the annotation written by me at page 334 of the JOURNAL for March 17th; but I believe that, if any unbiassed individual will take the trouble to refer to the paragraph in question, he will find that I have merely stated what occurred, without any exaggeration whatsoever. That the guardians *unanimously* refused the request for increased remuneration shows unmistakably that there was not a single individual in favour of the proposed increase.—I am, etc.,
Dublin, April 1877. "DUBLIN CORRESPONDENT."

PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

*BRISCOE, Wm. Thos., M.B., C.M., appointed Medical Officer to the Chippenham Workhouse, *vice* Henry M. Jay, M.B., resigned.
KENNEDY, D. Sinclair, M.B., appointed Medical Officer for the Lochaber District of the parish of Kilmonivaig, Invernesshire.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted members of the College at a meeting of the Court of Examiners, on May 24th.

Allen, H. L., L.S.A., St. John's Wood
Barker, F. R., Aldershot
Batchelor, G. A., Bancroft Road, E.
Battams, J. S., Stoney Stratford
Brown, F. W., L.S.A., Hackney
Canthie, James, M.B.Aberd., Keithmore, Banffshire
Carlyon, T. B., L.S.A., Falmouth
Davy, D. H., Wanstead
Eliot, George, L.S.A., Limsfield, Red Hill
Ewen, H. W., L.S.A., Manchester
Friend, H. E., St. Stephen's Crescent, W.
Haynes, P. O., Evesham, Worcestershire
Hunter, C. B., Grafton Street
Ivens, A. S., Cydor, near Banbury
Jefferson, W. D., Northallerton, Yorkshire
M'Reddie, G. D., L.M. & S., Calcutta
May, A. E., Clifton Gardens, W.
Owen, C. J. R., L.S.A., Cleveland Square, W.
Phillips, S. P., Queen's Gardens, W.
Sherburn, John, M.B.Edin., Howden, Yorkshire
Wilson, A. F., Loddington, Leicestershire

Seven candidates having failed to acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the Court of Examiners, were referred to their professional studies for six months.

At the half-yearly primary examination of candidates for the Fellowship of the College, held on May 28th, the following gentlemen were successful.

Messrs. Walter Ottley, of University College; Richard Brayne, of King's College; Gerald F. Yeo, of the Dublin, Paris, Berlin, and Vienna Schools; Jas. K. Kerr, of the Belfast School; John Brown, of the Aberdeen and Edinburgh Schools; Harold B. Boulter, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Clinton T. Dent, of St. George's Hospital; and Horace Manders, of St. Mary's Hospital.

Eight candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on May 29th.

Messrs. Joseph Ranschoff, M.D.Ohio, M.R.C.S.Eng. (April 1877); Morgan Davies, of the London Hospital; H. R. Whitehead, of the Charing Cross Hospital; Wm. H. Battle, of St. Thomas's Hospital; W. C. S. Bennett, of the Middlesex Hospital; E. J. Morley, of Guy's Hospital; H. Ernest Bowman, of King's College; Richard Gill, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Alfred Harvey, of the Birmingham School; Richard Margerison, B.A.Cantab., of St. George's Hospital; Chas. E. Baddeley and Percy Close, of King's College; Chas. J. Ogle and G. Holden Sylvester, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; and Wm. F. Hearnden, of Guy's Hospital.

Eight candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on May 30th.

Messrs. George Coates, B.A.Oxon., Marmaduke Prickett, M.A.Cantab., and D. Astley Cresswell, B.A.Oxon., of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; M. P. M. Collier and William F. Haslam, of St. Thomas's Hospital; Frederick Wadham, of St. George's Hospital; Valentine Matthews, of King's College; William W. Webb, of the Charing Cross Hospital; T. W. O. Puge, of the Liverpool School; and Angel Money, of University College.

Twelve candidates were rejected.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, May 24th, 1877.

Baker, Thomas, Cosham, Hants
Cesar, Julius, East London Hospital for Children
Cuming, Charles Henry, Oakley Square
Elmslie, William Wallace, Seafeld Villas, West Brighton
Hockridge, Thomas Granville, Golbourne Road, Westbourne Park
Koyaji, Beramji Nosarvanji, 1, Gower Place, W.C.
Smith, Thomas Frederick Hugh, 82, Wimpole Street

The following gentlemen also on the same day passed their primary professional examination.

Barrow, Lancelot Andrews, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
Bunting, Robert Obadiah, Guy's Hospital
Smith, Edward Last, Charing Cross Hospital
Williams, Hugh Harries, Guy's Hospital
Williams, Miles Melbourne, Manchester Infirmary

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following vacancies are announced:—

CARNARVONSHIRE and ANGLESEY INFIRMARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications to be sent in on or before the 14th instant.

CITY OF LONDON LYING-IN HOSPITAL—Consulting Surgeon. Applications to be sent in on or before the 19th instant.

EAST RIDING ASYLUM, Beverley—Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, board, and attendance. Applications to be sent in on or before the 23rd instant.

NEW HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Marylebone Road—Junior Physician; also, Resident Medical Officer. Women only eligible. Salary, £50 per annum, with board, lodging, washing, and attendance.

NORTH LONDON CONSUMPTION HOSPITAL—Physician. Applications to be made on or before the 7th instant.

NOTTINGHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with furnished apartments and board. Applications to be made on or before the 11th instant.

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL—Administrator of Anesthetics and Registrar. Salary, £100 per annum. Applications to be made on or before the 6th instant.

SALOP INFIRMARY, Shrewsbury—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and residence. Applications to be made on or before the 15th instant.

WEST SUSSEX, EAST HANTS. AND CHICHESTER INFIRMARY—Surgeon-Dentist. Applications to be made on or before the 18th instant.

WOLVERHAMPTON and STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Applications to be made on or before the 11th instant.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Names marked with an asterisk are those of Members of the Association.

BENNETT, A. Hughes, M.D., appointed Physician for Out-patients to the Hospital for Epilepsy and Paralysis.

*FERRIER, David, M.D., F.R.S., appointed Physician for Out-patients to the Hospital for Epilepsy and Paralysis.

HOVELL, T. Mark, M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed House-Surgeon to the London Hospital, *vice* W. B. Johnson, M.R.C.S.Eng., resigned.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, is 3s. 6d., which should be forwarded in stamps with the announcement.

BIRTH.

PARROTT.—On May 25th, at The Thorn, Hayes, Middlesex, the wife of *Edward J. Parrott, M.R.C.S., of a son.

MARRIAGE.

RABAGLIATI—McLAREN.—On May 25th, at Newington House, Edinburgh, the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. John Robson, D.D., Aberdeen, Andrea Honyman Rabagliati, M.A., M.D., of Bradford, to Helen Priscilla, youngest daughter of Duncan McLaren, M.P., and granddaughter of the late Jacob Bright, of Green Bank, Rochdale.—No cards.

BEQUESTS.—Mrs. Esther Bunning, late of Holland Park, Bayswater, has bequeathed to the Asylum for Idiots, the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, the Royal Hospital for Incurables, St. Mary's Hospital, the Nursing Sisters' Institution, and to two other hospitals to be chosen by her executors, £300 each. The testatrix also directs her executors to invest £5,000, the interest and dividends on which are to accumulate until Herbert George Gaudet attains twenty-one, when the following bequests take effect—viz., to St. Bartholomew's Hospital and to the Royal Free Hospital, £1,000 each; to the Royal Hospital for Consumption, Ventnor, £600; to the Royal National Hospital or Sea-Bathing Infirmary, Margate, the Dover Convalescent Home, the Association in Aid of the Deaf and Dumb, £300; and the Royal Hospital for Incurables, £200, in addition to the former legacy of £300.—Mr. Jacob Mocatta, late of Norfolk Crescent, Hyde Park, has bequeathed to University College Hospital, the Cancer Hospital, the Consumption Hospital at Brompton, and the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, £100 each.—The late Mr. Hedgman has left £3000 to the West London Hospital.