

tissue from stretching, and hence the organ deviates either to the right or left side; the deviation is proportionate to the extent of the induration; if the latter exist on both sides of the penis at the same time, the organ turns upwards, during erection. The indurated points may be detected by pressing between the fingers different portions of the corpus cavernosum. M. Ricord has seen eight or ten cases of this affection, which seemed to depend upon syphilis; and in one case, where the origin of the disease could be clearly traced, he obtained a complete cure by the hydriodate of potass. M. Ricord has never had an opportunity of examining any of these cases after death.

Finally, M. Ricord thinks that he has seen an analogous affection in the periosteum of the orbit and sclerotica. The periosteum first becomes tumid; then the sclerotic coat gets thickened and indurated, compressing the vessels and nerves, and causing pulsation with pain of the eye, exasperated at night; the eyeball protrudes from the orbit, through thickening of the periosteum. According to the author, also, this affection has been confounded with syphilitic amaurosis, or iritis. In all the above-mentioned diseases M. Ricord recommends his favourite remedy, hydriodate of potass.

However, when secondary symptoms are present with them, we must not neglect mercury. The patient should take 24 to 48 grains of the hydriodate *per diem* in some mucilaginous drink, with one grain of the proto-ioduret of mercury at night.

ON THE USE OF VEGETABLE ACIDS IN CERTAIN AFFECTIONS OF THE BLOOD (PURPURA, SCURVY, ETC.)

ALTHOUGH the scurvy has almost completely disappeared within the last fifty years, there remain several analogous affections, characterised like it by extravasation of blood from the vessels, or passive hæmorrhage. In the latter affections M. Recamier employs vegetable acids with great success, as the following cases demonstrate.

CASE I.—A woman, 35 years of age, who had been accustomed to poor diet, was seized with violent epistaxis after some domestic quarrel; soon afterwards a number of patches of purpura appeared on the face and limbs, and her catamenia flowed profusely; the epistaxis frequently recurred; the number of spots augmented to such a degree as to become almost continuous; a freshly closed wound opened, and the surface discharged a quantity of blood; even the saliva was tinged red. M. Recamier ordered the patient to have two quarts of sulphuric lemonade; two lemons; and the following potion, during the day:—Extract of Peruvian bark, one drachm and a half; concentrated decoction of cochlearia, three drachms.

As no improvement took place in two days, a bath containing six pints of vinegar was ordered, and the patient took seven ounces of raw, scraped potatoes. The symptoms were now much alleviated, and at the end of three days five ounces of sorrel juice were given, and the dose was gradually increased to half a pound. This treatment was persevered in with the best effects, and in three months the woman left the hospital, completely cured.

This case affords a striking example of the efficacy of vegetable acids, even under the most unfavourable circumstances.

CASE II.—A workwoman, 69 years of age, of bad constitution, and accustomed to poor diet, was seized with severe headache and fever, with bloody sputa, and numerous spots of purpura on the lower extremity. She was bled, merely to ascertain the quality of the blood; the clot was extremely soft and uniform. A treatment similar to that adopted in the preceding case was now employed, and in a month the woman was quite well, and had recovered her strength.

Revue Médicale.

TREATMENT OF TÆNIA. FERN AND POMEGRANATE.

THE author of this paper assures us that within a period of forty years he has administered the male fern in more

than one hundred cases of tænia, and always with success. The dose employed is from four and a half ounces to nine, in any convenient vehicle for a bolus. The number of the latter will, of course, be proportionate to the dose, and they must be taken within the space of fifteen minutes. The administration of the fern was always followed by a dose of castor oil, but the writer thinks that any other purgative would answer just as well. He then compares the fern with the pomegranate root, and endeavours to demonstrate the great superiority of the former.—*Gaz. Med.*

CORNWALL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

PETITION AND RESOLUTIONS ON MEDICAL RELIEF.

At the annual meeting of this Association, held at Bodmin, on the 9th of February, 1841, the following petition and resolutions on medical relief were adopted:—

That your petitioners have, for a long time, perceived that the system of tender for medical relief in Poor Law Unions has been productive of much evil to the poor, and of degradation to the practitioners of medicine: and humbly pray that your Honourable House will take into consideration the following scheme for the amelioration of those evils.

That there shall be appointed a Medical Commissioner, who shall have equal power and influence as a Poor Law Commissioner *only* in the superintendence and management of all matters connected with medical relief of the sick poor.

That the said Medical Commissioner shall settle the extent and boundaries of medical districts throughout England and Wales, within three years; and submit the scheme thereof to the Secretary of State to be laid before parliament: and that he in connexion with the Poor Law Commissioners shall make orders and prescribe limits within which the remuneration of medical officers may, in every case, be determined by the guardians of every union: and that such guardians shall not attempt, by advertisement or other public notification, to obtain tenders or offers relating to the remuneration to be given for the performance of the duties of such medical officers.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

That petitions of a similar character to those of the Association be prepared and forwarded from the different towns and districts of the county, and that the members of parliament for the same be earnestly solicited to support the prayer.

That this Association fully approves of the following plan of medical relief for the sick poor, as recently drawn up and prepared by a Committee of the Provincial Medical Association, in concert with Sergeant Talfourd, the principal heads of which are as follows:—

- “1. That there shall be appointed a Medical Poor Law Commissioner, having power only in matters connected with the sick poor.
- “2. That a weekly list of actual paupers in Union Houses or Districts shall be furnished to the Medical Officer by Boards of Guardians.
- “3. That the average number of these lists shall be taken at the termination of every year.
- “4. That the Medical Officer shall be paid at the rate of from 4s. to 5s. for each pauper.
- “5. That in parishes of 1000 acres in area, and not exceeding 8000 acres, an augmentation of one-fourth of this sum shall be paid for each out-door pauper.
- “6. That in parishes exceeding 8000 acres, two-fourths shall be paid as augmentation.
- “7. That for distant parishes the Medical Officer shall be paid at the rate of one-fourth for each mile of distance to the nearest point of each parish; and also for its area as above stated.
- “8. That all actual paupers shall be attended, on personal application.
- “9. That for cases of midwifery the Surgeon shall receive 10s. 6d., and that in cases of consultation in difficult labours the fee shall be 1l. 1s.

"10. That for all important cases of surgery the remuneration shall be decided by the Medical Poor Law Commissioner.

"11. That for *actual paupers only* the fee for Vaccination shall be not less than 1s. 6d. nor more than 2s. 6d."

That it is the opinion of this Association that in contracting with Boards of Guardians, under the provisions of an Act for the extension of the practice of Vaccination, the minimum remuneration which the profession ought to receive is 2s. 6d. for each successful case.

J. H. NANKIVELL.

LETTER FROM MR. GELL.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—I feel much obliged by your inserting my former letter in your valuable Journal. A friend has reminded me that there are one or two physicians of considerable eminence in England, who have been fearless and determined advocates of Medical Reform "through good repute and through bad repute." The names to which he particularly alluded were those of Dr. Forbes and Dr. Marshall Hall. I feel it my duty to state that I fully agree with him, and, as one of the profession, am deeply indebted to them for their exertions. Dr. Forbes's translation of Laennec, and Dr. M. Hall's illustrations of the nervous system, will do them immortal credit, and the fact of their having been medical reformers at a time when others of equal eminence shrunk from the avowal of their opinions, will do them immortal honour.

I am, your obedient servant,
Cairn Castle, March, 1841. TOBIN GELL.

THE MEDICAL CONFERENCE.

THE Delegates, at their meeting on Monday, the 8th inst., passed the following resolution *unanimously* :—

"That, in the opinion of this Conference, it is most desirable that every effort should be made to procure the second reading and committal of Mr. Hawes's bill, which contains the general principles of medical reform, already sanctioned by the Conference."

The following petition was also agreed to: it has been printed and sent with a circular to various parts of the United Kingdom :—

To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in parliament assembled.

The petition of the undersigned medical practitioners residing in ———

Humbly Sheweth,—That in the opinion of your petitioners the bill "for the better government of the medical profession in Great Britain and Ireland" is calculated to confer important benefits upon the community.

Your petitioners, therefore, humbly beg, that the *principles* of that measure may receive the sanction of your honourable house.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

The *leading principles* of Mr. Hawes's bill are,—1. The incorporation of the profession with a representative governing council in each division of the United Kingdom. 2. Uniformity in the qualification and privileges of all persons who shall hereafter be *licensed* to practice medicine. 3. A system of registration. It is clearly understood, that any one who petitions in favour of the second reading of this bill, gives his sanctions to the *principles* of that measure, and is not thereby pledged to support any one of its details. These will probably undergo many alterations if the bill should pass into committee. The object of petitioners at the present moment is to bring the

whole question of medical reform prominently before the legislature.

The second reading of Mr. Hawes's bill is fixed for *Wednesday, March 17th.*

Mr. C. T. Carter having been under the necessity of resigning the office of Secretary to the Conference, Dr. R. D. Thomson has been appointed his successor. The representatives of the Provincial and North of England Associations have retired from the Conference. The remaining delegates will continue to meet from time to time.

MR. HAWES'S BILL.

THE motion of Mr. Hawes, for the second reading of the Medical Profession Bill, came on on *Thursday night last.* We regret to say that the members of the House of Commons allowed the house to be counted out during the speech of the honourable member for Lambeth.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN LONDON.

LIST OF GENTLEMEN ADMITTED MEMBERS,

On *Friday, March 12, 1841.*

William Simpson, John Rees Withecombe, William John Gruggen, Augustus John Marsh, Henry Coward, Richard White O'Donovan, Samuel Secker, Alexander Anderson, Ebenezer Alfred Jenkin, William Lodewyk Crowther, James Hooper.

OBITUARY.

DIED, in Northumberland-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 7th of March, after a few days' illness, William Dunning, Esq. surgeon and lecturer on anatomy and physiology in the school of medicine of that town. Mr. Dunning was a native of Hull, and had settled in Newcastle *only five* years ago; he had in that short time won, by his amiable disposition, gentleman-like deportment, prudence and industry, the respect of his fellow-townsmen generally, and the friendship of many of the most wealthy and influential inhabitants. At the period of his premature and much lamented death, he was justly deemed one of the most rising of the young medical men in Newcastle, and his professional brethren entertained the highest opinion of his worth and talents as a practitioner and lecturer.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

A Practical Treatise on the Venereal Disease, with Plates. By F. C. SKEY, &c. Churchill, London. 1840. Pp. 195.

An Introductory Lecture on Surgery. By JAMES MILLER. Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh. 1840.

A Series of Anatomical Sketches and Diagrams. By MESSRS. WORMALD and M'WHINNIE. Part IV. Highley, London. 1841.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A *Constant Subscriber* (Manchester).—We would recommend the work of Dr. Ramsbotham, published by Churchill, and Richerand's Physiology, or the translation of Wagner's Physiology, by Dr. Willis.

Printed by RICHARD CLAY, of No. 5, Newmarket Terrace, Cambridge Heath, in the County of Middlesex, at his Printing-office, Nos. 7 and 8, Bread-street Hill, in the Parish of St. Nicholas Olave, in the City of London; and published by WILLIAM BALL, of No. 84, Paternoster Row, in the City of London, at No. 34, Paternoster Row.—Saturday, March 20, 1841.