

Docum. tenens as well as pension in total disablement or old age. Be pleased to add my name to the list of subscribers.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,
BENJ. D. TAPLIN.

Binbrooke, Market Rasen, April 11th, 1883.

NINTH LIST.

FURTHER letters of adhesion have been received from the following gentlemen:—

Mr. J. W. Wolfenden, Tutbury, Burton on Trent; Mr. C. E. Winckworth, Shefford, Bedfordshire; Mr. C. P. Hooker, Coltishall, Norwich; Mr. James Altham, New Galloway; Mr. Hugh Taylor, Coltishall, Norwich; Mr. G. Jackson, Plymouth; and Mr. J. M. Ryan, Colchester.

We, the undersigned members of the West Herts Medical Society, are willing to join the Medical Provident Society, when it is formed, and the rules are such as we can approve of:—P. Hood, M.D., president of the West Herts Medical Association; Alfred T. Brett, M.D., Watford, honorary secretary; Fred. C. Fisher, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., King's Langley; H. Case, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., Leavesdene, Watford; Oliver Lemon, M.R.C.S., L.M., King's Langley; George A. Hicks, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.S., Bushey; J. H. Berry, M.B., M.R.C.S., Watford; F. H. Watson Iles, M.D., Watford; Arthur Lofthouse, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., Hemstead; W. H. Hobson, M.R.C.S.E. etc., Berkhamstead; and R. L. Batterbury, M.D., Berkhamstead.

* The list is rapidly gaining in numbers; but several hundred adhesions should, we think, be enrolled as a preliminary to practical action, and we shall be glad to continue to receive names.

THE MEDICAL BILL AND FOREIGN GRADUATES.

SIR,—Will you allow me space to inform those foreign graduates, who have taken the trouble to write to me, urging some prompt action, on the part of our Association, respecting the penal clauses of the new Medical Act, that Lord Carlingford has been officially communicated with, and has promised to give the matter his consideration. It would be quite impossible for me to reply to every letter that has been received. I may add, that there appears a likelihood of the matter being settled to the satisfaction of all concerned, and no pains will be spared by the Committee of our Association to promote this desirable end.—I am, sir, yours obediently,
H. J. HARDWICKE, M.D.,
President of the Foreign Graduates' Association.

Sheffield, April 7th, 1883.

THE COAT-SLEEVE AMPUTATION.

SIR,—The practical observations of Mr. L. Colbourne, of Buenos Ayres, on this method of amputating, are quite true; and my reason for not specially mentioning the slit at the posterior aspect of the sleeve (which I have had to do myself in an amputation of the thigh) is, that in the majority of cases the slit is not necessary; and my object was to direct attention to the cylindrical sleeve. In the sartorial art, some sleeves are slit, and others are not. In the present day the majority of coat-sleeves are unslit; and this, I trust, will be the cut of modern coat-sleeve amputations.—Your obedient servant,
RICHARD DAVY.

33, Welbeck Street, London, W.

THE FEEDING OF INFANTS.

SIR,—I think Dr. Quintin McLennan expresses himself rather strongly against the use of condensed milk, considering he has seen it used in "only two cases" (according to his own statement). I have used it in a great number of cases, with most beneficial results. I have in my practice, at present, three infants who are thriving rapidly on this food. Where children are to be fed artificially, I consider that condensed milk ranks second to cow's milk. The latter does not agree with all children, and it is in these cases that the former ought to be tried. The fault often lies with the nurse, not diluting the milk sufficiently. The new unsweetened condensed milk is a great addition to our artificial foods for infants.—Yours truly,
H. J. BEATTY, L.R.C.P.

FUNGOID POISONING.

SIR,—I am again compelled, by a letter in your JOURNAL of February 24th, from Mr. Henry Thompson, police-surgeon, etc., Hull, to reopen my case of fungoid poisoning. The facts of that case have not been disturbed or controverted, but only attempted to be rendered abortive by erroneous surmises and imperfect analyses.

The child, in contradistinction to what Mr. Thompson says, was by no means a small one for its age; it was fat and well, very well nourished, and must have been able to walk or run as well as any child of similar age. It was naked when found; but not "wrapped up" in newspaper. Two papers covered it as it lay, clean and fair, on a bed of broken down nettles; one paper was of September 9th, the other of September 15th, clean readable papers.

There was a slight mark around the neck; so slight, that the policeman present thought I was mistaken in noticing it. This mark, when I finished my necropsy on the 27th (the body was found on September 26th), was fully four inches broad, and covered by myriads of maggots, which must, I suggest, have rendered any theory of the state of the neck in its normal state, when seen three days later, extremely problematical.

The lungs and thoracic viscera I found perfectly healthy; no emphysema; and, from a very free external handling, no congestion or undue crepitus.

I might have, in ordinary cases, extended my examination; but I had seen the external state of the stomach *in situ*, which revealed to me at once its interior condition, and which would give a sufficient cause of death. The healthy aspect of the lungs at the time I saw them convinced me that the appearances seen by Mr. Thompson were wholly *post mortem* ones.

I will now treat on the condition of the stomach, as the principal purport of this letter, to uphold my case of fungoid poisoning. Externally, it appeared *in situ*, discoloured by purple and red patches, interspersed with its lighter natural hues, and evidently contained no inconsiderable quantity of food. Internally, the mucous coat was intensely inflamed, showing purple and scarlet patches of more or less intensity of colour. It was easily removed by the handle of the scalpel. The muscular coat was not so deeply injected, but, nevertheless, was much inflamed. The contents of the stomach would fill a half-pint vessel with dark pulaceous matter of the consistency of poultice, and interspersed with larger and smaller portions (a dozen or more) of the uncooked outer whitish skin of an old fungus. The dark matter appeared to be the gills of an old mushroom; the whiter skin scattered amongst it gave it a most unique appearance. The inflammation of the stomach was also peculiar; and I claim its peculiarity to uphold my views, as given in my paper in No. 1,143 of the JOURNAL, that it was caused by its fungoid contents; that it was paralysed, and unable to eject or pass downwards its poisonous enemy.

And now for a short summary of the critique of Dr. Stevenson and Mr. Henry Thompson. They neither of them produce any evidence of a lesion to account for the death of the child.

Dr. Stevenson, in his legal evidence, says: "The first bottle, No. 2, contained a mass of brown stuff, about the size of an unshelled walnut, with innumerable maggots, on the whole forming an unrecognisable mass. After being washed, it had the appearance of a normal or healthy stomach a little decomposed. The mucous coat was eaten away with maggots." And from this he ventures on asserting that it was a "normal and healthy stomach," and, ignoring all I and many others saw, assumes that it could not have been so inflamed, or contained the contents described; forming this conclusion after the destruction of the mucous coat by the maggots.

Mr. Thompson follows in his wake, and quotes from the mother of the child. At the second necropsy, on September 30th, the stomach of the child was taken out of its coffin from amongst a mass of maggots by the superintendent of police, who, holding it by the string I had on the 27th applied to it, handed it to Mr. Thompson, who looked at it, and without examination dropped it into a wide-necked bottle, to be forwarded to Dr. Stevenson. Is it to be admitted for a moment that this inspection is sufficient to enable Mr. Thompson to say as he does: "Anyhow, the condition of the child's stomach was not sufficient to cause its sudden death?" I say it is a most unwarrantable conclusion.—I am, sir, yours,

T. JACKSON, M.R.C.S.

P.S.—It is a mystery not explained, how the child obtained these poisonous contents of its stomach. I will again remark that they were seen by the coroner and his jury, the superintendent of police, and his men, and others. I am told, but I know not if it is correct, that the mother resides over a fish-shop.

* * * This correspondence must close.

VACCINATION.—Mr. Roberts, public vaccinator, of Coningsby, Lincolnshire, has again received the Local Government grant for successful vaccination.