

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY..... Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.

TUESDAY..... Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—West London, 3 P.M.—National Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.

WEDNESDAY.. St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Mary's, 1.30 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, 2.30 P.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 3 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Peter's, 2 P.M.

THURSDAY.... St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 P.M.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.

FRIDAY..... Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Royal South London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department), 2 P.M.

SATURDAY.... St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Free, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

WEDNESDAY.—Epidemiological Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Dr. William Johnston (Leicester), "On the Etiology of Summer Diarrhoea".—Obstetrical Society of London, 8 P.M. Annual General Meeting.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CORRESPONDENTS not answered, are requested to look to the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, are requested to communicate beforehand with the printer, Mr. Thomas Richards, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.—We shall be much obliged to Medical Officers of Health if they will, on forwarding their Annual and other Reports, favour us with *Duplicate Copies*.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting editorial matters, should be addressed to the Editor, 161, Strand, London; those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the *JOURNAL*, etc., should be addressed to the General Manager, at the Office, 161, Strand, London.

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

CORRESPONDENTS, who wish notice to be taken of their communications, should authenticate them with their names—of course not necessarily for publication.

NUMEROUS articles, letters, and communications are of necessity postponed in consequence of the unusual pressure upon space.

DIPHTHERIA: A RECLAMATION.

SIR.—At the present time, when the subject of diphtheria is justly claiming a great amount of public and professional attention, I think that it is only a matter of fairness for me to be allowed to point out that many of the views as to the nature, relations and origin of this disease, now put forward as novelties, have been adopted and published by myself for many years.

In your leading article of last week, for instance, you state truly that in 1875 Sir William Jenner boldly expressed a view that, although diphtheria was undoubtedly contagious, yet it might arise spontaneously and independently of contagion. Now, I had not only entertained this view long before, but I had proved its truth by cases of my own and *post mortem* examinations made by myself, which were published in the ordinary channels of medical information. Again, it is well known that, in the year just mentioned, Sir William Jenner expressed his conversion to the opinion that the so-called "membranous croup" and "laryngo-tracheal diphtheria" were essentially the same disease, although it is equally well known that, in his little book on *Diphtheria* published some years before, he had expressed an entirely opposite opinion. Now, I had published in 1871, in 1872, and in 1873, and indeed in 1865, not only my views as to the real nature of diphtheria, which are exactly the same as those now entertained by Sir William Jenner, but also the pathological and historical evidence on which my views were based.

In making these remarks, I do not intend to offer the slightest disrespect to Sir William Jenner, who probably never saw any of my numerous writings on the subject, and for whom, moreover, on grounds of former intimate friendship and present professional courtesies, I entertain the deepest regard; and I am sure that he is one of the last men who would desire to deny me the credit (if it be such) of having struggled for many years in endeavouring to establish, in spite of vehement opposition, the truth of views which are now beginning to be generally recognised.

In proof of what I state, I refer any one to my published papers; and I forward you one or two papers and abstracts, which, as they abound in references and dates, may also be found of service to those of your staff who are writing on the subject of diphtheria.—I remain, sir, your obedient servant,

R. H. SEMPLE, M.D., F.R.C.P.

8, Torrington Square, December 1878.

CORRESPONDENTS are particularly requested by the Editor to observe that communications relating to Advertisements, changes of address, and other business matters, should be addressed to Mr. Francis Fowke, General Secretary and Manager, at the Journal Office, 161, Strand, London, and not to the Editor.

PURE SPASMODIC ASTHMA.

SIR.—In answer to "A Puzzled Practitioner's" inquiry, I would suggest a trial of the following remedy, which has afforded great relief to like suffering patients that have been under the care of yours truly,

A PHYSICIAN.

℞ Tinct. stramonii, tinct. conii, sp. ætheris, aa ʒss ad ʒiii; potassæ bicarbon. ʒv; infusi lupuli ad ʒvi. M. Ft. mistura, cujus capiat cochlearia magna horis duabus post cibum bis terve die.

SIR.—In answer to "Puzzled Practitioner" in your last number, I have found the following very useful in spasmodic asthma. R Tinct. lobelie inflatæ ʒss.; spir. ammoniac comp. ʒiii; potassæ bicarbon. ʒi; ætheris chlorici ʒi; aquæ camphoræ q. s. ad ʒvi. Two tablespoonfuls to be taken every four hours.—Yours faithfully, 61, Clarence Road, Lower Clapton, Dec 14th, 1878. ALFRED CHARLTON.

SIR.—I would recommend "A Puzzled Practitioner" to try "Himrod's Asthma Cure". It may be procured from Newbery and Sons, 37, Newgate Street. I have found it more generally useful than the inhalation of chloroform, ether, or nitrite of amyl. It is an American remedy, and I think must be prepared from some solanaceous plant. For use, a small quantity is burnt on a plate, and the smoke inhaled.—Yours truly, GEORGE BIRT, M.B. LOND.

SIR.—Change of residence is one of the most potent aids in treating asthma. Some persons (myself for one) suffer only in dry smoky fogs, such as are alone seen in London, Manchester, etc. I left London seven years ago from this cause, and now live in a town of 40,000 people near the Thames, where the fogs are damp, and in these I do not suffer. I have seen exactly the reverse, however: the country affects some, London agreeing. But I have seen two cases where the house was obviously the exciting cause. In both cases the houses had dry rot at some period, and smelt fusty, with a sour sort of smell before rain. The drugs I have found of use are sulphate of zinc, bromide of potassium, sedatives—such as henbane or conium—rarely opiates. On the other hand, stimulants occasionally relieve. The best cigarettes for smoking (so far as my experience goes) are some made by Butler, McCulloch, and Co., of Covent Garden, London (rs. 6d. per box): they contain stramonium. "Cigars de Joy" relieve some, but are best smoked cut up and put into the bowl of a clean pipe. I have seen both forms relieve a severe attack, which usually lasted some hours, in a few minutes, enabling the patient (a lad aged 13) to lie down after smoking. In diet, cheese, beer, and late suppers should be avoided. If a patient smoke stramonium cigarettes, it is well to smoke directly the attack threatens ever so slightly, to try and break the "habit" of recurrent attacks.—I am, sir, etc., M.D. and B.A.

HE METRIC SYSTEM FOR PRESCRIBERS.

METRIC documents have been forwarded to Mr. T. Outterson Wood, General Lunatic Asylum, Isle of Man; Mr. G. D. Brown, Ealing; Mr. John M. Moir, Kerriemuir; and others.

AN OLD MEMBER (Huddersfield).—1. A course of instruction at Dr. Corfield's Laboratory of Hygiene; 2. Parkes's Treatise on Hygiene; 3. Wilson's or Hart's Manuals of Health.

CORONERS AND MEDICAL WITNESSES.

SIR.—Will you kindly give your opinion on the following case?—

A child is found dead, brought to the West Bromwich Hospital by the police, and examined by the House-Surgeon. Mr. John Manley, who happens to be the Police Surgeon here, but is not on the staff of the Hospital, calls at the Hospital some time after the child was brought, and casually sees the body. An inquest is held, and the Coroner issues his summons for a *post mortem* examination, not to the House-Surgeon who first saw the case, and in whose charge it was left by the police, but to Mr. Manley, the House-Surgeon being altogether ignored.

I may add that the Coroner here seldom calls upon any medical man except Mr. Manley to give evidence before him, even in cases where another medical man had been previously called in.—I am, sir, yours truly, West Bromwich, November 27th, 1878. H. SUTCLIFFE, Surgeon.

* * * The precept should have been issued to the House-Surgeon.

M. B.—1. Barnes's *Diseases of Women*; 2. Eustace Smith or West's *Diseases of Children*.

URINARY TEST-CASE.

SIR.—Your correspondent will find that the most useful test-case which exists is the one designed by Dr. Reginald Alexander of Bradford, and highly commended by Dr. George Johnson, at whose suggestion a nitric acid bottle in an ebonite protecting box has been added; the nitric acid capillary tubes having been found unsatisfactory and misleading in testing for albumen. This test case carries everything necessary for all practical purposes at the bedside; it is thoroughly portable, durable, and strong, and is sold at 35s. by Hawksley, of Oxford Street, and Messrs. Arnold and Sons, West Smithfield, London.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, J. C. SAUNDERS, M.A.,

Fellow and Lecturer on Natural Science, Downing College, Cambridge.

November 26th, 1878.

THE Editor has forwarded copies of the printed Suggestions for establishing and managing coffee-taverns, as requested, to Dr. Harris of Redruth, Dr. Pearce of Botesdale, Professor Longmore of Netley, and Dr. Trier of Lurgan.

MEASUREMENT OF THE FŒTUS.

ACCORDING to Dr. Delabost of Rouen, the length of the fœtus for the first six months of intrauterine life is indicated in centimetres by the square of the number of the corresponding month. Thus, at 1 month, a fœtus measures 1 centimetre; at 2 months, 4 centimetres; at 3 months, 9; at 4 months, 16; at 5 months, 25; at 6 months, 36. During the last three months, the monthly rate of growth is 4 or 5 centimetres.

A. F. S.—The address of Dr. Marion Sims in Paris is 3, Rue Montalivet.

J. C. W. (Dartford) will find the information required in the collected letters of a Member of the Charity Organisation Society on the Abuse of Hospitals, etc., which are republished from the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, at the office, 161, Strand, with appended Model Rules for Provident Dispensaries.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.—Advertisements for insertion in the **BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL**, should be forwarded direct to the Publishing Office, 161, Strand, London, addressed to Mr. FOWKE, not later than *Thursday*, Twelve o'clock.

PHOSPHORUS SOLUTIONS.

SIR,—In reply to "Member," I beg to say that the preparation of phosphorus that I have used for years is made for me by a local chemist from a formula furnished to me by Mr. M. Gradley. Any quantity of phosphorus is put into some ether and allowed to macerate for a month; by that time, a saturated solution of phosphorus is obtained, containing 0.6 per cent., the dose of which is one minim, representing one-hundredth of a grain—quite enough for a dose. I consider I have improved upon this by adding two parts of rectified spirits of wine, thus making it analogous to the spiritus ætheris (P.B.). Of course, the dose thus becomes three minims instead of one; the latter has the property of mixing well, which the undiluted preparation lacked.

I wrote to the Dispenser at Manchester to ask how he managed, when he replied that he rubbed it down with compound tragacanth powder; but I think the addition of spirit is obviously better. The drug is an invaluable tonic.—I remain, yours truly, J. A. HEDGES, M.R.C.S., etc.

Leighton Buzzard, December 2nd, 1878.

S. E. W.—If our correspondent will read Dr. Carpenter's well-known writings on the subject, he will see that he is well aware of the facts mentioned, which are rather confirmatory than otherwise of the views expressed.

REV. M. A. L. SIMMONS.—The preliminary examination papers of the College of Surgeons are published by Messrs. Hodgson and Son, printers, Gough Square, Fleet Street, price sixpence.

SIR.—The enclosed I cut from the *Yorkshire Post* of to-day, and also noticed the same paragraph in the *Leeds Mercury*.

"John Reuben Lazenby, physician and surgeon, Long Preston, received his diploma as a Fellow of the University of Glasgow on the 7th of the present month.—*Advt.*"

Perhaps you or some of your readers will kindly explain what fellowships exist in the University of Glasgow. Perhaps this may be an advertisement of Mr. Lazenby obtaining the fellowship of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. If the latter, have they not a by-law in the regulations of admission to the fellowship providing against such proceedings?—Yours, etc., L. F. P. S. GLAS.

December 17th, 1878.

* We do not know what "a Fellow of the University of Glasgow" is. Certainly no such diploma is recognised as registrable.

A. R. BARNES (Cobb Bromwich).—The standard works on Entozoa are those of Dr. Spencer Cobbold, F.R.S., published by Churchill and Co.

M. A. CANTAB.—Professor Humphry, F.R.S., of Cambridge, will deliver the Hunterian Oration in February next, in the theatre of the Royal College of Surgeons.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Western Morning News; The Cornwall Gazette; The Freeman's Journal; The Somerset and Wilts Journal; The Somersetshire Advertiser; The Eastern Morning News; The Irish Times; The Chicago Times; The Manchester Guardian; The Berkshire Chronicle; The Glasgow Herald; The Oswestry Advertiser; The Edinburgh Daily Courier; The Middlesex County Times; The Liverpool Evening Albion; The Daily Courier; The Yorkshire Post; The Coventry Herald; The Wisbech Advertiser; The West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser; The League Journal; The Liverpool Daily Post; The Newport and Drayton Advertiser; The Exeter and Plymouth Gazette; The Glasgow Evening News; The Liverpool Mercury; The Weymouth Telegram; The Kelso Chronicle; The Fifehire Herald; The Merthyr Express; The Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald; The Surrey Advertiser; The Stroud News; The Scotsman; The Manchester Courier; The West Middlesex Advertiser; The Western Mail; The Essex Advertiser; The Melbourne Argus; The Midland Free Press; The Cork Constitution; The East London Observer; The Leeds Mercury; The United Service Gazette; The Citizen; The Gloucestershire Standard; The Southport Visitor; The Wrexham Advertiser; The Edinburgh Courant; The Lincolnshire Express; The Hull Advertiser; Saunders's Irish Daily News; The Daily Express; etc.

* * We shall be greatly obliged if correspondents forwarding newspapers will kindly mark the passages to which it is desired to direct attention.

COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, etc., have been received from:—

Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, London; Dr. Alfred Carpenter, Croydon; Dr. George Johnson, London; Dr. H. Macnaughton Jones, Cork; Dr. T. Clifford Allbutt, Leeds; Dr. Whigham, London; Dr. Brabazon, Bath; Dr. Bristowe, London; Dr. John Moore, Belfast; Dr. Henry Thompson, London; An Inquirer; Mr. John Liddell, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Dr. C. P. Coombs, Castle Carey; L. B.; Dr. Dyte, London; Dr. Kinkead, Galway; Mr. Ernest H. Jacob, Leeds; Mr. R. Bayley, Kingston-on-Thames; Mr. A. Doran, London; Mr. F. Hollinshead, Birmingham; Mr. R. Barwell, London; Dr. Hudson, Redruth; Sir H. Cooper, Hull; Dr. A. Marshall, Preston; Dr. Kelburne King, Hull; Dr. Arthur Leared, London; Dr. Ward Cousins, Southsea; Dr. Saundby, Birmingham; Mr. W. F. Teevan, London; Mr. T. Simpson, Lincoln; Dr. Savage, London; Dr. L. S. F. Winslow, London; Dr. R. Norris, Birmingham; Dr. F. Ogston, Aberdeen; Dr. R. Neale, London; Dr. J. Call Weddell, Dartford; Mr. H. T. Crookshank, London; Mr. Cox, Winchcombe; Dr. Max Marckwald, Berlin; Mr. George May, Reading; Mr. J. R. Fowler, Cambridge; Mr. E. J. W. Hicks, London; Mr. W. Sedgwick, London; Dr. H. Finch, Colchester; Mr. T. Laffad, Cæshel; Mr. Bassett, London; Dr. V. D. Harris, London; Mr. G. D. Brown, Ealing; Dr. C. Parsons, Dover; Messrs. Young and Postans, London; Mr. H. E. Rens, Alresford; Mr. E. L. Freer, Birmingham; Mr. John M. Moir, Kerriemuir; R. Z.; Dr. T. Outterson Wood, Isle of Man; Mr. J. W. Hulke, London; Mr. W. Milligan, Wirksworth; An Old Member; Dr. Semple, London; Mr. J. C. Miller, London; Mr. Engledeu Prideaux, York; Mr. J. Woods, York; A Proprietor of a Private Asylum; Our Glasgow Correspondent; etc.

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS FOR 1879.

IN addition to the list of promised contributions published in the *JOURNAL* of December 14th, we have received the following.

- ALLBUTT, T. Clifford, M.A., M.D., Physician to the Infirmary, Leeds. Hospital Cases and Clinical Comments.
- BANHAM, H. French, M.A., M.B., Physician to the Sheffield General Infirmary.
- BARWELL, Richard, F.R.C.S., Surgeon to Charing Cross Hospital. 1. Intestinal Obstruction. 2. The Treatment of Impassable Stricture.
- BEVERLEY, Michael, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.
- BRABAZON, A. B., M.B., Physician to the Mineral Water Hospital, Bath. Chorea: in connection with the Effects of Treatment with the Bath Mineral Waters.
- BRAMWELL, Byrom, M.D., Physician and Pathologist to the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Infirmary; Joint Lecturer on Clinical Medicine and Pathology, University of Durham College of Medicine. 1. Lectures on Clinical Medicine. 2. Communications on Clinical Medicine.
- BROOKHOUSE, J. O., M.D., Physician to the General Hospital, Nottingham. Original Observations and Cases in Hospital Practice.
- BYRNE, John A., A.B., M.B., Professor of Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children in the Catholic University, Dublin.
- CAMERON, Hector C., M.D., Surgeon to the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, and Lecturer on Surgery in the Glasgow Royal Infirmary School of Medicine. Notes on Surgical Cases.
- CHURCHILL, Frederick, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon to the Victoria Hospital for Children. 1. Compound Wine of Hypophosphite of Iron, a desirable substitute for Steel Wine and Parrish's Chemical Food. 2. Operations at the Victoria Hospital for Children. 3. On the Skillful Compounding of Therapeutic Formulae, with a view to cover the Taste and Appearance of Nauseous Drugs in the Treatment of Children's Diseases.
- COLE, Thomas, M.D., Physician to the Royal United Hospital, Bath. Abdominal Diseases.
- COPMAN, Edward, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.
- CRYAN, Richard, F.K.Q.C.P., Physician to St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin.
- ERICHSEN, John E., F.R.C.S., F.R.S., Surgeon Extraordinary to the Queen, and Consulting Surgeon to University College Hospital.
- FAGGE, C. Hilton, M.D., F.R.C.S., Senior Assistant-Physician to Guy's Hospital.
- GOODHART, James F., M.D., Assistant-Physician to Guy's Hospital and the Evelina Hospital for Children. On some Cases of Enlargement of the Mediastinal Glands.
- JACKSON, Arthur, M.R.C.S., Surgeon to the Sheffield General Infirmary and Lecturer on Surgery at the Sheffield School of Medicine. The Antiseptic Treatment: its Uses and Abuses.
- HUTCHINSON, Jonathan, F.R.C.S., Senior Surgeon to the London Hospital. Clinical Lectures.
- JESSOP, Thomas R., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the General Infirmary and Lecturer on Surgery in the School of Medicine, Leeds.
- LEARED, Arthur, M.D., F.R.C.P., Senior Physician to the Great Northern Hospital.
- MARSH, Howard, F.R.C.S., Assistant-Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital and to the Hospital for Sick Children. The Surgery of Childhood.
- MAUNDER, C. F., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital.
- MORGAN, J. E., M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician to the Manchester Royal Infirmary, Professor of Medicine in Owens College. Clinical Lecture on a Case of Nephrotoxy.
- MORTON, James, M.D., Surgeon and Lecturer on Surgery at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary. Surgical Cases, with Remarks.
- OGSTON, Francis, jun., M.D., Assistant-Professor of Medical Jurisprudence in University of Aberdeen. A Rare Case of Pelvic Hæmatocele.
- PHILIPSON, G. H., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P., Professor of Medicine in the University of Durham, and Senior Physician to the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Infirmary. 1. Oesophageal Stricture. 2. On Spinal Sclerosis.
- POLLOCK, James E., M.D., F.R.C.P., Senior Physician to the Hospital for Consumption at Brompton. Clinical Notes on Chest-Diseases.
- PUREFOY, Richard D., M.B., Obstetric Physician to the Adelaide Hospital, Dublin. Contributions in Midwifery and Gynecology.
- QUINLAN, Francis J. B., M.D., Physician to St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin. 1. Abstracts of Clinical Lectures. 2. Notes of Hospital Cases.
- ROUTH, C. H. F., M.D., Physician to the Samaritan Hospital. Hæmatocele: its Causes and Treatment.
- SMITH, Walter G., M.D., F.K.Q.C.P., Assistant-Physician to the Adelaide Hospital, Dublin. Cases and Clinical Memoranda.
- SOUTHEY, Reginald, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
- SQUIRE, William, M.D., Physician to the North London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest. 1. The Surface-Thermometry of the Body. 2. Acute Pneumonia in Children.
- SWINSON, Thomas, F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the Lincoln County Hospital. Surgical Cases of Interest.
- WARNER, Francis, M.D., Assistant-Physician to the East London Children's Hospital. Headaches in Childhood.
- WHIPHAM, Thomas T., M.B., F.R.C.P., Physician to St. George's Hospital.
- WILKS, Samuel, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S., Physician to Guy's Hospital.
- WILLIAMS, A. Wynn, M.D., Physician to the Samaritan Hospital. Tumours of the Uterus; and other subjects of Gynecological interest.
- WINSLOW, L. S. Forbes, M.D., D.C.L., Lecturer on Mental Diseases at Charing Cross Hospital. The Legal Relations of Insanity.

By an error in the list published in the *JOURNAL* of December 14th, Dr. Burney Yeo was described as Assistant-Physician to King's College Hospital instead of Physician.