

both with the poor and the rich, so that patients and funds increased rapidly. In 1843, very large premises, originally the barracks of the Light Horse Volunteers of the City of London, situate in Gray's Inn Road, were leased and occupied. Recently, owing to the very strenuous exertions of Mr. George Moore, and other eminent persons in the city, the freehold of this property has been acquired, so that in the short space of forty years the principles upon which Dr. Marsden founded the Royal Free Hospital have proved so acceptable to the public that, besides the very large relief afforded to out-patients, there is now space (did the funds permit of such extension) for the accommodation of between four and five hundred in-door patients. These facts are a grand testimonial to the energetic and worthy gentleman whose death we record.

The subject of this memoir was, like all men of mark, self-contained, and did not ever give up an object he had fixed his heart upon because he was opposed by great and authoritative personages; neither was he ever greatly elated by the accession to his views of important people; but it was some source of pride to him to have as his supporters, and for a time in official connection with the hospital, such names as Faraday, and Owen, and Grote, and Wakley, Philpotts the venerable bishop of Exeter, and the patriarch of freedom Henry Brougham.

The establishment of the Royal Free Hospital being secured, in 1851, in that quiet, thoughtful, unobtrusive way which was so characteristic of the man, after much consideration, Dr. Marsden called together a few intimate friends, a small house was rented in Cannon Row, Westminster, and the Cancer Hospital was instituted. The public sanctioned and patronised it, although the profession generally opposed it, because it was supposed it would draw away from the general hospitals cases which are necessary for clinical instruction to the students educated thereat. But perhaps, because this is a disease of long continuance, and except in cases admitting of operation, necessarily excludes those of more urgent necessity affording greater practical clinical instruction, it is even in an educational point of view the least objectionable of the special hospitals; whilst as affording an asylum for a very wretched class of cases, and a school for the study of this disease on a large scale, we are not surprised at the success it has attained in the estimation of the public.

The erection of these two hospitals is sufficient testimonial for any man; but about the year 1840, the late Duke of Cambridge, in the name of eight hundred subscribers, presented to Dr. Marsden a splendid service of silver plate, etc. There are two full-length portraits, one by Mr. Illidge, and the other by the senior Pickersgill, suspended in the board-rooms of the two hospitals.

In medical thought, Dr. Marsden was a follower of Abernethy. His acuteness of observation frequently enabled him to arrive at an accuracy of diagnosis which others had failed in; and, not unfrequently, a treatment bold almost to rashness made him remarkably successful. Generally speaking, however, he was judiciously expectant, and did not much interfere with the reparative powers of nature. Dr. Marsden was twice married, and he leaves a son by his first wife, who is attached as surgeon to both the hospitals. It is probable that some lasting monument will be erected to his memory in the quadrangle of the Royal Free Hospital.

DR. BALFOUR, F.R.S., head of the Statistical Section of the Army Medical Department, has been elected an honorary member of the Academy of Belgium.

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 January 22nd.

Arundell, Shirley W., Gower Street (Birmingham)
Banks, Henry Percy, Holt, Norfolk (Guy's)
Barriek, Eli James, M.D. Victoria Coll., Toronto, and L.R.C.P. Lond., Toronto
Batt, Charles Dorrington, Witney, Oxon (St. Bartholomew's)
Bostock, Alfred Stileman, Horsham (St. Bartholomew's)
Fairland, Edwin James, Gloucester Street (Guy's)
Giles, William Betts, Bouchurch, Isle of Wight (Guy's)
Goodworth, Roger P., Hatfield, near Doncaster (London)
Heathcote, Rowland, Manchester
Jordison, Christopher, South Ockendon, Essex (Guy's)
Marindale, George Ernest, Portsay, Aberdeen (Guy's)
Moses, Frederick Henry, Denbigh (St. Bartholomew's)
Parsons, William Augustus, Reading (Birmingham)
Pearse, Edward Sainthill, Barnes, Surrey (Guy's)
Scobell, Thomas Edward, Plymouth (St. Bartholomew's)
Smith, Robert Shingleton, L.S.A., Charlton Horethorne, Somerset (King's College)
Stephens, William Knighton, Iffracombe (St. George's)
Timmins, John Aaron James, Carmarthen (St. Bartholomew's)
Tremearna, John, St. Ives, Cornwall (St. Bartholomew's)
Turner, William, Reading (Guy's)
Williams, Joseph Arthur, M.D. Victoria College, Toronto, and L.R.C.P. Lond., Toronto
Wyman, John Sanderson, Alcester, Warwickshire (Birmingham)

Admitted on January 23rd—

Bott, John, Bury, Lancashire
Buckle, W. T., L.R.C.P. Lond., New Ormond Street (King's Coll.)
Cascaden, John, M.D. University of Toronto, St. Thomas's, Canada West
Chambers, Matthew Wardell, Durham (Westminster)
Coates, Frederick Thomas, Euston Road (University College)
Cooper, George Joseph, Lee, Kent (University College)
Croft, John Henry, L.S.A., Bury St. Edmund's (Guy's)
Crooker, Titus Cummins, M.D. Victoria College, Toronto, Halton, Canada West
Dyer, Thomas Birch, L.R.C.P. Ed. & L.S.A., Forest Hill (Guy's)
Hewley, Wm. Cooke, Ripou, Yorkshire (St. George's)
Lee, Washington, Brisbane, Australia (Westminster)
Longbotham, George, L.S.A., Seaton Carew, near Stockton-on-Tees (Newcastle)
Madeley, George Sherwin, Manchester (St. Bartholomew's)
Morris, John William, Llanely, Carmarthen (Guy's)
Orme, C., Avenue Road, Regent's Park (St. Bartholomew's)
Owen, Alfred Lloyd, Dublin
Phillips, William Edward, Guernsey
Roworth, Alfred Thomas, Holborn Hill (St. Bartholomew's)
Searle, George Clements, Chadington, Oxon (St. George's)
Stanger, William, Nottingham (Guy's)
Thomas, George A., Aberdare, South Wales (St. Bartholomew's)
Tobin, George, Preston, Lancashire (St. Bartholomew's)

Naval Surgeons. The following Assistant-Surgeons in the Royal Navy passed their examination at the Royal College of Surgeons on January 22nd, for full Surgeon in that department of the public service.

M'Clement, Richard Carr, H.M.S. *Wellsey*, Chatham; diploma of membership of the College dated June 26, 1857
Ninnis, Belgrave, M.D. St. Andrew's, H.M.S. *Fisgard*, Woolwich; member April 13, 1861
Powell, William Labdon; member February 8, 1860
Ryall, William Frederick, H.M.S. *Princess Royal*, China; member May 2, 1861

BIRTHS.

ARMSTRONG. On January 13th, at Peckham House, Peckham, the wife of H. Armstrong, M.D., of a daughter.
HOOKER. On January 12th, at Kew, the wife of J. D. Hooker, M.D., F.R.S., of a daughter.
HUMPHRY. On January 9th, at Brighton, the wife of Frederick A. Humphry, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.
M'CLINTOCK. On January 13th, at Dublin, the wife of A. H. M'Clintock, M.D., of a daughter.
NICHOLAS. On January 15th, at King Street, Finsbury Square, the wife of E. Nicholas, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.
OXLEY. On January 16th, at Liverpool, the wife of M. G. B. Oxley, M.D., of a son.
PEACOCKE. On December 22, 1866, at Trinidad, the wife of George Peacocke, M.D., Staff-Surgeon, of a daughter.
READ. On January 17th, at Petersham Terrace, South Kensington, the wife of Thomas L. Read, Esq., Surgeon, of a son.
SMITH. On January 21st, at Surry Villa, Kennington Road, the wife of William Smith, Esq., Surgeon, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

ANDREWS, Alfred B., Esq., Surgeon, of Canterbury, to Caroline E. N., eldest daughter of W. C. CRAWFORD, Esq., of Bombay, at Kensington, on January 16.

CHESTER, Arthur, Esq., Royal Horse Artillery, Lucknow, to Charlotte Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the Rev. F. G. LEACH, of Stackpole, Pembrokeshire, on December 20, 1866.

TANSON, E. T. Ryan, M.D., of Keith Terrace, Shepherd's Bush, to Frances Sarah, only daughter of the late M. TESTELIN, at Calcutta, on January 15.

WATSON, J. Forbes, M.D., India Office, to Finnella, only daughter of the late Benjamin TURNER, Esq., of Calcutta, at Cheltenham, on January 15.

DEATHS.

ACKLAND, William, Esq., Surgeon, at Bideford, North Devon, aged 76, on January 17.

ALLEN, James, Esq., Surgeon, formerly of York, at Dorking, aged 67, on January 18.

BRINTON, William, M.D., F.R.S., at Brook Street, aged 43, on January 17th.

CHAPMAN. On January 12th, at Old Friars, Richmond Green, Jane, wife of Frederick Chapman, Esq., Surgeon.

LOCKHART, William, M.D., R.N., of H.M.S. *Helicon*, at Queenstown, on January 17th.

PIPER, Samuel A., M.D., at Richmond, Surrey, aged 81, on Jan. 19.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THE CITY. Dr. Letheby presented his report on the sanitary condition of the city to the weekly meeting City Commissioners of Sewers on Tuesday. During the last four weeks there were 151 births and 203 deaths registered in the city. The mortality returns were below the average (247) for the corresponding period of the last ten years.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD. The examiners for the Radcliffe Travelling Fellowship (Henry W. Acland, M.D., and Sir Benjamin C. Brodie) have given notice that the next examination will commence on February 5th, at 10 a.m., in the museum. Candidates are requested to forward notice of their intention to present themselves to Dr. Acland before the end of the present month.

PAYMENT OF SKILLED WITNESSES. At the opening of the inquest on the bodies of the persons lately drowned in the Regent's Park, Dr. Lankester observed that the evidence of scientific persons who had studied mechanics, hydrostatics, and hydraulics, was necessary, in order to discover the exact reason of the ice giving way. He stated that he had no power to pay such witnesses, and that in cases where he called them, he had to pay them out of his own pocket. The only exception to this rule, is in the case of medical men, for whom, payment is provided.

POOR RELIEF IN ST. PANCRAS. At the meeting of the board of guardians of St. Pancras, on Tuesday, a deputation waited upon the board to represent the hardships entailed upon the poor, by the practice of only giving relief upon one day (Friday) in the week. It was also suggested that relief should be given in several places in the parish, so as to spare the aged people the necessity of going great distances to obtain it. The vestry clerk was ordered to make the necessary arrangements to obviate the evils reported.

ALLEGED CRUELTY TO A LUNATIC. Two warders of the Devon County Lunatic Asylum, respectively named John Stoneman and George Lee, were on Friday brought up in custody, before a full bench of magistrates at the Castle of Exeter, charged with severely beating and otherwise illtreating an inmate of the asylum, named Frederick Lockyer. Dr. Sanders stated, that Lockyer was now lying in a very dangerous condition in the hospital of the asylum. Three of his ribs were broken, and he was hurt in the head and near one eye, all the injuries

arising from violence used towards him. His recovery is very doubtful. The depositions of the injured man and other witnesses led to the apprehension of the prisoners, who were now remanded for a week. The magistrates required bail to the amount of £250, which was not forthcoming, and the prisoners were consequently locked up.

WATER-PIPES IN HOSPITALS. Dr. Oppert, in a letter to the *Builder*, comments on the mistake of using lead-piping for the water supply of hospitals. He found during a recent tour in Yorkshire and Lancashire, that in several new and well constructed hospital buildings, the water was frozen, causing lamentable inconvenience. Dr. Oppert suggests that in all hospitals now in course of construction, the water-pipes should be properly placed and encased.

A NEW TEST FOR IODINE. M. Carey Lea, of Philadelphia, has successfully used chromates, in bringing about the starch reaction in the presence of iodine in extremely small quantities. For instance, in a solution of iodide of potassium, so dilute that the addition of nitric acid or starch produces no perceptible effect, the further addition of a single drop of a dilute solution of the bichromate of potash, instantly produces the well-known change of colour. (*Philadelphia Reporter*.)

HORRIBLE MUTILATION BY SAVAGES. Andrew Brockmann, one of the victims of the Indian massacre at New Ulm Mountain, in 1863, has arrived at Buffalo. He was horribly mutilated—his tongue cut out, hamstring severed, his fingers cut, his hands maimed, and his scalp torn reeking from his head, which had previously been perforated with three bullets; but, despite these wounds, the unfortunate man survived, and was carried to Salt Lake City, where he has remained in hospital for three years. (*New York Medical and Surgical Reporter*.)

NEWSPAPER PARAGRAPH. People who are interested in any particular case of medical or surgical disease among their friends, will know and hear all about it without the case being paraded in a paper. What then is the object of such items? To "puff" the doctor. There is a very simple remedy to stop such practices. Let respectable medical societies, by resolution, request the newspapers of their respective districts or cities to omit mentioning the name of any member in connection with any operation, case of disease, accident, etc. We venture to say that editors of newspapers will gladly comply with the request; and neither the public nor the profession will thereby be a loser. But it will force those addicted to the practice in the profession, either to stop it, or to put themselves outside the pale of professional respectability, where they really belong. (*New York Medical and Surgical Reporter*.)

MORTALITY FROM COLD. The effects of the cold are now visible in the returns, for, instead of 1,436 and 1,437 deaths, as in the two preceding weeks, there appear on the registers of last week 1,891 deaths. The change of temperature has killed about 455 people in London. Few were directly frozen to death; the majority having vital force enough to struggle against the freezing cold, but not enough to prevent them from succumbing under bronchitis and other affections. The mortality varied with the powers of resistance, which is greatest about the age of puberty, and least in old age, when the lamp of life is flickering. Thus the deaths above those in the last week of 1866 were 48 at the ages under 20; and 46 at the age 20-40, 113 at 40-60, 204 at 60-80, and 44 at the age of 80 and upwards, making in all 455. In such weather to give fire, food, and clothing, is to give life.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY..... Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's for Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, 9 A.M. and 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

TUESDAY.... Guy's, 1½ P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

WEDNESDAY... St. Mary's, 1 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.

THURSDAY.... St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—London Surgical Home, 2 P.M.—Royal Orthopedic, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.M.

FRIDAY..... Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

SATURDAY.... St. Thomas's, 9.30 A.M.—St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Lock, Clinical Demonstration and Operations, 1 P.M.—Royal Free, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY. Medical Society of London, 8 P.M. Dr. Julius Althaus, "On the Electrolytic Treatment of Tumours and other Surgical Diseases."

FRIDAY. Western Medical and Surgical Society of London, 8 P.M. Practical Evening for the Narration of Cases and Exhibition of Specimens.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MEMBERS are reminded that it is a matter of great convenience and economy to the Association, and conduces to the efficiency of its working and to their comfort and advantage, that their subscriptions, which are now due, should be paid promptly to the Secretary, Mr. T. WATKIN WILLIAMS, New-hall Street, Birmingham.

All Letters and Communications for the JOURNAL, to be addressed to the EDITOR, 37, Great Queen St., Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

COMMUNICATIONS.—To prevent a not uncommon misconception, we beg to inform our correspondents that, as a rule, all communications which are not returned to their authors, are retained for publication.

Communications as to the transmission of the JOURNAL, should be sent to Mr. RICHARDS, 37, Great Queen Street, W.C.

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

PAPERS are in type, and will shortly appear, from Dr. E. H. Sieveking, Mr. Berkeley Hill, Mr. C. H. Moore, Dr. Shapter, Dr. Playfair, Mr. T. Holmes, and Mr. Thomas Smith.

LIQUOR ET SAPO CARBONIS DETERGENS.

THESE form a very valuable addition to our resources. The liquor holds in alcoholic solution the active principles of coaltar, and is a most ready, cheap, and effective agent. It is valuable for all the medical and surgical purposes to which a deodorising or antiseptic wash can be applied; and, whenever it is desirable to correct fetor, to arrest putrefactive action, and to cleanse a foul surface, the liquor, mixing readily with water, will be found most valuable. The soap contains a large proportion of this material, incorporated by hydraulic pressure. It answers its purpose admirably, and is the only truly antiseptic soap with which we are acquainted. For medical men, especially those in attendance on lying-in women, those who frequent the *post mortem* or dissecting room, or those who are attending fever cases or handling wounds, its use will be of the greatest advantage. There are many forms of skin-disease in which it would be useful, especially the chronic and parasitic forms. It is a very hard and economical soap for general use; it does not soften and waste in water, as many soaps do; and it is pleasantly scented. Both the liquor and the soap are articles of great utility.

HUNTER v. SHARPE.

"DR. HUNTER" has published a very long and wrathful commentary on the evidence of the medical witnesses and the summing-up of the Lord Chief Justice, in the case of Hunter v. Sharpe. If any doubts remained as to the justice of the verdict, they would be set at rest by the perusal of this long and violent diatribe, which is deficient in the most important elements of scientific appreciation. It would be a waste of space to discuss anew "Dr. Hunter's" theories and practice.

W. R. L. is thanked for his amusing communication, which, however, is more suited for private than public edification.

MEDICAL AND LEGAL CORONERS.

SIR.—Under a heading of "medical and legal coroners", in a late issue of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, and speaking of the candidature of Dr. Lory Marsh, who is a candidate for the office of coroner for the county of Nottingham, you say that all inquiries into the causes of death should be undertaken by a member of the medical profession.

As a proof of the truth of this assertion, I send you the following case, which occurred in the neighbourhood in which I was then practising, and enclose you my card as a voucher for the accuracy of it. A woman, feeling herself aggrieved by some trifling neglect on the part of a child whom she employed as a servant, took a clog from her foot, and beat the child on the head with it until it fell down stunned and insensible. As soon as the poor child recovered its senses, it ran home, told of the treatment it had received, and entreated its parents not to send her back again. In a day or two after this beating, she appeared very ill, and daily got worse, until she died. The parents of the child believing its death had been caused by the ill-usage it had received from the hands of her mistress, made such a stir in the parish, that the coroner was written to, and an inquest was held; but the evidence given was so contradictory, that it was deemed necessary to have a *post mortem*.

A surgeon was sent for, and the jury waited for his report. After a short time, he came into the room where the jury were assembled; and, holding a bottle in his hand with some liquid in it, said: Gentlemen, the liquid you see in this bottle, I have just taken from the inside of the poor child's head, and there can be no doubt she died from water on the brain.

This was quite satisfactory to coroner and jury; and the cause of death was recorded, "water on the brain". How that water came to be there, and from what cause, was never asked.

If this inquest had been held by a medical coroner, would such a verdict have been returned?

January 1867.

* * *

A PUZZLED PATHOLOGIST would not be puzzled, we think, if his experience were at all large. The "ice in the brain", which has been the theme of so much "wonder" and comment, is of course merely a *post mortem* and not an unusual effect of extreme cold. Under such circumstances, the heart is sometimes found coated with ice.

DISTRESSING CASE.

SIR.—Will you allow me, through your columns, to request attention to the following distressing case, respecting which several appeals have been inserted in the daily journals, but unfortunately (owing to the numerous calls on the benevolent at this season), the contributions received have been scarcely sufficient to meet the expenses of advertising.

The objects of charity for whom I venture to solicit the sympathy of your readers, are the wife and four young children of a highly respectable medical practitioner, who, through harassing duties (chiefly amongst the poor) and great mental trials, was attacked by brain fever, and has since become hopelessly insane. His family, thus deprived of their supporter by a fate worse than death, have had a hard struggle with adversity, and are now in need of prompt aid, being nearly destitute, while the poor mother is in bad health.

Reference is permitted to numerous persons to whom the family is known; and I should be very glad to receive any contributions, and to acknowledge them in any way that the kind donors may wish.

I may add, that the friends are making efforts to get the eldest boy into the Medical Benevolent College; and that any proxies in his behalf would be thankfully received.

I am, etc.,

ABBOTTS SMITH, M.D.

22, Finsbury Square, E.C., Jan. 22nd, 1867.

"PALMAM QUI MERUIT FERAT" calls attention to the omission of the name of Dr. Domett Stone from the list of those enumerated in our last Report on the Hygienic Condition of the Mercantile Marine, who have aided in the revival and energetic pursuance of the question of prevention of scurvy. The services which Dr. Stone has rendered are conspicuous and considerable, and both by their time and place have given a great impulse to the question; they deserve the fullest recognition, which we are happy to accord to them.

We are compelled by press of matter to omit articles, which are in type, on Professional Etiquette, The Quest of the Cholera-Poison, Common Infectious Diseases, etc.; letters from Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, Dr. Grindrod, Malvern, and A Staff-Surgeon, R.N.; together with our Hospital Record, Reviews, and other matter.

CONCERNING CHEESE.

EVERYTHING does for statistics, says the *Gazette de Lyon*. An English medical journal occupies its readers with the annual consumption of cheese in England, and gives the weight in pounds.

"CASES THAT BONE-SETTERS DON'T CURE."

DR. MACKINDER, of Gainsborough, forwards us a long, amusing, and valuable communication on this subject, including the "autobiography of a Pott's fracture", from which we extract the following:—

"Bone-setters flourish here, though not so luxuriantly as in the bad old days of yore; still they flourish, and painful instances of their charlatanistic bungling crop up most frequently; and, if every medical man would but contribute a tithe of his experience, a volume could be produced worthy of the great arch-fiend, Mephistopheles himself.

"A few years ago, a poor old crippled woman fell down, and bruised her knee. Synovitis followed. After a month's attendance, improvement was perceptible; but some would-be friends, thinking her recovery unintelligibly protracted, suggested 'a bone was out, and none but a bone-setter could put it in again.' I reasoned and cautioned, and said her life would be the penalty of such indiscretion; but all to no purpose, for a bone-setter came from Hull, and superseded my authority. He pulled the joint about, gave excruciating pain, made the disease much worse, and, as a reward for his heaven-inspired knowledge and consummate art, this wicked bone-setter returned to his unhallowed home with the widow's blessing and the six months' savings of an affectionate sailor son! On my next visit, I repeated my prophetic words amid a shower of abuse; nay, I was threatened with physical persecution for my want of skill. 'Six little bones, sir, had been knocked out of my knee and had got down to the ankle, and the bone-setter had a deal of trouble to get them up again! You don't know your business, sir,' said the poor old woman, before I had been five minutes in the house. On expressing a hope that that particular leg would be bequeathed to the College of Surgeons, when done with, the flexors of her son's right hand and arm became suddenly contracted, to the imminent danger of my nose and chin. I requested my young nautical friend to calm his ire, and withhold his good right hand for a more legitimate use; and then I invited him to my house, showed him a skeleton, and requested him to point out the 'six little bones, sir, which were knocked out of his mother's knee.' 'Is that a real knee,' said Jack. 'Yes,' I replied, 'and a woman's knee too.' More eloquent than a Gladstone or a Bright or a Demosthenes, and with all the emphatic volume and power of King Neptune in his wildest rage, Jack, with the characteristic euphony of his class, declared he would '.... throw the bone-setter into the sea.' The poor old woman died.

"A man with acute rheumatism in his right shoulder, was pulled about for dislocation, and never regained the use of the joint. Another man had a sprain in his foot, for which I ordered rest and fomentation; but his wiser neighbours subscribed the necessary funds, and sent him to a bone-setter. When I saw him, three months afterwards, he said: 'I wish I had taken your advice, sir; but, you see, I didn't like t' offend neighbours; but oh, for sarten, that man did maul me!' He was then too weak for amputation, and died in a few days.

"A poor servant girl sprained her ankle, and was ordered to rest it. Some busybodies told her a bone was out, and sent her to a bone-setter at Lincoln. Of course, he pulled her joint about, gave her much pain, and made a few cracks; said he had put her bone in, and took her money. *Ne tradas sine nummo*, being the bone-setters' motto. That poor girl had to undergo amputation of the leg afterwards. And so on, *ad infinitum et ad nauseum*.

"Doubtless, as stated by Mr. Paget, there are cases where bone-setters succeed after the failure of 'timid surgery'; but, luckily, these cases form the glorious exception to a general rule. And, though one such case would infect a whole neighbourhood, as far as my experience goes, the reputation of these remnants of a superstitious age depends chiefly on their success in making people believe they have reduced dislocations and fractures, which no honest man could ever find out.

"All bone-setters and all quacks get their knowledge intuitively; it comes by inspiration; they are Nature's experts—perfect, infallible; and any one who pretended to have acquired excellence by apprenticeship and thought, would commit a grievous error, and ruin his prospects for life.

"In a city, not a hundred miles hence, a member of the College of Surgeons succeeded a wealthy bone-setter, and advertised himself as one of the craft. At first, business seemed good, he prospered perhaps beyond his expectations, and fortune smiled as on a man of mark; but the secret slipped out, the cloven-foot was not sufficiently black, and patients became more scarce. The charm was gone. 'He's none of yer regular bred and born bone-setters that,' said a clown, with a knowing shake of his head; 'so its o' no use a going to him!'

Z. will find a good account of potato mould in Mr. Cooke's little book on *Microscopic Fungi*, published by Hardwicke. The "potato disease" is, we believe, usually attributed to the *Botrytis infestans*. Insects, "coleopterous" or otherwise, are accidents of any disease in vegetables.

TRAUMATIC ANEURISM OF THE ORBIT.

SIR.—The interesting case of Dr. Collard in Bern, quoted from *Revue Médicale*, of "Traumatic Aneurism of the Orbit", was certainly deserving of a place in your JOURNAL (of Dec. 29th, 1866), under the heading "Progress of Medical Science", but not without the following very sensible comments of Dr. de Ranse, in the *Gazette Méd. de Paris*, which, by-the-by, it was very easy to overlook. The latter says:—"Can a lesion of the ophthalmic ganglion induce the whole train of symptoms presented by the patient? Were we to answer in the affirmative, we should rather assume anaesthesia or paralysis than hyperaesthesia of the ganglion to have been present. The great sympathetic nerve acts the part of a moderator of the vessels. When irritated, it causes the vessels to contract; when paralysed, it induces their dilatation. Hyperaesthesia, no doubt, points to irritation, and must be attended by the effects of the latter. Hence it would follow that instead of attempting to weaken, we ought, in such a case as that of Dr. Collard, endeavour to activate the functions of the ganglionic system. Moreover, his own experience appears to corroborate our view of the case; for we have seen that tonics improved the condition of the patient, and that he did not recover before he was able to abandon the work which overtaxed his strength."

Manchester, Jan. 1867. I am, etc., A. S.

A PHYSICIAN AND CHEMIST writes:—"You have criticised the 'cholrine' statements of Dr. Farr and Dr. Frankland very properly. Dr. Frankland is not a doctor of medicine. This unsupported guessing—for I can call it nothing less—about cholera germs in water may do mischief by concentrating the attention of observers too much on water as the vehicle of the cholera poison."

F.R.S. asks:—"Do you know what is meant by the application of the term 'cold' to the breath in cholera? What is the temperature of 'cold' breath? If the breath be not hotter than the inspired air, then no oxidation can occur, and, consequently, no carbonic acid can be evolved. Do enlighten me on this point. Are there observations on the composition of the 'cold' breath of cholera patients? I ask for information on this point, as 'cold' breath is specially mentioned in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of last week."

COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, &c., have been received from:—Dr. Daubeny, Oxford (with enclosure); Mr. Chas. H. Moore (with enclosure); Mr. H. Leach; Mr. T. M. Stone; Dr. Playfair (with enclosure); Dr. Howell Phillips; Dr. Page; A Veterinary Surgeon; Dr. Latt, Torquay; Mr. A. Ransome, Manchester (with enclosure); Dr. C. Browne; Dr. Payne Cotton; Dr. Andrew Clark (with enclosure); Mr. Donnelly (with enclosure); Dr. Radford; Dr. C. Lockhart Robertson; G. G.; Mr. Thomas Cork; The Honorary Secretary of the Western Medical and Surgical Society; Dr. Lawrence; Dr. S. Bentham, Southsea; M. A. B.; Dr. Braxton Hicks; Mrs. Allen, Dorking; Dr. C. J. B. Aldis; Dr. Daniell; Dr. Abbotts Smith; Dr. Latley; Mr. Hickman; Dr. Gardner; Mr. Algernon Norton; Dr. T. Shapter; Dr. Radcliffe; Mr. Haynes Walton; The Registrar of the Medical Society of London; Dr. Thurfield, Leamington; Mr. Workey; Mr. Weeden Cooke; Mr. Henry Thompson; Mr. Hubbard; Dr. A. D. Moore, Lancaster; Mr. T. H. Bartleet, Birmingham (with enclosure); Mr. Henry Simpson, Windsor; Mr. George Lawson; Dr. A. P. Stewart; Mr. Holmes; Dr. Gull; Professor Bentley; Mr. Garraway, Faversham; Dr. Barnes; Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson; the Secretary to the Commissioners in Lunacy; Dr. Woodman; Dr. Grindrod; Mr. William Crookes; Mr. Henry Thompson; Major Rawling, Netley; and Mr. R. S. Fowler, Bath.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

A Treatise on the Principles and Practice of Medicine. By A. Flint, M.D. Second edition. Philadelphia: 1867.
The Indigestions or Diseases of the Digestive Organs functionally treated. By T. K. Chambers. London: 1867.
Lectures on the Study of Fever. By A. Hudson, M.D. Dublin: 1867.
Erkennung und Behandlung der Prostata-Krankheiten. Von Henry Thompson. Erlangen: 1867.
Rheumatism and its Cure non-professionally considered. By a Graduate. Dublin: 1867.
Nottingham and Midland Counties Daily Express.
The Nottingham Observer.
The Malvern News.