

tubercle. Tubercle disease was one not only manifesting itself in deposits visible to the naked eye, but which affected the microscopic elements of cell-tissues, partially as regards the cells composing the organ, generally as relating to the human body diseased.

Dr. C. J. B. WILLIAMS said that Dr. Dawson's observations were so minute and careful as scarcely to bear criticism. As far as he could judge from a very cursory view, the specimens shown represented appearances which he had himself several times seen. He would take the opportunity of making a few remarks on Virchow's views, that tubercle is a modification of cell-life rather than a degradation of tissue, — as, indeed, approaching in character to cancer and similar morbid growths. The general scope of observation in this country tended, on the contrary, to show that tubercle was the result of degradation. There was no doubt that cellular and corpuscular matter in various forms was found mixed up with tubercle; but the proper way to examine tubercle was to take it in its essence, as shown in grey tubercle, or in the part of yellow tubercle most distant from living textures. The changes which tubercle underwent in passing to the opaque form was, he believed, little more than the further degradation of a material originally consisting of imperfectly formed cells, which become broken down into granular matter. This change should be regarded as mechanical or chemical rather than vital; and it was this that separated tubercle from all other growths. The fact must also be entered, that tubercle occurred, under deteriorating circumstances in every country. In the temperate regions it affected the lungs; the chylipoietic viscera in warm regions; and the brain in cold countries. If it were of a specific nature, it would be very strange that it should so pervade all classes in all parts, varying only as to the organ affected, but not as to its actual production. These considerations favoured the opinion that, instead of being a new growth, tubercle was rather a deterioration of tissue, liable, under disease, to undergo still further deterioration.

Dr. WRIGHT complimented Dr. Dawson on the excellence of his photographs, and hoped that he would present some of them to the society.

Dr. DAWSON promised to accede to the request; and exhibited under the microscope several of his preparations.

Correspondence.

SIR THOMAS WATSON AND THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

SIR,—A notice, signed by several Fellows of the College of Physicians, inviting the Fellows to meet at the College for the purpose of "considering the propriety of representing to Sir Thomas Watson the strong desire entertained by the Fellows that he would accept the office of President for another year," brought a considerable number of Fellows together at the College on the 12th instant. I am not surprised to hear, on calling to mind the almost solemn words of the President, on his accepting office last year, that he should have written a note, which was read at the meeting, begging that no steps of the kind suggested might be taken. In his own feeling and elegant language, he begged that he might not be put in the false position of having to refuse the honour proposed. The meeting consequently dissolved without coming to any resolution. I call

attention to this matter chiefly because I doubt the propriety of the proceeding.

May not such a precedent as has been here set be some day inconveniently repeated? Have three, four, or even twelve Fellows of the College a right to call an informal meeting of Fellows at the College for any purpose which may to them seem good? Again: Is it wise, under any circumstances, for a meeting of Fellows to take place at the College for the purpose of discussing the election to the presidency of the College? The laws of the College are very distinct on the subject. The President is to be elected without discussion in the College.

I feel bound to make these remarks, which are, as I believe, in the best interests of the College itself. No doubt there was a general sort of tacit feeling that the case of Sir Thomas Watson was one quite out of ordinary consideration; and Fellows, not unnaturally, it must be confessed, acted under such feeling. But then the precedent may be an unfortunate one, and may lead to serious inconvenience. I am sure that Sir Thomas Watson would himself be the first to recognise the correctness of this opinion. Calm reflection must, I am satisfied, convince every Fellow of the College that all matters seriously affecting the interests or wellbeing of the College ought not to be discussed within the College at any informal meeting, but only by the whole body of Fellows, duly summoned for the purpose. I apprehend that the College cannot be used for informal meetings of Fellows, and consequently that permission was given by authorities to use the College on this occasion.

I am, etc.,

A FELLOW OF THE COLLEGE.

ON COLLODION DRESSINGS AND APPLICATIONS.

LETTER FROM WILLIAM MURRAY, M.D.

SIR,—I was much gratified to find, on reading your last number, that Dr. Richardson had turned his attention to collodion as a means of effectually applying medicinal agents to surgical wounds. I have used his "styptic colloid" to bring about the closure of a false anus at the umbilicus, and the result promises to be satisfactory. My present remarks are the result of three months' investigation into the same subject, with a somewhat different object in view. I have used simple collodion as a dressing for sluggish ulcers, bed-sores, and ulcers on paralysed parts, with the most extraordinary success, having healed ulcers of the latter class after they had resisted every kind of treatment. The addition of tannin is, of course, invaluable in such cases. The use of a solution of corrosive sublimate in collodion, for the cure of nævus, has now an established reputation; but I do not know that *strong solutions of iodine in collodion* have been tried by any one, and it is to these I would call attention. Collodion will take up a very large quantity of iodine; so that, if we want a very strong and persistent application to an old enlarged gland, to a periosteal swelling or any thickened tissue, a film of this iodised collodion is both safe and effectual. I am in the habit of applying a weaker solution to sluggish scrofulous sores, with the best effects; and Mr. Hope of this town, who has also tried this, speaks very highly of its value. Such an application has a most wonderful effect in alopecia areata. I observed that hair had grown a quarter of an inch underneath an application in less than ten days.

As time forbids me to go further into the subject, I must conclude by expressing the conviction that

these iodised collodions possess therapeutic power of a very high order. I am, etc.,

W. MURRAY, M.D., M.R.C.P.Lond.
Newcastle-on-Tyne, April 1867.

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 April 23rd.

Barry, James William, Ramsgate
Bennett, William James, Dorchester
Codrington, John Frederic, Newcastle, Australia
Dukes, Clement, L.S.A., Hackney
Edwards, Edward Noble, L.S.A., Kennington Terrace
Fairbank, John, Highbury
Haward, David, Newport, Pembrokeshire
Hopgood, Philip Downing, Chipping Norton
Jones, George Francis, Prittlewell, Essex
Joseph, Thomas Morgan, Bulth, South Wales
Lloyd, Thomas Charles, Llandysul, Cardiganshire
Martin, Anthony Herbert, L.S.A., Evesham, Worcestershire
Murphy, Thomas Charles, Ealing
Rawlings, James, I.S.A., Liskeard, Cornwall
Saul, William Wingate, Sibsey, Lincolnshire
Shoppe, Edward Collett, Kenish Town
Wade, Charles, Crass, Somerset
Walker, William Abraham, Chesterfield
Williams, Essex Thomas, St. David's, Pembrokeshire
Winckworth, Charles Trew, L.S.A., Horsham
Williams, John Terrill, Tavistock

ROYAL COLLEGES OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, EDINBURGH. (Double Qualification.) The following gentlemen passed their first professional examinations during the recent sittings of the examiners.

Bridgford, John Sayer, London	Hamilton, David James, Falkirk
Campbell, Wm. John, Poonagh	Mackie, William, Glasgow
Davies, Enoch, South Wales	Ward, Wm. John C., Lancaster, Durham
Dewar, John, Glasgow	Watters, George, Calthness
Gillies, John, Skye	
Gowans, Wm., Prestonkirk	

The following gentlemen passed their final examinations, and were admitted L.R.C.P. Edinburgh, and L.R.C.S. Edinburgh.

Alexander, John, Calthness-shire	Easby, William, Durham
Allan, Wm. Munden, Newfoundland	Jones, David Edgar, Cardiganshire
Atherton, A. B., New Brunswick	Leader, John, co. Cork
Barrick, Eli James, Canada West	M'Rae, John, Ross-shire
Brosnan, John, Kerry	Stevenson, Robert, Kilwinning
Brown, Samuel, Jamaica	Todhunter, Thomas, Whitehaven
Casenden, J., Ballintra, Ireland	Vacher, Francis, London
Clampitt, Richard Vooght, Devon	Woodfield, Thomas K. V., Sunderland
Davidson, J. K., Calthness-shire	

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, EDINBURGH. The following gentleman passed their final examinations, and were admitted Licentiates of the College during the recent sittings of the examiners.

Barrie, Andrew David, Madras	Hevns, Edward, co. Clare
Crooker, Titus Cumis, Canada West	Holden, Charles, New Brunswick
Finlay, William A., Edinburgh	Hunter, R., Killea, Ireland
Gairdner, James, Creff	Lupton, Alfred Wm., Wakefield
Galkie, Walter Bayne, Edinburgh	M'Ilroy, J., Bushmills, Ireland
	Turner, Robert Shand, Banffshire

APOTHECARIES' HALL. On April 11th, 1867, the following Licentiates were admitted:—

Anderson, William, Stockwell, Surrey
Beaman, Edward Henry, Upholland, near Wigan
Dobson, Nelson Congreve, Holbeach
Jeaffreson, Christopher Samuel, Birmingham
Lee, Francis Boynton, Beeston Hill, Leeds
Morgan, John William, Oystermouth, near Swansea
Morgan, Richard, Aberdeen
Tinley, Thomas, Whitty

APPOINTMENTS.

HARRISON, Charles, M.D., elected Honorary Surgeon to the Lincoln General Dispensary, vice John Hewson, F.R.C.S., deceased.
RICHARDSON, B. W., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P., has been appointed Physician to the London Infirmary for Epilepsy and Paralysis.

MARRIAGES.

HOSTEN, Richard Frederick, Esq., of Leamington, to Anne Caroline, younger daughter of George FAYRE, M.D., of Hurst House, Henley-in-Arden, on April 24.
LOCKERWOOD, J., M.A., M.D., of Newbury, Berks, to Eliza, daughter of the late A. DEATON, Esq., of Auchencrobie, Aberdeenshire, the Scots Church, Halkin Street, on April 13.
THOMAS—EASTON. On April 24th, at Bradford, near Taunton, the Rev. F. Howse, brother-in-law of the bride, assisted by the Rev. H. J. Adair, vicar, Robert Wrantmore THOMAS, Esq., Surgeon, Neath, Glamorganshire, to Fanny, daughter of Edward EASTON, Esq., of Stone House, Taunton.

DR. SUTHERLAND has lately arrived in Malta from England, and is actively employed collecting materials with which to frame a report on the sanitary state of the barracks in this island, and other matters connected with hygiene. Mr. Bateman, eminent civil engineer, has been sent to Malta by the Colonial Office, to give his opinion on the best means of improving the water supply.

A MUSSELBURGH BAILLIE'S OPINION ON THE BEST WATER FOR MAKING TODDY. We find in the *Shields Daily News* a note to the following effect:—"The Senior Baillie of Musselburgh (Mr. Peter Millar, of Eskside) has requested us to state, in reference to the discussion at the Town Council meeting on Monday night, upon the condition of the public wells, that was not Dr. Sanderson's opinion, but his own, 'that the finest toddy was made from the worst water in the town.'"

BEQUESTS. Mrs. Mary Ann Smith, recently deceased, has bequeathed £1000 each to the London Fever Hospital, the Royal Free Hospital, and the Samaritan Free Hospital. Miss Elizabeth Wickins has bequeathed £100 to the Salisbury Infirmary. Both ladies have left numerous legacies to other medical charities. Mr. William Gilpin, late Treasurer of Christ's Hospital, has bequeathed £200 to the Convalescent Institution.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF SOCIAL SCIENCE. A meeting of the Health Department of this Association will be held on Monday evening next, at eight o'clock, to discuss Dr. Lankaster's Fourth Annual Report of the Coroner for Central Middlesex, embracing—1, the employment of experts in coroners' courts; 2, the introduction of the inquiries of the coroners' court into workhouses; 3, the erection of mortuaries in the metropolis. Also, Mr. Curgenven's paper on "Waste of Infant Life" will be discussed.

THE IRISH REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURN. The number of deaths registered in Ireland in the fourth quarter of the year 1866 was 22,260, and, assuming that all the deaths were registered, the proportional number would be 16 per 1,000 of population per annum—a proportion slightly in excess of that of the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Cholera and diarrhoea were the prevailing epidemics. At Skull the deaths of four young females are recorded from low continued fever (three in one family). These deaths occurred where pure air was inaccessible, and where filth abounded internally and externally. Cookstown was visited with a severe epidemic of fever; 15 cases were entered in the Dispensary Relief register alone. The majority of these patients resided in a block of houses described as filthy, wretchedly ventilated, and badly sewered, with manure heaps and a large cesspool in the immediate vicinity. The registrar of Tarraghan complains that floodings were frequent, and uterine diseases prevailed to a large extent, owing to the brutal manner in which females were treated by the women attending them as midwives, and the quantity of whiskey consumed during parturition. An accurate