

SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF MEDICAL MEN.—Sir James Paget, Bart., President, took the chair at the quarterly Court of Directors, held on Wednesday, October 12th. The death of one widow in receipt of £40 per annum was announced, and one orphan had ceased to be eligible for further grants. The death of one member was reported. Applications were read from sixty-three widows, five orphans, and three orphans on the Copeland Fund, and it was agreed that the sum of £1,371 10s. should be distributed among them at the next court. The expenses for the quarter were £52 14s. Among the donations received since the last meeting of directors was one of £100 from Alpha. It was decided that the centenary dinner shall be held next year on October 29th, the anniversary of the first meeting of the Society.

THE ENDOWMENT OF SANITARY SCIENCE.—Mr. Richard Berridge, late of Ballynahinch Castle, Galway, Knowlehall, Bridgwater, and the Cedars, Putney, has by his will bequeathed the sum of £200,000 in trust "for the advancement and propagation of education in economic and sanitary sciences in Great Britain."

EPSOM COLLEGE.—By the will of the late Miss Drew, of Broadstairs, the sum of £100 has been bequeathed to the College.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—Mr. Treves: The Diagnosis and Treatment of Chronic Intestinal Obstruction. Dr. B. W. Richardson, F.R.S.: Short Note on Methylal, with a specimen. Mr. Marmaduke Sheild: A case of Acute Glossitis in a Child, complicated by Trismus.

TUESDAY.

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.—Mr. John D. Malcolm: The Condition and Management of the Intestine, after Abdominal Section, considered in the Light of Physiological Facts. Mr. W. Arbuthnot Lane: (1) On the Mode of Fixation of the Scapula, suggested by a study of the movements of that bone in the extreme flexion of the shoulder-joint, and its bearing upon Fracture of the Coracoid Process; (2) An Undescribed Method by which the Superjacent Weight of the Body is transmitted in a United or Ununited Fracture of the Neck of the Femur through an acquired Iliofemoral Articulation; and the bearing of the principle involved upon the Surgery of the Hip-joint.

WEDNESDAY.

BRITISH GYNÆCOLOGICAL SOCIETY. 8.30 P.M.—Specimens will be shown by Mr. Lawson Tait, Dr. Edis, Dr. Granville Bantock, and others. Mr. Lawson Tait: Three cases of Intra-Peritoneal Hemorrhage, in which the condition was due to Ruptured Tubal Pregnancy, successfully dealt with by Ligature of the Broad Ligament. Dr. Bedford Fenwick: On the Use of Blood-letting in Gynæcological Practice. Council at 8 P.M.

HUNTERIAN SOCIETY, 8 P.M.—Dr. Port: On Antipyrin. Dr. Turner: A Case of Purpura.

FRIDAY.

CLINICAL SOCIETY.—Dr. Sidney Phillips: A case of Stricture of the Bile Duct. Mr. Barwell: Case of Acute Suppurative Peritonitis (Traumatic). Laparotomy and Washing Peritoneum: Recovery. Dr. Knaggs: Case of Tubercular Peritonitis treated by Laparotomy and Washing-out. Dr. Kilner Clarke: Case of Tubercular Peritonitis cured by washing-out the Abdominal Cavity with a 1 per cent. aqueous Solution of Carbolic Acid.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 5s. 6d., which should be forwarded in stamps with the announcement.

BIRTHS.

GUEST.—On 14th instant, at 76, Dorset Street, Hulme the wife of A. Haden Guest, Surgeon, of a daughter.

ISAAC.—On September 1st, at 7, Mornington Crescent, N.W., the wife of G. Washington Isaac, M.B., of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

FIRMIN-CUTHBERT—MANWARING-WHITE.—On the 4th instant, at St. Martin's, Ryarsh, by the Rev. E. Manwaring-White, Vicar of Eastoft, Yorks, brother of the bride, assisted by the Rev. W. H. White, Rector of Catherston, Dorset, Charles Firmin-Cuthbert, M.R.C.S., of Gloucester, to Frederica Marianne Manwaring-White, younger daughter of the Rev. E. R. Manwaring-White, Vicar of Ryarsh, Kent.

DEATHS.

COCKBURN.—September 4th, at 42, Leamington Road Villas, Westbourne Park, Frederica, wife of Surgeon-General R. Cockburn, Bengal Army (Retired), aged 62.

TAYLOR.—On the 16th instant, at Lancaster, Harold Gilbertson Taylor, M.D., Assistant Medical Officer of the Royal Albert Asylum, aged 32.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

MONDAY --- 10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1.30 P.M.: Guy's (Ophthalmic Department); and Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: Metropolitan Free; St. Mark's; Central London Ophthalmic; Royal Orthopædic; and Hospital for Women.—2.30 P.M. Chelsea Hospital for Women.

TUESDAY --- 9 A.M.: St. Mary's (Ophthalmic Department).—10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1.30 P.M.: Guy's; St. Bartholomew's (Ophthalmic Department); St. Mary's; Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: Westminster; St. Mark's; Central London Ophthalmic.—2.30 P.M.: West London; Cancer Hospital, Brompton.—4 P.M.: St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department).

WEDNESDAY --- 10 A.M.: National Orthopædic.—10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1 P.M.: Middlesex.—1.30 P.M.: St. Bartholomew's; St. Thomas's; Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: London; University College; Westminster; Great Northern Central; Central London Ophthalmic.—2.30 P.M.: Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children; St. Peter's.—3 to 4 P.M.: King's College.

THURSDAY --- 10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1 P.M.: St. George's.—1.30 P.M.: St. Bartholomew's (Ophthalmic Department); Guy's (Ophthalmic Department); Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: Charing Cross; London; Central London Ophthalmic; Hospital for Diseases of the Throat; Hospital for Women.—2.30 P.M.: North-west London; Chelsea Hospital for Women.

FRIDAY --- 9 A.M.: St. Mary's (Ophthalmic Department).—10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1.15 P.M.: St. George's (Ophthalmic Department).—1.30 P.M.: Guy's; Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: King's College; St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department); Central London Ophthalmic; Royal South London Ophthalmic; East London Hospital for Children.—2.30 P.M.: West London.

SATURDAY --- 9 A.M.: Royal Free.—10.30 A.M.: Royal London Ophthalmic.—1 P.M.: King's College.—1.30 P.M.: St. Bartholomew's; St. Thomas's; Royal Westminster Ophthalmic.—2 P.M.: Charing Cross; London; Middlesex; Royal Free; Central London Ophthalmic.—2.30 P.M.: Cancer Hospital, Brompton.

HOURS OF ATTENDANCE AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

CHARING CROSS.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, M. Th., 1.30; Dental, M. W. F., 9.

GUY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, M. Tu. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; Ear, Tu. F., 12.30; Skin, Tu., 12.30; Dental, Tu. Th. F., 12.

KING'S COLLEGE.—Medical, daily, 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., M. W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th., 1; Ophthalmic Department, W., 1; Ear, Th., 2; Skin, Th.; Throat, Th., 3; Dental, Tu. F., 10.

LONDON.—Medical, daily, exc. S., 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30 and 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 1.30; o.p. W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 9; Ear, S., 9.30; Skin, Th., 9; Dental, Tu., 9.

MIDDLESEX.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 8.30; Ear and Throat, Tu., 9; Skin, Tu., 4; Dental, daily, 9.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., W. S., 9; Eye, Tu. Th. S., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 2; Skin, F., 1.30; Larynx, F., 2.30; Orthopædic, M., 2.30; Dental, Tu. F., 9.

ST. GEORGE'S.—Medical and Surgical, M. Tu. F. S., 1; Obstetric, Tu. S., 1; o.p., Th., 2; Eye, W. S., 2; Ear, Tu., 2; Skin, W., 2; Throat, Th., 2; Orthopædic, W., 2; Dental, Tu. S., 9; Th., 1.

ST. MARY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.45; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.45; o.p., M. Th., 1.30; Eye, Tu. F. S., 9; Ear, M. Th., 3; Throat, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, M. Th., 9.30; Electrician, Tu. F., 2; Dental, W. S., 9.30; Consultations, M., 2.30; Operations, Tu., 1.30; Ophthalmic Operations, F., 9.

ST. THOMAS'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, except Sat., 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 2; o.p., W., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 2; o.p., daily, except Sat., 1.30; Ear, M., 12.30; Skin, W., 12.30; Throat, Tu. F., 1.30; Children, S., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 10.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1 to 2; Obstetrics, M. Tu. Th., F., 1.30; Eye, M. Tu. Th. F., 2; Ear, S., 1.30; Skin, W., 1.45; S., 9.15; Throat, Th., 2.30; Dental, W., 10.30.

WESTMINSTER.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. F., 8; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Ear, M., 9; Skin, Th., 1; Dental, W. S., 9.15.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor, 429, Strand, W.O., London; those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the JOURNAL, etc., should be addressed to the Manager, at the Office, 429, Strand, W.O., London.

In order to avoid delay, it is particularly requested that all letters on the editorial business of the JOURNAL be addressed to the Editor at the office of the JOURNAL, and not to his private house.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, are requested to communicate beforehand with the Manager, 429, Strand, W.O.

CORRESPONDENTS who wish notice to be taken of their communications, should authenticate them with their names—of course not necessarily for publication. CORRESPONDENTS not answered are requested to look to the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

MANUSCRIPTS FORWARDED TO THE OFFICE OF THIS JOURNAL CANNOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES BE RETURNED.

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.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Our correspondents are reminded that prolixity is a great bar to publication, and, with the constant pressure upon every department of the JOURNAL, brevity of style and conciseness of statement greatly facilitate early insertion. We are compelled to return and hold over a great number of communications, chief by reason of their unnecessary length.

QUERIES.

MUTUAL PROTECTION SOCIETIES.

DR. WM. MILLIGAN (South Tottenham) will be much obliged if any gentleman will supply him with a copy of the rules of any local medical mutual protection society which has been established with success

ANSWERS.

MEDICAL PHILOLOGY.

DR. E. G. WAKE (Lewisham House, Dartmouth Park Hill N.W.) writes: I wish to propound the question whether medical authors are correct in using the word "slow" as a verb. There does not occur to me another instance of an English word being thus treated.

Where a verb is formed from an adjective, the usage of our language is to add to the latter the suffix *en*, meaning to *make*. Thus "quick" becomes "quicken;" "bright," "brighten;" "dark," "darken;" "rough," "roughen." Nearly all our adjectives of one syllable in this way have become the roots of verbs.

Some of them, however, for the sake of euphony, have the particle *en* added as a prefix, as *en*dear, *en*able, *en*rich, *en*noble. Under this rule the word "slow" would become "enslow," to which, as regards sound, I see no objection. But, if it were not liked, there would be a precedent for writing "enslowen," as in the word "enlighten," which has been formed to contradictorily distinguish it from "lighten," to make light or less heavy. Either form would be better than the present practice, which is quite contrary to the rules of etymology.

* * Our correspondent is mistaken in imagining that the verb "slow" is of modern medical introduction. Shakespeare, for instance, has: "Paris: 'Now do you know the reason of this haste.' F. Lawrence: 'I would I knew not why it should be slow'd' (*aside*)." (*Romeo and Juliet*, iv, 1.)

It is only in the case of new words and terms that it is justifiable to seek to alter received forms on account of apparently faulty construction, and only then after careful search into the history of the invention of the word. Even then if the new term be used in classical works, and be widely received and adopted, it is better not to interfere with it, and thereby run the risk of burdening the dictionary with multiplicity of forms, or, on the other hand, of making valuable words archaic.

An empirical formula, like our correspondent's, for converting adjectives into verbs, can have no value in dealing with the past of our language. It is certain that our ancestors did not employ it in building up our speech, and it ought not to be employed for altering it. The historical is the only form of philology which has any permanent usefulness. For instance, the guess of our correspondent on the origin of the "en" in enlighten is incorrect—*Cf.* Skeat, *etc.* If our correspondent must alter the verb *slow*, surely "slowen," on the model of *quicken*, would be more correct in form, and as euphonic as "enslow." For our part we prefer the word as used by Shakespeare.

PAROXYSMAL SNEEZING.

DR. R. BALFOUR GRAHAM (Leven, N.B.) writes: In answer to Mr. E. Crickmay, I would suggest that he try, in his case of paroxysmal sneezing, reported in the JOURNAL of October 8th, five minims liquoris arsenicalis (Fowler's), thrice daily, for several days. I found this drug quite effectual in a case of sneezing that came under my care about thirteen months ago.

DR. CLEMENTS HAILES, C.M. Edin. (King's Parade, Clifton) writes: Allow me to offer the following suggestions for the treatment of paroxysmal sneezing. A prolonged course of small doses of arsenic—liquor arsenicalis, two minims three times a day—or of iodide of arsenium, one-fiftieth of a grain in solution, three times a day, as an antiperiodic and alterative; and as a local sedative the preparation known as pulvis bismuthi compositus, or Ferri's snuff, of which the following is the composition: hydrochlorate of morphine gr. ½; powdered acacia ʒss; subnitrate of bismuth ʒjss. This quantity may be used in twenty-four hours. In Ringer's *Therapeutics* one minim doses of solution of arsenic internally, and powdered camphor, as a snuff, or the alcoholic solution poured into boiling water as an inhalation (in which case the eyes must be protected) are recommended.

DR. D. M. WILLIAMS (Shaw Street, Liverpool) writes: If Mr. E. Crickmay will, with the aid of a camel hair pencil, apply a small quantity of "thylum" or "hippacea" to the irritable spot in the nostril, his patient will be almost instantly relieved, and the relief lasts for days.

These two ointments are prepared by Mr. Bowden, 43, King William Street, London, E.C.; the stronger, "hippacea," is intended for the stable and the kennel; the active ingredient in both is "omum," an Indian umbelliferous plant—order *Apiaceæ*; and I hear that Bentley gives the Indian name "omum." My servant man has used hippacea in the stable for two years, and I tried thylum quite recently for the relief of a painful blind pile, and the stronger ointment in a case where a number of piles gave a patient great pain; also in several cases of facial neuralgia I have used the milder ointment, the relief of pain being prompt and complete; but, of course, each case needed its own treatment.

In the case of a gentleman who caught a severe cold, with violent sneezing, which could only be relieved by squeezing the nostril, pressing on one spot firmly, one application of "thylum" gave immediate relief, which lasted six days, when a second application became needful. Still this gentleman has not yet recovered from a severe attack of post-nasal catarrh.

I only claim for omum its power to relieve pain quickly and pleasantly, with no unpleasant tingling of skin, as is experienced after aconite.

THE TREATMENT OF CHOLERA.

DR. WM. ALEXANDER (Streatham) writes in reply to Dr. Br. Nicholson's query in the JOURNAL of October 15th: When proceeding in medical charge of troops on board the ship *Lord Warden*, in 1866, cholera broke out shortly after leaving Portsmouth. I was induced to try the treatment by saturated solution of camphor by a missionary returning to Maia, who was very enthusiastic about the remedy, either from personal experience in Italy or the reputed success in that country.

Having no faith in any particular remedy, I was glad to avail myself of this one, but, like all the others I had tried, it proved perfectly useless. The gentleman ultimately was smitten down himself, and for several hours assiduously took the saturated solution of camphor which he had brought from Italy. When called in to see him, I perceived at once how matters stood, and, knowing the great faith he had in the camphor, asked him if I should continue its use. He replied in the true choleraic voice, "No; I have tried it, and it is of no use."

NOTES, LETTERS, ETC.

PHYTOLACCA DECANDRA.

MR. GERARD SMITH (Upper Clapton) writes: With regard to the use of phytolacca decandra, noticed in the JOURNAL of October 15th, I may observe that those who make pharmacology the basis of their drug selection, have used this drug with success in inflammatory states of the mammary gland and the tonsils for, perhaps, fifty years past, and have used it because its effects upon healthy persons are to inflame the tonsils, and the mammary glands in the female.

I think that this "rediscovery" of a drug without any allusion to the facts I have stated is one which the homeopaths would be quite justified in pointing out as plagiarism, and I venture to ask you to insert this letter in order to avoid such an accusation, which has been made so often against many of our uses of well-known drugs, and the claims of discoverers of new drugs; and an accusation, in my humble opinion, made with reason, and which has not been properly met by those against whom it has been brought.

WILSON FOX MEMORIAL PORTRAIT FUND.

Third List of Subscriptions.

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Sir Julian Goldsmid, Bart.	10 10 0	Dr. Huxley, Torquay	1 1 0
Sir R. Baggallay	10 10 0	*C. W. Jecks, Esq.	1 1 0
Sir Andrew Clark, Bart.	5 5 0	Dr. S. Mackenzie	1 1 0
Sir R. Nicholson, Bart.	5 5 0	Dr. G. E. Moore	1 1 0
Sir C. Mills, Bart.	3 3 0	*W. P. May, Esq.	1 1 0
Lord Justice Fry	2 2 0	Dr. Paramore	1 1 0
*Dr. C. J. Arkle	1 1 0	*Dr. W. Pasteur	1 1 0
Colonel Aston	2 0 0	Dr. P. Smith	1 1 0
The Misses Aston	1 0 0	Dr. Rayne	1 1 0
Mrs. J. Birch	1 0 0	T. Lawrence Read, Esq.	1 1 0
Dr. Lloyd Birkett	1 1 0	Rev. H. R. Reynolds, D.D.	2 2 0
Dr. Broadbent	3 3 0	Professor Burdon-Sanderson	2 2 0
Dr. Radcliffe Crocker	2 2 0	W. H. O. Sankey, Esq.	1 1 0
Dr. Cumberbatch	5 5 0	Professor Schäfer	2 2 0
Professor W. H. Draper, New York	5 5 0	H. Smith, Esq.	2 2 0
*Dr. W. McE. Ellis	1 1 0	Dr. Protheroe Smith	2 2 0
J. E. Erichsen, Esq., President of University College (second donation)	10 10 0	Dr. Allen Sturge	2 2 0
H. Farnell, Esq., Eastbourne	1 1 0	Dr. Davies Thomas, Adelaide	1 1 0
Dr. Fincham	1 1 0	J. Thompson, Esq., Nottingham	1 1 0
Dr. Hare	5 5 0	W. P. Thornton, Esq.	1 1 0
T. Hodgkin, Esq.	3 3 0	P. Tuckett, Esq.	2 2 0
Dr. W. B. Houghton, St. Leonard's	1 1 0	*Smaller sums, from students of University College, per Dr. C. J. Arkle	1 1 0

* For the replicas.

T. BARLOW, M.D., 10, Wimple Street,
W. R. GOWERS, M.D., 50, Queen Anne Street,
Honorary Secretaries.

AN APPEAL.

MR. H. F. BURNES (Tufnell Park Road) writes: I beg to acknowledge with grateful thanks the following sums for the widow and children of the late T. W. Wagstaffe, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.S.A.

£ s. d.	
C.D.	2 0 0
Henry Stear, Esq.	2 2 0
Howard Orfeu, Esq.	1 0 0
E. J., Newcastle-on-Tyne	0 10 0
Anon.	0 1 0
St. John's Road	0 2 6
J. Brown, Esq., Bacup	0 10 0
W. T. Marten, Esq.	0 10 0
A. Baxter, Esq., Ottery St. Mary	0 10 7
Total	7 3 7

I regret to say that Mrs. Wagstaffe's baby died this morning, which will entail further expense. I beg to acknowledge with many thanks the kind letters of sympathy that I have received, and to inform kind inquirers that I am in communication with the British Medical Benevolent Fund, and I believe that body will reconsider Mrs. Wagstaffe's case, and will, I trust, find some shelter for the orphan children.

A WARNING.

THE LADY SUPERINTENDENT, Hospital for Women, 9, Lupus Street, S.W., writes: Allow me to warn the public against a man who calls himself an agent of the Editor of the *Daily News*, and instructed by him to find out from the various hospitals whether they are in need of funds, and representing that if this were the case the Editor, by means of his paper and by sending annual reports of the hospital in the office envelopes, would be able to assist these institutions. By these false pretences he obtained from me four shillings in stamps, and forty-eight reports.

Br Med J: first published as 10.1136/bmj.2.1399.920 on 22 October 1887. Downloaded from https://www.bmj.com/ on 8 December 2024 by guest. Protected by copyright.

THE BINIODE OF MERCURY IN DIPHTHERIA.

Dr. C. R. ILLINGWORTH writes: Dr. Watson, in addition to applying the biniodide locally, should have used it internally, and I think he would then have cured his patient much more rapidly.

As it is only quite recently that I have used the biniodide locally, I cannot speak from experience of its use in diphtheria, but only in scarlatina. Of its value when given internally for diphtheria, however, I have had sufficient proof; and I notice that Dr. Ackley, of New York, confirms my report in the *Medical Record* of a few months ago. I prescribe as follows: R Sol. hydrarg. bichlor. ʒvj; potass. iodid. vel sodii iodid., ʒss; aq. menth. pip. et syrump., ad. ʒvj. Misce et solve. S. Cap. semiunciam secundis horis. I give iron and chlorate of potash when the throat is clear of exudation; but if the vital powers be at a very low ebb, I see no objection to the giving of the biniodide of mercury, with a slight excess of iodide of sodium or potassium, every two hours, alternating with a dose of iron every two hours. The disease could thus be combated and the system fortified at one and the same time. This plan was suggested to me by Dr. Ringwood, of Kells, who has adopted it in his treatment of scarlet fever with marked success.

The amount of the biniodide which is precipitated from the ordinary solution of the bichloride of mercury is so small that I would advise a solution of double strength to be used for the purpose—a solution, that is, of one grain to the ounce. Two ounces of this solution would, of course, then require about two grains of iodide of sodium for the precipitation of the biniodide for purposes of local application.

FOREIGN DEGREES.

BRUSSELS writes: I do not think I am unnecessarily severe on the Editors of the *Medical Directory*, as your correspondent "M.D. Brux., M.R.C.P. Lond.," says. I was not a little astonished at being told by them that the mere production of a diploma was no evidence; whereas the diploma itself states that the graduate has undergone the necessary *épreuves*, and is signed by the officers of the University and by twelve professors of the Faculty of Medicine, whose signatures are all verified by the Chief Magistrate; that of the latter, again, by the Minister of Foreign Affairs; and his, finally, by the British Consul at Brussels. Foreign diplomas may vary in their wording, but that of Brussels is unequivocal; and I think the Editors of the *Directory* committed a breach of tact and good manners in mistrusting that, as well as in demanding the certificate of his own veracity from the graduate himself, and in disqualifying as referees those holding foreign diplomas.

I agree with "M.D. Brux., M.R.C.P. Lond.," that the Editors should do all in their power to ensure accuracy, but contend that the diploma in question is evidence in itself, and that if they want to be assured of the truth of the graduate's own statements, it is not to him that they should apply, but to any registered practitioners whom he may appoint as referees. I consider this the "fair play" which your correspondent wishes to see, and not the humiliation which the present regulation implies.

OPERATIONS ON THE FOOT VIEWED FROM A MECHANICAL STANDPOINT.

MESSES. M. MASTERS AND SONS (New Kent Road) write: Brigade-Surgeon Godwin's paper on the above subject—which appeared in the *Journal* of September 17th—appears to us to have initiated a valuable and much-needed inquiry. As the writer based his remarks mainly upon a quotation from Mr. Bigg's work, we purposely avoided taking part in the discussion until the latter gentleman had had an opportunity of replying. Permit us to say that we endorse every word of Mr. Bigg's letter, and our opinions are the result of a practical experience extending over nearly half a century.

Brigade-Surgeon Godwin is in error, however, in saying that the mechanician would tell a patient who has undergone Hey's or Chopart's operation that "he cannot give him an artificial foot." We have fitted useful feet to hundreds of such cases, and are now fitting a case of double amputation—both Chopart's.

To our minds, the principal advantages of Syme's operation are: (1) the bearing is just as good as the others; and (2) a good joint can be inserted without making the appliance so bulky and cumbersome as is unavoidable in all cases of Chopart's or Hey's.

One other point in Brigade-Surgeon Godwin's paper requires comment. He appears to think the expense of an appliance too great for any but the wealthy to bear. We have made many hundreds of a cheap foot which is extensively worn by the poorest of the working classes, and we certainly think from our own experience that this objection is groundless. For the very poor there are so many charities founded for the purpose of providing these articles, that none need go without; and where the mechanism is simple and materials good, the cost of keeping in repair is almost nil.

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

Dr. G. H. Savage, London; Mr. H. R. Barnes, London; Mr. Walter G. Spencer, London; Dr. Robert Saundby (3), Birmingham; Dr. A. T. Myers, London; Dr. Railton, Manchester; Mr. Hillier Chittenden, Welwyn; Mr. H. W. Allingham, London; Dr. P. T. Duncan, Croydon; Mr. C. H. Milburne, Hull; Editor of the *Liverpool Journal of Commerce*; Dr. Cullimore, London; Brigade-Surgeon Brodie, Dublin; Mr. C. H. White, Liverpool; Dr. J. Oliver, London; Mr. T. W. Shepherd, London; Mr. B. J. Baron, Clifton; Mr. C. E. Abbott, Baintree; Messrs. Cassell and Co., London; Mr. C. Thorpe, Madras; Dr. T. Crowther, Luddenden; Mr. A. Weightman, Edinburgh; Mr. W. Tinker, Southampton; J. Turner, M.B., Brentwood; Dr. Higginson, Bangor; Dr. S. D. Stillwell, London; The Secretary of the New South Wales Branch of the British Medical Association; Dr. W. M. Wassen, Montrose; Dr. Gubb, London; Messrs. F. Lipscombe, London; Mr. A. W. Nankivell, Chatham; Mr. W. T. Jackman, London; Dr. Cresswell Baber, Brighton; Dr. J. Braithwaite, Leeds; Dr. E. J. Edwardes, London; Mr. Blackett, London; Mr. J. H. Chapman, Dublin; R. J. Fox, M.B., London; Mr. T. J. Jenckson, Limerick; Dr. Houseman, Heywood; Mr. A. H. Guest, Hulme; Dr. H. Habgood, Eastbourne; Mr. Clarence Foster, Leeds; Dr. A. Cordes, Geneva; Dr. T. Oliver, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Mr. R. Aldridge, Yeovil; Mr. J. H. B. Pinchard, Taunton; Dr. W. A. Aikin, London; Mr. J. Marshall, London; Dr. R. Vassie, Kirkcaldy; Mr. R. N. Pickering, Streatham; Dr. J. Ruxton, Blackpool; Dr. H. R. Greene, Cairo; Dr. W. T. Borcham, Torquay; Dr. D. W. Williams, Liverpool; Mr. G. R. Fraser, Wark-on-Tyne; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Dr. M. Coates, Streatham;

Mr. F. Mason, Bath; Mr. M. Smale, London; Dr. R. J. Scott, Bath; Dr. Sykes, Mexborough; Dr. J. Erskine, Glasgow; Dr. R. W. Batten, Gloucester; Surgeon S. F. Clark, Dover; Mr. C. F. Richmond, Warrington; Dr. Collier, Great Yarmouth; Dr. J. Lytle, Maghera; Dr. D. S. Moncrieff, Edinburgh; Mr. G. W. Sequeira, London; The Director-General of the Medical Department, London; Mr. H. Barnes, London; Mr. A. A. Napper, Cranleigh; Mr. C. Firmin-Cuthbert, Gloucester; Dr. Holman, Reigate; Mr. W. P. Terry, Winchester; Mr. J. F. Vince, Birmingham; Dr. M. Knight, Clones; Mr. J. E. Cooney, London; Mr. Lawson Tait, Birmingham; Mr. G. Smith, Clifton; Dr. A. Carpenter, Croydon; Messrs. Arundel and Marshall, London; Mr. D. S. Kennedy, Perth; Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome and Co., London; Our Liverpool Correspondent; Dr. J. F. Sutherland, Glasgow; Professor Simpson, Glasgow; Mr. Warwick Steele, Ealing; Mr. W. Arnold, Blisworth; Mr. J. H. Walters, Reading; A. E. Morison, M.B., Hartlepool; Dr. Bagshawe, St. Leonard's-on-Sea; Mr. W. H. Bennett, London; Dr. W. Alexander, Streatham; Mr. E. L. Burd, Shrewsbury; Mr. W. Paine, Worthing; Dr. N. Aldridge, Southampton; Dr. A. T. Longhurst, London; Mr. J. Taylor, Ticehurst; Mr. F. Moloney, Porlock; Mr. J. Blair, Shotts; Dr. S. Ringer, London; A Hospital Secretary; Mr. H. Dubois, Basses Pyrénées; Mr. Cantly Dawson, Rawdon, Leeds; Dr. Barnes, Carlisle; Mr. T. P. Harvey, St. Leonard's-on-Sea; Dr. Tatham, Salford; Dr. T. D. Savile, London; Mr. S. E. M. Hoops, Rossett; Dr. Durdin, Great Bedwyn; J. M. Barbour, M.B., London; Dr. Gowers, London; Dr. G. Andrew, Gravesend; Mr. T. Wingrave, London; Dr. Griffiths, London; Mr. E. E. Smith, Hyde; Mr. A. De Butts, London; Messrs. Letts, London; Dr. Street, Westgate-on-Sea; Mr. F. G. Turner, London; Dr. Brown, Bristol; Mr. R. A. Walden, London; Mr. J. F. Little, London; Dr. L. J. Moore, Bingham, etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Illustrations of Clinical Surgery. By Jonathan Hutchinson. F.R.S., LL.D. Fasciculus xx. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1887.

The Marriage of Near Kin. By A. H. Huth. Second Edition. Revised. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1887.

Letters from Crete: Written during the Spring of 1886. By C. Edwardes. London: R. Bentley and Son. 1887.

The Life and Recollections of Dr. Duguid of Kilwinning. Edited by John Service, L.R.C.S. and P. Ed. Edinburgh: Y. J. Pentland. 1887.

Manual of Treatment by Massage and Methodical Muscle Exercise. By J. Schreiber, M.D. Translated by Walter Mendelson, M.D. Illustrated. Edinburgh: Y. J. Pentland. 1887.

Medical Electricity. By R. Bartholow, A.M., M.D., LL.D. Third Edition. Illustrated. Edinburgh: Y. J. Pentland. 1887.

Impotence and Sterility, and Allied Disorders of the Male Sexual Organs. By S. W. Gross, A.M., M.D., LL.D. Third Edition. Illustrated. Edinburgh: Y. J. Pentland. 1887.

A Compend of Human Anatomy. By S. O. L. Potter, M.A., M.D. Fourth Edition. Edinburgh: Y. J. Pentland. 1887.

Practical Lessons in Nursing: Outlines for the Management of Diet. By E. T. Bruen. Maternity, Infancy, and Childhood. By J. M. Keating, M.D. The Nursing and Care of the Nervous and Insane. By C. K. Mills, M.D. Edinburgh: Y. J. Pentland. 1887.

The Student's Handbook of Chemistry. By H. L. Groville, F.I.C., F.C.S. Second Edition. Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone. 1887.

The American System of Gynaecology and Obstetrics. Edited by Matthew D. Mann. Vol. I. Edinburgh: Y. J. Pentland. 1887.

Medical Diagnosis (Third Edition). By Graham Brown. London: Bell and Bradfute. 1887.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE "BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL."

Seven lines and under ..	..	..	..	..	£0 3 6
Each additional line ..	..	..	..	..	0 0 4
A whole column ..	..	..	..	..	1 15 0
A page ..	..	..	..	..	5 0 0

An average line contains seven words.

When a series of insertions of the same advertisement is ordered, a discount is made on the above scale in the following proportions, beyond which no reduction can be allowed.

For 6 insertions, a deduction of ..	..	..	10 per cent.
" 12 or 13 "	"	"	20 "
" 26 "	"	"	25 "
" 52 "	"	"	30 "

Special terms for occasional change of copy during series: 20 per cent. if not less than 26 pages be taken } or their equivalent 25 " " " } in half or 30 " " " } quarter pages.

For these terms the series must, in each case, be completed within twelve months from the date of first insertion.

Advertisements should be delivered, addressed to the Manager at the Office, not later than noon on the Wednesday preceding publication; and, if not paid for at the time, should be accompanied by a reference.

Post-Office Orders should be made payable to the British Medical Association, at the West Central Post-Office, High Holborn. Small amounts may be paid in postage-stamps.

Br Med J: first published as 10.1136/bmj.2.1399.920 on 22 October 1887. Copyright. Downloaded from https://www.bmj.com/ on 8 December 2024 by guest. Protected by