

Pharmacy" are liberally showered on every quack who has the audacity to lay claim to them.

I think it only an act of justice to the profession to offer you these facts for publication; the more especially as the editor does not even think it worth his while to take any notice of an offer I have gratuitously made him of pointing out the many gross errors that have already fallen under my notice.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,  
John St., Adelphi, March 25, 1850. B. W. LARA.

### Medical News.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.**—The following gentlemen having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted members of the college at the meeting of the Court of Examiners on the 22nd inst.:—

BRICE, JOHN F., Pontefract, Yorkshire.  
CLARK, WILLIAM MICHELL, Bodmin, Cornwall.  
COLLINS, ALFRED, Hon. E.I.C.S., Bengal.  
GRANTHAM, JOHN THOMAS, Crayford, Kent.  
JONES, WILLIAM VAUGHAN, Romney-terrace, Westminster.  
MUDGE, THOMAS, Bodmin, Cornwall.  
MAXWELL, CHARLES ROBBINS, Brompton, Middlesex.  
RAYNER, ROBERT, Birstal, near Leeds, Yorkshire.  
ROBERTSON, WILLIAM, TINDAL, Grantham, Lincolnshire.  
ROGERS, ADAM, Bentinck-street, Manchester-square.  
SHARPIN, HENRY WILSON, Bedford.

**APOTHECARIES' HALL.**—Names of gentlemen who passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on

Thursday, March 21, 1850.

AUSTEN, JOHN COLMER, Plymouth.  
HAILEY, CHARLES COLLISON, Shefford, Bedfordshire.  
INGLE, MATTHEW, Ashby de la Zouch.  
NEATE, CHARLES, Maidenhead.

**MEDICAL AUTOGRAPHS.**—At a sale of autograph letters by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, on Wednesday last there were a few very choice ones of distinguished medical men—viz., John Hunter, Edward Jenner, J. C. Lettson, J. Fothergill, &c. That of the immortal Hunter was very interesting, inasmuch as it refers to the circumstances that led to the fatal quarrel between himself and colleagues: this interesting relic was purchased by Mr. T. M. Stone, the librarian of the Royal College of Surgeons, who also secured an interesting letter from Dr. Lettson. At the same sale, a few letters of Dr. Johnson were sold, one as high as twelve guineas, and another at eight guineas.

**LITERARY REWARDS.**—The Academie Royale de Sciences, Paris, have just presented to M. Mandl, the author of the magnificent work on "Microscopic Anatomy," the sum of 1000 francs, as their appreciation of the great value of the above work. Our trans-atlantic friends, Dr. Jackson and Mr. Morton, have also received from the Academy prizes of 2500 francs each, for their discoveries on anæsthesia, the claims to which important discovery have been carefully examined by the Institute, and they feel authorized in stating that Dr. Jackson discovered the physiological facts produced by the inhalations of ether, and that Mr. Morton first applied it to the practice of surgery. M. Bourguignon also received a prize of 1200 francs for his inquiries on the itch.

**FACULTY OF MEDICINE OF PARIS.**—The "Concours" for the chair of Operative Surgery, which has been going on with much spirit for the last few months, has just come to a close. The successful candidate is M. Malgaigne, so well and favourably known by his various surgical works and successful practice. The contest lay between M. Malgaigne, M. Nélaton, and Mr. Robert, and had the choice fallen on either of the two latter, the faculty might still have been proud of its professor.

**SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF MEDICAL MEN IN LONDON AND ITS VICINITY.**—We beg to call the attention of our readers to the annual dinner of this Society, which is advertised to take place on Saturday, April 6th, at the Freemasons' Tavern. The objects of this Society must command the good will of every member of the profession.

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*A Member of the College.*—Reporters were not excluded from the meeting. Mr. Shute, of Mecklenburgh-square, who we believe acted as honorary secretary to the committee of fellows by examination, politely forwarded to us a list of the names of the committee, and he stated that "gentlemen, reporters of the medical journals, would be admitted to the meeting."

THE papers have been forwarded to *Mr. H. L. Stuart*, in compliance with his request.

#### ON THE SALE OF ARSENIC.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—The fatal results which have so frequently arisen by the confusion of arsenic with other substances of similar appearance, such as soda and common flour, might, I think, be avoided were the poison to be sold combined with some simple colouring matter.—I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

AN OBSERVER.

\*.\* Our correspondent does not appear to be aware that a similar suggestion was made many months since by Dr. Cattell, of Braunston. The adoption of the suggestion is calculated to prevent accidents; but it is questionable whether the apparent safety which would attend the sale of the poison under such circumstances might not facilitate its increased distribution, and thereby add to the number of criminal acts which it has been the means of promoting.

#### ON THE TREATMENT OF CHOLERA BY CARBONATE OF SODA.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—As there seems to be much doubt of the value of carbonate of soda in cholera, I hope that Mr. Walker, of Iver-Eton Union, may be induced to give the profession the results of his very successful treatment of that formidable disease. His plan was, as I believe, large and frequent doses of carbonate of soda or potash, and small doses of mercury at rarer intervals. The saline almost immediately restored the patient from the state of collapse; but the patients never seemed safe until the bile appeared in the motions.—I am, Sir, yours truly,

G—.

THE paper by *Dr. Dick* on Medical Corporation Reform shall be inserted in the next number of our journal.

AT page 369 of THE LANCET of last week, it was stated that a testimonial had been presented to Mr. Henderson, surgeon, of Rothbury; the place of residence of that gentleman was incorrectly printed, as Mr. Henderson resides at Rothwell, near Wakefield.

THE communication of *Mr. R. Hodges* "On Retention of the Placenta," shall be inserted.

#### ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL, PADDINGTON.

THE following note, addressed to the Editor of this journal by the Duke of Cambridge, shows the deep interest which his royal highness takes in the attempt to establish and promote the success of the new institution called St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington. We concur with his royal highness in wishing the new hospital every possible success in its anticipated career of usefulness. Whether, however, the institution shall prove a blessing or a curse to the destitute sufferers of the district, will depend on the sagacity and integrity of the governors in conducting the elections of the medical officers. Such are the prospects connected with this institution—such is the neighbourhood in which it is about to be established—that the governors need not confine their choice to the medical and surgical candidates who may offer for the places that are to be created, but they have it in their power to select them from amongst practitioners of undoubted and proved ability and reputation.

Cambridge House, March 15, 1850.

MY DEAR SIR,—The announcement that St. Mary's Hospital at Paddington is now so nearly completed, that it will in a few weeks hence be delivered into the possession and management of the governors, has afforded to me very great satisfaction.

The completion of this new, capacious, and very necessary addition to our metropolitan hospitals is an event which will awaken in the minds of all charitably disposed persons a zealous desire to advance its prosperity and usefulness by their example and influence; and I propose to preside at a public dinner, which is to be held at the London Tavern, on Wednesday, the 15th of May next, in commemoration of that event.

I earnestly request that you will allow your name to be added to the list of stewards for the dinner. No liability will attach to the office of steward, and the dinner tickets will be only one guinea each.

You will have the goodness to address your reply to me at St. Mary's Hospital, Cambridge-place, Paddington.

I remain, yours very sincerely,

ADOLPHUS.

To T. Wakley, Esq., M.P.

*Mr. S. E. Woolmer.*—The note has been forwarded as requested.

*Mr. Winzar.*—The pamphlet has been received, but the missing post-office order has not.

#### MEDICAL WITNESSES IN NUISANCE CASES.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I have been summoned on two occasions to the Petty Sessions Court to give evidence in "nuisance cases," as the keeping of swine, &c. I have never been offered or received a fee for my services! Can I not refuse to be sworn or give my medical evidence until my fee of 10s. 6d. or £1 1s. is paid? The professional man, "a lawyer," who conducts the case obtains his fee; and why should not the medical man, without whose evidence a conviction could not be obtained?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

C. F. WHITELEY,

Richmond, Surrey, March 22, 1850.

M.R.C.S. London, L.A.C.

\*.\* Mr. Whiteley and other surgeons who may be summoned in a similar manner will be justified in declining to be sworn until they are either paid or guaranteed the payment of a reasonable fee for their loss of time and attendance at the court, and we consider that the demand of a guinea is a strictly reasonable one.

SEVERAL other correspondents shall be replied to next week.

COMMUNICATIONS, Letters, &c., have been received from—Mr. McNicoll, (Newmarket, St. Helens;) Studens and a Subscriber, (Denbigh;) Mr. Winzar, (Salisbury;) Dr. Joseph Drew, (Royal Infirmary, Manchester;) Mr. S. E. Woolmer; Mr. Day, (Southwark;) Mr. R. Ward, (Slingsby, York;) Mr. J. E. Neild, (Oulton;) A Constant Reader, (Swindon;) Mr. Guthrie; Mr. Fenn; Mr. W. J. Cox; Circular from Seven Fellows of University College, London; Mr. H. L. Stuart; Observer; Mr. Shute; A Member of the College; Mr. R. Lauren; Mr. Fincham; Dr. Dick; Mr. H. T. Hinxman; Dr. Gavin; Mr. R. Hodges; Mr. Macmurdo; Mr. Canton; Mr. H. A. Bathurst.