

A collection of cuttings and papers concerning the work, publications and addresses of Benjamin Hobson

Publication/Creation

1840s-1870s

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The following extracts from an article in the "China Mail," (a Newspaper printed at Hongkong,) to which a slight reference has been made in the accompanying Report, will probably be read with interest, as indicating that the deep rooted prejudices of the Chinese against whatever is Foreign, are giving way.

"We have recently seen a set of illustrations, copied from Dr. Hobson's Treatise on Physiology, and published at the expense of the father of Yeh Ming-chin, the present Governor-General of the Two Kwang. These drawings have been transferred to wooden blocks, and executed in a style that would do credit to a first-rate European artist. The following is a translation of Yeh Suy-ung's preface:—

"A western writer, Hobson, has published a treatise on Physiology, with illustrations, in which the subject is thoroughly elucidated. He first gives a general description of the entire body, and afterwards treats of its various parts separately. The illustrative figures are 271 in number: they were lithographed at the free hospital at Kam-li-fau in Canton. These I have arranged, after the originals, on eight scrolls, which may be hung side by side, and so be conveniently studied; and they will be very suitable for presents. To persons desirous of acquiring the healing art, they will give a complete insight into the internal and external structure of the body, and the principles of its organization, and possess them of the means to obtain a true diagnosis of diseases. They are properly characterized in the following terms,—

"The myriad processes of life are here displayed, and the human frame is opened to view. The internal and external organs are distinguished, and accurately delineated. From the form the nature is demonstrated: what appears anomalous is shown to be well-ordered. It is the first time that we have beheld such productions. Our science indeed cannot compete with that of the philanthropic author.

"By Yeh Suy-ung; from the palace of the Governor-General of the Two Kwang Provinces, in this 8th autumnal month of the 3rd year of Hien-fung."

"This work of Dr. Hobson's has probably excited a deeper interest among the Chinese *literati* than anything that has ever issued from foreigners. When first published in 1851, it was so eagerly sought after that a reprint of it was made for sale by Pwan-tze-shing, a wealthy and influential Chinese of Canton.

"The original work, from which the plates are taken, contains, besides some lithographs, 210 woodcuts, delineating all the principal organs, and are executed with great skill and accuracy. The preparation of the drawings and the superintendence of the work must have involved a large amount of labour, and demanded unusual care and vigilance. Dr. Hobson acknowledges his obligations to Dr. W. Dickson, of Canton, for much of the skill and accuracy which have been exhibited in the plates.

"We regard with great interest the circulation of books of this character among the Chinese; and gladly avail ourselves of the opportunity to mention a fellow-labourer in the good work, Dr. M'Gowan of Ningpo, who, within the last two years, has made two important efforts to popularize western science among the Chinese, by a production of a treatise on the Electric Telegraph, and another on the Law of Storms, the expense of the last having been borne by Mr. J. C. Bowring. Such efforts are less wonderful among 'the people from afar;' but when we find men of eminent station among the Chinese not only giving their countenance but their money, for the diffusion of such useful knowledge, we almost feel inclined to join in the chorus about a new era dawning on the destinies of China."

(The following article appeared in a small portion only of our last week's *Insurrection*.)

1990

The Chinese Association (which has for its object the support of Hospitals and Dispensaries in China, as a means of facilitating the introduction of the Gospel), have published some deeply interesting letters which, they have received from their agent, Dr. Hobson, who has (for the first time in the history of European commerce with China) been permitted to visit the great city of Canton, where lately the natives have entertained violent antipathies to the English. The following are extracts from the communications of this excellent Medical Missionary, the importance of whose operations cannot perhaps be fully estimated in the present age, but will be more fully appreciated when we look back upon a withering and unenlightened

Dr. Hobson writes, under date June 27th ad, 1842,
 "How portentous are the times. The nations are shaking, and the
 Almighty One is fulfilling his purposes in the war th."

— This couple is also tittering, and is not like 750 centuries long in this state; please should, corruption parents; the highest courts; the people are desperately wicked, and a mutually distrustful. There is no honesty or truthfulness to be found. Money is their God, and thousands live and die around it; the soulless heathen. God's name is dishonoured; no day of rest or prayer observed, and no sense about an unknown future.

[illegible]

¹⁰¹ The numbers that apply for relief are almost more than I can get through in a single day. I devote three days a week to this kind of work, and I am six hours each time at my dispensary table. Every day so employed this hot weather would kill me. Yesterday there were upwards of £30; 100 has been the average for some time past. The intermediate days I give to the study of the language, the instruction of my medical assistants; preparation for my public lectures exercises.

"By the blessing of God I have succeeded in getting one of the most important Missionary Stations that has yet been obtained by Protestant Missionaries at Canton. Several have tried in vain to get into this great family neighbourhood before I came, and I have succeeded not as a Missionary, but as a Medical Man.

"From the first, however, I have not concealed my intentions and plans, but before I finally come to town, the exactest and now apt exemplum *laus-fa-ni* on the spot, to address the rich and distribute buns. Happily for me my landlady was an intelligent, responsive woman, much poorer, and she, without any delay or hesitancy, and in the face of all opposition, and enabled me to fit up the bare-lane place as a dwelling house, dispensary, chapel, and patients' ward. I got into the house on the 18th instant, with every bed and particle of furniture belonging to me, in open day, without any difficulty or loss. This, in a town less lively, were no foreigner but a native, would have been a truly surprising and extraordinary piece of good luck, and a truly surprising and cause for mutual congratulation. The other missionaries, who know by experience the difficulties of the case, see themselves anticipated and thanked. The locality is all mine above the freight barrier, close to the water-side, very accessible by boat, and a good thronging on the street. I have a second store; probably it is over 500 feet long and 25 wide only. I rent four, at 400 dollars a year, which is reasonable rent for Canton, and rent thus one other missionary has yet given for the room and site of the place. I am to have three more roofs for in-patients, at three dollars a month each, 36 a year, which I shall be glad to take if I have money

"We just association rest one; I will fill up, with money that I collected for the mission school, and call it whatever name you please, and give the association a faithful account of the patients that are admitted and discharged from it. I have two children's expenses for five dollars a month from the fund that I collected by singing. I have now a class of six, three self-supported; two are wandering Christians, and one of them a preacher. Your society will continue to give me a helping hand. I give my life and strength to the work, and this year upwards of \$100 to the SSM up of the house, rest of the Dispensary, &c.

—Lange is an invaluable helper; he comes here four times a week. My chapel and waiting-room will seat 200 persons. Last Sabbath (the first day it was opened) there were 100, many respectable females not gentlemen; the greatest order and quiet prevailed. The whole service was on a bare and a half. At one end is the choir, with folding doors, which is reserved for the choir and the organ. On the other end is a reading desk, from which I give the psalm. On the walls are tablets of scriptures and the ten commandments, on painted boards. The desk is close to the dispensary, and all the benches and seats are arranged in front. The whole when filled with a congregation has a very nice appearance, and is the largest and most comfortable chapel that has yet been set apart for that purpose in Cuba. I have many ladies and many ladies' visitors, and I am sure it is comfortable.

12 Letter 26: The small leaves this evening, and I have to close this letter to you, though already very tired from preaching for and attending to 231 persons, men 121, women 34; besides others who were admitted by a private door, who were not registered. Last Monday, including new and old slaves, there were 761; on Tuesday, 744; on Wednesday, 724; on Thursday, 700; on Friday, 663 persons, and nearly 800 who attended our public service of slaves on Sabbath day; making nearly 1,000 each week who are brought under the sound of the gospel and religious influences. Our services are always preceded by private prayer within the audience. A-f, the aged and infirm are brought in by the slaves.

"For some time past the attendance has never been less than 200. The average seems 350 each receiving day. There come long distances, and for the most part exhibit the greatest confidence. They are in-

partially surprised, calling me the Teacher, or Venerable Sir, etc. But he is given to them, both by myself and A-da, with the force of prayer especially for them. At twelve I retire to refresh myself with a little food and a wash, and during my absence for a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes A-da again comes to see me, and I am attended to. I can seldom get through, under six hours continued work, whereas I sit six and a half, seven, and even seven and a half; this, in the heat of summer, surrounded with so many persons affected with such varied and often complicated and serious complaints, is no small demand upon my strength and mental energies. My assistants are profusely leaving a small meal, but I find it in a day I live in the sick, who often have much to say to me, and I am not able to attend to them myself, with as much ease as I did. I was used for my people.

¹⁰² I have no doubt that the influence which such an institution as this is already exercising upon the Chinese is very great. It is a new thing for a foreigner to be in the midst of the western suburbs.—It is a new thing to have a chapel and hospital conducted by an Englishman in Canton; and it is now to bring such direct and extensive missionary influence into operation. We have beside our evening services in the chapel, which are attended by the servants and the poor patients that I at present receive.

"Two of my assistants are learning to preach with confidence and power."

SHORT INTRODUCTORY PREFACE.

It has long been my intention to follow up the treatise on Physiology, which was published seven years ago, with a practical work on Surgery; but numerous engagements in the management of a large hospital in Canton, afforded insufficient time to carry the project into effect until the present time, when hostilities in that city, rendering a removal to Shanghai desirable, a good opportunity was afforded for the completion of the work. If this shall prove acceptable and useful to the Chinese, it will be succeeded by a treatise on Medicine, including diseases of women and children.

In the preparation of this work, the author has been particularly fortunate, in meeting with a native scholar possessing peculiar qualifications for the task he had to perform. These united with a naturally amiable and industrious disposition, have greatly lessened the difficulties which are usually connected with this department of labour. He is a Nanking refugee, and was kindly recommended by the Rev. J. Edkins, who accidentally met with him at Soo-chow, a few months ago.

To prepare a scientific treatise in Chinese, a new nomenclature has often to be formed; names not existing in the language, must occasionally be transferred in sound as nearly as it can be done; illustrations must be made to elucidate the text; and much care taken to combine perspicuity and accuracy, before it is fitted for publication. A vocabulary or dictionary of terms used in science and art, for purposes of reference, and for bringing into use a more uniform nomenclature, is still a desideratum.

The drawings used to illustrate this work, upwards of 400 in number, were carefully selected and copied from Liston, Fergusson, Ericksen, Miller, Druitt, and Wharton Jones; and though their execution has not been equal to those highly-finished works, yet as first attempts, and at the moderate price of four or five for a dollar, they will probably be considered very creditable to Chinese workmen.

The fact of the treatise on Physiology having been twice republished by persons holding high official situations in Canton, and being much sought after at Shanghai and other places, affords the best evidence of the appreciation of that work, and has encouraged the publication of the present volume. It is hoped that it will convey many useful hints, that may prove serviceable to the sick and wounded, and give also some needed information to its readers, on the theory and practice of Surgery as adopted in the west. It will probably prove a useful hand book for medical students, and may possibly suggest to the Chinese government, the expediency of doing something in the way of encouraging public schools and examinations in medicine, as it has so long done for the benefit of letters.

To facilitate reference, a table of contents in Chinese and English has been printed, and placed at the end of about 500 copies. Only about twenty of the medicinal agents mentioned are unknown to the Chinese; if these are procured, every prescription in the book can readily be adopted, but (if not procurable) they are not absolutely essential to the treatment recommended.

Thanks are due to Dr. Lockhart for defraying the expenses of the wood engravings,—to Dr. Dickson for some of the drawings,—to Dr. Kenny for the last edition of Druitt's *Vade mecum*,—and to Dr. Harland for Chelius' *System of Surgery*, and other works.

BENJ. HOBSON, M. B.

MEDICAL MISSIONARY,

OF THE LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

SHANGHAI.

November, 1857.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
OF THE
CHINESE HOSPITAL, SHANGHAE:
From January 1st, to December 31st, 1857.

When the last report was presented to the subscribers of the hospital, Dr. Lockhart supposed that he would shortly afterwards leave Shanghai for a time, but various circumstances continued to detain him here longer than he anticipated, and he prosecuted the work of the hospital till the end of last month (November). The meeting is held this year in December instead of January, in consequence of his intended departure by the next mail.

Early in the year, Dr. Hobson, also a member of the London Mission, and for many years a resident at Canton, where he conducted a large and flourishing hospital, having been driven away from that place at the commencement of the troubles there, kindly consented to come up to Shanghai, and continue the hospital after Dr. Lockhart should leave. For the first few months of his residence here, he was engaged in the study of the local dialect, and has also been enabled during the year, to bring to a satisfactory completion, a work on the Art and Science of Surgery, in the Chinese language, at which he had long laboured, but from want of leisure had never been able to finish. This work is now published, with numerous illustrations, exhibiting not only many surgical diseases, but also giving the form of various instruments used, and the manner of performing several operations, as well as the treatment of dislocations and fractures of the limbs; and it is hoped that

the work will be very useful, both in showing the Chinese what European surgery is, and teaching them how to relieve many diseases for which they have no means of cure. Dr. Hobson has availed himself of numerous opportunities of going into the country, to various distant towns and villages, and giving medicines to those who resorted to him for medical aid. In December, he will take charge of the hospital, and intends to carry on the work there in future.

The Committee take this opportunity of expressing their satisfaction, that the hospital will not be closed for want of a medical officer to take charge of it, as it was feared would be the case.

By reference to the rain table at the end of the report, it will be seen that much more rain has fallen this year, than in the former one. In 1856, the cotton crop failed from want of rain, but this year it was very much injured by wind and rain in the autumn, and in many places was almost destroyed. The rice crop is also from the same cause, much below the average. On the 8th September, there was a very severe typhoon, which occurring at the time of spring tide, and the wind being chiefly from the east, the accumulation of water in the river was so great, that it flooded all the country in this neighbourhood, to the depth of about 2 feet; this and the continued wet weather has caused the autumn to be rather unhealthy, fever and ague, and a form of low nervous fever, have been very prevalent, diarrhæa and dysentery have also been very common, and many of the Europeans, as well as the Chinese have suffered from these affections.

During the spring and summer, an epidemic of catarrhal ophthalmia prevailed throughout all this neighbourhood, and was a very severe affliction to the people, great numbers of persons having lost one or both eyes; though the disease is very amenable to remedies in the beginning of the attack, still unless attended to at once and with regularity, the eyes are soon destroyed in many cases. Many who were afflicted with this disease came to the hospital and were relieved, but it was sad to see, day by day, one after another coming from distant parts of the country, too late for relief, with one or both eyes materially injured or destroyed; so extensive an epidemic of this disease has not been seen at this place since the port was opened.

A SHORT REPORT
OF THE
HOSPITAL AT CANTON.

Dr. Hobson embraces the present suitable opportunity to give an account of the monies received, and the disbursements made at the hospital lately under his charge at Canton. The last report was brought down to July 1st, 1856. From that date to the following October, when its operations were suddenly and completely suspended by the unexpected hostilities that then arose, the institution had never been in a more prosperous state. As the premises were in proximity to some large batteries in the western suburbs, it was considered advisable by H. M. Consul that they should be early vacated, as firing from those forts was expected from the commencement. It was not anticipated that the affairs then pending would prove either so long or so difficult of adjustment, hence scarcely anything belonging to the establishment was removed. A little before these events took place, the repairs of the hospital were completed; comfortable accommodation was made for one hundred in-patients, who were increasing in number every year, and with few exceptions, entirely maintained themselves; out-patients averaged each time from 2 to 300, who were prescribed for four times a week; attending to these with the care and attention they demanded,—performing numerous operations,—publishing tracts and books,—and exercising a general superintendence over a native christian church, and several assistants engaged in the hospital or country around, in tract and Bible distribution,—fully occupied all the time and strength of one individual. In this

compact line of buildings, besides wards for numerous in-patients, 2 were an excellent chapel, dispensary, book-stores, rooms for Chinese assistants, and accommodation for the medical missionary and his family. The poor, the maimed, the blind, the deaf and the lame were found there daily, and it proved to them a Bethesda; accidents and casualties were received at any hour; a large selection of tracts and books were put into circulation; the fundamental truths of the Bible were largely made known, and every effort put forth to conciliate the good-will of the people. Considering the prejudiced character of the people, and their strong antipathy to everything foreign, except what was manifestly beneficial to their temporal interests, great success in this department of labour could not reasonably be expected in a short period of time. But it is a great satisfaction on reviewing the past, to be assured that the main objects for which that missionary hospital was commenced and conducted from year to year, were in a great measure fulfilled; 20 to 30,000 tracts and books were widely and carefully distributed in the course of a single year; two editions of the New Testament in large and small type, were through the liberality of the British and Foreign Bible Society always in use, and judiciously bestowed by the colporteurs; the sick were visited in their rooms, read to and prayed with, and without any coercion or temporal inducements, those in health, and those who were sick and dying, were earnestly exhorted to repent and believe the Gospel.

For some time after the premises were vacated, the people in the neighbourhood, who some years before, from the mercenary character of one influential individual, had been adverse, and unfriendly to the renting of a house in that district by a foreigner, now voluntarily took charge of the hospital premises and all that they contained, preserved them from an excited populace, punished two or three persons who were detected pilfering, and intended to hand them over uninjured to the original occupier on his return. But they had little idea then, of the distress and poverty that would be entailed on all classes by the obstinate and senseless conduct of their governor; and thus from the pressure of continued hostilities, and great increase of poor and destitute persons, the protection afforded was gradually withdrawn; and consequently soon nothing

remained but the bare walls.* Such is the report that has been repeatedly made, and it is only mentioned now to afford information to friends, and to evince the good-will such an institution in time gains for itself even among those who were formerly inimical. Feelings of disappointment and regret, at such an unexpected and sudden termination of long cherished hopes, and years of anxious toil, cannot be otherwise than deeply felt. But it will be found probably, when the present troubles are brought to an end, that the labour has not been wholly lost; information even recently has been sent from Macao of several persons, who attribute their religious impressions to the christian instruction imparted in the hospital at Kum-le-fow.

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* The buildings have received some injury from cannon balls, and the destruction of the large forts just by, but to what extent is not yet known.

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Many thanks are offered for the spontaneous and very liberal donations to the hospital by the residents at Canton in July 1856. It will be seen from the appended list, that the entire sum amounted to \$1,539. Of this \$303.53 was used to meet contingent expenses; \$200. was given to Dr. Wong in February last to assist in

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the purchase of medicines, and to open a dispensary in Hongkong, he being prevented proceeding to Canton as originally designed; and \$355.* have been drawn from the same source, to meet the expenses of preparing and printing 700 copies of the work on Surgery mentioned above, not including the wood-cuts, nor the whole allowances to a native teacher; leaving a balance in hand in care of Messrs. Turner & Co. of \$681. 37, which will remain there at the discretion of Dr. Dickson and W. Walkinshaw, Esqr. To the former special thanks are due, for the valuable aid he has at all times so cheerfully rendered to the hospital.

Owing to Dr. Lockhart's return to Europe, the Chinese hospital which he commenced and presided over so many years, is now transferred to his friend to conduct in his absence; and although it is in many respects beginning anew as it regards the people, the spoken language and the influence to be gained, yet he will to the extent of his ability and strength, endeavour to render the institution as efficient and useful as possible, without pledging himself to continue it, if the way be open and the duty made clear to resume his position in Canton.

CHINESE HOSPITAL.

SHANGHAE,

December, 1857.

* A Mexican dollar in Shanghai suffers the loss of 25 to 30 per cent discount. In copper cash it has varied from 830 to 900 cash per dollar. About one hundred Mexican dollars are on hand from Dr. Lockhart's and Mr. Shellim's donation to print more copies of this work, and also those on Physiology and Natural Philosophy; and donations will be thankfully received for the same object.

CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE CHINESE HOSPITAL,
UNDER THE CARE OF BENJ. HOBSON:

paid into Messrs. Turner & Co. Canton, by W. G. Dickson, Esq. M. D.

J. A. Gibb,	\$ 25	B. Harkort,	\$ 25
F. R.	25	Wm. Pustau,	25
G. Urmson,	25	Wm. Probst,	10
J. Whittall,	10	T. C. Piccope,	10
R. H. Chambers,	10	P. S. Forbes,	100
W. G. Dickson,	15	A Friend,	100
G. A. Weiner,	25	F. B. J.	100
J. Coleman,	10	A. Bourjan,	10
W. J. Purdie,	15	C. A. Hisbener,	10
R. Carlowitz,	15	A Parsee freind,	10
J. A. Hoeuely,	10	D. N. Mody & Co.	25
J. C. Baldwin,	20	P. F. Cama & Co.	25
A. Vaucher,	5	R. H. Camajee & Co.	15
Wm. Robinet,	15	P. & D. N. Camajee & Co.	25
James Purden,	25	B. P. Ramjee,	5
P. L. Everett,	10	Cowasjee Pallanjee & Co.	10
Henry B. Leman,	10	Edulee Framjee Sons & Co.	15
John Wise,	25	Cowasjee S. Lungrana,	5
Samuel Gray,	25	David, Sassoon & Co.	25
Robt. Jardine,	25	Cassumbhoy & Co.	10
E. Whittall,	5	Dinshanjee F. Cashna,	10
G. W. Fisher,	10	H. E. Sons & Co.	10
C. W. Murray	20	Annun. Hurgoviurye,	10
A. Fletcher,	25	Alladinbhoy Habibhoy,	5
A. J. Campbell,	10	Heerjeebhoy Ardaseer & Co.	5
W. Mackenzie,	25	R. Ruttonjee & Co.	10
F. Porter,	10	Framjee Bomanjee Cama & Co.	10
Sept. Short,	10	Ezra and Judah,	10
Augustine Heard & Co.	25	Framjee Byramjee Metta & Co.	25
Harry S. Parkes, H. M. Consul	20	Ruttonjee Framjee Vacha,	25
Wm. Norton,	10	Kessowjee Sewjee,	5
J. P. Franks,	10	Dhurumsey Poonjabhoy,	5
Wm. Dreyer,	20	Ameeroodeen and Jafferbhoy,	5
W. B. Varco,	25	Cowasjee Pestonjee,	5
W. Walkinshaw,	25	B. C. Bhabha,	5
John Cardno,	10	Jamsetjee Eduljee,	5
H. Rutter,	20	B. S. J. Pestonjee,	5
Henry W. Davis,	10	An. Abdoolally,	5
Arthur Smith,	10	G. Hussunally & Co.	5
Gifford & Co.	15	Abdoolally Ebrehim,	5
Siemssen & Co.	25		
		Total,	\$ 1,415

The ancient form of writing was pictorial. This has given rise to the ideographic which, contrary to meaning in the modern. All the syllables of Chinese underwent a pictorial transformation in this character, though no two pictorial characters could produce the words which answer to it in the same way, it would be impossible to each other if they had. Nor would any work written in the language of the pictorial script. The forms of some out of which their syllables are made up are but about 700, though in various combinations a vast variety is produced. The arrangement of which their spoken language answers is given at 20, or 30, or 40 characters under the same sound, thus forming a syllable. In illustration, Dr. Hsien speaks of the "one" and "thousand" of the Chinese of China, that the great rebellion in China will succeed, or that it is at all probable that it should, but he doubts the value of such that it will result in a great deal of trouble, or even a great deal of trouble. He does not defend their policy, but he thinks that we have always found arrangements in them which they have devised and needed, that they are a timid people, and more, not to be judged by our standards of international law. He has, however, great faith in the progress of the Chinese. In Hsien then we find much of the opinion of his audience. Copies of printed Chinese works and Chinese maps, and Chinese drawings of Dr. Hsien's anatomical physiology, produced by Dr. Hsien, were the property of Commissioner Yeh, were collected and bound, as well as drawings and writing materials.

MR. HENRY SWANSON noted the value of the Chinese in the Chinese, and it was announced that Mr. Hsien would be Monday lecture on "Truth and Right."

MR. GRINDON ON THE CHINESE

BRISTOL INSTITUTION

Dr. Hsien's second lecture on China was delivered on Monday, to a largely good audience. The learned and capable physician, similar to the distinguished Dr. Morrison, who has achieved the greatest of modern philosophical labors in his lecture of Chinese, showed, by way of comparison, that he should be a Chinese, and the mind of China. The writings of the celebrated Confucius had started numerous nations on the development and the education of the people. The famous emperor Yan-Shan, and Yu, who lived about 2,000 years before our era, are always held up as patterns for future ages. There must have been something good in their conduct and example, or Confucius, who lived many years after, would not have spoken of them in the high terms he has. His famous "Five and Four Books" contain the principles on which the institutions of China are based. What, then, is the secret of his vast influence? He has not been admired by us like Socrates, Aristotle, or Plato, but in his own country he has been venerated too good to be placed among the gods, and his image is placed in every temple at school, and across the entrance of every scholar in the empire. To study and expand him is, in his own country, the possession of "Latter." Born in the southern province of Shan-tung, more than 500 years before Christ, he was educated King, being contemporary with Etem, the Jewish writer, and Herodotus, the father of History. To his 1,000 disciples he taught—1st. Fidelity, or the discharge of duty; 2d. Economy, or wise management; 3d. He does not cultivate a spiritual worship, nor does his morality rise to the level of religion, though sacrifice is offered to his image in his own province every Spring and Autumn, by the officers there of every rank in the service of the state. A similar observance is carried out in the library halls of the provinces. This subjugation of the national mind to one authority has survived through all changes of dynasty, or to use the words of a native writer, "no matter what trouble the empire may have, Confucius and Kang were used as gods." The lecture proceeded to give questions from Dr. Morrison, on the ethical system of Confucius and the doctrine, above that it was a large extent political. He lays at the bottom of his system principles of dependence and subordination, as of children to parents, the younger to the elder, and so on. This made him so popular with the ruling power, and accounts for the remarkable respect paid to him in China. The civilities and adulation of these principles and without force in the hands of students who aspire to be gentlemen, and to their influence on the national mind and character, it is due that China holds together the largest unassimilated population in the world. To the same effect Mr. Kidd, Dr. Myer, Mr. John Dwyer, Mr. Hsien, and others, though the last, as Mr. Hsien observed, cannot on some points be received as an authority. Dr. Hsien has also shown how the Chinese have been possessed in their country as a nation by virtue of their system of paternal government and the cultivation of their moral code. Mr. Thomas Medley, speaking on the same subject and the way in which this knowledge is made subservient to the Chinese for the public service, attributes the prevalence of Tautology, Babelism, and Mohammedanism, rather to the Chinese of Confucius on the subject of a future state, or a supernatural world, than to anything therein favorable to superstition or idolatry. He, too, Dr. Williams, in his recently-digested volume, designated "The Middle Kingdom." Had Confucius been limited to purely such words as the "Latter" or "Plato's Dialogue," he would have taken a higher rank among the commanding intellects of the world, but it may be doubted whether his influence among his countrymen would have been as great as it is today. His influence over so many millions of minds is a fact which leaves his writings with an interest which no book has the right to claim. In the reign of Kang Hsi, 2150 years after his death, there were 12,000 copies of his works, and most of these of the 1st generation, being, undoubtedly, one of the oldest families in the world. Dr. Hsien then proceeded to give his own view of the insufficiency of the Confucian ethics for redefining humanity, frugal, decent, manly, and immorality among the people, or the frequent execution, cruelty, and want of justice among the Government officials. He said, he says, Confucius had such a tremendous hold upon that proud and conceited people, that it is perfectly incredible to them to have any comparison made between his writings and the teachings of Christ; at least, this is specially so among the literati. Nevertheless Dr. Hsien does justice to many good and pleasing traits of character among the Chinese, particularly the filial affection and respect of children for parents, their regard for increasing dignity of poverty, their politeness and sobriety, and the absence of jealousy among relations. To this observation he adds, that their love of kindness, though they are exclusively inculcated in the words and ways of his followers in general, even when life and property are in danger. Without going into a description of the Chinese laws, of which an excellent translation was given by Sir George Staunton many years ago, we must admit that they are good in spirit and intention, and that China would be a well-governed nation, if the conduct and purity of the officers were improved themselves. At the same time, however, even with justice, who subject the minds of justice to their very senses. But those who keep free of political intrigues have little to fear, unless they are the misdeeds of relations. Little is to be feared as much as possible, for it has become a proverb—"The tiger's own nature he might without going into his den." Mr. Oliphant says that Japanese officials do not take notice, a point rather doubtful. It is obvious that the Chinese do. But now and then public opinion is aroused against excesses of this kind, and summary vengeance taken even in the streets of Canton. On the other hand, great respect is shown to the just judge, and he is made the subject of a popular demonstration on his removal to another department. Dr. Hsien then proceeded to touch of the execution, of which the supreme hand is the Emperor, with his various pompous titles, and his divine right as Son of Heaven, and so forth, and who often sacrifices to Heaven, though whether he has any conception of a being who fills it is a question. The late Emperor, Tzang Hwang, as high priest of the nation, offered up a prayer for rain after the severe drought of 1853, in which he acknowledged his own sins, those of his ancestors, and those of the people. This prayer was answered some after by heavy showers. Dr. Legge thinks that the object of the Emperor's prayer, addressed by the title of Tzang Hwang, is truly and properly God. Next to his Imperial Majesty, second to the present Manchu dynasty, come the four Ministers of State and two subordinates, both Manchus and half Chinese; then the general council of Ministers the most characteristic of the subject, president and vice-presidents of the six boards. The religious functions have eight or nine persons, of whom one is called Hsien Yeh was met. Time and the immensity of the subject preclude the true statement of China, which is not boundary, but stretched by learning and more. Dr. Hsien has referred to an article in a late number of the Quarterly, which attributes the stagnation of progress in China to the very system of competitive examination, with which he does not agree, though he quotes with approbation the reviewer's remark that the condition of the Chinese would go far to prove the necessity of a divine revelation for the guidance of man. The next points considered were their discipline, their severity in the execution of criminals, being chiefly in their political weakness; and here some criticism for Yeh's attention was put forward, in his having simply placed obedience to the laws. Dr. Hsien stated that he had witnessed their fatal delinquency and punishment with the long sword on at least one hundred deaths at one time, and though he could never forget the horror of the sight, still there was some consolation in the fact that death was instantaneous. He had visited their prisons and found them better than he had expected, though heeding the reports of a Howard or a Fry. He deplored the system of making a whole family answer for the sin of one of their members. Infanticide was not so common a vice as generally supposed. Suicide was, unfortunately, extremely frequent. Their medical practice was inferior beneath the dignity of the touch of net. They used made of sedatives. Have you seen this today? Was given in difficult terms, sometimes by making the words to the word, where the party addressed spoke a different colloquial dialect. Some very interesting details were then given on the subject of the language of this remarkable people. This is principally monosyllabic without any of the present grammatical features of the European or classical languages.

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HOBSON B.

(1816-73)

AN APPEAL

TO THE

RELIGIOUS AND BENEVOLENT PUBLIC

ON BEHALF OF A PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A

MEDICAL SCHOOL FOR THE NATIVES OF CHINA,

IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHINESE

MEDICAL MISSION AT HONG-KONG.

THE writer of this appeal has had occasion to return to his native land for a brief period from China, where he has been employed as a medical missionary, under the auspices of the London Missionary Society; and he now hopes to be able to forward the great object, towards which the sympathies of many Christians are now directed, of disseminating the blessings of the Gospel amongst the people of that country, by the publication of statements to which he earnestly invites the attention of the religious and benevolent public.

China is venerable for its high antiquity; and surpasses, in its population and inhabited territory, every other nation of the earth. It presents features in its history, government, language, and moral condition peculiarly striking, commanding on the one hand our admiration and respect, and on the other, exciting our deepest commiseration and regret. The Ruler of the universe has placed our country, though so distant, in a remarkable connection, and no less responsible relation with these teeming millions of the eastern world. Our commerce with the Chinese commenced more than two centuries ago, and is now greater than at any preceding time, and is increasingly important to the manufacturing interests and revenue of Great Britain.



The intelligence, general education, ingenuity, and civilization of the Chinese are proverbial ; but facts and observation teach us, that they are infatuated idolaters, and require the knowledge and blessings of Christianity to raise them to that state of intellectual and moral improvement which they are capable of attaining. From their abject deference to the wisdom of their sages, their slavish adherence to ancient customs, added to an innate contempt and dislike of all innovation and influence from other nations, they have made no advance for ages, but rather retrograded. Hence, true science and religion have scarcely shed one genial ray to dissipate that dark superstition and ignorance, in which their philosophy and moral condition are alike involved ; and the free exercise of thought and intellect being checked and paralysed, by a principle of action so opposed to their development, there appears to be but little prospect of any change for the better, unless external influence and example can be made instrumental in dissolving this charm of antiquity, and inducing a spirit of independent thought and conduct, worthy of a nation so great in many other respects. Under this impression, what benevolent or Christian mind can contemplate the work of evangelizing so large and populous a portion of the Eastern hemisphere, without a deep sense of its own responsibility to help forward this happy consummation ?

To obviate in a good measure the exclusiveness of this peculiar people, a modification in conducting Christian missions to China has of late years been adopted, by the employment of pious medical agency. The object of this paper is not to describe, commend, or plead for Medical Missions, except by stating that not far short of 100,000 Chinese have received medical aid from English and American physicians. At present, there are four hospitals and three dispensaries in active operation, and conducted at a small expense, on the coast of China ; and to which, from 30,000 to 40,000 sick persons resort in the course of a single year. All these pass under medical inspection, evince great confidence in, and thankfulness for, the benefits received ; and from the religious and moral instruction imparted, return to their homes with many prejudices removed, and with impressions favourable to Christianity produced. From which it will be apparent that jealous as they are of all innovation, they cannot exclude disease, and from the low state of the medical art in China, particularly of surgery, they gladly avail themselves of the superior skill of foreigners ; hence a power is at once put into our hands which it becomes us to employ to the best advantage.

The operations of foreign missionaries, necessary and useful as they are in many ways, are liable at any time to be suspended by disease or death. It is therefore an object of great importance, if any permanent advance is to be

effected, to educate and qualify *the natives themselves* for the office of evangelists and teachers.

And if a similar agency can be brought into operation to introduce the practice of a more enlightened system of medicine, and to diffuse it to others, it requires no prophetic eye to predict that it would be one of the most effectual means of overturning the present erroneous systems, and substituting in their place the more modern and correct views and practice of the European schools; this united to the diffusion of Christian truth, would prove incompatible with the continuance of paganism, superstition, and error, and increase a hundred-fold the happiness of the people of China.

The plan now proposed is to commence a permanent establishment of this kind at the British Colony, to be called, "The Hong-Kong School of Medicine for the natives of China."

To show the necessity of such an institution, it may be here mentioned in a few words, that there is no university, college, or examining board, to educate or exercise any control over native practitioners, so that their knowledge is confined to books that were written 2000 years ago, utterly false and absurd in theory, and ineffective in practice. The true circulation of the blood is unknown, and all anatomical research discountenanced and forbidden. Surgical operations, except of the most trivial kind, are never attempted, and even diseases of the eye, affecting as they do so large a portion of the native population, are equally misunderstood and mismanaged.

The importance of the above object will be best shown by mentioning some of the advantages that would result from its accomplishment. Such are—the more effectual and extended relief of the maladies incident to so large a population,—the gradual introduction and extension of a better system of medicine, and other useful branches of knowledge,—and the liberalizing influence of these upon the Chinese mind. Medicine is intimately connected with many of the natural sciences, which strikingly display the wisdom and beneficence of the great Creator, and to which the attention of the students would be carefully directed. These studies, together with moral and religious training, will, with the Divine blessing, prove a powerful instrument of good, by forming a class of men of superior talents and acquirements, well suited to move and remodel the torpid, stereotyped mind of China.

It may be little by little, and step by step, that such a change upon the ancient customs of the country will be accomplished; but this kind of agency does appear to many to be that which is most likely to attain the proposed end. To show that the scheme is not a visionary one, it is proper to state that it has been tried on a small scale, and found successful. A *native assistant* is now conducting (with only occasional supervision in im-

portant cases, by Dr. Dill, colonial surgeon,) a large native hospital during the absence of his medical instructor in England, and in a manner satisfactory and pleasing.

In order likewise to furnish an unbiassed opinion in favour of the same object, two extracts are here inserted; the first from a local paper, being a part of a communication from A. Anderson, Esq., late colonial surgeon; and the second from an admirable work on China, by Dr. Wilson, Inspector of Naval Hospitals, etc.

"A Chinese youth, Apoon, who has been for some time studying medicine and surgery under the tuition of Dr. Hobson, was examined on the knowledge he has attained in that interesting and useful science. The examination consisted of a minute description of the anatomy and physiology of the eye, of the various structures composing that delicate and beautiful organ, and of their uses; of the diseases of the eye and eyelids, and of the treatment of the numerous forms these diseases assume, and the method of cure adapted to each, with an inquiry into the general treatment without which the remedies applied to the organ itself so often prove unavailing. After describing those diseases more prevalent among his own countrymen, Apoon performed two operations of couching for cataract, one on the right and the other on the left eye of the same patient; and two for the cure of Entropium, in a manner steady and skilful, and affording good promise of future excellence as an operator.

"The minute knowledge he displayed on these subjects, called forth the warm commendations of the medical gentlemen present."—"This is carrying out fully the object of medical missions. It will rapidly extend the usefulness of these institutions, and tend to spread among their countrymen a desire to search after the truths of general science, and we trust of that religion, whose advancement forms the chief object of this society."

"Some time ago the writer saw a young man, named Apoon, educated by Dr. Hobson, perform, adroitly, various operations on the eye, including that for cataract, in the Hong-Kong hospital. He was well acquainted with the structure of the eye, its diseases, and their most approved methods of treatment. During his residence in the hospital he had acquired a competent knowledge of the English language, had the stores of information from the western world opened to him, and ample opportunities of learning the doctrines and precepts of Christianity.

"He will soon return to his native place, near Canton, to dispense the fruits of what he gained at Hong-Kong. Others will follow, to penetrate further and further into the country, till the whole empire, it is hoped, shall be pervaded by those real reformers and benefactors of their fellows;

and they will have great advantage over alien instructors. Speaking the language fluently, and appearing without the suspicion of bringing disguised evil under the cloak of professed benevolence, they will appeal effectually to the intellects, affections, and consciences of their countrymen."

Having, as it is hoped, proved that such an institution as is now proposed, is both highly desirable and practicable, difficult and arduous as the work will be, it only remains to describe briefly the plan of operation, and what is required to carry it into effect.

The pupils proposed to be entered into this institution, will be from ten to fifteen in number, or more, if circumstances will admit; preference being given to those of good character and ability. They will be admitted from any private or public school at Hong-Kong, or the five ports. A small allowance to such as require support will be given monthly, to provide rice and clothes.

The elements of Physics and Natural Theology, and the different branches of Medicine, with hospital practice, will be taught in a systematic course of instruction during a period of three years. Public examinations will take place annually; and at the last examination a certificate of general proficiency will be given to those whose attainments are found to be satisfactory. The greater part, on the termination of their studies, would readily obtain a sufficient competency to maintain themselves by their practice; others would be for a time employed as dressers and assistants in the Military and Seamen's Hospitals. And some, it is hoped, imbued with the spirit and knowledge of Christianity, would be qualified for the honourable and important work of native missionaries to their countrymen.

During the whole period of instruction, strict regard will be paid to moral discipline. No sectarian views will be inculcated; and as the influence of caste does not exist, there can be no fear of doing violence to the prejudices of the people by the introduction of Christian ethics. The students would therefore be expected to attend morning and evening prayer, either in the hospital with the patients, or in the family of the resident medical missionary; and to the study of the inspired volume.

Such is an outline of the character and objects of the proposed institution; and what is now wanted to carry the project into effect is, the appointment of a qualified instructor, and the erection of suitable premises, and apparatus.

With regard to the first, the London Missionary Society,—which is the only one that as yet has sent out medical missionaries to China,—has resolved to appoint another medical missionary to this field, and to support him out of their funds for this particular duty, provided the expense of the buildings is defrayed from other sources.

There appears no reason to doubt that an individual will be found of religious principles, and the necessary professional qualifications, to engage in this noble object of Christian enterprise.

What therefore is most needed, are subscriptions and donations to form a building fund to provide the necessary accommodation for the resident teacher and students, and for a library, museum, and lecture-rooms, which, according to the best calculation, including the expense of apparatus, with the utmost economy, will not be less than £1000.

Hong-Kong is the only place on the coast of China where the operations of such an institution could be carried on with any prospect of success, and there only would there be freedom from official surveillance, and interruption in the study of anatomy. A site very eligible for the purpose, immediately adjoining the Chinese hospital, has been kindly promised by His Excellency Sir John Davis, free of ground-rent; and several medical men connected with the royal navy, army, and civil service residing in the colony, and members of the Medico-Chirurgical Society, have shown their interest in the object, by pledging themselves to use all the influence in their power in aiding its establishment. Subscriptions and donations are respectfully, but earnestly requested from the benevolent and Christian public, to raise the sum above-mentioned. And to prevent the alienation of the property from its original object and the public good, a deed of trust will be legally drawn out; a local committee will also afford good security for the judicious expenditure of the money subscribed for this purpose. With these observations, and the hope that the proposal will meet with encouragement, and with the requisite pecuniary support, both from his brethren of the medical profession, and the affluent and charitable, into whose hands this appeal may come, the writer subscribes himself their

Obedient and humble Servant,

BENJAMIN HOBSON, M.B.,
Member of the Royal College of Surgeons.

Welford, Northamptonshire,

April 28, 1846.

OBITUARY.

BENJAMIN HOBSON, M.R.C.P., M.B. LOND., M.R.C.S.

SINCE our obituary notice appeared in the last number of the *Medical Times and Gazette* we have received from his son the following statement, which we think worthy of record in our pages. We well recollect him as a fellow-student at the North London Hospital. He was a most painstaking, industrious, and conscientious student. If we are not mistaken, he was clinical clerk to Dr. Elliotson. Even at that time he was impressed with the importance of the duties which a medical missionary could perform in China, and on more than one occasion this subject formed the topic of conversation between Dr. Hobson and ourselves. He was a singular instance of enthusiasm and devotion to a cause which he regarded as of paramount importance—to the spread of Christianity amongst the Chinese. That he effected good results by his skill, by his exemplary life, and by his unwearying labours in the cause to which he had devoted himself there can be no doubt. It is due to his memory to acknowledge to the fullest extent this fact; but as has been shown by several important letters in the *Times* newspaper—notably the communication of Sir Rutherford Alcock—the Chinese regard all missionary effort for the purpose of proselytising them as a political and not a religious movement. In consequence, the disinterested labours of such men as Hobson have failed to a great extent in their object, notwithstanding that those labours are worthy of the highest commendation.

Dr. Hobson commenced his medical studies at Birmingham, and continued them at University College, London, with great diligence and much success. He went to China in 1839 as a medical missionary, in connexion with the London Missionary Society; was stationed at Macao for a few years, till Hong-Kong became a British colony, when he went to that place for a short time. He went thence to Canton early in 1848, where he established a hospital—not without considerable difficulty and opposition from the Chinese. This hospital was a means of great usefulness. Relief was given to great numbers of sick people, while no opportunity was lost in making known the great truths of Christianity, its benevolent nature being practically demonstrated. After this hospital had been in full and active operation for more than eight years, it was brought to an abrupt termination in consequence of the hostilities between the Chinese and British authorities. He then went to the Missionary Hospital at Shanghai, where he remained till the failure of his health obliged him to return to England in 1859. He commenced practice at Clifton, and afterwards went to Cheltenham; but after being in practice altogether five years, he had, in 1864, an attack of facial paralysis. Though he recovered his health in great measure, yet he never regained sufficient strength to undertake any active duties. As stated in our notice last week, he was author of five works: the first, on "Physiology and General Anatomy" (published in 1851, and containing 271 illustrations taken from English works), was very popular, and was republished by persons holding high official rank in Canton. One of these persons—Yeh-Say-Ung, the father of the celebrated Yeh who resisted the English at Canton—published on eight scrolls the illustrations of this work, which were coloured and headed by a preface highly complimentary to the Western surgeon, which was very remarkable, as coming from a person so proud and exclusive as a Chinese scholar. A few years after, a treatise on Surgery followed, with 400 illustrations; then one on midwifery and infantile diseases. The fourth was on the principles and practice of Medicine, with a digest of the British Pharmacopoeia. To aid the better understanding of the views put forth in these works, the chief properties of light, heat, electricity, air, and water were explained and attached to a volume previously published on astronomy and natural history. These five works were not translations of English ones, but were rather selections from many on the same subjects, and adapted to use. Not only were these works in great demand among the Chinese, and circulated far and wide through the empire (especially the one on physiology), but they were reprinted in Japan and Corea. Nor was their popularity short-lived; the demand for them has not decreased even at the present day, and an urgent request was made by the Chinese themselves in 1870 that Dr. Hobson should return to China to prepare more books of the same nature. These five volumes may be seen in the library of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. His object in writing them was purely to bring

about a better knowledge of medical science among the Chinese, of which he has shown that they are deplorably ignorant. He wrote an article on leprosy in the *Medical Times and Gazette* of 1860, also on the same subject in the *Transactions of the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society* for 1851-52; on the state of Medicine in China (five articles), 1860-61. He returned to England for a few months in 1846.

SAMUEL W. J. MERRIMAN, M.D. CANTAB., M.R.C.P.

Was the only son of Dr. Samuel Merriman, the eminent accoucheur. After receiving his education at one of the public schools, he became an undergraduate of the University of Cambridge, where he took his degree of M.D. in 1841. He had the year before been admitted a Member of the Royal College of Physicians, London. He filled successively the offices of Physician to the Western General Dispensary, the Royal Infirmary for Women and Children, and Physician-Accoucheur to the Western General Dispensary. He was author of "Arguments against the Indiscriminate Use of Chloroform in Midwifery," 1848. He also contributed "Statistical Records of the Progress of Asiatic Cholera" to the *Medical and Chirurgical Transactions*, 1844; "Statistics of Infantile Cholera," *Edinburgh Monthly Journal*, 1854; papers "On Midwifery," *Medical Times and Gazette*, *Obstetrical Record*, *British Medical Journal*, etc.

Starting in life with the prestige of a great name, well educated, and of moderate abilities, Dr. Merriman was not successful in practice. He was sadly deficient in that tact which is essential to a metropolitan practitioner. He had an awkward mode of expressing himself, never appeared sufficiently decided in his opinions, and his manner was somewhat childlike. His appearance was also much against him: he had a round, unexpressive face, wore goggled spectacles, and had a peculiar white woolly hair. These are mentioned, not to his detriment—they arose from no fault of his own; but that he mistook his avocation is certain. However, in all the relations of life he was one of the most honourable, kind-hearted, and upright men that ever entered our ranks. We believe he suffered for some time from ill-health, which he bore with "calm and decorous fortitude." He died at the age of 55 at his residence, Marlborough House, Sandown, Isle of Wight. He had long retired from the practice of his profession. He will be lamented by all who knew him.

WM. J. BYAM, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.,

DIED at Woodcroft, near Chesham, Monmouthshire, on February 16, and was interred at Sherston, Wiltshire, on February 21, 1873, aged 64 years. He commenced practice in London in October, 1830, and was forced to relinquish in 1869, having had a severe attack of congestion of the lungs. For thirty-seven years he was Honorary Surgeon to the Christian Union Almshouses, John-street, Edgware-road. On his retirement he was presented with a silver inkstand by the committee, and with a silver paper-knife by the inmates, in kind remembrance of his long and faithful services. He resided from 1835 till 1869 at 34, Welbeck-street, London.

JOHN BISHOP HAYNES, F.R.C.S.,

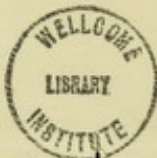
AN old medical practitioner of Evesham, died at his residence at Battellwell Lodge last week. Mr. Haynes was Mayor of the borough in 1846, and for many years a magistrate. He was admitted a L.S.A. in 1825, and a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1826, but retired from active life some three or four years ago, on account of advancing age and ill-health. His death was rather sudden, although he had been ailing for some time past. He was highly respected in the town and neighbourhood, and his death will be deeply regretted. He was author of "How to Supply the Agricultural Labourer with Good Beer at a Low Price."

WILLIAM ROBB, M.D. ABER.,

DIED on Saturday, February 15, at his residence in Elgin, at the age of 74. Dr. Robb had for nearly fifty years practised in that town. He was a Medical Officer of Guy's Hospital, the County Prison, and the Elgin Parochial Board. He was skilful in midwifery and the diseases of children, and was greatly beloved for his kind-heartedness and affable manner.

THE *Danbury News* says that a humane mother in that place chloroforms her boy before whipping him.

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Obstetrical Societies of Edinburgh and Dublin on the noble work they had done, and proposed that the London Society should seek to be incorporated as the Royal Obstetrical Society of London; and concluded by observing that although as a science Medicine was absolutely one and indivisible, it must ever be divided for practical purposes, in populous countries, into Medicine, Surgery, and Obstetrics—the only three divisions of the healing art that are co-equal in importance and in dignity.

Dr. J. BRAXTON HICKS related a case of Delivery by the Forceps in Face-presentation in the Mento-lateral Position (with a cast of the fetal head). During traction attempts were made to direct the chin forwards so as to imitate nature, but without effect, and the face emerged from the outlet as it had entered the inlet. The author believes that it is not advisable in every instance of face-presentation to blindly insist, when using the forceps, on imitating nature in ordinary cases.

Dr. J. BRAXTON HICKS also related a case of Delivery by Cephalotripsy (with cast of fetal head). The delivery was easily effected by the author's cephalotribe, and he showed that the extreme width of the closed empty blades (one inch and a half) was just the same when the head was enclosed between them. He believed them to be sufficiently strong and narrow for all the demands of delivery. If they could not be passed, the case was not suitable for delivery *per vias naturales*.

Dr. J. J. PHILLIPS felt convinced that the cephalotribe would come into much more general use. He considered Dr. Hicks's instrument a most efficient one.

Dr. HARRIS mentioned that he had used at the Government Lying-in Hospital at Madras with complete success an instrument called the "Calcutta craniotribe," the blades of which resembled those of the ordinary forceps, and whose crushing power was consequently not so great. He believed them, however, to be somewhat easier of application.

Dr. BRAXTON HICKS thought it best to have an instrument equal to any demand. Nothing could be more unpleasant than to find one's tools too weak for the requirements of the case. His own instrument he found easy of application, and he had used it without assistance frequently.

Dr. HEYWOOD SMITH related a case illustrating the Treatment of Post-Partum Hemorrhage by the Intra-uterine Injection of the Perchloride of Iron. The patient was admitted into the British Lying-in Hospital on January 26, 1872, and delivered that day by a pupil midwife of a male child, after a labour of twelve hours. The placenta came away easily in twenty-five minutes. Third day: The patient complained of severe pain in the hypogastrium. Tenth day: Hemorrhage occurred. Eleventh day: Hemorrhage continuing, a solution of one part of strong liquor ferri perchloridi to eight of water was injected. Sixteenth day: Bleeding continuing the injection was repeated. Eighteenth day: The uterus was again injected, with iron (one in four), and again on the twentieth day with equal parts of the liquor ferri and water. The twenty-first day strong liquor ferri was injected into the uterus with an intra-uterine syringe holding about two drachms. This produced severe pain, but completely stopped the hemorrhage, which never amounted to flooding, but oozed continually, of a bright red colour. Twenty-third day: The patient was delirious, and discharge brown and offensive. Twenty-fifth day: Had occasionally great dyspnoea, and picked at the bedclothes. Twenty-eighth day: Died. The uterus was removed, and examined by Dr. Snow Beck and the author. It was nearly five inches long and four inches broad, and its walls three-quarters of an inch thick. Its anterior and posterior surfaces were marked with black streaks; the tissue was soft, but otherwise apparently healthy. Its inner surface was covered with a dark reddish-black fluid, and at the junction of the upper third with the lower two-thirds was a depression stained black. Near the centre of it an artery hung out more than one-eighth of an inch. Near the depression, and fitting into it, was a rounded mass of placenta about the size of a small filbert. A small portion of the end of an artery showed the free extremity slightly puckered, its margins rounded, and the canal unobstructed. The author believes this case teaches us—1. That post-partum hemorrhage happening after complete contraction of the uterus, and therefore after the uterine sinuses have been emptied of blood, is evidently arterial. 2. That when a solution of the perchloride of iron is injected into the uterus, the sinuses take it up and carry it into the veins; the tissues also immediately surrounding the sinuses becoming stained. 3. That the perchloride of iron does not produce contraction, nor, by coagulation of blood, blocking of the orifices of the uterine arteries. 4. That the perchloride of

iron is a styptic, the use of which in the cavity of the puerperal uterus is not innocuous.

Dr. ROUTH thought great credit was due to Dr. Heywood Smith for bringing forward this unfavourable case. He had suspicions that the injection of iron was not so innocuous as believed. Some time ago he called in Dr. Barnes to assist him in treating a case of post-partum hemorrhage, in which Dr. Barnes injected a solution of the weak tincture of steel and water in equal parts with the desired effect. On the third or fourth day puerperal fever set in, and, in spite of all treatment, the patient died. He did not say the death was due to the injection, but he thought it might be so. In Dr. Heywood Smith's case no mention was made of the complete escape of fluid injected; perhaps some had been retained. If so, the symptoms might be due to retention of the fluid giving rise to peritonitis, rather than to the nature of the fluid injected.

Dr. GRAYLY HEWITT stated that he had seen one case where the perchloride of iron injection had been used to restrain hemorrhage, and the patient had subsequently died. A solution (one in four) of the tincture was injected, and restrained the bleeding. After three days pain set in, the lochia became arrested, and the patient died from puerperal peritonitis and other grave complications, five weeks after delivery. Whether this result was in any way due to the action of the iron was a question.

Dr. BRAXTON HICKS thought the injection which Dr. Heywood Smith had used was too strong, and that it would have been well in his case to have diluted the cervix for the purpose of investigating the interior of the uterus. He had employed the perchloride of iron injection a great number of times, and had made inquiries largely amongst those who had also used it, without having seen or heard of any serious result. The only case in which he had seen any trouble was one of severe flooding after twins. The injection was used with complete success. Twenty-four hours after pains arose, and it was found that the uterus contained hard, blackened coagula which it could not expel. These were broken up and washed out, and the patient did well. He believed pyemia might result from depression after severe hemorrhage where no injections of perchloride of iron had been used.

Dr. SELL (of New York) said that his experience regarding the use of perchloride of iron was obtained at the University of Vienna, which could boast of from 7000 to 9000 deliveries annually. There its use in post-partum hemorrhage was the treatment upon which they relied, provided ergot and injection of cold water did not arrest the bleeding. A weak solution of the ferrum sesquichloridum (5j. ad aq. lb. j.) was gently injected, and repeated till the hemorrhage ceased. He had never seen any bad results from this treatment.

Dr. J. J. PHILLIPS, while admitting that there were certain dangers connected with the injection of a solution of perchloride of iron, believed there was no valid argument against its use in suitable cases. He had used it several times, and death had occurred only in one case, which he could not in the least degree connect with the use of the iron. He generally diluted the liquor ferri perchloridi (not the strong one) with about half its bulk of water.

Dr. PLATFAIR said that he should much regret if the case brought before the Society should have the effect of throwing doubt on the safety of astringent injections in severe cases of post-partum hemorrhage. He had used the perchloride of iron in many cases, and only once unsuccessfully; nor had he ever seen any evil consequences. Dr. Heywood Smith's case was one of secondary hemorrhage caused by the presence of a piece of retained placenta; and the strong undiluted liquor ferri perchloridi had been injected—a proceeding which Dr. Barnes had not sanctioned.

[This discussion will be resumed at the next meeting.]

NEW INVENTIONS.

NEW SILVER CATHETER.

MESSES. MAYER AND MELTZER have frequently had complaints made to them of the sharp edges of the eyes of silver catheters. It is stated that all hard metal catheters hitherto manufactured are prone to wound the mucous membrane of the urethra if it fall within the open eye of the instrument. To get rid of this evident defect, they have made a catheter with a circle of wire fixed upon the margin of the eye on the interior aspect of the instrument. The catheter is thus able to pass painlessly over the surface of the canal, and all risk of exciting hemorrhage by scratching or cutting the mucous membrane is obviated.

respectable females studied all the medical sciences and had lectures every day. He objected to the supervision proposed by Dr. Aveling; the women should make their own reputation.—Dr. FOTHERGILL had no objection to midwives, and would like to see them better educated; but he had never yet found a woman who had confidence in women in cases of emergency. He did not see how midwifery could be separated from general practice; and he agreed with Mr. Lord as to the danger of losing skill in practice.—Dr. HARRIS (of Madras) had been concerned in the education of midwives in India. He had seen many cases in which women were brought into the lying-in hospital in Madras, in consequence of the treatment which they received at the hands of the uneducated native midwives. In Madras, about twenty years ago, a class was instituted, of women who could read and write; they were taught at the bedside, and occasionally by lectures and examinations, and had opportunities of conducting labours. If, after some months, they were found on examination to be qualified, they were sent out to practise among the natives.—Dr. SHRIMPTON said that the education of midwives was well carried out in Paris. But here we must make use of the materials at hand, and have regard to the domestic tendencies of the English.—Dr. SNOW BECK would be glad if some practical result were arrived at. He did not think that a well educated body of midwives would encroach on the medical profession. The education should be given where every facility was afforded; viz., in lying-in institutions.—Dr. AVELING, in reply, said that he did not propose to form an army of midwives; it existed already, but it required to be regulated. He maintained that the midwives must be supervised in the same way as asylums and factories were supervised.

The proposal for the appointment of a Committee was then put to the vote and carried.

In connection with this discussion, we have been requested to publish the following letter.

24, Harley Street, Cavendish Square, March 15th, 1873.

My dear Dr. Aveling.—It was my intention to have made some remarks after your excellent paper, read at the last Metropolitan Branch meeting of the British Medical Association, on Midwives and their Instruction, proposed to be rendered compulsory by Legislative enactment; but I was urgently required elsewhere.

My opinion is quite in accordance with yours, that our poorer sisters are in large numbers sadly neglected, through their attendance in their confinements by incompetent self-styled midwives; the result of which is, that the mortality produced or injuries left by their rashness on the one hand, or by passiveness on the other hand, are frightful to contemplate. Having been engaged as Physician and Lecturer to the Royal Maternity Charity for thirty years past, I have been able to observe, and with great satisfaction, the good effects of teaching candidates carefully in all the duties of a midwife, ere they are appointed. By order of the Committee of that Charity, I have had from time to time, as vacancies have occurred, to deliver lectures in order to keep up our stock of midwives (at present forty-one in number). The respectability of the candidates is first guaranteed by sureties satisfactory to the Committee. I then give them two courses of lectures, between which they attend cases, of which they deliver to me reports in tabular form. At the end of the instruction, I submit them to examination, when those only I accept whose answers are satisfactory. In some years, I have had to reject two, three, or four out of twelve candidates. In this way we secure intelligent women, in whom we can repose trust for the safe delivery of our poor patients, and the certainty of their appealing in due time in all necessary cases to the physicians, or their district auxiliary surgeons. Our annual deliveries amount to upwards of 3,000 cases, all attended at the patients' homes, with the small mortality very rarely indeed exceeding 1 in 400 from all causes. In 1872, our deliveries were 3,666; our deaths 4, or 1 in 916, including one from phthisis. Such results speak well for the kind of attendance given to the poor lying-in women of this Charity, and furnish a strong contrast to the results of midwifery attendance by uneducated women.

As a specimen of such women, I may mention one instance of a middle-aged person, who came to my class for instruction, she having for some years practised midwifery after receiving, as she said, a few lessons. I found her wholly incapable of receiving instruction, and advised her, therefore, to change her occupation. She then said she had learnt from me sufficient to convince her that she must have sacrificed many lives; and she declared her intention for the future of relinquishing midwifery practice entirely. I am aware that some other institutions, as various hospitals, have on a smaller scale done good work in education of midwives, and also the recently organised school of midwifery in Great Portland Street. From these sources, as well as where we could spare from our supernumeraries, various country districts have been supplied with properly educated midwives. Nevertheless, many union patients and poor populations are still miser-

ably and cruelly neglected in the hour of their greatest trial; and some church lying-in charities have, although unknowingly, I believe, provided themselves with uneducated midwives. Two such women were rejected at a recent examination by the Obstetrical Society's Examining Board.

That your praiseworthy movement, fully endorsed by the profession, may, in the interest of humanity, meet with the entire success which it deserves, is the earnest wish of,

Yours very sincerely,

J. HALL DAVIS.

SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT MEETING.

THE third meeting of the session 1872-73 was held at Gravesend on March 11th; JOHN CHRISTOPHER ARMSTRONG, Esq., in the Chair.

New Member.—Alfred Shewen, M.B., of Gravesend, was elected.

Communications.—1. *Starvation*.—Dr. CLAPTON of St. Thomas's Hospital read a paper on starvation, in which he showed that there were positive signs discoverable without information from the patient or friends. The tongue presented peculiar appearances, and the temperature was high.

2. *Cardiac Disturbance and Enlarged Liver*.—Mr. J. C. ARMSTRONG narrated a case of paroxysmal galloping heart and enormous tumefaction of the liver, terminating in ten days by a fecal evacuation of black colour. There were four attacks—viz., April and June 1869, September 1870, and July 1872. The last attack terminated in death on 7th August, probably owing to an intercurrent diphtheric affection. The disease was considered to be a functional affection of the ganglionic centres, probably an unusual manifestation of malaria.

3. *Pulmonary Embolism after Parturition*.—Dr. J. V. BELL narrated a case of pulmonary embolism occurring eight weeks after childbirth. The lady had suffered from oedema of the left lower extremity throughout gestation. The seizure consisted of collapse, extreme anxiety, imminent suffocation, and rapid feeble action of the heart (130-180). On the fifth day the pulse fell to 120, and a loud systolic murmur was detected to the right side of the heart's apex. The murmur gradually diminished, and ceased after a duration of fourteen days, whilst the pulse had fallen to 100. About this time oedema of the right upper extremity occurred, but did not last longer than a fortnight. The patient ultimately recovered. The case was considered to be one of phlegmasia alba dolens of the left lower extremity, followed by pulmonary embolism and venous embolism of the right upper extremity. The treatment consisted in the administration of brandy, ether, digitalis, and Virginian prune, with a beef-tea diet.

Dinner.—The members and visitors dined at the Old Falcon Hotel.

OBITUARY.

BENJAMIN HOBSON, M.B., M.R.C.P.

DR. HOBSON died, after a very brief illness, on the 16th of February, aged fifty-seven years. Having chosen medicine for his profession, he went through the usual course of study at University College, London, with great success. After taking his degree as M.B. of the University of London, in 1839, he went to China as a medical missionary, in connection with the London Missionary Society. He first had charge of a missionary hospital at Macao, afterwards at Hongkong, when that place became a British colony, and eventually at Canton, at each of which hospitals healing and Christian teaching were uniformly combined. At Canton, he succeeded in establishing a hospital in the face of the greatest difficulties and opposition, arising from the prejudices of the Chinese against foreigners. By slow degrees confidence was gained, opposition ceased, and patients came in large numbers, many from considerable distances round, whither the fame of the foreign doctor had reached.

The hospital at Canton was in full activity from 1848 till the close of 1856, when it was abruptly vacated in consequence of the rupture between the Chinese and British authorities. The report for that year shows that the average number of in-patients was 50, whilst the aggregate attendance was over 24,000. Nearly all the work of the hospital was attended to by Dr. Hobson himself, with little or no aid, except latterly, when a young Chinese, his pupil, was able to act as an assistant, and a medical friend, practising in Canton, kindly gave assistance by performing surgical operations.

Dr. Hobson prepared several medical works in Chinese. The first was on Physiology and General Anatomy, published in 1851. It contained numerous illustrations, taken from English works, done by the

aid of Chinese artists on the spot. The illustrations of this work were reproduced on eight scrolls by Yeh Suy-ung, father of the Governor-General of the province of Canton, with an introduction by himself, of which the following is a translation.

"A western writer, Hobson, has published a treatise on Physiology, with illustrations, in which the subject is thoroughly elucidated. He first gives a general description of the entire body, and afterwards treats of its various parts separately. The illustrative figures are 271 in number, they were lithographed at the free hospital at Kam-li-fau, in Canton. These I have arranged after the originals, on eight scrolls, which may be hung side by side, and so be conveniently studied, and they will be very suitable for presents. To persons desirous of acquiring the healing art they will give a complete insight into the internal and external structure of the body, and the principles of its organisation, and possess them of the means to obtain a true diagnosis of diseases. They are properly characterised in the following terms.

"The myriad processes of life are here displayed, and the human frame is opened to view. The internal and external organs are distinguished and accurately delineated. From the form the nature is demonstrated: what appears anomalous is shown to be well-ordered. It is the first time that we have beheld such productions. Our science indeed cannot compete with that of the philanthropic author.

"By Yeh Suy-ung, from the palace of the Governor-General of the Two Kwang Provinces, in the eighth autumnal month of the third year of Hien-fung."

The *China Mail* of May 11, 1854 (published at Hongkong), has this reference to the work on physiology.

"This work of Dr. Hobson's has probably excited a deeper interest among the Chinese literati than anything that has ever issued from foreigners. When first issued, in 1851, it was so eagerly sought after that a reprint of it was made for sale by Pwan-tze-shing, a wealthy and influential Chinese of Canton. We regard with great interest the circulation of books of this character among the Chinese."

A copy of this work is in the library of the British Museum.

A Treatise on Surgery was published a few years afterwards. It contained 400 illustrations from the standard surgical works at that time. This was followed by a work on Midwifery, and Infantile Diseases. The fourth work was on the Principles and Practice of Medicine, with a Digest of the *British Pharmacopoeia*. To aid the better understanding of the views put forth in these treatises, the chief properties of light, heat, electricity, air and water, were explained, and attached to a volume previously published on Astronomy and Natural History. These five books were not translations of any one English work in particular, but were rather selections from many on the same subjects, and adapted to use.

Not only have the above works been extremely well received by the Chinese, and circulated through the empire (especially that on physiology and general anatomy), but the whole of them have been reprinted in Japan, in fourteen thin octavo volumes.

Failing health obliged Dr. Hobson to return to England at the close of 1858. After a short rest he commenced practice, first at Clifton, and soon afterwards at Cheltenham. But twenty years of laborious work in the East had, it appears, weakened his constitution, and early in 1864 he had an attack of facial paralysis, and from that time, although he appeared to have greatly recovered from its effects, he was quite unable to resume practice. His transparency of character and kindness of heart won the esteem and love of those who knew him. It was hoped he would live for many years, but a severe attack of bronchitis unexpectedly terminated his life.

JOHN DEANE BAKER, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.S.A.

MR. BAKER was born in Somersetshire, where he received his early education. He afterwards studied at University College. After obtaining his diploma, he was appointed to the office of house-surgeon at the Leeds House of Recovery, and subsequently settled at Wragby, in Lincolnshire, where he continued to reside until his death. He held the appointments of Medical Officer of the Wragby District of the Horncastle Union, and of the Hainton District of the Louth Union, until the time of his death, which occurred on March 19th, in consequence of a fall from his horse while discharging his professional duties. His age was 45.

A. D. N. MUNRO, M.D.

AT the early age of thirty, this rising practitioner has been taken away. After graduating in 1864, at Edinburgh, with considerable honour, he settled down to the hard work of country practice in Letham, Fifeshire, where he soon gained widespread respect and esteem. An opening

occurring in Cupar, the county town, he removed thither, and rapidly extended his connection, until he had established a very thriving practice. When all things seemed at their brightest he was seized with pneumonia, which implicated the whole of the left lung, and for five months he suffered from hydrothorax and empyema. Pericarditis supervened, and he died on March 15th.

HENRY EAMES, M.D., DUBLIN.

WE regret to hear that Dr. Eames died on Monday, March 24th, at his residence, in Dublin, from typhus fever, at the early age of thirty-one. Dr. Eames was physician to Mercer's Hospital, and lecturer on the practice of physic, at the Ledwich School of Medicine and Surgery. Among his contributions to medical science may be mentioned a paper on "Phosphorus in Skin Affections," which was published some time ago, in the *Dublin Journal of Medicine*, and created a good deal of attention at the time. Dr. Eames' death is regretted by a large circle of professional friends.

R. DOWSE, Esq., INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF ARMY HOSPITALS.

MR. DOWSE died at his residence in Plymouth, on March 21st, aged 79. He entered the army in 1814 as Assistant-Surgeon, and served at the surrender of Martinique and Gaudaloupe in 1815; also in the Ionian Islands during an epidemic of plague in 1826. He was promoted to be Surgeon in 1836, Deputy Inspector-General in 1855, Inspector-General in 1857, and was granted the reward for distinguished services in 1871. Mr. Dowse was a native of Ireland, and uncle of the Right Hon. Baron Dowse, late M.P. for Londonderry.

WILLIAM HARVEY, Esq., ISLINGTON.

MR. WILLIAM HARVEY died on March 18th, at his residence, Lonsdale Square, Islington. During a period of fifty-seven years he had practised as a surgeon in the north of London, and was at the time of his death Chairman of the Islington Board of Guardians, a position which he had held from the formation of the Board. He filled, various times, all the parochial offices; was a member of the vestry from its formation; was one of the first *ex officio* members of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, nominated by the Poor-law Board; and was a prominent member of the Burial Board, and of the Clouesley Estates Committee. During many years he was an active supporter of the Islington Literary and Scientific Institution, in the management of which he took great interest. He was well known as an occasional lecturer, and as an able speaker on the leading subjects of the day, and was a frequent contributor to periodical literature. Under the signature of "Aleph," he wrote a large number of interesting papers on men and manners of the past, which appeared in the columns of the *City Press*, where they attracted a considerable amount of attention. It is understood that he has left a large number of manuscripts in the hands of his executor, Mr. W. H. Collingridge.

GEORGE GILBERT BROWN, M.D., INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF HOSPITALS.

WE regret to have to announce the death of this esteemed gentleman at Aberdeen. Dr. Brown died on March 15th, at the age of 73. In 1825, Dr. Brown became an Assistant-Surgeon in the East India Company's Service; in 1838, he was promoted to the rank of Surgeon. Dr. Brown served in the campaigns of Gwalior and the Punjab. He was present with the army of Gwalior at the battle of Maharajpore in 1843, for which he received a medal. In 1846, he was present at the battle of Sobraon, with the army of the Sutlej. On this occasion he also received a medal. He was with the army of the Punjab at the battles of Chillianwallah and Goojerat, for which he received a medal and two clasps. After serving till 1855, and spending his furlough at home, he finally completed a most useful Indian career of thirty-five years, and retired from the service in 1860, with the rank of Inspector-General of Hospitals. He settled in Aberdeen, his old home, and warmly and vigorously took an interest in the social and professional welfare of his native city. He secured the deep respect of the medical profession in the town, and was elected President of the Medico-Chirurgical Society, to the duties of which he very successfully brought his ripe and useful experience. He was a true friend, straightforward and genial.

tribute in some measure to the much-wished-for regeneration of the nation. The chief features of the measures of reform just adopted have already been alluded to in previous letters of mine. They may be briefly summed up thus:—Children under ten years are excluded from all factory work; boys from ten to thirteen, and girls from ten to fourteen, are to work only half-time; boys under sixteen and females under twenty-one will be excluded from all nightwork. The proper carrying out of these measures is guaranteed by the institution of a severe and extensive inspectorship or surveillance, and of heavy fines threatening employers who might attempt to infringe the law.

Count de Flavigny has just laid the Annual Report for the year 1872 under the notice of the founders of the French International Society for the Care of the Wounded. The Report shows that the Society is in a very flourishing condition. Notwithstanding the sums expended in assisting the Alsatian refugees, the orphan children of soldiers, and the maimed and wounded of the last war, there are yet three millions of francs left to the Society, and constituting a capital for the future. The interest of the money will be employed in assisting the wounded and improving the *matériel* of the Society. Already 10,000 francs have been spent this year in prizes given at a *concours* or public competition for various models of ambulances. Amongst the chief subjects of interest now occupying the attention of the committee is the building of special railway carriages for the conveyance of the wounded. They are intended to be free from all shock, and will furthermore be accompanied by kitchen waggons, where food, hot drinks, and medicines may be prepared. This sanitary train will be used in time of peace as well as during war.

The committee for the care of the battle-fields around Paris were lately busy inspecting the various localities where bloody strife took place during the siege, and especially the Valley of the Marne. The recent inundations of the Marne had swamped the ground all around, and it was very likely that the infiltrations of the water had swept away all the sulphate of iron and chloride of lime which had been put over the bodies, and that there might thus result the grievous inconvenience of pestilential miasms this spring. To avoid any such consequence, large quantities of iron and lime have again been introduced into the tumuli.

The Schools of Medicine and Pharmacy of Montpellier, which had been closed for a few days on account of the agitation created by the students, have again opened their doors.

Dr. Marchal de Calvi, the talented editor of the *Tribune Médicale*, and author of the treatise on "The Accidents and Complications of Diabetes," is suffering from an attack of cerebral hæmorrhage, which surprised him suddenly as he was correcting the proofs of an article.

The contemplated project of enlarging the premises of the School of Medicine of Paris seems about to be realised. The expenses will be borne by the Town Council of Paris and the Government equally. The School of Medicine will be completely isolated, and a monumental aspect given to the edifice. The buildings will be situated between the present Place de l'Ecole and a large boulevard running along the back part of the premises. Between this boulevard and the Seine will be planted out a large botanical garden for the special purposes of the faculty.

The health condition of Paris is still excellent, notwithstanding the increase in diseases of the respiratory organs. The last municipal bulletin mentions 889 deaths for the week ending 21st February. Out of this number 364 were cases of pulmonary phthisis.

Paris, Feb. 23th, 1873.

Obituary.

BENJ. HOBSON, M.B. LOND., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. ENG.

DR. HOBSON, who was born at Welford, Northampton, served his apprenticeship with a general practitioner in Birmingham, and subsequently pursued his studies at University College, London, where he won the esteem of both professors and students by his earnest work and high-minded conduct, mixing chiefly with a set of men who,

whilst displaying diligence in strictly professional work, found time to devote at least one evening in the week to the duties of religious instruction, including reading of the Bible and prayer. More than one of this limited band succeeded from medicine and now adorn the Church; others, like Hobson, have not failed to display the banner of Christian truth whilst practising a not less honourable and useful calling. His death took place from an attack of bronchitis, at Forest Hill, on Sunday, February 16th, aged fifty-seven years. He was twice married, and leaves a widow (a daughter of the late Dr. Morrison of China), two sons, and one daughter. His last moments, which were marked by great peace, were greatly soothed by the presence and care of his much-valued friend and co-labourer in the work of his life, Mr. W. Lockhart, F.R.C.S., of Lewisham, and formerly of China.

After acquiring the degree of M.B. of London, and the Membership of the College of Surgeons, he accepted the very honourable and important office of medical missionary from the London Missionary Society, entering on his duties at Macao in 1839. Shortly after this Hong-Kong became a British colony, to which place he migrated, and subsequently proceeded to Canton on the opening of that port to the British. Here he established a hospital for the Chinese, and for several years carried on his double work of healing the body and instructing "these enlightened heathen" in a better faith. None but a resident can fully appreciate the arduous and self-denying labours imposed on the doctor-priest who, far away from European sympathy and counsel, has to battle with every opposition. His God-like work, however, tells its own story: he heals the sick; cures the diseased; makes the lame to walk; opens the eyes of the blind; and thus assuredly proclaims his mission. Such were the successes of Hobson in China. Leaving Canton to others, he settled in Shanghai in 1857, having as his colleague his friend Lockhart, who worked with him as a brother both in and out of hospital. Dr. Hobson had, however, suffered from repeated attacks of ague, with indications of fatty degeneration of the heart, which so enfeebled his health that he was obliged in 1859 to give up his work and seek its restoration in England. He settled at Clifton on his return home, and attempted private practice, but his health forbade the needed labour to ensure success. Here he sustained an attack of facial paralysis, which necessitated his removal to a situation which promised more quiet and rest, but which he sought in vain, first at Birmingham, and finally at Forest-hill, Sydenham.

Dr. Hobson acquired during his long residence in China very considerable insight into the character and habits of the Chinese, their language and literature, and possessed a more than ordinary power of speaking that very eastern and complex language. His Chinese medical publications are very voluminous, consisting of five volumes: one on anatomy, surgery, medicine, midwifery, and natural philosophy; largely illustrated. These have had, and still have, a very wide circulation, and no publications issued by a Protestant Mission Society have been more generally accepted among all classes of Chinese, several special editions having been issued at the cost of wealthy Chinamen. In Japan and the Corea these excellent and valuable works of Dr. Hobson are equally well known, having been translated into these varied languages.

It may be truly said of Dr. Hobson that he well fulfilled his work in life, serving his day and generation by honest and good work, carrying out the objects contemplated by the society, whose servant, under God, he was; and that, although his death was prematurely early, yet he had done his work, and done it well, and now rests from his labours. Let the living accept the teaching of his life.

HENRY STERRY, F.R.C.S.

WE regret to have to record the death of Henry Sterry, Esq., late of Eastbury, Leigham Court-road, Streatham, Surrey, at the advanced age of seventy-two. He was the son of Samuel Henry Sterry, a highly respected and much esteemed member of the medical profession, who carried on an extensive practice in Bermondsey for a period of fifty years.

Henry Sterry was generally educated at Merchant Taylors', and professionally at the United Hospitals School of

Guy's and St. Thomas's. He was in partnership with his father during the latter period of his life, and afterwards joined his old pupil, Dr. Richard Sharpe. He was for many years surgeon to the School for the Indigent Blind, and after his retirement took a very active and useful part in its management.

In the year 1861 he retired from the active duties of his profession, but not from the active duties of life, as he was generally foremost in any charitable or good work in his immediate locality. In 1861 he was appointed to the Commission of the Peace for the county of Surrey, and most energetically and efficiently did he perform his duties, rendering himself most useful and active in his division, being much respected and esteemed by his brother magistrates. He succeeded the late Mr. Probert as treasurer of the Royal Medical Benevolent College, Epsom, and most worthily carried out the wishes and intentions of his predecessor, the kind-hearted founder, devoting a great amount of time and energy to the management of the institution, and with what success the improved condition and high present status of the College bear ample testimony. He was much respected and well supported by the council. The loss of Henry Sterry will be severely felt, not only by his immediate friends, but by many whose cares and anxieties he was foremost to assuage. He was a man of high and sterling principles, with a peculiarly sensitive organisation, faithfully fulfilling all the various relations of life.

DR. THOMAS THOMSON.

An old and highly esteemed practitioner has been lost to Leamington by the death of Dr. Thomas Thomson. The deceased gentleman was more than seventy years of age, and had but recently recovered from an attack of gout. He was to have taken the chair at a public meeting; but on the morning of the day on which it was to have been held the butler, on going to his room, found him dead in bed. Dr. Thomson was formerly in extensive practice at Stratford-on-Avon, where he had more than once been mayor, and he was still one of the trustees of Shakespeare's birth-place and property. He held the post of medical visitor of the Warwickshire County Lunatic Asylum; was connected with the principal local institutions of the town, and was one of the members of its governing body, of which he was chairman in 1871. As a mark of respect to his memory, the ordinary meeting announced to take place on the day of his death was adjourned.

Dr. Thomson's professional education was carried on at Edinburgh and Paris; and he graduated at the former school in 1827.

FRANK LUNGLEY, M.R.C.S.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mr. Frank Lungley, aged twenty-eight, son of Robert Lungley, Esq., of the London and County Bank, Lewes, Sussex. Mr. F. Lungley had successfully completed his medical education at Guy's Hospital. At the time of the Franco-German war he volunteered as a surgeon in aid of the sick and wounded, and saw a great amount of practice. He last month received an appointment as surgeon to the emigrant ship, the *Edwin Fox*, bound for Canterbury, New Zealand. This vessel left Gravesend on the 28th ult., and proceeded well on her voyage until off Ushant, where she encountered severe gales, and became disabled. She was then picked up by a steamer, intending to proceed into port at Falmouth for repairs. Unfortunately, very violent weather prevailed, and the hawsers suddenly breaking, the *Edwin Fox* was again at the mercy of the waves. In this crisis it was determined to turn the ship's head for Brest—and whilst this was being essayed, she became unmanageable, and the waves completely swamped the deck. Mr. Lungley at once took his place at the hatches to prevent the rush of emigrants on the deck, from which, had they gained a footing, they would have been infallibly swept overboard. Whilst engaged in this arduous duty a heavy sea struck the vessel and capsized the condensing apparatus and steam winch, completely crushing Mr. Lungley in their fall, together with a seaman standing near him. Ultimately the ship contrived to make Brest harbour without further damage.

Here on Thursday, the 6th inst., Mr. Lungley and the seaman were buried, the English Protestant clergyman performing the funeral service. The deepest sympathy is felt in Lewes for Mr. Lungley and his family in their bereavement.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FEB. 24TH.

THE Bastardy Laws Amendment Bill, as amended, were considered and agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. W. FOWLER, the Custody of Infants Bill, extending the provisions of Serjeant Talfourd's Act to children between the ages of seven and sixteen, was read a second time.

FEB. 25TH.

THE FACTORY ACTS.

MR. BRUCE said, in reply to Mr. POWELL, that he could hold out no hope of the Government introducing a Bill in the present session for the consolidation of the Factory Acts.

THE DIGEST OF SANITARY STATUTES.

MR. STANSFELD, in answer to Sir C. ADDERLEY, said that he did not think it expedient or necessary to attempt to consolidate what were termed the Sanitary Acts during the present session of Parliament. He did not think it would be expedient to attempt such a work, because he believed that it was a task that might be attempted, but not practically accomplished. He did not think it would be necessary at present to go beyond the digest which had been prepared in two codes, urban and rural. In preparing that digest the various Sanitary Acts had been taken to pieces and re-arranged under practical headings, so that any man without a knowledge of law could refer to this digest and ascertain what was the law upon the subject, all redundant phraseology having been got rid of. The digest was now in the hands of the Queen's printer.

THE AGRICULTURAL CHILDREN BILL.

MR. PELL, in moving that the House should go into Committee upon the Bill, stated that, as he found the Government had taken the matter up, he should not ask the House to proceed further with this measure.

FEB. 26TH.

THE DUBLIN UNIVERSITY BILL.

MR. GORDON gave notice that he will ask the First Lord of the Treasury whether he has obtained information as to the number and character of institutions in Ireland (other than Magee College) which, under the operation of the Dublin University Bill, may become affiliated colleges of the University of Dublin?

BASTARDY LAWS AMENDMENT BILL.

This Bill was read a third time and passed.

Medical News.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Feb. 20th:—

English, Thomas Johnston, Felham-road.
Rogers, Edward Coulton, Modbury, Devon.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN.—The following degrees were conferred on the 25th ult.:—

BACHELOR IN MEDICINE.—Robt. Nickle Denning, Richard John Kinkad, Robert Francis Russell, Thomas Arthur Woods, Brownlow Rudinge Martin, Frederick Simon Young.

MASTER IN SURGERY.—John Edward Meredith.

DOCTOR IN MEDICINE.—Francis Edward Clarke, Mark Antony Fenton, Reuben Joshua Harvey, Eyre Jevens, Richard John Kinkad.

DR. THOMPSON, of Peterborough, has received from the Local Government Board a grant of £3 4s., for successful vaccination in his district.