

## **Medical institutions of London.**

### **Contributors**

Allchin, William Henry, 1846-1912  
Allchin, Margaret  
Royal College of Physicians of London

### **Publication/Creation**

London : British Medical Association, 1895.

### **Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/frppz37u>

### **Provider**

Royal College of Physicians

### **License and attribution**

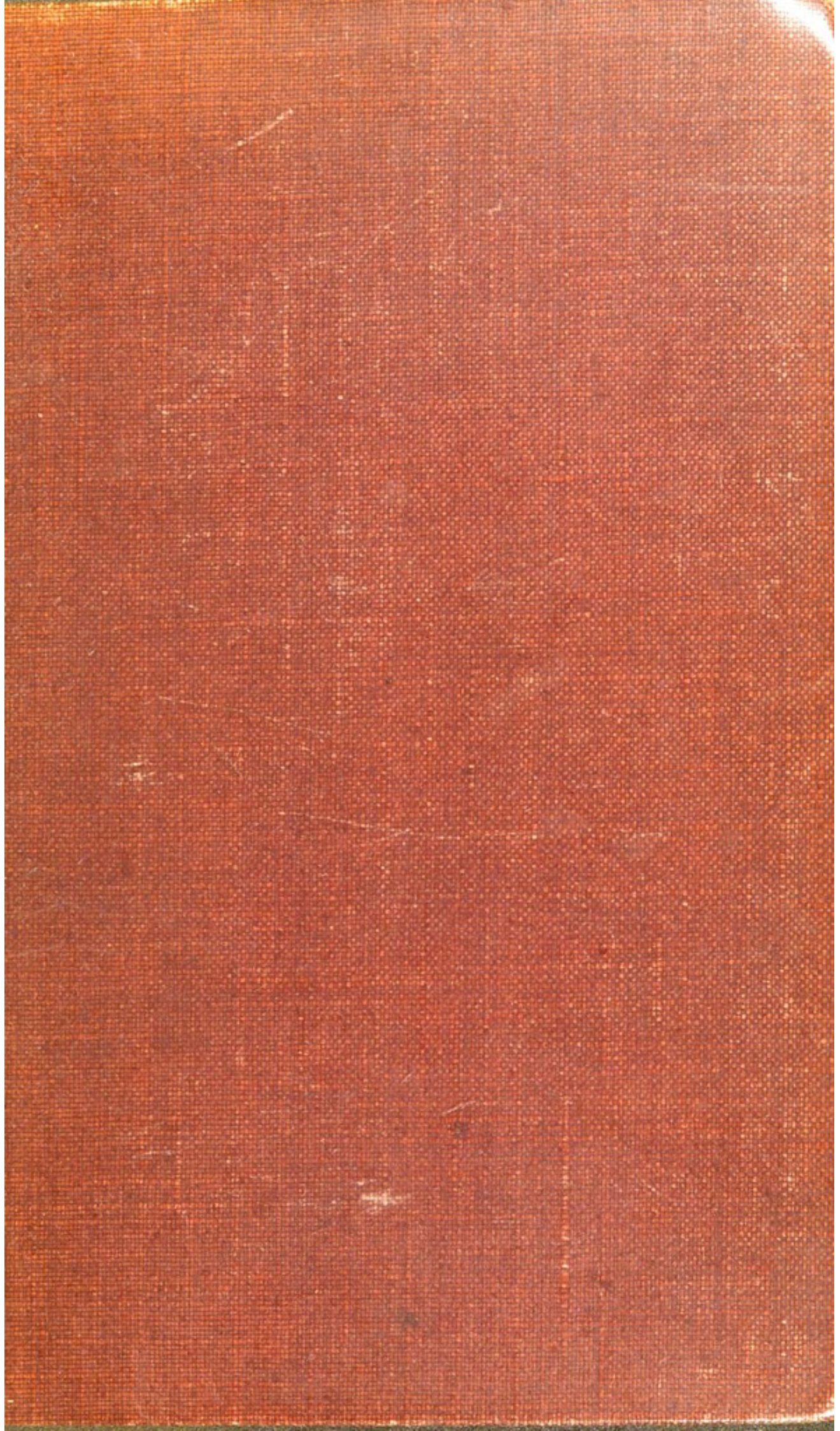
This material has been provided by This material has been provided by Royal College of Physicians, London. The original may be consulted at Royal College of Physicians, London. where the originals may be consulted. This work has been identified as being free of known restrictions under copyright law, including all related and neighbouring rights and is being made available under the Creative Commons, Public Domain Mark.

You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, without asking permission.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

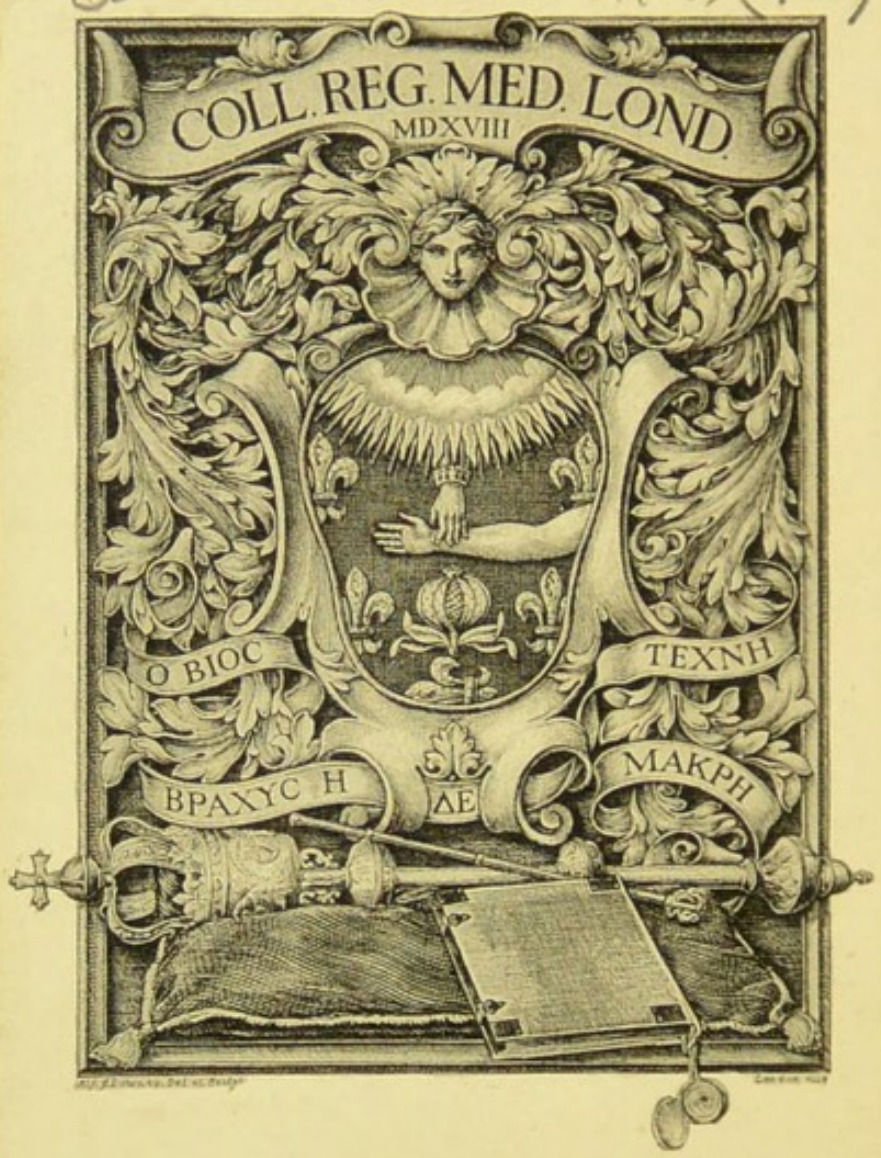






52

61(06)(42)







Medical Schools. 1895v.I, pp. 1388-91 & 1451-1453

Bailey, J. B., ed



*With Compl.  
J.S.D.*

**MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS**  
**OF**  
**LONDON.**

---

Reprinted from the **BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL**,  
June-July, 1895.

---



LONDON :  
PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION,  
429, STRAND, W.C.  
1895.

12



M COL. REG. MED. LOND. C  
HUNC LIBRUM  
EX  
BIBLIOTHECA  
GULIELMI HENRICI ALLCHIN EQ. AUR.  
D. D.  
M MARGARETA DOMINA ALLCHIN XIII

SL

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS  
61(06)(42)  
2851  
Lady Allchin. Gift  
23.6.13



# MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS OF LONDON.

---

## THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

THE Royal College of Physicians of London is probably the most ancient medical society in Europe. It was founded in 1518, when King Henry VIII was full of his youthful zeal for learning, and has continued without any material alteration in its constitution to the present day. It was flourishing before there was a professor of medicine in either of the ancient universities of England, and its existence and policy have profoundly affected the character and status of physicians in this country.

Dr. Thomas Linacre, the physician to whom its foundation was mainly due, was a disciple of the new learning of his time, who had studied Greek under one of the last men who knew literary Greek as a living language, and had brought from Byzantium into Italy all the knowledge of the writings of ancient Greece which remained in the capital of the Eastern empire.

The College library contains a copy of the edition of Suidas, the Greek lexicographer, which Demetrius Chalcondylas, the tutor of Linacre, published at Milan in 1499. The paper on which it is printed is admirable in its colour and strength; the Greek type cast from the handwriting of the editor is of beautiful design, but whoever looks out a word in it will be struck with the advantages which the modern student has over one who, like Linacre, read Greek at the period of the Renaissance. The dictionary runs on in continuous lines, with no paragraph till at the end of one letter and beginning of another it exhibits two phrases such as "End of the alphabetical order of Sigma"; "Beginning of the alphabetical order of Tau." It must, nevertheless, have been a great help to the student of Greek in the sixteenth century, and well worth the three pieces of gold which its preface tells us was its price. The actual copy which belonged to Linacre probably perished with a large part of the library of the College in the Fire of London in 1666, but one volume, a collection of treatises on husbandry, published in 1496, which belonged to the founder, and contains his signature, is still to be seen in the library.

The original College consisted of the three physicians to the King—John Chambre, Thomas Linacre, Ferdinand De Victoria; and three other London physicians—Nicholas Halsewell, John Francis, and Robert Yaxley; and Linacre was its first President. It has continued to elect its Fellows in succession to these since 1518, and now numbers about 300 Fellows. It has, perhaps, the least



restricted constitution of any corporation or body politic in existence, for every Fellow has an equal voice in its affairs, and an equal vote in the decision of all matters that come before the College.

The President is elected in each year on the Monday after Palm Sunday, by a method closely resembling that of the College of Cardinals in the election of a Pope. The Fellows having assembled in the great library of the College and the office of President having been declared vacant, proceed to the election of any Fellow of not less than ten years' standing. No proposal is made, but each Fellow writes on a slip

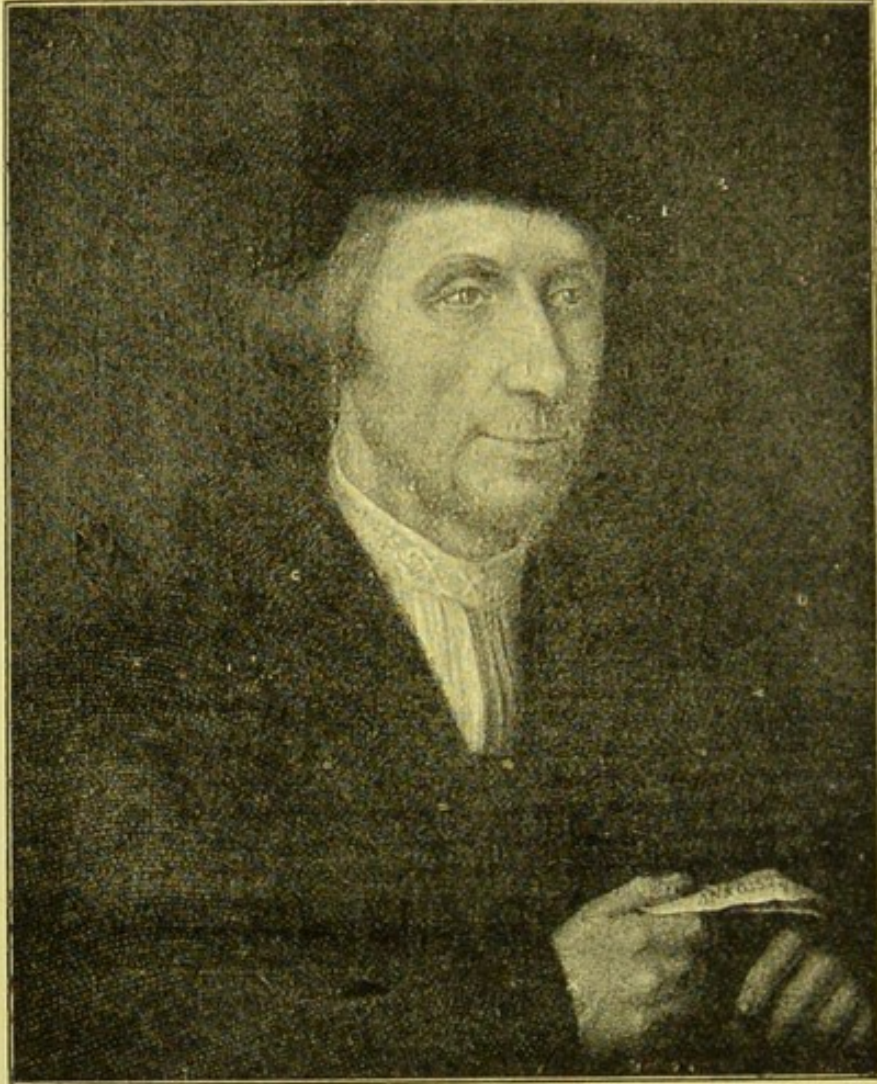


Fig. 1.—Thomas Linacre, first President of the Royal College of Physicians, died October 20th, 1524.

of paper the name which he approves; the votes thus given are collected in a silver bowl, are publicly enumerated, and the decision announced to the College by its senior Censor, the officer next to the President in dignity. A second voting on the names of the two Fellows who obtain most votes, where several are proposed, is sometimes necessary, and an absolute majority then determines the election. At the conclusion the Bedell of the College carries round a dish from which he gives each Fellow present a new half-crown piece.



The President is vested in a black damask gown embroidered with gold, and at the beginning of every meeting of the College has a mace carried before him and placed on the table, and always enters with a silver sceptre or rod of office in his hand. This sceptre, which has four small serpents at the top was made in 1556, and was first borne by Dr. Caius, then President, after whom Caius College, Cambridge, is called.

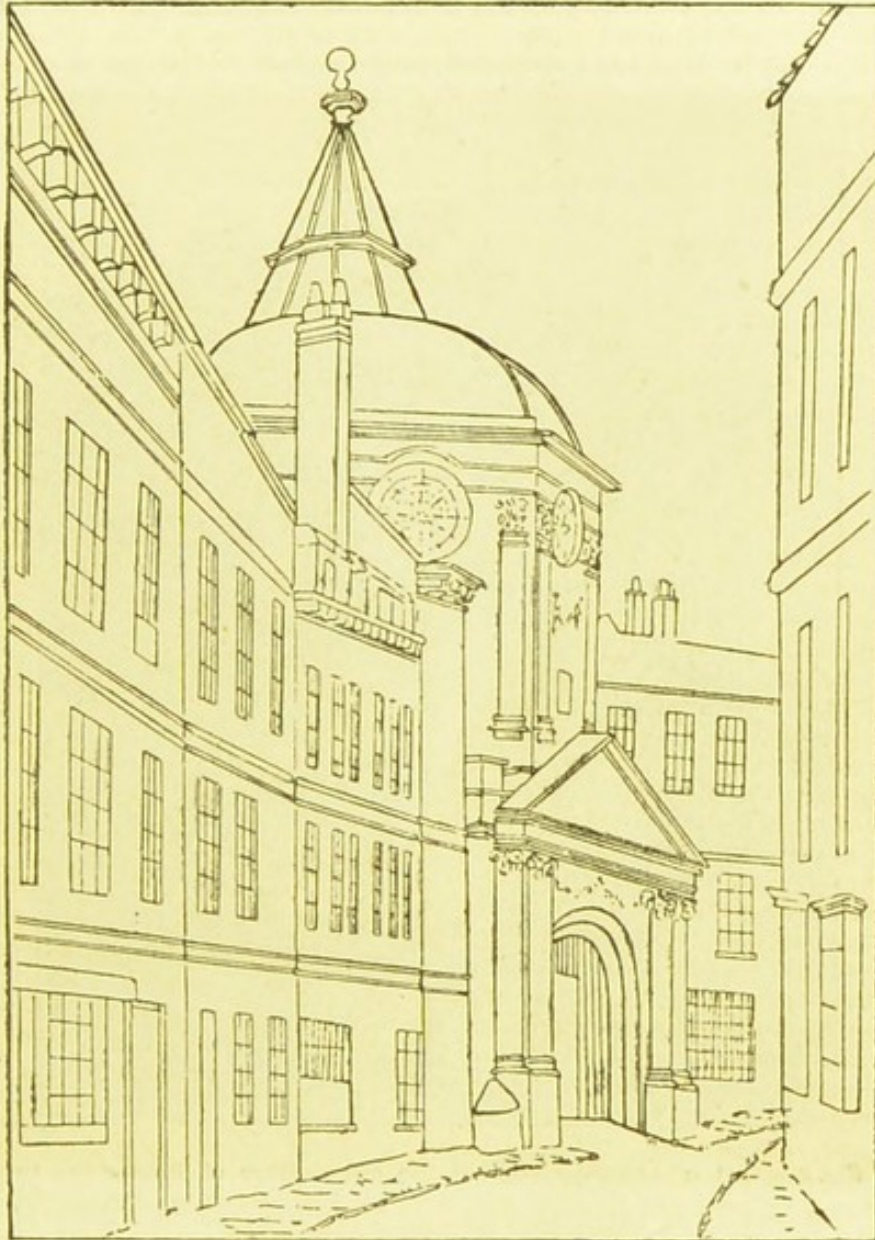


Fig. 2.—Outline drawing from an old print of the entrance to the old buildings of the Royal College of Physicians in Warwick Lane.

The College of Physicians, under its charter, has the power to grant licences to practise, and besides its numerous Licentiates, admits candidates after a higher examination to the degree of Member, a status in which after a certain number of years they are eligible, if they become distinguished in medical or in general learning, for election to the Fellowship of



the College, an election in which the College always attaches importance to character as well as to attainments.

The history of the Society, which has been set forth with exhaustive research by Dr. Munk in his "Roll of the Royal College of Physicians of London," shows that the College has had very few unworthy Fellows, and that of all the really great physicians of London during nearly four centuries, only one, otherwise eligible, failed to become a Fellow of the College. It has been suggested that some transaction connected

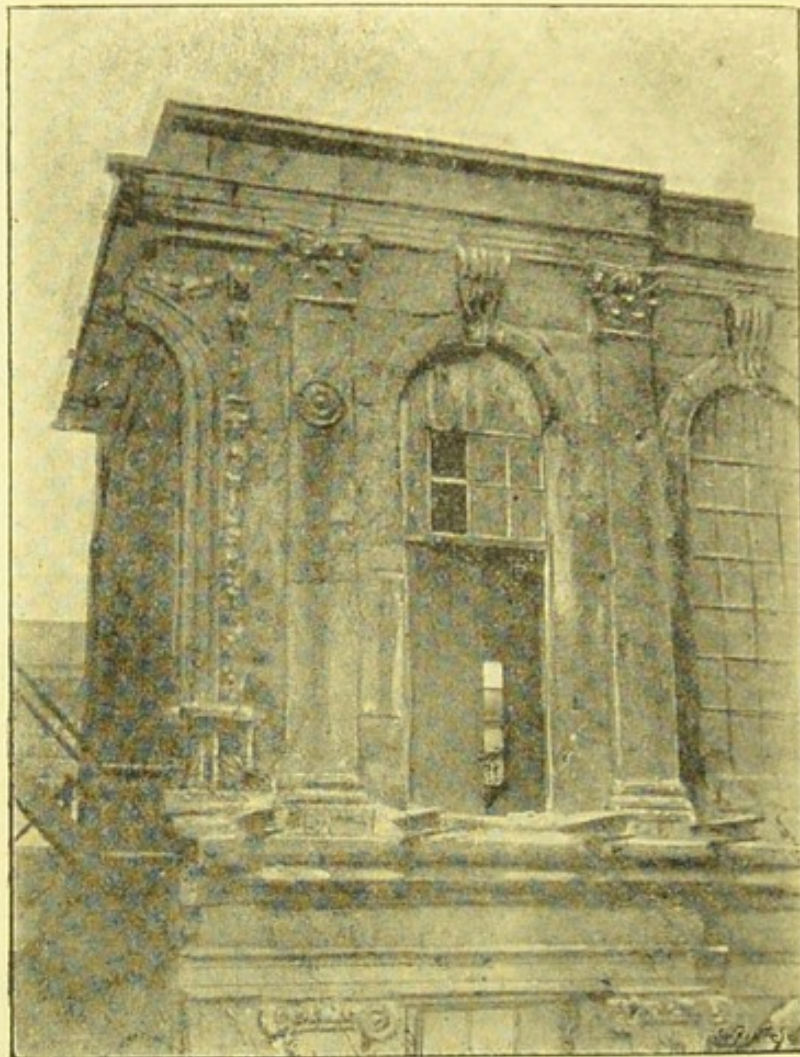


Fig. 3.—Part of the buildings of the old College of Physicians in Warwick Lane, formerly containing the Library, etc. The ruined arch on the left formed part of a niche containing a statue of Charles II. (From a photograph taken May, 1895.)

with the Great Rebellion may have stood in the way of the election of Dr. Thomas Sydenham after the restoration of the monarchy and our liberties in 1660, but the College records, which are throughout free from signs of political or theological animus, prove the contrary, and show that the College highly esteemed him, would gladly have elected him, and only did not do so because, for some fancy of his own, he did not desire to become a Fellow.



The College from 1518 till the middle of the reign of James I held its meetings in a house given to it by Linacre in Knight Rider Street, on the south side of St. Paul's Cathedral. It then moved to Amen Corner, to the north-west of the Cathedral, where are now the houses of the canons residentiary, but after the great fire, in which its buildings were destroyed, it was rebuilt at the end of Warwick Lane, an ancient street which takes its present name from the house once situate in it of the great Earl of Warwick, the kingmaker of the Wars of the Roses, but which had existed many centuries before his time under the designation of Eldenes Lane. Here the College remained till it removed to its present site in Pall Mall East. The present building was opened on June 25th, 1825. All the meetings of the College take place in this building; here the examinations for the Membership are held, and here the public lectures of the College are usually delivered.

If a lecturer desires to exhibit elaborate experiments or apparatus during his lecture he usually obtains leave to deliver it in the larger theatre of the Examination Hall on the Embankment, where the College of Physicians, in conjunction with the Royal College of Surgeons of England, holds conjoint examinations for candidates who desire to receive its licence and at the same time to be admitted Members of the Royal College of Surgeons, and where the two Colleges maintain laboratories for pathological research, open free under proper restrictions to members of the medical profession.

Numerous medical lectures are delivered during the year at the College in Pall Mall East, called, after their founders, the Lumleian, Goulstonian, Croonian, Bradshaw, and Milroy lectures, and an Oration in honour of Harvey and in praise of the benefactors of the College is delivered on St. Luke's Day. As the College income is small it seldom gives a public dinner, but the Fellows dine together at their own cost and charge four times a year, and sometimes also entertain a few guests after the Harveian Oration.

But if the aroma of rich viands, the glitter of splendid plate, and the free flow of choice wines which are associated with so many ancient and well-endowed corporations in London are not to be sought at the Royal College of Physicians, its rooms afford ample subject for that "sweet discourse, the banquet of the mind" of which Dryden speaks, a poet to whom special funeral honours were paid by the College. In the portico are the statues of Linacre as the person chiefly concerned in the original foundation; of Harvey, the greatest discoverer belonging to the College; and of Sydenham, a Licentiate of the College, the greatest expositor of the modern method of medicine—three figures which, besides commemorating these great men, typify the relations of our profession to learning in general, to the natural sciences, and to clinical observation. On the left of the hall into which the entrance leads is the College reading room, which is open to all Licentiates and Members as well as to the Fellows. On its walls are numerous portraits of Fellows famous in former times, each with the name and date.

There are also portraits of two Fellows still living—Sir William Jenner, formerly President, one of the most illustrious modern followers of the method of Sydenham, and Sir Henry Pitman, Emeritus Registrar of the College, the storehouse of



all its honourable traditions, and the highest authority on its procedure. Just inside the door are five physicians of the family of Monro who were successively Fellows of the College between 1729 and 1890. At the far end of the room is the full-length figure of Sir William Browne, President of the College in 1767, and well known by name to all Cambridge men as the founder of the medals for classical verse. The artist was Thomas Hudson, the master of Sir Joshua Reynolds.

On the wall opposite the windows are many physicians known in English history. Sir John Micklethwaite, the successor of Harvey as physician to St. Bartholomew's; Sir Edmund King, who used to do chemical experiments with King Charles II, and who bled him at the sudden onset of his last illness so as to produce a brief temporary restoration of the King's senses; Sir Hans Sloane, whose collections form the basis of the British Museum; Dr. Paris, President of the College, whose life of Sir Humphry Davy and many other books were once widely read; Dr. Richard Bright, physician to Guy's Hospital, known to all students of pathology in relation to the group of renal diseases bearing his name; Messenger Monsey, whose subsequent success as a physician was due to his attendance on the owner of one of the earliest and most famous of English racehorses, and whose talk suited the host and the company at the hilarious table of Sir Robert Walpole. Dr. Johnson spoke vehemently about his conversation, and when the Bishop of Dromore tried to diminish the force of the censure, attacked Dr. Percy and Monsey with renewed severity. However wanting in restraint Monsey's conversation may have been, it was never heard in the College, for he did not attain any higher standing than that of extra Licentiate.

On the opposite wall to Sir William Browne, besides those of Sir Andrew Clark and Sir William Jenner, there is a portrait of Dr. Francis Glisson, President in 1667, and author of the *Tractatus de Rachitide*, published in 1650, the first thorough book on a single disease by an English physician, a work admirable in its careful morbid anatomy as well as in its clinical observations. On the same wall is Dr. Walter Charleton, President in 1689, the author of several books on medicine and on metaphysics as well as on natural science, all more remarkable for ingenuity than profundity. Except by that late learned Oxonian Mr. Mark Pattison and a few among the junior Fellows of the College, who sometimes "waste time" by reading obsolete books, his volumes have probably rarely been looked into since his death in 1707, but Dryden's *Epistle to Dr. Charleton*, the finest tribute of just praise which English poetry has paid to English science, will for ever preserve him from oblivion in spite of his *Spiritus Gorgonicus*, which maintains the existence of a stone-forming spirit or essence in the human body, his dialogues between Athanasius and Lucretius in the presence of Isodicastes, his *Deliramenta Catarrhi* and the *Physiologia Epicuro-Gassendo-Charltoniana*, which maintains the interesting hypothesis that since the vast number of 295,232,799,039,604,140,847,618,609,643,520,000,000 combinations are attainable among the twenty-six letters of the alphabet, varied arrangements of numerous atoms may be the cause of the differences of appearance and structure in material substances.

On the staircase of the College there is an interesting portrait of Sir Theodore Mayerne, who was physician first to



Henry IV of France and afterwards in England to James I, Charles I, and Charles II. He was the friend of King James and of both Charles and Queen Henrietta Maria, and his extant writings show that both his character and medical skill justified their trust in him. He was fond of entomology and of chemistry, and made many experiments about pigments. He used to write out the regimen as well as the treatment of his patients, with an elaboration which extended to even more detail than the well-known minute regulations which the eager care of Sir Andrew Clark prompted him to write out for his patients. Dr. Hale, who gave a fine library to the College, and Dr. Charles Goodall, one of its historians, Registrar of the College, and a zealous defender of its rights, occupy prominent places on the staircase; and there, too, is the portrait of the delightful Arbuthnot, the friend of Swift and of Pope, with a better-balanced mind than either, whose few verses are superior to many that the poet wrote, and whose conversation was relished by one so impatient of human imperfection as the Dean of St. Patrick's. Both have commemorated him in their works, Pope in the *Epistle to Arbuthnot*, and Swift in the lines on his own death:

Poor Pope will grieve a month, and Gay  
A week, and Arbuthnot a day.

At the top of the staircase is the library of the College—a spacious room lined with books, in which the comitia or general meetings of the College are held. The library may be regarded as a sort of museum, exhibiting the mental occupations and tastes of the Fellows of the College since its foundation. Here are the books which filled the minds of such learned men as Caius, Gilbert, Harvey, Mayerne, Ent, Glisson, Sir Thomas Browne, Dr. Edward Browne, Mead, Freind, Askew, Brocklesby, Heberden, Sir George Baker, and Matthew Baillie. The actual volumes whose pages they turned over are often to be found on the shelves. The library shows how strongly at all periods the College has held to the view that physicians ought not be careless of any kind of learning, and that the standing of the profession in public estimation must depend, not on royal favour and decorations, in the race for which physicians may easily be outstripped by men of an inferior kind, but on that solid learning which is so thorough in its own department that it appreciates and is properly associated with every kind of erudition.

It is this spirit and tradition in the College, which it received from Linacre at its commencement, and has maintained ever since, which has secured more respect for physicians in England during four centuries than they have received in any other European country. This tone in the highest order of medicine has from its nature and by its example tended to the steady improvement and enlightenment of the whole profession in a way which could have been accomplished by no external influence or State patronage. The library, exhibiting as it does, when looked at book by book, the reading and attainments of many past generations of Fellows of the College, shows that the general aim of the order has been to attain learning and to add to the world's stores of knowledge, and that fortune and Court favour have generally been regarded in the College as only to be deserving attention when they were the natural sequel of true professional merit and scientific depth.



In the principal place in the library is Jansen's portrait of Harvey, painted from the life, and in the gallery above it are a series of dried preparations of the vascular system prepared by the hands of the great discoverer of the circulation. Over the fireplaces, on each side of the central one, are portraits of Dr. Baldwin Hamley, a Fellow and benefactor of the College, who died in 1676; and of Dr. Radcliffe, a benefactor of the College and of his own University of Oxford, as well as of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. On one mantelpiece is a curious little figure, in painted unbaked clay, of Dr. Anthony Askew, Physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, a Fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, who lived till 1774 in Queen Square, Bloomsbury. The figure, which shows Askew in his scarlet gown as a Cambridge Doctor of Medicine, was made for him by a Chinaman whom he had treated. The College also possesses a fine bust by Roubiliac of Dr. Mead, presented by this learned physician and student of Aristophanes, and has also busts of Matthew Baillie, of Halford by Chantry, of Harvey by Scheemakers, and several others. One of these was lent for exhibition at the Royal Academy, and was returned with a black mark on it caused by a surreptitious attempt there to take a cast of it. The College has since declined to lend any of its works of art; nor is it necessary that they should be lent, as they are always open to the view of the learned or the curious on application.

In a case at the end of the library are preserved several valuable and curious objects—the mace of the College and the caduceus, the silver-mounted rod which Harvey used in demonstrating anatomy, the silver bowl in which votes are taken, several other pieces of plate, and the gold headed cane which was successively the property of Dr. Radcliffe, who died 1714; Dr. Mead, who died 1754; Dr. Askew, who died 1774; Dr. William Pitcairn, who died 1791; Dr. David Pitcairn, who died in 1809; and Dr. Matthew Baillie, after whose death in 1823 this interesting relic bearing arms of its several possessors was given to the College by Mrs. Baillie.

A frame at this end of the library contains an account, signed by the physicians who were present, of the translation (during the presidency of Sir William Jenner) of the remains of Harvey from the ruinous vault in which they lay wrapped in lead into a white marble sarcophagus in the Harvey chapel of the parish church of Hempstead, in Essex. The translation took place on St. Luke's Day, 1883. Many of the Fellows whose signatures attest it have since joined the majority, but the survivors will always retain a vivid recollection of that cloudy day, of the out-of-the-way village with its bull-baiting ring remaining, of the partly unroofed lonely church, of the flock of rooks flying in great circles in the air above some tall trees, cawing loudly while the leaden case was being raised from the vault outside the church, of the slow adjustment of the lid of the white marble sarcophagus within while Sir William Jenner, with the silver caduceus in his hand, resolutely stood by to the very end, of the venerable aspect of the Regius Professors of Physic from Cambridge and from Oxford, of Sir Andrew Clark with a volume of *Butler's Sermons* under his arm, and of the other Fellows, successors of those who more than two centuries before had paid the last honours to Harvey.

To the left of the record of Harvey's translation is a door leading by a very narrow staircase to the lecture theatre of



the College and to the museum. The museum is a small pathological one, and the means of the College necessarily restrict the duties of the curators to the preservation of the few but interesting specimens it contains. In it is also a wooden model of the old lecture theatre of the College, familiar to readers of English literature as the frontispiece of the early editions of Garth's poem of *The Dispensary*.

Another door leads out of the library to the Censors' room, which is panelled with oak, the gift of Dr. Baldwin Hamey, whose arms, duly tinctured, with those of Sir George Ent, a friend of Harvey, and President of the College when Hamey made his gift, are displayed on the cornice. The College grant of arms is over the fireplace, and on the walls are some of the choicest portraits belonging to the Society. Near the window is that of Dr. Richard Warren, Fellow in 1763, physician to King George III, by Gainsborough, one of the finest portraits of a man ever painted by that celebrated artist. Dr. William Pitcairn, President from 1775 to 1784, and Physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, is by Sir Joshua Reynolds, while that of his nephew, Dr. David Pitcairn, Physician to the same hospital (by Hoppner) shows a frank intelligent countenance which assures us of the genuine regret with which his early death was regarded by the physicians of his time. Vandyke's portrait of Dr. Thomas Wharton, who died in 1673, and was the first describer of the duct of the sublingual gland, hangs over one door, and near another is that of "virtuous and faithful Heberden," whose commentaries may justly be regarded as only second to the writings of Sydenham among the works of Englishmen on clinical medicine. The portrait is by Sir William Beechey, and we cannot but regret that the pencil of Reynolds had not preserved the features of a physician of such great qualities when in the full vigour of life. There is Freind, whose *History of Physic*, published in 1725, is no less admirable as a work of literature than it is accurate as a history; and Sir Samuel Garth in flowing wig by Sir Godfrey Kneller. *The Dispensary*, his amusing account of the great controversy which arose in London when, in spite of the opposition of the Apothecaries, the College of Physicians instituted the first out-patient department in London, is not often read now, but entitles him to a permanent place in English literature. He experienced in January, 1719, his own fine lines:

To die is landing on some silent shore,  
Where billows never break nor tempests roar,  
E'er well we feel the friendly stroke 'tis o'er.

There are fine portraits of two famous modern physicians, both Presidents of the College, both, like Garth, Cambridge men, Sir Thomas Watson and Sir George Burrows. Near Burrows is Sir George Baker, once a Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, the discoverer of the true cause of the colic of Devonshire. He demonstrated that the cider of his native county, made in leaden vats, contained lead in solution, and that the colic was thus produced. He was much attacked by his countrymen, but truth of course prevailed, and that the hardy farmers of Devon can drink tankards of cider without suffering subsequent tortures and palsies is due to Baker's persevering investigations and lucid exposition of their results. His essays are the foundation of existing knowledge on lead palsy.



It would be easy to spend many days in relating the histories which a visit to the College of Physicians would recall to most readers of English medicine. Those here briefly mentioned are sufficient to show how many interesting associations are added to the practical usefulness of this ancient yet vigorous Society.



## THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

### “THE CORPORATION OF SURGEONS.”

IN the year 1745, the Barbers and Surgeons who from 1540 until that date had formed one company, separated, and the latter were incorporated under the title of “The Masters, Governors, and Commonalty of the Art and Science of Surgery.” The new company at first met at Stationers’ Hall, but in 1751 moved to premises of their own in the Old Bailey. In 1796 this company came to an end through an improperly constituted court having been held. An endeavour was made to put matters right by a Bill in Parliament; this passed the Commons, but was defeated in the Lords. The loss of the Bill was due in a great measure to the opposition of those who were practising without the diploma of the Corporation.

### “THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.”

After much negotiation it was agreed to petition for a charter from the Crown to establish a Royal College of Surgeons in London. This was successfully carried out in 1800, and, the Corporation having disposed of their Old Bailey property, the College took possession of a house in Lincoln’s Inn Fields on the site of part of the present building. An additional charter was received in 1821, and by a further one in 1843 the name was changed to that which the College now bears—the Royal College of Surgeons of England. Another supplemental charter was obtained in 1888.

### THE MUSEUMS.

John Hunter died in 1793; by his will he left the whole of his museum in trust to Matthew Baillie and Everard Home, with instructions that the collection as a whole should be offered to the Government of Great Britain, or, failing that, to any other foreign Government or State. After some delay and difficulty Parliament in 1799 voted £15,000 for the purchase of the museum; its custody was offered to the Corporation of Surgeons, and was by them accepted on the terms proposed by the Government.

As explained above the Corporation was succeeded by the Royal College of Surgeons, and to the latter body fell the custody of Hunter’s Museum. In 1806 Parliament voted £15,000 for building a museum on the College site in Lincoln’s Inn Fields; a second vote of £12,500 was subsequently passed, and the College found upwards of £21,000 towards providing a place for the proper display of the collection.



This first museum was opened in the year 1813. The drawings of the interior of it, from which the illustrations of this paper have been taken, have recently come into the possession of the College from the family of the late Sir Richard Owen. The rapid increase of the museum and library soon made this building inadequate, and in 1835-36 the College was practically rebuilt by Sir Charles Barry. In 1847 the College purchased the premises of Mr. Alderman Copeland in Portugal Street, and in 1852 erected thereon the Eastern Museum. The warehouse belonging to Copeland's premises was originally the Duke's Theatre. In 1888 it was decided again materially to enlarge the College premises. Two new museums were added, and the house occupied by the Conservator on the eastern side of the College was pulled down, and a considerable addition to the library built on its site. The Council were able to make these last improvements mainly through the princely bequest of the late Sir Erasmus Wilson.

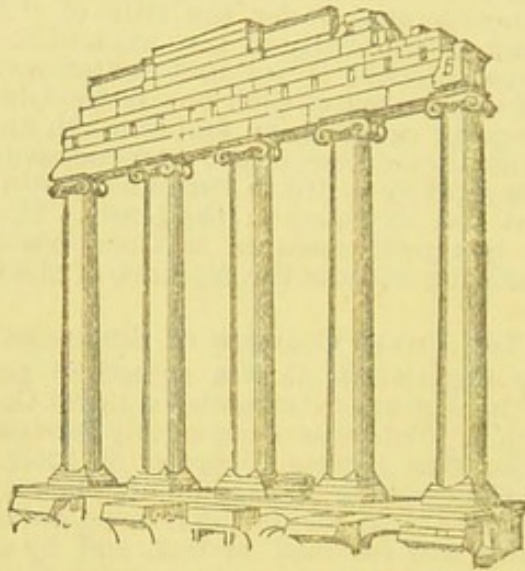
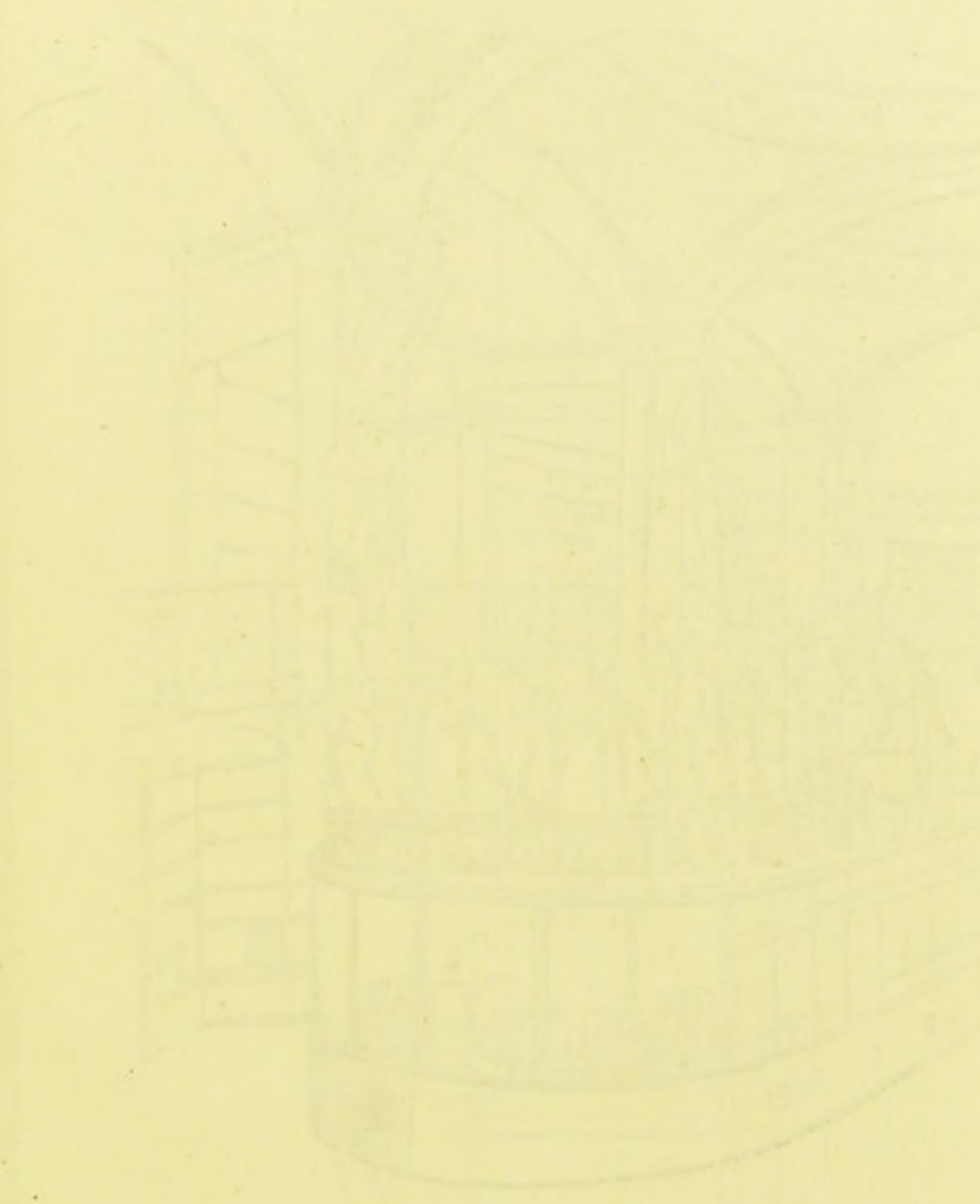


Fig. 1.—Pillars of portico, from a water colour sketch preserved in the Library of the College, made by Scharf during the rebuilding; showing that the pillars were not taken down but were fluted in place.

The College has a good collection of paintings and busts of deceased surgeons of distinction. First of all is the magnificent portrait of John Hunter by Reynolds, which hangs over the President's chair in the Council Room. Amongst the other portraits may be mentioned Wiseman by Sir B. Gerbier, William Hunter by Zoffani, Cheselden by Richardson, Sir A. Carlisle by Sir Martin Shee, Sir Astley Cooper by Sir T. Lawrence, Sir W. Blizard by John Opie, Percivall Pott by Romney, and Sir W. Fergusson by Lehmann. This collection has recently been enriched by the presentation of the portrait of John Hunter, senr., John Hunter, by Home, and William Hunter by Pine; these have been presented to the College by the family of the late Mr. Hunter Baillie. On the main staircase hangs the preliminary design for Hol-





Architectural drawing of a classical building, showing a portico with columns and a pediment. The drawing is very faint and appears to be a study or a preliminary sketch.



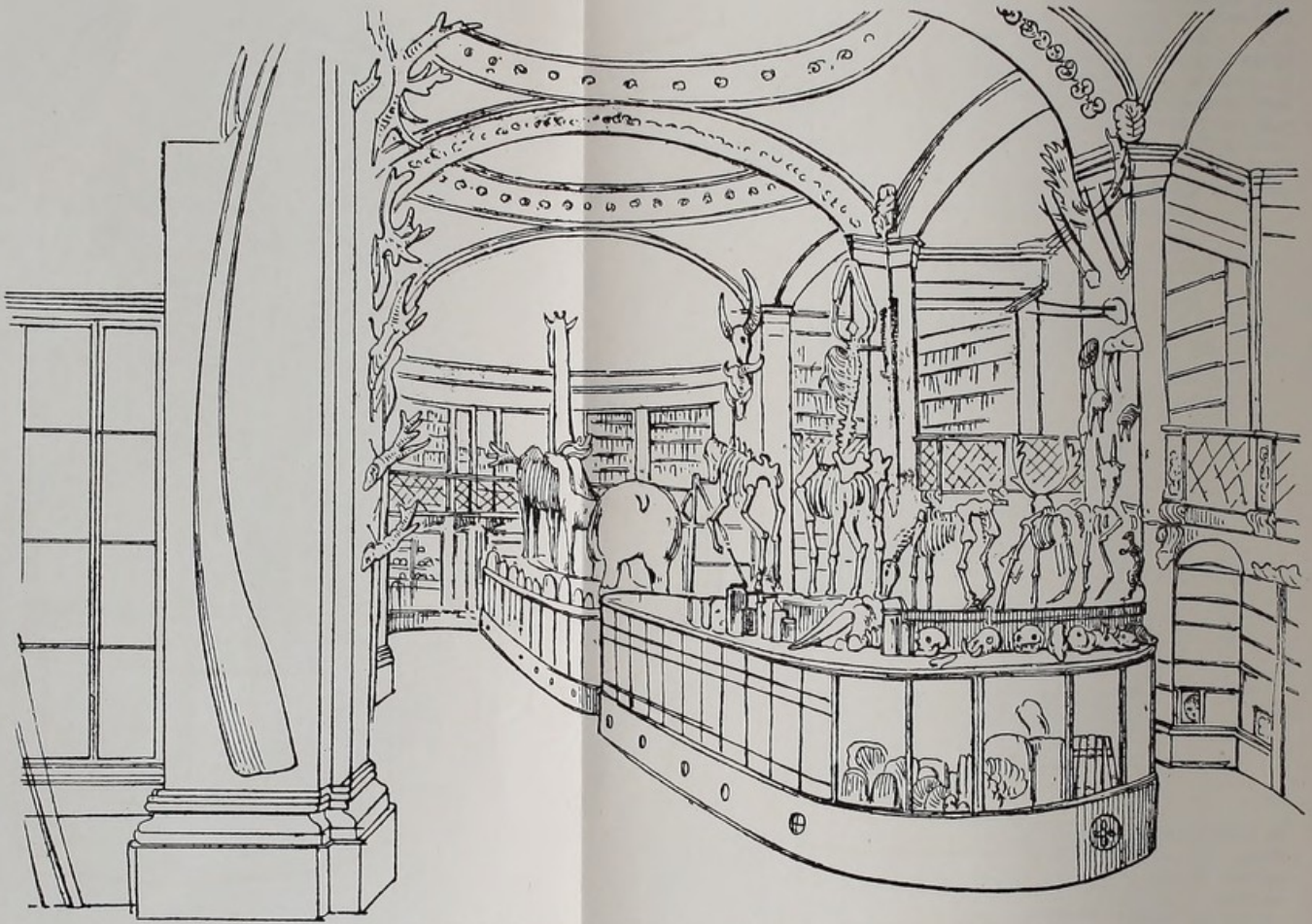


Fig. 3.—*Facsimile* (reduced) of a pencil sketch by the late Sir Richard Owen, made while he was curator, showing the arrangement of objects in the main corridor of the Museum at that time (before the rebuilding).



bein's picture of Henry VIII and the Barber Surgeons. Until recent years the picture was supposed to be that of Henry VIII delivering the Charter to the Barbers and Surgeons, but Mr. Sidney Young has shown that dates are strongly against this; he suggests that it is the union of the Barbers' Company with the Guild of Surgeons, accomplished by Act of Parliament in 1540 which is commemorated. In the outer hall is a painting by Brooks of the Council of the College in 1884. On the main staircase is arranged a



Fig. 2.—Interior of Old Museum showing its general appearance; from water colour sketch by William Clift.

splendid series of busts including Hunter, Pott, Liston, Cline, Astley Cooper, Abernethy, Home, Dalrymple, Blizard, Charles Bell, Brodie, Lawrence, Green, Travers, Guthrie, Cæsar Hawkins, Simon, Paget, and Marshall.

The collections are at the present time arranged in five museums. In the large New Museum on the ground floor are eight tables containing specimens of Normal Human Anatomy; these are continued on the four tables in the wall cases of the small New Museum. The Anthropological collection is



displayed in the large and small New Museums, and also occupies a little more than half of the Western Museum. The first gallery of the Small New Museum is devoted to Teratology and Parasites, and the upper one to the display of drawings and to the extension of the Dermatological series. The Pathological specimens occupy the galleries of the Western and the New Large Museums. In the Western, the six tables nearest the entrance are devoted to the external forms of the Invertebrata, with a few specimens showing their general anatomy; the four following tables are occupied by preparations illustrating the Development of the Human Skeleton. On the eastern side is the series of Comparative Osteology; this is continued in similar cases in the Middle and Eastern Museums. From this series special parts have been selected for more ready comparison; these are displayed in upright cases in the Eastern Museum. In the galleries of the Eastern and Middle Museums the Physiological series will be found. There is a small room in the annexe devoted to the collection of Surgical Instruments belonging to the College.

#### THE LIBRARY.

At the present day the College possesses a good professional library. It was not until some years after the foundation of the College that any real steps were taken to put together a library in any way worthy of the institution. The old Corporation of Surgeons had intended to form a library but had never carried their intention into effect. In 1786 John Hunter addressed a letter to the Corporation in which he states that the fact of their not being possessed of a public surgical library is "a circumstance so extraordinary that foreigners can hardly believe it." He suggests that all members should send copies of their own works to the Corporation Library, and to give practical effect to his proposal he presented the books he himself had published. This produced little or no effect, and in 1790 we find Mr. Gunning, the retiring Master, complaining of the conduct of the Court in not taking steps to form a library. Even Master Gunning was very modest in his idea of what the library should be, as he suggested that the sum of £80 a year would be sufficient for the purpose. After the establishment of the College, very little more was done in the way of starting a library than had been accomplished by the old Corporation. The first grant, made in 1800, was a sum not exceeding £50; for many years the annual cost was less than the modest £80 suggested by Mr. Gunning. Sir Charles Blicke, in 1816, invested the sum of £300, the interest of which was to be spent on the library; in addition to this he was a liberal donor of books. It was not until the year 1827 that any real effort was made to form a library worthy of the College. In the years 1827-29 the sum of £5,269 was spent on the purchase of books, and in the last-named year Dr. Willis was appointed librarian. In rebuilding the College in 1835-36 the library department was well provided for; the increase of books in recent years had, however, made this accommodation very inadequate, and in 1888 the Council made very considerable alterations by which the comfort of readers was greatly increased and much additional book space was given. The whole of the library was re-decorated and the electric light was installed throughout. In the library there is a large collection of engraved portraits.



The nucleus of this was the Young and Wadd collections; the latter was originally put together by Fauntleroy, the banker, who was hanged for forgery. The collection has gone on gradually increasing by purchase and donation. In 1893 it received a very considerable addition by the presentation by Mr. T. Madden Stone of his extensive and valuable series of portraits and autographs. Recently the College has had presented to it by the family of the late Mr. W. Hunter Baillie a very interesting series of letters, containing communications from Boerhaave, John and William Hunter, Dr. Arbuthnot, Joanna Baillie, and many other celebrities not connected with the profession.

#### THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COLLEGE.

By the Charter of 1800 the government of the Royal College of Surgeons in London was vested in the Court of Assistants, which consisted of twenty-one members, one of whom was styled Master and two others Governors. Eighteen of the members of the first Court of Assistants were nominated in the Charter, the remaining three were ordered to be filled up by the Court at its first meeting. The Charter of 1822 changed the names of Master and Governors to those of President and Vice-Presidents, and the Court of Assistants was in future to be called the Council. In 1843 a further change was made in the name of the College: the Charter obtained in that year orders that in future the title shall be "The Royal College of Surgeons of England;" by this same Charter the Fellowship was established. The Council was bound to elect not fewer than 250 and not more than 300 Members to the Fellowship within three months of the granting the Charter. Accordingly, on December 11th, 1843, 300 Members were appointed Fellows by one diploma, and on August 26th, 1844, 242 were elected. The number of members of Council was increased to twenty-four, and it was enacted that in future three members should retire annually, an exception being made in favour of those who were on the Council at the time the Charter was granted. These were to hold office for life, as heretofore. The Council was no longer to be a self-elected body, the Charter declaring that, in future, the election shall be in the hands of the Fellows. It was also decided that the Court of Examiners should no longer be restricted to members of Council, but that any Fellow, whether on the Council or not, might be elected an examiner. Further alterations were made by the Charter of 1852: by this power was given to the Council to confer the Fellowship, without examination, on Members who were of fifteen years' standing in September, 1843, the date of the previous Charter. The Council was also authorised to admit each year to the Fellowship two Members of twenty years' standing, and power was given to grant the Fellowship to Fellows, Members, and Licentiates of other Colleges.

#### EXAMINATIONS.

Up to 1884 the examinations for the Fellowship and Membership were conducted by the Court of Examiners in the College building. In that year the two Royal Colleges co-operated to form a common Board for granting their diplomas in Medicine and Surgery. The Fellowship examination remains as before, but the Membership of the College of



Surgeons is not now granted apart from the licence of the College of Physicians, except to students who commenced their professional studies prior to October 1st, 1884. By the Charter of 1859 a diploma in dental surgery was instituted, the qualification being registrable under the Dentists Act of 1878. The examinations are now held in the Examination Hall on the Embankment. The foundation stone of this building was laid by Her Majesty the Queen in 1886, and the cost of the erection was borne jointly by the two Colleges.



## THE SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON.

THE Apothecaries' Society is in many respects a unique foundation. It is a mystery or guild which has retained its original function of a trading corporation, whilst at the same time it is entrusted by Act of Parliament with the duty of examining and licensing candidates for the medical profession. The Society originated as an offshoot from the Grocers' Company, itself descended from the Pepperers and the Spicers, who amalgamated in 1345 under the name of the Fraternity of St. Anthony. The Grocers' Company is one of the most powerful and wealthy of the twelve great Livery Companies of London. It boasts that more than a hundred Lord Mayors have been selected from amongst its members, and it has lately done the greatest service to science in England by establishing and maintaining scholarships for the endowment of research.

The impending separation of the Grocers' Company is first indicated in a charter granted April 9th, 1606, in which the Company is explicitly reincorporated as "the Freemen of the Misteries of Grocers and Apothecaries of London." King James I appears to have personally interested himself in the separation of the two bodies about the year 1614, and the disunion was soon afterwards accomplished in spite of the opposition of the Grocers' Company. A charter was granted on December 6th, 1617, making the Apothecaries a distinct mystery under the title of the "Society of Apothecaries," with a master, wardens, and assistants to the number of twenty-one persons to preside over it. This charter restrained the Grocers and all other persons from keeping an apothecary's shop in or near London; it confirmed to them a right, which had been inherent in the Grocers' Company, of paying domiciliary visits to search for, seize, and destroy bad drugs and medicines. This inquisitorial power, at first limited to London and seven miles round, was afterwards extended to all parts of England and Wales. The duty was an extremely invidious one, and eventually degenerating into little more than a farce, it was discontinued some time after the year 1833. The charter also allowed the Company to fine its members, and they acquired the power of summary committal to the City Compters, a right which they shared with many of the other companies, though incarceration in Newgate could only be effected by an order from the Mayor or Court of Aldermen.

The Company being fairly launched, under the sanction of James I, and with the assistance of Drs. Theodore Mayerne and Henry Atkins, His Majesty's physicians, it became necessary to provide it with a local habitation. The original



charter gave the Society power to have a hall or council house. In 1618 Gideon Delaune, chief apothecary to Anne of Denmark, and one of the retinue sent to attend her from Norway when she became the wife of James I, was instrumental in acquiring a building for the purpose in Blackfriars. This building was purchased by the Society in 1633. It then consisted of a house and grounds known as Cobham House, in Water Lane, Blackfriars, immediately behind what is now Ludgate Hill Station. It was then an open space leading down to the water gate on the west side of Baynard's Castle. The first hall was destroyed by the Great Fire of London in 1666, and its site lay vacant for ten years before it was rebuilt. The second hall was enlarged and improved in 1786, and it still stands.

The Apothecaries from an early period devoted their energies to the preparation and sale of pure drugs, and when their property was destroyed by the Great Fire they set to work to build laboratories long before any attempt was made to provide themselves with a new hall. The preparation of pure drugs was expensive and not very remunerative, at a time when the most ordinary chemical processes were hardly understood. Some members of the Society, therefore, felt themselves compelled to subsidise this side of the Company's work. In 1670 the laboratory was first established, and a number of the members of the Society formed a kind of joint stock in order to procure chemicals solely for their own use. For many years the sale was confined to these subscribing members; but a degree of reputation attaching to this establishment, other persons began to buy, and the premises had to be enlarged. In the reign of Queen Anne, Prince George of Denmark, who was then Lord High Admiral, applied to the Society to know if they would undertake the service of the navy, which was then very badly supplied with drugs. The Society agreed to do so, and were thereby drawn into a long series of quarrels with the College of Physicians, whose Members thought that it was the duty of an apothecary "to remember his office is only to be the physician's cooke." The stock was amalgamated in 1823, and was finally dissolved in 1880, when the Corporation determined to carry on the business in the name of the Court of Assistants.

A knowledge of simples was of necessity a matter of importance to a compounder of medicines at a time when infusions, tinctures, distillates, and the crude herbs were the chief forms in which remedies were administered. Herborizings or botanical excursions soon formed a prominent feature in the Society. The numerous gardens in the immediate neighbourhood of the hall were at first sufficient for the purposes of economic botany, but in a few years the Society found it expedient to rent a physic garden, and in 1673 the Botanic Garden at Chelsea was leased to the Apothecaries for a term of sixty-one years, by Charles Cheyne, Esq., lord of the manor. In 1731 Sir Hans Sloane (the new lord) gave the ground to the Society for ever, on condition that it should annually present to the Royal Society fifty well-cured specimens of plants, the produce of the said garden, until the preparations reached the number of 2,000. The Society made excellent use of this gift, and for many years it maintained the teaching of systematic botany in London at a very high level of excellence.



The power of the Apothecaries to license medical practitioners appears to have been obtained by a gradual process of evolution. Its members were originally divided like those of all city companies into a Master and Wardens, with a Court of Assistants, who formed the governing body; a livery, or main body, possessing the franchise; and the freemen, or yeomanry, constituting a subordinate body, from which the livery was selected in the same manner as the livery itself recruited the Court of Assistants, from whom alone the Master and Wardens were chosen. Every freeman of the Society could take so many apprentices as he could *bonâ fide* employ in and about his own proper business during the whole term of apprenticeship, and he received a premium with each to compensate him for the expense of board and lodging. It was necessary, however, that each apprentice should be presented to the Court of Assistants to be examined as to his proficiency in the Latin tongue before he was bound by indentures to serve his term of seven, or in later times of five, years.

The custom of examination thus grew up within the Society and was gradually extended, for it next became necessary to ascertain whether the apprentices could decipher the very illegible handwriting in which the physicians wrote their prescriptions or "bills." The Apothecaries soon ceased to become druggists, and in process of time formed a subordinate class of practitioners who attended an individual afflicted with some internal disease not requiring external or manual aid, and who prescribed for the cure of such complaint and supplied the medicine. He was paid for the medicine which he supplied and so did not encroach ostensibly upon the province of the physician, who was remunerated for his advice and who did not provide medicine. The practice of the apothecary, however, was always a thorn in the side of the College of Physicians, and led to the celebrated dispensary campaign, in which the poets Garth and Pope took an active part. The Apothecaries triumphed in the end, for the public required a class of general practitioners and neither of the great Colleges would supply their want.

A tax was put upon glass in 1812, and this, by increasing the price of bottles, pressed with great severity upon the Apothecaries, paid as they were by the amount of draughts and potions which they could induce their patients to swallow. A meeting was held on July 3rd, 1812, and in the following year representations were made as to the necessity then existing of placing the apothecary, the surgeon-apothecary, and the practitioner in midwifery under the direction of a proper controlling body.

A Society of Associated Apothecaries and Surgeon-Apothecaries was formed, with Dr. Mann Burrows as the moving spirit. An attempt was made to establish an independent examining body, but the opposition of the two Colleges and of the Apothecaries' Society prevented the Bill from passing in Parliament. Much correspondence ensued, and the Society of Apothecaries ultimately agreed to introduce a new Bill into Parliament, amended by the College of Physicians. This Act passed the Legislature on January 10th, 1815, and was amended in 1874. The character of the examination conducted by the Society of Apothecaries has steadily improved. Candidates could not at first be examined in midwifery, though the Society fully recognised the import-



ance of the subject for general practitioners. Certificates of their having attended courses of midwifery were demanded by the students, and they were examined upon the diseases of women and children, and up to the very point of labour; but there the examiners were obliged to stop, for it had been decided by Scarlett and Sugden, when they were respectively Attorney and Solicitor General, that the delivery of a woman is a surgical operation. The licence granted by the Society soon became a favourite one with students, and after suffering a partial eclipse when the regulations of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons modified their requirements, it has recently, under an extended system, more than regained its popularity, for it is now a complete qualification in medicine, surgery, and midwifery.



## THE RISE AND FALL OF THE PRIVATE MEDICAL SCHOOLS IN LONDON.

### I.—THE GREAT WINDMILL STREET SCHOOL.

THERE could be no private medical teaching in London so long as the Company of Barbers and Surgeons chose to enforce its monopoly of teaching anatomy and surgery, a monopoly conferred upon them by the Act of Parliament 32 Hen. VIII, cap. 42, passed on July 24th, 1540. This Act recites that "The maysters or governours of the mistery and comminaltie of barbour and surgeons of London, and their successours yerely for ever at their free liberte and pleasure shal and may have and take without contradiction foure persons condemned, adjudged, and put to deathe for feloni by the due order of the kynges lawe of thys realme for anatomies without any further sute or labour to be made to the kyngs highnes his heyres or successours for the same. And to make incision of the same deade bodies or otherwyse to order the same after their said discrecions ..... for their further and better knowlage, instruction, insight, learnyng and experience in the said scyence or facultie of surgery." The right was so jealously guarded that in 1714, Cheselden, the surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital, who began to lecture in 1711, was summoned before the Company for that "he did frequently procure the Dead bodies of Malefactors from the place of execution and did dissect the same at his own house." He promised amendment, "and was excused what had passed with a reproof for the same pronounced by the Master at the desire of the Court."

A less influential man than Cheselden would probably have been fined. His lectures, however, bore good fruit, for about 1730 Ed. Nourse, Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, delivered anatomical lectures at London House, in Aldersgate Street, where he then lived, and he employed Percivall Pott, his apprentice, to act as his prosector. Pott, copying his master's example, began to deliver lectures upon surgery at his house in Watling Street, about 1747, soon after the disruption of the Barber-Surgeons Company and the foundation of an independent Corporation of Surgeons. This course of lectures, at first private, was intended solely for the students who followed the surgical practice of Pott at the neighbouring hospital. It was given at first with hesitation and reserve, but as the lecturer gained confidence his style improved, and the course became so celebrated that all the most distinguished English practitioners, and many foreign ones, boasted that they had attended it. John Hunter himself was an auditor in



1751. What Nourse and Pott were doing privately at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Sharp, Bromfield, and Frank Nicholls were carrying out more publicly elsewhere. In 1746 Sharp relinquished his course of lectures on anatomy and surgery in favour of William Hunter.

The advertisement announcing this course of lectures is still extant in the newspapers of 1746, where it may be read that "On Monday, the 1st of February, at Five in the Afternoon, will begin A course of Anatomical Lectures. To which will be added, the Operations of Surgery, with the Application of Bandages, by William Hunter, Surgeon. Gentlemen may have an opportunity of learning the Art of Dissecting, during the whole winter season, in the same manner as at Paris." The lectures were a continuation of those given by Sharp to a "Society of Navy Surgeons," and they were delivered at the house of Dr. James Douglas, in the Piazza, Covent Garden. They resulted in a gain to Hunter of seventy guineas for the first course. The lectures were not very successful, however, but they are of interest as they proved to be the germ from which the Great Windmill Street School of Medicine developed.

William Hunter continued to teach, and removed first to Litchfield Street, Soho, and afterwards to Jermyn Street. Here in 1755 John Hunter began to take a share in the Anatomical School. The task of lecturing, however, was never a congenial one, for he had an awkward delivery, and was so extremely nervous that to the end of his life he never gave the first lecture of his course without drinking 30 drops of laudanum to take off the effects of his uneasiness. In 1760, being in weak health, he applied for an appointment in the army, and was detailed for service with the expedition to Belle Isle, Hewson taking his place in the Anatomical School. In 1765 William Hunter applied to the Government for a grant of part of the ground now occupied by the National Gallery for the purpose of building a School of Anatomy. The proposal was declined, and he thereupon commenced to build a house, with a lecture theatre, dissecting rooms, and a museum, in Great Windmill Street, close to what is now Piccadilly Circus. He removed into this house in 1768, and, his connection with Hewson being severed, he was first assisted by Cruikshank.]

William Hunter died in 1783, and in the following year Cruikshank attached to himself Mathew Baillie, son of Dorothy, the Hunters' youngest sister. Cruikshank and Baillie took James Wilson as a demonstrator in 1785, and when Baillie quitted the school and received £4,000 for his share in it, Wilson became associated with Cruikshank as Joint Anatomical Lecturer until Cruikshank's death in 1800. In 1807 Wilson bought the freehold of the premises in Great Windmill Street, and he was assisted first by Honoratus Leigh Thomas and afterwards by Benjamin Brodie. Until the advent of Brodie the main work of the school devolved upon Wilson, for Thomas was not fond of his vocation, and was led to play truant a good deal. The work was so far from exhausting Wilson's energies, however, that he delivered lectures on surgery at his private residence in Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, and afterwards in Argyle Street, and he had also pupils living in his house, for Mr. Samuel Lane, the founder of the Grosvenor Place School of Medicine, was one of them.



Sir Benjamin Brodie, who was connected by marriage with the Hunter family (for Dr. Baillie had married one of his first cousins) began to lecture on surgery in Great Windmill Street in 1808, after having acted as a demonstrator since 1805, and he continued in the school until 1812. Wilson was at this time anxious to sell the school, and after offering it to Brodie, who had not means enough to buy it, it was purchased by (Sir) Charles Bell, whilst Brodie took another house in Great Windmill Street, and continued his lectures on surgery. Bell soon appointed his brother-in-law, John Shaw, to superintend the dissecting room, and when Wilson retired Shaw continued to act until he died in 1827, when his place was taken by his brother, afterwards surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital.

Wilson's death in 1821 threw the entire responsibility upon Bell, and at the same time brought the school into close relationship with the Middlesex Hospital, to which Bell was then attached. The foundation of the London University, now University College, soon broke up the school. In 1828 Bell was placed at the head of its medical department. He delivered the general opening lecture in physiology, and followed it up by a course of characteristic lectures.

The Windmill Street School lingered a few years longer. In 1826 Herbert Mayo and Cæsar Hawkins purchased Bell's interest in the school, and carried it on, with the assistance of Mr. Babington, until 1830, when Hawkins went to St. George's Hospital, whilst in 1831 Mayo migrated to King's College. Mr. Gregory Smith and Mr. Bushell delivered lectures for a short time longer, but the school was afterwards removed to Little Windmill Street, the old premises were sold, and the way was left clear for the success of Lane's School and Dermott's School, of which we shall treat in a later article.

There were many subordinate actors in the Hunterian School, for in this short sketch we have only treated of the leading characters. Dr. John Cooke and Dr. Roget, who founded the medical school at Manchester; Mr. Brande, the younger son of the Apothecary to the Royal Household, and Pearson, all took part in the work of this great school, and much might be written of them did space permit. Dr. Fordyce, the Lecturer on Medicine in 1800, was perhaps more remarkable for his eccentricity than for his knowledge, great as it undoubtedly was. He was often known to lecture for three consecutive hours in the morning without having undressed himself the preceding night. He had satisfied himself that man eats far oftener than Nature requires, and for many years he took but one meal in the twenty-four hours. He dined daily for more than twenty years at Dolly's chop-house in Paternoster Row, close to St. Paul's Cathedral. The doctor took his seat as the clock struck four at a table always reserved for him. A silver tankard of strong ale, a bottle of port wine, and a measure containing a quarter of a pint of brandy were in waiting for him upon the table. The moment the waiter announced him the cook put a pound and a half of rumpsteak upon the gridiron, and immediately sent to his table some delicate trifle to serve as a *bonne bouche* until the steak should be ready. This was sometimes half a boiled chicken, sometimes a plate of fish; and when he had eaten it he took one glass of brandy, and then proceeded to devour



the steak. His meal being ended, he drank the remainder of the brandy, having during dinner consumed the tankard of ale, and he then finished the bottle of port. He thus spent an hour and a half of his time, and then returned to his house in Essex Street. He made no other meal until his return to Dolly's next day at 4 o'clock. He eventually died of gout.

## II.—THE WEBB STREET SCHOOL.

MEDICAL education in England received a great impetus at the beginning of the present century. The charter granted to the College of Surgeons materially improved the position of that body, whilst the Apothecaries Act of 1815 ensured that the students received a systematic education by establishing a suitable examination before they were admitted to the practice of their profession. The immediate effect of this Act was to improve materially the quality of medical teaching in London. New schools arose which were strictly personal to the founder, and usually died with him. Of these some were established purely from a mercenary standpoint, whilst some originated in more or less direct opposition to the medical school attached to one or other of the hospitals. It has happened from time to time in the large metropolitan schools, when the staff has been unusually weak, that the best man has not been selected on the occurrence of a vacancy, either from jealousy of his superior attainments, or because a single strong mind has over-ridden the better judgment of its associates. This took place in the case of Edward Grainger, who established the Webb Street School, and again in the case of Samuel Lane, the founder of the Grosvenor Place School of Medicine, and in each instance the erring medical school bitterly repented its lack of judgment, and was made to pay dearly for its fault.

Edward Grainger, the son of an apothecary in Birmingham, was born in 1797, and entered the combined Borough hospitals of St. Thomas and Guy's in 1816 to dress under Sir Astley Cooper. He worked hard, and became so excellent an anatomist that Sir Astley recommended him to go home and open an anatomical school in his native town. He was admitted a Member of the College of Surgeons on January 17th, 1817, and applied for the post of demonstrator of anatomy (rendered vacant by the promotion of Joseph Henry Green), which he desired to hold jointly with Aston Key. The office, however, was refused him on the ground that he had no right to it as he had never paid the large fee then necessary to entitle a student to become a surgeon's pupil. Grainger was looked upon as hardly used, and when he proposed to give a course of dissections in the summer of 1819, he received the support of thirty or forty students to whom his teaching capacity was well known. He therefore hired a large attic in the house of a tailor who lived in the churchyard of St. Saviour's, Southwark. His course was so successful that in the autumn of 1819 he felt himself sufficiently strong to open an anatomical school upon his own account. He rented a building in Webb Street, Snow's Fields, close to the hospitals. This building had been a Roman Catholic chapel which had failed for want of funds. It reverted to its original use for a short time when the



school was closed, and it was eventually pulled down to make room for the terminus of the London Bridge railways.

Grainger taught with such conspicuous success that he and his school interfered for many years with the material prosperity of the medical schools attached to St. Thomas's, to Guy's, and even to St. Bartholomew's Hospitals, for at the time of his death he had nearly three hundred pupils in attendance upon his classes. His success was at first largely due to the fact that he made better bargains with the resurrection men than the anatomical teachers in the recognised schools could afford to do, and he thus obtained a practical monopoly of the bodies required for dissection. The body-snatchers who supplied the London schools at this time worked in gangs of four or five, and at the beginning of each season they came to terms with the teachers, usually obtaining a lump sum of forty or fifty pounds, with a promise of four guineas a subject or as much more as they could extort. Their principal source of supply was the London churchyards and some of the cheap private burial grounds in the poorer parts of London, whose sextons were generally in the pay of the robbers.

The excellence of Grainger's teaching soon put him above such methods of obtaining pupils, and in 1820 he built a theatre—which he had to enlarge in 1823—established a more extensive system of teaching, and associated with himself Dr. Armstrong as a lecturer on medicine, Dr. Richard Phillips for chemistry, and Dr. Davis for midwifery. Dr. Elliotson lectured in 1823 for a short time upon forensic medicine.

Grainger's incessant work soon told upon his health, and he died of phthisis on January 13th, 1824, at the early age of 27, having passed the most active years of his life in teaching. There is a good bust of him, executed by Peter Hollings, in the Library-Committee Room of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

The school was too good a property to abandon, and for a year or two before his death Edward made it over to his brother Richard Dugard Grainger, who, being intended for the army, had been partially educated at Woolwich Academy, though he afterwards qualified as a surgeon. Richard Grainger associated with himself Mr. Pilcher to lecture upon anatomy, physiology, and surgery, with Mr. Millard as demonstrator. Dr. Whiting lectured upon the practice of physic and on materia medica, being assisted by Mr. Everett. Dr. Lee was lecturer on midwifery till he was appointed the professor of his art in the University of Glasgow, when Dr. Ramsbotham succeeded him. Dr. Dickson lectured upon chemistry, and Dr. Southwood Smith and Mr. Cooper conjointly upon jurisprudence.

Richard Grainger was not so decided a character as his brother, and the Webb Street School began to decline. Overtures were made to him in 1842 to undertake the physiological part of the Anatomical Lectures at St. Thomas's Hospital. He consented, closed the school, and continued to lecture until 1860, when he resigned in favour of his junior colleague Dr. Brinton. He continued to act as an Inspector under the Burial Board until his death, which occurred on February 1st, 1865. He published in 1829 rather a good textbook on the *Elements of General Anatomy*, in which he acknowledges his indebtedness to the writings of Bichat, Béclard, and Meckel.



Dr. Armstrong next to the founder was the right-hand man of the Webb Street School of Medicine, and his life was written by Dr. Boott. Born on May 8th, 1784, of very humble parentage, for his father superintended the glass works at Ayres Quay, near Bishopwearmouth, he had a defective early education. In spite of this, he graduated at Edinburgh, and after successfully establishing himself in his native town in the county of Durham he moved to London in 1817, and there made a reputation by bleeding and adopting an anti-phlogistic treatment in typhus fever, then epidemic in England. He presented himself for examination before the Royal College of Physicians, and much to his own surprise was rejected. He posed as a martyr, and was elected a physician to the Fever Hospital in St. Pancras, after which he rapidly attained to a large and fashionable practice. He continued to lecture at the Webb Street School even after he had joined Mr. Bennett in 1826 in founding another school in Little Dean Street, Soho. He died of phthisis in December, 1829.

### III.—CARPUE'S, OR THE DEAN STREET, SCHOOL.

Joseph Constantine Carpue descended from a Spanish Catholic family, was born near London in 1764, and was educated at Douay. He was intended for the priesthood, but changed his mind, and after making some attempts to become a bookseller, a barrister, and an actor, he finally fixed on surgery as a profession. He resided for some time in Paris during the French Revolution, and afterwards studied at St. George's Hospital. He was an enthusiast from the beginning, for quite early in his career he carried out, at the wish of the artists West, Banks, and Cosway, an experiment as to how a recently dead body would hang upon a cross. An opportunity occurred in 1800, when a murderer named Legg, who had just been executed, was nailed to a cross which had previously been erected in a building near the place of execution, and when cool a cast was made of the corpse. His vocation as a teacher appears to have been accidentally discovered, for in 1800 a Mr. Norman happened to say to him: "I wish I knew anatomy as well as you do." Carpue replied: "If you desire it, I will teach you." They set to work diligently, and the result was so satisfactory to the pupil that he insisted on the acceptance of 20 guineas by his teacher. This circumstance suggested to Carpue the first idea of becoming an anatomical teacher, and the sum thus received fixed the amount which he afterwards charged each pupil, and which, to the end of his career, he never altered. He said at first that he would be content if he could obtain only six pupils, but his success was so great that he soon opened a school in Dean Street, Soho, on the site which is now occupied by the Royalty Theatre. Here he taught anatomy and the operative part of surgery for nearly thirty years. He delivered three courses of lectures daily throughout the year, and, with the exception of a few days in the summer, without intermission. Twice in the week in the evening he also gave lectures on surgery. His plan of teaching anatomy was peculiar to himself, for his aim was to make every student in his class a demonstrator. For this purpose he first stood before his pupils, and illustrated the points of

reputation  
as a teacher



study by an extemporaneous diagram; and, as often happened when subjects were scarce, he trusted to his practical descriptions and piece of chalk alone, so that he was known familiarly by his pupils as the "chalk lecturer." When he had described the different parts of a bone, he would call upon a student by name, and request him to demonstrate the bone to the others. When this student had finished, it was given to a third, and this process would be repeated fourteen or fifteen times in succession. It is recorded that he had a temporal bone minus the styloid process, and that, after enumerating the other processes, he would say, "the styloid process broken off." One of his pupils on presenting himself for examination at the College of Surgeons was asked to describe the temporal bone, which he did after the manner of Carpue, much to the amusement of the Court of Examiners. "The styloid process broken off!" said old Sir William Blizard in astonishment; and when the student explained, the veteran surgeon laughed heartily at the joke. Another peculiarity of Carpue's teaching was that all the bones, skulls, and skeletons which he used in demonstrating seemed to have belonged to personal friends. "That skeleton," he would say, "is the skeleton of one of the prettiest girls I ever saw." With all his foibles, however, he was a most successful teacher, and his reputation was so great that he had the honour of being selected to teach the rudiments of medicine and physiology to George IV when Prince Regent; and he succeeded in infusing some of his own enthusiasm for science into his illustrious pupil. His method of teaching prevented him from taking a large class, but we have it upon his own authority that he sometimes had a larger number of students than he desired. Tom Hood alludes to him in his "Pathetic Ballad of Mary's Ghost":

I can't tell where my head is gone,  
But Dr. Carpue can;  
As for my trunk it's all packed up,  
To go by Pickford's van.

The regulations of the Royal College of Surgeons introduced in 1824 by which summer courses of anatomy were no longer recognised practically ruined Carpue's school, though he kept it open until 1830 or 1831. He continued to lecture for some years after the closure of his school, and filled up such spare time as he had with politics, for he was an ardent Liberal.

Carpue was connected for many years with the York Hospital at Chelsea, and gained no mean reputation as a surgeon, for he reintroduced into this country the Indian operation of rhinoplasty, and he endeavoured to bring into repute the operation of suprapubic lithotomy. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, and he laboured hard to diffuse a knowledge of Jenner's method of vaccination against small-pox. He acted in his later years as a surgeon to the National Vaccine Institute, a position which he retained until his death. He married a lady of his own religion, and by her he had a large family of daughters, who were distinguished for their musical talents. He died January 30th, 1846, and his portrait and a marble bust were presented to St. George's Hospital by his daughter, Miss Emma Carpue, who bequeathed to the hospital no less than £6,500.



IV.—BROOKES'S SCHOOL, OR THE BLENHEIM STREET OR  
GREAT MARLBOROUGH STREET SCHOOL.

BROOKES'S SCHOOL was a private speculation of Joshua Brookes, the brother of the celebrated menagerie keeper in Exeter 'Change. He was born November 24th, 1761, and was a student of the Great Windmill Street School; and he afterwards studied under Portal in Paris. His school was situated in what is now known as Ramilies Street, at the foot of Blenheim Steps in Oxford Street, and was the last building on the left beyond the Mews as one goes down the steps by the side of Buszard's shop, just before turning into Great Marlborough Street. The school was established solely to teach anatomy, and the summer course was especially well attended; for Brookes had invented a method of injecting his subjects with nitre, which fitted them for dissection in the hot weather, when there were no regular classes in the large medical schools attached to the hospitals. For this method he was made a Fellow of the Royal Society. Mr. South says that he literally spent the whole of his day in the dissecting room, and that he taught his students entirely from dissected parts, using neither plates, diagrams, nor blackboard sketches. He worked with such assiduity that he was recognised throughout Europe as the best anatomical teacher in London. He also had the reputation of being the dirtiest professional person it was possible to conceive; his good report always preceded him, and his filthy hands begrimed his nose with continual snuff. "In his ordinary appearance I really know," says Mr. South, "no dirty thing with which he could compare; all and every part of him was dirt, and his house was no cleaner than his person; yet he sometimes came out as a pleasant gentlemanly person in black with a powdered head, cleanish hands, yet snuffy withal, and not lacking in good manners and information." It was this reputation, doubtless, which prevented him from being elected a member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons—a position for which he was eminently fitted by his attainments in anatomy and in the operative parts of surgery. It was his hobby to form a museum of comparative osteology; in pursuit of it—and helped by his brother, the menagerie keeper—he converted into skeletons every animal upon which he could lay his hands. The two upper storeys of his house formed his museum, and his rooms were so crammed with preparations that it was hardly possible to move in them without knocking something over.

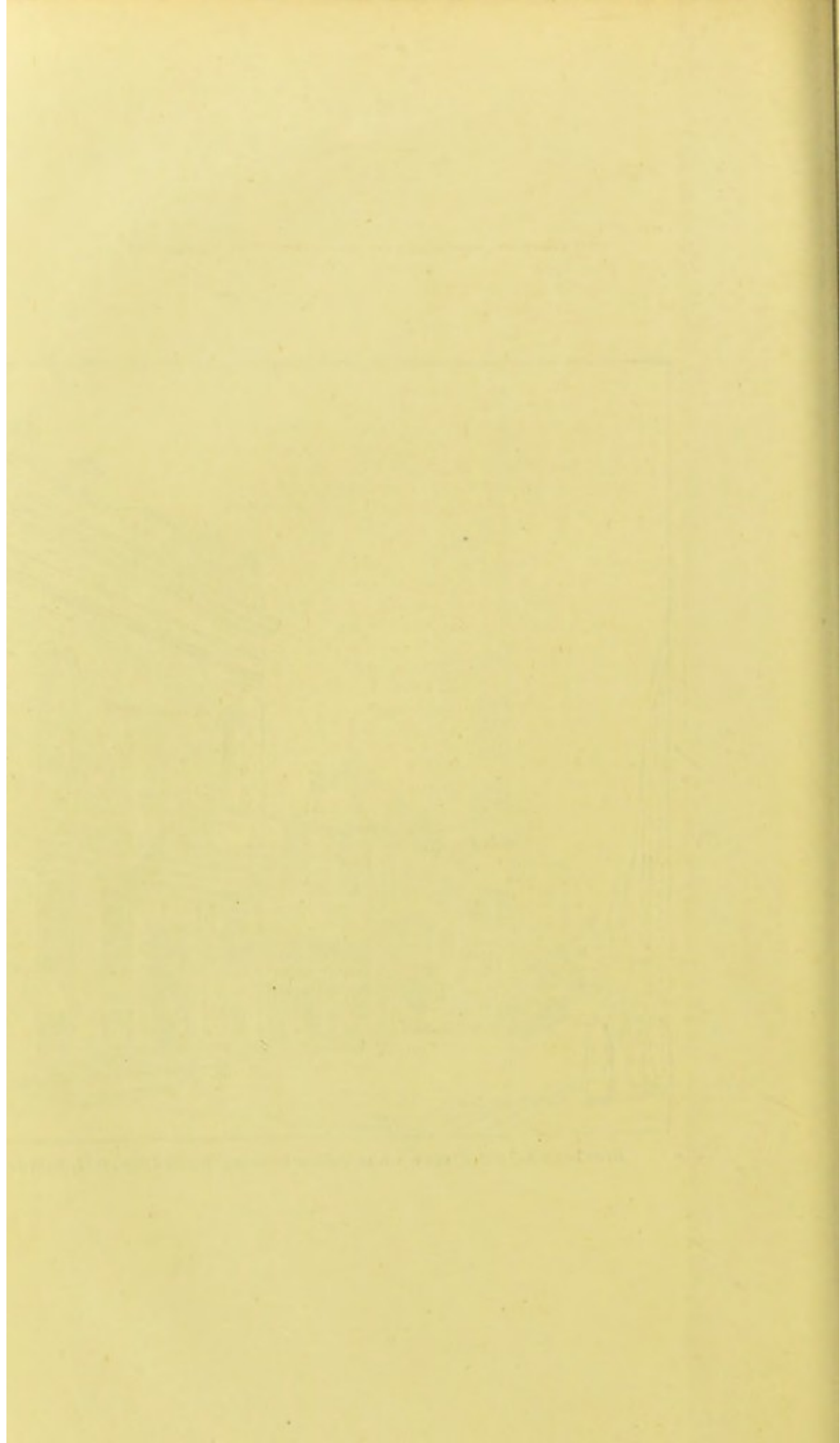
The College of Surgeons declined to recognise a summer course of anatomical lectures after the year 1824, and from that time Brookes's school, like Carpue's, began to decline, until from a class of 120 to 150 it dwindled to a few pupils, and he was compelled to sell his museum piecemeal—a proceeding which occupied no fewer than twenty-three days, commencing on March 1st, 1830. He died in Great Portland Street on January 10th, 1833, just before the opening of the session, without a single shilling, everything having been spent in amassing his osteological collection. He was so poor, in fact, that a subscription was raised to pay his funeral expenses.





Brookes's School (from a water-colour drawing made June, 1817, now in the possession of the Royal College of Surgeons of England).







V.—DERMOTT'S SCHOOL: THE GERRARD STREET OR LITTLE WINDMILL STREET SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

This school originated directly out of Brookes's school, for Dermott had been an assistant in the Blenheim Street School for a year or two before Brookes died. This event happened in 1833, a fortnight before the session opened, and as Dermott was unable to obtain possession of the premises, he bought the lease of the house in Little Windmill Street (now Lexington Street) which stood the second or third building on the left from Brewer Street. He contracted with a builder to alter the house in fourteen days in such a way as to fit it for an anatomical school; by personal superintendence of the workmen, by having night and day shifts, and by giving them as much beer as they could drink he used to boast that the work was completed within the stipulated time, and the school was opened at the beginning of the session.

George Derby Dermott, who thus became its proprietor, was of Irish extraction—the son of a medical practitioner in Northamptonshire, who afterwards left medicine and became a Wesleyan minister—and he had acquired almost as consummate a knowledge of anatomy as Joshua Brookes himself. He was not a great physiologist, and of practical surgery he knew nothing. He died of renal disease, aged 45, on September 12th, 1847. The late Mr. J. F. Clarke, in his autobiographical sketches, gives an interesting and amusing account of Dermott's peculiarities. He was very unpunctual as to the time of beginning his lectures. His afternoon discourse usually occupied two hours, and if he observed symptoms of weariness in his audience, he would say, "Gentlemen, you are fatigued with your labours; let us have a little interlude to revive you." He would leave off demonstrating the muscles of the thigh for a few minutes, and give us the soliloquy of Hamlet or the death scene in Richard III, amidst the enthusiastic applause of his audience. He would then finish his demonstration. He was convivial to a fault, and took great delight in inviting his class to his house on certain evenings to "drink punch and smoke." He generally accompanied his invitation to these meetings with some remarks on the advantages of keeping within reasonable bounds with respect to the quantity of punch his guests were to imbibe. "But," he would observe, "I do not wish to be inhospitable; I wish every man to enjoy himself under my roof. And, gentlemen, if any of you or all of you after leaving my residence has or have the misfortune to be intercepted on the way to your lodging, send for me and I will bail you. I make it a point not to go to bed early on these evenings in order that I should be forthcoming to relieve you in any difficulty in which you may be placed." Unfortunately this promise often required to be acted upon, and it is to the honour of Dermott that he never failed to fulfil it.

Dermott was in every respect a thoroughly honest, straightforward, and painstaking man. Independent by nature, he rarely squared himself by the opinions and feelings of others, and his rapidly-formed convictions were based as much upon feeling as upon reasoning. He took an active part in the foundation of "The Medical Protection Assembly," which was formed in 1843 after the new charter had been granted to the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and it was the



anxiety attending his relations with this Assembly which undoubtedly hastened his end.

Dermott's school was modelled more upon the Great Windmill Street or Webb Street Schools than upon Carpué's or Brookes's, for it aimed at giving a complete medical education. The fee for perpetual attendance on the course of lectures was £22, and the entries were so numerous that Mr. Clarke says that when he joined the school its alumni numbered nearly 300. It suffered many migrations in the course of Dermott's life. The school was founded in Little Windmill Street; it was transferred after a time to Chapel Street, Wardour Street, and thence into a house in Great Pulteney Street. It was held for a time in the Westminster Dispensary, in Gerrard Street, Soho, and later in Charlotte Street, Bloomsbury. This house was required by the Commissioners of Metropolitan Improvements in 1845, and Dermott was compelled to surrender his lease. He then moved into Bedford Square, where he died two years afterwards.

Dr. Ryan lectured in the original school for some time upon medicine. He was one of the physicians to the Western Dispensary in Charles Street, Westminster, where most of the students of the school attended as his pupils, for at this time the Apothecaries' Company received the certificate of fifteen months' attendance at a recognised dispensary as evidence that a candidate for its licence had passed through a sufficient course of practical medicine. Ryan was editor of the *London Medical and Surgical Journal*, but he eventually became involved in pecuniary difficulties, and died at a comparatively early age.

John Epps, M.D., of the London University, lectured upon materia medica, chemistry, and botany. He was the eldest son of a noted ham and beef shopkeeper in London, and when the school broke up he took to the practice of homœopathy.

In later years Tuson, Guthrie, Jewell, and Sigmond lectured, and more than maintained the reputation of the Little Windmill Street School.



## THE MEDICAL SOCIETIES OF LONDON.

THE material for writing a full history of the medical societies of London is very scattered, and is of a most meagre description. It is well-nigh impossible to get a full account of many of the societies which have now disappeared. The chief cause of this is that their minute books have either been destroyed or remain in the hands of private persons and so are inaccessible. It would be well in future if at the dissolution of any society steps were taken to have all its minutes and records preserved in some public library, and perhaps the hint may not be out of place that if any of the minute books of societies already defunct are now in the possession of former officers, they might be deposited in some library where they would be cared for, and be accessible to persons interested in such matters. The migration of the profession from east to west is reflected in the homes of the societies; from the City proper they moved to Lincoln's Inn Fields and neighbourhood, and from thence to the district round about the present fashionable medical quarter of the metropolis. The specialism of the present day is shown in the rapid growth in recent years of societies directed to the study of special organs. This has now reached such a stage that there is hardly any department of practice which has not its special society. Before the establishment of the Medical Society in 1752 the Royal Society was the means by which medical men communicated their discoveries and published their cases. Dr. Fotherby has estimated that the medical papers (including Anatomy and Physiology) in the *Philosophical Transactions* up to 1848 number 1,020.

A good account of the Medical Society of London and some of the other early societies is to be found in the oration by Dr. Routh before the Medical Society in 1859. At the jubilee of the Hunterian Society in 1869, Dr. Fotherby gave an historical sketch of that Society. Sir Edward Sieveking did the same for the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society in his address of welcome to the Fellows at their new premises in Hanover Square. The best account of the older societies is to be found in the late Mr. J. F. Clarke's *Autobiographical Recollections of the Medical Profession*. The societies connected with the various hospitals, being of a semi-private character, are not included in this paper.

### MEDICAL SOCIETY.

This Society was established in 1752 with a view to collect and publish medical observations and inquiries. It must not be confounded with the Medical Society of London, from which it was quite distinct. The Medical Society published 6 volumes of *Medical Observations and Inquiries*. The first paper is dated 1753, and the sixth volume was issued in 1784s. The full title of the set is *Medical Observations and Inquiries, by a Society of Physicians in London*. This again is misleading.



as there was in existence a "Society of Physicians" which was started about 1764, and which owed its origin chiefly to Dr. Alexander Russell. Its meetings were held at Old Slaughter's Coffee House, and its membership was confined to Licentiates of the Royal College of Physicians. According to the *Medical Register* for 1783, Dr. William Hunter was at that time President of the Medical Society. Hunter died in March, 1783, and as the last volume of *Observations* was issued in 1784, it is probable that the Society ceased to exist at about that date. The origin of the Medical Society is thus stated in the first volume of the *Medical Observations*: "A few years ago some physicians in London agreed to meet together for their mutual improvement in the practise of their profession ..... The persons who formed this Society were either such as had the care of hospitals, or were otherwise in some degree of repute in their profession, and, consequently, had frequent opportunities of making observations themselves, and of verifying in the course of their practice the discoveries of others. When difficult cases occurred to any of them the rest were consulted, and the method of cure which appeared most likely to be attended with success was tried and the event communicated. When these meetings had continued a considerable time, some of the members became desirous of making the publick partakers of the advantages that might be derived from such an association. Accordingly they, with some other physicians, formed themselves into a Society for collecting and publishing Medical Observations and Inquiries." There is a copy of the laws of this Society and a list of its members in the British Museum.

Soc. of  
Phys.

#### THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON

was founded chiefly by the exertions of Dr. Lettsom in 1773, "to give the practitioners of the healing art frequent opportunities of meeting together and conferring with each other concerning any difficult or uncommon cases which may have occurred, or communicating any new discoveries in medicine which have been made either at home or abroad." The first meetings were held in Dr. Lettsom's house; the number of members was originally limited to thirty physicians, thirty surgeons, and thirty apothecaries. The early days of the Society were marked by much dissension amongst its members, and so few attended the meetings that sometimes a quorum could not be obtained. In 1776 the home of the Society was in Crane Court, from whence it moved in 1788 to Bolt Court, Fleet Street. In 1850 a lease was taken for twenty-one years of premises in George Street, Hanover Square, after which the Society moved to its present quarters in Chandos Street, Cavendish Square. Dr. Lettsom presented to the Medical Society the house in Bolt Court where the meetings were held; it was to remain the property of the Society so long as the number of its members did not fall below ten; in the event of this happening the house fell to Dr. Lettsom's legal representative. At the time of the amalgamation of the Westminster and Medical Societies it was thought desirable that some definite arrangement should be come to respecting the house, and on the heir-at-law (Mr. John Lettsom Elliott) being approached by the officers of the Society, he very generously waived all claim to the property. Dr. Lettsom also established the Fothergillian Gold Medal, which was afterwards permanently endowed by Dr. Anthony Fothergill.



This latter gentleman was not in any way related to the Dr. Fothergill in whose memory the medal was founded. This medal was given at irregular intervals down to 1888; the absence of competitors for the medal caused the Council to apply to the Charity Commissioners for a new scheme to govern its future award. In 1891 the new conditions were approved by the Commissioners; by this scheme it was decided that the charity should be applied by the trustees in providing a prize to be awarded once in three years, of a value not exceeding 60 guineas, either in the shape of a medal or an honorary premium. The first award under this scheme was made in 1893 to Dr. Gowers. The Lettsomian Lectureship was established in 1850 in honour of the early benefactor of the Society. In its early days the Society also gave silver medals for the best paper read at its meetings. It was mainly through dissatisfaction at the way the affairs of the Medical Society were carried on that the Medical and Chirurgical Society was established. One grievance was the continued re-election of Dr. James Sims as president, which office he held for twenty-two years. Dr. Sims seems to have had an eye to the main chance, for in 1800 we find that the Society paid him £500 for books, and also agreed to pay his wife an annuity of £30 should he predecease her. In 1850 the number of members had fallen to 60, and in that year it was decided to amalgamate with the Westminster Medical Society.<sup>1</sup> The amalgamated Society prospered exceedingly, as many as 60 new members being sometimes elected at one meeting. The celebrated picture by Medley of the founders of the Society hangs in the room in Chandos Street; it contains 25 figures of the principal men in the metropolis at the time the picture was painted. Jenner was not in the original painting, but was introduced subsequently. The engraving by Branwhite was partly finished before this was done, and a piece of copper had to be let in the plate so that Jenner's head and shoulders might be engraved on a spot previously occupied by background details. The publications of the Medical Society did not appear with any regularity until recent years. In 1792 the first volume of *Memoirs* was issued; of this series there were six volumes, the last appearing in 1805; then nothing was published until 1810, when vol. i of the *Transactions* was issued; after this there is a great gap, the Society not publishing any report of its meetings until 1846, when *Transactions* (new series, vol. i) appeared; the new series, like the old, was limited to one volume. In 1861 another vol. i was issued, and in the following year vol. ii appeared. Then comes a gap again until 1874, when vol. i of the *Proceedings* was published; since that date they have appeared regularly.

#### MEDICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT QUEEN STREET SCHOOL.

There was another "Medical Society" started in 1779. This was connected with the Anatomical School of John Sheldon and Andrew Blackall, in Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields. In the library of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society there is a copy of the laws of this Society. The full title runs as follows: "Laws and Regulations of the Medical Society, instituted at the Anatomical Theatre, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, December 19th, 1779." The date

<sup>1</sup> See account of Westminster Society.



of publication is 1784. Though called simply "Medical Society" on the title page of the laws, the name in the form of diploma is given as "Societas Medica Londinensis." In the list of members an asterisk is prefixed to those who had occupied the presidential chair. From this it appears that John Sheldon, F.R.S.; John Jebb, M.D., F.R.S.; Robert Willan, M.D.; Adair Crawford, M.D.; Andrew Wilson, M.D.; William Bishop; and Joseph Hurlock, had filled the office. One of the rules is that "the President shall wear his hat while in the chair," and another states that "in order to keep up a constant fund, each member shall pay on the first Tuesday of each month one shilling and sixpence."

THE SOCIETY FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF MEDICAL AND  
CHIRURGICAL KNOWLEDGE

was founded in 1783 by John Hunter and Dr. Fordyce. Sir Benjamin Brodie gives the date of its foundation as 1793, but this is an error, as there is in existence a letter from John Hunter to Jenner, in which he speaks of the formation of the Society, and offers to communicate Jenner's paper on Tartar Emetic. This was received in June, 1784, and published in the first volume of the *Transactions*. The Society was originally composed of nine members, with a provision that it might be increased to twelve, but that it should never exceed that number. Meetings were held once a month at Slaughter's Coffee House in St. Martin's Lane. The papers communicated were first read, and then discussed and corrected after dinner. The Society issued three volumes of *Transactions*, but after the publication of the third volume it existed only as a dining club. On June 2nd, 1818, the Society was formally dissolved, with the understanding that the minute book should remain in the possession of Mr. (afterwards Sir B. C.) Brodie, the then secretary. At Sir Benjamin's death the book came into the possession of Mr. Charles Hawkins, by whom it was presented in 1882 to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society. The minute book contains the signatures of all the members (18 in number) excepting Mr. Henry Cline. There is an interesting entry under the date October 7th, 1798: "There being so much joy and interest of conversation about Sir Horatio Nelson's victory, no business was done at this meeting." The Society was evidently a close corporation, for it is stated that Dr. Roget was proposed as a member, but that the ballot was not proceeded with when it was discovered that he had taken the office of secretary to another Society; this was the Medical and Chirurgical. There was another Society about this date with a very similar title: "The Society for Promoting Medical Knowledge." Two volumes of *Transactions* were published in 1784 and 1790, under the title of "Medical Communications." The secretaries were Dr. Edward Gray, of the British Museum, and Mr. Edward Ford, of Golden Square, Surgeon to the Westminster General Dispensary.

THE LYCEUM MEDICUM LONDINENSE

was instituted for the advancement of medical knowledge on January 25th, 1785, under the patronage of Dr. Fordyce and Mr. John Hunter. The meetings were held at Hunter's Lecture Room in Castle Street, Leicester Square. All the cases read before the Society were entered in a minute book, and a Committee was appointed to examine them, with power



to send such as they thought proper to Dr. Simmons to be published in his *Medical Facts and Observations*. The society had three classes of members: a first class, which consisted of those who had taken a degree in physic, were members of the Surgeons' or Apothecaries' Company, or were established in practice in surgery, pharmacy, or chemistry. Members of the second class must have attended at a hospital one course of lectures on anatomy and the practice of physic. The third class was intended for those who had only just entered upon a course of medical studies. The members of the first two classes were required to read to the society dissertations on some subject connected with medicine in the order of their names upon the list. The society gave a medal for a dissertation on a stated subject; the first was gained by Everard Home in 1787 for an essay on The Properties of Pus. Dr. Routh states, on the authority of Sir Benjamin Brodie, that the meetings of the "Lyceum" ceased in 1809; the name of the society, however, appears in the Royal Calendar up to 1815; the same names are given as holding office from 1802 to 1815. Dr. Bradley, who is down as President during these years, died in 1813; this fact almost proves that no return was made to the editor and that the Lyceum was inserted in the pages of the Calendar long after the society had ceased to exist. In March, 1858, £119 7s. was presented by the survivors of the Lyceum to the Society for the Relief of Widows and Orphans of Medical Men; this was the result of £100 invested some years before, which had been allowed to accumulate.

#### THE [ROYAL] MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY

of London was founded in 1805, and was an offshoot of the Medical Society. It was mainly formed by those who had seceded from the Medical, chiefly on account of the repeated re-election of Dr. Sims as President. The first suggestion of forming the new Society came from Dr. Marcet and Dr. Yelloly; they were soon joined by Astley Cooper, who took great interest in the Medical and Chirurgical, and became its first treasurer. He was also the author of the first paper in the *Transactions*. In December, 1805, the first meeting of the Society was held at 2, Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn. Dr. Saunders, who had been chairman of the preliminary Committee, was the first President, and Dr. Yelloly one of the first secretaries. The first volume of *Transactions* was issued in 1809, and from that date to the present time the volumes have appeared with great regularity. The Society also issues *Proceedings*, in the later volumes of which the discussions following on the reading of papers are fully reported. In 1810 the Society moved to 3, Lincoln's Inn Fields, and afterwards met at Nos. 30 and 57. An endeavour to obtain a charter was made in 1812, during the presidency of Sir Henry Hallford; the cost of the application was raised by subscription amongst the Fellows, and so eager were they, that the whole amount (about £500) was subscribed in one morning. The opposition of the Royal College of Physicians was sufficiently strong to prevent the charter being granted. Another application in 1834 was successful, and the Society took the name of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London. In that same year they took possession of the house No. 53, Berners Street, and held their first meeting there on February 3rd, 1835. This house was originally built by Sir William



Chambers, for his own residence; here he entertained all the leading scientific and literary men of his day.<sup>2</sup> The Pathological, Clinical, and Obstetrical Societies held their meetings at the house of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, which thus became the head quarters in London for the profession. Here the Society remained until 1889, in which year it removed to the handsome premises it now occupies at 20, Hanover Square. Additional space has enabled the Council to still further increase the accommodation for other societies. The Society possesses a fine library of about 40,000 volumes; the utility of this is greatly increased by the Fellows being able to borrow books for use at their own homes. There is also an extensive collection of engraved portraits of members of the profession. The celebrated Chamberlen midwifery instruments are in the possession of the Society. In 1872 the Society undertook to administer the fund which had been raised to found a memorial to Marshall Hall. It was decided that the memorial should take the form of a prize to be given every five years for the best original work done during that period on the nervous system. The first award was made in 1878, Dr. Hughlings Jackson being the recipient of the prize.

#### THE WESTMINSTER MEDICAL SOCIETY

was founded by Sir C. Mansfield Clarke and Sir Benjamin Brodie in 1809; its meetings were held at the School of Medicine in Great Windmill Street. For some years the Society seemed almost to be an appendage of the school, every student who attended the lectures becoming also a member of the Society. In 1824 it is said to have had about 1,000 members. After the breaking up of the Windmill Street School the Society met in Sackville Street, from there it went back to Windmill Street, then it met in Exeter Hall, and last of all moved to Savile Row. During its first occupation of Windmill Street no rent was paid, and so the Society was in a flourishing financial position; at the other places the necessary rent caused a drain on the funds. The interest in the meetings gradually declined, until in 1843 the Society was reduced to about twelve members; then it took a new lease of life, and at its close it showed 275 names on the books. The Society took the lead in discussing the nature and treatment of cholera during the epidemic of 1832, and in its discussions on the Anatomy Bill it did much to do away with the popular prejudice against that measure. During the presidency of Mr. Hird, in 1849-50, steps were taken for amalgamating the Westminster and the Medical Societies, and during Dr. Murphy's term of office this was successfully carried out. The motion for amalgamation was unanimously

<sup>2</sup> The following anecdote of Goldsmith, related by Washington Irving, has reference to the Society's house: "He was one evening at the house of Sir William Chambers, in Berners Street, seated at a whist table, with Sir William, Lady Chambers, and Baretta, when all at once he threw down his cards, hurried out of the room and into the street. He returned in an instant, resumed his seat, and the game went on. Sir William, after a little hesitation, ventured to ask the cause of his retreat, fearing he had been overcome by the heat of the room. 'Not at all,' replied Goldsmith; 'but in truth I could not bear to hear that unfortunate woman in the street, half singing, half sobbing, for such tunes could only arise from the extremity of distress; her voice grated painfully on my ear and jarred my frame, so that I could not rest until I had sent her away.' It was in fact a poor ballad singer, whose cracked voice had been heard by others of the party, but without having the same effect on their sensibilities."



agreed to by the Medical Society on March 4th, 1850, and by the Westminster Society on March 28th of the same year. It was agreed that in the amalgamation scheme the President of the Medical Society should be the first President of the new body. Dr. (afterwards Sir) Risdon Bennett held this office, and the first secretaries were Dr. W. Cogswell and Dr. C. H. F. Routh. It was found impossible to unite the two names in the new Society, as the property of the Medical Society was so held that it could not change its name. The name of Westminster, therefore, disappeared, and the amalgamated body was known as the Medical Society of London; its first meetings were held in George Street, Hanover Square. At the time of amalgamation the Westminster had 237 names on its books, exclusive of honorary and corresponding members. The old Society only issued three numbers of *Proceedings*, which contain the record of the session 1848-49. The papers are, however, fairly reported in the medical journals of the day.

#### THE HUNTERIAN SOCIETY.

The idea of founding a medical society for the East of London originated with Mr. Armiger, Assistant-Surgeon to the London Hospital. Being himself unable to take an active part in the preliminary arrangements for starting the Society, this duty was undertaken by Dr. Cooke, of Great Prescott Street, who, on November 11th, 1818, called a meeting at his residence for the purpose of discussing the desirability of starting the proposed Society. The preliminary meetings do not seem to have been marked by any enthusiasm. The proposers of the scheme, however, persevered, and, having obtained the adherence of Sir William Blizard, called a meeting at the King's Head, in the Poultry, on January 20th, 1819, to inaugurate the Society. A subsequent meeting was held to draw up rules, etc., and on February 11th another meeting was called to elect officers, when Sir William Blizard was elected the first President and Dr. Conquest and Mr. Armiger appointed Secretaries. The original intention was to call the Society "The London Medical and Physical," but, on the suggestion of the President, it was altered to "The Hunterian Society," and "*Ratio Societatis Vinculum*" was adopted as its motto. A room was obtained at the London Orphan Asylum in St. Mary Axe, and there, on April 21st, the first business meeting was held. In 1821 the Society moved to new premises at No. 18, Aldermanbury, and in 1834, as these rooms were required for other purposes, a further move was made to No. 4, Blomfield Street, where arrangements for a tenancy were concluded with the managers of the Congregational Library. Here the Society found a home until the premises were required by a railway company in 1866. In that year the Council was enabled to secure accommodation at the London Institution, where the Society has remained ever since. A library for the use of members was established early in the history of the Society: the first grant was made in 1822, when £50 was voted for the purchase of books, and, very appropriately, the Works of John Hunter was the first book ordered. The *Reports of the Hunterian Society* were first published in 1825, and have been continued to the present day. The first Oration was delivered by Sir William Blizard in 1826, with a few breaks, this has been annually kept up.



✓

THE ROYAL MEDICO-BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON was founded in 1821 mainly by the efforts of John Frost, who held the office of Director. The avowed object of the Society was for "the purpose of investigating, by means of communications, lectures, and experiments, the medicinal properties, botanical characters, and chemical constituents of plants; for encouraging the study of the materia medica of all countries, etc." Frost was only 18 years of age when he started the Society, and by his perseverance and impudence he soon put it on a good basis. The home of the Society was at 32, Sackville Street, Piccadilly, and Dr. William G. Maton, F.R.S., was the first President. His successors were Dr. Bree, Sir James McGrigor, and Earl Stanhope. Frost obtained not only the chief men of science of his day as members of the Society, but also politicians and men of letters; it is said that he had twelve Sovereigns on the list of members. His mode of obtaining these names was to present an elaborate album containing the signatures of the members to any distinguished man whom he desired to catch, and to inform him that he had been elected an honorary member. By this means he not only increased his list of members, but put together a most interesting and valuable collection of autographs. At the disappearance of Frost after the quarrel between him and the Society, the book vanished, and has never since been heard of. This is to be regretted, as it contained signatures of great interest. Some of the subterfuges to which Frost had resource for getting his book signed are well-nigh incredible: Having more than once failed to get an audience with the Duke of Wellington, Frost obtained the uniform of a lieutenant-general, and attended a *levée* of general officers at Apsley House. By sheer impudence he obtained an audience, and added the Duke's signature to his list. A most amusing account of this will be found in the Life of the Rev. R. H. Barham, vol. i, p. 176. So greatly were some of the foreign potentates impressed with the importance of Frost and his Society that two of them sent the insignia of one of their minor orders to the Director. These Frost appropriated and duly wore at all meetings of the Society. Some of the papers read were of considerable interest and importance, but, especially in the later years, no proper supervision was exercised in the matter laid before the Society; in fact, Earl Stanhope would admit anything which could be classed under the head of medical botany. To such an extent was this carried, that Mr. Clarke<sup>2</sup> relates the case of a keeper of a herb bath who "read a paper to show that influenza, at that time epidemic, was caused by the cows eating buttercups, which in that season were most prolific." Frost's conduct became at last so overbearing that his colleagues could not submit to it. The result of the quarrel was that the office of Director was abolished, and Frost himself was expelled from the Society. The other Secretary was Dr. Sigmond, a man of very considerable learning. Whenever there was a lack of material for discussion, it was customary to fall back on Dr. Sigmond for a paper; among his communications may be mentioned one which in 1834 he brought before the Society on the subject of Endermic Medication. Three parts of *Transactions* were issued, the first

<sup>2</sup> *Autobiographical Recollections of the Medical Profession*, p. 240.



containing the work of the Society for 1821-29, the second 1832-33, and the third 1834-37. Earl Stanhope was the mainstay of the Society in its later years, and soon after his death in 1855 it ceased to exist.

#### THE HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON

was founded in the year 1831. The want of a society of this kind had long been felt by those who were practising in the western part of London. The preliminary meeting was held at the Western General Dispensary in Lisson Grove on September 12th, 1831, Dr. A. T. Thompson in the chair. It was then unanimously resolved that such a society should be established under the name of the Western London Medical Society. On September 15th the Society was formally constituted and the first officers were elected. At a meeting held on September 26th it was decided to change the name of the Society from that originally suggested to the Harveian Society. The early meetings were held at the Western General Dispensary, but before the end of 1831 apartments for this purpose were engaged at 28, Edward Street, Portman Square, from whence in 1835 the Society moved to the Marylebone Literary and Scientific Institution in the same street. A "Harveian Lectureship" has been instituted by the Society for the delivery of two or three lectures on some subject of practical interest in medicine, surgery, or midwifery. The Society does not publish any transactions, but its meetings are reported in the medical journals.

#### THE SOUTH LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY

was founded in 1832; the preliminary meeting, under the chairmanship of Mr. Edward Evans, was held at the apartments of the Southwark Literary Society, Chester Terrace, Southwark. The Society was originally to have consisted of general medical practitioners of Southwark and its vicinity. The last reported meeting was held on August 16th, 1849, under the presidency of Mr. Hilton, to discuss the Treatment of Cholera. Addison's first paper on Disease of the Suprarenal Capsules was read before the South London Society on March 15th, 1849. A report of it may be found in the *London Medical Gazette*, n.s., viii, 1849, p. 517. Another society with this title was formed in 1867 (*vide infra*).

#### THE SOCIETY OF MEDICAL AND SURGICAL OBSERVATION

was founded in 1839 to collect and arrange authentic histories of disease and to disseminate among the members a knowledge of the cases under treatment in the different London hospitals. The meetings were held at the members' houses, the president for the evening being the member at whose house the meeting was held. Mr. (afterwards Sir W.) Bowman was the first Secretary. The last meeting was held on April 30th, 1850, at the house of Mr. Partridge. It was then decided to dissolve the Society, and it was ordered that all the papers should be arranged and deposited, with the minute book, in the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society's Library.

#### THE MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

is the successor of a society started in 1841 under the title of the Association of Medical Officers of Hospitals for the Insane. This Association originated in a circular addressed in 1841 to eighty-three medical men connected with the public



lunatic asylums in the kingdom. The circular was signed by Dr. Samuel Hitch, the resident physician of the Gloucester County Asylum, and asked whether, in starting the Association, co-operation might be expected. Forty-four favourable replies were received, and a meeting of those who agreed to join the Association was held at the Gloucester Asylum on July 27th, 1841. At this meeting the Association was formally started, and it was decided to meet annually at a private or public lunatic asylum. For some time the Association contemplated publishing a journal, but it was not until 1852 that it was definitely decided to issue one. The title chosen was the *Asylum Journal of Mental Science*, and Dr. Bucknill was appointed the first editor. In 1858 the title was changed to the *Journal of Mental Science*, under which name it still appears.

#### THE SYDENHAM SOCIETY

was formed in 1843 for the purpose of meeting certain deficiencies in the diffusion of medical literature not likely to be supplied by the efforts of individuals. The Society issued between the years 1844 and 1857 many valuable works, including editions of Paulus Ægineta, Rhazes, Hippocrates, and Aretæus. In 1857 the Society was dissolved, the Council giving as its reason for this act that the work for which the Society was established was completed.

#### THE NEW SYDENHAM SOCIETY

was established in the year 1858 for the purpose of carrying on the work abandoned by the original Society. Dr. C. J. B. Williams was elected the first President; the success of the Society, however, has been mainly due to Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, who has held the post of honorary secretary from the foundation of the Society until the present time. In addition to publishing many useful books, the Society has issued an Atlas of Pathology and another of Diseases of the Skin, and has partly completed a *Dictionary of Medical Terms*.

#### THE WESTERN MEDICAL AND SURGICAL SOCIETY

was founded in 1845, and held its meetings in Sloane Street. Sir Benjamin Brodie was one of its presidents, and his presidential address is printed in Mr. Charles Hawkins's edition of Brodie's works. The Society had a fair library of modern books; these chiefly came from the Chelsea and Brompton Medical Society, which presented the books which had been in circulation during the year previous to their deposit in the library of the Western Medical and Surgical Society. Owing to a great decrease in the number of members, which was chiefly caused by the establishment of other London societies, the Western came to an end in 1871. The books belonging to the Society were given to the Medical Library at St. George's Hospital, to which a large number of the members belonged.

#### THE PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

In February, 1846, Dr. Edward Bentley, of Guy's Hospital, made an endeavour to start a separate society for the discussion of pathological subjects. This need was felt from the reluctance there was in the existing societies to devote any of their meetings solely to pathology. Dr. Bentley and Mr. Nathaniel Ward were appointed secretaries of a provisional committee formed to make the preliminary arrange-



ments for starting the Society. A prospectus was issued by this Committee to the members of the profession setting forth the objects of the new Society. This appeal met with unexpected support, and on October 20th, 1846, at the first meeting 106 members were enrolled. Dr. C. J. B. Williams was appointed the first President, and it was at his suggestion that a medallion of the head of Dr. Matthew Baillie was chosen as the seal of the Society with the motto "*Nec silet mors.*" This has been stamped on the covers of all the volumes of *Transactions* up to the present day. The first volume of *Transactions* was published in 1848, and the yearly volumes have been continued without a break.

#### THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON

was instituted on July 30th, 1850, at a meeting held at the Hanover Square Rooms under the presidency of Lord Ashley, afterwards the Earl of Shaftesbury. The object of the Society was the investigation of past as well as of existing epidemics not only amongst the human race, but also amongst animals. In addition to the discussion of papers calculated to carry out this object, the Society has endeavoured to further extend its work by the appointment of committees to investigate the causes, etc., of the various epidemic diseases. From 1855-58 the *Transactions* of the Society were issued with the *Journal of Public Health and Sanitary Review*. Since the latter date the *Transactions* have been regularly published in a separate form.

#### THE LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY OF OBSERVATION

was founded in 1850 by Drs. Walshe, Jenner, Parkes, Snow Beck, Hare, and Sieveking. Dr. Walshe was the leading spirit in starting the Society, and was elected its first President. The number of members was limited, and the meetings were held at the houses of the various members in rotation. By the founders of the Society its objects were thus stated: "To promote the advancement of accurate pathology and therapeutics by clinical and allied investigations, the value of which shall be estimated by the numerical method; and to exhibit the special advantages which may accrue to the science of medicine by the co-operation of several persons working on a uniform plan towards the elucidation of given medical questions." These objects were to be pursued "by the collection of records of cases observed by the members, the particulars in every instance (whether observed at the bedside or after death) to be noted in writing at the moment of observation, fulness of detail to be constantly held in view as deeply important, but accuracy alone to be considered absolutely necessary. By the accumulation of observations of special phenomena of disease and the relations subsisting between them, with the view of ascertaining their regulating laws; it being understood that the subject and the plan of observation shall, in each instance, be sanctioned by the Society." To accomplish these ends a handbook was issued by the Society in 1853 under the title *What to Observe at the Bedside and after Death in Medical Cases*. This book was published under the direction of a Committee, but the general supervision was entrusted to Dr. Ballard. It was originally proposed to publish an analysis of the cases accumulated, but this was never done. Part of the material got together was used by some members of the Society, but



the original papers were returned to the Secretary. All the manuscripts of the Society were left in the hands of the late Dr. Wilson Fox, who was the last Secretary.

**THE NORTH LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY**  
was founded in 1853 mainly through the exertions of Professor Sharpey, Mr. Richard Quain being the first President. The meetings were held at Bedford Schoolroom, Charrington Street, Oakley Square, and subsequently at 30, Albert Street, Camden Road. The Society had not a very prosperous career, and ceased to exist about 1863.

**THE ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH**  
was formed by the medical officers of health in the metropolis in 1856 for the purpose of mutual assistance and the advancement of sanitary science. At the time of the formation of the Society there were forty-seven medical officers of health in the metropolis, nearly all of whom became original members. Mr. (now Sir John) Simon was elected the first President, and committees were appointed to inquire into subjects relating to the public health. In 1873 the name was changed from "Association" to the "Society of Medical Officers of Health." The annual reports of the Society were published in separate form from 1868 to 1879; from 1879 to 1886 *Transactions* were issued; since 1886 no separate publication has been issued by the Society. The proceedings are reported in *Public Health*.

**THE ODONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON**  
was formed in 1856 mainly for the purpose of carrying on the movement then on foot for obtaining from the College of Surgeons some recognised qualification for those who were practising this branch of surgery. A memorial on this subject was forwarded to the College in 1855, and in November, 1856, a meeting of those interested in the new Society was held at which the by-laws were agreed to, and Mr. Cartwright was appointed the first president. In 1861 the title was changed to the "Odontological Society of Great Britain." The Society has a library and museum, and has published *Transactions* regularly since 1856.

**THE ARMY MEDICAL AND SURGICAL SOCIETY**  
was started in 1856, shortly after the termination of the Crimean war, Dr. (afterwards Sir J.) Gibson being the President, and Mr. (afterwards Sir J.) Mouat the Secretary. The members consisted of medical officers in London, Woolwich, and Aldershot, and its meetings were held in Sackville Street, Piccadilly. The Society existed only a few months, coming to a sudden termination on the outbreak of the Indian Mutiny, which scattered its members, most of whom were ordered on service. The meetings were chiefly taken up by discussions of interesting cases which occurred during the campaign.

**THE OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.**  
The meeting for inaugurating this Society was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on December 6th, 1858, Dr. Rigby in the chair. The object of the meeting was stated to be the foundation of a Society for the purpose of the advancement of the knowledge of obstetrics and the diseases of women and



children. On the motion of Dr. Tyler Smith, seconded by Dr. Granville, it was agreed to start a Society on the lines laid down. In 1825 an attempt had been made by Dr. Granville to start a similar Society. A meeting was held at his house, under the chairmanship of Sir Charles M. Clarke, for the discussion of the subject. To the majority of those present the scheme, as proposed by Dr. Granville, seemed too large, and only that part of it was adopted which dealt with the political or State part of the question. Dr. Granville claimed that this was not without result, as by the action of that Society obstetricians had been enabled to take a more honourable place amongst the medical practitioners of the three corporate bodies. The first meeting of the Obstetrical Society was held on January 5th, 1859. Dr. Rigby, the first President, being in the chair. The meetings have always been held in the house of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, but in 1868 apartments were opened at 291, Regent Street, for the Society's library and museum; in 1882 the Society took rooms at 54, Berners Street. When the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society moved to Hanover Square the Obstetrical went with them. The Society has a good library, the books from which are lent out to the Fellows for use at home; there is also a museum of casts, models, and instruments relating to the obstetric art.

#### THE BEAUMONT MEDICAL SOCIETY

was started in 1865, and held its meetings at the Beaumont Institution, Mile End. The Society came to an end in 1876 or 1877.

#### THE CLINICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

The Clinical Society owes its origin mainly to the energy of Drs. Headlam Greenhow and Burdon Sanderson. Under the presidency of the former physician, a private meeting was held at 49, Queen Anne Street on October 29th, 1867, to take into consideration the desirability of forming a Society "for the cultivation and promotion of practical medicine and surgery by the collection of cases of interest, especially of such as bear upon undetermined questions in pathology and therapeutics." At this meeting a Provisional Committee was appointed to carry out this object, and a Subcommittee, consisting of Dr. Buchanan, Mr. Callender, Dr. Greenhow, Mr. Heath, Dr. Ringer, and Dr. Burdon Sanderson was nominated to prepare a draft set of rules for the Society. Invitations to join the Society were then sent round to the members of the staffs of all the recognised metropolitan hospitals and medical schools, and it was determined to hold a meeting on December 9th, 1867, of all who should have signified their intention of joining the new Society. At this meeting it was reported that 110 original members had joined the Society. Dr. Greenhow was voted to the chair, and the election of the first officers took place, with the result that Sir Thomas Watson was appointed the first President, and Dr. Burdon Sanderson and Mr. Callender the first Secretaries. The Society has regularly issued volumes of *Transactions* since 1868. In 1883 a Committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Ord, was appointed to consider the subject of Myxoedema; this Committee reported to the Society in 1888, and their valuable report was issued as a Supplement to the twenty-first volume of the *Transactions*. In 1892, as a Supplement to the twenty-fifth volume, the Society issued, under the



editorship of Dr. Dawson Williams, the report of a Committee appointed to Investigate the Periods of Incubation and Contagiousness of Certain Infectious Diseases.

#### THE SOUTH LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The second Society under this title was formed in 1867. In November of that year a preliminary meeting was held at the Ophthalmic Hospital, Southwark, Mr. J. Z. Laurence in the chair. A committee was appointed to carry out the details of forming the Society, and on December 3rd the first meeting was held, Dr. Clapton being appointed President, and Messrs. R. C. Moon and J. H. C. Constable, Secretaries. The Society had a prosperous career for about five years; at the end of that period financial difficulties and the deaths of the Honorary Secretaries caused the meetings to be discontinued.

#### THE MEDICAL MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY

was founded in 1872 mainly through the exertions of Mr. J. W. Groves. The preliminary meetings were held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital under the chairmanship of Mr. Marrant Baker. The Society started with thirty-nine original members and Mr. Jabez Hogg occupied the presidential chair for the first two sessions. The objects of the Society were stated to be the "discussion of questions of normal and pathological histology, medico-legal and medico-chemical microscopy, and mechanical and optical arrangements requisite for the proper examination and preparation of microscopic specimens." The meetings were held in the Board room of the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital. The Society lasted for about eight years; the cause of its breaking up was chiefly that the subscription, half a guinea, was too small to meet the expenses and assist the members in research.

#### THE OPHTHALMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

This Society was formed in 1880. In response to an invitation issued to those interested in ophthalmology, a meeting was held at the rooms of the Medical Society of London on June 23rd, 1880, under the chairmanship of Mr. (afterwards Sir William) Bowman. The Chairman having delivered an address, the business of forming the Society was proceeded with, and on the motion of Mr. Critchett, seconded by Dr. Hughlings Jackson, it was unanimously agreed "That an Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom be formed." Mr. Bowman was elected the first President, and Dr. Stephen Mackenzie and Mr. Nettleship were the first Secretaries. Before this meeting, fifty gentlemen had agreed to join the Society when formed, and at the meeting thirteen others were enrolled as original members. The Society has issued *Transactions* regularly from 1880. It has a library of books bearing on the subject to which the Society is devoted.

#### THE WEST LONDON MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY

was founded in 1882 at a meeting held in the Board Room of the West London Hospital, under the presidency of Dr. Goddard Rogers. The first meeting of the Society was held on October 6th, 1882, Dr. E. Hart Vinen, the President, in the chair. An annual lecture is given before the Society by some eminent man of science. This is called the Cavendish



Lecture, after Henry Cavendish, who lived for some time near the spot where the Society meets. The first of these lectures was given by Mr. Timothy Holmes in 1884. The Society has issued five volumes of *Proceedings*.

**THE DERMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON**  
was founded in 1882 for the exhibition of cases only. The number of members was limited to thirty, but in May, 1895, it was decided to withdraw the limit.

**THE BRITISH GYNÆCOLOGICAL SOCIETY.**

The preliminary meeting for discussing the desirability of forming a Society to promote and encourage the science of gynæcology was held at the rooms of the Medical Society on December 27th, 1884, under the chairmanship of Dr. Routh. A resolution as to the desirability of founding such a Society was moved by Dr. Robert Barnes, seconded by Dr. Heywood Smith, and carried unanimously. The election of officers was then proceeded with, Dr. Alfred Meadows being elected the first President. The new Society received considerable support from all parts of the country, so that the secretaries were able to report that the number of foundation Fellows amounted to 266. The first meeting was held on March 11th, 1885, in Chandos Street; here the Society continued to meet until the Royal Medical and Chirurgical moved to Hanover Square, when rooms were secured there by the British Gynæcological Society. The Society has a small library, the nucleus of which was the collection of books belonging to Dr. Alfred Meadows, which came into the possession of the Society at that gentleman's death. The *British Gynæcological Journal* has been published regularly by the Society since 1885.

**THE NEUROLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.**

This Society originated at a meeting held on November 14th, 1885, when, on the proposition of Dr. Broadbent, seconded by Dr. Hughlings Jackson, the desirability of forming such a Society was agreed upon. A Committee was appointed to draw up rules and to nominate a Council and officers. The report of this Committee was agreed to at a meeting held on January 14th, 1886. The first ordinary meeting was held at the National Hospital, Queen Square, on March 24th, when Dr. Hughlings Jackson, the first President, delivered an inaugural address on the Scope and Aims of Neurology, and the manner in which a Society like the Neurological might be utilised for the advancement of science. The reports of the proceedings of the meetings are published in *Brain*.

**THE BRITISH LARYNGOLOGICAL AND RHINOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION**

was started in 1888 with Sir Morell Mackenzie as first President. The reports of its proceedings are published in the *Journal of Laryngology*; a separate volume of *Transactions* was issued for the year 1891.

**THE LARYNGOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.**

The meeting held to discuss the desirability of forming a Society with the above title was held on February 13th, 1893, with Sir George Johnson in the chair. At this meeting it was unanimously agreed that such a Society should be established, and a list of original members was drawn up. In



March of the same year the first general meeting was held for the purpose of electing officers and drawing up rules. Sir George Johnson was elected the first President, and the Society began its ordinary business on April 12th. The *Proceedings* are issued in a separate form, and are published soon after each meeting.

#### THE SOCIETY OF MEDICAL PHONOGRAPHERS

chiefly owes its existence to the energy of Dr. Gowers. In July, 1894, an appeal was made by Dr. Gowers, Dr. Gray, of Oxford, and Dr. James Neil, of the Warnford Asylum, for the organisation of practitioners and students of medicine who were in the habit of using shorthand. In reply to this appeal 152 names were received; of these 112 were resident in the United Kingdom, 34 in America, 2 in India, and 4 in South Africa. On this basis the Society was started; it has a journal of its own printed in shorthand, with the title of the *Phonographic Record of Clinical Teaching and Medical Science*. For the use of medical students it has also issued a pamphlet in shorthand entitled "The Use of Shorthand by the Student, with examples." Although this Society is not strictly a London one it is included here on account of its unique position, this being the first attempt of any one of the learned professions to cultivate shorthand for professional purposes.

#### THE NORTH-WEST LONDON CLINICAL SOCIETY

was started at the end of 1894. The meetings, which are held at the North-West London Hospital, are entirely clinical, no set papers being read. Sir Richard Quain is the first President of the Society.

#### THE DERMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

was formed in 1894. At the preliminary meeting held on April 12th Dr. Pye-Smith was elected President. A congress to inaugurate the new Society was held at the rooms of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society on May 30th, when the President delivered his inaugural address.



## THE HOSPITALS WITH MEDICAL SCHOOLS.

THE hospitals in London, like those throughout England, Scotland, and Wales, are remarkable in that they are not endowed by the State. A few have large revenues derived from landed property or from funds obtained from private munificence. The rest, and these are by far the greater number, derive their income from subscriptions contributed annually and in small sums by large numbers of private individuals.

The hospitals are divisible into two great groups, those which have a medical school attached and those which have no regular medical school, though students may and often do attend them.

Every hospital has a visiting or consulting staff, of whom the seniors take charge of the patients admitted into the hospital, whilst the junior members are occupied in attending to the out-patients. Each hospital also has a resident staff, consisting of recently qualified practitioners, who are elected to hold their office for a term of six months or a year. The visiting staff in the larger hospitals to which medical schools are attached act as teachers by lecturing and giving instruction at the bedside.

The nursing in nearly every hospital is unsectarian. It is carried out by a matron, who exercises a general supervision and by a head nurse for each ward, who is usually called "the sister." Each sister has to assist her one or more properly-certificated nurses and a subordinate group of nurses, or "probationers," who are being taught their duties. The matron and the sisters are more or less isolated, but the nurses usually live in common.

Each hospital is governed by a lay committee, consisting either of the whole body of subscribers or of a certain number to whom the larger body delegate their authority. The Committee usually possess two permanent officers, the Treasurer and the Secretary. The power of appointing all the officers of the hospital is vested absolutely in the lay Committee.

The hospitals to which medical schools are attached are twelve in number. Two of these are almost coeval with the Norman conquest of England, whilst the remainder originated under a variety of circumstances either in this or in the previous century.

### ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital, in West Smithfield, stands near St. Paul's Cathedral, upon the site which Rahere, its founder, acquired for it in 1123. Rahere afterwards founded the neighbouring Priory of St. Bartholomew, and became its first prior. The hospital, however, had an independent con-



stitution and a separate estate, though it was for some purposes under the control of the Priory. It had a master, eight brethren and four sisters, the community being subject to the rule of St. Austin. It was a hospital from the beginning, and not a mere almshouse. St. Thomas Becket, the great Archbishop of Canterbury, was one of its early benefactors.

The hospital had an uninterrupted existence until the dissolution of the Priory in 1537. It then passed with its revenues into the possession of Henry VIII, who refounded it by Royal Charter in 1544, at the petition of Sir Richard Gresham, Lord Mayor of London, and father of that Sir Thomas Gresham, who built the Royal Exchange. A fresh Charter was granted in 1547, giving back to the foundation the greater part of its former revenues. It then contained 100 beds, it now has a service of 700 beds; there were then but few out-patients, they now amount to more than 175,000 annually.

For many years the hospital seems to have been a group of detached buildings. The majority of these disappeared about 1725, to make way for the present quadrangle, built by Gibbs in 1730. The main entrance, however, remains where it has always been, and although it was rebuilt in 1702, and was closed for many years, we can think as we pass through it that it was traversed 770 years ago by men whose fathers saw William the First enter London as a conqueror. It witnessed a notable sight on Saturday morning, June 15th, 1381, for Wat Tyler, by altercation with the king (Richard the Second) in the open space which still exists immediately in front of the hospital, so enraged the Mayor, William Walworth, that he arrested him on the head with a sound blow. Whereupon Wat Tyler furiously struck the Mayor with his dagger, but hurt him not, by reason he was well armed. The Mayor, having received his stroke, drew his baslard (or long dagger generally worn suspended from the girdle, which when decorated with silver, could only be "carried by those possessed of a yearly income of £20) and grievously wounded Wat in the neck, and withal gave him a great blow on the head. Wat, spurring his horse, cried to the commons to revenge him. The horse bare him about eighty feet from the place, and there he fell down half dead; and by-and-by they which attended the king, environed him about so as he was not seen of his company. Many of them thrust him in divers places of his body, and drew him into the hospital of St. Bartholomew, from whence again the Mayor caused him to be drawn into Smithfield, and there to be beheaded."

The hospital still presents many features of interest attesting its ancient and, in many respects, unique position. It forms a parish in itself, and has within its walls a small parish church served by the Vicar, or as he is known technically "the hospitaller." It possesses, too, a large hall, to which access is obtained by a noble staircase whose walls are ornamented with frescoes painted by Hogarth. The hall itself contains numerous paintings, some of a very high order of merit, notably the picture of Percivall Pott, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and of Abernethy, by Sir Thomas Lawrence.

The liberality of its late Treasurer, Sir Sidney Waterlow, long provided the hospital with a most suitable and efficient convalescent home at Highgate, but the munificence of Mr. Kettlewell superseded this home by a much larger one at Swanley in Kent. It was opened on July 13th, 1885.



The school is a large one, and is accommodated in buildings which are leased from the hospital authorities. There is a good library and a splendid museum, both deserving of a visit.

The hospital and school have been well and ably served by a long succession of illustrious men, amongst whom William Harvey, David Pitcairn, William Clowes, and Percivall Pott are accounted the chiefest ornaments. The whole neighbourhood of the hospital is classic ground, and the visitor to the hospital should not omit to visit the priory church of St. Bartholomew-the-Great, which lies within two minutes' walk of the church of St. Bartholomew-the-Less. Midway between the two churches, and let into a part of the wall of the hospital is a tablet marking the site of the stake at which Henry VIII burnt those who denied his ecclesiastical supremacy, Mary burnt Protestants, and Elizabeth, her sister, burnt Anabaptists.

#### ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.

St. Thomas's Hospital has nearly as great an antiquity as that of St. Bartholomew's, and, like it, took its origin in that great philanthropic movement started by Lanfranc, the Norman Archbishop, about the year 1100. It has been less fortunate than St. Bartholomew's, however, for it has changed its name, its site, and has lost many of its revenues.

The exact date at which the original hospital was founded is unknown. It belonged to the canons of the Priory of St. Mary Overy at the foot of London Bridge, and it was burnt about 1207 by the fire which destroyed a great part of Southwark and extended over the bridge into the city of London. The first hospital being thus destroyed the prior and convent immediately proceeded to erect a second hospital upon the old site (now covered by the Bridge House Hotel and the Westminster Bank) upon the west side of London Bridge, a convenient position, for it was immediately by the side of the great road leading into Kent and extending from Dover to Wroxeter. This building was used temporarily for religious purposes and mass was said there until the priory could be rebuilt. Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winchester, in 1228 began to build a new and larger hospital, which he placed on the eastern side of the Watling Street, a position which the hospital maintained until it moved to the foot of Westminster Bridge, when the land was bought for the London Bridge railway station in 1865. The hospital thus built was assisted by Bulls from the various Popes and obtained valuable grants of land. Many of these grants show that it maintained its ecclesiastical character until quite late in its history, for they were bequests of property made by individuals in exchange for lodgings, living, and pious observances within the precincts of the hospital. Thus the master and brethren in one case agree to find for Alicia within the court of the hospital a suitable bed with everything necessary to a bed for her so long as she lives; she is to have good service and money for clothing and fuel, but is to make no further claim of any kind. The hospital was dedicated to St. Thomas (Becket) the Martyr, and it was rendered independent of the priory to which it had at first owed its support. It was sometimes known from its patron saint as "Bekket's spytell." In later years it was the hospital of the Holy Trinity, a title which gave place to the "King's Hospital," out of compliment to Edward VI, its



refounder ; finally it was called the Hospital of St. Thomas the Apostle. It consisted, like the Hospital of St. Bartholomew's, of a custos or master, of brethren, and of three lay sisters, who, in 1535, had the charge of forty beds for poor and infirm people who were to be supplied with food and firing.

The hospital was surrendered to the King at the dissolution of the monasteries in 1538, and, although some efforts were made by Gresham to re-found it, nothing was done effectually until the citizens of London, aided and encouraged by Bishop Ridley, took the matter in hand, when King Edward VI granted letters patent to it in 1553 and endowed it with 4,000 marks by the year.

The third hospital—built in 1228—became so ruinous and deficient that it was rebuilt a little nearer to Tooley Street about 1507. This hospital was in many respects a poorhouse rather than a true hospital, but in 1571 Mr. Bull was appointed physician to the hospital at a salary of 20 marks a year, whilst the surgeon was paid for those cases which he cured. A few years later there was an apothecary and herb-woman, who received £4 a year for physical herbs, whilst in 1652 a midwife was paid 2s. 6d. for her help to two poor women. The status of none of these officers was high ; they were all subordinate to an official governor, whilst the surgeon ranks between the shoemaker and the barber. Two "fitting ministers" were appointed : one for the poor and officers of the hospital, who was called "the hospitaller ;" the other was for the parish of St. Thomas's Hospital. The hospital had again fallen into decay in 1694, after it had been extensively used as a military and naval hospital for the reception of soldiers and sailors wounded in the Dutch war. It was rebuilt by the energy of Sir Robert Clayton, the "Ishban" of Dryden's *Absalom and Ahitophel*, whose statue still stands outside the present medical school buildings in Lambeth, and the first mention of a medical school occurs about this time.

The fame of Cheselden and of Mead raised the school to a first-rate position, but the internal dissensions were so great that its prestige soon began to decline, in spite of the fact that it entered into an alliance with Guy's Hospital, by which the students of one hospital attended the practice of both, and although Sir Astley Cooper—the most popular and influential man in his profession—was attached to it for many years as lecturer on anatomy.

The separation between Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals took place in 1824, and St. Thomas's remained in the Borough until 1865, when its site was required for the London Bridge railway station, and was sold for a sum of £300,000. The hospital was then accommodated temporarily on the site of the Surrey Music Hall until the new buildings were finished in 1870-71. These buildings are situated at the foot of Westminster Bridge, and close to Lambeth Palace, the seat of the Archbishops of Canterbury. The hospital now faces the Thames, and consist of eight distinct buildings or pavilions, containing three tiers of wards above the ground floor, and coupled together by a double corridor. The school buildings are situated at the west end of the block, and contain a first-rate museum. Amongst the many notable men who have been attached to St. Thomas's Hospital, none, perhaps, are more notable than Sir Gilbert Blane and Sir John Simon, the pioneers of sanitary science in this country.



## GUY'S HOSPITAL.

Guy's Hospital arose directly out of St. Thomas's Hospital, and for many years remained intimately associated with it. Thomas Guy, a wealthy and benevolent citizen of London, had aided materially in the expense of rebuilding a part of St. Thomas's Hospital at the beginning of the eighteenth century. Early in 1721 the records of St. Thomas's Hospital contain the following minute: "Our worthy governor and benefactor Thomas Guy, intending to found and erect an hospital for incurables, in the close of this hospital, in the parish of St. Thomas, we have agreed to grant him a lease.....of several parcels of ground at a ground rent of £17 14s. per annum....." A design was procured from Mr. Lane, an eminent architect and surveyor, and the building was carried out so rapidly that it was roofed in before the death of the founder on December 27th, 1724. In a little more than a week after his death Guy's Hospital was opened, and on January 6th, 1725, sixty patients were admitted. The governing body was incorporated by Act of Parliament in 1725, with a president and treasurer as permanent officers. Two physicians and two surgeons were appointed in May, 1725, to take charge of the patients, a matron, eleven sisters, and eight nurses having been appointed a few weeks earlier. The medical school attached to Guy's very soon rose into repute, and it has always been maintained in a state of the highest efficiency. One of the earliest public courses on anatomy and surgery was that given by Samuel Sharp, surgeon to the hospital from 1733 to 1757. The great repute of the surgical and anatomical teaching was maintained by Sir Astley Cooper, and in later years by John Hilton. The long line of physicians has been even more distinguished than that of the surgeons, and is certainly the noblest list possessed by any hospital in London. Wollaston and Bright, Addison and Golding-Bird, Gull and Habershon, Moxon and Hilton-Fagge, not to mention those who are happily yet alive, followed each other in a remarkable succession. It is not surprising that the students flocked to such teachers, and that in spite of those unseemly disputes and of the lives too soon cut short, which a few years ago threatened to sap the vitality of the school, Guy's Hospital now boasts one of the largest and most active of the metropolitan schools of medicine.

The connection between St. Thomas's and Guy's Hospitals was most intimate between the years 1768 and 1824, and it was then that the terms "The Borough Hospitals" and "The United Hospitals" came into use. The surgical lectures during this period were given at St. Thomas's Hospital, and the medical lectures at Guy's; and the students of each hospital had the right to attend the practice and teaching at the other. Some friction eventually arising between Sir Astley Cooper and J. H. Green, Mr. Harrison, the autocratic treasurer of Guy's Hospital, took the matter into his own hands, and built a separate medical school for the students of his hospital, which was in use on June 21st, 1826. The privilege of attending the practice of the two hospitals remained until December, 1836, when the students themselves came to loggerheads, and the arrangement was formally cancelled.

The hospital is an interesting one as it now stands, for it is a unique combination of the new and of the old. Its laboratories are excellent. The museum contains a most remarkable



collection of models in wax representing very various pathological conditions. They were made by Mr. Towne, who spent his life in bringing his curious art to perfection. The school is further noteworthy for the special attention which it has recently given to the instruction of dental students.

#### THE LONDON HOSPITAL.

The London Hospital contains 786 beds, and being situated in Whitechapel, near the docks and in the poorest part of London, it has perhaps greater clinical resources than any of the metropolitan hospitals. It commenced its existence in 1740 as a small infirmary in Featherstone Street. It was then moved to Prescott Street, Goodman's Fields, a neighbourhood inhabited then, as now, by a large Jewish population. Additional accommodation was soon required, and buildings were erected in 1757 upon a portion of the site which the hospital now occupies, and about this time the governors were incorporated by a Royal Charter. The west wing was opened in 1831, the east wing a few years later, and further improvements have recently been made, so that the hospital now boasts itself the largest in Great Britain. The medical school began when the first student was admitted in January, 1741. Mr. Harrison in 1749 obtained permission of the hospital authorities to deliver a course of lectures on surgery within the hospital, and a similar permission was accorded to Mr. Thomson in 1755. This school was therefore one of the earliest in England. Isolated courses of lectures gave place in 1783 to systematic instruction carried out in a building erected for the purpose, and chiefly at the expense of Sir William Blizard, one of the most active surgeons of his day. The hospital is well worthy of a visit; although it is situated in the heart of the most populous part of London, it has contrived to retain a considerable amount of garden. It has an excellent museum, and splendid accommodation for students. It has always been the home of good clinical teaching, for a course of lectures on clinical medicine were given in 1792, and were successfully resumed after an interval by Dr. Billing in 1823. Here, too, about 1773 Mr. Henry Thomson (surgeon to the hospital 1753-1780) amputated the hip for the second, or if his case was later than Perrault's, for the third time in the history of the operation.

Sir Andrew Clark and Sir Morell Mackenzie have been attached to the hospital as physicians. John Scott, from whom are derived Scott's dressing and ointment; Curling, Critchett, and Jonathan Hutchinson, amongst many other illustrious men, have been surgeons.

#### THE WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL.

The Westminster Hospital, situated in Broad Sanctuary, under the very shadow of Westminster Abbey, is remarkable as being the first general hospital founded, and entirely supported by voluntary contributions. It was originally established in 1719 by several individuals, who had previously made common cause for the relief of sick prisoners in Newgate, the Clink, and other prisons of the metropolis. A house was taken in Petty France, now called York Street, on March 25th, 1720, and patients were admitted upon the following May 11th. This hospital was known as the Infirmary for the



Sick and Needy, and was established in the midst of one of the poorest and most neglected neighbourhoods of London. It at once received the support of the two serjeant-surgeons to King George I, Claudius Amyand and Ambrose Dickins. Its usefulness was so great that in 1724 a larger house, capable of containing sixty beds, was rented, and at the same time Cheselden was appointed principal surgeon, whilst "the princely" Mead became its consulting physician. The infirmary again outgrew its accommodation, until in 1733 it became necessary to find larger premises. The majority of the governors determined to purchase a house in James Street, but a small and influential minority were dissatisfied with this decision, as they held that Lanesborough House, at Hyde Park Corner, offered a better site. A split took place. The infirmary was established, with 100 beds, in James Street, and was opened in January, 1733-34. The dissatisfied minority bought Lanesborough House, and opened it on January 1st, 1733-34, with 30 beds, thus laying the foundation of the noble institution now known as St. George's Hospital. It is interesting to notice that the consulting physician and the three principal surgeons of the Westminster Hospital were amongst the seceders. In 1754 the Westminster Infirmary became the Westminster Hospital, but it continued to occupy the same position in James Street until 1834, when the buildings had become so dilapidated that the hospital was moved into the one which it now occupies in Broad Sanctuary, where in 1836 it obtained its charter of incorporation.

The school attached to the hospital has led a most chequered existence. The hospital was utilised for clinical instruction from its foundation, but, at any rate, during the early part of the present century the students had to obtain their systematic instruction as best they could, usually by attending one of the private schools. An abortive attempt was made to found a school in direct connection with the hospital in 1833, again by Guthrie in 1834, and again later, but it was not until 1841 that the Westminster Hospital School of Medicine was formally established, only to fall through again in 1847, when the College of Surgeons withdrew their recognition of the anatomical lectures in the school. The students were therefore transferred for this branch of their teaching to King's College. The school, however, was soon reorganised, and was carried on in spite of most disadvantageous surroundings by the self-denying labours of Basham, Heath, and Power. The matter was at last taken in hand, and proper accommodation was provided in 1885 by building sufficiently large premises in Caxton Street, a short distance from the hospital, and the school, in the hands of an energetic staff, is now worthy the hospital to which it is attached.

#### ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL.

St. George's Hospital, as we have seen, originated in a schism amongst the governors of the Westminster Infirmary in 1733. The seceders maintained that Lanesborough House was better adapted for a hospital than any other available site "on account of the strength of the building and of the airiness of the situation," whilst the majority of the governors thought that Hyde Park Corner was too far away from Westminster to render a hospital there of much service to the



people whom it was their design to benefit. The scheme was well supported. Mead and Sir Hans Sloane took a personal interest in the well-being of the new institution, and it was opened with thirty beds, soon afterwards increased to sixty, on January 1st, 1733-4.

The work of the hospital was carried on so successfully that it was soon found necessary to alter the buildings to fit them for maintaining 200 beds. In this state the hospital continued without material alteration until 1825, when a new one was erected immediately behind Lanesborough House. The new building was finished in April, 1834, and was adapted to receive 325 in-patients. It had a theatre for lectures and a museum for pathological preparations. In June, 1834, an Act of Incorporation was obtained empowering the trustees of the hospital to hold property to the amount of £20,000. The hospital has also been particularly fortunate in having the Atkinson-Morley Convalescent Home attached to it.

The staff of St. George's Hospital has at all times been peculiarly rich in the possession of men of the widest scientific attainments and of far more than local reputation. John Hunter, Matthew Baillie, William Heberden, Thomas Young the physicist, Cheselden, and the various members of the Hawkins family, Sir Benjamin Brodie, and Prescott Hewett represent but a few of the illustrious names on its roll. The medical school was not established until 1831; before that time the students of the hospital attended the necessary lectures in the Great Windmill Street School, which originated with John Hunter, and was carried on by a series of St. George's men, whilst at a still later time they were taught anatomy by Mr. Lane at the Grosvenor Place School. Mr. Lane was harshly treated by a part of the staff of St. George's Hospital, and a separation between his school and the hospital became inevitable. The hospital, therefore, secured dissecting rooms in Kinnerton Street, which were long of the greatest service, though they have lately been rendered unnecessary by the recent additions to the hospital buildings.

#### ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.

St. Mary's Hospital arose out of St. George's Hospital in much the same manner as St. George's had itself arisen from the Westminster Hospital. It practically owes its origin to the zeal and ability of Mr. Samuel Armstrong Lane, who died in 1892 at the mature age of 90. Lane was for many years the most able teacher at the Grosvenor Place School of Medicine, where many of the students of St. George's Hospital were taught. He was an accomplished anatomist and a skilful surgeon, yet when he applied for an appointment as assistant surgeon at St. George's Hospital he was rejected in favour of one who, though much his inferior, was a relative of Sir Benjamin Brodie. Lane, nothing daunted, determined not to offer himself again, but to start a rival hospital. The project was mooted in 1843, the first stone was laid in 1845, and the building was opened with accommodation for 50 patients in June, 1851, when Mr. Lane was appointed one of the surgeons. The governors of the hospital were able to open wards for the reception of 150 patients in June, 1852, as this was the full complement of the hospital. The original building was at first called the Marylebone and Paddington Hospital, though it very soon acquired its present name. The hospital stands in Cambridge Place, close to the Great



Western railway station, and on a site which once formed the reservoir of the Grand Junction Waterworks. It has not yet obtained any charter or Act of Incorporation. The medical school attached to the hospital was opened in 1854. Both the hospital and the school have recently undergone great improvements, for they are happy in possessing one of the most energetic teaching staffs in London. The medical school contains a remarkably complete museum of pathology.

#### CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL.

The Charing Cross Hospital began its career in 1815 as a dispensary in the house of Dr. Benjamin Golding, first in Leicester Place and afterwards in St. Martin's Lane. It assumed the name of the West London Infirmary about the year 1818. Mr. Pettigrew became attached to the institution about 1819, and it was doubtless by the influence which he exercised that it obtained the patronage of the Duke and Duchess of York. The Committee took a house in Villiers Street, near Charing Cross, in January, 1823, and out-patients were seen there until 1827, when the name was changed to Charing Cross Hospital, and arrangements were made to provide twelve or fifteen beds for use in cases of emergency. Dr. Gabriel Sigmond became a physician to the dispensary about 1825, and it was mainly owing to his energy in collecting and contributing money that the dispensary became converted into a hospital. The hospital soon outgrew its accommodation, and, a site having been obtained where the present hospital stands, the foundation stone of a new building was laid with full Masonic ceremonies on September 15th, 1831. The design was furnished by Decimus Burton, and the hospital was opened in February, 1834, a medical school being inaugurated in the following year.

The medical staff had serious disagreements in 1835-36, which terminated in the resignation of Dr. Sigmond and Mr. Pettigrew, the cause of dissension being the condition of the school, which seemed, to some members of the staff, so bad as to require an amalgamation with its somewhat more prosperous rival at King's College. About this time, too, the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons took away from the hospital their recognition of it as a medical school. The school recovered itself in due course and was again allowed to become a teaching body. The hospital was entirely rebuilt in 1876, was enlarged in 1887, and the Out-patient Department has since been remodelled.

The Medical School is separated from the hospital by the width of the roadway, the two buildings being connected by an underground passage. It was rebuilt in 1881, and is very conveniently arranged. Its proximity to the Dental Hospital in Leicester Square has rendered it necessary for the school to give special facilities to students requiring systematic instruction for the diploma in dental surgery.

#### THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.

The Middlesex Hospital was founded in 1745 under the name of the Middlesex Infirmary. It consisted at first of two dwelling-houses, situated in Windmill Street, Tottenham Court Road, rented from Mr. Goodge, one of the early



governors. It only contained six beds for the first two years after its foundation, but on November 11th, 1746, it assumed the name of the Middlesex Hospital. The first midwifery patient was admitted on June 30th, 1747, and soon afterwards the governors directed that a board should be put up at the end of the street "in a cheap and frugal manner inscribed with the following words: Middlesex Hospital for Sick, Lame, and Lying-in Married Women." The notice broke "Priscian's head," for it was thoroughly ungrammatical, but it doubtless served its purpose of drawing attention to the charity. The midwifery department at first threatened to swamp the other cases, but by the adoption of radical measures this was eventually prevented, though the cases remained so numerous that on May 15th, 1755, the first stone of a new and larger hospital was laid by the Earl of Northumberland in the Marylebone Fields, on the site of the present building. The transfer of patients appears to have taken place between August 30th and September 6th, 1757. A west wing was added to this building in 1770, and the wards, which had hitherto been known by the names of the sisters tending them, were given permanent names. The finances of the hospital were in so flourishing a state that it was proposed to erect an east wing in 1775; at this time, too, and for many subsequent years, the hospital garden was a conspicuous ornament. The expense of the new building proved too much for the resources of the hospital, and it passed through a long period of financial depression from 1781. It was not until January, 1824, that its condition was sufficiently improved to warrant the opening of all its wards. The hospital was incorporated by Act of Parliament, which received the Royal assent in April, 1836.

The hospital is remarkable from the fact that it has possessed, since January, 1792, a fund for the endowment of a ward for the reception of persons afflicted with cancer. The fund was provided by S. Whitbread, and it has enabled the officers of the hospital carefully to check the remedies which have been recommended at various times for the cure of this deadly affection.

An attempt to teach students of the hospital was made as early as 1796, when a laboratory was fitted up in order that chemical lectures might be given, but for many subsequent years the students of the Middlesex Hospital attended the Windmill Street School of Medicine. The founders of the London University (afterwards University College), in 1828, endeavoured to attach the Middlesex Hospital to the new institution, but with a curious blindness to their own interests, the governing body of the hospital rejected every overture, and the University authorities therefore established the North London or University College Hospital. The Windmill Street School was dissolved about the same time, in consequence of Sir Charles Bell's appointment as Clinical Professor in the new University, and it became imperative to establish a school in the Middlesex Hospital. This was accordingly done in 1835. The most notable members of the staff have been Dr. Peter Mere Latham, Sir Henry Hallford, who was called Dr. Henry Vaughan, during the time (1793-1800) he served the hospital, Sir Thomas Watson, Mr. John Shaw, Sir Charles Bell, and perhaps the most highly gifted of all, whose loss we still mourn, Mr. John Whitaker Hulke.



## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AND ITS HOSPITAL.

Enormous strides were made in the social and political state of England during the first thirty years of the present century, and University College marks the advance made by education about this time. The idea of establishing a liberal university in London which should be free from the trammels of the older universities and teaching bodies was long a favourite idea of the poet Thomas Campbell. This idea became a reality owing to the energy of Mr. (afterwards Sir) Isaac Lyon Goldsmid and of Lord Brougham. Active measures to found an establishment under the title of the London University were taken in April, 1825, and in 1826 seven acres of freehold ground were obtained between Upper Gower Street and the New Road. Mr. Wilkins, R.A., immediately proceeded to the erection of the present buildings upon the site thus acquired, and professorial work commenced in them in the autumn of 1828. The institution, commenced as a private enterprise, was strong enough to apply for and obtain a charter of incorporation granted in November, 1836. Some opposition, however, having arisen, and King's College having become incorporated in the meantime, a separate charter was granted to a new body, whose business it was to examine and not to teach, and to this body was applied the title of the London University, which it still retains, the older teaching establishment in Gower Street being subsequently known as University College.

The medical faculty was at first well represented by excellent teachers, but internal dissensions drove them out, and for the first few years of its existence the faculty passed through most troublous times. Matters mended in course of years, and the teaching staff as well as the medical staff attached to the hospital has been an unusually strong one for many years past; the Quains, Sharpey, and Ellis being perhaps the foremost teachers; whilst Liston, Syme, Parkes, Jenner, and Reynolds represent the most celebrated of the hospital staff.

The Hospital commenced as the University Dispensary at No. 4, George Street, Euston Square, on September 8th, 1828, a week after the authorities of the Middlesex Hospital had disavowed any arrangement or connection with the University. The staff consisted of Anthony Todd Thomson, Jones Quain, David Davis, Samuel Cooper, Richard Quain, the surgeon, and J. Hogg. Steps were immediately taken to found a hospital fully equipped for clinical teaching, and funds were so rapidly obtained for this purpose that the centre block adapted to contain 130 beds was commenced in 1833 and opened in the following year. The hospital staff consisted at its opening of Dr. Elliotson, Dr. Thomson, and Dr. Carswell as physicians; Dr. Davis as obstetric physician; Sam. Cooper, Robert Liston, and Richard Quain as surgeons. The hospital was at this time called the North London Hospital, it then became the University College Hospital, and in 1851 both names were combined. New buildings were added from time to time, and in the year 1859 the hospital authorities improved the nursing arrangements by entering into an arrangement with the All Saints' Home for a supply of trained nurses, who were to be under the supervision of the Lady Superior of the Home, though they were subject to the control of the matron of the



hospital. The hospital was fitted up, at the instance of Dr. Tilbury Fox, the physician to the Skin Department, with an elaborate system of medicated baths, which under certain conditions are available for other than patients of the hospital.

#### KING'S COLLEGE AND ITS HOSPITAL.

The origin of King's College, London, was a meeting held at the Freemasons' Tavern on June 21st, 1828 when the Duke of Wellington took the chair. It was decided that a college for general education should be founded in the metropolis, in which, while the various branches of literature and science are made the subjects of instruction, it was to be an essential part of the system to imbue the minds of youth with a knowledge of the doctrines and duties of Christianity as inculcated by the United Church of England and Ireland. The College, being under the immediate patronage of George IV, was to be called "King's College." Letters patent were granted to it on August 14th, 1829, and the new institution was placed under the care of various high officials and Church dignitaries. A secession of the extreme Protestant party took place in 1829, and it was not until October 8th, 1831, that the College was formally opened. The Chairs in the Medical Department were then occupied by J. H. Green, Herbert Mayo, Dr. Bisset Hawkins, Dr. Frank Hawkins, Richard Partridge, and Dr. R. Ferguson. The connection of the College with the Established Church has always been maintained, and has lately been reaffirmed by the Council, though students of almost all religions and sects have been pupils. King's College has done good service to the medical profession by constantly advocating the necessity of a sound preliminary education for medical students.

King's College Hospital arose naturally out of the requirements of the medical department of the College, and it was established chiefly by the exertions of Dr. R. B. Todd, the Professor of General Anatomy and Physiology. It is situated at some little distance from the College and was, until recently, surrounded by slums of the worst description. It was opened in 1839, upon the site of the old St. Clement Danes Workhouse in Portugal Street, at the back of Lincoln's Inn Fields, and unless report lies more than usual a part of the buildings of the hospital were erected upon a burial ground in which upwards of 5 500 bodies had been interred within the previous twenty-five years. One hundred and twenty beds were utilised in 1839, but in 1849 it was found that the accommodation was insufficient both for the patients and the students. The present building was erected and opened upon the old site in 1861. The nursing was in the hands of a voluntary nursing sisterhood from 1856 to 1885, but since that time the nursing arrangements have been entirely in the hands of the Hospital Committee.

King's College School and Hospital have had a long array of glorious names upon its staff. Sir Thomas Watson delivered his classical lectures upon medicine in the school soon after it was opened, Dr. Paris occupied the Chair of *Materia Medica*, Sir William Fergusson was Surgeon to the charity for many years, Sir William Bowman was Ophthalmic Surgeon, Ferrier gained his laurels here, Sir Joseph Lister perfected his system and made the hospital known throughout the world as the home of antiseptic surgery.



THE ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL AND THE LONDON SCHOOL  
OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN.

The Royal Free Hospital, situated in Gray's Inn Road, was founded as a protest against the system then in vogue at the large hospitals of requiring a letter of recommendation before a sick pauper could obtain admission. The hospital owes its foundation to the following accident:

In the winter of 1827, Mr. Marsden, a practitioner living at the top of Holborn Hill, found a girl of 18 dying of disease and starvation at midnight upon the steps of St. Andrew's Church, in Holborn. He conveyed her in a hackney coach to three or four of the large hospitals, but at each she was refused admission because the necessary letter of recommendation was wanting, and eventually he was obliged to take her to a lodging, where she died unrecognised two days later. This scandal produced so great an effect upon Marsden's mind that he determined to found a hospital into which disease and destitution should be the sole passports for admission. Friends came forward, and in 1828 a house was opened in Greville Street, Hatton Garden, under the name of the London General Institution for the Gratuitous Cure of Malignant Disease. The sympathies of Mr. (afterwards Sir) Robert Peel—the Home Secretary—were enlisted, and through him the patronage of King George IV was obtained, and the Duke of Gloucester became the first President.

The reputation of the hospital was greatly increased by the liberal policy pursued by its managers during the great epidemics of cholera in 1832-33-34, 1848, and 1854. The doors of the hospital were thrown open to all persons afflicted with the disease, at a time when the other hospitals closed theirs on the ground that the admission of cholera patients would endanger the safety of those already in the hospital.

A fund was started in the spring of 1843 to build a larger hospital. A site was obtained in the Gray's Inn Road, which had been formerly in the occupation of the Light Horse Volunteers, and the nucleus of the present building was erected. The hospital is still supported by spontaneous contributions from charitable people. It is recorded that the subscription box at the gate has more than once been found to contain banknotes of great value contributed by persons who desired that their donations should be absolutely without a name.

No school was attached to the hospital for many years; but in 1877 an agreement was entered into by which the medical staff of the hospital were permitted to give clinical instruction to students attending the London School of Medicine for Women in Handel Street, Brunswick Square.



THE LABORATORIES OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF  
PHYSICIANS OF LONDON AND ROYAL  
COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF  
ENGLAND.

IN 1886 a Joint Committee was appointed by the two Royal Colleges to report on the subject of the disposal of an unoccupied plot of land adjoining the Examination Hall on the Embankment. The Committee reported that it was desirable to utilise the vacant ground for scientific purposes under the control and management of the two Colleges, and that the "scientific purposes" should be in the first place the investigation and exposition of such branches of science connected with medicine and surgery as the two Colleges should from time to time determine. It was then agreed to erect a building suitable for the purposes named above, together with a Lecture Theatre capable of accommodating 400 persons. Plans were prepared by Mr. Stephen Salter, the architect of the Examination Hall, and a contract was entered into with the builders for £24,667. Modifications having been subsequently introduced, the original estimate was reduced by £909 3s. 9d. In 1889 regulations were drawn up for the management of the laboratories by the Joint Committee of Management appointed by the two Colleges. In 1890 Dr. German Sims Woodhead was appointed Director, and the Committee were able to report that the laboratories were in working order. Permission to work in the laboratories is not restricted to those whose names are on the *Medical Register*. Application for this permission must be made to the Director in the first instance; the application is then submitted by him to the Committee at their next meeting. The publication of the results of work done in the laboratories is under the control of the Committee of Management. Ever since the completion of the building the workrooms have been fully occupied, and much good original work has been accomplished. The laboratories and workrooms are thoroughly fitted up with the most modern appliances for bacteriological and other kinds of research. A note of the work done in each year is published in the Report of the Secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons, which may be found in the *Calendar* of that institution. No separate publication has been issued by the Laboratories Committee, but the results of the work done have been for the most part communicated by the various workers to the medical journals.



