

Report of the sixth general meeting of the Sydenham Society. Held at the Society's rooms, on Monday, May 1st, 1848. Sir Benjamin Brodie, Bart., President of the Society, in the chair. With the laws of the Society, list of officers. &c.; &c.;

Contributors

Sydenham Society.
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REPORT

OF THE

SIXTH GENERAL MEETING

OF

THE SYDENHAM SOCIETY,

HELD AT

THE SOCIETY'S ROOMS,

On Monday, May 1st, 1848.

SIR BENJAMIN C. BRODIE, BART.,

PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY,

IN THE CHAIR.

WITH THE

LAWS OF THE SOCIETY, LIST OF OFFICERS,

&c. &c.

LONDON:

C. AND J. ADLARD, PRINTERS, BARTHOLOMEW CLOSE.

REPORT

SIXTH GENERAL MEETING

THE SYDENHAM SOCIETY



THE SYDENHAM SOCIETY.

THE Sixth Anniversary Meeting of the SYDENHAM SOCIETY was held at the Society's Rooms, 45, Frith Street, Soho, on Monday, May 1st, 1848, SIR BENJ. C. BRODIE, Bart, President of the Society, in the Chair; the following Report of the Council, for the year ending March 25th, 1848, was presented and adopted.

REPORT.

On meeting their fellow-members on this the Sixth Anniversary of the SYDENHAM SOCIETY, the Council beg to present the following brief statement of their proceedings during the past year.

In the last Report the Council expressed a hope that, in consequence of having a number of works in preparation, they should continue to be able to issue in due season the books for each year. This they have accomplished during the past year. Since the last annual meeting the subscribers for the year ending March 1848, have received four books:—viz. the third and concluding volume of Paulus Ægineta; Feuchtersleben's Principles of Medical Psychology; the Microscopical Researches of Schwann and Schleiden; and the volume of Memoirs of the French Academy of Surgery.

With reference to two of the above works, the Council feel it to be their duty to state the obligations which, in common with their fellow-members, they are under to the respective Editors. Some years ago, Mr. H. Smith, the Editor of Schwann and Schleiden's Researches, very liberally offered to place at the disposal of the Council his translation of those works. The Council gladly availed themselves of Mr. Smith's gratuitous services as Editor, and expected to have been able, at a much earlier period, to present to the members the volume which contains the result of researches that have constituted so important an era in physiological science. Although considerable progress has been made in the field which Schleiden and Schwann were the first successfully to cultivate, the Council thought it undesirable that they should attempt to do more than place in the hands of the members, in an

English dress, the original treatises, which must always remain standard works of reference.

To its Treasurer the Society is under renewed obligations for his invaluable services as Editor of Feuchtersleben's Medical Psychology. This work, which was first brought under their notice by Dr. Babington, the Council believed to be well adapted to supply an important desideratum in British medical literature. The character, however, of the original work was such as to demand no ordinary combination of qualifications in the Editor of an English edition; and the Council would have had considerable difficulty in accomplishing their object in any other way than by an arrangement which enabled them to obtain the combined services of the accomplished physician, and the distinguished philologist, whose names appear on the title-page of the English version now in the hands of the members.

Of the works already announced as in preparation, Dr. Greenhill's edition of Rhazes on the Small-Pox is printed, and ready for distribution, whenever the state of the subscription list for the ensuing year shall admit. The English edition of Hippocrates will, it is expected, be sent to the press in the course of the summer.

Since the last annual meeting, the Council have made arrangements with M. Daremberg, the librarian of the Academy of Medicine in Paris, for the preparation of that portion of the Bibliography which will comprise the medical literature of the middle ages. This, together with Choulant's Bibliography of Ancient Medicine, announced in the last Report as in preparation, will constitute a complete medical bibliography down to the close of the sixteenth century.

The physiological writings of Unzer and Prochaska have been repeatedly brought under the consideration of the Council, and they have determined to publish a translation of Unzer's First Principles of Animal Physiology, and of Prochaska's Essay on the Functions of the Nervous System. These works, the editing of which has been confided to Dr. Laycock, of York, will, it is believed, constitute a volume not merely of great interest at the present time, but also of permanent historical value. It has also been determined to issue a volume on Epidemic Catarrh or Influenza. In a single volume, of moderate size, it is proposed to give a history of the various epidemics of Influenza that have occurred in this kingdom from the year 1510 to the year 1837, after the plan adopted by Dr. Gray, in his account of the epidemic of 1782. Arrangements have also been concluded for a translation of the Pathological Anatomy of Professor Rokitansky.

From the Auditor's report it will be seen that the Society continues to be well supported by the profession, so that the Council have this year been enabled to issue four volumes for the year's subscription, on one of which

(Schwann and Schleiden's Researches) extra expense has been incurred, in consequence of its being illustrated by six steel plates. Of the reprint of the first year's works, as well as of those issued for the third year, very few complete sets are on hand. Of the second year's works there are none. But of the fourth and fifth year's books (with the exception of the third volume of Paulus Ægineta, in lieu of which new members receive some other work) there is still a good supply. The present, therefore, presents a favorable opportunity for new members to join the Society, as by commencing either with the current year, or with the fourth or fifth year, all the books they will receive will be complete.

The Council would again urge upon each member the importance of making the Society still more generally known, and thus rendering it more extensively useful to the profession. With this view, they are also desirous of increasing the number of Hon. Local Secretaries, on whose kind services and zeal it has been found that the prosperity of the Society very greatly depends.

The thanks of the Meeting were voted to the several Officers of the past year, and a ballot having taken place for President, Vice-Presidents, and Council for the ensuing year, the following gentlemen were declared to have been duly elected.

OFFICERS FOR 1848-9.

President.

SIR BENJAMIN C. BRODIE, Bart. F.R.S., Sergeant-Surgeon to the Queen.

Vice-Presidents.

JAMES LOMAX BARDSLEY, M.D., F.L.S., Manchester.

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P. M. LATHAM, M.D., Physician Extraordinary to the Queen.

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THOMAS B. PEACOCK, M.D.

Treasurer.

BENJAMIN GUY BABINGTON, M.D., F.R.S., 31, George Street, Hanover Square.

Secretary.

JAMES RISDON BENNETT, M.D., 24, Finsbury Place.

Clerk.

Mr. W. PAMPLIN, 45, Frith Street, Soho.

Collector.

Mr. CALVERLEY, 10, Noel Street, Wardour Street, Soho.

Hon. Local Secretaries.

Aberdeen ...	Dr. Jos. Williamson.	Leicester ...	Dr. John Barclay.
Albany, U.S.	Dr. F. Romeyn Beck.	Limerick ...	Dr. Griffin.
St. Andrews ...	Dr. John Reid.	Lincoln ...	J. Hainworth, Esq.
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Aylesbury ...	R. Ceely, Esq.	Lowestoff ...	W.C. Worthington, Esq.
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Brighton ...	Dr. George S. Jenks.	Norwich ...	D. Dalrymple, Esq.
Bristol ...	J.G.Swayne, Esq. M.B.	Nottingham ...	Booth Eddison, Esq.
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Cambridge ...	Dr. Webster.	Penzance ...	Dr. Willan.
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Carlisle ...	W. B. Page, Esq.	Plymouth ...	John H. Fuge, Esq.
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Chichester ...	Dr. Tyacke.	Ramsgate ...	Henry Curling, Esq.
Colchester ...	Dr. Williams.	Reading ...	T. L. Walford, Esq.
Coleraine, Ireland	Dr. Thos. H. Babington.	Reigate ...	Thomas Martin, Esq.
Cork ...	Dr. Popham.	Retford ...	Dr. J. C. Hall.
Coventry ...	N. Troughton, Esq.	Rochdale ...	R. Bower, Esq.
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Devizes ...	Dr. Seagram.	Ryde ...	M. Phené, Esq.
Doncaster ...	Dr. Scholfield.	Scarborough ...	Dr. Dunn.
Dover ...	Dr. E. Astley.	Settle ...	Thos. D. Burrows, Esq.
Dublin ...	Dr. Law.	Sheffield ...	Dr. Branson.
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Greenock ...	Dr. John Speirs.	Sunderland ...	Dr. Brown.
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Harrowgate ...	Dr. Kennion.	Tunbridge Wells	Isaac Hargraves, Esq.
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Huddersfield ...	W. Atkinson, Esq.	Warwick ...	H. Blenkinsopp, Esq.
Hull ...	Dr. H. Cooper.	Wells, Norfolk	Jas. Young, Esq.
Huntingdon ...	Michael Foster, Esq.	Winchester ...	Dr. A. D. White.
Inverness ...	Dr. Wilson.	Wolverhampton	Edw. F. Dehane, Esq.
Ipswich ...	Dr. Durrant.	Woolwich ...	J. W. Blyth, Esq.
Douglas I. of Man	H. R. Oswald, Esq.	Worcester ...	Dr. Streeten.
Kidderminster	Dr. W. Roden.	Yarmouth ...	R. Worship, Esq.
Kilmarnock ...	Alexander Hood, Esq.	York ...	Dr. Laycock.
Lancaster ...	T. Howitt, Esq.		
Leeds ...	T. P. Teale, Esq.		

LAWS OF THE SYDENHAM SOCIETY.

I. The Society is instituted for the purpose of meeting certain acknowledged deficiencies in existing means for diffusing medical literature, which are not likely to be supplied by the efforts of individuals, and shall be called the "SYDENHAM SOCIETY."

II. The Society will carry its objects into effect by a succession of publications, embracing, among others,—1, Reprints of standard English works, which are rare or expensive; 2, Miscellaneous Selections from the ancient and from the earlier modern authors, reprinted or translated; 3, Digests of the works of old and voluminous authors, British and Foreign, with occasional biographical and bibliographical notices; 4, Translations of the Greek and Latin medical authors, and of works in the Arabic and other Eastern tongues, accompanied, when it is thought desirable, by the original text; 5, Translations of recent foreign works of merit; 6, Original works of merit which might prove valuable as books of reference, but which would not otherwise be published, from the slender chance of their meeting with a remunerating sale—such as Bibliographies, alphabetical and digested Indexes to voluminous periodical publications, &c.

III. The Society shall consist of an unlimited number of members.

IV. The subscription constituting a member shall be One Guinea; to be paid in advance on the 25th day of March, annually; for which he shall be entitled to a copy of every work published by the Society for the year for which he subscribes. Any Subscriber who shall not have paid his subscription previous to the last day in July of the current year, shall not be allowed the privileges of that year's subscription except on the payment of a fine of Five shillings; nor shall any one be allowed to join the Society for the current year after that period except on payment of a similar fine.

V. The Officers of the Society shall be elected from the Members; and shall consist of a President, sixteen Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and Secretary, and a Council of twenty-four, in whom the power of framing bye-laws, and directing the affairs of the Society shall be vested.

VI. The President, Vice-Presidents, and Council shall be elected annually by the Members attending at the general anniversary meeting of the Society; and the election shall be by ballot. Balloting lists of Members proposed by the Council, with blank spaces for such alterations as any Member may wish to make, shall be laid on the Society's table for the use of the Members.

VII. The President and Vice-Presidents shall be eligible for re-election, except that of the Vice-Presidents four shall retire every second year, the retirements having been determined by the Council.

VIII. Six of the Council of the preceding year shall be ineligible for re-election, the retirements to be determined by the Council previous to the annual Meeting.

IX. The election of Members of Council shall be by ballot, and shall take place annually by the Members attending the anniversary meeting, and in the manner prescribed for the election of Vice-Presidents.

X. The Council shall immediately fill up vacancies occurring in their numbers, in consequence of the death or retirement of Members at periods antecedent to the annual meeting.

XI. The Council shall annually nominate a Secretary and Treasurer, subject to the approval of the general meeting, who shall *ex officio* be members of the Council.

XII. The Council shall also appoint Local Honorary Secretaries wherever they shall see fit.

XIII. The business of the President shall be to preside at the annual and extraordinary meetings of the Society; in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents or the Treasurer, or any member of the Council, chosen by the members present, shall take the chair.

XIV. The Treasurer, or some person or persons appointed by him, shall receive all money due or payable to the Society.

XV. The money in the hands of the Treasurer, which shall not be immediately required for the uses of the Society, shall be vested in government, or such other speedily available securities as shall be approved of and directed by the Council.

XVI. The Council shall select the works to be published by the Society, and shall make all arrangements, pecuniary and otherwise, in regard to editing, translating, preparing works for the press, printing, &c. But in the event of any Member of the Council being appointed to edit any work for the Society, for which he is to receive pecuniary remuneration, he shall immediately cease to be a member of the Council, and shall not be re-eligible till after the publication of the work.

XVII. The Council shall lay before the Members, at each anniversary meeting, a report of their proceedings during the past year, and also an account of the receipts and expenditure of the Society; and shall further cause to be printed and circulated among the Members an abstract of such report and accounts immediately after each anniversary meeting.

XVIII. The annual accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the Society shall be audited by a committee of three Members, selected at the preceding anniversary meeting from among the Members at large.

XIX. The Secretary shall have the management of the general correspondence of the Society, and of such other business as may arise in carrying out its objects.

XX. The Local Secretaries shall be in communication with the Metropolitan Secretary, and aid in their several districts in furthering the objects of the Society.

XXI. Members shall have the privilege of proposing works for publication, and shall address their propositions to the Council.

XXII. The Society shall hold its anniversary meeting on the 1st of May, or on the next lawful day thereafter, at such time and place as the Council may agree upon, notice of the said anniversary meeting having been given to Members at least one week previously to the day fixed upon.

XXIII. No Member shall be entitled to receive the Society's publications unless his annual subscription shall have been duly paid.

XXIV. The works of the Society shall be handsomely printed, on a uniform plan, for members only.

XXV. It shall not be competent for book-clubs to subscribe to the Society as members; but it shall be permitted to societies and institutions having *permanent* libraries to subscribe to the Society in the name of their President, Secretary, or Librarian, or other responsible officer.

XXVI. No alteration of the laws of the Society shall be made, except at a general meeting; nor then, unless notice of the alteration intended to be proposed at such meeting shall have been laid before the Council at least one month previously.

XXVII. The Council shall have power to call a General Meeting of the Members at any time; and shall also do so within three weeks, upon receiving a requisition in writing to that effect from not less than twenty Members of the Society.

REGULATIONS FOR THE DELIVERY OF BOOKS.

I. They will be delivered, free of expense, at the Office of the Society, 45, Frith-street, Soho, or within three miles of the General Post Office, London.

II. They will be sent to any place in England, beyond the distance of three miles from the General Post Office, by any conveyance a Member may point out. In this case the parcels will be booked at the expense of the Society, but the carriage must be paid by the Member to whom they are sent.

III. They will be delivered, free of expense, at any place in London which a Member resident in the country may name.

IV. They may remain at the Office until the Members apply for them; but in that case the Society will not be responsible for any damage that may happen from fire or other accident.

V. They will be sent to any of the Hon. Local Secretaries of the Society, each Member paying the Local Secretary a due share of the carriage of the parcel in which the books are sent.

VI. Any number of country members may unite, to have their books sent in one parcel, to any address they may name. In this case they are requested to depute one of their number to transmit to the Secretary for London a list of the names of those whose books are to be included in the same parcel.

VII. They will be delivered in Edinburgh and Dublin, as in London, and forwarded from thence to Members in other parts of Scotland and Ireland, in the same way as is mentioned above with respect to England.

VIII. Those Members who wish their books to be included in any of the parcels to Local Secretaries, are requested to send in their names (with their Christian names in full) and particular address to the various Local Secretaries, who are respectfully requested to forward to the Secretary for London an accurate list of all such names with as little delay as possible.

IX. Unless intimation to the contrary be given to the Secretary for London, the future deliveries will be made in accordance with the delivery of the first volume.

LIST OF THE WORKS ALREADY ISSUED BY THE SOCIETY.

FOR THE FIRST YEAR, 1843-4.—“Hecker’s Epidemics of the Middle Ages,” one Vol. 8vo, pp. xx, 380; “Louis on Phthisis,” one Vol. 8vo, pp. xxxv, 571; “Th. Sydenham Opera Omnia,” one Vol. 8vo, pp. xxx, 668.

FOR THE SECOND YEAR, 1844-5.—“The Seven Books of Paulus Ægineta, vol. I,” pp. xxviii, 683; “Observations on Aneurism,” one Vol. 8vo, pp. xii, 524; “Simon’s Animal Chemistry, vol. I,” 8vo, pp. xx, 360, plate.

FOR THE THIRD YEAR, 1845-6.—“Simon’s Animal Chemistry,” vol. II, 8vo, pp. xii, 560, 2 plates; “Paulus Ægineta,” vol. II, 8vo, pp. xi, 511; “Hasse’s Pathology,” 8vo, pp. xvi, 400.

FOR THE FOURTH YEAR, 1846-7.—“The Works of W. Hewson,” complete in one Vol. 8vo, pp. lvi, 360, portrait, and 8 plates; “Dupuytren’s Lectures on Diseases and Injuries of Bones,” one Vol. 8vo, pp. xvi, 459; “The Works of W. Harvey, M.D.” complete in one Vol. 8vo, pp. xcvi, 624.

FOR THE FIFTH YEAR, 1847-8.—“Paulus Ægineta,” vol. III, pp. viii, 653; “Feuchtersleben’s Medical Psychology,” pp. xx, 392; “Microscopical Researches of Schwann and Schleiden,” pp. xx, 268, 6 plates; “Memoirs of the French Academy of Surgery,” pp. x, 293.

NOTICE.

New Members may still obtain the First, Third, and Fourth Year’s Works; but of the Second Year’s Books none remain, and but few copies of the Third Year’s. In lieu of the third volume of PAULUS ÆGINETA, New Members will receive a copy of some other work, so that on commencing either with the fourth, the fifth, or the current year, the series of books which they will obtain will be complete in themselves.

As the number of copies of the works printed by the Society is regulated by the number of Subscribers, gentlemen intending to subscribe for the current year will see the propriety of giving in their names without delay. Those who are desirous of becoming Members are requested to transmit their names, with the exact designation and address, to the Secretary, or to any of the Local Secretaries.

The Subscriptions for the current year, which are now due, must be paid either to any of the Local Secretaries; or by a Post-office Order made payable at the CHIEF OFFICE, London, to the Secretary; or by an order on any London banker.

45, *Frith Street, Soho, London;*
May 1848.