solved that a meeting of the Council should be called on
the part of the Council be forwarded to the family of
the late F. C. Skey, Esq., a past President of the College,
with the endowment of the Chair of Dermatology at the
Friday, the 11th inst., at Epsom College, designed to ac-
commodate fifty lay boys. There were present at the cere-
mony the Council of the College and the whole School, the
Treasurer, Henry Sterry, Esq.; Drs. Jonson, William Carr,
Westall, Ramsay, and Hogg; and Messrs. Hird, Freshfield,
Lumsden Propert, Dale, and Lord; and the Rev. Dr. 
Mr. George Elkington, F.R.I.B.A., of Cannon-street, being
apothecary.' No man better than Propert knew the la-
dilate on that matter here. It traces its source to the bene-
volent exertions of a man of large heart and remarkable
energy—one who was pleased to call himself a ' poor Welsh
philosopher's stone,' that
' lamp of Aladdin,' is knowledge. Let every day of your
lives, and every hour of each day, be devoted to the acquire-
ment of some portion of knowledge, for by means of know-
ledge we properly direct, and propound which fortune can bestow will be brought to your feet. You may be ministers of state, reverend divines, distinguished
lawyers, eminent physicians or surgeons, victorious
officers, or successful merchants. It may be asked why, if know-
ledge be capable of accomplishing such great things, every
student does not eagerly seek for it and possess himself of
it. To which it may be replied—Why, indeed? for the
famous searching of the 'philosopher's stone' who had for
'to him shall be given' more; none is so great a
favourite with the master as he who seeks to partake of
his knowledge, and to him who thus honourably and
honestly solicits, all will be freely given and cheerfully
bestowed. As, therefore, our work of this day is to increase
the usefulness of the one, but, nevertheless, the great edu-
cational institution of the medical profession of England,
I shall conclude with the simple but heartfelt invocation—
'May God prosper our work.'

Subsequently the Council and College authorities dined
westall, Ramsay, and Hogg; and Messrs. Hird, Freshfield,
Lumsden Propert, Dale, and Lord; and the Rev. Dr. 
Mr. George Elkington, F.R.I.B.A., of Cannon-street, being
architect, and Mr. Shepherd, of Bermondsey, the con-
tactor. The cost of the house is estimated at £5500.

After the conclusion of the ceremony Mr. Wilson deli-
vered the following address:—"The origin of Epsom Col-
lege is so well known to every one present that I need
not dilate on that matter here. It traces its source to the bene-
volent exertions of a man of large heart and remarkable
energy—one who was pleased to call himself a ' poor Welsh
philosopher's stone,' that
' lamp of Aladdin,' is knowledge. Let every day of your
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the usefulness of the one, but, nevertheless, the great edu-
cational institution of the medical profession of England,
I shall conclude with the simple but heartfelt invocation—
'May God prosper our work.'

Subsequently the Council and College authorities dined
together in the Propert Library, when, in reply to his
health, received with the warmest applause, Mr. Erasmus
Wilson said that his gift was but the expression of his in-
debtedness to the profession of medicine, which
joined everything.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. HENRY HANCOCK,
SENIOR SURGEON TO CHARING-CROSS
HOSPITAL.

As influential meeting of the governors, medical officers,
and others connected with Charing-cross Hospital was held
in the board-room of that institution on Wednesday to con-
side what steps should be taken to acknowledge the long
and valuable services of Mr. Hancock, both to the hospital
and to the medical school.

Mr. Hird and Mr. Bosanquet were appointed the treasurers
of "The Hancock Testimonial Committee," while the secretarial duties were assigned to Dr. Headland,
Dr. Pollock, and Mr. Woolcott, the secretary of the hospital.

Although the movement has arisen in connexion with Charing-cross Hospital, it is not intended to confine it to
persons connected with that institution, but the friends of
Mr. Hancock throughout the profession are invited to co-
operate in the movement. The testimonial will probably
assume the form of a picture, to be painted by one of our
first artists. Subscriptions will be gladly received by either
of the treasurers or secretaries.

Correspondence.

THE SANITARY STATE OF JERSEY.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—As your Special Commissioner in Jersey has not promised to extend his inquiry to the adjacent islands, I
take the liberty of requesting you to insert the following
remarks, which indirectly offer corroborative testimony to
his very just comments on the sanitary state of that island.
They also serve to dispel the inference perchance engendered
by the report in the public mind, that, being in such close
proximity, we are not other than our neighbours. Neither
island possesses any great superiority over the other
as regards geographical position. Although Guernsey
is smaller and more distant from the Continent, and therefore
warmer in winter and cooler in summer, Jersey obtains
no small compensation in the difference of aspect of the re-
spective towns, St. Heliers lying south-west, and St. Peter
Fort looking towards the east. The chief town of Guernsey lies in a valley sloping towards the sea, upon the two sides of which and the adjoining undulating ground are built the houses constituting the town. But the principal advantage which Guernsey enjoys is in the possession of a comprehensive system of drainage, in connexion with the harbour, which has been completed within the last few years. The natural advantage of a gentle declivity, enabled the sanitary authorities to carry through, at no very great additional outlay, this undertaking. The town of Jersey lies also in a valley, but the gradient is so slight as to be scarcely perceptible, and, in consequence, it is imperfectly drained. Improvements in the harbour accommodation are in contemplation, and I hope that the opportune remarks of your Commissioner will rouse the authorities from their supineness. It is not without a feeling of self-interest that I express this hope, as Jersey has for many years enjoyed amongst us the unenviable reputation of being the channel through which many of our epidemics are imported. Not many years since, a case of typhoid fever, contracted in Jersey, was admitted into our hospital, and the disease spread to many of the inmates of the institution; and I am at present in attendance on the son of a medical man who is lying dangerously ill with continued fever, caught, as his father believes, in Jersey. The water of the well at St. Helier, where the child was born, is a general consent condemned as impure, for many cases of bowel complaint and fever had recently occurred in the vicinity; but no authoritative prohibition, as the removal of the pump-head, had been resorted to, so that from its accessibility the water was probably still used. Having held the office of surgeon to the hospital and out-door poor of the parish for ten years, I am enabled to speak very positively of the very great freedom from continued fevers, as well as from diarrhoea, in this town. I cannot remember more than a few cases of typhus fever in that period, and typhoid may be considered as almost equally rare. These fevers are more common in the country, where cesspools and all manner of abomination abound. A few years since, in answer to inquiry, I ascertained that the average mortality for a period of eight years was 179 for the town and 171 for the country per 1000. That a seaport town, where drunkenness and other vices are, I grieve to say, flourishing, should exhibit a less mortality than Eastbourne and Worthing speaks volumes in praise of our sanitary arrangements. I think that this evidence will go far to show that there is a local, and, happily, preventable, cause in Jersey for the present high rate of mortality, the recognition of which must stimulate the authorities to exertion without delay. I regret to say that the same apathy exists amongst us with reference to the registration of deaths. That this indifference is an encouragement to murder no one will deny.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant.

Francis E. Carey.
Guernsey, Oct. 3rd, 1872.

ELEVATION OF DEPRESSED CRANIAL BONE BY PNEUMATIC TRACTION.

To the Editor of The Lancet.

Sir,—My thanks are due to Dr. W. J. Mickle for his letter on the above subject in the last number of The Lancet.

The quotation from Gross therein containeth does these two things: it disabuses me of the impression that I was the first to employ pneumatic traction for the purpose reported; and, that which is of much greater importance, it is in my opinion gives very material support to my proposition of extended application of the principle. Unlike your correspondent, I have not had the advantage of seeing either Gross's System of Surgery or the Dublin Medical Press of September last. Since I wrote to the latter I have quoted the case from the latter publication in support of my views. If, in a child two years old, a cranial depression which was "deep, narrow, and three inches in length" (as apparently unmanageable as it was singular) was promptly raised" by pneumatic traction, it is highly probable that most cases of depressed fracture of the skull would prove amenable to this mode of treatment. The only exceptional cases would, I think, be those in which lesion of the dura mater is existent, or ossous fragments likely to produce such lesion, and hemorrhage which the rim of the cupping-glass would not control.

Birston, Oct 14th, 1872.

H. W. Larkin, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

BIRMINGHAM.

(From our own Correspondent.)

The death-rate of this borough for the past week (267 per 1000) is considerably above the average. Of the 179 deaths, 31 were referred to diarrhoea, 16 to scarlatina, 10 to fever, and 5 to small-pox. There are still 33 cases of the latter disease in the Small-pox Hospital. Mr. Burton, who had resigned his office as surgeon to this department, in consequence of the reduction of his stipend, has been asked by the guardians to continue his services.

Canon Kingsley, in his introductory address as President of the Midland Institute, did good service to the public and to the profession in urging a more general study of physiology and of the laws of health. This address was a great encouragement, and elicited some of the most enthusiastic remarks from one of the largest audiences ever seen in the Town-hall.

This evening, Professor Humphry, M.D., of Cambridge, delivers the first of two lectures "On Sleep," and on Wednesdays Dr. Russell reads a paper on "The Improvements in the Midland Medical Society. Mr. Bassett and Dr. Thomas have been appointed respectively president and secretary of the latter society for the ensuing year.

The annual report of the Council of the Midland Medical Society was presented on the 9th inst. It gives a favourable account of the past session, and states that there are at the present time ninety Fellows and twenty-four members. It expresses regret at the resignation of Mr. W. S. Mann and Dr. Sawyer as honorary secretaries, and thanks the retiring President "for his punctual attendance and numerous contributions."

The number of entries at Queen's College this year is below the average. The old students have returned, and clinical work has been resumed at the hospitals. Many operations have recently been performed, a brief notice of which may not be uninteresting.

At the General Hospital, Mr. Bartleet has removed a mulberry-stone weighing over two ounces from a man aged twenty-one, by the lateral operation, and the patient has done well.—Mr. Goodall has performed the same operation on a boy aged four years, removing a lithate calculus of eight drachms. The urine has flowed by the urethra ever since the operation, and the child is now well.—On the 9th, Mr. Pemberton removed a large lipoma from the left shoulder of a woman, and also performed castration on a man, aged twenty-nine, for syphilitic disease of four years' standing. There was abundance of yellow fibrinous material in the interior of the testis, and a large cyst containing yellowish fluid on the anterior surface of it.—On the medical side there is also an abundance of good cases. At the General Hospital, under Dr. Fletcher's care, there is a girl, aged ten years, with an affection of the right side of the heart. Since birth she has suffered from dyspnoea on the slightest exertion. There is no cyanosis, but pulsation in the jugulars. There are numerous navi in various parts of the body, showing an abnormality in the development of the vascular system. A loud systolic murmur is heard, loudest midway between the left nipple and the left edge of the sternum. It is louder over the second left costal cartilage than over the second right.—Under Dr. Russell's care there is a case of double pleurisy, which has come on without any assignable cause, and is accompanied by a very copious deposit of lithates. Also a case of recovery from empyemaafter seven months, which has drawn off 19 lbs. of serous and bloody fluid by thoracic cupping. The empyema had burst anteriorly before admission, but the patient showing no improvement for some time, the chest was tapped posteriorly by Mr. Bartleet, and a large quantity of yellowish, mucus-like material was drained. The temperature has now been brought down by "Roberta's refrigerator."—Under Dr. Wade there is a case of ague, where the specificity of quinine as an antiperiodic in this disease is