the Government were to undertake to cleanse the Thames at an enormous cost, they could not ask the metropolis to pay for it.

General Peel promised to lay the commissioners' reports as to Netley Hospital on the table in fourteen days. The site would be retained, probably, and alterations made as to construction.

Tuesday, June 22nd.—The Medical Practitioners Bill was committed *pro forma*, and, certain amendments having been introduced, on the motion of Mr. Walpole it was ordered to be recommitted on Thursday week, at three o'clock.

Mr. Tite, in moving for a select committee on Chancery lunatics, said that whereas there were 551 lunatics under the care of the Lord Chancellor, with an average income of £300 per head devoted to their support, the percentage of cures among them did not amount to more than two, whilst among other lunatics it was fourteen. The reports of medical men were *secret*.

The Solicitor-General made a general defence of the system, and said that next session the inquiry would not be opposed.

Mr. Cobbett moved the appointment of a select committee to consider the law and practice as to coroners, and the mode of their remuneration.

Wednesday, June 23rd.—The second reading of the Medical Profession Bill was postponed.

Correspondence.

"Audi alteram partem."

ON THE USE OF KAMALA AS AN ANTHELMINTIC.

[LETTER FROM DR. GEORGE W. BALFOUR.]

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—If priority in possession of the kamala be any merit, perhaps I have as good a right to it as Dr. Wm. Moore. At all events, I know that I possessed a considerable quantity of it long before it was to be had at any of the drug establishments in Britain, about a year ago. The extract of male shield fern has proved so safe and effectual a remedy for tapeworm, that we British practitioners scarce required another. Next to it, however, published reports of its efficacy would serve to rank the kamala, which has the great advantage of being itself purgative, and so fulfilling at once all the requirements of a *tæniifuge*, both killing the worm and expelling it.

I am, however, a little at a loss to understand how a drug so little soluble in water can have any action, applied as Dr. Moore directs, on herpes or any other skin disease, other than as a simple water dressing. *Tenia* in India, though somewhat rare amongst the natives, is exceedingly common amongst Europeans and half-castes. Certain hill sanatoria and Punjab stations are infected with it, and our troops going up the Bolan Pass in 1839 were very generally affected. Amongst many other cases reported to me by my brother, John Balfour, H.E.I.C.S., Umballa, all successful, are two somewhat anomalous. One was a soldier, left behind with anomalous symptoms, and reported as diarrhoea; at length he vomited a piece of the worm; kamala was given, and he passed the worm dead, in a lump, without pain or uneasiness. Another case never passed any of the worm, but single joints used to leave, and crawl about his trousers. The case, he adds, "was peculiar, but is sometimes met with in India." Many of the patients had previously taken other *tæniifuges*, amongst the rest kousso, and all preferred the action of the kamala, which is tasteless to boot. Where my brother suspected "*dura ilia*," he was in the habit of premising a full dose of calomel, and had not found a less dose of the kamala than two drachms certain. In two years he had never seen a relapse.

Allow me to call the attention of the "Union Surgeon," who writes on *Ague* in your number for June 12th, to the atees, or powder of the root of *aconitum heterophyllum*, as a useful anti-periodic, possessing the power of checking the tendency to relapse in a greater degree than quinia, while it never affects

the head. A supply may be obtained from Mr. Robertson, 35, George-street, Edinburgh, and I shall be glad to hear of its success. The dose is one scruple three times a day.

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. BALFOUR, M.D.

Shandwick-place, Edinburgh, June, 1858.

MEDICAL EDUCATION.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In an article in *THE LANCET* of June 19th, on "The Educational Changes at Oxford," it is remarked that the "examination of candidates in case-taking and diagnosis at the bedside of the patient is done (as far as we know) at no other examination." I beg to inform you that the same plan is pursued at the examination for the licence in medicine at the University of Durham, and at which, when I took my licence two years ago, Dr. Acland was one of the examiners.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Durham, June, 1858.

L. M. DUNELM.

P.S.—As at Oxford so at Durham, the proceedings terminated by a public *visd voce* examination, so approved of in your article.

NEW REGULATIONS FOR THE DIPLOMA OF THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

WE are enabled to lay before our readers to-day the new Regulations, just issued, relating to the Examination for the Diploma of Member of the College, of which we anticipated the purport in a former article:—

I. The Examination of Candidates for the Diploma of member of this College will be divided into two parts; the first relating to anatomy and physiology, the second relating to pathology, surgery, and surgical anatomy.

The first examination, on anatomy and physiology, will be made as practical and demonstrative as possible.

The second examination, on pathology, surgery, and surgical anatomy, will be partly written and partly oral; and the written part of this examination will have the precedence.

II. The examination on anatomy and physiology will be held in the months of April, May, July, November, and January.

The examination on anatomy will be on the recently dissected subject, and on prepared parts of the human body.

Candidates for these examinations are required to signify their desire of being admitted thereto not less than one month previous to the period of examination.

The fee of five guineas will be paid by each candidate prior to his examination on anatomy and physiology, and which fee will be allowed in the fee required on his admission as a member of the College.

Such students as shall have completed the second session of their anatomical studies, and shall be desirous thereof, will be admitted to the first or anatomical examination in November or January next. And from and after the 1st of March next, all candidates for the diploma of the College will be required to undergo the double examination.

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the Diploma, were admitted members of the College at the meeting of the Court of Examiners on the 18th inst. :—

ARMSTRONG, LUKE, Newcastle.

CARTER, ALBERT PLEYDELL, Gloucester.

EVANS, THOMAS, Carmarthen.

HOSKINS, E. J., North Perrott, Crewkerne, Somerset.

JAMES, RICHARD, Narberth, Pembrokeshire.

JOHNSON, WILLIAM SETON, Maidstone, Kent.

M'FADDEN, JOHN, Conway, co. Donegal.

NICHOLSON, WILLIAM HUNTER, Old-street, St. Luke's.

OLDHAM, CHARLES FREDERICK, Liverpool.

PEARCE, CHARLES WORTHAM, Peterborough.

SMITH, JOSEPH, Birmingham.

STOCKER, R. C. S., Baker-street, Portman-square.

TRIPE, WILLIAM BORROWDALE, Commercial-road East.

WHALLEY, WILLIAM, Keighley, Yorkshire.