

sufficient number of cases of stricture of the urethra treated by incision, or burning, and dilatation conjoined, to justify the conclusion that the former aids the latter? If a simple widening of the canal by the dilating process alone be not liable to the objections which, I think, apply to the other modes, why incur additional risk? for it is "not proven" that the bulk of the part affected in stricture is prone to return to its originally contracted dimensions, if simply *tubular dilatation* has been judiciously persisted in *ab initio*.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,
February, 1860. A PROVINCIAL PHYSICIAN.
(I enclose my card, as before.)

THE BRONCHIAL BLOODVESSELS.

(NOTE FROM DR. WATERS.)

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I am sorry to trouble you with any further communication on the above subject; but there are one or two points in the first part of Dr. Heale's letter, published in THE LANCET of the 25th of February, to which I shall feel obliged if you will allow me briefly to reply. The question of the distribution and mode of termination of the bronchial bloodvessels may be safely left to the candid and impartial judgment of future investigators.

Dr. Heale says: "Let Dr. Waters only go into any slaughter-house and cast a glance at the lungs even of the animals that have been bled to death, and I am quite sure that no doubt will remain in his mind as to whether there are any bronchial veins or not." I have never denied the existence of bronchial veins, as Dr. Heale may see on referring to my essay.

Dr. Heale also says: "It is difficult to demonstrate the course of the bronchial veins by injection, on account of their valves." As the existence of these valves has never been proved, and is contrary to the general opinion of anatomists, and opposed to the results of my own researches, I cannot admit the force of Dr. Heale's observation. No such impediment, in fact, exists to the course of the injected material.

And here, Sir, I must close my remarks; and in doing so I desire to express to Dr. Heale my thanks for the courtesy experienced from him, and the willingness with which he afforded me information with reference to his paper during the time I was preparing my essay.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
Liverpool, Feb. 1860. A. T. H. WATERS, M.R.C.P.L.

* * On account of certain scientific questions involved in this controversy, we have admitted more communications on the subject than we should otherwise have thought it proper to do. Here we must bring the matter to a close.—ED. L.

ACUPRESSURE IN OPERATIONS.

(NOTE FROM MR. CURLING.)

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In a recent notice of an operation for the removal of a breast, performed by me at the London Hospital, your reporter states that I "endeavoured to arrest the hæmorrhage by acupressure, but it did not succeed." I wish to explain that I made only one attempt with a hare-lip pin, which did not answer, owing, probably, to a defect in the mode of application in this my first trial. The patient not being under the influence of chloroform, I did not deem it right to delay the operation by any further effort, but at once had recourse to a ligature. This slight attempt ought not to be regarded as a failure of acupressure.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
Grosvenor-street, Feb. 1860. T. B. CURLING, F.R.C.S.

SYPHILIS IN THE ARMY.

(NOTE FROM DR. T. GRAHAM BALFOUR.)

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit me to correct a mistake in the remarks made by me on Mr. Acton's paper at the meeting of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, and reported in the last number of your journal. After stating that "of the whole number [1126 men of the Grenadier Guards], 536 were admitted into hospital suffering from specific venereal diseases," I should have said that 212 of these were admitted once, 146 twice, 70 thrice, 55 four times, 24 five times, 19 six times, 6 seven times, 2 eight times, 1 ten times, and 1 fourteen times;

making in all 1250 admissions. It appears from the report that I stated by mistake the number of admissions into hospital instead of the number of men amongst whom the admissions occurred.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
Feb. 27th, 1860. T. GRAHAM BALFOUR, M.D.

COLLEGE OF DENTISTS OF ENGLAND.

THE subject of Mr. Hulme's third lecture on the Structure and Development of the Teeth referred to the general characters of the teeth in the mammalia. In these animals the teeth are confined to the maxillary and intermaxillary bones, and to the lower jaw. They are fewer in number than in the previous classes, seldom as many as fifty, as in the opossum. The exceptions occur in the cetacea; in the common porpoise there are as many as 190. In some of the edentata, as the armadillo, there are 98. The structure of the mammalian teeth presents fewer varieties than those of the class of fishes; they are generally composed of hard unvascular dentine, enamel, and cement. In the marsupial animals a structural peculiarity consists in the tubes of the dentine passing into the enamel. In the incisor teeth of the rodentia the enamel is composed of two layers, differing in the arrangement of the enamel fibres. In the sloth the teeth consist of a central mass of vascular dentine surrounded by a layer of unvascular dentine and an outermost layer of cement; these structures, being of different densities, wear away unequally, and produce a rough uneven surface for grinding the vegetable food upon which these animals subsist. This arrangement of the component osseous tissues is identical with what occurs in the teeth of the great extinct megatherium and some other allied species which formerly ranged over various parts of the American continent.

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.—At the Comitia Majora, held on Tuesday, Feb. 28th, the following gentlemen were admitted members of the College under the temporary bye-laws:—

Donald Cochrane Campbell, M.D., Brentwood, Essex.
Randle William Falconer, M.D., Bath.
Charles Rooke Prance, M.D., Plymouth.
Martin Heckscher, M.D., Manchester.
John Kelk, M.D., Scarborough.
Edward Howard, M.D., Red-hill, Surrey.
John Ramsay Brush, M.D., Clifton.
Joseph Canham, M.D., St. Lawrence, Ramsgate.
Henry Frederic Augustus Goodridge, M.D., Bath.
William Alexander Greenhill, M.D., Hastings.
Duncan Stewart, M.D., Warley Depot, Brentwood.
Henry Oxley Stephens, M.D., Bristol.
Augustus Hess, M.D., Artillery-place, Finsbury.
Thomas Sanden Watson, M.D., Bath.
Adolphus Albert Frederick Rasch, M.D., South-street, Finsbury.
Henry Amelius Powell Robertson, M.D., Bristol.
James Tetley, M.D., Torquay.
William Herries Madden, M.D., Torquay.
Edward Denis de Vitre, M.D., Lancaster.
Henry Maudsley, M.D., Cheadle, Cheshire.
Edmund Dapples, M.D., New Bond-street.
George Mathieson Ogilvie, M.D., Bombay.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted members of the College, at a meeting of the Court of Examiners on the 24th ult. :—

Batty, Thomas, Liscard, near Birkenhead; L.S.A. June 22nd, 1853.
Blades, Charles, Tattershall; L.S.A. Dec. 31st, 1830.
Calcleugh, Simon, Hawley-road, Camden-town; L.S.A. April 8th, 1847.
Clewley, Thomas Mallabar, Whitwick, Ashby-de-la-Zouch; L.S.A. May 25th, 1843.
Dawson, John, Thames Ditton; L.S.A. Feb. 17th, 1831.
Dowling, Thomas, Chew Magna, near Bristol; L.S.A. May 15th, 1823.
Flockton, Rowland, Snettisham, Lynn, Norfolk; L.S.A. May 22nd, 1845.
Furnivall, William, Hutton, near Weston-super-Mare; L.S.A. Dec. 6th, 1827.
Hartley, John, Howden, Yorkshire; L.S.A. March 3rd, 1836.
Hartley, Joshua, Malton, Yorkshire; L.S.A. Oct. 17th, 1850.
Hughes, John Howe, Wednesbury, Staffordshire.
Jump, Charles James, Litcham, Norfolk; L.S.A. Feb. 9th, 1837.
Manning, Henry John, New Zealand.
Middleton, James, Queen-street, Cheapside; L.S.A. April 22nd, 1830.
Miller, William, Poole, Dorset; L.S.A. April 28th, 1842.
Mockatt, George Thornton, Denbigh-place, Pinlico.
Morgan, Moses, Charlotte-street, Bedford-square; L.S.A. Nov. 20th, 1823.
Morris, Charles Henry, Normanby, near Middlesborough, Yorkshire; M.D. Aberdeen, Oct. 16th, 1847.
Pottie, John Rowland, Bath-street, City-road; L.S.A. May 7th, 1835.
Staniland, Samuel, Yoxall, near Burton-on-Trent; L.S.A. Feb. 24th, 1853.