

classes—for relief in sickness and distress; and considering that it has been the invariable rule of the medical profession to charge the working classes according to their means, and to accept from them payment of their accounts by instalment when necessary, this meeting is therefore opposed to the establishment of these dispensaries.”

Proposed by Mr. HENRY WINTERBOTTOM, seconded by Dr. JOHN WATSON:—“That the undermentioned gentlemen be elected from this meeting to form a committee of the general profession to watch any scheme which may be proposed, and, if necessary, report to any future meeting of the profession to be called for that purpose; and that this committee consist of Dr. Royle, Dr. Armstrong, Dr. John Roberts, Mr. F. H. Walmsley, Mr. W. Walls, Mr. Charles Holmes, and Mr. Joseph Westmorland, with power to add to their number.”

The proceedings terminated after a vote of thanks had been passed to the Chairman.

### THE HOSPITAL SUNDAY FUND.

The following are the contributions to the London hospitals awarded by the Committee of Distribution:—

| HOSPITALS.                                | £    | s. | d. |
|---|------|----|----|
| 1. Belgrave, for Children ... ..          | 162  | 18 | 4  |
| 2. British ... ..                         | 47   | 18 | 4  |
| 3. Bromley Cottage ... ..                 | 38   | 6  | 8  |
| 4. Charing-cross ... ..                   | 958  | 6  | 8  |
| 5. Cancer, Brompton ... ..                | 239  | 11 | 8  |
| 6. City of London Lying-in ... ..         | 76   | 13 | 4  |
| 7. St. Peter's ... ..                     | 38   | 6  | 8  |
| 8. City Orthopædic ... ..                 | 38   | 6  | 8  |
| 9. City of London, for Chest Diseases     | 958  | 6  | 8  |
| 10. Dental ... ..                         | 38   | 6  | 8  |
| 11. East London, for Children ... ..      | 306  | 13 | 4  |
| 12. Evelina ... ..                        | 287  | 10 | 0  |
| 13. French ... ..                         | 38   | 6  | 8  |
| 14. German ... ..                         | 287  | 10 | 0  |
| 15. Great Northern ... ..                 | 383  | 6  | 8  |
| 16. General Lying-in, York-road ... ..    | 95   | 16 | 8  |
| 17. St. John and St. Elizabeth ... ..     | 115  | 0  | 0  |
| 18. For Diseases of the Throat ... ..     | 191  | 13 | 4  |
| 19. For Skin Diseases, Blackfriars ... .. | 115  | 0  | 0  |
| 20. For Women and Children ... ..         | 19   | 3  | 4  |
| 21. For Sick Children, Ormond-street      | 575  | 0  | 0  |
| 22. London ... ..                         | 3833 | 6  | 8  |
| 24. Homœopathic ... ..                    | 239  | 11 | 8  |
| 26. University College ... ..             | 1150 | 0  | 0  |
| 27. North Eastern, for Children ... ..    | 95   | 16 | 8  |
| 29. North London Consumption ... ..       | 383  | 6  | 8  |
| 30. Queen Charlotte's Lying-in ... ..     | 191  | 13 | 4  |
| 32. Orthopædic ... ..                     | 191  | 13 | 4  |
| 33. South London Ophthalmic ... ..        | 76   | 13 | 4  |
| 34. For Diseases of the Chest ... ..      | 383  | 6  | 8  |
| 35. For Consumption, Ventnor ... ..       | 95   | 16 | 8  |
| 38. Middlesex ... ..                      | 2300 | 0  | 0  |
| 39. Seamen's ... ..                       | 766  | 13 | 4  |
| 40. St. Mary's ... ..                     | 1150 | 0  | 0  |
| 41. Samaritan Free ... ..                 | 287  | 10 | 0  |
| 42. St. George's ... ..                   | 2875 | 0  | 0  |
| 43. Convalescent, Seaford & Newhaven      | 76   | 13 | 4  |
| 44. Victoria, for Children ... ..         | 95   | 16 | 8  |
| 45. West London ... ..                    | 287  | 10 | 0  |
| 46. Westminster ... ..                    | 1150 | 0  | 0  |
| 47. Wimbledon Cottage ... ..              | 28   | 15 | 0  |
| 48. Royal London Ophthalmic ... ..        | 383  | 6  | 8  |
| 49. Royal Free ... ..                     | 766  | 13 | 4  |
| 50. Metropolitan Free ... ..              | 95   | 16 | 8  |
| 51. Poplar ... ..                         | 383  | 6  | 8  |
| 52. National ... ..                       | 383  | 6  | 8  |
| 53. St. Mark's, for Fistula ... ..        | 287  | 10 | 0  |
| 54. British Lying-in ... ..               | 38   | 6  | 8  |
| 56. Male Lock ... ..                      | 95   | 16 | 8  |
| 59. King's College ... ..                 | 1150 | 0  | 0  |
| 61. Women's, Soho-square ... ..           | 143  | 15 | 0  |
| 62. Female Lock ... ..                    | 95   | 16 | 8  |
| 63. Western Ophthalmic ... ..             | 57   | 10 | 0  |
| 64. For Hip Diseases in Childhood...      | 19   | 3  | 4  |

### THE CHOLERA.

The cholera is still sluggishly extending eastwards in the valley of the Danube, and westwards in East Prussia. The disease has shown itself in numerous places, but in no instance has it, to the time of the latest information, spread to any large extent. It is present in Rutschuk, Silistria, Fonsnov Severin, Shumla, Galatz, and Crajova, and other localities in Wallachia and Bulgaria. The disease continues in Pesth, but information is still wanting for the rest of Hungary. During the week ending the 8th July there were 70 new cases of cholera reported in Pesth, and 40 deaths.

In Italy there does not appear to be any marked extension of cholera. The outbreak would appear to have come almost to an end in the province of Treviso, and in the province of Venice the spread is slight. In Venice, on the 10th inst., there were 8 cases and 5 deaths, and on the subsequent day 5 cases. The official returns show from the commencement of the outbreak to the 1st July, in the province of Treviso, 41 cases and 20 deaths; and in the province of Venice, 55 cases and 16 deaths.

In East Prussia cases have occurred at Elbing and on the line of railway now making between Tilsit and Memel.

The following, according to the *Times* correspondent, is an account of the progress of cholera in Vienna:—

|                         |         |            |           |
|-------------------------|---------|------------|-----------|
| June 28th, 29th ... ..  | 5 cases | ...        | 4 deaths. |
| „ 29th, 30th ... ..     | 2 „     | ...        | 1 „       |
| „ 30th, July 1st ... .. | 8 „     | ...        | 4 „       |
| July 1st, 2nd ... ..    | 1 „     | ...        | 6 „       |
| „ 2nd, 3rd ... ..       | 2 „     | ...        | 2 „       |
| „ 3rd, 4th ... ..       | 12 „    | ...        | 7 „       |
| „ 4th, 5th ... ..       | 6 „     | ...        | 7 „       |
| „ 5th, 6th ... ..       | 5 „     | ...        | 5 „       |
| „ 6th, 7th ... ..       |         | No return. |           |
| „ 7th, 8th ... ..       | 7 „     | ...        | 8 „       |
| „ 8th, 9th ... ..       | 14 „    | ...        | 2 „       |
| „ 9th, 10th ... ..      | 33 „    | ...        | 16 „      |
| „ 10th, 11th ... ..     | 27 „    | ...        | 16 „      |
| „ 11th, 12th ... ..     | 36 „    | ...        | 13 „      |
| „ 12th, 13th ... ..     |         | No return. |           |
| „ 13th, 14th ... ..     | 88 „    | ...        | 33 „      |
| „ 14th, 15th ... ..     | 46 „    | ...        | 33 „      |

The number of cases was increasing at the date of the last report, and the disease had shown itself in the suburbs.

### Correspondence.

“Audi alteram partem.”

#### PROFESSOR VIRCHOW.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Professor Virchow, from Berlin, intends to visit London for the meeting of the British Medical Association. Will you permit me to suggest to your readers that this would be a fitting occasion to honour a man of whom Germany is so justly proud.

Virchow received his medical education in Berlin, an institution founded for the gratuitous training of students for military duties, who, in return, must serve in the army for eight years. Virchow displayed such a capability for pathological work that the authorities relieved him from military service, and appointed him pathologist in the Charité, a hospital with 1300 beds. Although a teacher in the Royal University of Berlin, and with a well-founded hope of making a brilliant career, the love of freedom induced Virchow to shoulder a musket in defence of public right. This line of action cost him an exile of nearly ten years. The King of Bavaria, always an intelligent patron of science, immediately appointed Virchow Professor of Pathology in the University of Wurzburg, where he worked so well that hardly a page of German medical literature but bears the impression of his influence. Cancer, tubercle, embolism, inflammation, pyæmia, puerperal fever, bear testimony to his activity.

After nearly ten years' absence, Virchow was recalled

to Berlin to arrest the declining popularity of the university. Every imaginable honour was heaped upon the returning exile. The government appointed him one of the physicians of the Charité, and director of the Pathological Institute. The university gave him the chair of Pathological Anatomy. The city of Berlin sent him as one of its members to the Prussian Parliament, and the inhabitants elected him to a seat amongst the municipal authorities. In the Parliament he is known as the leader of the independent liberals, and is trusted by both sides of the House as the greatest master of finance in Germany. His activity is not exhausted by those multifarious duties; he is the founder and editor of the *Archives* which bear his name. To these *Archives* he has contributed many thousand pages, in which are found the results of his giant labour. He is the active editor of half a dozen other scientific and literary journals. He is founder, and was for three years President, of the Anthropological Society of Berlin. He often gives scientific popular lectures in a style similar to those given by Faraday and Tyndall.

His lecture-room is crowded by students of every nation; his simple, manly eloquence, sometimes tinged with a sarcasm worthy of a Juvenal, often enlivened with a wit as keen as that of a Rabelais, induces many a wearied practitioner to steal an hour from hard work for the gratification of hearing the great pathologist. During his teaching practical work with the microscope, it is not uncommon to hear him speaking to a Belgian in French, joking with a young Scotchman in English, or explaining in earnest tones a histological difficulty in Italian to a student from Rome or Naples.

With praiseworthy liberality, Virchow places the rich stores of the Pathological Institute at the disposal of all scientific men, irrespective of creed or colour. Here, whilst working as his assistant, Liebreich discovered chloral hydrate; Recklinghausen, Cohnheim, Klebs, Kühne, and Hoppe-Seyler, were his pupils and assistants, and owe their success in no slight degree to his friendly assistance and support.

The cordial reception which strangers ever meet at the hands of Virchow is known all over the world, and hardly a day elapses without the presence of three or four wandering sons of science calling to take a friendly interchange of thought with this busy, but kind-hearted man.

I feel that it is alone needful to make known, through your columns, the arrival of such a man in London, to call forth that generous hospitality which London is ever ready to give to men of merit in every walk of life.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Berlin, July 19th, 1873.

T. E. RUTTLEDGE.

### CONVALESCENCE IN TYPHOID FEVER.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—The concluding paragraph of Dr. Brittan's remarks in THE LANCET of last Saturday shows that he has not quite apprehended the "rule" to which I directed attention, and which is accurately quoted in his opening paragraph. My statement was not that solid food may be safely given in typhoid fever so soon as the temperature has been normal for two days; but what I wished to enforce was that, although the state of the tongue, the skin, the pulse, the bowels, and the general aspect of the patient might be favourable, he was not convalescent, and solid food should not be given unless "the morning and evening temperatures,

and especially the latter, on *at least* two successive days have remained between 98° F. and 99°"; and the words italicised were so printed in my former communication. I was advocating delay, not haste, in giving solid food, and urging the importance of watching the thermometric changes just at that period when all the other general symptoms, which experienced judgment takes into account, would seem to indicate the convalescence of the patient, but which if trusted in, to the neglect of the temperature, would often lead us astray.

Temperature alone, I quite admit, would be a bad guide, a fall below the normal not infrequently preceding for several hours the appearance of blood in the stools, the blood having passed into the bowels, but not out of them. And, on the other hand, if a typhoid patient were suffering also from phthisical mischief of the lungs, we might wait a long time before a continuous temperature between 98°F. and 99° was reached.

If the state of the tongue, bowels, &c., indicated convalescence when the temperatures were near or below the normal, in the cases reported by Dr. Brittan, these examples must not be taken as "the exceptions that prove the rule," but as strongly affirming it. Cases 1 and 3 show very clearly what may follow the too early exhibition of solid food, and the importance of the qualifying *at least* in the above rule. In Case 2 the increase of temperature on the twenty-second day appears, in its extent and duration, very like the rise sometimes caused by a catamenial period occurring about the end of an attack of fever.

Though Dr. Brittan misapprehends the meaning I intended to convey, I am glad to find he supports the view I advanced, for he says: "It may be true, and would I believe be an excellent caution if it were made a rule, that solid food should never be given until the patient's temperature has been normal for two days."

I am, Sir, yours &c.,

Cambridge, July 21st, 1873.

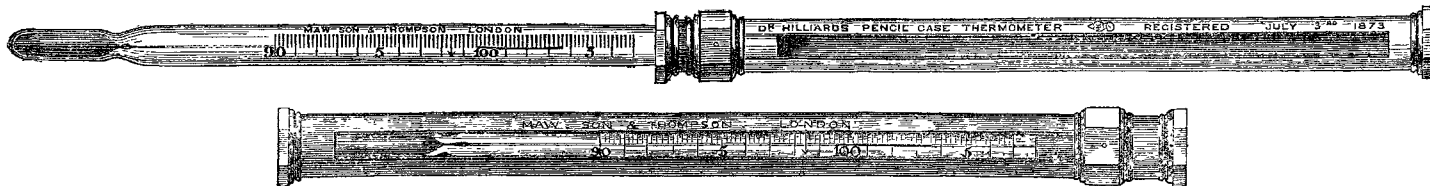
P. W. LATHAM.

### PENCIL-CASE THERMOMETERS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Having seen an advertisement in the last number of THE LANCET, by Messrs. Salt and Son, of Birmingham, bringing under the notice of the profession a clinical thermometer adapted to the American screw pencil-case, I ask your permission to bring before your readers my claim to priority of invention, as more than two months since I had a thermometer prepared on this plan. I, however, abandoned the arrangement in favour of the much more simple clinical "pencil-case thermometer," which I registered on the 3rd inst., and of which I beg leave to enclose engravings. I have, therefore, not only anticipated Messrs. Salt and Son in the application of the principle of the pencil-case in the specification of my registration, but I have introduced a highly important improvement in the addition to the thermometer stem of a silver jacket on which the graduation is engraved. The mercurial column is perceptible through a lateral slot, and the degree of temperature easily read off. This metal jacket not only affords security against the known tendency of these small thermometers to break at the lines of graduation, but it affords the opportunity of correction of the variation occurring from contraction of the glass with lapse of time.

I claim for my "pencil-case thermometer" these advantages over any other yet made—viz., simplicity and con-



(The opening in the case should be a mere slit, not nearly so wide as shown in the engraving.)

venience of portability in the pocket (at the same time that it can be quickly elongated for the examination of internal cavities or organs); lightness and neatness; lastly, security, the octagonal shape of the slide effectually preventing it from rolling when laid upon a table.

The engravings represent the plain pencil-case arrangement without the jacket, the instrument being made in both ways.—I am, Sir, yours obediently,

R. HARVEY HILLIARD, M.D.

Belgrave-terrace, Upper Holloway, July 21st, 1873.