

A MEDICO-LEGAL CASE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Having read in your journal of the 10th September a short letter with the above heading, by Mr. Thompson, of Stalybridge, I have been induced to send you the following somewhat similar case:—

Some years ago I was called soon after midnight to a gentleman belonging to the Church. On my arrival, I was introduced into the lodging-room, and found my patient in bed, unable to speak, and presenting, in my opinion, all the symptoms of apoplexy. I immediately opened the veins of both arms, and abstracted three pints of blood before the slightest improvement took place. This was followed up by other appropriate treatment. It was, however, ten hours before he could speak, after which he went on favourably.

My present object in writing is to show how unfairly medical men are used when called to cases of attempted suicide, by withholding from them the facts of the case. The parents of my patient were present when I arrived, and yet they never stated (nor even during my subsequent visits) that he was found suspended to the bed, life being almost extinct.

I am, Sir, yours very truly,

Hexham, September, 1859. THOS. STAINTHORPE, L.R.C.P. Ed.

Medical News.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on

Thursday, September 15th, 1859.

CRESSWELL, ALFRED, Ballarat, Australia.
DOWELL, ROBERT, Hinderwell.
LEACH, JAMES, Shaw, near Oldham.
NUNN, JOHN ROBERT, Bedford.
RUMMIN, GEORGE, Bath.
THOMPSON, ABRAHAM, Gosforth, Cumberland.
TREND, THEOPHILUS WILLIAM, Bridgwater.

The following gentlemen also, on the same day, passed their first examination:—

GAYTON, WILLIAM, Spitalfields.
PECHEY, WILLIAM CRISP, Walthamstow.

Thursday, September 22nd, 1859.

BISHOP, THEOPHILUS, Buntingford, Herts.
LYSTER, CHAWORTH EDWARD, Liverpool.

The following gentlemen also, on the same day, passed their first examination:—

BUTLER, THOMAS MAPLESON, Guildford.
SCHOLLICK, THOMAS JAMES, New Bridge-street.

(As an Assistant.)

NICHOLLS, THOMAS FRANCIS, Strefford, Salop.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, EDINBURGH.—The following gentlemen have been admitted licentiates:—Roger Turner, Esq., M.R.C.S. Eng., and L.S.A. Lond., 1833, of Petworth; and Dr. Charles James Symonds, of Pilleigh, Cornwall, late Senior Surgeon of the Royal Mail Steam-Packet Company.

APPOINTMENTS.—At a general meeting of the governors and subscribers of the Chelsea, Brompton, and Belgrave Dispensary, Sloane-square, held on the 8th September, Dr. S. Norton was elected Resident Medical Officer to that institution.—At a special meeting of the committee of the Sydenham College, Birmingham, held on the 10th August, Mr. Charles James Bracey was appointed Medical Tutor to the College.—On the 14th September, Mr. Caleb Evans, late house-surgeon to the Great Northern Hospital, was appointed Resident Medical Officer to the Birkenhead Hospital.—James Africanus Beale Horton, M.D., and William Broughton Davies, to be Staff Assistant-Surgeons, Freetown, Sierra Leone.

PROFESSIONAL HONOURS.—We have great pleasure in stating that, at a meeting of the council of the Leeds School of Medicine, the large silver medal was unanimously awarded to Frank T. Buckland, Esq., as a mark of respect from that institution for his exertions in placing the remains of the late John Hunter in Westminster Abbey.

KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL.—A vote of censure has been passed by a jury on the surgical staff of this institution, for great neglect of an unfortunate patient taken to the hospital suffering from a railway accident; a circumstance much to be regretted by the friends of this institution.

ADMIRALTY, SATURDAY, SEPT. 24TH.—APPOINTMENTS.—Surgeons Dr. William Hoggan to the *Odin*; Abernety Irwin to the *Encounter*; Robert Mungle to the *Centaur*; Gilbert L. King to the *Sphinx*; Dr. Horace H. Smith to the *Eagle*. Acting Assist.-Surgeons John M. Hunter to the *Odin*; Frederick J. Withers to the *Encounter*; James McJames to the *Centaur*; Dr. James Johnstone to the *Sphinx*; Charles J. Fennell to the *Blenheim*; Godfrey Goodman to the *Aboukir*. Assist.-Surgeons Alexander Murphy to the *Renard*; Dr. Thos. Coghlan to the *Beagle*; James Martin to the *Ringdove*; James C. Esctcott to the *Snake*; J. W. S. Meiklejohn to the *Royal Albert*; William J. Shone, additional, to the *Impregnable*; Walter J. Bluett, additional, to the *Hastings*; Charles R. Godfrey, additional, to the *Britannia*.

MILITIA.—The Chatsworth Rifles (2nd Derby Militia) have assembled at the Militia Depôt, in Chesterfield, for twenty-one days' training. Surgeon Newbold is the medical officer in attendance.

A PHARMACOPOLIC COMBINATION.—The pharmaciens of Ghent have come to an understanding amongst themselves that no prescription, prepared for the second time, and by a pharmacist who had not prepared it at first, should be charged less for than was originally demanded. On the prescription shall be placed the stamp of the first pharmacist, with such signs to be agreed upon, which shall acquaint all the subsequent operators with the price charged for the first preparation. This is a healthful tendency at fair dealing with each other, and a death blow to that professional bane—underselling one another.

THE CHOLERA AT WICK.—The "John o' Groat Journal" says:—"There is no longer room for doubt that the disease of which several persons died last week and this is Asiatic cholera. All the usual symptoms have been discovered. As is always the case when that disease is prevalent, there is at present a good deal of ordinary sickness in the town. The certain cases of cholera have been about sixteen in number, of whom ten have died, four of these having been reported last week. Several are still ill. The disease has also broken out in Frewick, where three cases have occurred, one of which has proved fatal. At Kilmster, also, a case (still ill) occurred on Monday amongst the harvest workers, and it has given rise to considerable excitement in that district. During the week, a person who had been seized with cholera was brought into the town from Reiss."

HANDSOME HONORARIUM TO THE SULTAN'S PHYSICIAN.—The Sultan has of late been suffering from ague, caught during a tour in his states, and Dr. Caratheodory, who is well known at Paris, was obliged, under these circumstances, to use rather large doses of quinine. Various symptoms were observed in the course of the malady which rather alarmed the Court; but the illustrious patient finally recovered. On this auspicious event, a custom peculiar to the Turks was acted upon. It consists in presents being given to the Sultan's physician by the imperial family and high functionaries, the value of which varies according to the gravity of the malady. Dr. Caratheodory has received precious stones, works of art, and presents of all kinds, valued at between £12,000 and £16,000. This, however, is not all; for the Sultan has given his physician, on this occasion, an estate of considerable value. The Editor of *L'Union Médicale*, who mentions the good fortune of our professional brother, adds, that in some countries, especially in China, the dark side of the picture is of no mean importance. When the crowned personage, instead of recovering, is gathered to his predecessors, his physician is immediately put to death, as a punishment for not having prevented the Emperor's decease.

HOSPITALITY TO THE PROFESSION AT ABERDEEN.—During the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, at Aberdeen, the Royal Infirmary, Asylum for the Blind, Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, and the libraries and museums of the medical and scientific societies, were thrown open to the medical members of the Association. A large number went round the wards of the Infirmary at the daily hour of visit, accompanied by the medical officers. A breakfast was given to the medical members and associates on the 20th ult. by the President of the Medico-Chirurgical Society, in the Society's handsome Hall in King-street.