

uteri. When I announced the circumstance, great astonishment was occasioned to both the lady and her husband; she said she had never perceived any increase of her size (she was rather fat), that the volume of her abdomen was not enlarged, and that she had felt no motion. Two hours after, the forceps was applied, and she was safely delivered of a healthy child, which she has since nursed. I should add that Dr. Noel had only seen the lady once before we met, which fully accounts for that practitioner's mistake.—*Arch. Gen. de Medecine, Fevrier, 1831.*

#### PATHOLOGY OF ANEURISMS.

At the conclusion of a long and highly argumentative paper on this subject, M. Pigeaux advances the following general abstract of his views on this subject:—"That an aneurism is a tumour formed by the impulse of arterial blood circulating out of its natural course; that it may take place by the dilatation of all the tunics of the vessel in some cases, but that, in the majority of examples, it arises from the rupture at least of the internal tunics, not unfrequently of the entire coats; that the destructive character of aneurism by dilatation, above that of rupture, is, that the former communicates with the artery by an opening larger than the diameter of the fundus of the aneurismal sac.—*Ibid.*

### REGULATIONS

SUGGESTED FOR PARLIAMENTARY  
ENACTMENT, FOR THE

#### BENEFIT OF SICK PAUPERS.

*By J. C. YEATMAN, Esq., Surgeon, Frome.*

1. Parliament should be respectfully called upon to abolish the farming, or contract system, in those parishes the amount of whose paupers receiving pay for the space of one year, shall be under the number of fifty, including children and casual paupers, and interlopers, or those residing in a different parish from that to which they belong, except from those parishes in which contracts can be made between the parish officers and committees of district dispensaries, or infirmaries, for the care of their pauper sick and hurt.

Contracts cannot be entered into, generally speaking, for the medical care of very small numbers of persons in parishes, for the most part situated at a distance of some miles from surgeons, the amount of which would enable them to discharge their duties well and faithfully.

2. The officiating clergyman, as well as the church-wardens and overseers, should be empowered in such parishes to grant orders to medical men in favour of sick and hurt paupers, medicines being charged only at half price.

If this power be limited, as at present, to overseers, the abolition of the contract system in the smaller parishes will lead, in many instances, to the employment of practitioners in extreme cases only, an evil of frightful dimensions. A false economy would frequently tempt overseers to withhold, or refuse the written order for medical attendance, except in cases of great danger, and frequently till it would be too late to effect the cure of the patient. The power alluded to should be extended to the officiating clergyman, the more especially as he is in the habit of visiting the sick.

3. All parishes having fifty paupers and upwards, including children and casual paupers, and interlopers, or paupers residing in a different parish from that to which they belong, should contract with medical men according to the following graduated scale of remuneration; and in default of their entering into such contracts, they should supply their sick poor with medicine and attendance, on the terms and in the manner specified in the foregoing regulations, in those places in which contracts can be made with the committees of dispensaries or infirmaries for the care of their pauper sick and hurt.

The foregoing regulation will supersede all other demands for medicine and surgery, on account of casual paupers. The necessity of obtaining a suspended order of removal in reference to medical and surgical expenses, will be superseded. Bills of large amount would no longer be against parishes for the treatment of compound fractures and of other severe accidents and of dangerous illnesses. The negotiation between surgeons and overseers, on account of casual paupers or interlopers, so unsatisfactory and annoying to both parties, would cease. The overseer would be relieved from what he conceives to be a duty, however painful to himself and cruel to paupers, of withholding his order for medical and surgical attendance, and of incurring expenses over which he has no controul, the moment the magistrate's order of removal is suspended, while surgeons would no longer be suspected of making the most of the overseer's order (when they have the good fortune to receive one);—motives which in both cases may prevail, so long as overseers and parish surgeons are suffered to remain, in this particular, in a false position with respect to each other. At a general meeting of the members of the Worcestershire Medical and

Surgical Society, it was resolved, "That the system of removing paupers on account of application in cases of illness to the overseers of the parish in which they happen to reside, to that parish to which they belong, often deprives the poor family of the means of gaining a living, and frequently induces them not to apply for a suspended order, while if a medical man is called on to attend

under such circumstances, he has no legal means of obtaining any remuneration for his attendance." Also, "That petitions be presented to both houses of Parliament, praying that some regulation may be introduced into the Bill now pending, relative to the poor-laws for medical attendance upon the casual poor.—Worcester, 1817."

SCALE OF SALARIES FOR RESIDENT PARISH SURGEONS.

Paupers.	Per Head.	Salary.	Paupers.	Per Head.	Salary.	Paupers.	Per Head.	Salary.
	s. d.	£.		s. d.	£.		s. d.	£.
50	2 0	5	3,400	1 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	211	6,800	0 11	317
100	2 0	10	3,500	1 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	215	6,900	0 11	320
200	2 0	20	3,600	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	219	7,000	0 11	323
300	2 0	30	3,700	1 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	223	7,100	0 11	326
400	1 10	37	3,800	1 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	227	7,200	0 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	329
500	1 9	44	3,900	1 2	230	7,300	0 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	332
600	1 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	51	4,000	1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	233	7,400	0 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	335
700	1 7 $\frac{3}{4}$	58	4,100	1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	236	7,500	0 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	338
800	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	65	4,200	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	239	7,600	0 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	341
900	1 7	72	4,300	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	242	7,700	0 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	344
1,000	1 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	79	4,400	1 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	245	7,800	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	347
1,100	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	86	4,500	1 1	248	7,900	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	350
1,200	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	93	4,600	1 1	251	8,000	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	353
1,300	1 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	100	4,700	1 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	254	8,100	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	356
1,400	1 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	107	4,800	1 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	257	8,200	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	359
1,500	1 6	114	4,900	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	260	8,300	0 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	362
1,600	1 6	121	5,000	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	263	8,400	0 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	365
1,700	1 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	127	5,100	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	266	8,500	0 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	368
1,800	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	133	5,200	1 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	269	8,600	0 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	371
1,900	1 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	139	5,300	1 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	272	8,700	0 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	374
2,000	1 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	145	5,400	1 0	275	8,800	0 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	377
2,100	1 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	151	5,500	1 0	278	8,900	0 10	380
2,200	1 5	156	5,600	1 0	281	9,000	0 10	383
2,300	1 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	161	5,700	0 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	284	9,100	0 10	386
2,400	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	166	5,800	0 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	287	9,200	0 10	389
2,500	1 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	171	5,900	0 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	290	9,300	0 10	392
2,600	1 4	176	6,000	0 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	293	9,400	0 10	395
2,700	1 4	181	6,100	0 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	296	9,500	0 10	398
2,800	1 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	186	6,200	0 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	299	9,600	0 10	401
2,900	1 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	191	6,300	0 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	302	9,700	0 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	404
3,000	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	195	6,400	0 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	305	9,800	0 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	407
3,100	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	199	6,500	0 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	308	9,900	0 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	410
3,200	1 3	203	6,600	0 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	311	10,000	0 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	413
3,300	1 3	207	6,700	0 11	314			

4. That parishes contracting for the medical care of paupers, with surgeons residing at a distance of a mile or more therefrom, should pay them 1s. per mile for journeys, in addition to the salaries, beginning with the second mile.

The price per head per annum in the above scale, falls in proportion to the numbers for whom the contract is formed, the time and labour required in visiting patients not being augmented in the ratio of numbers. In parishes where paupers are very numerous, a proportionably equal stimulus to the

surgeon's exertions can be given, and yet some diminution in the price per pauper per annum be made, a surgeon being able to visit, say twenty patients per diem in a populous parish in less time and with less labour than he can visit ten in a parish in which the population is thinner and more scattered. By the army regulations, the country surgeon is paid (in the absence of a military surgeon) one penny per man per week, which is at the rate of 4s. 4d. per man per annum, for the medical care of recruiting parties, or small detachments of

soldiers ; and when the number is under 50, and contracts cannot be made for this rate of pay, 6*d.* per month is allowed, which is at the rate of 6*s.* per annum ; and where no contracts can be entered into, they are permitted to attend soldiers at a price suited to such class of patients. In Mr. Becher's work on friendly societies, it will be found that surgeons contract for the medical and surgical care of those societies at prices fluctuating between 1*s.* 6*d.* and 4*s.* per member per annum. The old established country clubs in like manner pay variously from 2*s.* to 7*s.* per member per annum, frequently according to the number of their members, and to the circumstance of their being attended by a surgeon resident among the majority of them, or by one residing at a distance. In St. Mary's parish in Nottingham, in which there are 9000 persons, who are said to be entitled to parochial medical aid, the expenses have averaged, during seven years, 31*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.* per annum, or 8½*d.* and a fraction per pauper a year, for medicine and surgeon's salary, which is within 2*d.* per head per annum for that number on the scale. The terms on which the above contracts are made, are much higher than those usually entered into with parochial surgeons, and the professional duties are fairly and satisfactorily performed. The principle on which my plan is founded, is adequate (though very moderate) remuneration to the surgeon, with certain other regulations, guaranteeing to the party concerned, the fair and satisfactory discharge of his professional duties. My general means of calculation as to what would be sufficient medical pay, have been deduced from the above and similar data ; and by regulating those prices by the number of paupers, for the care of whose health contracts are entered into, and the distance at which they are visited, a fair and equitable system of contracts may be established throughout the kingdom. The scale may be better understood by adding a column, showing the price per hundred of paupers, by which its descent even through the fractional parts of a farthing, and the amount of the salaries have been regulated and graduated. As, however, this column has been omitted, it may here suffice to observe, that 7*l.* are charged for every additional hundred paupers above 300.

6 <i>l.</i> are charged for every additional hundred above.....	1600
5 <i>l.</i> .....ditto.....ditto ....	2100
4 <i>l.</i> .....ditto.....ditto ....	2900
3 <i>l.</i> .....ditto.....ditto ....	3800

I hope the scale is sufficiently graduated for all useful and practical purposes ; if not, those who are better acquainted with this or any other part of the subject will not, I trust, refuse me their valuable assistance.

5. Overseers should be obliged to keep a correct list of all descriptions of paupers receiving pay during each year, with columns for their names, residences, and number of their children, and to hand over the same to parish surgeons on the 25th of March, terminating the period of each contract, in order that the amount of salary may be satisfactorily ascertained.

6. Paymasters should be empowered to withhold one-fourth of the salary in the event of the surgeon having, in the opinion of three-fourths of the paymasters in vestry assembled, on the 25th of March, neglected his duties, and to refuse to appoint such surgeon on any future occasion.

The parish of Frome pays a salary to each surgeon in rotation, for the medical and surgical care of the poor, reserving a power to withhold a fourth of it ; and this power has been exercised in a recent instance, the vestry having withheld a fourth of the salary, and passed a vote of censure on the medical practitioner for neglect ; and it is pleasing to find the sick poor much better attended than formerly, when the salary was lower, and no bonus offered for good attendance.

7. Practitioners should be prevented from making a monopoly of parish surgeoncies. Parishes should not be suffered to appoint them, otherwise than in rotation, where there are two or more resident surgeons ; and in respect to parishes in which there are no resident practitioners, the care of the sick should be offered to the neighbouring surgeons, likewise in rotation after two years' residence and practice.

It is very common for an individual practitioner, particularly if he be influential in his parish, to be re-elected every year to the office of parish surgeon as a matter of course, performing the duties languidly, and to the exclusion of his more active brethren. This tends greatly to the neglect of the sick, and to the injury of the parish funds. It excludes the sick from the great advantages arising from an honourable competition among medical men in the discharge of their medico-parochial duties. It often happens, also, that one surgeon will be re-elected yearly during the whole course of his life to a dozen or more parishes, although it is obvious that no man can discharge his duties well and faithfully to more than one large parish, or to three or four small ones, at a time.

8. Surgeons contracting for the medical care of paupers should be required to attend those only, who are actually receiving parochial relief, when requested to do so in writing by the proper authorities.

This distinction will be found very necessary, or the surgeon will be often ex-

pected to attend *all the poor*, whether deriving parochial relief or not, and these last frequently double the number whom he attends of those receiving parochial aid. In this way thousands become chargeable to parishes, who otherwise would rub through their difficulties, without having recourse to such means of support; it is done by begging of parish-surgeons, certificates of inability to work through sickness, thus making *their surgeries the high road to parish funds*. This remark applies more particularly to very populous parishes, such as those in which the manufactures of the country are chiefly carried on. It is true the parish surgeon only contracts to attend *paupers*, and none other are paupers than those deriving parish pay, therefore he is not in law bound to attend other persons on the parish account. As custom, however, is apt to obtain the sanction of law, and as for one person who is prevented from seeking parish pay in consequence of receiving medical aid, five are sent to the pay-table with medical certificates, or approach that table *boldly*, however trifling their ailments, with the plea of being under the care of the "parish doctor," the above regulation is by no means to be omitted.

9. That to all parishes having more than 3000 paupers, two medical gentlemen should be appointed annually, such parishes being divided into nearly equal districts by the vestry assembled on the 25th of March.

Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Westlake have assured me, by letter, that this has been for some years adopted in their town and parish, Westbury, Wilts, with great advantage to the poor and to themselves. Each surgeon is thus better able to attend to his private and parish practice than when one only was appointed. They can exchange districts every year, if the population be unequal in either division or district.

It has ever appeared to me to be an anomaly in legislation to enact laws for the maintenance of paupers, and yet to withhold the proper means of guaranteeing to them good and sufficient medical and surgical aid, when stretched on beds of sickness, or labouring under the consequences of external injuries?

The abolition of the contract system in the smaller, and its modification in the larger parishes, will prove as much for their benefit as for the interest of the poor, since the latter, being more attentively and skilfully treated by surgeons, will sooner be removed from the sick list, and therefore will need less pecuniary assistance. In short, a bill (or clause of a bill) embracing the foregoing plan, if carried through both houses of parliament, would divide the la-

bour of parish surgeoncies equally among practitioners, enable medical men to discharge their parochial duties well and truly, preserve the lives of many who are the victims of a mistaken economy and of medical neglect, shorten the duration of sickness, and consequently lessen the poor's-rate to a very considerable degree. And surely no one will be hardy enough to assert, that a similar price per head per annum as that allowed by the poor men constituting the members of country clubs, whose economy is ever the most rigid, is too high for parishes to sustain.

Indeed, the average of the pay recommended must be even less productive than that allowed by those clubs, or by the army, to country practitioners, paupers being more liable to diseases, in consequence of being of all ages and of both sexes, to which may be frequently added insufficient clothing, and a scanty and unwholesome diet. Low, however, as are the terms proposed, country surgeons doubtless will most gladly submit to many sacrifices in favour of afflicted paupers and the grinding poor's rate.

Garstons, Frome, Somersetshire,  
March 1831.

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COMPLETION OF DR. RAMADGE'S LETTER  
TO LONG THE QUACK.

9.\* "WITH an observation or two more, I shall conclude my remarks upon the morbid appearances which were found at the expiration of six days from the time of Miss Cashin's death, by which means her disease was attempted to be satisfactorily ascertained. The appearances in the chest, abdomen, and about the spine, might easily be met with in any individual who had died of very little or no *apparent* injury whatsoever. The deep-seated muscles of the back, as every person who has had the treatment of fever, particularly in neglected cases, can bear testimony, are susceptible of undergoing more extensive disease by gangrene and actual mortification, than the medical witnesses against you wished the public to believe, and yet in this case these might not have been the proximate cause of this young lady's death, nor have been followed by fatal injuries of the spinal marrow, or its investing membranes. Hence it follows that even if the symptoms of the patient had been of a more aggravated nature than they are described to have been, still, in my opinion, she might have lived. The natural gravitation of the fluids to the back,

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\* Occupying in the original the space between paragraphs 8 and 9, LANCET, page 91.