to question Lord Lansdowne on the matter in the House, should a necessity arise."

The following copy of a resolution, passed at a meeting of the medical officers of the Bakewell Union, held on the 13th instant, was presented by Mr. Cantrell, of Worksworth, a gentleman who, from the commencement of the present agitation, has been most zealous in furthering the objects of the Convention:—

"That the full concurrence of this meeting be given to the objects and intentions of the Poor-Law Medical Convention, and that Wm. Cantrell, Esq., be deputed to attend the meeting of the Poor-Law Medical Officers, to be held in London on the 19th instant." Similar resolutions were also presented by Mr. Cantrell from the Belper and Ashbourne Unions.

A letter was received from Mr. Wakley, M.P., intimating his intention to attend the meeting, who, however, from some unassigned cause [We regret to state, from illness] was unable to be present.

The President of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, Mr. Norman, of Bath, being unable to be present at the general meeting, and feeling kindly alive to the objects of the Convention, obtained a substitute in the person of Mr. Soden, formerly of that city, who obligingly attended, and represented him on the occasion by seconding the fourth resolution.

Dr. Cowan, of Reading, a member of the Council of the Provincial Association, and a warm advocate of the cause of the Union Surgeons, wrote expressing his regret at being prevented from attending and raising his voice in furtherance of the objects of the meeting.

Mr. Torrance, of Rugby, attended on behalf of five colleagues,—medical officers of the Rugby Union, and, in tendering a contribution from each, assured the Committee of the sympathy and thankfulness with which they noticed their exertions in furthering the interests of the Union Surgeons.

A letter was received from Mr. Hardwick, of Hempsall, Norfolk, expressing hearty interest in the proceedings of the Convention, enclosing a contribution, and subscribing himself "A much injured surgeon, and sincere well-wisher of the cause." A similar communication was also received from Mr. Highmore, of Sherborne, who fully agreed in the importance and necessity of the meeting, and promising a "renewal of his subscription, that the Union Medical Officers, by united efforts, may obtain redress of their grievances, by being properly recognized and required."

A communication from Mr. Collyns, of Kenton, informed the Committee that the medical officers of St. Thomas's, Exeter, had memorialized the Guardians on the subject of their grievances, which had been laid before a Committee appointed to consider and report upon its merits; but that the memorialists had succeeded in obtaining only a trifling increase of salary for the medical officers attached to two or three remote parishes, out of forty-nine composing the Union.

Mr. Sawyer, of Alfriston, wrote, informing the Committee that he was connected with two Unions, and states as follows:—"That, having remonstrated with the Guardians of the West Frie Union on the inadequacy of 3s. per case, as a remuneration for my services, the mileage being three on an average, and in consequence of another Medical Officer of the Union declining to attend any longer, the Workhouse containing 100 inmates, at a salary of £10 per annum, the Guardians have advertised the whole Union, including the Workhouse, at £3 less than the present inadequate salaries; I do not think, however, they will succeed in getting any one who will have the hardihood to undertake duties it is physically impossible to perform. But it proves the

necessity of our urging upon the Legislature and the Poor Law Board our right to hold these appointments permanently, and the justice of being fairly remunerated for very onerous duties."

A strong letter was received by the Secretary of the National Institute, from Mr. Gibson, of Ulverstone, one of the Members of Council, in which he states, "that, although unconnected with any Poor-Law appointment, I highly approve and appreciate the motives which have actuated the Union Surgeons in endeavouring to obtain from the Legislature a redress of their grievances; the present system is most oppressive and injurious to the medical profession and to the poor, also a great calamity and dishonour to a Christian country, as well as being based upon a principal of false economy."

The following gentlemen attended the meeting as delegates:—Mr. Wm. Ingle, on behalf of the medical officers of the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Union; Mr. Watkins, of the Towcester Union; Mr. Jordison and Dr. Corbet, as representatives of the Medico-Chirurgical Association, for the Billericay, Romford, and Orsett Unions.

Several other letters were also received from different parts of the country, the writers testifying their approbation of the course pursued by the Committee, and a general interest in the proceedings of the Convention.

Enough has been said to manifest the deep and diffused feeling entertained generally by Poor-Law Medical Officers on the subject of their grievances, which affords fresh stimulus for action on the part of the Committee; but to enable them to labour effectually, the sinews of war—money, must not be forgotten by those for whose benefit and relief such exertions are being made. As respects the expenses hitherto incurred, it is due to the Council of the National Institute to state, that owing to their kind consideration, a great item of expense for rooms has been avoided,—all along most eligible offices have been gratuitously afforded for the use of the Committee of Union Surgeons. Last year, the Council obligingly provided the spacious room for the public meeting, and they generously did so again on the 19th instant.

NOTES ON AMERICA: ITS MEDICAL SCHOOLS AND ESTABLISHMENTS.*

By EDWARD HUMPAGE, Esq., M.R.C.S., Bristol.

The clinical lectures of Professor Mott† are delivered every Saturday, from eleven until one o'clock, the cases are taken indiscriminately as they arise, and are furnished of course, from the humbler ranks; occasionally a fair lady appeared in silk and feathers, but as dress in the United States is no criterion of station, advice was given and thankfully accepted. On this occasion, (Nov. 4th,) an interesting case of hypertrophy of the left ventricle in a boy, suggested some valuable remarks on the utility of issues, in the curative effects of which, Dr. Mott places much reliance; he quoted the late Baron Larrey, whose pupil he was, and for whose surgical opinion he entertained the highest respect. It appears the Baron had great confidence in the effect of issues, and believed that they often removed the *materies morbi*, or any chronic ailments.

The next case was one of scrofulous disease of the

* Continued from page 106.

† In the previous communication there was an accidental error,—viz., *malar bone* instead of *maxillary bone*.

hip-joint, for which occasional leeching over Poupart's ligament was advised; to be followed by counter-irritation, combining this local treatment with perfect rest, and the exhibition of hydriodate of potass with sarsaparilla. Following this was a case of psoas abscess, of which the prognosis was unfavourable, as the source of the disease appeared to be in the bodies of the lumbar vertebrae. Next came a case of talipes; and "Here, gentlemen," said the worthy professor, "we must shorten the ropes." I hoped to have seen the division of the tendons, but it was delayed for some more convenient opportunity.

A case of uterine irritation called forth some remarks on the great tendency in the present day, both in the old world and the new, to *specialities* in disease. Dr. Mott does not believe in all that is said on this subject, and thinks this view is often made the medium of quackery: hence, "We hear," said he, "of Dr. A. as the man who understands uterine affections; Dr. B. who cures the eyes; Dr. C. for the urethra; and Dr. D. for the more ignoble, but not less important, diseases of the rectum!"

There were several cases of syphilis in the form of eruptions, for which iodine and sarsaparilla were used, but most usually the chief reliance is on minute doses of bichloride of mercury. A case of caries of the ossa nasi presented itself. The patient was a woman. The skin of the nose was sound, but pus was distinguishable. She had no idea of the syphilitic origin of the disease, and this fact led the Professor to remark that we should always be careful not to say too much "on delicate subjects;" cure your patient, but do not embitter home by any suspicions as to conjugal fidelity. "I did not open this little abscess of the nose, gentlemen," said he, when the patient had left, "because she will have a sore there long enough, and I did not choose to begin it with the lancet, as blame is often attached to the surgeon for making wounds he cannot heal. Mind this, gentlemen, when you get into practice; it is worth recollecting."

A case of bronchial irritation suggested some remarks on remedies, mineral and vegetable. There is at present a great outcry in the States about the abuse of mineral remedies in chronic diseases, and a sect has arisen advocating the *sole* use of vegetable remedies,* and vapour baths. These persons call themselves Thompsonian physicians, not one half of them knowing, perhaps, whether the liver is on the right, or the left, side of the body. The profession set their faces against these persons who, nevertheless, do an enormous business, and frequently beat the regular practitioner out of the field. Dr. Mott commented very *severely* and *justly* on the want of legal redress in these matters, in the State of New York, for at present no law requires any professional education for the practice of medicine or surgery, in that part of the United States, and many men doing a practice of 5000 dollars a year, (about £1000,) had commenced their career as mere retailers of drugs, or as veterinary surgeons. This

state of things leads to all kinds of quackery, and greatly lowers the character of medical men, or, as they are always called—"Doctors." The public there have not half the respect for the profession which is seen here, nor have the honest respectable men in the profession there that influence with the public which they deserve, and ought to exercise.

As a remedy for the cough of chronic bronchitis, Dr. Mott says there is no place in the world equal to the Island of Malta, where there is always an equable and moderate temperature, very favourable to mucous exhalation. Dr. Mott says he cures pertussis easily with the following combination:—

R. Olei Essent. Amygdal. Amar., m. viij.; Extr. Belladonnæ, gr. vj.; Tinct. Camphoræ Comp., oz. iss.; Misturæ Acaciæ, oz. iiss. M. Capiat cochl. parv. j. vel. ij. ter die.

(To be continued.)

NOTES FROM A PRACTITIONER'S DAY BOOK.*

DISLOCATION OF THE HUMERUS.

What was the nature of the lesion in the following case? Was it a partial dislocation of the head of the humerus upon the edge of the glenoid fossa? I had gone on a visit to some friends who had taken country lodgings at a farm-house; a thunder storm came on suddenly, and was followed by a heavy rain, which, threatening to be of some hours' duration, I agreed to remain supper, and to occupy a bed in the house. In the kitchen there was pointed out to me a boy, who sat with his arm in a sling, and his coat thrown loosely over his back. A week previous he had received a blow on the shoulder from a fall, and had been unable to use the arm ever since. This lad was the patient of another medical man, and I felt no inclination to interfere; he had been told there was nothing out nor broken, and had been directed to rub the part with a stimulating liniment. After some trouble my friends teased me into examining the boy. I could notice no difference in the form of the two shoulders; but the boy complained of pain whenever I attempted to move the arm, and especially when I drew the elbow from the side. Making extension on the humerus downwards, and placing my hand in the axilla, I pressed the head of the bone outwards; while, executing this movement, I fancied that I felt something slip in the joint, but if it was so, the movement was so trifling, that I cannot speak with any degree of certainty. After some further examination, I thought I could detect nothing wrong, and only felt too happy to confirm the opinion which had been previously given, and to recommend a continuance of the same treatment, as it was the best under the circumstances. The next morning, on my way out of the house, I encountered the lad, and merely by way of saying something civil, I asked him how his shoulder was. To my horror, (for I thought of the breach in professional etiquette,) he waved his arm over his head, and said I had quite cured him.

* The chief of these are the *Lobelia inflata*, capsicum, and several bitter and aromatic plants.

* Continued from page 712 of last volume.