

Gull, who, I am informed, in common with the Master of the Rolls, has bowed to the decision of the majority of the liberal graduates, and retired in favor of Sir John Lubbock. Whilst admitting the brilliant talents and the brilliant services rendered by his rivals, it is very much to be lamented in the interest of the medical profession that Sir William Gull should not have been elected. The presence of such an eminent member of the profession in the House would have been of incalculable benefit, as his opinion would have carried great weight when some of these burning questions so momentous and of such paramount interest to the well-being of the public were brought forward. So far as my recollection serves me, we have now no representative to watch and look after our interests (if there be one I trust he will pardon me). Dr. Lush's retirement, his health having given way, was much to be regretted, as he supported many useful motions. After an interval of rest and relaxation, I hope he may be induced to come forward again, for although many professed to feel a doubt, I think he would have been again returned for Salisbury, and we certainly require a few more such men as he in the "House" to watch our interests, for alas! most men think "three faces wears the Doctor: an angel's when first sought; a god's, the cure half wrought; but when, the cure complete, he seeks his fee, the devil looks less terrible than he!" One of Sir John Lubbock's measures is in my opinion of very questionable benefit,—I mean the bank holidays, which have now universally become general holidays, at least in my neighborhood; they are productive of more harm than good, and many deserving individuals have to go without their hardy earned money that these holidays may be taken,—holidays which generally end in drunkenness and illness for the present, and pinching and hardship in the future.

I have great hope of being able to report favorably of the chian turpentine in my cancer case, and have found marked benefit from it in two or three obstinate cases of gonorrhœa in the chronic (gleet) stage. The subject of Hospital reform, by establishing "provident dispensaries" in connection with them, is now agitating the public mind. There is not the slightest doubt that Hospitals are very much abused: hundreds, nay thousands of people who can well afford to pay for private attendance flock to and

obtain advice and medicine gratis from them; but on the other hand there are many thousands who could and would pay moderate charges, but cannot pay a (too often) heavy doctor's bill. I am not at all sure that a good private dispensary, conducted by properly qualified medical men and on a conscientious principle, where, when in ill-health, by paying moderate fees weekly in advance, they can receive proper medicines and attendance, do not meet the public wants and requirements better and with more satisfaction to the doctor. The Medical Associations that have sprung up so numerous within the last few years amongst Friendly Societies are to my certain knowledge very much abused. Men in good position enter themselves, their wives and families in them purely for the sake of the medical benefits attaching to them, and don't they expect a lot of it too! and I quite expect that the hospital dispensaries will be open to the same abuse.

## *Progress of Medical Science.*

### BENZOATE OF SODA IN GONORRHOËAL OPHTHALMIA.

The *Lyon Med.*, March 7th, tells us that Dr. Dor, who for the last two years has used the benzoate of soda with great success in the purulent ophthalmia of infants, has recently had the opportunity of treating a well marked case of gonorrhœal ophthalmia, recovery taking place in a few days, without any opacity being left. He kept iced compresses constantly to the eye. The benzoate of soda was employed in a 20 per cent. solution, and tannin in a 10 per cent. solution, ten drops being instilled every three minutes. All secretion which issued from the eye was removed by means of a wash consisting of 100 per cent. solution of the benzoate.

### SPRAINS AND WOUNDS.

Dr. Brinton says that, to treat sprains, the injured limb should be placed in hot water, and boiling water be slowly added until the highest endurable temperature be reached. The limb is to be retained in the water a quarter of an hour, when the pain will have gradually disappeared.

Tannic acid, in powdered form, applied to wounds constituting compound fractures, will convert them, when the wounds are not extensive or torn, into simple fractures, by rapidly forming a cicatrix, and thus save from one-third to one-half the usual time of healing.—*Med. and Surg. Rep.*