

Clarence, was placed as a midshipman. They had received the kindest attention from Keate, promised him that if ever he (the Duke of Clarence) was King of England, Robert Keate should be his "body surgeon." This promise was fulfilled, and Keate was the confidential medical adviser of William IV. when he succeeded to the throne. At the time that he was appointed to this office, Keate was justly proud of his connection with royalty.

When a student, I was present at an operation which he performed on Mr. S., an eminent solicitor, who had then chambers in Clement's Inn. Mr. Keate had to amputate a diseased testicle for Mr. S., who gave him a very handsome fee. Keate at that time said rather exultingly, "Between you and royalty, Mr. S., I am fully occupied." Keate at that time thought that his connection with royalty was the basis of his future fortune. I was a mere boy at that time, but Keate's assistant was a young surgeon who has risen to distinction since. During the operation a jet of blood spouted from one of the arteries involved in the operation. The spotless duck continuations of the young surgeon unfortunately received a portion of this jet. Mr. — stopped in the middle of the operation to wipe off the red fluid from his trousers. There was no chloroform or ether in those days, and the patient was keenly alive to the pain which he suffered. Mr. S. said to me afterward, "I meant to have given that young man twenty guineas as Keate's assistant, but as he regarded the purity of his trousers as more important than my sufferings, I will not give him a farthing." If Mr. — honors me with the perusal of this reminiscence, he cannot fail to recognize the accuracy of my statement. Twenty-five years afterward I again saw Mr. Keate. He was old, but not decrepit. His intellect was as shrewd as it had been so many years before, but his views with regard to his connection with royalty had lamentably changed. "Mr. Clarke," he said, "my connection with royalty has been my ruin. I have attended four sovereigns, and have been paid badly for my services. One of them, now deceased, owed me nine thousand guineas. The late King William IV, always paid me, but my journeys to Windsor, to attend upon him and the queen, as a rule, were a grievous loss to me. I have on many occasions, obeying a summons to the royal residence, left a room full of patients anxious for my advice. The consequence eventually was, that my practice declined with respect to the public, and now that I am more than eighty years old, I am a poor man. There is one exception, however, as regards my connection with royalty. That exception is the Duchess of Gloucester, who is my immediate neighbor. I visit her daily when she is in town, and the fees I receive in consequence from her form the staple of my income at present." I asked him if he would kindly furnish me with one or two anecdotes that I might make use of in the event of my surviving him. "Well," he said, "I have no objection to relate to you one or two characteristic anecdotes of the late king. I was summoned down to Windsor to see the queen. As it was 'urgent,' I immediately took post-horses, and in two hours was at the castle. I arrived so early that I was ushered into the breakfast room of the royal couple. The queen was suffering from a pain in the knee,

and she gave me a hint that the presence of the king might be dispensed with. Accordingly I said, addressing the king, 'Will your majesty be kind enough to leave the room?' 'Keate,' said he 'I will be hanged if I go.' I looked at him for a moment; I then said quietly but firmly, 'Then, your majesty, I will be hanged if I stay.' When I got to the door of the apartment the king called me back. 'Keate,' said he, 'I believe you're right; I'll retire. You doctors can do any thing; but if a prime minister or a lord chancellor had presumed to order me out of the room, the next day I should have to address his successor.'" "Once," said Mr. Keate, "the queen had determined to consult a homœopathic practitioner. 'I hate humbug,' said his majesty, 'and I won't allow any homœopath to prescribe for my wife unless you are present.' 'It is impossible, your majesty,' I said, 'that I can meet Dr. D—; there is nothing in common between us.' 'Well, then, was the rejoinder, 'will you overhaul the prescription of the medicine which he offers for her, and see if she can safely take it?' I promised to do so, and on the prescription being handed to me, I said, 'Oh, your majesty, she may take it for seven years, and at the end of that time she will not have taken a grain of medicine. Dr. D—, the prescriber, who had been smuggled up the back stairs, retired in the same way, fancying, no doubt, that he had made a convert of the queen. But in this he was mistaken.'" As a matter of history, this fact should be recorded, as I believe it is the only occasion on which a homœopathic practitioner has had the privilege of prescribing for a queen or a king of England.

Some Recent Matters in Gynecology.

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The subject of *intra-uterine injections* has met with very many animated discussions in this country and Europe. The verdict of the profession at the present time, is against their use. Still, the amount of benefit to be derived from their *proper* administration, in chronic endo-metritis with uterine catarrh, is so much greater than by any other possible means of local application, by unfolding a greater extent of diseased surface, that it is well to bear in mind the necessary precautions which should invariably be taken: 1st. Secure full dilatation of the uterine canal, permitting the escape of the injected fluid. To this end use sponge, laminaria, or, as has been suggested by Dr. Kammerer, of New York, the dilators of metal. 2nd. Let the uterine cavity be cleansed of all secretion, by injection with warm water, or wiping it out with cotton wrapped on a probe. 3rd. Let the temperature of the injected fluid be about that of the body. 4th. The quantity of fluid (caustic) should not exceed a half drachm; much less will frequently suffice; 5th. The fluid should be injected slowly and gently, drop by drop. The unfavorable symptoms, and the fatal results following intra-uterine injections, have generally been owing to a disregard of one or more of the above-named precautions.—*Cincinnati Medical Repository.*