

fession; he believed the high state of surgery in this country was owing to its being made a separate and distinct department, and being placed under the superintendence of its own college.

Mr. White thought the constitution of the London College of Surgeons could not be improved; he was unwilling that it should undergo the slightest alteration. It was a mistake to suppose that the council were irresponsible; they were responsible to government. True, they did not profess to examine candidates in all departments of the healing art; they were surgeons, they knew nothing but surgery; they had nothing to do with medicine or midwifery; and, as to pharmacy, they were not required to know what calomel was; its new name was foreign to their ears: they kept strictly to their own department. What was there to complain of in the college? He did not know of a single defect. If such could be pointed out, he was sure the president would exert himself to effect its removal. Did not the council contain the most eminent men in the profession? Had not their funds been usefully employed? Their museum had cost 15,000*l.*; it was then small. What was it now? The wonder of every one. Then their library, which a few years ago consisted of a few volumes, now contained no fewer than 20,000. And for whose benefit had all this money been spent, and these improvements made? For the profession. The museum was open to all; the library was closed against none, although the books could not be removed from the room. The education of medical men was greatly superior now to what it used to be; their attainments were higher; their examinations better. The college had joined the physicians and apothecaries in framing new schemes, not because it thought itself in need of amendment, but that it might not refuse to unite with them in their views and proceedings.

Dr. Webster complained of the Apothecaries' Company. Sir Benjamin Brodie had stated to him, that the examinations of the present bodies were not sufficiently practical. He wondered that the college had never attempted to defend its members against the prosecutions of the Apothecaries' Company.

Mr. Guthrie said the company had abandoned prosecutions. There was nothing, in fact, in the shape of abuse which the three London corporations were not willing to amend; but they wished to take their own way of doing it. They were preparing a Bill to Parliament, and the only difference between their plan and that of the delegates was, that they would try to prolong their own existence, and not erect a new establishment, which was to serve *instead* of the old ones; the latter might be subservient to the proposed end.

SMALL-POX.

A correspondent at Warrington informs us that on Sunday evening last, three children born of the same parents were interred in one grave, having died of casual small-pox. Yet, while facts like this are occurring throughout the country, every obstacle is thrown in the way of the diffusion of vaccination by the so-called guardians of the poor.

SURGICAL REGISTRY.

THE Council of the College of Surgeons, London, being desirous of furnishing a correct list of their members, have issued a notice requesting that each member will transmit to the Secretary a statement, containing his name at full length, address, and date of diploma, in order that it may be compared with the chronological list. The member should also state, in a similar manner, if he have a degree in medicine, or the licence of the Apothecaries' Company.

USE OF SULPHUR OINTMENT IN SMALL-POX.

NEARLY two years have now elapsed since one of the Editors of the *PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL* endeavoured to direct the attention of the London Medical Society to the treatment of small-pox pustules with mercurial plaster. Some of the members promised to give the plan a fair trial, but we have never heard that any experiments were performed by them. Within the last few months this plan has been frequently noticed in the English Medical Journals, but it would appear from the experiments of Dr. Midaveine, that sulphur possesses the same efficacy as mercury in arresting the development of the small-pox pustule. Dr. M. employs an ointment composed of two to two and a half drachms of flour of sulphur to an ounce of lard, and with this rubs lightly, thrice a day, all parts of the body on which pustules exist. The nearer the pustules are to the period of their first appearance, the greater the chances of success; the papulæ then contract, become dry, and fade away. Even in confluent small-pox the patient quickly recovers his appetite, and asks for food. We should, however, remark that Dr. Midaveine employed the sulphur ointment in sixteen cases only, and of these twelve had been vaccinated.—*Gaz. Med.* No. XV.

A MEDICAL PEER.

IT is reported in the best informed circles of Paris, that M. Double is about to be elevated to the dignity of a Peer of France. Rumour also connects with his name those of Baron Larrey and M. Orfila.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN LONDON.

List of Gentlemen admitted Members on April 16, 1841.—William Burford Norman, William Toogood, George Francis Keys, Richard Davison Pritchard, Richard Oxford, Charles Mott, James William Young, Alexander Thorn, Henry Mortimer Rawden.

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