

All classes of the profession should therefore unite in the demand for some protective enactment.

§ 54. On surveying the numerous plans which have been proposed for improving the medical police of this country, your committee are impressed both with their diversity, and with the little progress hitherto made in arriving at any satisfactory conclusions on the subject.

The members of this association seem therefore called on to devote increased attention to this momentous question, in all its ramifications, and to spare no efforts to obtain a revision of the present defective arrangements, with a view to promote the physical well-being of the community, through the instrumentality of the medical profession.

Although your committee might feel disposed to recommend some general measure, for regulating the various departments of public hygiene, they consider that the present duty of the profession is limited to a narrower field, and that it would be unwise to neglect the opportunity now offered for procuring a mitigation of the evils, which press so heavily on a large body of medical practitioners.

However preferable an arrangement might be, which would entirely prevent the interference of the poor-law commissioners with medical duties, your committee are perfectly aware that, in the present uninformed state of public opinion, it would be useless to insist on such a change. Still more obvious is it, that members of our profession would be stepping out of their legitimate province, and would descend into the noisy arena of general politics, if they, *as a body*, supported the demand for the abolition of the poor-law commission.

The association, therefore, is earnestly recommended to employ all its energies to secure the enactment (in the forthcoming bill) of such modifications in the constitution and powers of the central board of commissioners, as shall terminate those abuses *which particularly affect the profession*; and thus establish a precedent for future medical legislation on a more extended scale.

§ 55. Should the association now resolve to support the views and propositions submitted in this Report, it will become necessary either to seek the aid of some member of Parliament, who may be disposed to introduce them for the consideration of the legislature; or to endeavour, by suitable representations, to engage the favourable attention of the government.

The last advice given by Mr. Sergeant Talfourd, in reference to future exertions, is too important to be withheld. After stating his readiness to confer with the attorney-general on the subject, he added, "but, as I cannot doubt that the destinies of the country are about to be confided to Sir Robert Peel, it is to him I would advise you to direct your efforts. I think for many reasons, you will obtain from him, or with his sanction, a reasonable adjustment of the question."

Your committee would not do justice to their feelings of gratitude and respect for Mr. Sergeant Talfourd, if they omitted to express their deep regret at his retirement from Parliament. Any eulogium which might here be passed on your late distinguished advocate would be both superfluous and inadequate. Let it suffice to say, that the great interests of literature, science and humanity will, by his absence from the House of Commons, suffer a loss not easily to be repaired.

§ 56. Your committee have thus endeavoured to lay before the association the prominent features of the subject, which has for so long a time engaged their sedulous attention; and which it now rests with the members to bring to a successful issue.

The action of the entire association should henceforth succeed to the deliberations and exertions of a few individuals.

The influence which the 1,300 members of this powerful body might exert with their representatives before the ensuing session of the new Parliament,

would alone suffice to secure the enactment of a considerable portion, if not the whole, of the proposed measure.

In every locality petitions should, without delay, be set on foot by members of the council.

In conclusion, while your committee may be allowed to express their regret that they have not hitherto been favoured with the active co-operation of a greater number of their associates; they are happy to acknowledge the support uniformly afforded them by the central council, under whose auspices, they trust that this long agitated question may be finally and satisfactorily adjusted.

FINIS.

AN ERROR OF PROSODY.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—In the last number of your Journal, page 205, Mr. Husband's paper on *Dyspepsia* contains a quotation from Horace's first satire; the first line of which is printed thus—

"Ac si condolet tentatum frigore corpus."

Now this will not scan; the passage in the original is,

"Ac si condoluit," &c. &c. &c.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

JONAS MALDEN.

Worcester, Dec. 11th, 1841.

A NEW URINE DOCTOR.

The following delicate hint is delivered to a correspondent in a late number of the "*Lancet*:"—

"X. Y. The circumstance alluded to by our correspondent, probably depends upon some disorder of the digestive functions. The state is not uncommon in those who eat too much animal food. If it give rise to any inconvenience, the boy should be placed under the care of the family medical attendant. *Could X. Y. leave a little of the fluid at our office?*"

[Heartily do we congratulate the honourable Editor on his new avocation. We have a thimble-full at his service. The counter-practice at the "*Lancet*" office is intended, we suppose, to extinguish the chemists. *Nous verrons.*]

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN LONDON.

Members admitted on Friday, December 10, 1841.

Richard Jones, William Hepworth, Charles Chrimmes Taylor, James Oldham, Benjamin Leak, Francis Boase, Walter Jones, William Charles Homfray, Charles Daubeny, Benjamin Swete, George W. Lang, Joseph Caldwell.

OBITUARY.

Dr. David D. Davis, Professor of Midwifery, in University College, expired on Saturday, December 4th, in the sixty-ninth year of his age.

CORRESPONDENTS.

Charta Vesicatoria.—We have received Mr. Thomas Butler's specimen of this blistering paper.

The newspapers from *Carlisle, Birmingham, Portsmouth, Worcester, and Galway*, have been received: we feel much obliged to our friends for forwarding them to us, and hope, that whenever country newspapers contain any medical intelligence, some of our correspondents will send them to us.

W. H., Liverpool. The essay of Dr. Cormack.

Printed by SAMUEL TAYLOR, of 6, Chandos-street, in the Parish of St. Paul's, Covent-garden, at his Office, No. 6, Chandos-street, aforesaid; and published by JOHN CHURCHILL, at his residence, No. 16, Princes-street, in the Parish of St. Anne, Westminster.—Friday, December 17, 1841.