

laws, were they permitted, when ill, the privilege of choosing their own medical attendant. I have frequently heard them exclaim, "We are not even allowed the surgeon we like best, but are obliged to be attended by a man of whom we know nothing, or by one we cannot trust." I need scarcely appeal to you, as members of the profession, for confirmation of the fact how, in many instances, faith in the skill of the professional person tends to alleviate the sufferings of the patient, and acts in some measure as a remedy to the disease itself. The privations to which such individuals are subjected must be at all times great. Surely, then, it is not unreasonable to ask that they should enjoy the right of selecting the man in whom they place the greatest confidence; besides which, "a parish doctor," as he is termed, is always an object of abhorrence; however skilful, however great the attention received from him by paupers, they always fancy themselves objects of neglect. Such prejudice would, of course, be removed by the adoption of the measures I propose, which are these:—When a pauper is taken ill, he should apply to some responsible person, *appointed* in the parish where he resides, for an order (and there should be such an one in every village, no matter how small), which order the patient should be allowed to take to any medical man he chooses. The great distance some are obliged to send, the time occupied in procuring the requisite assistance, endanger, if not destroy, many a life. The plan I have suggested would, I imagine, be generally approved by the profession, and would, I am certain, be regarded as a blessing by the poorer classes. Another advantage to be derived from such an arrangement is, that tenders would be unheard of, and the evil of canvassing guardians unknown, without in the smallest degree increasing the expenses of the unions, as the same stipends or fixed payments per case, now adopted and allowed to certain medical attendants, may with equal justice be applied generally, and the parties held equally responsible to the guardians. I will not trespass longer on your time and patience, although much more might be advanced in favour of the proposed system. I will, therefore, conclude the subject, trusting it may find some strenuous advocates amongst my brother practitioners.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

J. F. H. R. W.

June 25, 1842.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

Mr. Miller has been elected to fill the chair of surgery, vacant by the death of Sir C. Bell.

OBITUARIES.

M. Pelletier, the discoverer of sulphate of quinine, died at Paris last week.

We also have to announce the death of M. W. Edwards, member of the Institute, which took place on the 23rd instant at Versailles.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN LONDON.

Members admitted Friday, July 22, 1842.

J. Winship, W. Langston, F. Spicer, W. Mc Neece, W. Jackson, A. Hingston, C. W. H. Howell, H. H. Parrott, W. T. Boddy.

Monday, July 25, 1842.

E. G. Woolnough, J. J. Tweed, W. R. M. Griffin, O. H. Fox, W. Ettringham, R. Hood, D. T. Lewis, W. Wood.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.

Licentiates admitted Thursday, July 21, 1842.

E. S. F. Arnold, South Sea House; W. Adams, 39, Finsbury-square; E. Seppings, Swaffham, Norfolk; B. Barkus, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; R. Sissons, Hull; W. Almond, Leeds; C. F. Curtis, Kennington.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The communications of *Mr. Griffith*, *Mr. Oswald*, *Mr. Storrs*, *Mr. Valentine*, and *Mr. Collins*, have been received.

A. B.—Practice of Medicine, *Dr. Gregory* or *Dr. Craigie*; Surgery, *Mr. Druitt's Vade Mecum*; Physiology, *Mr. Mayo* or *Dr. Carpenter*; Chemistry, *Dr. Turner*; Medical Jurisprudence, there is no good English school-book.

A Medical Student, Bristol.—We have made inquiries at the College. If our correspondent present himself for examination before January, 1843, he will fall under the regulations of 1835; if not, those of 1842 will apply to him, but he must present a special memorial to the council; the answer will, in all probability, be favorable to his views.

A. F. will find an answer in our advertising columns.

We have been compelled to omit several communications until next week.

JOURNALS AND BOOKS FOR REVIEW TO BE FORWARDED (CARRIAGE PAID), TO THE PUBLISHER, 356, STRAND.
LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS TO DR. HENNIS GREEN, 58, MARGARET STREET,
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