

RAISING THE WIND ON DEAD BARGAINS.

A most respectable member of the medical profession had the accompanying "private and confidential" circular left at his house a few days ago. In laying it before our readers, we trust its author will excuse the breach of confidence, in the desire we feel that so valuable an opportunity of doing something in a quiet way might not be lost to the profession. The living was formerly supposed to be the only sources of emolument to the medical practitioner, and that, when death stepped in, fees stopped; not so now, however, thanks to Mr. Shillibeer. Dead bodies will shortly be at a premium, and the dissecting-room of University College and the Marylebone liberals will no longer monopolise the market. But to be serious; we have seen impudent and ignorant circulars, but, of all the outrageous productions it has ever been our lot to witness, this "private and confidential" one is the *ne plus ultra*.

We trust that it will be viewed in the light it deserves by the profession, and that Mr. Shillibeer will reap the due reward of his presumption, as far as its members have any influence.

"*Private and Confidential.*"

"25th June, 1843.

"Sir,—As you must professionally know how very frequently funeral expenses press heavily on the funds of families, I beg leave to submit to you my plans, which combine economy with perfect decency at the smallest expense.

"The highest prices comprise funeral respectability, and even elegance, at very reduced charges, whilst the system tends to, and is, gradually abolishing walking funerals, by having a carriage to convey six mourners to and from any cemetery at less cost, thereby giving to the poorest of the population the advantage of cemetery interment, and mitigating the evil and disgust naturally attending many of the present grave-yards.

"Should you be of opinion that, by influencing families, in the hour of distress, to adopt my system, you are rendering them pecuniary service, and preserving public health; it will, of course, promote the interests of the Cemetery and General Funeral Company, with which my patent carriages are united; and, upon being informed of such recommendations, I will pay into the Medical Benevolent Society, or to any hospital fund, five per cent. of the cost of such funerals.

"Should it be preferred that such remuneration should be personal, the amount shall be privately and most confidentially paid on addressing a note that you have rendered this essential benefit to families, and to the public health of the metropolis.

"I hope you will put the most favorable construction on the novelty of my plan, which is respectfully submitted to you, and, apologising for the intrusion, I remain, Sir, your most obedient servant,

"George Shillibeer."

RUPTURE OF THE UTERUS—RECOVERY.

The patient in this case was in her nineteenth year, and confined for the first time. Delivery was attempted by the long forceps, but in vain; the head of the infant had to be opened, and delivery was accomplished by means of the hook. In passing the hand into the uterus, a longitudinal rent was discovered, corresponding to the right iliac fossa, and from six to seven centimetres in length. The hand, when passed into this gap in the uterus, came in contact with the mass of the small intestines. A month afterwards the uterus contracted, and the tear in its substance could no longer be perceived. The patient was alarmingly ill. She vomited, had hiccup, violent pain in the abdomen, &c. Nevertheless, she did not die; on the contrary, after several days passed in a state between life and death, she began to improve, and finally recovered.—*M. Vaulpre, in Gazette Méd. de Paris.*

PRESENTATION OF A GOLD MEDAL TO SIR B. BRODIE.

On Thursday last a dinner took place at Willis's rooms, for the purpose of presenting to Sir Benjamin Brodie a gold medal, as a testimonial of respect and esteem, on the occasion of his resigning (three years' since) the office of surgeon to St. George's Hospital. Sir Charles Clarke presided.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.

Licentiate admitted Thursday, August 3, 1843.

John Blaxland, London; Frederick Gervis Jackson, London; William Hepworth, Morley, near Leeds; Arthur Romer, Liverpool; Alfred George Field, Reading; James Corrie, Finchley.

Thursday, August 10, 1843.

Thomas Allen; John Edwards; Joseph Frowd Jones; William Hendrick Gerard Vos; Richard Ellis Bateman; Charles Law.

Gentlemen desirous of having the "Provincial Medical Journal," forwarded to them by post, may send a post-office order to the Publisher, 356, Strand, London.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We shall direct our attention to the subject of the letter of *M. D.*

Correspondents are requested to address their communications to the Publisher, 356, Strand, and not to Dr. Green, as heretofore.

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