

blishing a uniform system of medical government and education. That while your Petitioners highly approve of many of the provisions of the Medical Bill introduced by Sir James Graham in the last Session of Parliament, they have observed with deep regret and disappointment that the practice of Midwifery, which is connected with, and is a very important branch of, the practice of Medicine and Surgery, is wholly omitted. That your Petitioners, in the pursuit of their professional duties, have frequently witnessed and deplored the evil consequences ensuing from the indiscriminate practice of Midwifery, not only to themselves, but to society in general, for the want of some adequate legal protection or recognised body to test the competency and qualifications of those who practise in that peculiar department of the medical profession, the existing medical corporations not having the power or right to examine candidates for their diploma as to their obstetric knowledge; and your Petitioners are of opinion that the practice of Midwifery has not hitherto received that degree of attention from the Legislature, or protection from the Government, which is commensurate with its importance.

That your Petitioners earnestly and respectfully pray your Honourable House to supply this defect in the proposed Bill, and to enact a law which shall secure to her Majesty's subjects protection from dangerous and incompetent practitioners in Midwifery: protect the privileges of the properly educated and duly licensed, and thereby uphold the dignity of an honourable and useful profession—And your Petitioners will ever pray.

GEORGE KING, Surgeon-Accoucheur to the Dorcas Society for the Relief of Lying-in Women.

HUGH MASSEY, Senior Surgeon Accoucheur to the Charitable Society for the Relief of Lying-in Women.

WILLIAM A. COX, Surgeon - Accoucheur to the Abingdon and Bethesda Lying-in Charities.

#### INQUEST, FIVE WEEKS AFTER DELIVERY AND DEATH OF A PARTURIENT WOMAN.

At Cossey, within four miles of Norwich, an inquest was held on the 28th of February last, on the body of Jane Mary Lovet, aged 35 years, who died on the 19th of January, soon after delivery, and had been buried five weeks before disinterment under the coroner's warrant. It appeared that the woman, a carpenter's wife, had, in several former labours, suffered from detention of the after-birth. The same thing happened in this last delivery, when she was attended by a legally qualified practitioner, of the name of Gaches, an admitted licentiate of the Apothecaries' Company so long back as 1822, and who had been a good deal exercised in midwifery, but only within a year or two had resided in the village of Cossey, where the sad event, as it proved on inquiry, happened. The matter had been allowed to slumber for five weeks, or more, before it was taken up by medical men in Norwich, and by the proper authorities. On inspection of the body, it was ascertained that the entire uterus, with several feet of the large intestine, had been forcibly extracted. The verdict of the jury was manslaughter,

and the unfortunate perpetrator of this deed is committed for trial at the next assizes. We expect to be able to give a full account of the inquest next week, and trust it may prove a useful lesson to all boisterous practitioners of midwifery, that they may avoid the commission of those slighter injuries, which, by repetition, at length lead in a few instances to the commission of such barbarities as have been recently promulgated through the press.

#### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

Gentlemen admitted members on Friday, February 21st, 1845:—J. Heynes; C. Andrewes; G. Ayton; T. R. Gibbes; A. B. Allen; S. Le Brun; G. J. Macklin; R. S. Rogers; D. H. Gabb.

#### PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION.

##### STATEMENT OF SIR JAMES GRAHAM.

It is requested that the Members of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association will take an early opportunity of considering the provisions of the amended bill, for the better regulation of medical practice, introduced into the House of Commons by the Right Honourable Sir James Graham, on Tuesday, the 25th of February last. The Council of the Association are desirous of receiving the opinions of the Members, whether individually, or through the medium of the local Councils of the larger towns, and the officers of the several Branch Associations. As the second reading of the measure is fixed for the 7th of April, it is important that no time should be lost.

By order of the Council,

ROBERT J. N. STREETEN,

Secretary to the Association.

#### ERRATA.

In the paper, on Detaching the Placenta, by Dr. Radford, in the last number of the Journal:—

P. 130, col. 2, line 21 from the bottom, for "Mr. Newsard," read Mr. Nursaw.

P. 131, col. 1, line 9, for "Mr. Stone's," read Mrs. Stone's.

P. 131, col. 2, line 20, for "Peter Burrow, Esq.," read Peter Barrow, Esq.

P. 132, col. 1, line 5, for "P. Burrow," read P. Barrow.

P. 139, col. 1, line 10, for "Thomas Buckell," read Francis Buckell.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from Mr. Dayman; Dr. Durrant; Mr. H. Terry, Jun.; Mr. Newnham; Dr. Simpson; Mr. G. King; Dr. Hindle; Dr. Soulby; and Mr. Clarke.