

respect to widows and orphans the case might be different. However, admit the average; the first class might receive an annuity of £25 per annum, thus consuming £750; the second, at £15 per annum, would require £450. There would even under this maximum calculation, be found money to meet incidental expenses. I forbear to make any comment on the plan, as I hope to do this at our meeting; but I would simply state, that this fund is designed as altogether detached from the one designated "benevolent,"—it is a mutual assurance company, and is not to be considered as a charitable fund—that is, its recipients have a just and fair claim to its bounty, and are not liable to the reproach of dependence; moreover, it is a *voluntary* subscription, and subscribers only will have the benefit of its funds.

If this simple project, designed to overcome a professed difficulty, and to meet claims which, when they present themselves are grievous to every benevolent mind, should happily meet with the approbation of the members of the Association, I shall feel sincere pleasure in receiving communications and suggestions for the furtherance of the object—an object, let me add, which, when once in operation, will shed an halo around the Association, beautiful and bright as the beams of heaven.

I am Sir,
Yours &c.,
EDWARD DANIELL.

Newport Pagnell, June 4, 1845.

IMPROPER APPOINTMENT TO A UNION MEDICAL DISTRICT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

SIR,

A vacancy having occurred in my immediate neighbourhood, for a surgeon to an extensive district under the new Poor-Law, several gentlemen with high qualifications came forward as candidates; but without any reference to the testimonials produced, or indeed any of the usual formalities; the appointment has been given to the Dispensary House Surgeon, although he still retains his previous office. In fact, it has been done with the full sanction of the Dispensary Committee, professedly to improve the present low state of their funds. The Union payment in full is to be received by the treasurer of the institution, and appropriated to general purposes, whilst the House Surgeon, for a scanty increase of salary, is to bear all the responsibility, it being requisite that one name only appear as the contracting party, so that the rules of the Poor-Law Commissioners may not *seem* to have been infringed. The affair appearing to me a gross attack upon the privileges of the profession, I have taken the liberty to forward you these particulars, hoping to draw forth an expression of your opinions, for should it receive the sanction of the Commissioners, it is very probable that many other dispensaries may resort to the same expedient, to the serious injury of a very numerous body of medical practitioners.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant, W.

June 7, 1845.

[There can be no question that the foregoing transaction is a great abuse, first of the charity, no part of

the funds of which ought to be appropriated to public purposes; and secondly, of the provision for securing medical relief to the poor under the Poor-Law. It is also highly objectionable, both as regards the medical officer and the profession generally. The former undertaking a double responsibility has two masters to serve, the Dispensary Committee and the Board of Guardians, and in all probability will give satisfaction to neither, while the profession generally are unjustly treated by the combining of two offices, incompatible with each other, and the advantage which will ultimately be taken of the proceeding to reduce the amount of salary paid by the Poor-Law authorities already, we doubt not, in this case as in others, much too low for the duty required.]

MEDICAL INTELLIGENCE.

Richard Carmichael, Esq., has been elected President of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland for the ensuing year; Samuel Wilmot, Esq., Vice-President; and J. W. Cusack, M.D., Secretary.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

Gentlemen admitted Members on Friday, June 6th, 1845:—J. G. Moir; R. Moore; C. Mullett; S. Gibbon; A. P. May; W. Culhane; J. S. Denham; J. R. Hutchinson; T. McGreal; E. Searce; W. E. Wright.

Admitted Monday, June 9th:—F. S. Fleck; H. Ward; J. Ward; T. Peck; F. P. Forge; E. T. W. Mandeville; S. Clift.

Admitted Friday, June 13th:—H. A. Ebdow; J. Hoffman; S. Buchanan; W. Carroll; F. Burnham; C. E. Goodman; T. Maxwell; B. Longmore; J. Byrne; T. M. Derry.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES.

Gentlemen admitted Licentiates on Thursday, June 5th, 1845:—W. C. Tucker, Lavington; F. Barnett, Jamaica; W. C. Byass, Curkfield; S. Benthams, Portsmouth; B. Butterworth, Rochdale; J. P. Ramskill; G. E. Havers, Thelton Hall, Norfolk.

PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION.

The Anniversary Meeting of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association will take place at Sheffield, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 30th and 31st of July. A more extended notice will be given in next week's Journal.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from A Provincial Practitioner; the Birmingham Pathological Society; Dr. Sutherland; Mr. D. Edwards; and Dr. P. H. Williams.