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P R E F A C E.

IN completing our fourth and concluding volume, we gratefully return our hearty thanks to the profession for the kind, cordial, and annually increasing support which they have extended towards our labours. THE LONDON JOURNAL OF MEDICINE was established to supply what was much wanted in England—*a suitable medium for Original Communications of the highest class*—and none of its projectors regarded it as a mere commercial speculation. Profit never was the aim of this JOURNAL: and, as regards money, we have been contented to strive for the current expenses of publication. So indifferent, indeed, have we been to all selfish interests, that we have not remonstrated when innumerable abstracts and translations from foreign journals, which have cost us both money and midnight oil, have been appropriated periodically for the parasitical press by the lazy stroke of a compiler's scissors.

It is with no small amount of satisfaction that we print the subjoined list of contributors, which cannot, we believe, be equalled in character by any medical periodical which has appeared in England during the same or any similar period.

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TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTORS IN		
1849		28
1850	Old.....	14
	New	18
		32
1851	Old.....	17
	New	20
		37
1852	Old.....	19
	New	21
		40

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In conclusion, it only remains for us earnestly to commend to our friends, contributors, and subscribers, the important work with which the LONDON JOURNAL is now incorporated; and to express a hope that the New Weekly Series of the JOURNAL OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION may accomplish the useful and noble ends for which that great Society was founded, and which it is so well calculated to fulfil.

At p. 958 will be found an address by the "Journal Committee" of the Association, which merits the attention of all who love and honour their profession. It will be obvious to all that no private journalist could command so much talent, and such entire freedom from the insidious bias of commercial expediency.

London, 1st October 1852.