

TESTIMONIAL TO J. A. COOKSEY, Esq.

ON June 3rd, an address and testimonial were presented to J. A. Cooksey, Esq., of Chipping Campden, by his friends and neighbours. The origin of the testimonial appears in the following passages from the address:—

"The cause of morality was in danger. Your testimony alone could determine on which side the wrong lay. You were appealed to for that testimony. Feeling that the cause of truth was paramount to private interest, you responded to that appeal, and availing yourself of the process prescribed by law, made a statutory declaration upon the subject in dispute. You thus upheld the right without any act of publication; without any breach of professional confidence; and without injury to any person. But as soon as it became known that you had made such a declaration, you were involved in proceedings at law for libel, which were prosecuted with great bitterness and a lavish expenditure of money.

"In the application to the Court of Queen's Bench for criminal information against you, the counsel for your opponent made an *ex parte* statement, reflecting in the darkest terms upon your character, and alleging accusations which, if proved, must have ruined you beyond redemption.

"How little you deserved those cruel aspersions, is proved by the course pursued by the same counsel, when the case came on for hearing before the judges. On that occasion, Sir Frederick Thesiger, instead of proceeding to the proof of his previous statement, applied to withdraw the suit, submitting to all the costs, on the ground of his conviction that the Court could not pronounce a judgment for his clients in the face of the affidavit produced by you.

"This termination of the proceedings was technically and substantially in your favour. But though you came out of it unblemished, you were not an uninjured man. The forms of law afforded your counsel no right of reply to the allegations made in the *ex parte* statement, and precluded the production of the evidence collected for your defence. These ruinous allegations had gone forth to the world in the newspapers, and you had no redress.

"Under these circumstances, your neighbours who were on the spot and acquainted with the facts, and your many friends elsewhere, who knew well the integrity of your character, have felt it their duty to come forward, and by a public expression of their confidence, and a substantial token of their sympathy, to declare their firm conviction that in that painful business the propriety of your conduct was beyond dispute.

"Knowing then these particulars, and feeling these sentiments, the parties to this address, numbering 141 persons, and representing clergymen, magistrates, gentry, members of your own and the legal profession, old friends, near neighbours, and patients, rich and poor, request your acceptance of this salver, with the 200 guineas placed thereon."

The Rev. J. Hamilton, curate of Campden, then presented to Mr. Cooksey the address, which was beautifully written upon vellum, and enclosed in a Russia leather case, with silver mountings; together with a massive and elegant salver, made expressly for the occasion, by Messrs. Garrard, of Pantion Street, London, on which the following inscription was admirably engraved:—"Presented, with two hundred guineas, to John Alexander Cooksey, Esq., M.R.C.S., of Chipping Campden, by a large circle of friends and neighbours, who desired to express in the warmest possible way their personal regard, their sense of his private worth, their estimation of his professional abilities, and their sympathy with him, in the losses incurred by the fearless discharge of a painful public duty. June 3rd, 1856."

THE LONDON HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE. The annual ceremony of the distribution of prizes took place in the Anatomical Theatre on June 9th. The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Oxford presided. Among the company we noticed Lord Auckland, Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Rev. Canon Champneys, the Rev. Mr. Rowsell, and many of the neighbouring clergy. Dr. Billing, William Cotton, Esq., James Stutfield, Esq., Mr. Leonard Currie, and many influential supporters of the hospital, were also present. The object of the meeting having been stated by the President, Mr. Luke gave a *resumé* of the progress of the pupils during the past session, and congratulated the students who were to receive honours in having them conferred on them by one so capable of appreciating intellectual energy as his lordship. The prizes having been distributed, the Chairman delivered an eloquent address, in

which, among many topics of general and medical interest, he particularly dwelt on the flourishing condition of the college, and on the important influence such a school of medical education must necessarily exert on the large hospital with which it was in connexion, and, mainly through the medium of such connexion, on society at large. Mr. Down, the senior hospital medallist, having acknowledged, on the part of the students, the kindness of his lordship in presiding, and Mr. Cotton having also expressed by a resolution the same sentiment on the part of the hospital governors, the meeting separated.

The following gentlemen received the honours of the day:—*Clinical Medicine*, and for "Zeal, and Talent, and Humanity towards the Patients"—Gold Medal (presented by the Governors of the Hospital): Mr. J. Langdon H. Down, Torpoint. *Clinical Surgery*, and for "Zeal, and Talent, and Humanity towards the Patients"—Gold Medal (presented by the Governors of the Hospital): Mr. Thomas E. Rutledge, Farringdon. *College Class of Medicine*—Senior, Gold Medal.* Mr. J. Landon H. Down, Torpoint; Junior, Silver Medal, Mr. James S. Hawkins, London; Junior, Certificate, Mr. Robert L. Bayley, London. *Surgery*—Senior, Gold Medal.* Mr. J. Langdon H. Down, Torpoint; Junior, Silver Medal, Mr. Robert L. Bayley, London; Junior, Certificate, Mr. Edward Lawrance, Ipswich. *Anatomy and Physiology*—Senior, Gold Medal, Mr. Joseph Giles, Frome; Senior, Certificate, Mr. Alfred A. Taylor, Limehouse; Junior, Silver Medal, Mr. Harry P. Major, Hungerford; Junior, Certificate, Mr. Edward A. Page, Bedworth. *Midwifery*—Gold Medal.* Mr. J. Langdon H. Down, Torpoint; Certificate, Mr. Robert L. Bayley, London. *Chemistry*—Silver Medal, Mr. E. Harford Lloyd, Thornbury; Certificate, Mr. Walter Rivington, Holloway; Certificate, Mr. Frederic E. Ryott, Newbury. *Forensic Medicine*—Silver Medal, Mr. J. Langdon H. Down, Torpoint; Certificate, Mr. Robert Debenham, Dulston. *Materia Medica*—Silver Medal, Mr. Robert L. Bayley, Limehouse; Certificate, Mr. Edward M. Shirliff, Finsbury. *Botany*—Silver Medal, Mr. E. Harford Lloyd, Thornbury; Certificate, Mr. James S. Hawkins, London. [*Works of the Sydenham Society, Rose's *Analysis*, and Lindley's *Vegetable Kingdom*, in lieu of the Gold Medals.]

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

LETTERS and other COMMUNICATIONS for the JOURNAL should be directed to the private address of the Editor, 33, Curzon Street, May Fair.

Members should remember that corrections for the current week's JOURNAL should not arrive later than Wednesday.

MR. J. T. BARRIE. We are obliged for your communication, but we are afraid your caustic is too biting at the present moment, however much some of the individuals mentioned in your letter may deserve it.

M.B. The Medical Directory at present in use is, we think, all-sufficient for the profession, and we fear that the attempt to bring out a new one must end in giving us two indifferent, instead of one well conducted, and as far as we can see satisfactory work. Medical men will not, we fear be troubled with making double returns.

Communications have been received from:—DR. P. H. WILLIAMS; DR. KIDD; DR. PAXTON; DR. HEYGATE; DR. EASTWOOD; DR. E. SMITH; MR. NATHANIEL WARD; MR. E. C. GARLAND; MR. W. TOWNSEND; DR. F. CHURCHILL; DR. THUDICUM; DR. OGER WARD; MR. JOHN STEWART KILGOUR; MR. RICHARD QUAIN; MR. A. P. CROSS; MR. J. T. BARRIE; MR. T. Z. LAURENCE; DR. A. C. MALCOLM; DR. C. H. E. ROUTH; DR. HANDFIELD JONES; DR. MARKHAM; MR. HAYNES WALTON; MR. JOHN BARRETT; DR. HARCLAY; MR. H. B. NORMAN; MR. BAGE (Carliff); MR. A. T. H. WATERS; DR. B. W. RICHARDSON; DR. R. U. WEST; MR. T. HOLMES; DR. JOHN ROULSTON; MR. STONE; and MR. GEORGE MAY, JUN.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

[* An Asterisk is prefixed to the names of Members of the Association.]

1. The Microscope and its Revelations. By William B. Carpenter, M.D., F.R.S. London: John Churchill. 1856.
2. Varicose Veins: their Nature, Consequences, and Treatment. By Henry T. Chapman, F.R.C.S. London: John Churchill. 1856.

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