

DR. PHILBRICK AND THE RECENT INQUEST AT LEAMINGTON.—  
SIR: Observing your editorial remarks on the recent coroner's inquest at this place, I would beg to be allowed to observe that I never considered myself in charge of the case. A midwife was in attendance, who sent for me to give an opinion only on the case; having done this, I distinctly asked her if she was competent to manage it, and she stated that she was, and I left the case where I found it; that is, in her hands. I was never asked to take charge of the case, nor did I ever say that I was to be sent for again at any time; but I said, if difficulty occurred, and she should want assistance, that I would give it. When I said this, I expected, if my assistance was required, it would be within a short period of time. If this is taking the legal responsibility of the case, law is not common sense, in my view of it; and I shall not be so ready in future. I am, etc., THOS. PHILBRICK.  
Leamington, December 15th, 1862.

P.S. I have been in tolerably extensive practice for near thirty years; and I here positively assert that when I saw the case, the two feet were presenting.

[In the article to which Dr. Philbrick refers, we distinctly stated, or wished it to be inferred, that, in our opinion, he was in no way responsible for the issue of the case. We believe that he was from first to last unfairly treated in the matter. There was nothing whatever to show that the death of the woman was connected with any hemorrhage which occurred; or that any injurious hemorrhage did occur through (as it was affirmed) the absence of Dr. Philbrick. We believe that the death was no more to be laid to the charge of neglect on the part of Dr. Philbrick than to the charge of Mr. Clark or any other gentleman who gave evidence at the trial. But we must maintain the position we then assumed, as regards the responsible attendance on the case. Dr. Philbrick had an undoubted right to have said, after visiting the woman: I cannot attend upon this case; but when he says (without limit of time): "Send for me, if any difficulty arises", he certainly undertakes a responsibility. He leaves the midwife and the friends under the impression that they can at any time have his services for the delivery; and certainly enables them to say: If you had not promised to come, we should have gone earlier elsewhere for assistance. EDITOR.]

ALMOND CAKE.—T. E. S. asks where he "can obtain the almond cake, which was introduced by Dr. Pavy as the diet for diabetic patients?"

[Dr. Pavy's paper on the subject is to be found in the last number of *Guy's Hospital Reports*; where we read that "Mr. Hill of 60 and 61 Bishopsgate Street, London, has undertaken the manufacture of this food for me, and is now supplying it in the shape of biscuit, rusk, and bread, within the range of price of the other substitutes for ordinary bread."]

PRESCRIBING BY MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—

SIR: I shall feel obliged if you will inform me through your JOURNAL, whether a gentleman holding only a diploma from the Royal College of Surgeons can practise medicine and dispense it, and if not, what steps can be taken to stop him? as it is not fair to the other general practitioners that he should be allowed the same privileges as those holding the double qualification. I beg to enclose my card (as a member of the British Medical Association) for your benefit, and to subscribe myself

A GENERAL PRACTITIONER.

December 15th, 1862.

[We fear the law of this country prevents no one practising medicine and dispensing it to their patients or their victims. We need not tell our correspondent that, from one end of the country to the other, amateur and professional quacks daily prescribe and daily administer medicine. We apprehend that there is only one law to which all practitioners and purveyors of physis and medical advice is liable, and that is the law which punishes them for unskilful treatment; and to this we are all—licensed or unlicensed—equally subject. EDITOR.]

COMMUNICATIONS have been received from:—Mr. WILLIAM COPNEY; Dr. HARLEY; Mr. DUNN; Dr. REDDOES; Mr. GEORGE RIGDEN; Dr. NALTY; Dr. SHEA; Dr. MITCHELL; Mr. J. VOSE SOLOMON; Mr. HALHERB; Dr. PHILBRICK; Mr. COX; Mr. THOMAS S. FLETCHER; Dr. S. S. DYER; Mr. J. E. SPENCER; Dr. EDWARD COPEMAN; Dr. W. M. KELLY; Mr. A. WHITTELL; Dr. T. OGIER WARD; Dr. DAVEY; Mr. C. HOLMES; Dr. J. MARSTON; Mr. ELI PICKOP; Mr. C. F. HODSON; Mr. E. BERNAY; Mr. ALBERT NAPPER; Mr. A. RANSOME; Mr. R. EVANS; Rev. R. THOMAS.

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