

them in the examinations of the Conjoint Board; as matters now exist, it would prove most undesirable to have a second examining corporation in London, which certainly will accrue if refusal still be carried out by the Conjoint Board. I grant all counter-practice ought to be abolished, as by so doing the profession would assume its proper place in the eyes of the public at large.

8. It is most desirable a teaching university should be established, whereby London students would be enabled to obtain degrees in medicine and surgery, as is conducted in Scotland and Ireland. Surely immediate steps ought to be taken, in order to carry out such design. The two Royal Colleges might affiliate with other Colleges, and constitute themselves an university for granting medical and surgical degrees, thus doing away with the necessity for our London students quitting the Metropolis for those seats of learning whereby they can obtain such distinctions elsewhere.

SPURGIN v. NICHOLSON.

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QUALIFIED AND UNQUALIFIED ASSISTANTS.

MR. W. J. DAVENPORT writes: As my name has again appeared in the JOURNAL of November 20th, and remarks are made evidently showing that the case *sub judice* is not at all understood, will you kindly allow me space for the following remarks?

I passed the Preliminary in Arts at the Royal College of Surgeons in July, 1869, registered as a medical student, and entered one of the largest London medical schools, where I remained four years and a half, going through the entire prescribed curriculum with the different appointments. In July, 1871, I passed the primary professional examination in anatomy and physiology; and in November, 1873, I passed the final examination in surgery and surgical anatomy, and paid twenty guineas for the diploma, which, however, was withheld until I had passed in medicine somewhere. During the period I have mentioned, I lived with, and was a pupil of, my uncle, the late Sir Alexander Nisbet, M.D., M.R.C.P.Lond., etc.; but, just as I had finished my hospital course, he died, and I was obliged to become an assistant, which position I have maintained up to the present time. Twelve months ago last October, I passed in medicine and materia medica at the College of Surgeons. If, Sir, the above facts are made known and understood (which they ought to be), why am I persecuted as I am? Why can I not act as an assistant? I should hail with delight any prosecution the Home Secretary or the General Medical Council may undertake against me.

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