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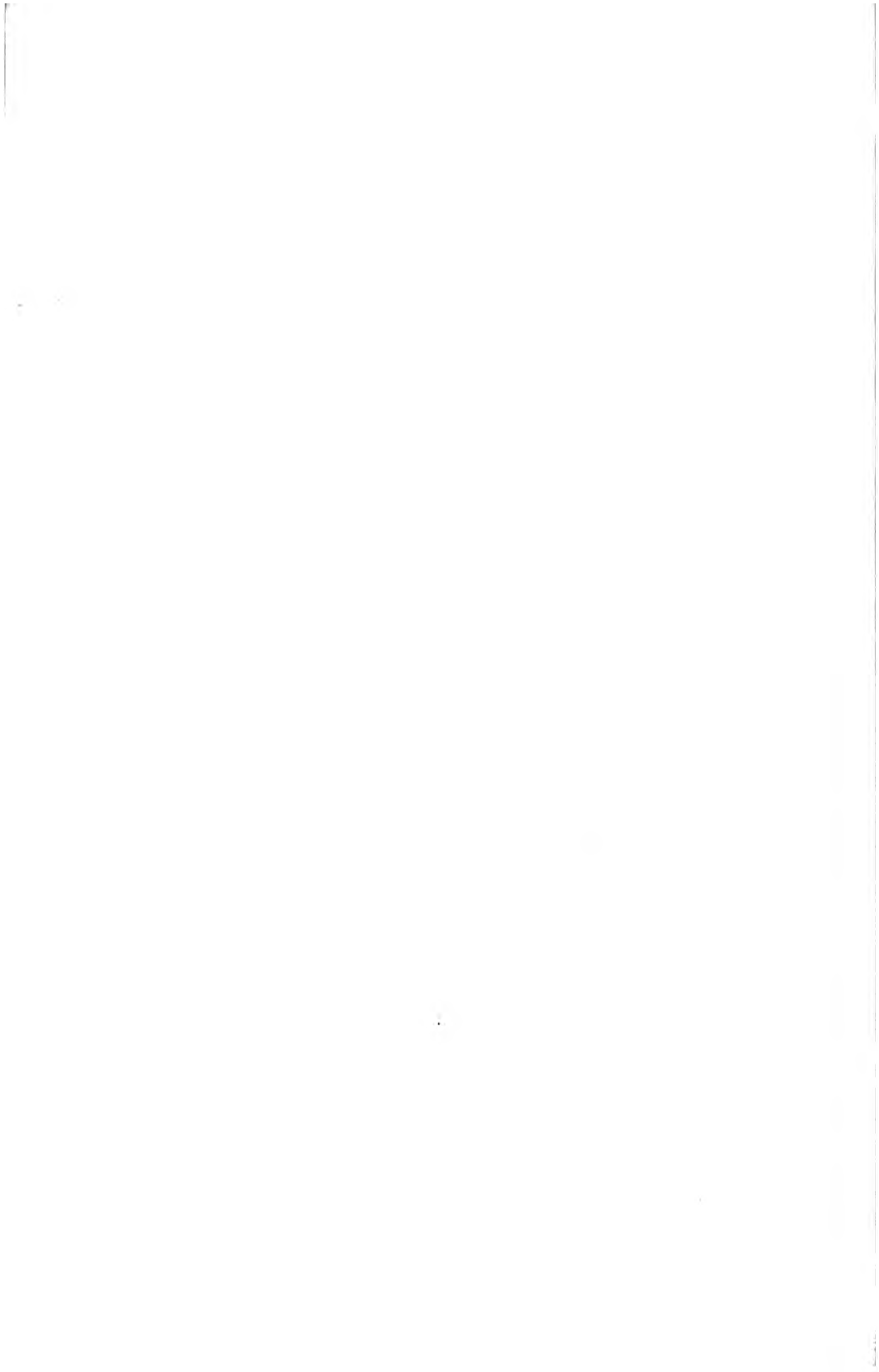
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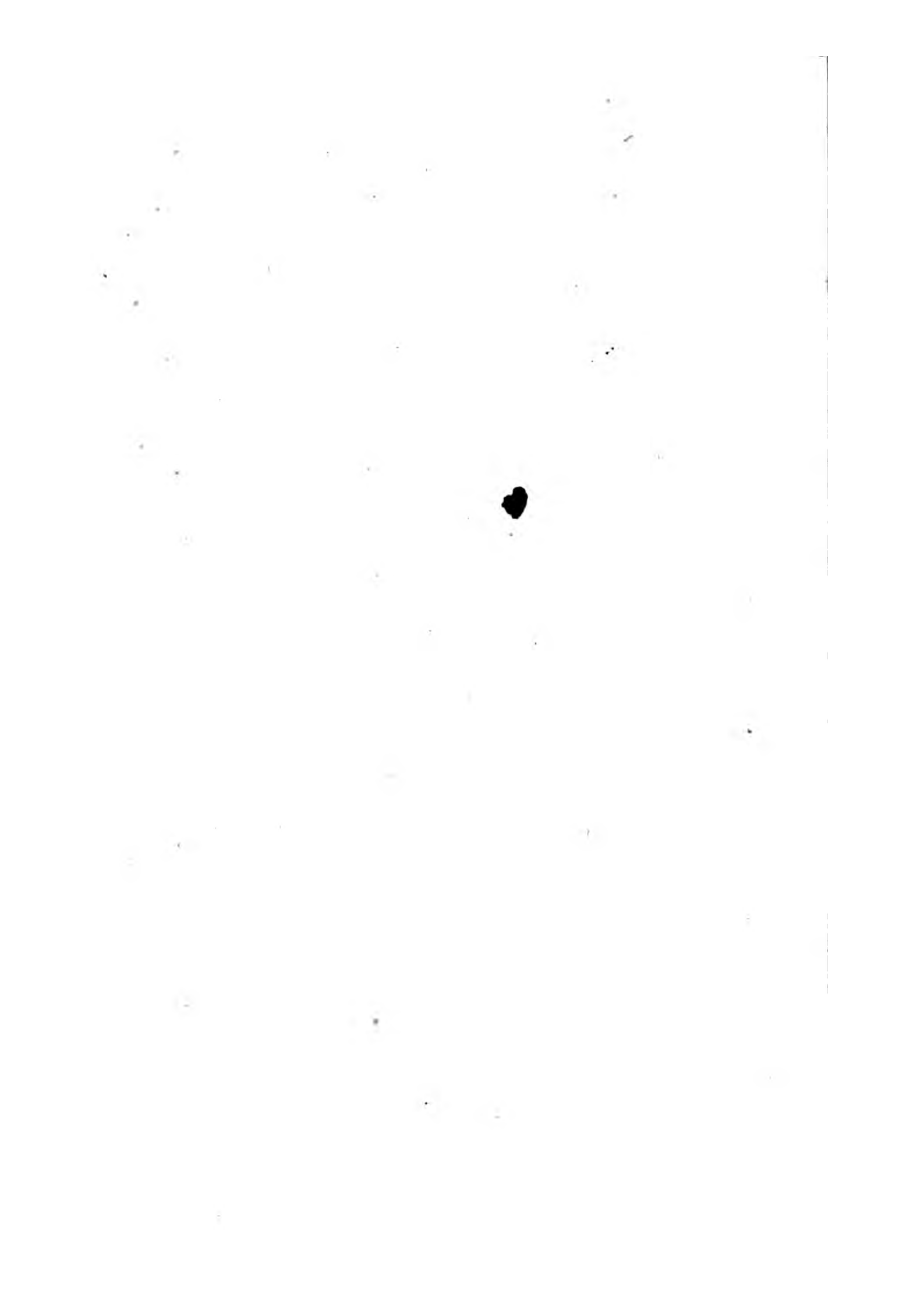
THE
Parish Leech:

A
MEDICAL METRICAL MEDLEY.

BY
A "Parish Doctor."

LONDON:
NICHOLLS BROS. GREAT JAMES STREET, W.C.

1870.
Two Shillings and Sixpence.



THE PARISH LEECH;

A

Medical Metrical Medley,

BY

A "PARISH DOCTOR."

London:

NICHOLLS BROS., PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS,

• GREAT JAMES STREET, BEDFORD ROW, W.C.

1870.

To the Memory of
RICHARD GRIFFIN, Esq., J.P.

FOR MANY YEARS

ONE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE WEYMOUTH UNION,

AND

Chairman of the Poor Law Medical Reform Association

FROM 1856 TO 1868,

WHO, NOTWITHSTANDING THE MANY CALLS ON HIS TIME AND TALENTS,

BOTH IN PAROCHIAL AND PRIVATE PRACTICE,

DEVOTED, WITH UNWEARIED ASSIDUITY, CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION

TO THE CAUSE OF

POOR LAW MEDICAL REFORM;

AND,

DESPITE MANIFOLD DISCOURAGEMENTS,

PERSEVERED, WITH UNDAUNTED ENERGY AND COURAGE,

(EVEN AFTER HEALTH WAS SERIOUSLY BROKEN)

IN HIS ATTEMPTS TO AMELIORATE THE CONDITION

OF THE

OVERWORKED, ILL-USED, UNDERPAID,

“PARISH DOCTOR,”

THIS POEM IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED.



P R E F A C E .

IF Campbell be correct in his definition, that Poetry is the eloquence of Truth, then forsooth may the Author claim to have the following narrative rhyme styled a Poem. Composed, indeed, as it has been, in the few spare moments which exist in the routine life of a "Parish Doctor" (one, too, who does not profess to a musical ear), it cannot but be—what he fears it is—a perfect jumble of different metres. It was not, however, written for poetical criticism. It originated in a desire to present to the public eye, and, through it, to the public heart—which, 't was thought, would be sooner captivated by a poetical novelty than a lengthened prosaic epistle—a picture of occurrences which, too frequently, not only thwart the onward progress in life, but often abase the spirits and embitter the feelings of Medical Men—more especially of those engaged in the thankless office of Parochial Surgeons.

The Notes and References are given not only as a proof of the veracity of the statements, but also, culled as many of them are

PREFACE.

from sources not frequently resorted to by the general public (but for whose behests it were frequently well were it otherwise), that the people at large may be able to peruse, in a collected form, the very many excellent remarks on the subject by various writers of the day. Thus, it is hoped that not only will the *οἱ πολλοὶ* and the Upper Ten thousand be enabled to thoroughly understand the true position and real condition of the Union Surgeons ; but also that the Legislature of the land will no longer procrastinate in devising further means to abate the grievances of the "Parish Doctors."

Should the perusal of the following "rhyme" tend to so desirable an event, the Author will not be offended should the unanimous judgment of his readers vote him Crabbe's advice to poetical "scribblers"—

Curb then, O youth, these raptures as they rise,
Keep down the evil spirit and be wise ;
Follow your calling, think the Muses foes,
Nor lean upon the *pestle* and compose.—*The Newspaper.*

JULY, 1870.

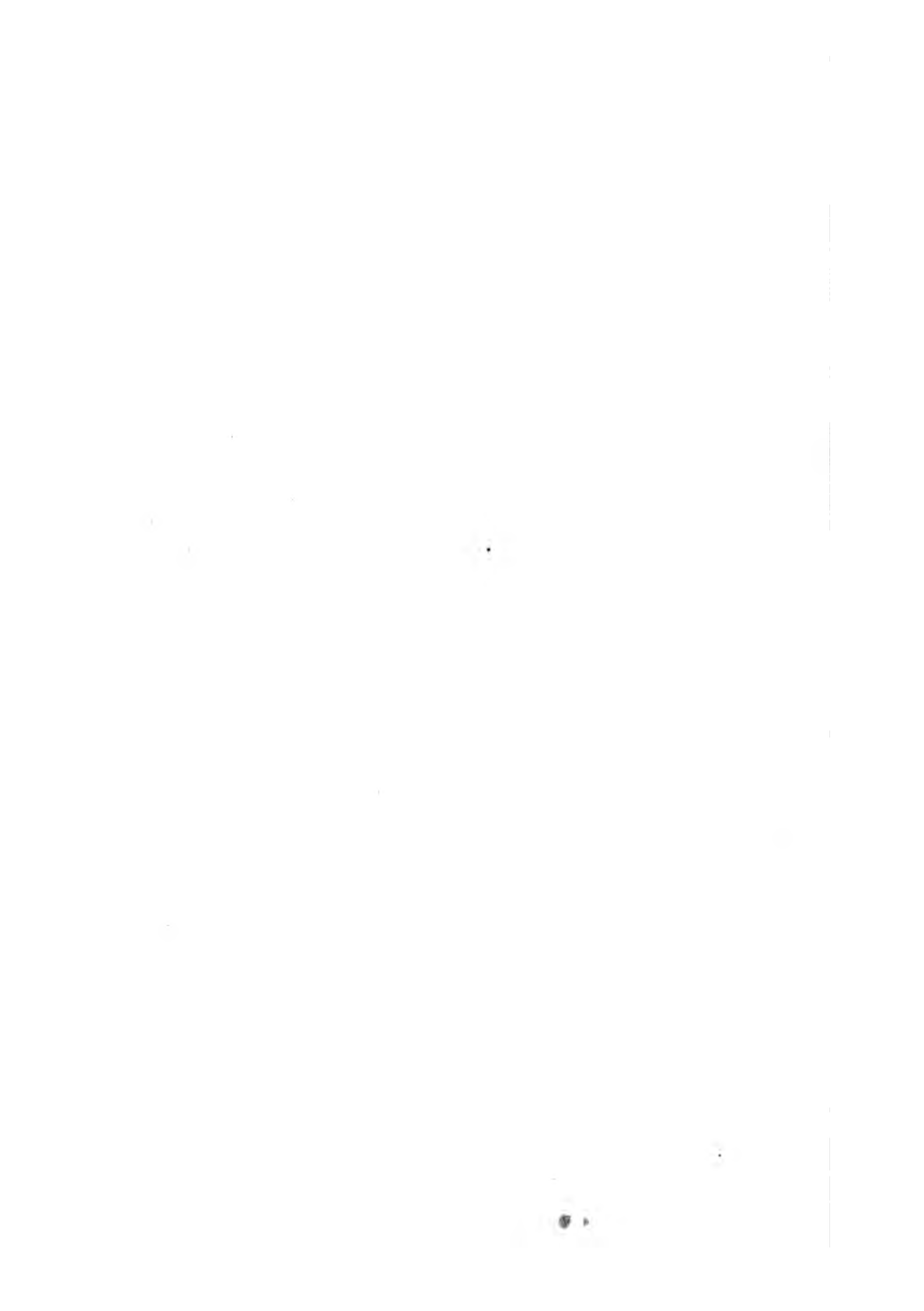
ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Numbers in the Text refer to the "Notes and References," arranged, according to their respective Chapters, in an Appendix.

The facts there detailed have happened, or been recorded in the Public Press, during the last fifteen or twenty years. The majority of them date from the earlier part of the period. A few, however, of present day occurrence have been introduced, to prove that the leaven so degrading to those immediately answerable—so destructive of the best zeal and energies of the Medical Service—so injurious to the welfare of the Sick Poor, and so detrimental to the interests of the Ratepayers—is still rampant in the administration of the English Poor Law.

Had space and other exigencies permitted, the recorded facts could have been easily multiplied !

The intelligence of an educated public—instructed by a free Press—has of late been apparently roused to the truism of the dependence of Pauperism on Sickness. It is, therefore, to be sincerely hoped that the pressure on the Legislature will be such, as to preclude the possibility of another "Parish Doctor" finding any groundwork in the future for another "Parish Leech."



THE
PARISH LEECH.

PREFATORY.

Arma virumque cano—VIRGIL.

I sing a hero, and his deeds by day,
And deeds by night—as subjects for my lay.
{ No less a hero's deeds, that hour by hour
In unassuming habitude, they shower
Their *healing* potency, from house to house
O'er *peaceful* folk—Dives and Lazarus.
When an ailing brother, in constant dread
That Atropos¹ will snip his slender thread,—
To give one's brains, one's time, by day, by night,
The foe of health—of life—prepared to fight ;
When stalks Infection o'er the fated land,—
For others' good at duty's post to stand,
Unheeding self—with charity replete,—
The deadly poison face to face to meet ;
When gushes forth in rapid crimson leap,
Nor will within its tortuous channel keep
The vital stream,—to give that instant aid,
Unnerved, by which the ebbing life is stayed ;
When raving madness impels to deeds
With danger fraught, and frightens and impedes
The aid of friends,—to calm the frenzied brain,
And reason to her throne bring back again :
Such deeds as these should, with a Hero's name,
Be wafted to the pinnacle of Fame,
Should, on the victor's head, bring quickly down
Due honours, titles, and a laurel crown.

Ah ! meeds like these are granted sole to they
 Who gain renown amidst the battle's fray,
 Who lay their thousands prostrate on the sod,
 And send their fellows 'fore th' All-judging God ;
 Or they who do *ought other* actions great,
 Conducive to the welfare of the State.
 Whilst such as Harvey,² Jenner,³ Hunter,⁴ those
 (Who on themselves a thankless task impose)
 Who use their mission in attempts to save,
 And have, their *tens* of thousands from the grave,
 Who, by their efforts in preserving health,
 Are the main factors of their Country's wealth—
 (For the people's health must chief indicate
 The pow'r and the well-being of the State) :
 Such men as these rare gain their country's praise,
 Nor 'bove the common herd their fortunes raise,
 No titled name transmit they to their heirs,
 No pension solaces their old-age cares.
 And when such heroes, as in time they must,
 Aft years of toil, are gather'd to the dust,
 No marble statue put the Nation forth,
 To tell their deeds, to chronicle their worth—⁵
 A simple tablet tells the passer by
 That here the ashes of a mortal lie.
 When such the treatment by the Crown and State,
 No wonder subjects e'er do emulate
 Example so high-born,—and thus we see
 The Gov'rnors of each Public Charity,
 The Guardians of our Poor, in fact whoe'er
 The public use of Med'cine's skill do share,
 All—deem that giv'n should gratis be her aid,
 Or need but meanly be the " Doctor " paid.
 What other calling in the world beside,
 Do public men insultingly deride,
 As unpaid work t'expect that it must give,
 And that on barren honours it can live ?
 Rare do the poor a doctor's kindness lack,
 Nor when they need, doth he his aid hold back ;
 Rare do the poor a doctor vainly ask,
 Rare his benevolence do they o'ertask.

Yet why should Corp'rate men such good abuse,
 And claim it gratis for the public use ?
 Ah why indeed ? and why should private folk,
 When for their ills a doctor they invoke,
 Think him at first no less than angel pure,
 And e'en a god, as on proceeds the cure ;
 But when they're well, and he sends in his bill,
 Why does their heart so very quickly chill ?—
 His hard-earn'd meed they rapidly ignore,
 When they his services require no more.⁶

Such his poor reward : and be mine the task,
 The trials of a doctor's life t'unmask.

INTRODUCTORY.

*Homines ad Deos nullâ re proprius accedunt, quam
 salutem hominibus dando.*—CICERO.

WHEN pass'd the thraldom of a country school,
 And 'scaped a schoolboy's name and master's rule,
 Our hero now, of sixteen years and more,
 Desirous felt to study "physic's" lore.
 His parents fond, although their means were small,
 No adverse word to this desire let fall :
 Yet still the father oft had wish'd his son,
 Himself alike, a College course would run.
 Some years had pass'd since that same College course
 Had left him rich in mind, but poor in purse.
 A country Cure he got and lived but near
 'Pon his title and fifty pounds a year.¹
 The Village Squire (whose young and hopeful heir
 Received his learning from the Curate's care),
 Had tithes impropriate his hoards to swell,
 (*Improper* it should be the Sage² doth tell),
 And when grim death a vacant place did make,
 His grateful heart (for his first darling's sake)
 Did urge th'advowson as the tutor's claim,
 Who then his Cure resigned, but not his name :

As of the Church, whose tithes his patron had,
 Perpetu'l Curate now for good or bad.
 Yea! Reader, still in England's working land
 This first of *sine-cures* doth legal stand,
 And ill-paid Clerks do sacrifice their health,
 Whilst lordly patrons idle on in wealth.
 In his new home the Curate fixed for life,
 Then looked about to find himself a wife,
 And one he found, a creature meek and mild,
 Who bore our hero, as her first-born child.
 She, whilst home dues her first dear care did find,
 To others e'er was good, attentive, kind ;
 Although her own small hoarded stores were scant,
 The sick and *worthy* poor, she ne'er let want ;
 Her visits not alone, left unread tracts,
 But bless'd she was, for more substantial acts.
 A helpmate true she was.—No less her spouse
 Was lov'd in poor-man's cot, and rich-man's house :
 Each both alike, did frequent see his face,
 He pray'd in both, unto the throne of grace.³
 No "bubble reputation," did he seek
 From rare-cut vest,⁴ or looks demure and sleek ;
 Yet none e'er found him, in the racing field,
 Nor to like vices, did he ever yield.
 He frown'd not though, upon the merry dance,
 Nor turn'd from games of skill, nor e'en of chance ;
 But lov'd not stakes, nor bets with eager zest,
 Nor unreproving heard, the ribald jest.⁵
 Yet all look'd for him, at the village feast,
 All lov'd him as their worthy parish priest.⁶
 No subtle preacher⁷ he, yet words more sound
 From any lips, would scarcely p'rhaps be found.
 His sermons each, went straightway to the heart,
 Impressing all, to seek the better part.⁸
 No controversial⁹ doctrine, did he vaunt,
 Nor preach conventional, schismatic cant ;
 No High Church vag'ries,¹⁰ could him Rome-ward lead,
 Nor could he stomach, gloomy Calvin's creed.
 His views most safely held the middle way,¹¹
 Scouting such dogmas, and unchristian fray.

He preachèd faith, in God the Lord of Host,
 In God the Son, in God the Holy Ghost ;
 For simple hearers, simple truths he sought,
 The moral duties oftentimes he taught.
 He practis'd what he preach'd. And such a guide
 No wonder had, those dear ones by his side,
 Who one and all, deserved their parents' love,
 And by their deeds, their gratitude did prove.

Of learning's store, the priest having had his share,
 His children's studies, form'd his early care :
 A lib'ral education, well knew he,
 Softens manners, nor lets them rude to be.¹²
 His son went to, the County Grammar School,
 His girls were kept, beneath their mother's rule.—
 For tender girls, he deemed a mother's care
 Far better was, than all the mental fare
 Of boarding schools, where oft conjoin'd they find
 Boards for the back, and ruin for the mind :
 With boys howe'er, far diff'rent is the case,
 They all anon, must run a worldly race,
 And better far to rub, 'gainst other boys and things,
 Than in their youth, be tied to apron strings.

On leaving school, the priest had hop'd his son
 (As we have said) a College course would run ;
 But ere the lad should don his cap and gown,
 The father wish'd the seed, at school first sown,
 Would sprout and grow, for p'rhaps a year or more,
 By aid of his well-ripe paternal store :
 For the school systems, teach too much by rote,
 Nor the reflective pow'rs, enough draw out.
 The great demands, of College terms to meet
 The poor man knew, would be no easy feat,
 Unless his boy, would his own efforts strain
 The school's Exhibition,¹³ that he might gain ;
 In fault of which, through County or thro' name
 His son he hop'd, a Sizarship might claim :
 For now-a-days, unshackled is this prize
 With menial work, and food dol'd out by size.¹⁴

The lad's afore-named wish, upset these schemes,
 And led the father's thoughts, to other themes.
 "Whence hath my son," the Curate one day said,
 "Received this notion in his youthful head."
 "No stranger's words," the youngster in his turn,
 "With this fond wish, have made my heart to burn.
 "Our village doctor's e'er untiring zeal,
 "And his feeling efforts, for his patients' weal,
 "Have made me think, such calling must be good,
 "Where no self-love, does stamp one's daily mood :
 "With the healing art, must in truth be wove
 "Man's better feelings, and pure Christain love."¹⁵
 "True and well said, but if aright I hear,
 "Your views on this, are not as yet quite clear :
 "The '*calling*' not alone, deserves your praise,
 "*It* daily objects, for your care will raise,
 "But if no feeling, in your breast doth dwell,
 "With no pure sympathy, your heart doth swell,
 "These objects pale and wan, with grief and pain,
 "No heartfelt joy, their thanks for you will gain.
 "These mental virtues, our good doctor hath,
 "To these he owes, his rectitude of path ;
 "His sympathizing heart, e'er makes him feel
 "An untir'd int'rest, in his patients' weal :
 "To him if rich or poor, 'tis all the same,
 "His efforts best, they both alike do claim.
 "Our doctor's father, wise in days long past,
 "Well knew the mould, in which his son was cast :
 " 'Twas not with him, as oft indeed I ken
 "Is the sole ambition, of many men
 "Who deem this calling, for their hopeful son
 "A passport to, gentility and *ton* ;
 "But never think, his brains and heart to ask,
 "If they are equal, to the arduous task."
 Well knew the Curate, that his boy's warm heart
 And active mind, were equal to his part
 In such a life. Yet long'd he still to glean
 If aught against the Church, his son had seen.
 The lad replied :—"From what I read and hear,
 "No pastor fit, e'er should I be, I fear.

"Some of the cloth, and those I judge not few
 "Think Sunday's work, from them alone is due,
 "The next six days, their oft neglected flock
 "Expect in vain, their pastor's friendly knock.
 "These are the men, who leisure thus do find
 "With doubts and knotty points, to fill the mind ;
 "Who seek hid myst'ries, and their judgment warp
 "By the subtle reas'nings, on which they harp.¹⁶
 "Some ignoring, the simpleness of Faith,
 "By deeds do think, to 'scape just Heaven's wrath ;
 "Trust much to ceremonies, and such show
 "As the Church of England, need never know ;
 "Quibble of things, which ' spoil by rust and moths,'¹⁷
 "As 'lighted candles,' and silk altar cloths.
 "Pity it is, but that such men would care
 "That parish duties, more their time should share.

* * * * *

"Though the good works, which fill my father's days,
 "Should models be, for all my future ways,
 "Yet still I feel, were I in Orders bound,
 "Not at my post, should I each day be found :
 "A false ambition, me alike would lead
 "To controvert, the doctrines of our Creed ;
 "And spend more time, o'er that alluring feast,
 "Than in the routine, of a Parish Priest."
 "It seems to me," the worthy Curate said,
 "'Gainst other callings, might like grounds be made,
 "If, when stern Duty called, your sense of right
 "Such false enticements, did not boldly fight."
 "True" said the son, "but what I wish to trace
 "Is the plain diff'rence, in each calling's case :
 "Between those men, who min'ster to the soul,¹⁸
 "And those who physic, to the body dole.
 "The pastor can, his week day's duty shirk,
 "And only on the Sabbath, meet his Kirk ;
 "Whilst day and night, and even ev'ry hour,
 "(Whether the sun doth shine, or rain doth pour),
 "Call for employment, on the doctor's part,
 "*His* skill to use, to calm the aching heart.

"Thus 'tis not real compulsion, (as it were),
 "That pastors of a flock, should always care
 "Whether they week-day calls, leave in the lurch,
 "If when Sunday comes, they preach at Church.
 "With such a loophole, my e'er restless mind,
 "'Gainst true pastors' work, quick excuse would find,—
 "Whilst the natural heirlooms of flesh and blood
 "Would *ever* find me, useful mental food."
 No more adverse, the Curate urg'd his voice,
 To reasons such as these, for such a choice,
 The good man felt, it would be unwise toil
 This well expressed resolve, to try to foil :
 For when so sagely, a child's will is bent,
 By no mere whim, should its desires be rent—
 As plants thrive best, when in their proper ground,
 So for each mind, fit callings should be found.¹⁹

The more the Curate thought, the more he deem'd
 With much advantage, this vocation teem'd.
 Without good patrons, and with money slack,
 Preferment in the Church, his son would lack :
 None of the first, perchance whilst he should live,
 For him a mandate, to induct would give ;
 Nor had he the wish, did he possess the pow'r,
 To do the same, as Simon²⁰ did of yore.
 An unpaid Curate, must he always be,
 Yet others wants, expected e'er to free.
 There was forsooth, the calling of the Law,
 Yet even this, was not without its flaw,
 That genius, it was sure, had not the son,
 By which some few, the height of Fame had won,
 Who with no money, and without a friend,
 By sheer dint of brain work, gain'd their end,
 Who did on midnight hours, by study trench,
 And earn'd a great name at the Bar or Bench.
 Then amongst those, put in another's place²¹
 His affairs to manage, (a num'rous race),
 The struggle oft was hard, unless Dame Fate
 Shorten'd the time, that they for practice wait.

Much must they heed, what case they take in hand,
 If well they wish, in this world's eyes, to stand.
 Should they perchance, when first in life they start,
 In poor folks' causes, take an active part,
 They in bad odour get, and cause this talk :—
 "Of no account, he does but dirty work."
 But diff'rent far, the doctor's early care,
 The poorer sick, are chiefly then his share,
 And the more he seeks, this labour true of love,
 The more advantage, to his fame 'twill prove.
 Thus all in all, the Curate thought his lad
 For his own welfare, had not chosen had.

By Medicine great wealth is rarely made,
 It seldom reaches fortunes made by trade,
 More priceless earnings far, yes, far its gain,
 Relieving torture or assuaging pain—
 And, when dim Reason totters on her seat,
 The demon madness oft doth it defeat,—
 And saves the victim sinking to the sod,—
 Restores the mind—the greatest gift of God.
 Surely then this sec'lar vocation stands
 Second but to that, which from "laying on hands"
 Receives the Son's commands, the Word to preach
 To ev'ry soul, and nation in its reach.²²
 And truly with, a doctor's daily life,
 (And even any other worldly strife,)
 May fervent piety, and religion blend,
 And thoughts and actions good, which heav'n-ward tend:
 For neither special acts, nor vexèd creeds,
 Nor abstract reas'nings, are the only needs
 Of pure Religion, or to gain that Love²³
 Bestowed on those, who worthy Christians prove.
 And more have men, devoting ev'ry day
 A brother's pains, and even death to stay,
 Cause for combining, with their worldly part
 Religious motives, and a pious heart—
 With the healing art, should in truth be wove
 Man's better feelings, and pure Christian love.

What better proof, of this vocation's worth
 Than that, when taking Man's frail form on Earth,
 The Great Physician of the Soul, was wont
 To scatter healing pow'rs, where'er he went ;
 And not regardless of man's temp'ral weal,
 E'en on the Sabbath, shewed 'twas right to heal ?²⁴

CHAPTER I.

Formica colligit, et utitur, ut faciunt empirici; aranea ex se fila educit, neque a particularibus materiam petit, ita faciunt medici speculativi ac mere sophistici; apis denique cæteris se melius gerit. Hæc indigesta e floribus mella colligit, deinde in viscerum cellulis concocta maturat, iisdem tamdiu insudat, donec ad integram perfectionem perduxerit.—LORD BACON.

PART I.

THE MEDICAL PUPIL.—QUACKS AND QUACKERY.

As forward leaps the ever faithful beast,
 When from Master's side and from collar eas'd,
 And barks with joy, yet backward runs again
 To lick the hand, which ere now held his chain :
 So beat with pleasure proud our hero's heart,
 When, school trammels left, he did onward start
 In that new course—his own and early choice—
 To follow which he'd raised his urgent voice :
 More than well-pleas'd, that sometime by his side
 "The Village Doctor" hence would be his guide.
 With no less joy, the Doctor quick agreed
 To be nam'd "of the first part"¹ in the Deed,
 Which for a term of years both parties bound,
 That reciprocation in each be found.
 Well knew the doctor that the mental soil
 Of this young lad, was equal to that toil,

Which the god of med'cine doth e'er command
Of those, who healing pow'r from him demand.

A five years' term the Laws² absurdly ask
Of ev'ry one, in Pupilage to bask,
Should he ever wish to gain that lore,
To practise as a "keeper of a store."³
Absurd in truth ! to make each diff'rent mind
To pass so long a time in trying to find
A certain stock of knowledge, which each can,
Unfetter'd, gain by a much better plan.
For granted that the Law's intention 's good,
How rare to find in *both* a willing mood !
"Trying to find " oft times the *pupil* doth,
Whilst knowledge to impart the *master* 's sloth ;
Or else the former's mind is like a sieve,
It doth or *will not* hold what th' other gives :
In cases both there are mistaken pains,
Waste in both of time, waste in both of brains.
How few indeed, when they a pupil take,
Consider of the mutual bond they make !
The one to give the service he can reach,
They "to the best of skill t'instruct and teach."
So that they shew how med'cines to compound ;
The proper way to turn the pestle round ;
How to roll pills 'twixt finger and 'twixt thumb ;
To read short Latin such as "Haust stat sum ;"
To strap slight wounds ; to draw a loosen'd fang ;
To vaccinate ; and p'rhaps to "mitte sang ;"—
Are all they care the pupil shall be taught,
Are all they deem the Parents' premium bought.
If more indeed the young apprentice knows,
It to his *own* observing pow'rs he owes.
Far higher views of this important trust
The doctor had, both reas'nable and just :
He did *his* best, that the Law's fix'd term
Should such-wise be spent, that a basis firm
Might his pupils lay, on the which to raise
A superstructure sound in after days.
Tho' harrass'd was his time both day and night
By the voice of duty ; and such his plight

{ Of mind (from stress of many anxious cares,
 Which ever fall in true prolific shares
 To the lot of those, who in proper mood
 Follow the healing art for others' good,)

That very often, through the whole night deep,
 "Tired Nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep!"⁴
 To him a stranger was, and his rack'd brain
 Had in the coming day, fresh cares to gain :

{ Yet, notwithstanding bodily fatigue,
 And that greater tax on pow'r, which the league
 Of thoughts on thoughts will in the end induce
 With those, who oft in deep reflection muse,⁵

At stated hours, when ended was each call
 Which to his daily lot did frequent fall,
 The doctor would his leisure time devote,
 To guide his pupil's steps in learning's route.
 Indeed well fitted was the doctor's mind,
 To guide his pupil's steps towards that kind
 Of knowledge, which the Schools in after years,
 Would impart from Professorial chairs :

For notwithstanding that the many folk,
 Who did his wide-known healing pow'rs invoke,
 Put much real hard work on the doctor's hands,
 To meet th' increasing day by day demands :
 Well he knew, such confidence to retain,
 He must not only fresh and fresh regain
 Those element'ry studies which in truth

{ The ground-work are—the pedestals forsooth—
 Of that precious store-house, whence whene'er in need,
 Our fellow men apply for healing aid,
 Yet which, from treach'rous mem'ry oft are prone
 To stray, when we 'neath worldly cares do groan ;
 But, to keep well up with th'advancing stride
 (Which onward stalks with disint'rested pride)
 Of Scientific Med'cine,—and to give
 To earnest suppliants for health and life
 Those many ben'fits, which on Med'cine's pow'r
 Doth general Science in kind assistance show'r,—
 He must devote the leisure time he had,
 All *new* additions to his store to add,

Not by the aid of observation *sole*,
 (Which to reflective minds doth profit dole)
 But by study, too, of *another's* thought,
 Who hath with vig'rous brain some labour wrought,
 And publish'd th'expositions of his mind,
 That his brethren may benefit mankind.

So pure and genuine was the Doctor's love
 For that calling in which his lot was wove,
 That nothing damp'd his ardour to acquire
 Whatever knowledge would, he knew, conspire
 To aid the pow'r of Med'cine to relieve,
 And give the hopeful sick some slight reprieve.
 In time the slow discerning public round,
 His worth and true deserving merits found.
 Discernment slow in truth ! for so the taste
 Of the British People, that in hot haste
 They fly to those, who most in public vaunt
 The wondrous cures which *they alone* can grant,
 For no matter how unabashed the boast,
 Nor how extortionate th'exacted cost,
 Which the vile horde of motley charlatans
 Offer and take from cred'lous partizans,
 So gullible indeed some human minds,
 That easy dupes the quack each moment finds,⁶
 E'en amongst those who with no talent mean,
 Within our learnèd circles oft are seen.
 No less the peasant, as no less the peer,
 Become disciples of each self-styled seer ;
 Nor their blind ignorance can aught disperse,
 Till robb'd without repair of health and purse.
 Motley indeed the group of this vile horde,
 Who, like the Harpies,⁷ get their bread and board
 By spoil and plunder of the first-made blind,⁸
 Fouling whoe'er they touch, whoe'er they find.

The greatest wrong inflict that beastly tribe,
 Who their "advice" in "*secret*" print inscribe.
 Sheer false advice,—which, in deceitful words
 Framed to attract the timid trusting chords

Of young and erring hearts, doth, in due course,
 Not only ruin health, but ruin purse.
 Who, with their filthy bills, defame each street,
 And to the unsuspecting sell, or treat
 With, pamphlets fair, of an external mien
 Of subtle language, which when inward seen,
 Augment, and pander to, that very deed,
 To lessen which is their assumed creed.⁹

Another fraud,¹⁰ but of more modern growth,
*Benevolently*¹¹ doth distribute forth
 Heating¹² (poisonous¹³) drugs, to supply the want
 Of that, which (by this doctrine) when is scant,
 The "fons et origo"¹⁴ is, of each ill
 Which of man's lot the bitter cup doth fill.
 Thus this new agglomerated tirade,
 Of sexes both of ev'ry petty trade,¹⁵
 Assumes t'explain the motor power of Life,
 Which in all age hath been the constant strife
 Of abstruse metaphysics, and the theme
 Of many a brilliant philosophic dream.
 These "College" humbugs ign'rantly transpose
 "The cart before the horse"—effect for cause—
 That agent¹⁶ strange, in Nature and in Art,
 Which acts an unknown pow'rful active part,
 Is by *them* affirm'd the true vital force,
 And of living functions the moving source;¹⁷
 Sim'lar to the pow'r of th'elastic jet¹⁸
 Which world known hath rendered the name of Watt.
 Ignoring thus the philosophic truth,
 That vital functions are *themselves*, forsooth,
 The main efficient *cause* of nat'ral heat
 In each organic part where is their seat.
 Thus on a false premiss doth this foul fraud
 { Base its doctrine physical, which is fraught
 { With folly not alone—with danger e'en—
 { As from oft fatal cases¹⁹ hath been seen :
 { Wherein to inflamed parts²⁰ such *heating* herb
 { Hath been applied the *increased* heat to curb.

No less absurd another²¹ mighty boast,
 Where "like cures like"²² is th'oft repeated toast.
 Absurd and silly words!²³ direct opposed
 To well established facts, obtained by those
 Who have proved, with experimental zeal,
 The various modes, in which drugs act and heal.
 The semblance, too,—that sim'lar morbid states
 Disease and Med'cine each alike creates,
 Based solely on the symptoms²⁴ shown to sight,
 Can be but *infinites'mally* slight.
 Ev'ry Therapeutist,²⁵ of aught renown,
 Hath from Pathology²⁶ and Reason known,
 That caus'd is many a *sim'lar outward* sign
 By an essential *diff'rent* state *within*.
 Then to make absurdity more absurd,
 Than since the time of Momus²⁷ e'er was heard,
 In millionths and decillionths of a grain
 Doth Hahnemann prescribe for ache and pain :
 That with more pow'r the smallness of the dose,
 On *same parts* acting, may disease transpose!²⁸
 If true it be that doses so minute
 Have from its seat, the pow'r disease to root,
 What fools!—imposing rogues!—and even worse,
 Must be the children of the Man of Cos,²⁹
 Who, for two thousand years and more, have giv'n
 (When 'gainst the morbid foe with drugs they've striv'n)
 Those doses, which, by experience taught,
 All the requirements of each case have sought.
 Is there aught truth in all the vaunted cures
 Which titled heads and plebeian brains allure?³⁰
 The truth is this—and truth it must be said—
 { In ev'ry class of life, in every grade,
 Victims there are, victims of either sex,
 Who health do harass, and their nature vex,
 Who by mode of life, or by mode of mind,
 Or cause malaise, or fancy that they find
 In various parts disease of ev'ry shade,³¹
 Which urgently requires *nice* physic's aid.
 To such as these, in days *now* past (we're told),
 With sweet pink draughts and pills hid o'er with gold,

Did orthodox Med'cine each day supply—
 Its judgment yielding to credulity.³²
 These are the patients whose astounding cure,
 Doth titled heads and plebeian brains allure.
 These are the cures the globulistic art
 Claims to itself,—ignoring all the part
 Which the alter'd diet, the strict regime,
 The healing pow'r of Nature³³ (as we deem),
 And fancy's moral force, achieve,
 Not as access'ries, but as agents chief.
 "Hold!" says the Homœopath, "I can prove
 "That there is potency in th'Art I love.
 "For if th'Indicator's³⁴ magnetic force,
 "The pend'lous wax makes round the dial to course,
 "When, e'er so small, a globulistic mass,
 "Is near its pow'r attractive made to pass :³⁵
 "Doth it not show, to intellects most close,
 "There's virtue in a Hahnemannic dose?"
 Alas! that such a *philosophic* proof
 Before the facts of Truth its head must droop;
 That e'en the first Supporter of the fraud
 His self-delusion must confess abroad.³⁶
 Well were it, did the globulistic art
 Than with such folly take no other part :
 But since it tampers both with health and life,³⁷
 Ev'ry honest man should against it strive.
 For when 'cute illness craves the doctor's skill,
 Where then the pow'r of Hahnemannic pill?
 What oft the Glob'list doth when such a case
 Of *urgent* danger stares him in the face?
 No longer then his fraud'lent art he trusts,
 From patient far his globules then he thrusts,
 And clandestine uses, in hasty need,
 Doses and drugs of th' Allopathic³⁸ creed.³⁹
 Doth it require to say another word,
 On the false assertions of this foul fraud?⁴⁰
 That lures its victim for the sake of gain
 Of larger dose than millionths of a grain!
 Then worse than fools those, who in office placed
 Their name protecting even have defaced,

By forcing on the sick and helpless poor,
Such make-beliefs their maladies to cure.⁴¹

Another "pathy"⁴² walks upon the scene,
In wet habiliments and shiv'ring mien,
Trumpeting to all, whether ill or well,
The virtues great in water which do dwell.
"If used profusely both within and out,
"The stomach drench'd, the body wrapp'd about
"In humid sheets, and then *pack'd* up with care,
"Will ev'ry ill, to which frail flesh is heir,
"Critically⁴³ vanish; and by this plan
"May health be sav'd to ev'ry healthy man."
In this tirade nought saith the *gulling* knave,
In these so vaunted cures the share which have
The country site, and salubrious air,
The reg'lar habits, and the alter'd fare.
Yet if unscath'd from system so severe
Returns the patient to domestic cheer,
(His vig'rous constitution's innate power
Conq'ring the crises of the Water Cure)
These are the agents, through whose wond'rous mean,
Disperse his ailments, vanishes his spleen.
But ev'ry now and then the world doth know
Of results reverse—of effects which flow,
Not unimportant, nor akin to good,
From misplac'd excess of our liquid food.
This essential agent for mortals' use,
Is thus like other gifts turn'd to abuse,
And becomes the veh'cle for injuring health,
And in some cases e'en inducing death.⁴⁴

Next lo behold! those⁴⁵ who, by magic wand,
Our very reason from her seat can rend.
Their will alone, by means of pass and look,
Results effects, (which scrutiny⁴⁶ can't brook),
Direct transmission of a polar force
From one to th' other,⁴⁷ in *their* fancy cause

Not cures alone of ev'ry ill,⁴⁸ but can
 { E'en sleep induce,—and so transpose the man,
 As to blunt feeling—the mental vision blind—
 Make special senses other seats to find.
 Anatomy,⁴⁹ facts, reason all do prove,
 Can no nerve pow'r *from one to th' other* move ;
 No magnetic fluid, e'en on minds obtuse,
 Effects so wond'rous ever could produce.
 { *Imagination*⁵⁰ on the patient's part
 Is strong enough, *without* the magnet's art,
 In certain feeble minds, when much impressed
 With words and deeds suggestive and confessed,
 To yield those phenomena which e'er have
Been real and true when Mesmer's hand did wave.
E'en these effects, when carried to th' extreme,
 Are not so innocent as one might deem :
 The feeble brain, excited and o'erwrought,
 To raving madness hath ere now been brought.⁵¹
 The *rest* results from Mesmer's magic seen,
 Collusions⁵² are 'twixt natures base and mean ;
 Or false deduction, or perverted fact
 By tongues which truth, and brains which vigour lack.

Then comes in shoals the advertising quack⁵³
 Who simples⁵⁴ puffs, (with test'mony⁵⁵ to back)
 Which vaunts he loud, as capable to cure
 Fulness in the rich, leanness in the poor ;
 Eke all the ills which issued in a troop,
 When the All-gifted's⁵⁶ beauteous box did ope.
 For all-varying sickness as if there were
 A Life Elixir, a certain Panacea :
 { Needless of th' age, the sex, each var'ing state
 Which, out and in the body doth create
 The num'rous differential marks that guide
 The thoughtful mind to proper healing aid.

Next the motley lot, who, in varied shape,
 Do knowledge not possess'd with braze'ness ape,
 And do, unguaranteed by law, impose
Their ign'rance on th' ign'rant with motives gross.—

He who doth more than vend prescribèd drugs,—⁵⁷
 He who limbs not broken severely tugs,—⁵⁸
 He who vaunts to, what others rarely, cure,—⁵⁹
 And all unlicens'd knaves who fools allure,
 Assume a wisdom they do not possess,
 And on the cred'lous do their lies impress,
 With sole intention of relieving self
 By accumulating fraud-gotten pelf.
 To gain this end, not cares the knave a whit
 If what he gives is for the patient fit :
 So that the victim's purse shall swell his gains,
 Heedless is he how fare the aches and pains.
 Were this the only tale ! one would but smile
 At folks so silly, whom these knaves beguile ;
 And would but leave them, in their search for health,
 Away to trifle both their brains and wealth.
 But since the penalty, of misplac'd faith
 On all the vauntful words which each quack saith,
 For surety is,—(from records brought to light,
 And those effects ne'er seen by public sight),
 Or health destroyed—slight ailments hopeless made—
 Or life's continuance 'yond all human aid ;—⁶⁰
 Doth it not show a blot on England's⁶¹ fame,
 That those in pow'r,—rejoicing in the name
 Of Law-givers, and Guardians of a State
 In all beside renown'd as wise and great,—
 Should deem the people's health of less import
 Than "right of property" of ev'ry sort.
 For whilst the one,⁶² by penalties and laws,
 Protected is from all the many flaws
 In its disposal which would oft accrue,
 Were ign'rant pretenders allowed to sue ;—
 That gift of Heav'n, which ranks as life's first charm,
 Which lost—no treasures of this earth can calm
 The palpitating heart—the frenzied brain—
 The body racked upon its bed of pain,—
 That gift—which lost, requires the skilful power
 Of Art, led on by Science, to restore,—
 That gift—may silly fool, may fraud'lent rogue,
 Not only tamper with, in ev'ry vogue,

Without the fear that penalties or laws⁶³
 Will harshly visit all the many flaws
 Which ign'rant meddling ever leaves behind,
 On health and life of those, to welfare blind :
 But,—'stead of using all its pow'rs to cramp
 Such baneful deeds, the Law, by *patent stamp*,⁶⁴
 E'en count'nance and protection doth accord
 To all the wilful lies the quacks record.

Each Lady Bount'ful, and Rev'rend Divine,⁶⁵
 Who in th' Art of Physic desire to shine,
 And to their poor recipients need must shower
 Sharp-edgèd tools—drugs not inert in power ;
 All officious friends, with bombastic skill,
 Who others dose with potion or with pill,—
 No less a censure need, for that they palm
 Their presuming knowledge t' another's harm :
 Their practice based on much prolific stock
 Of reas'ning "post hoc ergo propter hoc."⁶⁶
 Treach'rous deductions from a wrong premiss,
 The end in view are ever sure to miss :
 No wonder then that treatment fram'd on these,
 'Stead of abating, is most sure t' increase
 To life the danger, 'nough to which is prone
 Disease itself, by dabblers let alone.
 As in kindness these, forsooth ! ne'er treat for gain,
 The Law inflicts nor penalty nor pain :⁶⁷
 Thus false benevolence may be the cloak
 To toy with health, because it saves the poke.

Such the results (we 've shewn) in ev'ry phase
 Of varied quack'ry (Britain's dire disgrace :)⁶⁸
 A blot so foul upon our Country's fame,
 In wonder leads us to aloud exclaim,—
 "What then the cause, that still such rampant vice
 "Doth mis'ry deal, like regal cockatrice ?"⁶⁹
 The first and foremost we've already shewn,
 In the protection our sage Laws have thrown⁷⁰
 O'er those, who cater for the public health
 By scheming for aggrandizement of wealth ;

And also that the Guardians of our State,
 Do not the people's health of value rate,
 But by their negligence give silent leave
 To the traffic-murder of quacking knave.
 This should not be, for as the public mind,
 At present day, not comp'tent is to find,
 Betwixt rampant ign'rance, and doctrine sound,
 A true discernment—there should e'er be found,
 Through legal wisdom, means to tell the quack,⁷¹
 And penalties and pains his steps to slack.⁷²
 Why grant not these, who sagely (?) frame our laws;
 Of remissness hurtful what then the cause?
 Should the chief of those, yet be deemed the least,
 Which form the tripod whole of Reason's feast?⁷³
 Ah! why? those, e'en who give the laws, less free
 Not are indeed from gullibility:
 Both Lords and Commons do their wisdom stain,
 And silly heads of toady crowds do bane,
 By patronizing each quack novelty,
 And fost'ring it for popularity.⁷⁴
 Whilst purse, not int'llect, hath the greater voice,
 In naming those who have the people's choice,⁷⁵
 There will be found, in Assemblage so great,
 Brains of vig'rous—mod'rate—and meagre rate.
 To count'ract this—if e'er the Healing Art
 { Desires as 't doth to hold a fitting part
 { And proper status, 'mongst the world at large,
 { As do its sisters twain who have the charge,—
 { The one of consolation for our souls,
 { Th' other of world's estates and parchment rolls,—
 'T must represented be as Law and Church,
 Nor at the Parliament left in the lurch.⁷⁶
 It then can speak, and so speak to be heard,
 And not as now—to speak but to be jeered.⁷⁷
 Why do the crowd when in their bodies ill
 Leave knowledge sound, and turn from proper skill;
 To follow after each delusive vaunt
 Paraded by hypocrisy and cant?—
 Too slow and ling'ring oft is physic's pace,
 Too simple are the means employ'd to chase

Th' effects which follow in the morbid train,
 Attendants all, when health gives up her reign.
 The wily charlatan holds out his lure,
 To give to *all* undoubted *speedy* cure ;
 And, more to prove the wonder of his skill,
 Puts potent drugs within his draught and pill :
 Potent sole for bad—potent ne'er for good—
 Potent alone to give the worms some food.⁷⁸
 Yet another cause, why doth still remain
 Illegal Med'cine our fair land to stain.
 If "Doctors" ought consider not the beam⁷⁹
 In their own eye, 'tis not for them to deem
 That quack'ry due is solely to the mote
 In Law-givers' and public's eyes doth float.
 The Corp'rate Bodies of our Healing men
 Far from their ranks, should ever quickly send
 All renegades from Science and from Art,
 Who notice court by some ignoble part ;
 And use their honour'd and their licens'd name
 To waft them t' a false pinnacle of fame.
 Each Member, who doth his pure calling love,
 For its public welfare his zeal should prove,
 By scouting all such perverts from the flock,
 Eke those unlicens'd knaves who truth do shock.⁸⁰
 Another cause doth lead the folk astray,
 In seeking health, to go an erring way :—
 When men, professing 'fore the public eyes,
 A noble Art,—most ancient in its rise—
 Do stoop to barter, traffic and retail,
 And drugs, perfumes and sponges show for sale,
 No wonder 'tis 't, that sick and needy poor
 "In seeking health," should enter th' open door
 Of any shop, whose bottles red and blue
 Lead them to think there dwells a "doctor" true.
 Yet e'en in this, the Law is prime at fault,
 To let mere traders,—eke the merest dolt—
 Not only on the public faith t' impose
 A false not-gotten name ;⁸¹ but e'en to dose,
 From o'er their counter, those who seek their aid,
 Relying on th' untrue assertions made :

And whilst the patient can the cost defray,
 These traders,—visits nor hes'tate to pay.⁸²
 Thus encroach'd upon,—in pure self defence
 The needy doctor seeks for recompense,
 And monopoly in trade tries to stop,
 By 'self degrading in a retail shop.⁸³

PART II.

THE MEDICAL STUDENT.

'GAINST all these drawbacks to advance in life,¹
 Had our good Doctor waged successful strife ;
 And sported now, aft years of toil and care,
 Like neighbour quack, a carriage smart and pair.²
 E'en now no toil-free days he spent, and yet
 Did neither toil, nor weariness beget
 Excuse to shirk the duty he 'd defined:—
 T' instruct, at even-tide, his pupil's mind.
 And first he taught the form of ev'ry part,³
 When knit, which doth solidity impart,
 As th'osseous framework, to that clay-wrought coil,⁴
 The mortal ten'ment of each son of toil.
 When taught the form and name, was then described
 How part to part was join'd; and whence derived
 Each bone its shape; to what its hardness due;⁵
 And how convey'd the nutrient fluid through;
 The places show'd where 'ttached the motor power;
 And all the markings did in fact explore.⁶
 Then next explain'd he, to his pupil's mind,
 (In gen'ral view) the ways how living kind
 Perform'd their functions;⁷ and how organ each
 Had special duties:—knowing which 't would teach,
 When comes disease, where situate the flaw,
 From health's domain, which doth the patient draw.⁸
 No less intent upon the work in hand,
 When patients' calls did from his home demand
 The Doctor's time—e'en then in ev'ry field
 Was found instruction, ev'ry herb did yield

The mind some food :—the nature of the plant ;
 Its name and structure ; whether did it grant
 To man aught use ; or did this terrene fruit
 Give food alone to dumb-created brute ;
 Or did its sev'ral parts, its innate juice,
 To scour disease, the wherewithal produce ;
 Or was there found, within its tiny cell,
 The deadly poison, sought by natures fell.
 Thus in their daily walks, the twain were led
 On Nature's gifts to dwell, around them spread :—
 And as, on useful talk intent, they trod,
 They "look'd through Nature, up to Nature's God."⁹
 When homeward reach'd, such converse frequent brought
 More treasures from the Doctor's inner thought :—
 Discours'd he then 'pon that division grand,¹⁰
 Which *first* appeared at God's supreme command—
 "Let Earth bring forth, from each prolific field,
 "The grass, the herb, the tree which fruit doth yield."
 (For, two days aft, was by His will unfurl'd
 The other segment of th' Organic World.)¹¹
 Show'd then the Doctor how what varied parts
 Did form a plant ; how first it upward starts
 From Mother Earth ; then doth its functions use
 Itself to perfect ; last it seed to loose.
 Was then the pupil led, that branch to learn—
 And, t' all it comprehends, his mind to turn—
 That branch, which doth of all those weapons treat,
 With which disease we rout from off its seat :
 How call'd each drug,—classic and common name ;
 Its nature ; and its dose ; and whence it came ;
 How prepared for use ; and with what intent
 (Whene'er giv'n) is its exhibition meant ;
 Its mode of action to disease arrest ;
 How when to give it freely ; when to rest.¹²
 And then he told, how, though in outward look,
 From one sole substance, they their nature took,
 Was (almost) *ev'ry* drug of parts composed,
 Var'ing in number, var'ously transpos'd.
 By gradual ways was then the pupil brought,
 And in due course the rudiments was taught

Of that wondrous Science, whose object is,
 Of solid, liquid, and gaseous bodies
 To tell the constitution, and the laws
 Which their combining, govern and enforce ;¹³
 Of that wondrous Science,¹⁴ which, though of yore
 Than fraud's companion was indeed no more,
 Stands now nigh foremost in sciential ranks,
 And most deserving is of human thanks :
 For its discov'ries, daily brought to light,
 Much aid Man's Arts ; and do his brain invite,
 Created matter how to subjugate,
 And rend it useful to his mortal state.
 Thus inductively was the pupil led
 From simple to abstruse; nor did he tread
 With steps aspirant, *unknown* paths to gain,
 Till, of the *known*, acquired he knowledge plain.¹⁵
 And well he trod the way the Doctor plann'd,
 The books advised, attentively he scann'd,
 With eager zeal he buckled to the work,
 Nor his daily duties e'er once tried to shirk.
 Ne'er did he once forget the many shifts
 His parents made, nor e'er abused those gifts
 They kindly gave, affording ev'ry chance
 That future knowledge he might more advance.
 He soon became a fav'rite with the poor,
 Who gladly hail'd his presence at their door :
 In manner courteous, and in language kind
 Did ever they " the little doctor " find.
 So gain'd their trust; and this no small a gain,
 For by such trust, would he much more obtain
 Responses true,—important most to they
 Who first begin to trace disease's way,—¹⁶
 Who, not as yet, are qualified to read
 The many symptoms feign'd but to mislead.
 When traced each case, as well allow'd his skill,
 Then did his urgent mind the youngster fill
 With queries much, the Doctor's brain to task,
 And all the knotty points thereon to ask.
 When solved were these, next more he quickly sought
 From printed works, which on the matter taught :

Neglecting none of any useful source
 Whence knowledge gains a furth'rance to her course.
 And now had come the all important day,
 When should he wend from village haunts, his way,
 And in the "Mighty Babylon"¹⁷ should live
 For three full years of work his time to give.
 Then spake the Doctor good, both kind and nice,
 And gave his pupil sound farewell advice :—
 "With one like you, who loves his books so well,
 "Less need there is for me in force to dwell
 "On the full use of that imparted lore,
 "Add must you henceforth to your mental store ;
 "Such work, I feel, you 'll do—I more refer
 "To studies twain, o'er which are apt to slur
 "Too many men,—who deem by books t' increase
 "Their knowledge of *Dissection* and *Disease*.
 "No books alone so true as Nature fresh ;
 "No books alone can show the massy flesh
 "Form giving to the frame ; books can but say,
 "Not show—how, in their circulating way,
 "The blood-full vessels in and out do curve,
 "Or how located is each wondrous nerve.
 "No books can guide the surgeon's practis'd knife,
 "Where one false step would fatal be to life ;
 "No book-glean'd readings will e'er serve the stead
 "Of knowledge true imparted by the Dead.
 "E'en as important is it then t' observe,
 "Whenever opportunity will serve,
 "Beside disease—by watching ev'ry case,
 "Which e'er a Sick Ward brings you face to face.
 "No printed books, no grinders written notes,
 "If read, 'till dry their ardent readers' throats,
 "Can tell so faithful, as one earnest look
 "At the life-lesson of Nature's bedside book.¹⁸
 "No book can give the hot, the frigid skin ;
 "The tell-tale face of suffering within ;
 "No book—the hectic flush ; the pallid cheek ;
 "The coated tongue ; the pulses strong or weak ;
 "No book can yield the morbid sounding breath ;
 "No book can show th' approaching signs of Death.

“ Mark well, my lad, and well my sayings take,
 “ Spoken as they are for your future sake,
 “ So opportune will ne'er p'rhaps be again,
 “ The *time* for these *important* studies twain.
 “ And if without them, you, in after life,
 “ Do wage against Disease in healing strife,
 “ Your false Mnemonics will you then deride,
 “ As an ' impostor ' at the sick bed-side.
 “ Next let me guard you 'gainst that erring rule,
 “ Th' attracting bait of each and ev'ry ' School,'
 “ Which, by blazing forth their *special prizes*, try
 “ To bind the thoughts, to force the Memory :
 { “ Like as that method, which by varied heats
 { “ All nature mocks, and ev'ry season cheats ;
 { “ Which of *flavour heedless*, the growing shoot
 { “ Doth force to yield, an *early* crop of fruit.¹⁹
 “ Heed not the medal, nor the gilded book,
 “ The surface show of each Scholastick hook :²⁰
 “ Swim on your way, and, as the knowing fry,
 “ On bait so glitt'ring, cast no longing eye.
 “ Seek safer depths, your *reason* use to note
 “ Fair wisdom's page, nor mere your learning *rote*.
 “ In after life, for you will be the prize,
 “ When, to th' appeal of helpless urgent cries,
 “ Confiding in its powers—your well-taught mind
 “ Can ways and means, to aid a brother, find :²¹
 “ Whilst the mere book-worm *then* will hide his head,
 “ His parrot-knowledge from his Mem'ry fled.”²²
 When deep in thought beside the midnight flame,
 This good advice oft midst his thinking came ;
 The more he plodded on his toilsome way,
 The more the Student found that, day by day,
 If *lasting, useful* knowledge he would gain
 Whence could an ailing brother aid obtain,
 On Mem'ry not alone should he confide,
 But trust in other faculties beside :—
 Should use his sight, his touch, his ear—and last,
 O'er *facts obtained* should Reason's pow'r be cast.
 E'er was he found at lectures diligent ;
 E'er at dissection zealous and intent ;

E'er, when the Sick Ward did his presence ask,
 Was he observ'd a vot'ry to his task ;
 E'er when availed no more the pow'r of Man,
 Did he the secrets of the Dead house scan.
 And when these duties ended were and done,
 And in his study he was quite alone,
 The day's acquirements he at night did use,
 And o'er them did in deep reflection muse.
 With no less care he stored his body's health,—
 The needful attribute of mental wealth :
 He firm opposed the first alluring taste
 Of Dissipation's Sirenian waste ;
 Yet ne'er from social intercourse did run,
 Amusement rational did never shun.
 When wearied was his brain with " physic's " lore,
 Then he sought his bibliothecal store,
 The Standard Authors' sterling works perus'd,
 But ne'er ought trashy, friv'lous novels used.
 So as approach'd th' Examination day,
 When 'fore " the Dons " ²³ must he his knowledge lay,
 No need for him to " cram " his well-stored mind,
 No need for him " a two or three months grind : " ²⁴
 His three years studies had not slighted been,
 Assidu'us at his work was he e'er seen.

The anxious days arriv'd—our hero " passed,"
 An L.S.A., ²⁵ and M.R.C.S. ²⁶ classed.

CHAPTER II.

Opiferque per orbem dicor.—OVID.

" THE PARISH DOCTOR."

NOT a mere title had our hero gained,
 Not a mere letter'd name had he obtained :
 The merest book-worm can acquire the same,
 The mere " note-crammer " can the parchment¹ claim.
 Well stor'd his mind with stern and rigid facts,
 Well skill'd his hand from oft-repeated acts :

His mind well tutor'd by the sick bed-side,
 His hand a dext'rous and a faithful guide ;
 Each Nosocomial² office had he fill'd,
 In each the twain had he well taught and drill'd.
 Yet no routinier mere indeed was he—
 Upturning nose at thought of theory.
 The why and wherefore fain was he to know,
 Rare at a loss to give a "quid pro quo."
 Now "was the tug of war"³ —where to locate
 Himself for work?—wherein his future state
 Should thrive or fail?—in country or in town,
 The better which for him to settle down?
 In that large town where "pointing at the skies,"
 A "Column" stands, but now no longer "lyes,"⁴
 Do the broader field, and the wider scope,
 Of easier roads to practice urge the hope.
 In that large town are other gains, 'tis true,
 Which to the young aspirant e'er accrue :
 There—may he daily weigh his thoughts and acts
 With more of men—opinions much, and facts.
 These last, more varied and of more extent,
 Show to the mind, on gaining knowledge bent,
 How of the same disease the features change,
 When doth 'mongst diff'rent folk its presence range ;⁵
 Which features known, and more do *facts* abound,
 More like to be a *theory* firm and sound :—
 T' explain from few and scant materials, is
 But seldom more than mere hypothesis.⁶
 When form'd one's theory, then of much avail,
 To test and balance in th' opposing scale,
 Others' opinions—lest, too premature,
 Our doctrine contravenes our means of cure.
 The "Mighty Babylon" much eke affords,
 Access more ready both to men and words :
 There—may be had more opportune recourse
 T' a more copious bibliothecal source ;
 There—in the friendliness of fierce debate,
 Do men their thoughts inter-communicate ;
 Thus mind points mind, and brains, thus sharper made,
 Perfect the theory, and our practice aid.

There—see we not the bick'ring and the strife,
 In th' uphill battle of daily life,
 Rare th' exceptions where jealousy and spite
 Their petty quarrels unseemly invite.⁷ —
 So far the bright side of the picture 's shown,
 So far so good in praise of London town ;
 Then turn'd our hero to the side reverse,
 And saw display'd a noble calling's curse.
 Not 'mongst the "pures"⁸ would he his station take,
 In gen'ral practice would his living make :
 Did therefore seek our hero's polish'd mind,
 What status do the "fam'ly doctors" find ?
 In various busy haunts a gaudy shop,
 Display'd perfum'ry ; soap balls ; soda pop ;
 Tooth brushes ; hair oil ; drops to cure tooth-ache ;
 Sponge bags, and sponges ; pills of patent make ;
 Some pewter squirts the window front did share ;
 Three large glass bottles gave a dazzling glare,
 Which with reflected colours did imbue
 The passer's face—crimson, green, and blue.
 "Can this place of bottles, gilt o'er with gold,
 "Be kept by one who sworn⁹ has to uphold
 "His calling's dignity ;—his mind has bound,¹⁰
 "Always 'attun'd' for duty, to be found ?
 "Can men, professing 'fore the public eyes
 "A noble art,—most ancient in its rise—
 "Thus stoop to barter, traffic, and retail,
 "And drugs, perfumes, and sponges show for sale ?
 "Will not the glitt'ring glut of ready cash,
 "With deeper thoughts, with higher views e'er clash ?
 "Will not the till, the counter and the shop,
 "Respect and intellectual access stop ?
 "What companionship can ought man of mind
 "With such a pettifogging trader find."
 In rural parts far different is the case,
 Well there the "doctor" does his status grace,
 Well there he does his "noble calling" ply,
 His place retaining in society :
 No open shop invites the passer by,
 A pennyworth of Epsom salts to buy ;

No "blear-eyed boys"¹¹ behind the counter stand,
 To deal out poisons on the mere demand.
 Yet strange that he, the lov'd associate
 Of men of virtues—letters—and estate,
 Should brotherly communion oft ignore
 With his professional coadjutor :
 'Tis sad the petty jealousies to see,
 Which Country Doctors make to disagree.
 How rare indeed ! to find the Men of Law,
 Their own, and their calling's int'rest to flaw
 By want of union ; they respected live,
 For no back-biting they in spite do give :¹²
 Like a roll of sticks they together bind,
 And so united useful strength do find.
 Nor do we see them to mere traders sink,—
 Display for retail—paper, pens, and ink ;
 Both town and country confidence they reap,
 For "professional gentlemen" they keep.

Of divers men, and of opinions slack,
 And varied cases doth the Country lack ;
 Tho' small its scope—yet, when the "pro and con"
 In strict review, our hero dwelt upon,
 To be "provincial," favour more acquired,
 And chance p'rhaps settled what his wish desired.¹³

In public print soon saw he blazon'd forth
 Appointments snug—a doctor's notice worth (?)—
 "Wanted a Leech, to physic and to cure
 "The grumbling hunger of some rustick poor :
 "(Counting the rich with these) some thousands folk,
 "O'er thousands acres will his aid invoke.
 "No other surgeon is there to be found,
 "Him to oppose for many miles around :"
 (The one there was, poor wretch ! from overwork
 And meagre pay, doth in the churchyard lurk.)
 "Besides the 'extras,'¹⁴ happ'ning far and near,
 "The sal'ry is some tens of pounds a year!"
 Than thus commencing, fortune might be worse,
 Our hero deem'd, so hasten'd on his course :—

He (as some others) went, and straight began
 For votes to canvas from each pow'rful man.
 Yea! he, whose education made him fit
 In learned high society to sit,
 Had now submissively to supplicate
 From men of ign'rance and of low estate :
 To butchers, bakers, and the like he said
 His humble words—to each his court he paid.
 The Chandler, busied 'bout his candle fat,—
 A man white-apron'd, corpulent, and squat—
 Deign'd not to notice e'en the caller's name,
 "No answer" from the bubbling grease tub came :
 Too much engross'd, amidst his farthing dips,
 To speak in person thro' his bloated lips.¹⁵
 The other worthies pompously replied :—
 "From testimonials *we do not* decide ;
 "Pray what's your age, and have you got a wife ?
 "D' you think that hard is spent a pauper's life ?
 "Would you believe the guardians of the *rate*,
 "When officially the reverse we state ?—
 "That ev'ry comfort have th' ungrateful poor,
 "The beggars lie, who say they want for more.'
 "Stop—we've lots of Irish—'tis well to know,
 "To Church of England or of Rome you go?"¹⁶
 Such queries, singly or in Board when met,
 These "petty tyrants" 'fore our hero set,
 Half hinting e'en that he must give quinine,¹⁷
 Rather than "order"¹⁸ mutton chops and wine.

Each in their turn, the Board august before
 Did show themselves ; and then were shown the door.
 Each man competing did most anxious wait
 Uncertain of the issue of his fate.
 At length the mandate from the Boardroom came,
 Summ'ning our hero's as the lucky name :
 Congratulations did the vanquish'd pay—
 They all shook hands, then parted on their way.

Now harness'd to his place, our hero bent
 His mind to work—determinedly intent
 That never should a gossip whisper fall,
 Of inattention to the poor man's call ;
 Ne'er should a breath his right-plac'd heart defame,
 That pauper sick his efforts best ne'er claim;¹⁹
 Whilst he the useful aid of Med'cine gave,
 Ne'er should 't be said that he the rate would save,
 No guardian-toadying should him impede
 From strongly stating what the sick poor need.
 On th' other hand he firmly would expose
 Such "able-bodied" paupers, who impose
 Their feignèd ailments, with a whining cry,
 T' enlist the gift of parish charity:
 These lazy curs who forth their clamour pour,
 Forestall the alms to mute deserving poor.
 These to themselves alone their wants intrust,
 Those 'fore the public do their grumblings thrust ;
 These unavoidably require our aid,
 Those by imposture on our kindness trade.

Not few the scenes of Mis'ry brought before
 Our hero's eyes :—his very inmost core
 Would throb, and forward send a gush of blood
 To those small glands,²⁰ whence an issuing flood
 Of grateful tears would sympathizing start,
 To ease the choking throat—the swelling heart :
 But dashing quick the briny drops away,
 Long 'midst the scene would still the good man stay,
 Cheap *words* of comfort not alone to give,
 (Which ne'er the donor of ought much deprive)
 But self-bestirring, till he saw relieved
 The immediate wants of the poor bereaved.

Scenes of true woe, real scenes in life's romance,
 Such as not seldom to the doctor chance,
 Whose calling 'midst the poor doth frequent find
 Distress from poverty and disease combined !
 Ye ! who delight to see your names in print,
 Bestowing largely from your golden mint,

Who sweets of popularity imbibe,
 By mission-sending to some Savage tribe,
 Look ye at home, aye look around your door !
 Look at the crowds of English native poor !
 Go to their homes—if such ye style bare walls,
 Go to their homes, e'en tho' the sight appals,
 See for yourselves—then ask hath England done,
 All that she *should* for each her pauper son :—
 If so—then can your purse well-fill'd afford
 Aid and relief to some far land abroad ;
 If not—then 'fore your eyes this maxim come,
 " True Charity should e'er begin at home."

Ye, who would educate the poor man's mind,—
 Ye, who for *him* would rigid Sabbaths find,—
 Ye, who, by the'ry in a platform speech,
 Books and Religion to the meanest teach,—
 Do ye not know the body to the brain
 Is a Mother Earth to the sprouting grain ?

{ Starve well the land, impoverish the earth,
 { Gainless the crop, which *then* will issue forth ;—
 { Turn up the ground, expose it to the air,
 { Stint not our parent in her needed fare,
 { Give fit manure to th' empty barren sod,
 { *Then* sow your seed, and leave the rest to God.

Lest, then, that ye would in your efforts foil,
 So ye must treat the tiller of the soil.

Wise make starvation !—religious make want !
 Ye may teach, may preach, till breathless ye pant !—
 Try twenty-four hours, without food or bed,
Then drum metaphysics into *your* head !—
 Ye 're like unto him, made on the same plan,
 The stomach is *the* shoe-pinch of the man.

His nakedness clothe, and increase his food,
 And put him in dwellings wholesome and good ;
 His *physical* comforts first thus supplied,
 To mental acquirements *then* may ye guide.

Show him the way to be healthy and clean,
 Eke the best way to make most of his means ;
 Teach his good wife to make comfort at home,
 T' induce her good lord elsewhere not to roam :
 The twain then possess'd of comf'able looks,
 The ground now is clear to push in your books—
 Books not alone help on knowledge high road,
 Show *scenes* of Creation to lead up to God.

* * * * *

An eye to the future but must ye have,
 If England's low poor from wrath ye would save:—
 The children of these your chief care demand,
 If moral improvement firm ye would stand.
 Know that the stomach *at first*, not the brain,
 Most frequently drives to criminal gain.
 Neglect the *physique*—then, lo ! the land's curse,—
 To thieving its sons—its daughters to worse.
 That Wisdom hath said, ye seem not to know,
 "Train up a child in the way he should go :"—²¹
 Then aim not too far in teaching the head,
 The child that ye teach to earn hath its bread.
 Teach it the habits of order and care ;
 Teach—it's means how to spend, teach how to spare ;
 Teach it duty domestic, and such like concern,
 In its state of life 't is fit it should learn ;
 Heed not the "systems," sectarian or not,
 Teach it such things as befall to its lot:
 Remember, in time a parent 't will be,—
 As ye bend the twig, so grow will the tree,²²
 Two birds with one stone you 'll thus kill indeed,
 Now and to come will twofold be your meed :—
 The child thus modell'd, when homeward it goes,
 Will tell and will *show* the *things* that it knows,
 Materially thus your efforts 't will aid,
 In all t' its parents ye 've shown and ye 've said ;
 But the future, 'tis hoped, more blessings will bring,
 When broadcast the child its manhood doth fling,
 And doth in life's battles follow the plan
 Ye've taught, to improve its physical man.

Much of discomfort and need 'mongst the poor,
 Of wilfulness frequent laid to the door,
 Rather is due to neglect, in youth's days,
 Of learning the use of means and of ways :²³
 'Tis fruitless to toil in poverty's cause,
 Fruitless the use of Sanative Laws,
 If ignorance doth our efforts all greet,
 Our objects doth want of knowledge defeat.
 So be it your pride to alter this mode,
 Your child *first* teach from utility's code ;
 When taught "common things," let further research
 Be made in book knowledge—and may the Church
 Advantage *then* take of th' upturnèd soil,
 At *morale* and the Truth firmly to toil.²⁴

New, varied, num'rous all the duties were,
 Which fully did our hero's minutes share.
 As Time roll'd on, more came within his reach,
 The daily routine of a "Parish Leech:"—
 The wearied ride of miles the country round,
 Within the limit of his district bound ;
 The rugged roads, which roused the horseman's ire,
 Or with their summer's dust, or winter's mire ;
 The many poor, who on his healing lean,
 In habitations far and far between,—
 Some here, some there, and some (of *visits fond*)²⁵
 In some outlying parish miles beyond ;
 Whatever hour—no weather stops the man,
 Battling the elements as best he can,—
 The night tho' dark, tho' thunder, and tho' rain,
 The pauper groans upon his bed of pain ;
 And what a bed ! upon a mud-made floor,
 To tend his patient, does the doctor cower,
 There, on some dirty straw, the sick man lay,
 His cov'ring formed by clothes he wore by day ;
 There cold, there damp, alike the doctor greet,
 There but the ground to welcome to a seat.²⁶
 His mission ends—on, on, again he rides,
 Drench'd to the skin, yet more such scenes besides.

His daily routine done (with more untold),
 Then to his desk the laws the doctor hold;²⁷
 There, as a clerk, some needless work to seek,
 To fill up fifteen columns ev'ry week.²⁸
 Needless indeed! for, though each pauper's case,
 There, on the table, ev'ry man may trace,
 Oft times, forsooth! the rate-relieving Board
 Return the "Forms" unopen'd, unexplored,²⁹
 And, with a patronizing, knowing look,
 Call "Form P." the "Medical(s) Relief Book!"

Stout *Flemming* (one of Nature's sturdy lads,
 Who, ev'ry morning, to his labour pads,
 Carrying in his hat a kerchief blue,
 Containing stale brown bread and bacon new,
 Whilst in his hand he holds a little can,
 With creature comforts for his inner man,)
 One early sun-rise trudged upon his road,
 Smoking his pipe, and shouldering his hod,
 Counting the hours when the sunset might come,
 To sit with his wife and children at home.
 Alack! for poor Fleming, some days must be
 'Fore that said sunset again will he see.—
 One worthy Squire, with this world's goods elate,
 Ambitious felt to build on his estate,
 And Fleming, 'mongst some rest, felt in high mood,
 At prospect of a job so long and good.
 All had gone well, and, every seventh night,
 Had well-paid wages gladden'd Fleming's sight.
 One unlucky day, just as he had got,
 With hod brimful—with smoking brow and hot,
 On to the platform, some false cross-bars crack,
 He falls—nigh twenty feet—upon his back.
 His senseless form, upon a shutter put,
 His comrades carry to his distant hut.
 The doctor comes—says Fleming, now himself,
 "I'll soon be right—I'll cure the sprain myself."
 The cup of hope is dash'd from Fleming's lip—
 "You've got a dislocation of the hip."

The doctor's measuring skill did quickly show
 One limb was shorter by an inch or two,
 And, when upright, upon the dexter boot
 Rested the toes of the sinister foot.³⁰
 Then was the patient on the table laid,
 The doctor summ'ning all the comrades' aid,
 With strong jack-towels, and with a steady pull,
 (Flemming the while loud roaring as a ball)
 Aft some short time, rewarded was their work,
 Into its place the bone slipp'd with a jerk.³¹

Disabled Flemming, now upon his bed,
 Starvation saw in weekly wages' stead,
 Lest he should stomach his plebeian pride,
 And aid parochial summon to his side.
 The Relieving Officer (whose thick pate
 And harden'd heart can ne'er discriminate
 'Twixt th' idle grumbler and the helpless poor,
 But him relieves who reaches first the door)
 Aft queries some, the "doctor's order"³² gave,
 And parish mites from starving just to save.
 Th' attendance ended on poor Flemming's hip,
 His labour's fruits the doctor wish'd to sip,
 Before the Board did he his statement place,—
 A legal charge for his one "extra" case.³³
 The Board demurr'd:—"Firstly, *when* you the bone
 "Pulled in its site, and made poor Flemming groan,
 "Your patient *then* had *not* an "order" claimed,
 "So could not be a *parish pauper* named;³⁴
 "In second place, ere this you ought to know,
 "To th' Infirmary should such cases go,
 "There they receive a skill'd attentive nurse—
 "(And keep the 'extras' from the doctor's purse!)"³⁵

To keep these "extras" down the sapient Board
 (Ne'er heeding life to save the parish hoard),³⁶
 In solemn conclave huddled pate to pate,
 And this the substance of their mock debate:—
 "Doctors we find, with all their art and skill,
 "Contrive t' increase th' Obstetric yearly bill.

" 'Tis true their aid and skill *we* justly heed,
 " For *our* dear tender wives in th' hour of need ;
 " But surely those who tax the parish rate
 " Can trust to women, ignorance, and fate !³⁷
 " Wise women,³⁸ learnèd o'er their tea and gin,³⁹
 " Will well suffice for pauper sons of sin.
 " What, if at times, they make a slip or two,
 " 'Tis not for us thereof to make ado !
 " In over-plenty parish brats abound—
 " These dames will take our penny—save our pound."
 At length one blockhead, wiser than the lot,
 " Deemed that the members had, perchance, forgot,
 " No wondrous 'carpet'⁴⁰ had they to convey
 " These ancient dames to paupers miles away."
 Th' objection tells—with reason much accords,
 They leave the matrons to the London Boards.⁴¹

In fleecy flakes fell fast the dazzling snow,—
 A white warm cov'ring to the fields below,—
 Guarding the verdure from the nipping cold,
 To sprout in spring—to buds and fruit unfold—⁴²
 Vain Man ! mere copyist of wise Nature's ways,
 Self-vaunting of the doings of your days,—
 Your straw, your mats, your turf, mere mimics are
 Of Nature's winter-robe⁴³—her prudent care.—
 In fleecy flakes—and, as the midnight chime
 Told that another day was lost to Time,
 Our hero on a hasty summons rode,
 His good steed urging on the soft white road—
 Each treach'rous step nigh hid the poor beast's hock,
 Then onward with a bound,—a jolt,—a shock ;
 O'er a barren heath, with no shelt'ring hedge,
 No posts on either side the path to pledge,
 On right—on left—a layer of snow concealed
 The sight unwelcome of a ditch congealed ;
 The piercing wind urg'd on it's boist'rous pace,
 The snow-drift pelting in the horseman's face,
 His eyes with blindness, limbs with cold thus bound,
 And darkness added to the darkness round ;

On mile and mile he rode in such same plight,
 The pauper's hovel then appears in sight :
 One from above looks on the poor man's friend,
 And brings him safely to his journey's end.
 Oh ! what a welcome⁴⁴ from the mud-built cot,
 The wretched shelter of the pauper's lot !
 To greet the doctor in his shiv'ring state,
 A few burnt "embers" blacken'd in the grate ;
 A blinking "rushlight" in a "bottle" thrust—
 A mean opponent to the smallest gust—
 Its glimmer threw into the darkness round,
 And scarce revealed the poor wretch on the ground.
 Yes, there she lay—the woman and the wife,
 And now the veh'cle of another life ;
 Yes, there she lay—upon her straw-form'd bed,
 Her only cov'ring one thin shawl of red ;
 Yes, there she lay—around her couch of rags
 Squatted two helpless, sapient, smoking hags ;
 Yes, there she lay—her half-suppressèd groans,
 Th' attendants stifled by their useless moans ;
 Yes, there she lay—no comfort and no aid,
 Her state required, whate'er her social grade ;
 Yes, there she lay—in sorrow and in pain,
 Yet of her lot too feeble to complain !
 Besides his duty, to this state of want
 The doctor must his first attention grant,
 Must from his purse the urgent needs defray—
 (The relieving officer is miles away).
 His *duty* not so quickly done—he there
 Must watch with much expectant skill and care ;
 His wearied frame and limbs do nought console,
 Save "a deal box" or low three-legged stool.
 Nature delays, and to the doctor gives
 Time to attend to other patients' lives.
 Then to the pauper's hovel to and fro,
 With frequent journeys through the drifting snow.
 Nature gives in—exclaims aloud for Art,
 Hope re-appears within the failing heart,
 Does now the mother in her breast rejoice,
 Her anguish⁴⁵ 's o'er—she hears her infant's voice.

This case, 'mongst sim'lar "extras," does appear
 Before the Board, as wanes the closing year:—
 " 'Tis monstrous," they exclaim, "how brats increase,
 " The parish rates intent upon to fleece ;
 " These doctors have some magic in their pow'r
 " T' augment the population of the poor ;
 " And, not content in waiting Nature's part,
 " Must intermeddle with their skill and Art.⁴⁶
 " We 'll stop this game—the 'extras' we 'll commute,⁴⁷
 " The sal'ry fixed, our parish rate will suit :
 " Then to their full the doctors we can give
 " *Orders* enough,⁴⁸ wherewith their Art t' achieve.
 " But if the ' Board above '^{48a} withholds consent,
 " With present state no needs to be content,
 " We 'll pretty plainly let our doctors hear
 " That their election is from year to year !⁴⁹
 " Then start afresh, and if we 're serv'd the same,
 " Elect again till we their spirits tame.
 " Despite their grumblings, candidates enow
 " Our votes will canvass, and our work will do,⁵⁰
 " Will think it play-work,⁵¹ and at little pains
 " And pleasure great, will count their yearly gains."

Jenner, all hail ! great victor⁵² of that pest,
 That plague wide-spreading from its Eastern nest ;⁵³
 That scourge, whose course nought else beside controls ;⁵⁴
 That vengeful slayer of its countless souls.
 That scourge which, tho' its frequent deathward strife
 Abate its force, and save its victim's life,
 Doth footprints leave, and ev'ry lineament
 Doth ever blast with foul disfigurement.
 Jenner, all hail ! who, from a milkman's⁵⁵ word,
 Raised up a shield t' arrest this havoc sword ;⁵⁶
 Gave to the world a blessing, and to fame
 Left a belov'd, an imperish'ble name.

Shade of Great Jenner ! cast an earthward eye:—
 How fares your gift with your posterity ?
 How do the public and your fellow kind
 Receive this ben'fit of your searching mind ?—

Some pious arguers⁵⁷ deem that it is wrong
 T' arrest such pests as to God's will belong.
 Would such fanaticks stand in silence by,
 The pest at hand, and see their darling die?
 A worm will raise its head when danger treads,
 Shall Man meet ills with silly fears and dreads?
 What, may we ask, God's purpose and intent—
 His gift of Reason to His "image" sent?
 Some,⁵⁸ not believing that their darling's blood
 Doth aught contain save what is sound and good,
 Blame the small punctures for each after-ill
 Which e'er their darling's bitter cup doth fill.
 Facts,⁵⁹ those stubborn things, do in hosts appear
 To contradict this prejudicial fear :
 The lymph nor carries *in itself* aught harm,—
 The ferment stirs some latent baneful germ.
 Some reas'ning folk,⁶⁰ for that in cases few,
 Despite the "shield," the "sword's" pest-point will show,
 Deem in *all* cases that the "shield"'s a flaw,—
 Forgetting that th' exception proves the law.
 Some sapient dames, for that the guarding deed
 No favour found within their grandam's creed,
 Others—a host—from shameful apathy,—⁶¹
 Debar their babe from Jenner's victory.
 Shade of Great Jenner, such the public heed
 Of this, your blessing—such their grateful meed!
 Shade of Great Jenner, stop your doubting ears,
 A Brother⁶² vaunts a monomaniac's fears!
 Within the Senate there he stands and speaks,
 And for his morbid errors credit seeks ;
 Mis-stating facts, deducing falsely much,
 And sound argument fouling with his touch.
 Shade of Great Jenner, yet the greatest strait
 T' arrest your blessing selfish men create !
 See how those men, styled *Guardians* of the Poor,
 Prevent your gift-shield reach the cottage door !⁶³
 A Legislative Act⁶⁴ (not wisely)⁶⁵ gives
 These men the power to sport with poor folks' lives—
 Forgetting these, to whom it delegates,
 Their bounty measure by the parish rates.

The pest is nigh—it's venom widely spread,
 Some sprinklings herald its advancing tread,—
 Then fears arise in ev'ry household place,
 And terror 's painted on each parent's face.
 The "pious arguers" lift aloft their prayer,
 That from the scourge them Providence will spare;
 And, with each "prejudiced" and "sapient" dame,
Now almost venerate good Jenner's name.
 "Shameful apathy" and blinded ign'rance
Now ope their eyes, *now* shake off indiff'rence,
 To gain the prophylactic issue forth,
Now deeming infant life of something worth.
 Our hero's energy and active will
 Have *now* full scope against th' advancing ill :
 No need persuasion—fears drive in the folk,⁶⁶
 For Jenner's gift-shield is each day bespoke.
 Each day at home, and eke each day abroad,
 Our hero slaves t' arrest the havoc sword :—
 Assuring hope now spreads for miles around,
 At length a limit to the plague is found.
 His work now done—his life-preserving deed,
 Our hero deems, should have its well-earn'd meed ;
 Not so the Board⁶⁷ (for life-preserved ingrate)
 They grudge th' addition to the parish rate.
 { Their numskulls thick do seemingly ignore
 { Disease and death amongst the lab'ring poor.—
 { It ne'er appears to their short-sighted eyes
 { How many homes these tend to pauperize !⁶⁸
 "Exorbitant indeed ! our doctor's charge,
 "Th' amount of brats protected thus is 'large !'⁶⁹
 "We must not sanction this increas'd demand,
 "But firmly, to protect our rate, must stand.⁷⁰
 "'Tis strange, forsooth, how many brats there be,
 "Who live two miles beyond the surgery :⁷¹
 "For whom their lazy parents now indeed
 "Do special stations in each district need,
 "Where this shield (so call'd) may to them be sent—
 "'Too far,' they state, 'the doctor's tenement.'
 "But, as *the distance*⁷² does the doctor pay,
 "He must the special stations' hire defray :⁷³

"The paupers' and his own convenience
 "Should not be furnish'd at the Rate's expense.
 "We then must clip our doctor's charg'd amount,
 "And all such items strike from out th' account;
 "But, if the 'Act'⁷⁴ will leave us in the lurch,
 "We'll stations make the belfries⁷⁵ of each church :
 "There may the doctor and the parents meet,—
 "There may the youngsters bellow at their treat."
 Shade of Great Jenner, can your blessing spread,
 When on its neck mean selfishness doth tread ?
 When false economy is the greater strife,
 Than love and care of saving human life ?⁷⁶

For some weeks past, poor wretch, hath *Laz'rus* gone
 In search of toil—each day hath nothing done ;
 Homeward he drags his heavy wearied feet,
 His starving wife and little ones to meet.
 As to his fruitless task each morn he trudged,
 From the small loaf his own small crust he grudged,
 Fearing again lest would the day's close come,
 With hope still deferred and want still at home.
 The landlord had squeezed and emptied the purse,
 Had spoke of restraint with threat and with curse :
 He might though have spared his blasphemous talk,
 His threats, ere long, the pawnshop will balk.
 Now *Laz'rus* gone to work a paltry job,
 Which from starvation just one day will rob,
 His poor weak wife does to the "office" tread,
 To crave th' assistance of the parish bread.
 "Your spouse must come—himself⁷⁷ must state his case,
 "Before that we you on our books can place."—
 "What, leave his little work, our only stay,
 "Amongst this noisy crowd to waste a day ?
 "My thin pale face does it belie my word ?⁷⁸
 "My childrens' feeble frames the like accord !
 "Come to our empty room, and then you will
 "The youngsters see, how weak they are and ill !"
 "Oh ! if with you a *sickness* they do share,
 "'Tis fit to put ye 'neath the doctor's care ;

"This 'order' take—he'll doubtless soon attend,
 "And for your ailments medicine will send."
 Of such same nature⁷⁹ many "orders" sent
 With Relieving Officers' good (?) intent,
 Fill up our hero's time, and much increase
 His daily work, and interrupt his ease.
 What drug can stop the gnawing hunger-pain—
 Can fill the hollow which the orbits gain?
 Can flesh replace,—can rouge the face so pale,—
 The frame can render strong again and hale?
 So far is physic impotent—and yet
 These rate-guard magnates never do forget,
 To scatter *doctors'* "orders" t' all who seek
 Aid and relief, amongst the wan and weak.⁸⁰
 This mode delays the dole of parish fare,
 Which costlier is than doctors' "orders" are :
 Better the doctor's toil to implicate,
 Than too much exact of the parish rate !
It but delays the dole—these pale-faced hinds,
 The doctor's used acumen quickly finds,
 Want food, not physic—if which latter given,
 All down the gutter scornfully is driven.
It but delays the dole—these wan and weak,
 Unto the doctor of their wants soon speak ;
 Ask a *certificate* that they require
 The parish aid of clothing, food, and fire.
 E'en so the idle, able-bodied poor,
 Who their coarse clamour hail against the door—
 If bread denied, the rascals know their cue,
 And for a doctor's "order" quickly sue.
 To spare his own paid time and tender nerves,
 The Relieving Officer ready serves
 A doctor's "order" willingly to these
 Disturbers of the doctor's work and ease.⁸¹
 These maling'ers come—much too wide awake
 Of doctor's physic e'er a drop to take,
 Ask a *certificate*—if he refuse,
 They load him with invective and abuse.
 What wondrous men must parish doctors be,
 For all *complaints* who have a remedy !

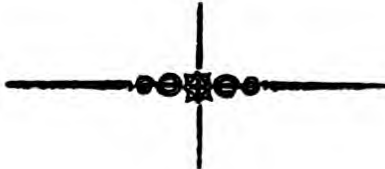
Want, sickness, whines, abuse, they must allay—
 The poor expect it, and the parish pay !
 The Board humane are never seen to frown,
 The doctor doing labour not his own,—
 A lumping sal'ry is his recompense,
 Per case but yielding merely some few pence.⁸²
 Such paltry pence, these men of little soul,
 With niggard hand do to their doctor dole,
 His skill and time,⁸³ his drugs⁸⁴ and aid to pay,
 His mental rack, his body's toil to stay.
 These paltry pence become more paltry still
 The more disease the doctor's list doth fill ;
 As do the toil and need of drugs increase,
 So does the payment of each case decrease.⁸⁵
 These paltry pence, for any paltry plea,
 Are made to lessen at the Board's decree :
 The petty tyrants nor do hesitate
 To contracts, bonds, and honour violate.⁸⁶
 A slight demur, that these few paltry pence
 Are far indeed from any recompense,
 Stirs up parochial wrath, and quick arise
 Foul trump'd up charges and defaming lies :—⁸⁷
 To reason's query insult⁸⁸ is returned,
 With false invective is the doctor spurned ;
 Then comes suspension,⁸⁹ then the braggart boast—
 " No re-election to your gainful post."⁹⁰
 These paltry pence e'en less are made t' appear,
 When bread is cheap⁹¹ or when that bread is dear :—
 Yet th' unpaid doctor is the only one,⁹²
 Whose sal'ry thus these magnates practise on.
 Still, not content his actions thus to cramp,
 With niggard stipend thus his deeds to stamp,
 These " men of ign'rance " oft indeed are fain
 To intermeddle with the doctor's brain :
Their numskulls thick must knotty questions moot,
 What treatment such and such a case⁹³ would suit ;
 Contagion's laws *their* interest must please,
Their minds must rule the nature of disease.⁹⁴
 Thus heap on heap of insult and abuse
 These pettifoggers 'gainst their doctor use :

No deeds⁹⁵ too mean, no words beyond their reach,
 Wherewith to try and cow "the Parish Leech."
 With treatment such, with pay inadequate,⁹⁶
 Unjust and hard the Parish Doctor's fate.
 The guardians thus the very means enact,
 Which 'gainst the poor injur'ously re-act.⁹⁷
 Why should the doctor out of pocket be⁹⁸
 Besides his toil and mind's anxiety?
 Yet such he is, if faithful to his trust,—⁹⁹
 Which oft anon resigns he in disgust.¹⁰⁰

Such were the trials,¹⁰¹ such the frequent strife,
 Which harass'd much our hero's daily life.
 In former years to him parochial pay
 Was, though a trifle, bread-stuff day by day.
 Had now the slow-discerning public round,
 His worth and true deserving merits found;
 His private practice now did amply give
 The means to find the wherewithal to live.
 So p'rhaps was he less anxious to enforce
 The Board, his yearly "extras" to endorse;
 Hence no complaint had they a cause to show,
 Where once continual brawls—was quiet now.
 Yet ne'er did Mammon so his heart infect
 That Dives made him Laz'rus to neglect:
 To him if rich or poor 'twas all the same,
 His efforts best they both alike did claim;
 In fact, a portion of his private meed
 He made subservient to the pauper's need;
 From his own pocket did he thus accord
 That which his parish pay did not afford.¹⁰²
 Why should this be? Why should the doctor's brains¹⁰³
 Be thought of no account in wordly gains?
 Why should the lab'rer, pauper sick require,
 Be ever deem'd unworthy of his hire?

Hail better times! when justice shall be done,
 When due appreciation shall be shown!
 When Med'cine's intellect shall gain her meed,
 When ev'ry class her excellence shall heed!

Then shall the Guardians of the parish board,
Just treatment and due recompense accord.
Then Gov'nors of each Public Charity
Shall pay for aid to sick humanity.
Then, 'twixt rampant ign'rance and doctrine sound,
By private folk a diff'rence shall be found.
Then shall the Legislature of the land
O'er Medicine a firm protector stand.
Then shall the doings of the Healing Art
Due honours, titles, and a name impart.
Then from the cottage, even to the Throne,
Shall status fit on Med'cine be bestown.



Notes and References.

PREFATORY.

(1) The eldest of the three Parcæ or Fates. Her duty was to cut the thread of human life with a pair of scissors.

(2) The discoverer of the Circulation of the Blood for some time had no other monument erected to his memory than one at Hempstead, in Essex, where he was buried.

(3) For years "the only public testimonial awarded by his country to the man whose unaided intellect and industry have added more years to the lives of men than the united labours of any century, were grants of £10,000 and £20,000, which were voted to him by the House of Commons in 1802 and 1807." In 1857 a private committee collected subscriptions from all nations to raise a monument to this "benefactor of the whole race of mankind." The statue was permitted a short-lived position in Trafalgar Square, whence it was removed to the head of the Serpentine in Hyde Park.

(4) "Where is the public statue to 'the greatest man that ever practised surgery?' Whose 'labours so far surpass those of even the greatest names in the exact sciences, that a century hence men will hesitate to believe them.'" *Lancet*, Aug. 16, 1856, ("An Old Correspondent"—"Where is Hunter's Statue?")

There is a statue of Hunter in the Museum of the College of Surgeons; and also a fine brass over his grave (which he only gained long after his death) in the nave of Westminster Abbey.

When Government aid was sought for the erection of a monument to Faraday, Mr. Lowe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, asserted that there was no precedent for the State's contributing towards the cost of a statue to a private man. The new building of the University of London in Burlington Gardens was opened on May 11, 1870, by Her Majesty Queen Victoria. It has been erected at the *public* expense. The architect, Mr. Pennethorne, has placed amongst the principal figures on the balustrade of the portico one of Harvey, as a representative of the Faculty of Medicine. The west wing is adorned on the balustrade with a statue of Hunter, amongst other English worthies.

(5) "And what? no monument, inscription, stone?
His race, his form, his name, almost unknown?"

Who builds a Church to God, and not to Fame,
Will never mark the marble with his Name."

Pope's "*Essay on Riches*."

"In Edinburgh last week there died a man who was the greatest conqueror in human history. He did not fight with battalions against battalions, his weapons were not cruel and deadly, and his foe was no guiltless people or helpless country, whose beauty and fertility were made its crimes. He waged his glorious war against our common enemy—his compassionate heart and his capacious brain were his arsenal and armoury, and his triumphs, instead of being bought by weeping and anguish, have stayed floods of tears, and prevented a world of agony. Therefore it is that while we would have buried him like a king if he had only won victories in war, and while we would have filled, in that case, the public journals with eulogies of his greatness and catalogues of his styles and titles, we now lay James Simpson to rest like a private citizen of some respectability, and cursorily mention his decease in a paragraph as an incident of the week's news."—*Daily Telegraph*, May 9, 1870.

(6) "Cordus, the Physician, who was accustomed to receive his fees only at the termination of his patients' disease, describes, in a facetious epigram, the practitioner at three different times, in three different characters:—

"Tres Medicus facies habet, unam quando rogatur
Angelicam: Mox est cum juvat, ipse Deus:
Post ubi curato, posuit sua præmia morbo,
Horridus apparuit, terribilisque Sathan.

"Three faces wears the Doctor; when first sought,
An angel's—and a god's, the cure half wrought;
But when that cure complete, he seeks his fee,
The devil looks less terrible than he.

"The epigram of Cordus is illustrated by the following conversation which passed between Bouvart and a French Marquis, whom he had attended during a long and severe illness:—

"As he entered the chamber, he was thus saluted by his patient: 'Good day to you, Mr. Bouvart, I feel quite in spirits, and think my fever has left me.' 'I am sure of it,' replied the doctor, 'the very first expression you used convinced me of it.'—'Pray explain yourself.'—'Nothing more easy. In the first days of your illness, when your life was in danger, I was your *dearest friend*; as you began to get better, I was your *good Bouvart*; and now I am *Mr. Bouvart*: depend upon it, you are quite recovered.'" (Wadd's *Nugæ Chirurgicæ*; or a Biographical Miscellany, illustrative of a Collection of Professional Portraits. London, 1824.)

INTRODUCTORY.

- (1) "A man he was to all the country dear,
And passing rich with forty pounds a year."
Goldsmith's "*Deserted Village*."
- (2) "In old Times, whilst these Churches were in the Clergy-hand, they were called Appropriations, because they were appropriate to a particular Succession of Church-Men: now they are called Improvements, for they are improperly in the Hands of Lay-Men." (Sir Henry Spelman's *Larger Work of TYTHES*. Chap. xxix. "*How Appropriations began*." 1647.)
- (3) "But in his duty prompt at ev'ry call,
He watch'd and wept, he pray'd, and felt for all."
Goldsmith's "*Deserted Village*."
- (4) "—rising ecclesiastics who, from High Church motives, take to long great coats and waistcoats of many buttons."
—*Times* (leader), Aug. 29, 1856.
- (5) "A jovial youth, who thinks his Sunday's task,
As much as God or man can fairly ask ;
The rest he gives to loves and labours light,
To fields the morning, and to feasts the night ;
None better skill'd the noisy pack to guide,
To urge their chase, to cheer them or to chide ;
A sportsman keen, he shoots through half the day,
And skill'd at whist, devotes the night to play."
Crabbe's "*Village*," book 1.
- (6) "The service past, around the pious man,
With ready zeal, each honest rustic ran ;
E'en children follow'd with endearing wile,
And pluck'd his gown, to share the good man's smile."
Goldsmith's "*Deserted Village*."
- (7) "questions nice, where doubt on doubt arose,
For dubious meanings, learn'd polemics strove,
And wars on faith,"
Crabbe, "*The Library*."
- (8) Luke x, 42.
- (9) "But most she fears the controversial pen,
The holy strife of disputatious men ;
Who the blest gospel's peaceful page explore,
Only to fight against its precepts more."
Crabbe, *ibid*.

- (10) "Nor his firm feet could one persuading sect,
By the strong glare of their new light direct ;
'On hope, in mine own sober light, I gaze,
But should be blind, and lose it, in your blaze."
Crabbe, "*The Parish Register*."

On June 28, 1870, Lord Sandon obtained leave in the House of Commons "to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of Parochial Councils in all parishes in England and Wales, and to define and enlarge the powers of parishioners with respect to the conduct of Divine worship in their parish Churches."

This Church Council "shall have the power, within the limits authorized by law, of making all changes in the accustomed manner and time of conducting the services and ministrations of the Church, in the ornaments and decorations of the Church or of the Minister, or in the fittings or furniture of the Church."

- (11) "Medio tutissimus ibis."—*Horace*.

- (12) "Ingenuas didicisse fideliter artes,
Emollit mores nec sinit esse feros."—*Ovid*.

(13) Within the Author's knowledge a School's Exhibition has been granted to a student who had left the school some years previously.

(14) "The word 'Sizar' is supposed to be derived from *size*, which is used in the University to denote an allowance of provisions at the College buttery. Originally certain duties were required of the Sizars at Cambridge and the Servitors at Oxford, approaching to the character of menial, but these have been long since discontinued."—*Penny Cyclopædia*. Art. "Sizar."

- (15) "Cerimon. . . . 'Tis known, I ever
Have studied physick,
* * * * * which gives me
A more content in course of true delight
Than to be thirsty after tottering honours."

Pericles, Prince of Tyre, act 3, scene 2.

- (16) "Of questions, much he wrote, profound and dark,—
How spake the Serpent, and where stopped the ark :
From what far land the Queen of Sheba came,
Who Salem's Priest and what his father's name ;
He made the Song of Songs its mysteries yield,
And Revelations to the World, reveal'd."

Crabbe, "*The Parish Register*."

- (17) Matthew vi, 19.

(18) "What the clerical profession suffers from is the indefiniteness of its duties."—*Times*, Jan. 12, 1857.

(19) "One Science only will one genius fit:
So vast is art, so narrow human wit."
Pope's "*Essay on Criticism*."

(20) Acts, viii, 18–24.

On May 11, 1870, Mr. R. A. Cross, M.P. moved the second reading of the "Benefices Bill." On May 31, the Bill was read a third time, in the House of Commons, and passed. "The objects of the Bill are, in the main, to prevent the sale of the exercise of the right of the next presentation to a living, as distinguished from the right to present." On July 4, 1870, the Bill was read a second time in the House of Lords.

(21) Attorney is derived from "atourner," "attornare," to substitute; and signifies one put *in the place, or turn of*, another to manage his concerns.

(22) Matthew xxviii, 19. Mark xiii, 19.

(23) 1 John, iii, 6. (24) Matthew xii, 10–13.

CHAPTER I.—PART I.

(1) Legal phraseology in Indenture of Apprenticeship.

(2) Notwithstanding the express requirement of the Act of Parliament 1815, 55 Geo. 3, cap. 194, it is but justice to mention that the Society of Apothecaries, London, some years ago officially stated that:—"they are . . . prepared to admit any candidate to examination who can adduce satisfactory evidence of his having served after the manner of an apprentice with a qualified apothecary," and further they "would be exceedingly glad that the requirement of an apprenticeship in all cases should be no longer demanded; and they have omitted no fitting opportunity of representing to the Government the desirability of a change in this respect." (Extract from a letter by Robert B. Upton, Clerk to the Society, dated Jan. 22, 1853.)

According to the most recent Regulations of the Society, this period of apprenticeship is allowed to include the time spent in attending Lectures and Hospital Practice.

Despite also the non-recognition of pupilage by the General Council of Medical Education and Registration, the Royal College of Surgeons of England consider as the commencement of professional education:—

“Instruction as a pupil of a legally-qualified Surgeon, holding the appointment of Surgeon to an Hospital, general Dispensary, or Union Workhouse, or where such opportunities of practical instruction are afforded as shall be satisfactory to the Council.”

Such “Instruction” must be posterior to the Candidate having passed an examination in general knowledge.

Furthermore, in January, 1870, the Court of Examiners of this body adopted a Report in which it “deplores the total abolition of a limited apprenticeship, or at least an equivalent residence of a pupil under the eye of a medical practitioner.” The Examiners likewise thus expressed themselves:—“The prevailing defects in candidates for the diploma of member are want of accurate knowledge of objects and facts, and want of skill in using the appliances of surgery.”

Based upon this Report the Royal College of Surgeons of England has just (*vide Lancet*, June 4, 1870,) laid down some important modifications of the curriculum of study.

All interested in the practical performance of their profession will hail with delight this wise step. The tendency of modern medical education has appeared to conduce rather to the formation of purely scientific physicians, than to guaranteeing to the public skilful and clinical practitioners.

Some months ago a young gentleman applied for the Author's vacant assistancy. The applicant had more than the necessary legal qualifications, having had spoken over his cap “*Ego te Doctorem Medicinæ creo.*” He confessed to an inability to *clinically distinguish* Measles from Scarlet Fever—*having ever seen one case only of the latter disease, and that in an adult.* He offered, however, to *write* the distinguishing characters of these diseases.

Had even a “limited apprenticeship” been heretofore imperative, the necessity would never have arisen to insert in a well-known “Manual of Minor Surgery” three whole paragraphs on “*Washing Catheters!*”

Vide also an excellent “Address on Medical Education,” delivered at the Meeting for the Distribution of Prizes, held at University College, London, on May 18, 1870, by Professor Huxley, F.R.S. (*Lancet*, June 4, 1870.)

(3) Apothecary is derived from *ἀποθηκη*, a storehouse or repository;—and this from the verb *αποτιθημι*, to put by or deposit.

(4) Young's “*Night Thoughts*,” Night 1.

(5) An admirable paper on the "Effects produced on the blood by Mental Labour" was read by Dr. Theophilus Thompson before the Medical Society of London, Nov. 29, 1856. He showed not only the physical effects produced, by excessive brain-work, in the toiler himself, but also the possibility of the transmission of such results to his descendants.

(6) What Crabbe sang of orthodox "Doctor Glibb" is as, if not more, applicable to the *glib*-tongued charlatan of the day:—

"Fame (now his friend,) fear, novelty, and whim,
And fashion, sent the varying sex to him."

"*The Parisian Register.*"

(7) "*Cleon.* Thou art like the harpy,
Which to betray, doth wear an angel's face,
Seize with an eagle's talons."

Pericles, Prince of Tyre, act 4, scene 4.

(8) Jupiter *first* afflicted Phineus with blindness, and *then* sent the Harpies to spoil his meats.

(9) "In this wide town there are most lewd impostors,
Made of all terms and shreds; no less belyers
Of sick men's favours, than their own vile medicines;
Which they will utter upon monstrous oaths."

Ben Jonson.

"Unblushing villains, who, in truth's despite,
Can white to black transform, and black to white."

Juvenal.

(10) Coffinism.

(11) "A Society" has been formed "for distributing botanic medicine amongst the poor," and more especially Coffin's "Anti-Cholera Powder." *The medicines are supplied by the (Botanic) College to the Society at wholesale prices.*—*Lancet*, Dec. 10, 1853.

(12) "The two medicines, which are chiefly employed by the Coffinites, are Cayenne pepper and

(13) "*Lobelia Inflata.* The former of these is sufficiently well known as a powerful irritant. . . . The *Lobelia* is a still more dangerous drug; for it contains, in addition to its irritating principle, a deadly poison, which is more active in its nature than the alkaloids of Opium and Tobacco."—*The Family Friend* "on the Mischievous Effects of Quack Medicines, by Dr. Letheby. Chap. iii.—April, 1856.

(14) "Disease is dependent on a want of heat, or equilibrium of heat, in the body."—Coffin's Pamphlets.

"The vital heat, that warms the labouring heart,
Lends a fair system to these sons of Art;"

Crabbe, "*The Library*."

(15) "It is probably known to most people that there exists in this town an association of individuals, male and female, tailors, cobblers, bakers' wives, and some who cannot be classed under any reputable calling, who in their collective capacity make up an institution styled the Botanic College.—*Lancet, ante cit.*

(16) Heat.

(17) "Heat is life, and life is heat, and it causes all the operations of the body."—Coffin's Pamphlets.

(18) "The fire in the stomach makes the water boil there, and this heats the lungs, and hence the respiration; while the steam of that boiling water escapes through the body as perspiration, and the steam thus generated sets the limbs in motion."—*Ibid.*

(19) Dr. Letheby *op. cit.* brings forward no less than 12 fatal cases clearly traceable to the administration of Coffinite drugs.

In the Crown Court of the Midland Circuit, at the summer assizes 1856, a quack was found guilty of manslaughter of a married woman, by administering to her a mixture of lobelia inflata, in doses of five grains to a teaspoonful, the general rule of the profession being not to give over a grain for a dose.

(20) "Cayenne Pepper is especially recommended in inflammation of the stomach."—*Lancet, ante cit.*

"I have seen the human stomach and bowels so violently inflamed after such treatment, as to look like a mass of currant jelly."—Dr. Letheby, *op. cit.*

(21) Homœopathy from *ὁμοιοπάθεια* (*ὅμοιος* similar; and *πάθος*, feeling or sensation) literally means "similar or like state of feeling."

(22) *Similia similibus curantur*. "To cure in a mild, prompt, and durable manner, we must choose in each case of disease a medicine capable of exciting in the health of a human being an affection similar to the one against which

we purpose employing it, and the more perfect the similarity, the more perfect is the cure obtained, provided always that the symptoms are at the same time stronger than the disease.”—Hahnemann’s *Organon*, 5th edit. sec. xxvii.

- (23) “Do fevers yield to anything that’s hot?
Do thorough draughts cure thorough colds or not?
Or hearty dinners neutralize a surfeit?
Is ’t good advice for gastronomic ills,
When indigestion’s face with pain is crumpling,
To say, ‘Discard those Peristaltic Pills,’
Take a hard dumpling?
Tell me thou German Cousin,
And tell me honestly, without a diddle,
Does an attenuated dose of rosin
Act as a tonic on an old *Scotch fiddle*?”

Ode to Hahnemann, the Homœopathist.—Hood.

(24) “Hence the present dynamic affection (*the malady*) ceases as soon as a second dynamic power (*the remedy*), more capable of modifying life, acts on it, and provokes symptoms having a great analogy to the former.”—Hahnemann’s *Materia Medica*, p. 56.

“The Homœopathic remedy converts this alteration” (disease) “into another medical malady, very analogous, but more intense;” &c., &c.—Hahnemann’s *Organon*, 5th edit. sec. xxix.

“The most certain homœopathic remedy for a disease is that one which produces in a healthy person the greatest similarity to the collective symptoms of the disease.”—*Ibid.* sec. cxlvii.

“The sum total of the outwardly, cognizable symptoms, representing the existing malady.”—*Ibid.* sec. xv.

(25) One who practises, or treats of, Therapeutics, which is that department of Medical Science which relates to the composition, the application, and the modes of operation of the remedies for diseases.

(26) A knowledge of Pathology implies “a knowledge of altered structures and of diseased conditions—and also an explanation of these—a knowledge of what precedes them, and a knowledge of what results from them.”—Sir Thomas Watson, Bart., “Principles and Practice of Physic.”

(27) The god of pleasantry, satire, and *ridicule*.

(28) "It holds good, and will continue to hold good, as a homœopathic therapeutic maxim, *not to be refuted by any experience in the world*, that the best dose of the properly selected remedy is always the very smallest one in one of the high dynamizations," &c.—Hahnemann's *Organon* (sect. ccxlv, foot note).

"It is especially in the form of vapour by smelling and inhaling the medicinal aura that is always emanating from a globule, impregnated with a medicinal fluid in a high development of power, and placed dry in a small phial, that the homœopathic remedies act most surely and most powerfully."—*Ibid.* (sect. cclxxxviii, foot note).

"Invariably, and in every case, two diseases differing in kind, but very similar in their phenomena, annihilate each other whenever they meet in the organism; because the stronger morbid power acts, from its similarity of action, on *exactly the same parts* as those affected by the weaker morbid power, which latter is consequently extinguished," &c., &c.—*Ibid.* (sect. xlv).

* * * Despite these dogmas of Hahnemann, some modern homœopaths assert that the dose is an open question.

(29) Hippocrates, "The Father of Medicine," was born at Cos, B. C. 460.

(30) "Can we wonder, when the College of Physicians opened its highest honour to a mesmerist, that lords and ladies, and kings and queens, confound quackery and regular physic; that one day Prince Albert shall be invited to the College of Physicians, and that at another time the Queen-Mother shall patronize the Homœopathic Hospital; that one day such Noblemen as the Earl of Carlisle should preside at the festival of the opening of a hospital for dispensing the blessings of Medicine and Surgery, in whose praises he was most eloquent, while the next time his name is seen in public, it is as the Vice-president of a hospital for working the poor with the globules of Hahnemann."—*Lancet*, July 5, 1851.

"But let us consider the list of persons patronising the London Homœopathic Hospital. It includes the Duchess of Cambridge, the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz, the Princess Mary Adelaide, five other duchesses, three marchionesses, fifteen countesses, eight viscountesses, 'besides a very large number of other titled ladies.'

Well, I do not think, I am far wrong in calling them wealthy, and in saying they have nothing to do.”—*Homœopathy in Southampton*, by R. W. Waudby Griffin, M.D. 1870.

(31) “Ye, opprest by some fantastic woes,
Some jarring nerve that baffles your repose ;
Who press the downy couch, while slaves advance
With timid eye to read the distant glance ;
Who with sad prayers the weary doctor teaze,
To name the nameless ever-new disease ;
Who with mock patience dire complaints endure,
Which real pain and that alone can cure.”
Crabbe, “*The Village*,” book 1.

“Some men employ their health—an ugly trick,
In making known how oft they have been sick ;
And give us, in recitals of disease,
A doctor’s troubles, but without his fees ;
Relate how many times they kept their bed,
How an emetic or cathartic sped ;
Nothing is lightly touch’d, much less forgot,
Nose, ears, and eyes seem present on the spot :
Now the distemper, spite of draught or pill,
Victorious seem’d and now the doctor’s skill ;
And now alas, for unforeseen mishaps !
They put on a damp nightcap, and relapse ;
They thought they must have died they were so bad,
Their peevish hearers almost wish they had.”
Cowper, “*Conversation*.”

(32) “So modern ’pothecaries, taught the art
By doctors’ bills to play the doctor’s part.”
Pope’s “*Essay on Criticism*.”

(33) *Vis medicatrix Naturæ*.

(34) In the autumn of 1851 an Instrument styled the “New Magnetic Indicator” was invented and exhibited at Brighton. It was trumpeted as not only of “vast importance to the Science of Magnetism in all its forms,” but as “holding out the means of *demonstrating* the fact that the homœopathic medicines do act on the human organisms.” It was thus composed :—

“A wooden stand is fixed to a table ; from this rises a perpendicular pole, with a horizontal brass rod projecting from its summit ; at the extremity of the rod there is a delicate forceps, which grasps a thread of silk, the thread holding in suspension a little pendulum of sealing wax. The bit of wax is surrounded by a glass shade, and is suspended over a

small dial plate, marked out, somewhat after the manner of a compass, with the letters A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. The operator puts his finger, or finger and thumb, upon the top of the perpendicular pole, to which the brass rod is attached, when the pendulum makes a variety of definite movements over the face of the dial plate. These movements are described as modified in an extraordinary manner by the sex of the operator, the substances held in his hand, and a variety of other singular circumstances."—*Lancet*, Nov. 15, 1851.

(35) "Well, one globule of Stannum, of the fourth attenuation, was placed by me in the palm of the hand (*that being the most sensitive part*) of Mr. Rutter, after he had set the instrument in action. The pendulum went immediately, moving from B to A with as quick and as strong a motion as when the same metal in mass was put into his hand."—*Ibid.*

(36) The *Lancet*, *ant. cit.*, contains an excellent *exposé* of this whole piece of "folly or fraud." Dr. Madden, "the first supporter," had eventually to confess:—

"1. That in the ordinary condition of the Magnetoscope, *any motion which is anticipated invariably takes place.* 2. *If I apply merely the point of any of my fingers to the brass ball, and wish for any motion to occur, it takes place immediately, without my being conscious of any muscular motion on my part.* 3. *If a medicine is put into my hands without my having any possible clue to its nature, the motions no longer coincide with my former observations; so much so, indeed, that of six medicines which have been tested in this way four times each, no one agreed more than twice, and two of them gave different motions every time they were tested."*

(37) Some years ago a trial of homœopathy was given at Naples by Royal order. The results of the observations were:—1st. That the treatment produced no effects; 2nd. That it had the serious inconvenience in several of the patients, of preventing the employment of remedies by which they might be cured.—*Lancet*, Dec. 10, 1853.

In the *Lancet*, July 19, Aug. 2, 1851; Jan. 10, March 6, 1852; and Jan. 22, 1853, are related six cases, where death was directly traceable to Homœopathy. In same journal, Dec. 27, 1851, is related a case where a patient at death's door was only saved by the timely interference of proper medical treatment. Also in same of July 26, 1851, and June 12, 1852, occur two fatal cases from what might be called Homœopathic Surgery.

L'Union Medicale states that a riot broke out, towards the end of last February, at Cleveland in Ohio. It would appear that during some repairs . . . of a building called an homœopathic college . . . several corpses were found, . . . as also portions of human bodies.—*Lancet*, April 10, 1852.

“—the homœopathic treatment brought face to face with the reports of six hospitals in this country shows a mortality twice as great.”—R. W. W. Griffin, *op. cit.* 1870, p. 37.

(38) Allopathy from *αλλοιος*, different, and *πάθος*, disease; Antipathy from *ἀντι*, opposed to, and *πάθος*, are names given by Hahnemann to the system opposed to his own.

“A third method is the Allopathic (different), in which remedies are given which have no relation whatever to the symptoms of the disease.”—Hahnemann’s *Organon*.

(39) Facts corroborative of this assertion are to be found in *Lancet*, Aug. 9, Nov. 29, and Dec. 20, 1851; March 20, 1852; April 14 and May 5, 1855; Dr. Cormacks’s Letter to the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association (*Lancet*, Aug. 16, 1851); and in Dr. Symonds’ Speech at the Meeting of the Bath and Bristol Branch of the Provincial Association. (*Lancet*, Aug. 2, 1851.)

Acute is applied to a disease with violent symptoms, of rapid progress, and of short duration.

(40) Andral, one of the highest medical authorities of France, put homœopathy fairly to the test of experiment on nearly 140 patients, in the presence of the homœopaths themselves, with every requisite care and precaution, and without obtaining success in a single instance.

After other “conclusions” arrived at by Dr. Routh as to what “the homœopathic cures effected” are due, he states:—

“And secondly:—

“1. That in many cases the homœopaths are inexact and inaccurate in their diagnosis.

“2. That, therefore, their statistical returns are, in many instances, falsified.

“4. That, therefore, their comparisons with allopathic practice are unfair and not to be depended upon.”—*Fallacies of Homœopathy.*”

(41) The Governors of the Sheffield General Infirmary (*Lancet*, Oct. 25, 1851); the Governors of the Ross Dispensary (*Ibid.* Nov. 29, 1851); the Governors of the Eastern Dispensary, Alie Street (*Ibid.* Aug. 28, 1852); the Governors of the Bradford Infirmary (*Ibid.* Oct. 30, 1852, and Feb. 21, 1857); certain applicants to the Governors of the Birmingham Hospital (*Ibid.* July 15, 1854); and certain

of the Committee of the Southampton Dispensary (*Ibid.* Dec. 11, 1869); have evinced their sapiency by providing, or attempting to provide, for the homœopathic treatment of the poor.

At "Winchester . . . a homœopathic medical man . . . holds the position of medical officer to one of the Districts under the Poor Law Board." (Letter to the *Hampshire Independent*, signed Robert T. Cooper, Southampton, Dec. 6, 1869.)

"The monstrous spectacle is now afforded, in several parts of England, of homœopaths administering the office of Poor Law Surgeons. The Poor Law Board have, incredible as it may seem, allowed certain globulists to hold Poor Law appointments, under the monstrous condition that they shall allow the Poor Law patients to choose for themselves, whether they will be treated by globules, or by the ordinary methods."—*Lancet*, Sept. 6, 1851.

In the Spring of 1855 a Deputation waited upon Lord Panmure in order to present to him a memorial, signed very numerously, praying "that the Secretary at War should establish a civil hospital at Smyrna, or elsewhere, for the treatment of our sailors and soldiers according to the Homœopathic system, his warranty for so doing being the conclusive authority that these all-sapient peers, baronets, generals, admirals, and justices of the peace (who signed the memorial) believe that Homœopathy is the true system of medicine."—*Lancet*, April 7, 1855.

(42) Hydropathy from ὕδωρ, water; and πάθος,

"And then that silly 'Water Cure!'

Cold Comforts a 'cold *douche*,' I'm sure,

One's death by soaking to procure.

A water-drenching *in and out*,

And a 'wet sheet' one's limbs about

Yclept a 'hydropathic' clout.

Such as pale ghosts and corpses have,

Won't do for us, who'd rather save

Our carcase from a 'watery grave.'"

"Leaves from a Doctor's Scrap Book of Medico-Literary Quotations."—

Medical Circular, Jan. 19, 1853.

(43) An eruption of boils, due to the depressing action of the continued application of water on the vitality of the skin, is affirmed by hydropathists to be a favourable evacuation of morbid matters, indicating a "crisis" or sudden change for the better.

(44) Corroborative facts are to be found in *Lancet*, Jan. 24, and Nov. 27, 1852.

(45) Mesmerists.

(46) Nearly one hundred years ago the Commissioners, MM. Bailly, Lavoisier, Franklin, and other distinguished men appointed by the French Government to examine into the splendid pretensions of Animal Magnetism, reported that the "pretended agent" was certainly neither "common magnetism" nor "electricity."—*Report of Benjamin Franklin and other Commissioners charged by the King of France with the Examination of Animal Magnetism as now practised at Paris. Translated from the French, with an Historical Introduction.* 8vo. 1785.

The powers of Mesmerism were rather severely challenged by the late Sir J. Y. Simpson, Bart., about 20 years ago. In a letter to the Editor of the *Lancet*, Sept. 20, 1851, he says:—

"I will, if you will allow me, place five such boxes or packets (each of them containing a line of Shakspeare) in your hands, and in the hands of a small committee of medical men, whom you and I shall conjointly agree upon, and who with you shall be judges, and make all the necessary arrangements; and I now offer through you, £500, for the reading of these five lines by any clairvoyant."

* * * It is needless to observe that to this day the £500 has never been won.

(47) "There are observed, particularly in the human body, properties analogous to those of the magnet; and in it are discerned poles equally different and opposite. The action and the virtues of Animal Magnetism may be communicated from one body to other bodies, animate and inanimate."—*Mémoire sur la Découverte du Magnétisme Animal.* Par M. Mesmer, Paris, 1779.

(48) "Animal Magnetism is capable of healing diseases of the nerves immediately, and others mediately."—*Ibid.*

(49) In asserting that the "Mesmeric Fluid" passes along the operator's nerves, and thence, permeates his cuticle, to the patient—the Mesmerists forget that the nerves distributed to the derma, or skin, terminate in, more or less, convoluted *loops*.

(50) "I have no belief whatever that these effects are the effects of any power, force, agency, or entity, passing from the so-called 'Mesmerizer' to the so-called 'Mesmerized.' On the contrary, these experiments have firmly convinced

me, as they have convinced others who have seen them, that these and other phenomena of the like kind are merely effects produced by the mind of the 'Mesmerized' upon his or her economy; that they are only self-mental acts, if I may so speak, and that they are as independent of any 'Mesmeric' influence as the phenomena of common sleep, or common dreaming, or common hysteria."—Sir J. Y. Simpson, Bart. *ante cit.*

"That though they recognized very surprising and unexpected phenomena in the physical state of the magnetized individual, they gave it as their opinion, that the power of the imagination, and not animal magnetism, produced these effects; that contact, imagination, imitation, and excited sensibility were the real and sole causes of these phenomena; and that Mesmer himself was either an arrant impostor or a deceived fanatic."—*Leaves from a Doctor's Scrap Book, &c., op. cit.* Jan. 1, 1853. Vide also *British Quarterly*, Nov. 1850. (Art. Mesmerism.)

(51) A boy, after being operated upon by a Mesmerist, became a confirmed lunatic, and so violent that it was necessary to place him under restraint.—*Lancet*, June 10, 1854.

The Exeter Board of Guardians once resolved to treat cases of recent insanity amongst the poor by Mesmerism.—*Lancet*, Dec. 15, 1855.

(52) "The Lecturer employs
Two artless little boys,
(And gets them cheap),
To teach the dullest dunce,
How he may learn at once
To read and sleep."

Tait's *Edinburgh Magazine*, 1846.

(53) "When lo! the advertising tribe succeed,
Pay to be read, yet find but few will read; '(?)'
And chief th' Illustrious race, whose drops and pills
Have patent powers to vanquish human ills."

Crabbe, "*The Newspaper*."

(54) Dr. Letheby (chap. ii. *op. citat.* Feb. 1856) has exposed the very simple composition of some of the most notorious quack pills.

(55) "Then again there is the *testimonial puff*, which has always been very successful as a decoy, and it wants

but little management beyond that of keeping it up. Indeed there are men who live by writing these puffs and selling them at so much per dozen."—Dr. Letheby (chap. iv. *op. citat.* May 1856).

It has been decided "that the fabricators of false testimonials are open to an action at the hands of their customers, for obtaining money under false pretences."

"From powerful causes spring the empiric's gains,
Man's love of life, his weakness, and his pains ;
These first induce him the vile trash to try,
Then lend his name that other men may buy."

Crabbe's "*Borough.*"

"And twenty names of cobblers turned to Squires,
Aid the bold language of these blushless liars."—*Ibid.*

"Then lend your name ;'—you 're loth, but yet confess,
Its powers are great, and so you acquiesce :
Yet, think a moment, ere your name you lend,
With whose 't is plac'd, and what you recommend !
Who tipples brandy will some comfort feel,
But will he to the medicine set his seal ?

Compassion sometimes sets the fatal sign,
The man was poor, and humbly begged a line ;
Else, how should noble names and titles back
The spreading praise of some adventurous quack?"—*Ibid.*

(56) Pandora (*παν*, every ; *δωρον*, gift) was a woman made with clay by Vulcan at the request of Jupiter. All the gods vied in making her presents. Jupiter gave her a beautiful box which she was ordered to present to the man who married her. Prometheus was not to be deceived, but his brother Epimetheus married her ; and when he opened the box which she presented to him, there issued from it a multitude of evils and distempers, which dispersed themselves all over the world, and which from that fatal moment have never ceased to afflict the human race.

(57) Prescribing Druggists.

(58) Bone-setters. In the *Lancet*, Jan. 14, 1854, is an account of an inquest on "a young man" who sprained his ankle and, not satisfied with the opinion of the medical man that there was neither "fracture nor dislocation," went to "an amateur practitioner." This latter "examined the foot," pronounced the "whirl bone of it to be out ; and then

proceeded to pull and tug at it, till he satisfied himself he had set it." This treatment brought on violent inflammation, "disease of the soft parts round the joints," "caries of the bone," and death. On a post-mortem examination "no fracture or displacement of any kind" was found.

(59) Cancer-doctors.

(60) The following numbers of the *Lancet* contain accounts of cases of death or other very serious results induced by the exhibition of quack treatment:—1852—Jan. 3, Jan. 10, Oct. 23; 1853—March 12, May 7, Sept. 24, Oct. 1; 1854—Feb. 18, June 17, Sept. 23, Oct. 28; 1855—Nov. 24; 1856—Jan. 26.

"In the Registrar-General's Report for 1855, it is stated that 'during the second quarter of 1855, in the Dukinfield district of Ashton-under-Lyne, amongst 179 cases of fatal disease certified to the Local Registrar, 41 of these were medically attended by persons that held no legal qualification.'" "In the quarter ending June, 1856, the Dukinfield District-Registrar of Ashton-under-Lyne again reports, that out of 162 deaths recorded, 56 or one-third, were attended by individuals wholly devoid of any professional qualification." "It is found that not less than 3,413 human beings, out of 120,000, actually died within the limited precincts where these irregularities prevail, during twelve months ending the 30th of June, 1856, which therefore gives the high annual mortality of 1 death to every 35 inhabitants."—*Lancet*, Aug. 16, 1856.

On the tomb of an unfortunate child, in the burial ground belonging to the Church of Holy Trinity, at Hull, is the following inscription:—"In memory of Thomas Huband Clayton (Verdict by an inquest taken January 3. Poisoned by a Patent Quack Medicine)."

W. W. Bolton, Esq., *Coroner*.

Geo. Bramwell, *Deputy Town Clerk*.

"And he would not for awhile, but afterwards he said—I will."—Luke xviii, 4, 5.

"But his blood will I require at thine hand."—Ezekiel xxxiii, 8.—*Medical Circular* (The Anatomy of Quackery, chap. xiv,) April 6, 1853.

(61) "The French and Russian Governments have prohibited the introduction of English Quack Medicines."—*Lancet*, Nov, 1, 1856:

“The Emperor of Russia . . . has prohibited quackery and quacks throughout all the Russias.”—*Lancet*, Nov. 29, 1856.

(62) By 6 & 7 Vict. cap. 73, sec. 32, it is enacted that if any attorney or solicitor shall act as agent for, or permit his name to be used in any action or suit in any Court of Law or Equity, or matter in Bankruptcy, upon the account or for the profit of any unqualified person, or do any other act thereby, to enable such unqualified person to appear, act or practice in any respect as an attorney or solicitor, in any suit at law or in equity, knowing such person not to be duly qualified, he shall and may in a summary manner, on the proof thereof, be struck off the roll and disabled from practising as an attorney or solicitor; and the unqualified person so acting may be committed to prison by the Court for any term not exceeding one year.

It is also laid down in Chitty's Archbold's Practice (9th Ed. A.D. 1855) p. 60, as follows:—“A person may be indicted for acting as an attorney when not admitted or enrolled.” *R. v. Buchanan*, 8 Q.B. 883; 15 L. J. (Q.B.) 227.

(63) On August 2, 1858, an Act (21 & 22 Vict. cap. 90) was passed to regulate the qualifications of practitioners in Medicine and Surgery. Much was at first expected from sec. 40 (of this Medical Act), which is headed “Penalty for falsely pretending to be a registered person.” Despite a certain number of convictions, this section has been a practical failure. The penalty is “a sum not exceeding £20.” The *practice* of unqualified persons is as rampant as ever.

“The Act of 1858 affirms that ‘It is expedient that persons requiring Medical Aid should be enabled to distinguish qualified from unqualified Practitioners.’ The experience of the past ten years has proved that the Act is practically inoperative as a guide to the public in distinguishing legally qualified Members of the Medical Profession. A large number of men are practising Medicine and Surgery in different parts of the country, not only without any legal qualification, but without having undergone any regular course of Medical Education. In some places men are practising under fictitious names, assuming the title of doctor, and obtaining considerable sums of money from weak persons, by intimidation and extortion. The Medical Act of 1858 is practically inoperative in restraining these offenders.”—

Memorial signed by 9,724 legally qualified Medical Practitioners, and presented to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department, March 10, 1870.

On April 8, 1870, was read a first time, and, on May 5, a second time, in the House of Lords, the Lord President's (Earl de Grey) Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the Law relating to the Qualification of Practitioners in Medicine and Surgery, and otherwise to amend the Medical Act, (1858).*" The penalty for practising for gain, and being unregistered, is still proposed to be only a pecuniary fine "not exceeding twenty pounds." A striking contrast between this and the penalties detailed in note 62, ante! The powers intended to be given to the General Medical Council, instead of private individuals, to prosecute unregistered pretenders, are, besides, only permissive, and no funds are provided by the Bill to defray the expenses of such prosecutions. Nay, more! the Bill, as amended in Committee on June 28, contains the following clause in favour of homœopathists and other fanciful practitioners! !—

"If it appear to the General Medical Council that any attempt has been made by any medical examining board to require any candidate to adopt or abstain from adopting the practice of any particular theory of Medicine or Surgery, either by making such adoption or abstention a condition of admission to or passing any examination or otherwise, the General Medical Council may represent the same to the Privy Council; and the Privy Council may, if satisfied that such attempt has been made, by order, direct such medical examining board to desist from such attempt, and if the board fail to comply with such order, may, by order, dissolve the board."

(64) "To the disgrace of our Legislature the Government stamp still figures on hundreds of quack nostrums, which have worked with so deadly an effect on the lives and constitutions of Englishmen. This solitary fact would be sufficient, if we possessed not a host of others, to show the little regard which is paid to our profession by the powers that be. It is utterly disgraceful to an enlightened community to witness the shameful and shameless advertisements which crowd more particularly the country newspapers, of medicines for the 'cure of all disorders;' and no one calculated to form an opinion upon the subject can have any other feeling than that of intense disgust on finding that the name of the inventor of the nostrum is printed by the authority of the Government on the stamp, as an indication that the preparation is genuine! Who can calculate

the amount of misery, which, for the sake of a paltry item in the revenue, the Government inflicts upon the people, by its sanction and support of what I can designate as nothing but a fraud." *Oration delivered before the Fellows of the Medical Society of London, Thursday, March 8, 1855 (the 82nd Anniversary), by J. F. Clarke, Esq. late Vice-President of the Society.*

"The Exchequer of this free and enlightened country! is not ashamed to receive a portion of its supplies from pandering to the vices and impositions of every compounder of pills, plasters, and ointments, who may need its services. On the Continent, the operations of the unqualified pretender and the veritable quack are restricted, nay, even prohibited by law. The sale of quack medicines is also under the like prohibition. This is common sense, honesty, and philanthropy. The Government of this country have no such conscientious feelings. They are ready to give countenance to quackery and assist at its orgies, in return for the ample revenue which they derive from the sale of medicine stamps and the duty on advertisements." "The Anatomy of Quackery," Introduction. *Medical Circular*, Jan. 1, 1853.

(65) "By far the most dangerous supporters of quackery with us are undoubtedly the clergy, for their influence over their flocks is always very great, and their exertions are regarded with especial favour; hence every means is resorted to for obtaining clerical endorsement of new systems of treatment and of new medicines. This is, I find, the case in Edinburgh likewise; for I notice one advertisement, at least, containing the certificates of no less than five of your ministers in favour of a 'specific liniment.' In America these testimonials are given only by the lowest and most ignorant preachers; among the higher and educated ones, we find everywhere in our land that a close sympathy exists with our profession; and I could adduce hundreds of extracts from their published sermons and addresses in proof of the assertion. I trust that these remarks may apply with equal force to the accomplished and eloquent divines of this country; and that with you also those who stoop to become, even unwittingly, the partisans of deception, and lend the powerful influence of their holy offices to promote and sanction imposture, are only to be found amongst the

weak-minded and unreflecting.”—*Address on the “Medical Schools and the Medical Profession in the United States of America,”* by Dr. F. C. Stewart, of New York, published in the *Edinburgh Medical Journal*, August, 1856.

(66) “Nothing is more common than to hear a person state confidently, as from his own experience, that such and such a patient was cured by this or that remedy; whereas all that he knows is, that he took the medicine and recovered. A termination and a cure are two vastly different things.”—Archbishop Whately.

(67) “Although the folly of the pretender is not less, and the danger to the victim is as great, when a dispensing parson or a Lady Bountiful assumes the functions of the medical practitioner, as when the professed charlatan does the same thing for profit, yet there is a clear difference in the eyes of the law.”—*Lancet*, Dec. 10, 1853. (*Vide* note 63, *ante*.)

(68) “Like all those who have much, Mr. Prattles wanted more. After he had exported millions of his Methusaleh Pills to every corner of the Queen’s colonial dominions, he attempted to introduce them into foreign medicine markets. To his chagrin, he found that in *no other country in the world* but in these dominions (except the United States of America) were articles of that description allowed to be vended—much less are they sanctioned for the sake of a paltry revenue. On the contrary, individuals, Mr. Prattles learnt, who were discovered selling such things on the Continent, are severely punished; even Newspapers who advertise them are fined. Although he met with native patent medicines during his travels on the Continent, yet they were real remedies; having all been submitted to a Board of Government Officers distinguished for their proficiency in pharmacy and medicine, who decide whether the non-professional public can be safely trusted with them or not. Mr. Prattles, however, made a brilliant fortune by his gullible countrymen.”—*Medical Circular*, Feb. 23, 1853, Art. “Methusaleh Pill,” *Anatomy of Quackery*, chap. viii.

(69) “Of basilisks (the kings of serpents—*βασίλειος*, a king) or cockatrices, there were said to be three, if not four, kinds. One species burned up whatever they approached—a sort of breathing upases—they made a desert wherever

they went, for everything, animal and vegetable, withered before them; a second were a kind of wandering Medusa's heads, and their look, like Vathek's eye, caused an instant horror, which was immediately followed by death; the touch of a third caused the flesh to fall from the bones of the wretched animal with which they came in contact; and a fourth, a concentration of evil, was said to be produced from the eggs of extremely old cocks (*ova centonina*) hatched under toads or serpents."—*Penny Cyclo.* Art. "Cockatrice."

"*Gloster.* Thine eyes, sweet lady, have infected mine.

Anne. 'Would they were basilisks, to strike thee dead!'"

King Richard III, act 1, scene 2.

(70) "Publicly, Mr. Prattles complained that the Government charged him three-halfpence per impression for these 'Hall Marks;' privately, he whispered that to them he owed his fortune."—*Methusaleh Pill, op. cit.*

(71) In accordance with sect. 27 of the Medical Act (*ant. cit.*) a Medical Register is annually published. As Registration is of very indirect advantage to some members of the profession, it is, however, doubtful whether the Register contains the names of all the legally-qualified medical men of the kingdom.

(72) "The public prosecutor has commenced proceedings, before the Tribunal of Police in Paris, against not fewer than eleven somnambulists on the charge of illegally practising Medicine. . . . Why have we not a public prosecutor in England, and the power to prosecute quacks before a magistrate?"—*Medical Circular,* Aug. 25, 1852.

(73) "Reason's whole pleasure, all the joys of sense,
Lie in three words—health, peace and competence."

Pope's Essay on Man, Ep. iv, line 79.

(74) "The whole range of quacks . . . always succeed in obtaining some easy nobleman, or some equally mild commoner, who is proud and anxious to be their friend and patron."—*Lancet,* July 23, 1853.

(75) "He believed the day would arrive when it would be important to the House of Lords itself to attract brilliant talents, public spirit, virtue, though unendowed with the gifts of fortune."—*Mr. Raikes Currie's Speech on the Appellate Jurisdiction Bill,* Thursday, July 10, 1856.

The Act 21 Vict. c. 26, passed on June 28, 1858, re-

pealed all the Acts requiring any property qualification in Members of Parliament. Instead of, as heretofore, by a Committee of the House of Commons itself, the Parliamentary Elections Act, 1868, 31 & 32 Vict. cap. 125, enacts trial of Election Petitions to be by a Puisne Judge of one of Her Majesty's Superior Courts of Common Law at Westminster or Dublin, who reports in writing to the Speaker the existence of corrupt practices, and the names of all persons proved to be guilty of such at the said election.

These two Acts aforesaid may, *in time*, give "intellect" some chance, as against "purse," in an election for a Member of Parliament.

(76) Despite the recent extension of representation to certain of the Universities, the following opinions have lost but little, if any, of their truism:—

"There is no profession, trade, or interest so little cared for, or even so feebly represented in the British Legislature, as those of Surgery and Medicine."—*Medical Circular* (Anatomy of Quackery), Jan. 5, 1853.

"Until we can bear with more union and force upon the Government, in a political sense, we must still expect to occupy an inferior position to the sister professions It has been too much the fashion with those who are opposed to the full recognition of our rights by the State to regard our services as relating only to individuals, and as not bearing socially or politically upon the community."—J. F. Clarke, Esq., M.R.C.S.E. *ant. cit.*

(77) On one occasion Sir James Graham, when Secretary of State for the Home Department, justified the patronage of quacks by quoting the memorable distich:—

"That the pleasure is as great
In being cheated as to cheat."

The sentiment was cheered to the echo in the House of Commons. In commenting on this occurrence J. F. Clarke, Esq. (*ant. cit.*) observes:—

"Medicine, unrepresented in either House, is treated as unworthy of the slightest consideration."

(78) ". . . . to the worm
. . . . his appointed prize;"

Crabbe "*The Parish Register*."

(79) Matthew, chap. vii, verse 3.

(80) It is to be hoped that it is yearly becoming less frequent to hear of the professional degradation of attending patients in conjunction with illegal practitioners—common quacks. Such instances are detailed in the *Lancet*, Oct. 2, 1852; Sept. 24, 1853; Nov. 18 and Dec. 30, 1854.

(81) Despite Clause 40 of the Medical Act (*ant. cit.*) numerous quacks still style themselves, and openly exhibit at their shops the word, "Doctor."

(82) A great number of Druggists still practise in every way as general practitioners. They visit, prescribe, and dispense; and, *proh pudor!* there are medical men who do not hesitate to aid and abet them, by the signing of Certificates of Death, and doing for them other acts which the Law virtually necessitates to be alone done by those legally-qualified.

(83) This practice is perhaps now peculiar to the Metropolis; or, at all events, also to the largest Provincial towns. Its tendency is, undoubtedly, to depreciate the London General Practitioners, as a body, in the eyes of the public; and its consequence is that the "Doctors" of the Metropolis do not occupy that status in society, which do the "Doctors" of every village and Country town.

CHAPTER I.—PART II.

(1) "Ask any young practitioner, and, indeed, it may be said, any old one, what are the greatest evils with which he has to contend? and in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred the answer will be that he is immolated by the prescribing chemist on one side, and the quack upon the other."—*Lancet*, Nov. 18, 1854.

(2) "However, Mr. Thomas Holloway's star has recently been in the ascendant: we hear of his fine carriages and horses, and we understand that he has lately connected himself with one of the principal Yankee Sarsaparilla depôts in the Strand. He also dabbles largely in bonded wines, and is always ready to make an advance on 'warrants,' if the quality be marketable. In fact, we are told that he has both cash and energy for any speculation that promises large profits."—*Medical Circular* (Anatomy of Quackery, chap. v.), Feb. 2, 1857.

(3) "The osseous structure is peculiarly fitted by its solidity and hardness, not only to give support to the soft parts, This solid framework of the body is made up

of a number of separate pieces.”—*Elements of Anatomy* by Jones Quain, M.D., 5th edit., p. 1.

(4) “The body of an animal is its coil” (“mortal coil”).
—*On the State of the Mind during Sleep, &c.* A paper read to the Physiological section of the British Association, on Sept. 6, 1852, by R. Fowler, M.D., F.R.S.

(5) “The organic substance, . . . the cartilaginous nidus of the bone, upon which its form depends.

* * * * *

To the earthy part it owes its hardness.”—Todd & Bowman, “*Physiological Anatomy and Physiology of Man.*” 1st edition, p. 98.

(6) “In examining the surfaces of . . . bones, we are struck with the variety of projections or eminences, and of depressions, which are found upon them.”—*Ibid.*, p. 105.

(7) “It is the province of Physiology to investigate the ways in which the functions of living beings are effected.”—*Ibid.*, p. 28.

(8) “Without a knowledge of the offices which various parts fulfil in the animal economy, our search to determine what organ or function is deranged must be most vague and indefinite.”—*Ibid.*, p. 28.

(9) Pope’s *Essay on Man*, epis. iv, line 322.

(10) The Vegetable Kingdom.

(11) Genesis, chap. 1, verses 11 and 20.

(12) “*Materia Medica* is that branch of Medical Science which treats of the articles employed in the practice of Medicine, and embraces an explanation of the nature and modes of action of those substances, which are had recourse to in order to restore the healthy state of the human frame when its functions or structure are impaired by disease.”—*Penny Cyclopædia*. Art. “*Materia Medica.*”

(13) “The object of Chemistry is to determine the constitution of bodies, and the laws which regulate the combinations and separations of the elementary particles of matter.”—Dr. Thomson. *Inorganic Chemistry*, vol. 1, p. 1.

(14) “It would be useless to attempt an early history of Chemistry : indeed it has been asserted, and perhaps truly, that it sprang from delusion and superstition, and was at

its commencement on a level with magic and astrology.”—*Penny Cyclopædia*. Art. “Chemistry.”

(15) “It is from the known that he must ascend to the unknown, and it is all important that he make his footing sure and miss no step by the way.”—Daniell. “*Introduction to Chemical Philosophy*,” p. 3.

(16) “In this way, he acquires the confidence of his patient, and will be most likely to get at the truth in respect to his case. Now that is a very hard matter, this getting at the truth.”—*Letters to a Young Physician*, by James Jackson, M.D. Letter 11, p. 26.

(17) Byron, “*Don Juan*,” canto xi, verse xxiii.

(18) “For example, were it my business to understand physic, would not the safer and readier way be to consult nature herself, and inform myself in the history of diseases and their cures, than espousing the principles of the dogmatists, methodists, or chemists, engage in all the disputes concerning either of those systems, and suppose it to be true, until I have tried what they can say to beat me out of it.”—John Locke.

(19) “When early crops are more desirable than high-flavoured fruits, gardeners are obliged to apply heat without reference to the intensity of light;”—*Penny Cyclopædia*. Art. “Forcing.”

(20) *Vide* public advertisements of all the Medical Schools.

(21) “Under such circumstances it is only the conviction of a perfect knowledge of the nature and treatment of the case before you—as derived from a perfect previous study of, and acquaintance with, it, in all its varied details—that can impart to your minds all that calmness of decision and of action, that the exigency may demand.”—*Physicians and Physic*. Three Addresses, &c., by Sir James Simpson, Bart., M.D., Edinburgh. A. & C. Black.

(22) In the *Lancet* of Dec. 3, 10, and 17, 1853; Jan. 21, and June 3, 1854; and May 2, 1857, are some excellent remarks on the “glaring errors of the existing system of prize distribution at the Metropolitan Hospitals.”

(23) This term is much more frequently heard at Cambridge and Oxford, than it is applied to designate Professors and Examiners in the Metropolis.

(24) "As far as my experience has led me to form an opinion, they (Medical Students) consist, first, of those who spend nearly the whole of their period of studentship, to within about two or three months of their examinations, in a continued round of dissipation, barely attending so many lectures as will suffice to get them their schedules signed, (which by the bye, in some of the larger and more lax schools, scarcely requires the waste of more than two or three hours upon an entire course,) and for obtaining their diplomas, putting their faith partly in Providence and partly in Messrs. P—, H—, B—, S—, &c., *et omne hoc genus*. Then there is another class of men who probably attend lectures, but with the most placid contentment, until the time comes also for them to "grind," and when they, too, have to put their noses to the stone, and work for "dear life." And then we have a class of men who feel that they have entered upon their studies at a Medical School for a very different purpose, and, from the first, work diligently to prepare themselves, not merely for their examinations, but that they become also fully qualified to practise their profession scientifically and faithfully afterwards."—*A Letter by a "Prizeman" to the Lancet*. May 27, 1854.

(25) Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries.

(26) Member of the Royal College of Surgeons.

CHAPTER II.

(1) The Diploma of certain of the Examining Bodies is printed on this material.

(2) (From *vosos*, a disease, and *κομεω*, to take care of.) Appertaining to an Hospital.

(3) Lee, "*Alexander the Great*."

(4) "Where London's Column pointing at the skies,
Like a tall bully, lifts its head and lyes;"

Pope, "*Of the Use of Riches*."

"The burning of London in 1666 was attributed to the same source, and it is only recently, through the exertions of the present City Solicitor," (the late Charles Pearson, Esq.,) "that the libellous inscription upon the Monument

on Fish Street Hill, attributing the Fire of London to the Roman Catholics, was by order of the Court of Common Council erased."—*The Lord Mayor's Speech at the Mansion House Justice Room on Saturday, Nov. 1, 1856.* (*Times*, Nov. 3, 1856).

(5) "He would be perplexed by the shifting and seemingly contradictory characters presented by the same malady in different patients."—Sir Thos. Watson, Bart., M.D., "*Lectures on the Principles and Practice of Physic.*" 3rd edit. p. 12.

(6) "Amongst a variety of facts, or phenomena, collected together as having some general resemblance or connection with each other, some *governing principle* is sought, which may apply successfully to the explanation of all their varieties ;—suppositions, guesses, or *hypotheses*, are first attempted ; some with greater, some with less extent, but all, perhaps, without success ; each after each failing in the solution, for want of generality and comprehensiveness ; till at length, after infinite labour on the part of the inquirer, the LAW is evolved, or governing principle which combines all together in one comprehensive view or theory."—Daniell, *op. citat.*, p. 4.

(7) "London is happily a field too vast for those jarring interests and petty jealousies which too often obtain amongst the members of our Art when in juxtaposition in smaller communities."—*Lancet*, Oct. 18, 1856.

(8) A slang medical term for Consulting Physicians and Surgeons. Medical men who practise all branches of their profession—in fact, the "Family Doctors"—are called General Practitioners.

(9) The following oath is taken by every gentleman on becoming a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England :—

"You swear that, while a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, you will observe the bye-laws thereof : that you will obey every lawful summons of the said College, having no reasonable excuse to the contrary : that you will demean yourself honourably in the practice of your profession, and to the utmost of your power maintain the dignity and welfare of the College. So help you God." (Bye-laws, p.12.)

(10) "When the medical man first settles down in practice, he, by the mere act of this settlement, enters into a kind of moral contract with those who are to become his

patients. . . . He on his part, pledges to protect and preserve for them those inestimable gifts (health and life), by all the best directed means that medical science has devised. Though it may be argued that

‘It is not writ so in the bond,’

yet the obligation is not the less real. Keep your minds and thoughts always attuned to the exercise of your profession, and amply stored with every information that can be required.”—Sir J. Y. Simpson, Bart., M.D., *ante citat.*

(11) *Times*, Aug. 22 and Oct. 28, 1856.

(12) “There is nothing in the world so easy, as for the eminent members of our profession to take the bread out of the mouths of their younger brethren with the best grace in the world.”—*Diary of a late Physician*, chap. 1, “Early Struggles.”

(13) “And fate soon granted what my sire denied.”

Norval in Home’s “*Douglas*.”

(14) The General Consolidated Order issued by the Poor Law Commissioners on the 24th July, 1847, provides that the District Medical Officer shall receive certain “extra” remuneration for certain surgical operations, and for obstetric attendance, upon the out-door paupers.

In his exhaustive evidence before the Select Committee on Poor Relief (England), 1861, the late Mr. R. Griffin, of Weymouth, commenting on these said “Extra Fees,” states:—

“In consequence of the Poor Law Commissioners not having laid down any rule for the guidance of the guardians, we find a variety of systems in vogue. The majority of the Boards of Guardians paying a fixed salary, with an allowance of the extra medical fees, as set out in Arts. 177, 181, 182, and 183 of the Consolidated Order of 1847, whilst others give a fixed salary, without any fees; others again, give a fixed salary for attending some of the poor, with a per case payment for the remainder. . . . On looking at Summary No. 6, we find that out of 667 Unions, 571 allow extra medical fees, which vary in amount from less than one farthing . . . , to 7s. per patient. . . . On looking at Summary No. 5, we have a list of the payments of extra medical fees to the medical officers individually. . . . In this list we perceive that the payments range from one farthing per patient up to 13s. . . . These variations in the amounts prove the entire absence of system, and the necessity for proper rules on the subject, as it is clear the guardians, when let alone, either are ignorant of their duties, or wilfully blind to a just expenditure of the poor rates entrusted to their charge. . . . On referring to Table 23, you will perceive . . . in the third column the variations in the payments in each division. . . . In the Welsh Division

the variations are still greater, one officer receiving but 3s. ; , whereas another officer, lucky fellow, has 156*l.*, or a shade over double his salary.”—*Fifth Report: Poor Relief (England)*. July 26, 1861, pp. 14, 15.

(15 & 16) Facts.

(17) “The same principle regulated the allowances made to the doctors, which were reduced to so low a sum that it was utterly impossible for these gentlemen to attend properly to the duties of their position upon such terms ; and everybody accustomed to attend those Boards must have noticed that when physic was prescribed to a sick man in the workhouse the guardians had no objection to it, but when wine or other nourishment was ordered they generally rose against it.”—*Speech of Mr. Drummond on the Preston Union*, June 12, 1857. *Times*, June 13, 1857.

(18) The Author takes this opportunity of drawing the attention of his colleagues in the Poor Law Service to this oft-disputed point of the power of the Poor Law Medical Officers to “order” medical comforts for their pauper patients. As regards the Medical Officer of the Workhouse, Art. 108 of the aforesaid Consolidated Order renders it imperative on the Master to “obey such direction ‘*in writing*’ until the next ordinary meeting of the Guardians, when he shall report the same in writing to the Guardians.” Under this Article the power of the Medical Officer of the Workhouse is, in certain instances, even greater than that of the Guardians themselves, for it states :—“ . . . they shall not allow to such paupers any fermented or spirituous liquors on account of the performance of such work, *unless in pursuance of a written recommendation of the Medical Officer.*” Article 207 (Nos. 4, 5, 6, 9,) gives the Medical Officer of the Workhouse further general powers over the dietary of the inmates. The dietary for the sick in-door poor is practically therefore left “exclusively to the discretion of the Medical Officer.” As regards the District Medical Officers it has for some time appeared to the Author that those gentlemen, who have every now and then made themselves conspicuous in their disputes on this subject with their respective Relieving Officers and Boards of Guardians, have lost the whole ground of argument from seemingly not knowing the actual strength of their position.

It is true that in the Schedule of the Consolidated Order,

“Form P., District Medical Relief Book,” has a column headed “Necessaries *ordered* to be given to the patient.” It is equally true that, in answer to the reliance of the District Medical Officers on the power implied by this word “ordered,” the Relieving Officers reply, in the *ipsissima verba* of the Poor Law Commissioners delivered just 20 years ago:—
 “A Medical Officer is not empowered to *order, authoritatively*, the supply of food or articles of diet to any sick pauper under his care,” &c., &c.—*Official Circular*, June 22, 1850.

Both combatants appear to have entirely lost sight of (as regards this vexed question) the most important Article in the whole Consolidated Order. Under the heading “DUTIES OF A RELIEVING OFFICER” appear the following words, which obviously must be taken in context with the *imperativeness* of the preamble of the Article:—

“Art. 215. The following *shall* be the duties of a Relieving Officer:—

“No. 5. In every case of a poor person receiving medical relief, as soon as may be, and from time to time afterwards, to visit the house of such person, *and until the next ordinary meeting of the Guardians, to supply such relief (not being in money) as the case on his own view, OR ON THE CERTIFICATE OF THE DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER, may seem to require.*”

There is nothing whatever of a *permissive* character in these italicised words of this *otherwise* really valuable Article. They appear to the Author to give the District Medical Officers all the needful “power” in this matter. The mere fact of the “Medical Relief Order” being granted does not, of a necessity, prove that the recipient is unable to procure the medical comforts necessary for his state. The Poor Law Board has even authorized the Medical Officer to appeal to his Guardians if he conceives that the party is able to procure medical aid in his illness from his own resources (*Official Circular*, Nov. 10, 1849). It is no part of the duty of the Medical Officer to investigate the pecuniary resources of his pauper patient. He should, in treating such patient, do (in the matter of the medical comforts) as he does with his private patients. With these latter he states (as a rule, *orally*) to those responsible, what is “requisite” for each case. With the pauper he should (for his own protection, in a *written* “certificate”) state what the patient “requires,” and throw the whole responsibility of the provision on those acting *in loco parentis*. In the intervals of the ordinary meetings of the Boards of Guardians, the law throws this responsibility on the Relieving Officers. The

Author ventures to assert that if, *at any period of this interval*, a Relieving Officer refused "to supply such relief," a local Magistrate could compel an obedience of Art. 215, unless the said Officer could satisfy justice that the said pauper had the means wherewith otherwise to obtain what he "seemed to require." In the case of death from the absence of such "requisites," the Relieving Officer would have to answer a Coroner's jury.

The Author is not cognisant of any Commentator noticing this distinctive character of Art. 215. Vast importance is annotated respecting the imperativeness of carrying out the visitation, but not a word is said in reference to the alimentation, of the "sick person" by the Relieving Officer!

(19) "I give up my comfort, my crusty wine,
My slippers, my books, and my easy chair,
And go where the paupers starve and pine,
With help." Barry Cornwall, "*The Parish Doctor*."

(20) The lachrymal gland, by which the tears are secreted, is placed in the upper and outer part of the orbit. The blood is the source whence the constituents of the tears, as of all the secretions, are proximately derived.

(21) Proverbs, xxii, verse 6.

(22) "Just as the twig is bent, the tree's inclin'd."
Pope, "*Essays on Character of Man*," Ep. 1, verse 102.

(23) "Whence all these woes?—From want of virtuous will,
Of honest shame, of time-improving skill;
From want of care t' employ the vacant hour,
And want of every kind, but want of power."
Crabbe, "*The Parish Register*," part 1.

(24) It is far from the Author's intention to make instruction in Morality and Religion of the least, and last, importance. He only wishes to point out what a long contact with human nature, amongst the lower orders especially of society, has taught him—that it is next to impossible either to *educate*, or to make religious, a human being with an empty stomach. The views on *education* of the children of the poor now expressed in rhyme are corroborated by many writers, whose opinions are too lengthy for insertion. Amongst the number may be quoted:—"S. G. O." on "*The Schools' Real Difficulty*," *Times*, Dec. 31, 1856; Sir Benjamin Brodie, Bart. "*Psychological Inquiries*,"

3rd. edit. pp. 77-79; *Times*, leaders, Feb. 19, May 13, and June 2, 1857; *Illustrated London News* ("Sunday Morning"), Dec. 6, 1856; Mr. White, District Medical Officer of Sherborne, Dorset, *Lancet*, March 8, 1856; Rev. Joseph Kingmill, Chaplain of Pentonville Prison, "*Education and Crime*," *Times*, April 21, 1857; Rev. John Armitstead, Vicar of Sandbach, Cheshire, "*Female Education*," *Times*, June 5, 1857; and Dr. Robert Fowler, District Medical Officer of the East London Union, "*Dwellings of the Poor*," *Lancet*, May 25, 1867.

Posterity must judge whether the Government Education Bill now (1870) before Parliament effects any change in the future *morale* and *physique* of the Poor.

(25) "—very few come themselves for advice, but take good care to compel the surgeon to visit them."—*Statement of the Grievances of the Poor Law Medical Officers, &c., &c.*" addressed to the Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, K.G., G.C.B. by Richard Griffin, Chairman of the Poor Law Medical Reform Association (Archer, Weymouth), p. 6.

(26) "Baron Deasy directed an acquittal in the following terms:—'He appears to have given every possible attention, and did not save himself. He remained in that wretched, miserable cabin, where there was no chair—the chair he used having to be brought from some other house,' " &c. &c.—Trial at Downpatrick of Mr. Joseph Conolly, Surgeon, of Belfast, for Manslaughter.—*Lancet*, Aug. 7, 1869, p. 209, "An Honourable Acquittal."

(27) "The Union Surgeons of England have bitterly complained of the perplexing and laborious system of bookkeeping."—*Medical Circular*, Feb. 9, 1853.

"A perusal of these several Articles (205, 206, and 207 of the General Consolidated Order, 1847) will show that besides the peculiar duties of a medical man, the Poor Law Medical Officer has to perform no little amount of duties pertaining to a clerkship."—*Fifth Report: Poor Relief (England)*, 1861, Appendix No. 2, p. 88.

"Were I paid for my penmanship alone, after the rate of a mere copying clerk (*viz.* 1½*d.* per folio of 72 words), I believe my salary would be quickly made greater than it is!"—*Medical Circular*, April 16, 1862, "Poor Law Medical Reform," by Dr. Robert Fowler.

By a General Order, dated the 4th day of April, 1868, the Poor Law Board prescribed certain other duties to be performed by the Medical Officer for every Workhouse. These "other duties" are (by General Order, August 24, 1868) to report, in writing, specially to the Guardians, half-yearly, on matters heretofore reported on by the Poor Law Inspectors. No extra remuneration has been awarded for this transposition of duties.

(28) This is not now strictly correct. The "Medical Relief Book" is the book wherein the Poor Law Medical Officers have to insert the various particulars of their daily duties. This Book has to be laid before the Guardians at every Meeting of the Board. The one (Form P. in Schedule of the General Consolidated Order, *ante cit.*) used by the Medical Officers for the Out-door poor contained "fifteen columns;" the other (Form Q.) used by the Workhouse Medical Officer had thirty columns to be filled up by him. In consequence, probably, of a Memorial on the subject to the Poor Law Board, from a Meeting of Poor Law Medical Officers on May 30, 1856, a Modified Medical Relief Book is now ordered to be used. In this Form the patient's name is entered once only in *four* weeks—instead of weekly as in the old Forms. This is a doubtful benefit to Medical Officers having a very large number of names to enter, inasmuch as each sheet will contain only 29 names. The having to hunt backwards and forwards over the sheets, in order to insert the visits against each respective name, is said to necessitate more trouble and bother than under the old style of weekly entries.—*Fifth Report: Poor Relief (England)*, 1861. Appendix No. 2, p. 88.

(29) "Probably the Report Book was hardly ever seen by any one besides the Relieving Officer, the Master of the workhouse, and the Auditor, and when opened by the Guardians, it was generally with the sole object of taking exception to the orders for extras for the sick; and that from this cause the service the Medical Officer rendered to the community remained unknown, and was consequently little estimated."—Dr. Rogers at a Deputation before the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, M.P., President of the Poor Law Board, on Nov. 9, 1869, "to lay before him a comprehensive plan for the Registration of Disease throughout England and Wales."—*Poor Law Chronicle*, Nov. 21, 1869, p. 115.

“Overdone with medical work—not to mention the labour of dispensing—often holding their appointments from necessity, not choice (especially in Country Districts), and knowing that the Book is rarely looked at, and that no amount of work and no sense of justice on the part of the Guardians, will operate to improve their position—they naturally shirk the Book, the utility of which they have good reason to question.”—*Poor Law Chronicle*, May 21, 1870.

(30) Professional readers will diagnose the injury.

(31) It is unnecessary to inform professional readers that this case occurred before the introduction of anæsthetic agents; and was not treated by simple manipulation, which, practised from the earliest times, has been again revived of late years.

(32) The Medical Officer is bound “to attend,” and “supply the requisite medicines” to “all persons” on receiving “a written or printed order of the Guardians, or of a Relieving Officer of the Union, or of an Overseer.” Art. 206, General Consolidated Order, *ante citat.* Practically the duty of furnishing those “Orders” vests in the Relieving Officer; at all events very few indeed of the Poor know of any other source whence to obtain the “Medical Relief Order.”

In cases of “Sudden and Urgent Necessity” an Overseer or Assistant Overseer can give an Order for medical attendance (Art. 206, *supra citat.*; Art. 1, 3, “Order on Duties of Overseers”). A Justice of the Peace is also empowered to give to an Overseer an order for Medical Relief “in case of sudden and dangerous illness.” (54th sect. of Poor Law Amendment Act, 4 & 5 Will. 4, c. 76; Art. 3, “Order on Duties of Overseers.”)

As a rule, in cases of ordinary illness, the “Medical Relief Orders” are given very indiscriminately, and without due inquiry as to the pecuniary resources of the recipients of them (*Fifth Report: Poor Relief (England)*, 1861, p. 2, and Appendix No. 2, p. 91); whilst in cases (such as described in the Poem) which necessitate an “extra” fee from the Guardians, certain Relieving Officers put obstacles in the way of granting the “order” for the Medical Officer’s attendance.—*Second Report: Poor Relief (England)*, 1862, p. 75.

In the *Barnet Press*, July 6, 1861, is reported a Coroner's inquest at Whetstone forcibly illustrating the possible results to the poor of such conduct on the part of the Relieving Officer. A man died without medical attendance—the Medical Officer declining to attend without an "order." "Mr. George Bury said he had always attended such cases without an order till within the last few years; and, if he had been differently dealt with, he should have continued to do so. Every case which brought extra fees had been taken from him, and everything which brought no extra fees he had been called upon to attend to If he was to be treated in this way, he was determined to stand upon his rights, and not attend cases without an order. The Coroner said Mr. Bury had acted according to the law, and was not bound to attend any one without an order."

(33) *Vide* Note 14, *ante*.

(34) A case the very counterpart of this is given in Fifth Report: Poor Relief (England), 1861, Appendix No. 2, p. 93; and again in Second Report Poor Relief (England), 1862, p. 55, by Dr. Robert Fowler in his evidence before the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the administration of the relief of the poor.

A similar case was tried at the Harborough County Court, Jan. 19, 1857. The Judge decided that, although an "order" imperatively demanded the attendance of the Surgeon, the want of it did not disqualify him from giving such attendance, and from recovering his fee, on showing that the person so attended was a pauper.—*Lancet*, Jan. 31, 1857. *Ody v. the Guardians of the Harborough Poor Law Union*.

(35) "The new statute (14 & 15 Vict., cap. 105, sec. 4) authorizes the Guardians, with the consent of the Poor Law Board, to pay out of the Poor rates such sum as they think fit, by way of annual subscription, towards the support and maintenance of any public hospital or infirmary." (*Fourth Annual Report of the Poor Law Board for 1851*, p. 15). "With the whole of this I perfectly agree, but this law has been in many instances made use of in a most cruel manner, for, in order to save the fees payable to the Medical Officer, the poor have been forced from their comfortable homes, and with compound fractures, and other serious injuries, have been driven over rough roads in common carts for

many miles ; this jolting has, in many instances, endangered the life of the patient, and has frequently caused the loss of a limb, from the sharp ends of a broken bone, at every step of the horse, piercing and bruising the flesh, and often converting a simple into a compound fracture ; this is no theoretical idea, but a bare fact, of which I speak from experience, having been for the first ten years of my professional life an inmate of a large provincial hospital (Norfolk and Norwich Hospital) as house pupil and house surgeon, and often have I heard the Medical Officers lament the cruelty of Overseers, sending the poor long distances under such circumstances.”—R. Griffin, Esq. *Fifth Report, ante cit.*, p. 19.

(36) *Vide* Note 32, *ante*.

(37) “ ‘ Nay,’ said the doctor, ‘ dare you trust your wives,
The joy, the pride, the solace of your lives,
To one who acts and knows no reason why,
But trusts, poor hag ! to luck for an ally ?—
Who, on experience, can her claims advance,
And own the powers of accident and chance ?
A whining dame, who prays in danger’s view,
(A proof she knows not what beside to do.)
What ’s her experience ? In the time that ’s gone,
Blundering she wrought, and still she blunders on,’ ”
Crabbe, “ *The Parish Register*.”

(38) In France a Midwife is popularly called a *Sage-femme*.

(39) “ In taking snuff, drinking gin and tea,
And the midwife’s half-crown fee.”

Lancet, Jan. 1, 1852.

(40) “ You have guessed it Sir,” added the Crier ; “ and you will agree to it when you are informed, that only by sitting upon this carpet you will be instantly transported, together with the carpet itself, to whatever place you wish to go ; and you will find yourself in that spot almost in a moment, without being stopped by any obstacle whatever.” —“ *The History of Prince Ahmed and the Fairy Pari-Banou*.” *The Arabian Nights Entertainments*.

(41) Certain of the Metropolitan Unions employ midwives, who are directed to send for the Medical Officer in any case of difficulty or danger. The question of “ distance ” does not of course apply in the Metropolis ; and the greater

accessibility of the Medical Officer in case of need obviates considerable objection to the practice.

- (42) "and the juicy groves
Put forth their buds, unfolding by degrees,"
Thompson, "Spring."
- (43) "The cherished fields
Put on their winter robe of purest white."
Ibid. "Winter."

(44) Although much of this description is borrowed from the very graphic language in the "Diary of a late Physician" (chap. xxi, "Rich and Poor"), the Author has (as well as, doubtless, have many of his Union Medical Brethren) been too frequently attendant at such like similar scenes. The Author has had to urgently deliver a young unmarried girl, on account of one of the most serious concomitants of Labour (Placenta Prævia), on the bare floor of a room in which there was not the least stick of furniture, or article of any sort or need for either mother or child,

(45) John, chap. xvi, verse 21.

(46) *Vide* Note 14, *ante*.

(47) The third request of the Poor Law Medical Officers is:—"That the scale of extras (including midwifery) shall be extended, and embrace many operations and bad cases in surgery not now paid for; and that the Officer in charge of the Union House shall participate in this arrangement with the District Officer, and there shall be no discretionary power to give a fixed salary instead of extras."

"From the Returns of 500 District Medical Officers, it appears that 436 have extras, which average $6\frac{3}{4}d.$ per case; these, with their salaries of 2s. 3d. each, make 2s. $9\frac{3}{4}d.$ per case. The salaries of the 64, whose extras have been commuted, amount only to 2s. $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ per case, showing that the commutation has not raised their salaries to the ordinary averages."—Richard Griffin's Letter to Lord Palmerston (pp. 15 and 16), 1857, being a "Statement of the Grievances of the Poor Law Medical Officers."

This Commutation is in direct opposition to the General Consolidated Order, 1847. Art. 177 states:—

"No salary of any District Medical Officer shall include the remuneration for operations and services of the following classes," &c., &c.

"In one instance, the Guardians had the assur-

ance to require the Medical Officers of the Union to reduce their charges 10 per cent. on general illness, and on ordinary labour cases from 1*l.* and 15*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.* and 10*s.*"—*Lancet*, July 30, 1853.

"By the Commutation, the whole payment is treated as salary, the half of which consequently falls as a charge upon the Parliamentary grant, and the other half on the Common Fund of the Union, thus entirely easing the parishes of the burden."—*Fifth Report: Poor Relief (England)*, 1861; evidence of R. Griffin, Esq. p. 16.

(48) "In the per case system orders are withheld; but where the salary is fixed, and the trouble and expense fall on the medical man, orders are often indiscriminately given. Midwifery cases are also numerous when included in the general salary, but less frequent when paid for separately."—*Ibid.* p. 20, 21.

"In the per case payment there is every inducement on the part of the Relieving Officer to deal out the Medical orders with a niggardly hand, in order to keep down the pressure upon the rates; whilst at a fixed salary the inducement is just the contrary."—*Evidence laid before the Select Committee of 1854 on Medical Relief*. No. 2,613 (J. Ellison, Esq.)

"All Medical men object to include Midwifery in the salaries, on the ground that they would get a great many more orders than when they had a separate payment for each Midwifery case."—*Ibid.* No. 1,714 and 1,715 (Dr. J. Griffin).

Vide Note 32, *ante*.

(48a) A term not unfrequently applied by Boards of Guardians to designate the Poor Law Board.

(49) "A general feeling exists that the extras ought to be restored. Their removal was, in most instances, effected without the voluntary consent of the Medical Officers; it was forced from them at a time when they were annual officers; and they were given pretty plainly to understand that, if they did not consent, they would not be re-elected."—Richard Griffin's Letter to Lord Palmerston, *ante cit.* p. 16.

The *Lancet*, April 3, 1852, details a case of a well-trying Medical Officer being superseded for no other ground "except that he had claimed the full fees allowed by the Poor Law Board."

A similar threat of non-election of another such "daring" Medical Officer is detailed in the *Lancet*, January 1, 1854.

On July 5, 1854, the "Select Committee of the House of Commons on Medical Relief" issued their Report. The third resolution "recommended that every Medical Officer to be appointed after the 25th day of March, 1855, should continue in office until he may die, resign, or become legally disqualified to hold such office, or be removed therefrom by the Poor Law Board."

"The Poor Law Board thereupon issued an Order, dated 15th day of February, 1855 ("to several Unions"), which declares residence in a District as one of the qualifications for permanency of appointment. This Order was subsequently confirmed by a second Order, dated May 25, 1857, with the slight alteration of allowing two months after the appointment for the Officer to become resident, in order to claim to be permanently appointed. These Orders were doubtless intended for the good of the poor, but they are impracticable; cannot be, and are not, carried out, as I will prove by the fact that in 1857 there were, according to Lord Elcho's return, 1,044 Medical Officers, or a third of the whole number, who did not reside in their Districts, and that out of 875 Medical Officers who had patients living between six miles and twenty miles from their residences, 507 were permanently appointed; clearly showing that residence in the District of a Medical Officer does not insure to the poor the close proximity of medical aid. In contradistinction to these, we find there are 175 non-resident Medical Officers who live within one mile of their Districts, and the Districts of some of them extend less than two miles from their residences."—*Fifth Report: Poor Relief (England)*, 1861. R. Griffin, Esq. p. 8.

It is the intention of the Poor Law Board "to extend the provisions of the General Order of May 25, 1857, to separate Parishes, whereby the Medical Officers of single Parishes, fully qualified and residing within their Districts, will be no longer subject to annual re-election, but enjoy permanent appointments."—*Poor Law Chronicle*, May 7, 1870.

(50) "The Poor Law Board, if report speaks true, has admitted the payment to be inadequate to our services, but adds, whenever a vacancy occurs there are plenty of applicants for the office, and therefore it feels a difficulty in

adding to the Poor Rates by augmenting our salaries. This argument, however specious, I contend is not a fair one. Our profession, like all others, is overstocked ; hence men are anxious to take any appointments they hope may lead to something better. But this is no reason why places of trust should be reduced to the lowest possible minimum ; *and ours is a place of trust*, since the lives of millions of the poorer classes are committed to our charge. Were the Poor Law Board itself thrown open to public competition, there would be plenty of candidates to supply the place of the Officers at half, or even a quarter, of their present salaries ; but that does not prove it would be right to underpay them, as the Union Medical Officers now are. Let the duties of every office be ascertained, a fair remuneration fixed, and, as vacancies occur, the best men chosen to fill them.”—Mr. Griffin’s Letter to Lord Palmerston, *ant. citat.* pp. 10, 11.

“The remuneration is fixed without consulting Medical Men, or considering the intrinsic value of medical skill. The Guardians have said, ‘If you object we can easily procure candidates,’ and thus many have been frightened into accepting inadequate sums, lest their private practice should be interfered with by strangers.”—*Fifth Report : Poor Relief (England)*, 1861. R. Griffin, Esq. p. 20.

(51) At the end of the year 1856, one of the Surgeons of the Sherborne Union “was compelled to resign, finding it perfectly impossible to get through all the work single-handed.” “In discharging the duties of his office he travelled over 3,111 miles in one year ; that in a period of less than nine years two horses were worn out in the work ; that for this travel and time, to say nothing of drugs (the consumption of which is, at times, frightful), the salary is 63*l.* a year, besides extras—a wonderful matter truly—some 25*l.* or 30*l.* a year for amputations, fractures, labours, &c. swelling up to a total so tempting, that if any ‘young man’ (*to whom one of the Guardians thought it would prove only a little pleasant riding*) is disposed to try it, he may rest assured a very few years of such work will go far towards making an old one of him.”—*Lancet*, December 13, 1856, “A Sherborne Ratepayer.”

(52) One of the latest proofs of the victorious powers of Vaccination has been demonstrated by the Poor Law

Medical Service itself. Dr. Joseph Rogers, President of the Poor Law Medical Officers' Association, in his comparison of the working of the two systems of Medical Relief in England and Ireland respectively, has very conspicuously brought this before the public. In an Address, delivered at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, on Jan. 29, 1869, he states:—

“The Irish Charities Act came into operation in 1851-2. . . . You cannot wonder, after these figures, that Dr. Cameron, Professor of Hygiene at the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, in one of his lectures, should speak as follows:—‘One of the most admirable, if not the most superior, sanitary organizations in Europe, is undoubtedly the Irish Poor Law Medical Service. The Irish Dispensary Physicians have checked the spread of Zymotic diseases, have literally stamped out Small-Pox (seven deaths only, I believe, were reported for 1868), &c.’”

“In the case of Small-Pox, especially, is the usefulness of the Dispensary system apparent. The number of deaths from Small-Pox in Ireland during the decade ending 1841 was 58,006; during the decades ending 1851, 38,275, and 1861, 12,727. How they have decreased during the present decade, may be gathered from the last Report of the Commissioners, which gives for the years 1866, 187; 1867, 20; 1868, 19.”—*Poor Law Chronicle*, Sep. 21, 1869. “A Sketch of the History of the Poor Law, &c., &c.”

“In Ireland Small-Pox has almost ceased to be a destroyer of life. It killed 854 persons in 1864; 461 in 1865; 194 in 1866; 21 in 1867; and 23 in 1868.”—Extract from the *Times*, on a return moved for by W. H. Smith, Esq., M.P. and ordered by the House of Commons to be printed 22nd March, 1870. This Return exhibits the estimated population of each division of the United Kingdom for the five years 1864-8, and also the gross mortality, as well as the mortality from zymotic diseases.—*Times*, April 4, 1870.

“The mortality from Small-Pox in Ireland in 1868 was 23, or 1 in 241,012 of the population since reduced to nil I will not stop here to comment on the absolute stamping out of Small-Pox” (in Ireland).—Dr. J. Rogers, President of the Poor Law Medical Officers' Association. Address at Quarterly Meeting, April 27, 1870.

“—over a vast tract of England the once terrible scourge of Small-Pox is practically a nullity.”—*Registrar-General's Return* for Quarter ended March 31, 1870.

For the most modern epitome of the success and extir-

pating power of Vaccination, the reader is referred to Dr. Guy's recently-published popular "Lectures on Public Health." (Lecture viii), 1870.

(53) "On the other hand, Mr. Moore, in his learned and interesting *History of Small-Pox*, has shown that it prevailed in China and Hindostan from a very early period; even more than 1,000 years before the time of our Saviour."—Sir Thomas Watson, Bart. *op. cit.* vol. 2, 3rd ed., p. 709.

"It is said to have been mentioned in very ancient Chinese manuscripts, and in Brahmin records 3,366 years old. But the best authorities point to the fact that a disease so contagious had not been imported from Asia into Europe prior to the sixth century, as throwing discredit upon these statements. . . . We do not touch solid ground in this inquiry till nearly three-fourths of the sixth century had run. Small-Pox certainly attacked the Arabian army at the siege of Mecca in 569, and soon after reached Alexandria."—Dr. Guy, *op. citat.*, pp. 196-7.

(54) "So that while the relative mortality—the percentage of deaths from small-pox—was lessened by this practice (*inoculation* with small-pox), the absolute mortality was fearfully increased."—Sir Thomas Watson, Bart. *op. cit.* vol. 2, 3rd ed., p. 796.

Vide also Dr. Guy, *op. citat.*, pp. 202-6.

(55) "Dr. Jenner set himself to trace, if possible, the origin of the disease of the cow. First, he found that it was peculiar to certain dairies; then, that in those dairies *men* were employed in milking."—Sir Thomas Watson, Bart. *op. cit.* vol. 2, 3rd ed., p. 790.

(56) "For the ten years ending 1800, the average annual mortality from Small-Pox within the Bills of Mortality was 1,780, in a population ascertained in 1801 to be 261,233; while the four years ending 1841, it was only 1,659 in a population ascertained in 1841 to be nearly 2,000,000. Then came the Act for establishing parochial vaccination; and for the fourteen years ending 1855 the average annual mortality from Small-Pox was but 821, in a population considerably over 2,500,000."—Dr. Seaton, Paper on "The Protecting and Modifying Powers of Vaccination," at the Western Medical and Surgical Society, October 17, 1856.—*Lancet*, November 15, 1856.

"Mr. Marson states that during the last sixteen years he had vaccinated about 40,000 persons; and that of this large number not one had subsequently come to the hospital with Small-Pox."—Mr. Grainger at the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, March 9, 1852.—*Lancet*, Mar. 20, 1852.

"It appears from the testimony of the Bills of Mortality in Great Britain and Ireland, that from the year 1750 to the year 1850 the average deaths from Small-Pox out of every 1,000 deaths from all causes have gradually diminished every decennial period. For the ten years terminating 1770, there were 108 deaths from Small-Pox out of every 1,000 deaths; whereas for the ten years ending 1850 there were only 16 deaths from Small-Pox out of every 1,000 deaths. It appears, also, that whereas during the half-century previous to the introduction of vaccination, the average amount of Small-Pox mortality was 96 per 1,000 deaths; the average of the last ten years has been only 16 per 1,000."—*Lancet*, June 18, 1853.

"On an average of each five years, from 1850 to 1864, the deaths by Small-Pox to 100,000 living were 28, 20, 19; in each of the four years 1865–8 the mortality by this disease was 31, 14, 12, and 10."—*Thirty-First Annual Report of the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in England* (Abstracts of 1868), 1870, p. 198.

"In Sweden, where, before vaccination was discovered, the average annual death rate from Small-Pox was 2,050 out of every million of population, during the forty years 1810–1850 it was but 158. In Westphalia, where the Small-Pox death rate used to be 2,643 per million, it was, from 1816 to 1850, only 114. In Bohemia, Moravia, and Austrian Silesia, it has been reduced in like manner from 4,000 to 200; in Copenhagen, from 3,128 to 286; and in Berlin, from 3,422 to 176."—Dr. Seaton, "*Handbook of Vaccination*."

Vide also Dr. Guy, *op. cit.* Lecture viii.

(57) "Some objected to it from a superstitious fear that it is an impious attempt to arrest the will of the Almighty."—Mr. Stanbury, Medical Officer to the Corporation of Bristol. *Registrar-General's Quarterly Return*, December, 1852.

(58) "—others had an equally groundless dread that it would introduce other diseases into the system."—Mr. Stanbury, *ant. cit.*

“A third class of non-conforming parents will tell you that some of their earlier vaccinated children had had such bad arms, and had suffered so severely from the operation, that they declined to expose others to like troubles.”—Dr. George Gregory, *Lancet*, April 17, 1852.

“And that more think that it is the means of introducing other diseases into the system We desire to express our strong and unequivocal opinion that there is not the slightest foundation for it.”—Dr. Seaton, *ant. cit.*

(59) “Your petitioner has also, in the same period (twenty years), vaccinated upwards of 40,000 persons; and he is desirous of stating that he has never seen any evil results traceable to Vaccination, with the exception of a single instance, in which Measles occurred at the same time, and four or five examples of rather severely sore arms, arising from lymph recently taken from the cow. He has never seen other diseases communicated with the vaccine disease, nor does he believe in the popular reports that they are ever so communicated. If such results were really true, as stated, and formed part of judiciously conducted Vaccination, they must have come under the observation of your petitioner in vaccinating upwards of 40,000 persons. Vaccination is performed generally at an early age; parents are unwilling to believe that there is anything constitutionally wrong in their offspring; and, when other diseases follow, Vaccination gets blamed for what is really and truly due to other causes, as may be seen in those who have never been subject to Vaccination.”—Petition of James Furness Marson, Esq. Resident Surgeon of Small-Pox and Vaccination Hospital, on the Vaccination Bill of 1856.

(60) “We have heard it alleged, and in a few instances it has been communicated to us by correspondents, that some object to Vaccination on the ground that it is not a sufficient safeguard. (This) objection we have already shown to be untenable.”—Dr. Seaton, *ant. cit.*

(61) “It was a thing all but incredible, that in the short space of ten years 45,000 children were, in Ireland, allowed to be sacrificed at the shrine of ignorance, prejudice, and apathy; when, as all parties admitted, not one need have perished, so far as Small-Pox was concerned, if only that great remedy—provided, as it were, by the hand of God himself—had been applied.”—Mr. Grainger, *ant. cit.*

(62) Such an event actually occurred in the House of Commons on Monday, March 31, 1856, after Mr. Cowper had moved the second reading of the Vaccination Bill.

“BULL AND THE M.P.—A waggish Member of Parliament, when Vaccination had been introduced by Dr. Jenner upwards of half a century, and had saved innumerable thousands of people from premature death, from suffering, and from disfigurement—as, down to that time, had been equally well-known to wise men and fools—rose in his place in the House of Commons and denounced it forsooth! ‘For,’ says he, ‘it is a failure, and the cause of death.’ Our meeting Mr. Bull, and telling him of this pretty speech, and further of its eliciting from that astonishing assembly no demonstration, ‘Aye,’ cries Bull, looking mighty grave, ‘but if the member for Nineveh had mistaken, in that same place, the Christian name of a Cornet in the Guards, you should have had howling enough.’”—Dickens’ *Household Words*, May 3, 1856, “Proposals for a National Jest Book.”

(63) “It is incumbent on us to state, further, that from various quarters we have received information that *the exertions of the Public Vaccinators are not unfrequently discouraged by Members of Boards of Guardians remonstrating whenever any large number of vaccinations had been reported*; and we cannot but record our apprehensions that objections such as these have a tendency to check the efforts of medical officers, and thus to act prejudicially on the public welfare.”—Dr. Seaton, *ant. cit.*

On Dec. 21, 1869, the Northampton Board of Guardians by a majority of two negatived a proposition “that the Vaccination Act be put in force in the Northampton Union.” Dr. Stevens, one of the Inspectors under the Vaccination Act (1867), had been sent by direction of the Lords of the Privy Council, and at the request of the Poor Law Board, to confer with the Northampton Board of Guardians. Dr. Stevens read to the Board the following sentences from Dr. Seaton’s “*Handbook of Vaccination* :”—

“In like manner, in the year following, of the 6,411 deaths from Small-Pox which occurred in England, 1,419, or more than one-fifth, were amongst the 664,161 inhabitants of 14 Unions which not only themselves suffered the consequences of their neglect of infantile vaccination, but became themselves so many centres of pestilence.”

At the head of that list of 14 Unions stood Northampton, &c., &c.—*Northampton Mercury*, Dec. 25, 1869.

Fortunately for humanity, the above negation was reversed, “after the receipt of a firm letter from the Lords of the Privy Council” to the Board. (*Vide Note 76, post*). Sixteen Guardians voted for, and ten against, the reversal.—*Lancet*, Jan. 8, 1870.

(64) Vaccination was first made compulsory in 1853 by the 16 & 17 Vict. cap. 100.

“By it Guardians and Overseers were required to divide their Unions and Parishes into districts for the purpose of affording increased facilities for the Vaccination of the poor, and stations were to be established in each district, at which the Medical Officers should attend to perform the operation, and to inspect the result of the Vaccination performed by them; and a penalty was inflicted on parents and others having the care of children, who, after notice, should fail to cause children under their control to be vaccinated, or, when vaccinated, to take them to the vaccinator for subsequent inspection.”—*Bauke's Vaccination Act, 1867.*

Three subsequent Vaccination Acts passed the Legislature, conferring additional powers, and on August 12, 1867, the present Vaccination Act (30 & 31 Vict. cap. 84) received the Royal Assent.

(65) *Vide* Note 63, *ante*, and Note 76, *post*.

(66) “Sufficient proof that these are the real obstacles, and there is no rooted objection to Vaccination in the minds of the people, is afforded by the zeal and eagerness with which, under the influence of alarm (as when a Small-Pox case is imported into an unvaccinated neighbourhood), they run to the vaccinators,”—*Dr. Seaton, ant. cit.*

(67) In the beginning of 1856, there broke out in the City of Cork an epidemic of Small-Pox. The philanthropy and wise forethought of the Archdeacon obtained the appointment of a Public Vaccinator “to visit from house to house and overcome the prejudices of the ignorant.” Dr. Sandham commenced his labours on the 8th March, when “the disease was raging in every lane and alley. In 16 days he vaccinated 2,474, and in three weeks after the commencement of his mission he traversed the whole city, and found no case that needed Vaccination, even in the districts first visited. The energetic course pursued had stayed the plague, which, during the previous two months, had gradually gained ground in spite of every effort, and attained a frightful intensity. From the report of Dr. Sandham we learn that, of 102 cases admitted into the Hospital, one-third of the non-vaccinated died; of the vaccinated, there died only one case.”—*Lancet*, May 16, 1857.

(67) *Vide* Note 63, *ante*.

In 1855 it is reported of the Dudley Board of Guardians “that one of the main charges against the Medical Officers

of the Union is, that they have vaccinated too many children."—*Lancet*, Nov. 17, 1855.

In 1853 it is reported of the Board of the Reigate Union that they "were annoyed that Mr. Budgett added a little to the miserable pittance he received by vaccinating too many of the pauper children at 1s. 6d. per head!" The Board actually sent their Relieving Officer to personally ascertain if the number was correct. This Officer is said to have remarked "to the poor under his supervision:—'You bean't abound to have your children vaccinated.'"—*Lancet*, June 4, 1853.

(68) "The number of paupers made paupers through sickness, constitutes 72 per cent. of all those made paupers through all causes."—G. Wallis, Esq. M.D., Evidence before Select Committee on Medical Relief, 1854, No. 2,624.

"The 72 per cent. is not a matter of opinion, but matter of fact."—*Ibid.*, No. 2,740.

"It appears that out of the 1,085,000 paupers, in round numbers, with whom we have to deal, a very small proportion, probably less than 4 per cent., are adult males destitute on account of want of work; that a very large proportion, amounting to 30 per cent. of the in-door poor, and 13 per cent. of the out-door poor, are actually on the sick list; that no less than 36 per cent., or, in round numbers, 391,000 are children; and that 4.2 per cent., or 46,000 are lunatics." The Ratio per cent. of adult able-bodied paupers on the Total Number of Paupers of all classes relieved for year ended Lady-Day, 1870, was 16.9.—*Twenty-Second Annual Report of the Poor Law Board*, 1869-70.

A very interesting Analysis of the Causes of Destitution amongst the "Out-door Paupers Relieved in the Metropolis on the 1st January, 1870 (a revision of the materials necessary for an analysis of the out-out poor for the whole country would have entailed further delay in the publication of our Report") has just appeared. The leading features of this Analysis are:—"31.0 per cent. of the total out-door poor laboured under old age or permanent disability. 34.2 per cent. were women and children destitute in consequence of the death, absence, or desertion of husband or father. 34.0* per cent. were families or single men destitute in con-

* Of this 34.0 per cent., only 3.8 Adult Males were relieved on account of want of work.

sequence of temporary sickness or want of work. 0·8 per cent. were single women. . . . As regards the number of really able-bodied in the Workhouses, the proportion appears to be equally small. Many Metropolitan Workhouses do not contain more of this class than are required to do the work of the house.”—*Ibid.*

(69) “VACCINATION AND UNION MEDICAL CHARGES.—Mr. Griffiths, as Chairman of the Finance Committee, in bringing up a quarterly return of accounts to the Dudley Board of Guardians, dwelt upon the ‘large’ and ‘exorbitant’ charges made by the Medical Officers for extras, in the shape of Vaccination cases, Midwifery, &c.” (Worcestershire paper). *Lancet*, Nov. 17, 1855.

(70) “Now this was an exceedingly heavy charge, and he thought the ratepayers should be protected, to prevent an increasing demand, &c., &c.”—*Ibid.*

(71) “The majority of cases were charged for at 2s. 6d.”—*Ibid.*

By sec. 6 of the Vaccination Act, 1853 (16 & 17 Vict. cap. 100), the Public Vaccinator was to receive a sum not less than one shilling and sixpence for successful vaccinations performed within two miles from his residence, and a sum not less than two shillings and sixpence for such operations taking place at more than two miles’ distance from the same.

By sec. 6 of the Vaccination Act, 1867 (30 & 31 Vict. cap. 84), the rate of payment for distance is “for every such vaccination done at any station over one mile and under two miles distant from his residence, not less than two shillings; and for every such vaccination done at any station over two miles from his residence, not less than three shillings.”

(72) *Vide* Note 71, *ante*.

(73) The Huddersfield Board of Guardians “not only instruct Mr. Tatham to fix upon a station within two miles of his house, in a locality ill-adapted for the purpose, and in total disregard of the convenience of the people who have to attend it, so that they can but escape paying the higher rate, but they have the supreme assurance to call upon the Medical Officer to pay for the hiring of the station himself!”—*Lancet*, Sept. 9, 1854.

The Board of Guardians of the Wrexham Union endeavoured also to fix the charge of a Vaccination Station on their Medical Officer."—*Ibid.*, Oct. 18, 1856.

(74) *Vide* Note 64, *ante*. Sec. 7 of the Vaccination Act, 1867 (30 & 31 Vict., cap. 84), also necessitates the provision by the Guardians of "all stations at which the Vaccination shall be appointed to be performed other than the Surgery or residence of the Public Vaccinator."

(75) "—and during the depth of last winter, the *belfries* of various parishes were appointed as stations, in which *infants under four months of age* were to be vaccinated."—Extract from a letter on the "Medical Relief to the Poor," by "M.R.C.S.," *Lancet*, April 22, 1854.

(76) "To this mean, selfish spirit of grudging a shilling to save a poor child's life, and to the wretched policy of committing this important business to such management, 60,691 human sacrifices have been offered up in England and Wales in eight years, and in Ireland 58,006 in ten years."—*Lancet*, July 30, 1853.

Fortunately for the public weal of this Country the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council have now some controlling voice in this matter. The Public Health Act (21 & 22 Vict. cap. 97, made perpetual by the 22 & 23 Vict. cap. 3,) enacts (sec. 2) that "The Privy Council may from time to time issue such regulations as they think fit for securing the due qualification of persons to be hereafter contracted with by Guardians and Overseers of Unions and Parishes in England* for the Vaccination of persons resident in such Unions and Parishes, and for securing the efficient performance of Vaccination by the persons already or hereafter to be contracted with as aforesaid; &c., &c."

Furthermore, on Reports made by the Inspectors of Vaccination to the Medical Officer of the Privy Council, and from him "to the Lords of Her Majesty's Council with regard to the number and quality of the Vaccinations performed," the said Lords may (sec. 5) authorize an additional payment of "one shilling for each child whom the Vaccinator has successfully vaccinated during the time to which the award of the said Lords of the Council relates."

* England includes "the Dominion of *Wales* and *Town of Berwick upon Tweed*."—20 Geo. 2, cap. 42, sec. 3.

(77) "The Relieving Officer makes it imperative, I was going to say almost without exception, that the husband should come and fetch that relief himself at eight or nine o'clock in the morning. . . . The Relieving Officer will not give the relief to any one but the father, unless it is under very especial circumstances," &c., &c.—E. Moore, Esq., M.D., *Second Report: Poor Relief (England)*, 1862, p. 72, No. 4,179.

This dictum, attended with, to them, no slight detriment and inconvenience, is not an infrequent complaint amongst the poor. The Relieving Officer, to save his own time and trouble, thus acts in direct contradiction to his duty, which is (Art. 215, No. 2, General Consolidated Order, 1847):—

"To receive all applications for relief made to him within his district, or relating to any parish situated within his district, and forthwith to examine into the circumstances of every case, by visiting the house of the applicant (if situated within his district), and by making all necessary inquiries into the state of health, the ability to work, the condition and family, and the means of such applicant, and to report," &c. &c.

(78) In the early years after the Poor Law Amendment Act (*ante citat*) was passed, it was the practice for the Poor to apply at the *private* residence of the Relieving Officer, who was thereby of a necessity compelled to more generally "visit the house of such person;" and was thus the better enabled to discriminate between the deserving and undeserving poor. Of late years there have grown up extensive offices and reception rooms, wherein it is apparently often "first come, first serve," and whereat the burly, boisterous, and pauper-bred has the better chance of elbowing his or her case to attention; whilst the meek, retiring, and affliction-made applicant is too frequently scared from encountering a contest with the verbiage and mobbing of such a crowd. The really poor require to be sought out: it is amongst this class that, as a rule, Coroners' inquests find cases of Death from Starvation and Exhaustion.

(79) "During the year ended 25th March, 1861, 28 of the Orders I received were entered on my 'Medical Relief Book,' under the column 'Nature of Disease,' as 'wanting food;' whilst 13 other orders requested me to 'attend and undertake the treatment of' 13 people who, it was stated on the Order, had 'no home.' How a *District Medical Officer* was to treat, medicinally, 13 people actually walking about, and sleeping in, the streets, the 'Orders' did not state

. At present, Medicine actually costs the Union less than a Loaf of Bread."—Memorandum delivered in by Dr. Robert Fowler. *Fifth Report: Poor Relief (England)*, 1861, Appendix 2, p. 91.

(80) "—the poor, in many instances, asking for bread, and the Guardians supplying them with physic *gratis*."—Letter by a "Hardworked Union Medical Officer," *Lancet*, March 22, 1856.

(81) "—and the Relieving Officer, badly paid also, gives Orders upon him indiscriminately, without first visiting the case, to save his own time and labour."—*Ibid*.

Vide Note 32, ante.

(82) "On examining Summary No. 2, which is a list of the payments by salary to the 3,509 individual Medical Officers, divided by the number of patients attended by each, we find the greatest possible difference; the payments varying from 3*d.* to 6*s.*, the latter being probably an exceptional case, arising from all the patients not being recorded, but of the former there can be little doubt: St. Mary, Islington, furnishing three examples; St. Luke's, one; and Macclesfield, one," &c., &c.—*Fifth Report: Poor Relief (England)*, 1861, R. Griffin, Esq. p. 13.

(83) "A case of illness averages about twenty-one days in duration."—Memorandum by Robert Fowler, M.D. *ant. cit.* *Fifth Report: Poor Relief (England)*, 1861, Appendix No. 2, p. 86.

(84) "In order to effect a saving to the ratepayers, the Guardians have very greatly undervalued the services of the Medical Officers. In the Metropolitan Districts the salaries have not amounted to half the prime cost of the necessary medicines, and in Rural Districts the salaries are not sufficient to pay for drugs alone. In Metropolitan Districts the salaries average, per case of illness, but 1*s.* 5¼*d.* (in 1857, or eighteen years afterwards, it was 1*s.* 5¾*d.*, showing an improvement of one halfpenny only). In eight counties the salaries averaged, including extra medical fees, 3*s.* 3½*d.* (in 1857 it only averaged, on the whole of the Unions, 2*s.* 11¾*d.*, showing a decrease), the payments in each county varying from 2*s.* 9*d.* to 4*s.* 10*d.* per case. The average cost per patient, in 22 Dispensaries and 30 County Infirmaries and Hospitals, for ten years, for medicines,

leeches, and surgical instruments, for out-patients, 2s. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; in-patients, 6s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.: total, 8s. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d., or, if equal, 4s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per patient. The Medical Officers must be out of pocket, or there is a great temptation to neglect the poor, or supply them with the cheapest and worst medicines. A Medical Officer stated he could not afford to give quinine; another stated he could not afford to keep a horse.”—Communication from the British Medical Association in Report of the Poor Law Commissioners, 1839, quoted by R. Griffin, Esq. *Fifth Report: Poor Relief (England)*, 1861, p. 13.

“Whereas the average cost of drugs alone, for a single case, required in the practice of Surgeons at Dispensaries, where they relieve the same class of persons as the Medical Officers of Unions, amounts to 2s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and in Hospitals to 4s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.”—C. F. J. Lord, Esq. Evidence before Select Committee on Medical Relief, 1854, No. 3,269.

“But low as they (the salaries) are, with very rare exceptions, they are made to include the cost of all drugs ordered to the patients. It would seem as if the mere mention of such a system was enough to condemn it. Underpaid and overworked, it is impossible to expect that the labour and the cost of exhibiting the more expensive medicines can be *ordinarily* undergone. In many cases we believe it would swallow up the whole miserable salary of the surgeon, and go far beyond it, were he to give to the pauper sufferers the anodynes they so piteously require; and to the weak, half-starved, scrofulous, and consumptive patients the tonics, cod liver oil, &c. on which their chances of life must depend.”—“Workhouse Sketches,” by Frances Power Cobbe, in *Macmillan's Magazine*, April, 1861.

On May 31, 1864, the Select Committee on Poor Relief (England) presented its Report, which was ordered to be printed by the House of Commons. Under the heading “Medical Relief” (p. 16) appear these words, which had been agreed to by the Committee on the previous March 11:—

“Your Committee, however, recommend that in future Cod Liver Oil, Quinine, and other expensive medicines, shall be provided at the expense of the Guardians, subject to the Orders and Regulations of the Poor Law Board.”

On April 12, 1865, “a Circular Letter was sent from the Office in Whitehall containing the Committee’s recommendation; but it was expressed so coldly, and in such a cloud of words, that it fell flat on one-third of the Unions, who wholly

declined to adopt it; and from a Return moved for at my request by Sir J. Simeon, it was shown that the remaining two-thirds had, to use the language of the Return, adopted it in whole or in part. though what proportion the part bore to the whole, from the studied imperfect character of the Return, it was impossible to say."—Dr. Rogers' Address, *Poor Law Chronicle*, July 7, 1868.

The then President of the Poor Law Board "had even expressed impatience at the Circular not having been issued sooner."—Extract from Letter of the Right Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P., *Poor Law Chronicle*, August 7, 1868.

The Metropolitan Poor Act, 1867 (30 Vict. cap. 6) has these words in its 69th section:—

"All medicine and medical and surgical appliances *supplied* to the Poor in receipt of relief *by Guardians* under this Act, or any of the Poor Law Acts," "shall be repaid out of the Common Poor Fund."

The Act passed 9th August, 1869 (30 & 31 Vict. c. 63), to amend the above, enacts (sect. 14) that if Guardians refuse or neglect to provide a Dispensary, no allowance shall be made out of Metropolitan Common Fund for medicines and Medical Officers' salaries.

The words we have italicized in the section of the Act of 1867 completely frustrated all the sanguine hopes which some eager Medical Officers and others had been led to indulge in from a first and casual reading of this guardedly, and carefully, worded paragraph.

The subjoined result as regards the establishment of Metropolitan Dispensaries has just been officially announced:—1. Five "Unions and Parishes possess Dispensaries in comparatively full operation." ("In Poplar, St. George's-in-the-East, and Mile End, . . . the change for the better, both for Officers and Sick Poor was remarkable."—Dr. Rogers' Address, *Poor Law Chronicle*, Nov. 7, 1868.) 2. Seven "Unions and Parishes have Dispensaries where medicine is given out to the patients from the prescriptions of the District Medical Officers, but no provision is yet made for the attendance of these Officers at the Dispensary." 3. Twenty "Unions and Parishes . . . have plans, more or less matured, for the establishment of Dispensaries." 4. Three "Unions and Parishes . . . have not yet adopted any definite scheme."—*Twenty-Second Annual Report of the Poor Law Board*, 1869-70.

Unfortunately the above Acts apply only to the Metropolitan Unions.

(85) "The direct and unavoidable inference from these tables, and many others of the same kind which we have compiled from data in our possession, and which we could adduce if necessary, is, that the payment for Poor Law Medical Service decreases in the ratio that the number of cases increases; labour being thus remunerated in an inverse ratio to its value. Can anything be more unjust, more absurd, or more shameful?"—*Medical Circular*, May 25, 1853.

(86) *Vide* Note 47, *ante*.

"—from a very great number of Agricultural Unions, within the last three years, requests had been made desiring that the salaries of the Medical Officers might be cut down, and in every one instance those requests had been refused."—Speech of Mr. Baines, President of the Poor Law Board, in reply to Mr. Miles, on Poor Law Medical Relief, House of Commons, Tuesday, July 12, 1853.

"Some short time since it was announced in this journal that the Guardians of the Bishops-Stortford Union had determined, without any assigned cause, that the salaries of the Surgeons of that Union should be diminished fifteen per cent. This was determined on too, after a solemn engagement had been entered into, that, before any final arrangement should be come to, a consultation on the matter should be held between the Surgeons and their tormentors. No such consultation was held. The Guardians, in utter defiance of their promise, passed the resolution."—*Lancet*, June 4, 1853.

"I also asked for Returns of area and population of my District, which I never could obtain. To all applications on these points, I could get no definite reply. I therefore had made up my mind to resign, on the ground of inadequate remuneration and the non-fulfilment of the promise to rearrange the district."—Mr. Budgett's Letter to the Board of Guardians of the Reigate Union. *Lancet*, June 18, 1853.

"The Guardians, however, accomplished their object, and they then determined to reduce the salaries of the Medical Officers from £35 to £30 per annum, regardless either of the area or population of the different Districts. . . . Immediately after this I received an Order from the Poor Law Board, fixing the salary at £30 per annum, dated July, 1855, from which it would appear that, up to that date, I

was entitled to the sum of £35 per annum, but since June, 1854, the Guardians had only paid me at the rate of £30 per annum.”—Letter of Dr. Joseph Pearson, of the Cocker-mouth Union. *Lancet*, March 15, 1856.

“I am now upwards of 55 years of age, 30 of which have been spent in practice, 28 of them in this Parish, at £70 a year, with a free house and garden, neither of them equal to a tradesman’s, with the privilege of charging for medicines, vaccination, and all operations, which were stated to amount to £40 additional, but which I found, to my cost and chagrin, turned out to be quite the reverse—in a word, the confidence I put in these assertions was misplaced.”—Letter of R. Clarke, Esq., of the parish of Harris, N. B. *Medical Circular*, Aug. 10, 1853.

(87) “Mr. Grimby, a Union Surgeon at Banbury, recently addressed a very courteous and temperate letter to the Board of Guardians, pointing out that the remuneration afforded for his services left him positively out of pocket, without calculating anything for the great labour involved in a conscientious discharge of his duties. He, therefore, asked for an advance of salary. This reasonable demand so exasperated the Guardians that, without paying any attention to his request, they immediately vamped up against him a charge of neglect, and summoned him to attend its investigation.”—*Lancet*, March 14, 1857.

“One of these Parochial illustrations of human ill-nature, whose occasional presence in a Board of Guardians bring disgrace even on the present system of Poor Law Relief; who think they best air their ‘little brief authority’ by exercising their tongues with ‘evil speaking, lying, and slandering;’ who seem to consider it a part of the legitimate duties of an Union Surgeon to endure their small malignity, and submit himself cheerfully and thankfully to their petty spite and vindictiveness.”—*Lancet*, March 21, 1857.

(88) “What has been called remuneration for their labours has been scanty, niggardly, and often doled out to them accompanied by insult.”—*Lancet*, June 4, 1853.

(89) “Finding that he really had been working for nothing, the medicines supplied almost eating up his miserable stipend, which was but £43 per annum, Mr. Budgett

memorialized the Board of Guardians (of the Reigate Union) for an increase of salary. . . . How did the Guardians reply to the just and temperate appeal of their meritorious, hard-worked, and ill-paid officer? Why, by suspension! A word of comment is unnecessary.”—*Lancet*, June 4, 1853.

“I say that in this case my professional opinion was over-ridden in a most unjust, and, I submit, most unbusiness manner, at the instance of an *ex-officio* Guardian. Because I expostulated with him he became a personal enemy, and was the mover of all the resolutions at the Board relative to my suspension.”—Mr. Budgett’s Letter, *ante cit.*

“Some, for having demanded an increase of salary have been compelled to submit to a reduction of the miserable pittance or resign, others have been reprimanded—not a few ousted by competitors—and insult, in every ingenious form cunning could devise, has been added to injustice.”—*Medical Circular*, April 6, 1853.

“At the present moment, the Guardians of the populous and important parish of Islington are placed in the unenviable position of having dismissed their Medical Officer for having endeavoured to procure for the inmates of their overcrowded Workhouse such improvements in their sanitary condition as were absolutely necessary, and therefore imperatively demanded.”—*Lancet*, Dec. 16, 1854.

(90) *Vide* Note 49, *ante*.

(91) A Parliamentary Paper, has just been printed respecting the Tewkesbury Union. The Board of Guardians carried resolutions to reduce the salaries of the Medical Officers, on account of the “cheapness of provisions.”—*Medical Circular*, Jan. 26, 1853.

(92) “While the sordid and parsimonious Boards were endeavouring to cut down the paltry salaries of their hard-worked Medical Officers, in consideration of the ‘hardness of the times,’ or the ‘cheapness of provisions,’ they never conceived the design of subjecting the Union Clerks and other Officers to the operation of the same sliding scale.”—*Ibid.*, July 27, 1853, p. 61.

(93) “Last Wednesday, a Special Meeting of the Vestrymen of St. Pancras was held in the Vestry Rooms adjoining the Workhouse, Camden Town, Mr. Wright in the chair, to receive the Report of the Committee appointed to

inquire into the alleged undue interference of certain Members of the Board of Guardians with the medical treatment of Dr. Rawlins, the District Parochial Surgeon of Kentish Town. . . . Professor Spooner denounced the interference of Mr. Hilles (the Member of the Board alluded to in the above correspondence) as ungentlemanly and unprofessional, and that, therefore, he (Mr. Hilles) was bound to apologize for his conduct."—*Lancet*, Aug. 28, 1852.

The St. Pancras Board have lately gone so far as to prefer various charges against their Resident Medical Officer, Dr. Ellis, the nature of which may be gathered from an Extract of the decision of the Poor Law Board confirmatory of the Report of their Special Inspectors (Mr. Bere, Q.C., and Dr. Seaton), to whom the inquiry was referred:—

“The first charge was that Dr. Ellis, either wilfully or negligently, so managed the ventilating apparatus of the Infirmary as to produce a wrong impression upon the minds of Medical men who came round to examine the Infirmary; and that the ventilating apparatus was never properly managed by Dr. Ellis, and that if it had been it would have been sufficient for the purpose for which it was constructed.

“The second charge against Dr. Ellis was that he retained as patients in the Infirmary persons whose ailments could have been as well attended to in the Infirm Wards of the Workhouse, and even in the body of the House; and that by such improper retention he caused the overcrowding to which the Report refers.” The Inspectors acquit Dr. Ellis of both these charges, and as regards the expressed culpability in the first charge they “considered the circumstances were such as to justify the exercise of individual discretion on the part of the Medical Officer.”

“As to the third charge against Dr. Ellis, of ‘having warded cases of Contagious Fever in the General Wards for the purpose and with the design of producing an Epidemic,’” the Inspectors were “of opinion ‘that there was no evidence to support it, and that it never ought to have been made’ The Poor Law Board agreed with their Inspectors, and acquitted Dr. Ellis of all blame in respect of the third charge made against him. They deemed it right at the same time to express their great surprise and regret that so gross and unfounded a charge should have been imported into the inquiry.”—*British Medical Journal*, March 26, 1870.

Vide Note 63, *ante*.

(94) “I was not long since informed by one of these Officials that Small-Pox was not, he believed, contagious at all; and to-day I am informed that I am not to consider ‘Scabies’ contagious; and it was even proposed that I should write out a list of those diseases *I* considered *infectious*, and that the *Guardians* should erase any *they* considered were *not*.”—Letter by “M.R.C.S. and L.S.A.” *Lancet*, August 23, 1856.

(95) "A person who has sent his servants to canvas amongst the Paupers for complaints against me, and who has called out of Church, and had private conferences with, the Paupers who alleged that I had neglected them,—I say that when an *ex-officio* Guardian will do this, (and I am prepared with names, times, dates, and circumstances,) the character of no Medical Officer, however diligent or ardent in the endeavour to do his duty, can be safe for a single day."—Mr. Budgett's Letter, *ant. cit.*

(96) *Vide* Notes 14, 82, and 84, *ante.*

In 1861 a Return, moved for by Mr. Abel Smith, was made to the House of Commons to counteract the impression made by the Return obtained in 1857 by Lord Elcho on Poor Law Medical Relief. The late Richard Griffin, Esq., in his evidence before the last Select Committee on Poor Relief (England) [Fifth Report, 1861, p. 13], conclusively showed that instead of an increase having been made in the said four years to the salaries of the Medical Officers, there was an actual decrease in the ratio per head of the estimated population as compared with 1842, when Col. Thomas Wood procured an analogous Parliamentary Return.

On March 18, 1869, Dr. Lush moved for a Return on Poor Law (Medical) Relief, to show amongst other details a "Comparative Statement of the sums paid out of the Item 'Medical Relief,' as Remuneration to the Poor Law Medical Officers in the year 1868 as against 1857." This Return gave the simple fact, as regards the gross salaries, of an increase of 17·4 per cent. since 1857. No reference whatever was made in this Return to the natural growth of the Population, nor to the actual extent of the Pauperism of the respectively compared periods.

Population was the basis of the ratio in Col. Thomas Wood's Return. The number of paupers relieved was the basis of the ratio in Mr. Abel Smith's Return.

Adopting both these bases as being figures which are entirely beyond the control of parties interested, the subjoined table shows:—Firstly, on the former basis, a slight improvement during the last seven years; Secondly, *on the same basis, that the Poor Law Medical Officers are not so well paid now as they were in 1842*; Thirdly, *on the latter basis, a distinct diminution in the ratio per head of 1868 as compared with that of 1861.*

“Comparative Statement of the sums paid as Salaries to the Poor Law Medical Officers of England and Wales :—

Years ended Lady-Day.	Estimated Population.	Average No. of Paupers in receipt of Relief.	Salaries.	Ratio per head of Population.		Parliamentary Returns.
				Ratio per head of Population.	Ratio per head of Average Pauper Population.	
1842	15,981,000	—	£ 139,784	$2\frac{3}{4}$	—	Feb. 9, 1843 (Col. Thomas Wood)
1857	19,207,000	885,010	177,270	2	4 0	April 27, 1858 (Lord Elcho)
1861	20,061,725	854,720	184,184	2	4 3½	June 10, 1861 (Mr. Abel Smith)
1868	21,869,607	982,823	208,057	$2\frac{1}{4}$	4 2¾	March 18, 1869 (Dr. Lush)”

—Dr. Robert Fowler (East London), *Poor Law Chronicle*, May 7, 1869.

“But, as figures are much more convincing than any other kind of proof, I have turned to the Blue Books, and find in 1859, when Mr. Estcourt stated ‘it ought not to remain as it was,’ the expenditure on Medical Relief was £233,124; gross Relief £5,558,689; population was 19,578,000; and in 1864, the year of the Committee’s Report, Medical Relief had increased to £253,204, or an addition had apparently been made, provided it had been equally distributed, of some £6 5s. to each Medical Officer’s stipend. In this interval, however, gross Relief had become £6,422,383, population had increased to 20,664,000, and the number of paupers from 862,078 to 1,011,653, or 149,575 more. Similarly, during the next five years Medical Relief increased from £253,204 to £272,000, or £19,000 more. But then gross Relief had risen to £7,498,000, population had become 21,700,000, or an increase of two millions in the ten years, and the number of paupers above that of 1864, 35,000, or an increase since 1859 of nearly 200,000. So that, in point of fact, by the consecutive annual augmentations in population and pauperism, the Poor Law Medical Officers were worse off in 1869 than they were when Mr. Estcourt made his statement in 1859.”—Dr. Rogers’ Address at the Quarterly Meeting of the Poor Law Medical Officers’ Association, April 27, 1870.

“We believe the inefficiency of the Poor Law Medical system to be due chiefly to the inadequate salaries and overwork.”—*Lancet*, April 23, 1870.

“ If the public would have good service, they must do just what private employers of labour find it necessary to do—they must pay for it.”—*Daily Telegraph*, March 31, 1870. “ On Vacancy caused by death of Mr. Joseph Payne, the Deputy Assistant-Judge at the Middlesex Sessions.”

(97) Dr. Joseph Rogers, President of the Poor Law Medical Officers' Association, has, from very extensive figures, fully corroborated all that had been previously asserted by workers at this vexed question, of the intimate connection betwixt pauperism and disease. In an address delivered at the Freemasons' Tavern on January 29, 1869, he first publicly detailed his comparison of the working of the Irish Medical Charities Act (14 & 15 Vict., cap. 68), which came into operation October 1, 1851, and the present English Poor Law. He showed that whilst in Ireland in 1867, £118,000 was expended in the Medical Relief for five and a half millions; in England £272,225 only was similarly expended for a population of nearly four times the number. Ireland had as her reward a diminution in 1867 of £142,662 for the *total* expenditure on the poor, as compared with the same outlay in 1852. In England, on the other hand, the said outlay had in the same period increased to the extent of £2,062,155. His figures, in gross and in detail, showed that an insufficiency of Medical facilities at the command of the Sick Poor operated extensively in the augmentation of Pauperism and of Poor Rates.

In his Address to the Association on April 27, 1870, he detailed the Statistics shown in the Return moved for by W. H. Smith, Esq., M.P. (*ant. cit.* Note 52), exhibiting the estimated population, and the general and zymotic mortality of England and Wales and Ireland during the last six years. The result is, “ that whilst Ireland spends by far the most on Medical Relief, she is rewarded by having the smallest death rate; and what will be more interesting to some, by having infinitely the less Poor Rate expenditure.” Alluding to the reverse effects in England and Wales and (?) Scotland, Dr. Rogers concludes:—“ But it is not the community which have suffered only in augmented mortality and additional expenditure on Pauperism by this neglect of the health of the Poor, but, to bring the fact more home to our Governing Classes, there can be no doubt that many an

occupier of a palatial mansion has sustained the death of relatives, whom he would not have lost if zymotic disease had not been allowed to fester and develop into fatal activity in the neighbouring cottage."

"After making all deductions, however, for the inevitable results of increased aggregation of population, it is difficult not to believe that the great inferiority of England's vital status to that of Ireland must depend, in considerable proportion, on inferiority in the means of dealing effectively with disease, especially zymotic disease, amongst the poor."—*Lancet*, April 23, 1870.

(98) "The consequence is, when expensive drugs are required, that either the Medical Officer must provide them at his own expense; or, if he does not, they could not be provided at all."—*Evidence before Select Committee on Medical Relief*, 1854. R. W. Rumsey, Esq. No. 2,059.

"In some types of disease, I feel quite sure, when Quinine is necessary to be prescribed in large quantities, it could not be furnished without serious loss to the Medical Officer, at the sums of money now paid him."—*Ibid.* J. Leigh, Esq. No. 2,242.

"I am sure the present rate of payment of Medical Officers, without coming upon their own resources, is quite inadequate."—*Ibid.* R. W. Rumsey, Esq. No. 2,058.

"We have now recently got two new Medical Officers, young men, who, of course, cannot afford, as the old practitioners do, to find themselves not in pocket, if they are not out of pocket by their practice."—*Ibid.* Rev. E. J. Howman, No. 1,994.

"It is practically impossible for a Medical Man, whose salary averages $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ for each patient, to supply, say a dozen leeches, each of which might cost him $4d.$ "—*Fifth Report: Poor Relief (England)*, 1861. R. Fowler, Esq. M.D. No. 13,394.

"No one could expect that a Medical Man can efficiently attend a case, having, on the average, a duration of sixteen days' illness, for which he derives merely $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ " *Second Report: Poor Relief (England)*, 1862. R. Fowler, Esq. M.D. No. 4,118.

"This aspect of the question was fully gone into by R. Fowler, Esq. M.D., on May 9, 1862, in his examination before the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the

Administration of Relief of the Poor."—*Ibid.*, 4,102–4,154, pp. 66–70.

"What, however, I do wish to prove is, that the English Medical Officer is not paid in such a manner as can secure that he should do his duty, except by unfairly trenching on his private resources."—Dr. Rogers' Address, *ant. cit.* April 27, 1870.

Vide Note 84, *ante*.

(99) "The jury at once returned a verdict for Dr. Williams for the full amount. 'Gentlemen,' said the judge (Willmore), 'I'm not at all sorry, on the contrary, I'm very glad at your verdict. If Medical Officers are screwed down too tight, they are placed in a very painful position. Either they must be wanting in their duties to the poor, or they must be out of pocket; and one would not like to make a man suffer for his honesty. I am glad, therefore, for anything which promotes a liberal tendency in these matters.'"—Williams, M.D. *v.* the Guardians of the Sherborne Union.—*Lancet*, September 29, 1855.

(100) "Resignations are continually taking place. Out of the 500 returns examined, 209 Medical Officers have held their appointments less than six years; 114 less than four years; 68 less than two years; and 32 less than one year. Do not these figures speak volumes?"

* * * * *

When vacancies occur, I admit there are applicants for the offices, and in most cases they are young men who have just passed their examinations; they try it for two or three years, and, finding themselves out of pocket by it, resign in disgust."—*Griffin's Statement, &c. ant. cit.* p. 10.

(101) "The capricious despotism of Boards of Guardians, the inexorable authority of the Poor Law Magnates, the nights and days of perilous labour, the dishonourable remuneration, the insecurity of office, and the tricks, subterfuges, and impositions of the system, have been the bitter complaints of Union Surgeons for many years."—*Medical Circular*, April 6, 1853.

A small instalment of justice is at length on the point of being granted to the "overworked, ill-used, underpaid Parish Doctors:"—

On June 29, 1870, was read a third time and passed in

the House of Commons, Dr. Brady's Bill "to provide for Superannuation Allowances to Medical Officers of Poor Law Unions in England and Wales," and "who become disabled, either by infirmity or age, to discharge the duties of their offices."

(102) "How has it acted hitherto? The majority of the Medical Officers are high-principled men, and have faithfully discharged their duties to the Poor; giving them Quinine, Cod Liver Oil, Sarsaparilla, Leeches, &c. when required, which their niggardly salaries never paid for. They have therefore literally relieved them out of their own pockets."—*Griffin's Statement, &c. ant. cit.*

Vide Note 98, *ante*.

(103) "The next items to be taken into consideration are professional skill (the attainment of which has cost, on an average, little less than £1,000), bodily fatigue, and mental anxiety. These, I presume, have hitherto been regarded as above price. Assuredly, no price, has been paid for them. But is this just? can it be permitted to continue?"—*Ibid.*

ADDENDUM TO NOTE 63, PAGE 68.

On July 5, 1870, the Medical Act (1858) Amendment Bill was read a third time in the House of Lords, and passed.



