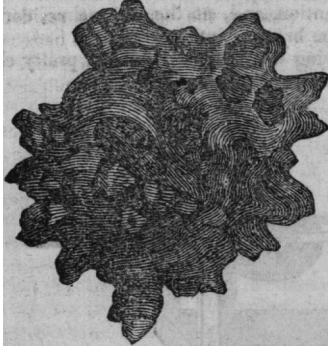


20th. The patient has been allowed to sit up a few hours to-day.

The stone is globular, somewhat less than an inch in diameter, of a brown colour, and its surface is covered with conical eminences, having an elevation of more than the eighth of an inch, and giving the stone somewhat the appearance of a horse-chestnut. At one part there are two parallel lines or belts of these projections; over the remainder of the surface they are disposed at irregular distances; the greater number of them are very much pointed; the diameter of the cones at the base is somewhat less than the eighth of an inch.

The following wood-cut exhibits the form and general appearance of the calculus.



CATARACT.

Sir John Fife extracted cataracts from the eyes of Elizabeth Nelson, in the following manner:—The patient being seated, the head resting against the assistant's breast, who, without any speculum, but with the fore-fingers, elevated and secured the upper lid of the right eye, Sir J. F., standing in front of patient, depressed the lower eyelid with the long finger of the right hand, and, holding the cornea knife in the left hand, with the cutting-edge upwards, introduced it through the outer edge of the cornea near the middle; he then passed it rapidly in front of the iris, dipped its point into the capsule of the lens, altered slightly its axis, and brought out its point at the inner edge of the cornea; he then, keeping back to the temple the handle of the knife, corrected the position of the eye (which had rolled upwards), and pressing forward the point, completed the incision, on which the lens immediately rolled over the cheek. The flap was then carefully adjusted with a probe, and the eye covered with a little dry linen over the cilia, and a small plaster of Cerat. Cetacei with Extract. Belladonnæ over the orbit. The left eye was then operated upon in the same way; Sir J. F. holding the knife in the right hand. The whole was done in three or four minutes, and the suffering appeared trifling. There is now perfect vision in the right eye; that of the left is for the present obscured by the effects of severe inflammation.

In the after treatment of these cases Sir John Fife changes the dressing every twelve or twenty-four hours; using abluition with warm water to the closed eyelids, and occasionally depressing the lower lid in a slight degree, to permit the escape of any accumulated secretions.

#### MEETING OF THE EASTERN BRANCH OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE annual meeting of this branch of the society was held in Bury St. Edmund's on Monday, Sept. 14. Charles Smith, Esq. senior surgeon to the Bury and West Suffolk Hospital, was unanimously called to the chair.

Amongst the medical gentlemen present at the meeting and at the dinner, were, Mr. Crosse (Norwich), Drs. Pro-

bart, Ranking, Hake (Bury), Mr. Gilson, from Essex, Mr. Ward (Stowmarket), Mr. Durrant (Ipswich), Mr. Lovell (Chelmsford), Messrs. Day, Wing, Stutter, Hubbard, Creed (Bury), Dr. Stevens (Ely), Mr. Young (Wells, Norfolk), Mr. Kirkman (Melton), Dr. Arnold (Kingston, Jamaica), Messrs. Peck, Bree (Stowmarket), Mr. Grouse (Bildestone), Mr. Mines (Diss), Mr. Rose (Swaffham), Mr. Jones (Melford), Mr. Barker (Barrow), Mr. Nunn (Colchester), Mr. Brame (Lowestoft), Mr. Jefferson (Framlingham).

The report, which was read by the honorary secretary, J. G. Crosse, Esq., M.D., after stating the reasons why the meeting of the Association was not held at Cambridge, and adverting to a correspondence which took place between a committee of the Association and the Apothecaries' Company, relative to an unlicensed practitioner in Essex, states that another committee was appointed at Colchester, to petition both houses of parliament in favour of legislative proceedings for the regulation and protection of the profession; but it appeared that this committee had not acted, and the only petition forwarded to those high quarters, from the Eastern District, was framed by an individual member, and received the signatures of all, save one, of the resident practitioners in the western part of Essex. The reporter then says: "We still labour under the disappointment of the Parent Association assembling yearly by invitation in the distant and stirring towns of the north or west of the kingdom—the result, in some measure, is that apathy in public matters, to which, without being parties, we are victims; but owing, in a greater degree, to our peninsular position, the absence of railroad conveyance, and our having but one town, Cambridge, possessing the attraction and accommodation for 200 members of the profession. The prospect of a near approach of the Parent Society seems not to brighten; we must rescue ourselves by an increased attention to our local meetings; we must rely upon our own energies and resources; and, if we look to the favourable side of the subject, we find that in opportunities for contributing to the Transactions, and of possessing the published volumes and other records of the society, we labour under no disadvantages compared with our distant associates; and volumes seven and eight have been distributed to each member since we last assembled. The finances of the Eastern Branch are in a prosperous state; one third of the receipts—the proportion allowed—more than suffices for the expenses of our local business of committees and petitions, and the surplus has been annually transferred to the central fund, which much needed to be thus recruited, to meet the heavy expenses lately incurred in the plates to the last volume. The Association, in common with every other enlightened body of provincial practitioners in the United Kingdom, is now fully embarked in the question of reformation of the profession by legislative measures, and there cannot fail to be varying shades of opinion upon this, as happens on every other topic to which the attention of a numerous and diversified body of men becomes directed; but on some points, there can be no hesitation in asserting, we are unanimous—the injurious absence of systematic legislation for the medical profession—the degradation of the general practitioner, and the discord amongst members from the want of systematic legislation—the crying injustice evinced in exacting hard studies and heavy fines with increasing strictness, from every one who receives his diploma from any of our different public bodies, without the return almost of any privilege, and entirely without any protection against the inroads of the most ignorant and wholly unauthorised pretender. Such a state of things is not more injurious to the profession than to the public. It is a state of things more imperfect than can be found in any other country of Europe—almost of America—and it seems doomed to continue to overshadow us for our own, and even our successors' time, unless each authorised practitioner in the provinces will feel it his duty to bestir himself, and associate with his brethren as in a common cause. (Applause.) But in adverting to what touches so closely

upon our interests and our feelings, we must not lose sight of the highest objects of the Association,—those connected with the advancement of our scientific professional knowledge. Whilst legislative measures receive adequate attention, we must not forget that our Association is not directed solely to medico-political purposes; it contemplates the encouragement of that high honour and liberal intercourse between members which no legislation can touch, and, above all, the enlargement of our sound practical knowledge for the relief of human suffering, and the prolongation of human life.

The above report was unanimously adopted.

The following gentlemen were announced as new members:—Dr. Ranking, Dr. Hake, and Mr. Day, of Bury; Mr. Ward, of Stowmarket; Dr. Durrant, of Ipswich; and Mr. Lovell, of Chelmsford.

The existing council was continued, with the addition of Dr. Ranking and Dr. Hake.

Dr. Evans was continued treasurer, and Mr. Crosse honorary secretary.

Some conversation then took place between Mr. Rose, Mr. Young, Mr. Bree, Mr. Gillon, and other gentlemen, relative to the prosecution of an unqualified person, at Coggeshall, by the Apothecaries' Company. Some steps, it appears, had been taken by the Company's solicitor, but the prosecution had been abandoned by him.

Mr. BREE thought that no possible good could result from the present constitution of the Apothecaries' Company; and he, therefore, objected to there being any communication with them in future. He was convinced that they wanted not only the power to protect the profession, but were also totally unable to carry out the provisions of the Act of 1815. He here detailed two cases which came under his own knowledge, and upon which he had addressed the Company; but they would not proceed in them, unless he guaranteed the expense of the suit. Did not this prove that they lacked the power of protecting the qualified member of the profession? He was sure they would agree with him, that some legislative enactment was required to supersede the powers of the Company. He did not wish to offer opposition to the resolution, but merely to advise the society not to degrade itself by further communication with the Apothecaries' Company. He would move, as an amendment, "That, on the reappointing of the committee, no communication should be held with the Company of Apothecaries. That the efforts of the Committee be directed to obtain some legislative enactment to supersede the Act of 1815, and to afford permanent protection to all branches of the profession."

Mr. YOUNG thought they ought not to go so far as Mr. Bree did; they ought first to hear what reasons the Company had for delaying the proceedings.—Dr. ARNOLD thought that, as this Company was incorporated to protect them, and as it received enormous fees from them, they were entitled to its protection.—Mr. GILSON thought the Company destitute of the power to do that which, if differently constituted, it would accomplish.

Mr. CROSSE, in a speech of some length, argued that they could not get better information on the point than from the Company. The party alluded to might have gone before them, and actually have passed, for what they knew. They might have to do with parties, as a public body, whom they did not support or accord with; but they were not hostilely to turn round, and, in despite of their own interests, say they would have nothing more to do with them. They could not much rely on the Company, because their original act was very defective—this was the difficulty; but when they spoke of a public body, they were not referring to them as individuals, and there should not be anything declamatory uttered against them, as a body; but they should look into the circumstances under which they acted. If there were a summary way of convicting a person practising illegally, the course would be clear enough; but it should be remembered that uncertain and circuitous proceedings were necessary, and, after great expenses had been

incurred by the Company, they would be liable to be frustrated, owing to the imperfect power they possessed. After all, they could not get anything done but by legislation in the matter; the profession had waited, expecting that Mr. Warburton would bring in a bill, but he had not done so up to the last day of the last session, and they were now led to believe that something would be done next session; they had expected the bill to have been brought in at least, and copies sent to those who would have given their attention to the subject, but instead of this, another session had passed, and they were in *statu quo*, as badly off as they were five or seven years ago. (Hear, hear.) He thought the resolution might be altered so as to enlarge the powers of the committee, requesting them not only to receive, but also to collect information on the matter. And as the three gentlemen now on the committee resided in three different counties, he thought it would be better to appoint gentlemen living near each other, who could personally communicate with each other, which would be better, in all respects, than corresponding.

The amendment was, after some further observations, withdrawn, and the original motion was carried.

Mr. CREED proposed that Dr. Stevens, of Ely, Mr. Rose, of Swaffham, and Mr. Young, of Wells, should be the committee, which was agreed to.

The following papers were then read:—1. Two cases of Chronic Laryngitis, in one of which Bronchotomy was performed by Mr. Ewing, of Long Sutton, Lincolnshire. 2. Upon the impropriety of blood-letting in certain apoplectic and paralytic seizures, by Mr. Copeman, of Coltishall, Norfolk. 3. Suggestions for an improved Stethoscope of metal, by Dr. Arnold, of London. 4. On the practical difference between Sympathetic and Organic Stricture of the Œsophagus, by Mr. Nunn, surgeon to the Colchester and Essex Hospital. 5. Outline of a case of Prolapsus Linguae, by Mr. Crosse, of Norwich. 6. Schirro-carcinomatous Tumour in the posterior Mediastinum, not detected by Auscultation, with displacement of the heart, and cancer of the spleen, by Dr. England, of Wisbeach, Cambridgeshire. 7. On the agency of Pus, in the formation of calcareous deposits, supported by microscopic investigations, by Dr. Hake, physician to the Bury and West Suffolk Hospital.

Mr. BEDINGFIELD exhibited two surgical instruments of improved construction, which were much admired.

Ipswich was selected as the place for the next meeting.

Mr. BREE now proposed the latter part of the amendment he had previously moved, as a separate motion, and it was carried; and Mr. Creed, Mr. Bree, and Mr. Jeaffreson were appointed a committee to carry it into effect.

Mr. JEAFFRESON said there was a question on which he wished to take the sense of the meeting. It was the operation of one clause, more particularly, in the recent Act for the extension of vaccination, by which it was intended to compel medical men, who were surgeons of Union Districts, to vaccinate every description of people at eighteen-pence per head. This, he considered, was very degrading to the profession. He wished it to be distinctly understood, that he was perfectly prepared to extend vaccination amongst the poor at the eighteen-penny fee; but to invite their patients, such as the little farmer or small tradesman, to pauperism, was degrading, he considered, and it ought not to be expected from the profession. It occurred to him that there was one protection against an improper operation of the clause, as the rate-payers could always prevent a wrong application of the Act; but when he considered that they were the parties who would be principally benefited thereby, he could not help thinking the question was one which required the attention of the meeting.

Mr. YOUNG said that, in reading the Act, which he did with great care, he thought they could not draw that inference; it was intended that the poor of an Union should have the opportunity of being vaccinated, but it was not expected that those persons who could afford to pay the

usual fee would take advantage of the Act, and so be, in fact, pauperised.

Mr. PECK said that he was afraid there were a great many who would.

Mr. JEAFFRESON said that, as far as the charges went, the surgeons were, under the poor-law of Elizabeth, generally allowed half-crown fees for vaccination, and then it barely paid a medical man in good practice to render himself active in combating the prejudices of the poor, and keeping cases up. When the new Act came into operation there were not twenty cases in his district; and when he received his appointment under the old Act, he asked if he were to be allowed for vaccination, and was told that that was a matter for after consideration. He said he would never oppose the progress of vaccination, and would gratuitously perform it on poor persons who applied to him, until some plan could be adopted; and this he did simply on the ground that he was favourable to the protection afforded by vaccination. He could not give up his time to look out for patients, and the result had been that, instead of its being very general, he did not think more than twenty, or, at most, thirty applications had been made to him within the last three or four years. The prejudices had been so great that, unless there were real danger, there would not be much extension of vaccination.

Mr. BREE was glad that the matter had been brought forward; it appeared to him that the intentions of the legislature had been frustrated by the plan adopted. In the first place, the control was given to the Poor-Law Commissioners, who dictated to the medical man. The lowest fee paid under the old system was half-a-crown, but now they were called on to vaccinate, for eighteen-pence, their private patients who formerly gave them a fee of ten-and-sixpence. By the instructions of the Poor-Law Commissioners, the medical man was to vaccinate every person who applied to him, and even to keep at home from morning till night. (Laughter.) For eighteen-pence he was to vaccinate, write one or two certificates, and see the patients twice. Was it not most injurious to the profession that such a regulation had been passed? (Hear, hear.) In what he might call a very splendid article on the subject, in the *Times* paper, a short time ago, it was clearly proved that, if the average number of births in a district was 150, and supposing all to be vaccinated, the medical man would have to attend each twice, and vaccinate each of the 150, for the paltry fee of about 10*l.* a year. He thought that, if the medical man had to contract thus, he would not take much trouble to seek out cases.

Mr. CROSSE said, he should have been glad if Mr. Jeaffreson had concluded his remarks by placing before the meeting some proposition; but as he had not done so, and as the conversation had gone on to a certain extent, he presumed it would be hardly satisfactory if they should so dismiss the subject. If they did not proceed further, it would be almost as well that they had not dwelt on the matter at all, except for their own satisfaction. It should be recollected, that every surgeon appointed to vaccinate, would have to keep a regular register. This part of his duty would be strictly exacted from him, as much so as the registry of cases attended by him for the Union. He thought that the operation of the Act would be, by the registry, to exclude in a great measure, though it would not do so entirely, those who could not come under the designation of paupers. It was clearly the intention of the Act, that the children of the poor only should be vaccinated by the medical man appointed by the Guardians, otherwise the Poor-Law Commissioners would be constituting themselves the guardians of other than a pauper population. (Hear, hear.) He thought it was the duty of the profession to collect information on the subject. With regard to the payment, he himself had been in communication with the Poor-Law Commissioners on the subject; and he was of opinion that, as there would be a great many cases, the payment would be as much in proportion as other payments for medical attendance on the poor, though,

perhaps, that was not saying much. (Laughter.) He thought it expedient to move that a committee be appointed to consider the effects of the Vaccination Bill, and to address Mr. Chadwick thereon.

Mr. JEAFFRESON said the Board of Guardians of his district had applied to him to accept the appointment of vaccinator, and he was expected to have given an answer that day, but he had avoided the question one week, hoping to get their opinions on the subject.

Mr. BREE said it was clear that any medical man, appointed to a district, could not refuse to vaccinate, at the eighteen-penny fee, even the richest man in the parish.

Mr. CROSSE still thought the registry would be a corrective to a certain extent.

A committee was then appointed, according to Mr. Crosse's recommendation, and the meeting broke up, having passed a vote of thanks to the chairman.

#### THE DINNER.

In the afternoon about thirty members of the Association dined together, C. C. SMITH, Esq. officiated as chairman, and Dr. RANKING as vice-president.

After the usual toasts had been drunk, the Chairman proposed the health of Mr. Crosse, the founder and secretary of the Eastern Branch of the Association.

Mr. CROSSE, in returning thanks, said he was sorry such was the state of their profession, that it rarely admitted of their assembling together. They laboured under serious disadvantages in being unable to associate less in large companies than almost any other part of the enlightened members of society—(hear, hear)—but, surely when they had opportunities, their time could not be better employed than in mixing with their professional brethren—in cultivating the best feelings of their nature—and in advocating that happy cause which they were now, with so much zeal, endeavouring to promote. He felt an additional pleasure in presenting himself before them in his native county—in a town where, thirty-five years ago, during his college life, the senior members of the profession were his acquaintances, men who are now looked up to as the leading practitioners of the day. The medical men of the county of Suffolk had ever stood preeminent for information in the medical department; there was no county, so far as he was able to judge, that could be put in competition with the professional men of this neighbourhood for sound information, for zeal in the pursuit of their profession, and for the highest attainments in professional skill and knowledge. (Hear, hear.) The present meeting was peculiar in its character from what used to transpire within the period of his recollection. He never heard, till the establishment of this society, of the medical men of more than one county at one time assembling together; but on the present, and at every occasion since the formation of this society, they had members of the profession from four of the eastern counties; therefore, if no other good than this were effected, the society would be worthy of their most zealous support. But there were reasons at the present time more particularly why this society ought to be supported. As they became better acquainted with the state of the profession in other countries, and observed what was going on with respect to other professions in their own, they became convinced of the necessity of uniting to obtain some uniform regulations for the protection of their mutual interests. They would observe, also, that they had gone on assembling, holding the most temperate sentiments with regard to change, till having urged the subject of medical reform more and more upon the notice of the legislature, and seeing no prospect of relief but that derived from their own efforts, it had ripened into a determination, and they had now only to cordially unite and say "it shall be done." In that work the Provincial Association would considerably assist. It was the largest body of medical men that ever associated together for any purpose (he hoped they would never associate but for good purposes), and was, perhaps, the largest body of professional medical men in the kingdom; and he conceived that



laying down to the legislature what the highest ability suggested for the improvement of their condition, must ultimately receive attention. He believed that the Association would be a means of helping forward reform, for it was hopeless to expect that anything would originate from the legislature itself. They did not, however, rely on the Provincial Association alone, for similar associations existed in other parts of the empire, and he trusted that, through their united efforts, they might obtain those improvements which they were endeavouring to promote, and that an uniform system of education might be at length obtained. However slow it might appear to be, it was certain that reform would come in the end. Mr. Crosse concluded by thanking them for the honour conferred upon him, and assuring them that his time, energies, and best efforts, should always be at the service of the Eastern Branch of the Provincial Association.

The health of Mr. Creed, mayor of Bury, having been proposed, Mr. CREED returned thanks. Although he felt he could hardly deserve their attention as a member of the Association, not having done so much for it as he could have wished, he feared that he had less claim upon them as mayor of Bury. He hoped that, although he was called upon to perform magisterial duties (in which he was ably seconded by his brother magistrate, Dr. Probart), his professional energies would be unimpaired, for he had the opportunity of seeing considerable practice in Bury. Mr. Creed concluded by proposing the health of Dr. Arnold.—Dr. ARNOLD returned thanks in a neat speech, stating the unmixed pleasure he had derived from attending the meeting that day, and remarking upon the spirit of unanimity and regularity which characterised their proceedings.

Several other toasts were then drunk, when Mr. YOUNG (Wells), in returning thanks, said that, although it was the first time he had the honour of being at Bury, he was sure that it would not be the last; for the quiet manner in which they had transacted business that day, their regularity, and the excellent papers which had been read, had afforded him the highest satisfaction. Much had been said, and deservedly said, of the Provincial Association, of which they formed a branch; but they ought not to forget the founder of that Association, Dr. Hastings, of Worcester, whose health he now begged to propose; and long might he continue to act as their secretary, with that energy and zeal with which he had hitherto promoted the objects of the Association. He would add his hope to the many wishes already expressed, that they might obtain medical reform; and he was sure that in the hands of Dr. Hastings and the Council they would, in time, achieve their object; but they must not forget that, in climbing the hill of legislation, they must ascend slowly, step by step, but not be discouraged until they had arrived at the top.—The health of Dr. Hastings was drunk with much applause.

Towards the conclusion of the festivities, Mr. BREE, of Stowmarket, pronounced a very excellent discourse, for which we regret that we have no room. The chief points upon which Mr. Bree touched were—the impropriety of physicians practising surgery—the total neglect of the executive government to afford protection to the legally qualified practitioner—and the practice recently introduced, of selling degrees in medicine from the University of Grissau, in Germany, for the “small sum” of forty guineas. Mr. Bree did not mention the name of the gentleman who thus kindly acts as a mediator between the expectant diplomatist and the accommodating University, but we believe that his name and address can be easily obtained at Sydenham College.

#### MR. WARBURTON'S BILL.

WE had intended to present to our readers a complete copy of this long-expected bill, but find ourselves compelled to substitute the following condensed account of its clauses. The bill is indorsed on the back “Medical Profession.” “A BILL for the registration of medical practitioners, and for

establishing a college of medicine, and for enabling the fellows of that college to practice medicine in all or any of its branches, and hold any medical appointments whatsoever, in any part whatsoever of the United Kingdom.”

It is also stated on the back that the bill has been “prepared and brought in by Mr. WARBURTON, Mr. WAKLEY, and Mr. HAWES.”

The PREAMBLE declares that—

“Whereas, it is expedient that all male persons practising medicine in the United Kingdom should be registered; and that all properly educated medical practitioners should be encouraged to exercise their profession, in all or any of its branches, in whatsoever part of the British dominions they may severally think proper to exercise the same, and should be empowered to hold medical appointments, of whatsoever description, in any part of the said dominions.”

After the preamble comes an “interpretation clause,” in which several terms contained in the bill are explained. The principal amongst these are the following:—[We have distinguished the most important points connected with the definitions of terms, and contained in the several clauses, in Italics, although such Italics do not occur in the original bill.]

*Person practising Medicine.*—A male person who, with a view to the private gain of himself, or another, himself administers, by whatever method of treatment, to the relief or cure of any human bodily injury or malformation; or human ailment, bodily or mental, real or imaginary; or who, with a like view, advises or prescribes what method of treatment shall be administered by another; or who, with a like view, employs another to act in the like manner; or who makes or issues any public manifestation, notice, or advertisement, to the effect that he will act as aforesaid.

*Medical Assistant.*—A person who, for private gain, engages himself to a party practising medicine (in chief\*), and is employed by that party to practise medicine, and shall not be construed to extend to a pupil or apprentice of a party practising medicine in chief.

*Medical qualification.*—As applied to a person practising medicine, these words shall imply that he holds one or more of the following qualifications:—

1. A degree in medicine or physic, in some university of the United Kingdom, or a license therefrom to practise medicine.
2. A mastership in surgery from some such university.
3. A certificate of proficiency in surgery therefrom.
4. The fellowship, membership, or candidature or licentiatehip of some college of physicians or surgeons, or the possession of a diploma received therefrom, or of or from some faculty of physicians and surgeons in the United Kingdom.
5. Or a membership or licentiatehip of some society of apothecaries, or the possession of a certificate of fitness to practise as an apothecary received therefrom.
6. The term also embraces persons who hold any medical commission or warrant in the British army or navy, or the East India Company's service.
7. And all those persons who may become fellows of the college of medicine directed in this Bill to be hereafter established.
8. And all persons who were in practice as Apothecaries prior to August 1, 1815.

The clauses declare as follows:—

II. The costs of administering the Act shall be paid by an annual tax of \_\_\_\_\_ on every registered or unregistered medical practitioner in the United Kingdom, according to the provisions of the bill, forming the fund of a “Medical Registry Account.” Any deficiency to be specially supplied by Parliament.

III. From and after 1842, registers of all persons practising medicine (in chief) in England, Scotland, and Ireland, shall be made and kept by three persons, nominated by the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whose offices shall be respectively situated in the three capitals, having the registrars of births and deaths throughout England, certain schoolmasters in Scotland, and officers of the police in Ireland, as sub-registrars.

IV. V. These clauses describe the duties of the sub-registrars, and require the medical practitioner to supply to them a schedule of name, address, branch of medicine, and nature and dates of his qualifications; “but,” says the clause, “if he do not hold a medical qualification, then whether it is as being a chemist and druggist that he practises medicine in chief,” and if under the Apothecaries' Act, or a right acquired by usage before that Act was passed; “or whether he practises medicine in chief without either holding a medical qualification or being a chemist and druggist.” Each partner in a firm to do the same.

VI. VII. VIII. All this to be signed, returned before the

\* That is, a practitioner who is not an assistant.