

## HULL MEETING.

At a meeting of the Medical Profession, held October 22nd, at the Hull General Infirmary, Dr. Alderson, F.R.S., in the chair: the following resolutions were agreed to:—

Moved by Dr. Horner, and seconded by Dr. Fielding:—"Being fully convinced of the great importance of a uniform scale of qualification in the respective grades of the profession throughout the kingdom; this meeting feels grateful for the introduction of a measure calculated to produce so desirable a result, and thankfully embraces the opportunity afforded by the Home Secretary to consider the bearings of the bill introduced by him into Parliament at the close of last Session."

Moved by Mr. R. Craven, and seconded by Dr. Forge, of Driffield:—"That this meeting fully approves of the system of registration, but is of opinion that in order to render it efficient, it ought, under some penalty to be devised by Government, to be made compulsory."

Moved by Mr. Sleight, and seconded by Mr. Anderson:—"That this meeting can only concur in the advisability of repealing the Apothecaries' Act of 1815, provided some equivalent protecting measure be substituted, and is of opinion that a summary process for putting down unlicensed practitioners would be of advantage to protect a large body of the medical profession from unjust interference, and the public from imposition."

Moved by Dr. Sandwith, and seconded by Mr. Hardey:—"That this meeting, deeply sensible of the value of a Council of Health and Medical Education, if rightly constituted, as conferring on the profession the dignity of being virtually a department of the State, and as affording a ready medium of access to Government for the expression of its wants and wishes, nevertheless deprecates the appointment of such a Council on the principles recognised by Sir James Graham's Bill, which, by excluding a *bonâ fide* representation of the great body of the profession, provides no adequate check on the exercise of powers susceptible of great abuse."

Moved by Mr. Dossor, and seconded by Mr. Sherwin:—"That a Petition, embodying the sense of the foregoing resolutions, be prepared and presented to both Houses of Parliament,—to the Lords by the Lord-Lieutenant of the Riding, and to the Commons by the Members for the borough of Hull."

A Committee was then appointed to carry out the views of the meeting, and a subscription entered into to defray the incidental expenses. And the thanks of the meeting were voted to the Chairman, for his able and impartial conduct in the chair.

## COLCHESTER MEETING.

A meeting of the members of the Medical Profession resident in the eastern part of the county of Essex, took place at Colchester, on Tuesday, Oct. 15, to take into consideration the provisions of Sir James Graham's Medical Reform Bill. Among those present were Dr. Williams, Dr. Chambers, Messrs. Partridge, Waylen,

Philbrick, Morris, Churchill, Blair, Bewick, Johnson, Clarke, A. J. Partridge, J. Partridge, and Taylor, of Colchester; Osmond, Thorpe; Thompson, Manningtree; Rodick, Coggeshall; Daniell, Nayland; Manthorpe, Thorpe; Gilson, Halstead; Symmons, Bures; Meadowcroft, Bentley; Norman, Mersea; Bidwell, Dedham; Tomkin, Witham; Cooke, Chappel; and others. Alderman Partridge, of Colchester, in the chair.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Proposed by Dr. Williams, and seconded by Mr. Daniell:—"That the great variation existing among the numerous bodies for licensing medical practitioners in the United Kingdom, in respect to the standard of qualification, demands legislative interference, in order to control them, and render uniform medical education. That this meeting considers "A Bill for the better regulation of Medical Practice throughout the United Kingdom," as proposed by Sir James Graham, inadequate to the purposes proposed, and, moreover, highly objectionable, because it deprives the medical practitioner of all protection, and thereby discourages the scientific study of medicine, by placing the uneducated and incompetent pretender in direct rivalry with the educated practitioner, thus legalizing quackery, and subjecting the public to the incalculable evils of rash and dangerous empiricism.

Proposed by Mr. Osmond, and seconded by Dr. Chambers:—"That this meeting, viewing with satisfaction the benefit already experienced, not only by the profession, but also by the public, from the extended qualification required of candidates for Apothecaries' Licence; and considering that the general practitioner possesses no other protection than the Act of 1815 against the competition of the ignorant and unqualified, most strongly protests against its repeal, unless an equivalent protection be substituted, and an uniform elevated standard of professional education be enforced."

"Proposed by Mr. Gilson, and seconded by Mr. Blair:—"That the Council of Health, as constituted by this bill, is decidedly objectionable, because it places too much patronage at the disposal of a Minister of the Crown, without providing a guarantee for its right distribution; because of the entire exclusion of general practitioners; and because of the absence of any clause requiring its members to belong to the medical profession. That the proposed system of registration is unjust, because it takes away the protection afforded by the Apothecaries' Act, without furnishing an equitable substitute; and throws the expense of maintaining an obnoxious law upon those who will be directly injured by its enactments."

On the motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Bidwell, a Petition, embodying the foregoing resolutions, was adopted for presentation to both Houses of Parliament.

A deputation was appointed to wait on the Members for the county and borough, and an Association formed to watch the progress of the bill.

The thanks of the meeting were voted to the Editors of the *Lancet*, *Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal*, *Times*, and *Local Papers*, and to the Honorary Secretary, Mr. Philbrick, and the Chairman.