

to partake. There is something repugnant to the sensitive mind, the probability of his wife and children having to become pensioners of a charity,—to go through all the forms and inquiries of a committee, however respectably composed. And in the next, there unfortunately exists an apathy too common to all men, particularly to those of limited means, in our profession, and that is to abstract a sum yearly from their income, for the support of a benevolent fund, of which they themselves hesitate even to become the pensioners of, and which, from the plan proposed hitherto, is quite inadequate to afford the most miserable livelihood to any recipient who had ever been accustomed to move as a lady. Under these circumstances, I really think an annuity fund, such as that proposed by Mr. Jeffery, would answer all desires, and would meet with general support; and, in fact, would be a kind of mutual insurance amongst the members of our profession, and tend much to add to the comfort and respectability of that body. I shall not now offer any further remarks on this subject, but shall anxiously watch any further progress the proposal may make in our ranks.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM B. M'EGAN, M.D.

Torquay, Oct. 18, 1845.

VACCINE MATTER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

SIR,

It may be in your recollection that in November last I offered, through the medium of your Journal, to supply vaccine virus to such of your readers as might require it. I had, in consequence, upwards of a hundred applications.

By far the greater number of my correspondents complained of the inefficiency of the virus supplied by the National Vaccine Establishment. This has become a most serious evil, and requires immediate remedy. The public, who supply the funds to support this establishment, have surely a right to some explanation from the parties who manage, or rather who, as regards the supply of virus at least, mismanage it. Indeed, considering the various complaints that have from time to time appeared in several medical publications, of which the parties in question can scarcely be wholly ignorant, it is a matter of much surprise that for their own character's sake they have not long ago given the necessary explanation.

Having again a small supply of virus, I shall be happy to send a portion of it to such as may require it, a pre-paid envelope being forwarded to me. The numerous applications before received sufficiently evidence the convenience of such an offer, and I truly hope that other gentlemen will occasionally, as opportunity occurs, follow the example now set them.

I am, Sir,

Yours very truly,

T. P. FERNIE.

Kimbolton, Oct. 27, 1845.

MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS AT BOLTON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

SIR,

At a meeting of members of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, held at the Dispensary, Bolton-le-Moors, on Thursday, October 23, 1845, Richard Robinson, Esq., in the chair, it was unanimously resolved,—“That the circular *said* to contain the result of the proceedings of a meeting of fellows and members of the Royal College of Surgeons, recently held at Charing-Cross, should be charitably considered as a hoax, as it is not thought probable that any individual belonging to a gentlemanly and honourable profession would think of offering an insult to his brethren, or have the folly to suppose, that any of those, who are indignant at, and justly consider themselves insulted by, the late conduct of the Council to its members, would agree in the views entertained and published in such circular.”

We shall be much obliged by your inserting the above resolution in your valuable journal. We do not consider it necessary to make any remarks upon the subject, as it has been previously amply discussed; and the result is, that a general feeling of dissatisfaction pervades the profession.

(Signed,) R. ROBINSON, Chairman.

HENRY SHARP, Hon. Secretary.

Bolton, October 25, 1845.

PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE BENEVOLENT FUND.

A meeting of the subscribers to the Benevolent Fund of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association will be held at Worcester, in the Council Room of the Worcestershire Museum, on Thursday, November 20th, at one o'clock.

The meeting is called at the request of the Central Committee, to take into consideration the circumstances under which the Benevolent Fund is now placed, and to devise means for promoting its efficiency, and to obtain for it further support.

OBITUARY.

October 28th, at Brighton, aged 68, Sir Matthew John Tierney, Bart., for many years one of the Physicians to the late Sovereigns, George the Fourth and William the Fourth.

ERRATUM.

In Dr. Cardew's Case of Malformation of the Uterus:—Page 638, col. 2., line 26, for “ten drachms” read “ten drops.”

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from Dr. Deshon; Dr. Jeffreys; W. A. G.; Dr. Chambers; Mr. Cotton; Mr. C. J. Gibb; Mr. Bainbrigge; Mr. J. D. Jeffery; and Mr. W. Henchman Crowfoot.