

insulting and acting towards the members of a liberal profession. Being well aware of your superior competency to conduct the subject, I shall leave it for your remarks, and am, Sir, your obedient servant,

P. T.

Stroud, May 18, 1836.

#### “STROUD UNION.—MEDICAL CLUB.

“1. Every person contributing regularly during health and sickness a small annual sum, shall be entitled to medical attendance, medicines, and appliances of every description.

“2. The terms of subscription shall be as follows:—

For an individual maintaining himself or herself, 3s. a year.

For a man and his wife, 4s. a year.

For each child of a family, if one be subscribed for all must, 6d. a year.

For every person in the same family above the age of 16, 2s. a year.

“3. Every married female belonging to the Medical Club shall be able to ensure medical attendance in any case of midwifery, by paying the sum of ten shillings seven days at least before she require such aid.

“Every contribution is to be paid quarterly and in advance, namely, on the first Saturdays after March 25, June 25, Sept. 25, Dec. 25.

“The Board of Guardians for the Stroud Union will give no regular salaries to medical officers, but they will contribute to the medical club for those persons whom they consider to be in such a state of poverty that they cannot make a provision for themselves; and the names of those persons will be inserted in a list, to be called the ‘Pauper Schedule’ copies of which will be deposited with the overseers, and attached to the church-door in each parish. But it should be understood, that no able-bodied man, nor any persons capable of earning their own livelihood, will be placed upon the pauper schedule.

“The Board of Guardians having come to an unanimous determination, that they will not, unless under very special circumstances, provide medical assistance for any persons whose names are not inserted in the Pauper Schedule—such persons are earnestly requested to take advantage of the means thus held out to them of providing for themselves in case of sickness; and they will take notice, that, if at any time they should apply to the Board of Guardians for medical attendance, the assistance then given to them will be a loan, which they will be required to repay as soon as they get well.

“\* \* It is expected that all the medical gentlemen in the Stroud Union will form medical clubs; and those persons who join

them before June 25, are not in any way restricted, but may subscribe to that medical gentleman they prefer.

“Stroud, May 13, 1836.”

#### CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.

MEMORIAL ON THE DEATH OF HIS CHILD, PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNORS BY SIGNOR VERONI.

*“To the Right Worshipful the President, the Worshipful the Treasurer, and the Honourable the Governors, of CHRIST'S HOSPITAL, in General Court assembled.*

The Memorial of PIETRO ZARRICHELLI  
EUGENIO VERONI,

“Showeth,—That your Memorialist, an Italian by birth, has for twenty years pursued in England his profession of a teacher of languages in the families of the most respectable classes of the metropolis, and among others, many of those of honourable Governors of your splendid institution, to their entire satisfaction, to his own credit, and to the extension of his own sphere of usefulness as a Christian. His due discharge of his duties as a husband and a father he has never been unmindful of, and, while feeling grateful for the hospitality he has experienced in a foreign land, he has been happy in pursuing his profession in quiet, protected by the laws and institutions of this happy country. With sanguine hopes that the remainder of his life would be spent in the peaceful possession of the means of satisfying very moderate wants of his own (or, if need had happened, confident he could depend on the affection of his children, in old age), he accepted, with a heart overflowing with gratitude, a presentation to Christ's Hospital, for his now-lamented eldest child.

“Worshipful and honourable gentlemen,—your Memorialist solicits the consideration and commiseration due to an afflicted broken-hearted parent. Address he cannot have, nor does he pray for it; his loss is irremediable. Neither does he seek to injure those whose conduct has made him what he is,—a wretched and disappointed father. To save the time of your honourable Court, your Memorialist submits, in the briefest manner, in the form of notes, the facts of his lamented child's case.

“Feb. 4, 1836. Francesco Veroni went to Hertford in perfect health.

“Feb. 7. His father, not having had an opportunity of taking leave of him previous to his departure, went down to see him.

“March 6. His father went again. Francesco told him he had had his purse, containing a few shillings, the key of his box, and a knife, taken out of his pocket during the night; that he had spoken to the nurse,

who replied that she knew nothing about it; that he was obliged to leave his shoes down stairs when he went to bed, and make his bed in the morning without them, and he complained that his feet were as cold as ice in consequence.

"April 2. His father visited him again and found him in the infirmary; and the nurse told him it was only a slight cold, and he would go to his ward in two days. Next day, being Sunday, his father hoping to find him well on Monday, remained at Hertford till that day, the nurse and Mr. Bennington both refusing permission for the child to go out, and the latter angrily ordering the father to go down stairs, and scolded the child for wishing it, saying he would not only prevent him going out, but prevent his father from coming to see him. His father would have taken him away, but was refused by Mr. Bennington, who said he would be well in two days.

"April 8. His mother went to see him and she was told the same, but the nurse and surgeon still refused to let him go out with her.

"April 14. The father received a letter to say the child was very ill. Being from home on his professional pursuits, that letter did not come into his possession till late at night.

"April 15, a.m. His father went to the counting-house in town for permission to take the child home. He was told Mr. Steele was in town and had reported him to be too ill to be moved; was advised to go and see him and return for the order; went down directly; arrived between six and seven. The nurse refused to let him see the child till Mr. Bennington came, which was about eight. Mr. B. told him his child was better; advised the parent not to see him for fear of exciting him, and recommended him (the father) to come at nine the next morning.

"April 16. The father went at nine, accordingly, expecting to see Mr. Bennington, was received by the nurse, who told him Mr. Bennington would not come till twelve, and in the mean time he, Mr. Bennington, had ordered her, the nurse, to prevent the father from seeing his child. At twelve, accordingly, the anxious father again attended, and met Mr. Bennington, who said the child was better, but would not let the child be seen; alleging the before-mentioned reasons, although urged to permit it in the strongest terms, and the father only went away on Mr. B.'s promising to admit him to his child in the evening. At five the anxious parent went again and was again told by the nurse that the child was going on well, but that Mr. Bennington would not be there till six. The father waited till six in such anxiety as none but an affectionate parent can understand. The assurances of improvement from day to day, and hour to

hour, were perhaps expected to make him content, but he passed that hour in the agonies of suspense and apprehension about the life of a darling child. At six Mr. Bennington arrived, he did not at first join the father in the nurse's room, but went upstairs.

Here, worshipful and honourable gentlemen permit me now (for I can no longer control myself) to speak in the first person. Mr. Bennington came into the room wherein I was waiting; he was pale, and confused, and agitated; and he told me my child was dead—that he had died of suffocation!

Worshipful and honourable gentlemen, could I believe this, unprepared by notice of danger, buoyed up with hopes of recovery the whole time? I did not believe it—I demanded to see the corpse. Alas! my doubts were soon solved—my poor child lay a bloodless corpse, pale as marble. Incisions had been made in the veins of both arms, both sides of his chest were marked by cupping scarifications. Marks of leeches were also visible; blisters had been applied. Warm-baths had been had recourse to to encourage the bleeding, and all this time I was refused admittance to my suffering child, and assured of his being better until the fatal blow came upon me, without one moment's notice of preparation.

"Your memorialist respectfully submits that he has attested the foregoing facts on oath before a coroner's jury, and that that jury returned a verdict to the effect that the child died a natural death, and that they, the jury, regretted Mr. Bennington had not permitted the father to see his child during its illness; in other words till after that child was dead!

"Your memorialist hopes not for consolation under this his melancholy bereavement, neither does he seek to gratify any revengeful feelings in praying for punishment, if found to be due; but he does pray, and with confidence too, for a full and fair inquiry into the circumstances of the case, in order that more experienced medical officers, conversant with the diseases of children, who shall be sufficiently candid to tell the truth, sufficiently zealous when danger threatens, where disease has placed the child on the verge of eternity, should be forthwith appointed.

"Your memorialist submits, in explanation of his meaning, that his unfortunate child was not seen by your medical man till noon on the day on which he died, and up to five hours even after that he was told the child was better.

"Your memorialist, finally, intreats your honourable court to permit him to come in person before you, to substantiate what he has represented to you, if it be not contrary to your rules and practice. Whereby he hopes to be able to satisfy your honourable Court that he has been refused the oppor-

tunity of so doing through the appointment of any special committee, or investigation by the Committee of Almoners themselves. And your Memorialist will ever pray.

(Signed). "P. Z. E. VERONI.

"126, Great Portland-street,  
May 4th, 1836."

(An exact copy.)

## ROYAL INSTITUTION,

May 20, 1836.

PROFESSOR MAYO ON THE SENSATIONS;  
ANNOUNCING, RESPECTING THEM, SOME  
NEW DISTINCTIONS.

THIS evening there was a numerous meeting of the metropolitan *dilettanti* attracted by the promised lecture of the eloquent professor. He began by observing there were two classes of sensation, essentially different from one another; *internal* sensations, such as *hunger, thirst, aches, pains, &c.*, which did not form part of the subject to be then discussed; and *external* sensations, to which he was particularly desirous of attracting the company's attention. *Five* organs of external sensation have, quoth the lecturer, generally been enumerated—viz sight, hearing, smell, taste, and touch, referred to the eye, ear, Schneider's membrane, the palate, and the skin, but in reality there are *six* organs of sense, and *eight* external sensations. The sense of touch which resides in the skin merely evidences the existence of extension, and the roughness or smoothness of the object present. In addition to this, a sensation of *resistance* resides in the muscles, which is exercised in ascertaining hardness, weight, &c. Thus the muscular tissue forms the *sixth* organ of outward sensation. To make up the *eight* classes of sensation, there are two more to enumerate, a *sense of temperature*, and a *sense of motion*. Any one, who will pay due attention to his sensations, will soon feel convinced of the perfect distinctness of the sensations of *temperature, resistance, motion*, and *simple touch indicative of extension*; though all are produced by the proximity of the cause to the general surface of the body. There are then *six* organs; the *eye*, the *ear*, the *nose*, the *mouth*, the *skin*, and the *muscles*; and *eight* classes of sensation; *sight, hearing, smelling, taste, touch, resistance, temperature, and motion*.

There are two points of view in which these organs may be considered; they may be considered as regards their *mechanism*, which is beside my present purpose, and in regard to their *use*. The use of sensation, which is the subject of my present lecture, is to make us acquainted with the qualities of the external world, and our relations to it. These various sensations, by a law of our nature, make us intuitively cognizant of the ex-

istence of certain properties in surrounding bodies, a knowledge of which is necessary to our welfare. Now there are *three* ideas suggested by our sensations generally; *locality, outness, and direction*. When any of our organs of sense are excited, we immediately and instinctively refer the sensation to the proper organ; this is particularly well exemplified when any little object irritates the skin; we are immediately conscious not only of the actual irritation, but also of the particular part so affected. We are likewise instinctively informed by sensation of the *outness* of the object affecting us; we intuitively know that it is foreign to ourselves. This truth was well shown in the case of the youth restored to sight by Cheselden, when the bandage was removed from his eyes, he started back, imagining the object depicted on his retina was in actual contact with him, thus involuntarily associating with this perception the ideas of *outness* and *resistance*.

Another idea suggested by external sensation is *direction*. The muscular sense of *resistance* imparts to the mind the idea not only of the opposing force, but also of the *direction* of that force, and that we are enabled so to regulate our efforts as to overcome any given momentum. This principle may be illustrated by a reference to the organ of hearing. We not only perceive sound, but also the direction of the point from which it emanates; this is self-evident. It is obvious that a knowledge of the direction is absolutely necessary to the safety of the individual, as is more especially manifest in the weaker animals. Now the law of this perception seems to be this, that the direction of the sound is in a right line from the sonorous body to the affected point of the percipient organ. The functions of the various parts of the organ of hearing lie in much obscurity; and some speculators conjecture that the auricle is the part most essential to a knowledge of the direction of sound. Professor Wheatstone of *King's College*, London, has made an ingenious conjecture that the semicircular canals contribute in some way to the perception of direction, these structures being the most invariable parts of the organ, and the perception of distance and direction being the most important uses of hearing.

The same law of direction does not exist in sight and hearing. Every one knows the phenomena of the inverted image on the retina. Dr. Young has attempted to explain the true perception of the object in this case, by supposing that the perceptions of touch correct those of sight but I apprehend this to be an illusive opinion; and that the fact may be explained by a very simple law, viz., that perception of the object is engendered exactly opposite to the point of the retina on which the impulse is made. That the perception is not in a direct line as