COMPLAINT FROM A DUBLIN COLLEGE STUDENT.

To the Editor.—SIR:—As your Journal is always open to the complaints of the medical student when he has been either ill treated or deceived by those in power, and from whom he can get no redress, I am induced to address you on the present occasion in the hope that it will be noticed in your Journal, and serve as a caution to medical students who are induced to enter for the lectures at the School of the Dublin College of Surgeons, by the professions which the teachers make, and the advantages they pretend to offer at the commencement of the courses of lectures.

In the first place, with respect to the courses of lectures on surgery, subjects of *fractures, dislocations, and diseases of the joints*, unquestionably most prominent in a surgical course, were not noticed at all until within three weeks of its conclusion, when a second lecture each day, or, at least, additional lectures at other hours than those fixed on in the prospectus, had to be taken up, in order to *run over them*; thus preventing the student, who had most of his time engaged, from hearing them without neglecting others perhaps of equal importance. As for the operations of surgery, we saw nothing of them, though I am told in the other schools they make a regular part of the course.

Now, as respects the anatomical department. In the advertisement it was announced that four gentlemen would give regular attendance in the dissecting-room; however, for the last three months, (although this is my first course to dissect, and I sadly felt the want of some assistant,) I could not see one of them. The senior table-demonstrator has to look after the giving out of the subjects, so it is not his business to instruct the students; the next in order, I am told, has been sick; the third, a Mr. Parkinson, has never appeared in the dissecting-room at all: I am told he is employed in mangling preparations for the school-museum, and dissecting for the lectures; and the fourth is better qualified to receive instruction than to communicate it.

So much for the School of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, which is said once to have been a flourishing establishment and admirably conducted, but now is inferior both in talent and respectability to any private school in Dublin. My object in writing to you, Sir, is, that students may know what they have to expect if they enter at the School of the Royal College here; and if, after this, they will, for the sake of a handsome-looking certificate, sacrifice their money, knowing that they will not get value for it, they deserve to lose it. I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

AN ENGLISH STUDENT.

Dublin, May, 1837.

DR. TURNBULL'S EMPLOYMENT OF THE NAME OF MR. BAILLIE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—Observing that my name has been referred to by Mr. Dasent and Mr. Lyon in numbers 715 and 716 of your Journal, I feel that it is due to truth to state, that Dr. Turnbull, by placing my name (in the last edition of his work on diseases of the nerves and eyes) in such a position in regard to the context that his readers must infer my entire approval of it, has exceeded the extent of my permission. My attestation extends only to the state of these cases at the termination of their treatment by Dr. Turnbull; their previous history I was unacquainted with. The first of these cases was that of R. Wright; the second, that of Alexander M'Pherson; and the third, that of James Martin. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

F. H. BAILLIE, House-surgeon.
Royal Westminster Hospital,
May 23, 1837.

GROSS IMPOSITION.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—The alkaloid base of the aconitum napellus having of late been strongly recommended in some forms of neuralgia, I have been led to try it, and, certainly, with advantage. It is not my intention here to discuss its effects, but simply to lay before your readers the monstrous and unfair expenses to which they are subjected in procuring it.

In a paper recently published in favour of this remedy, the author stated the difficulty of obtaining it pure, and seemed to doubt the possibility of getting it genuine, except at a certain druggist's, *whose name and residence he gave in full*. Thither I have several times repaired, and although I have repeatedly represented myself as a member of the medical profession, I have been told that 3s. 6d. per grain is the lowest charge; nay, on one occasion I was asked, in a conceited and impertinent manner, "if I was aware of the *great dearness* of the substance which I had ordered!" Judge, Sir, of my surprize when I was a few days ago informed by a respectable druggist of this town, that he can procure, and has repeatedly had, this said aconite from this very shop, not a hundred miles from Bloomsbury, for 1s. 6d. per grain! I know that it is a standard rule of the trade to make a larger allowance to each other than to the proprietor, but this exceeds far all my preconceived notions on the subject. Perhaps, now that we have an established and good formula for making this preparation, some of your numerous correspondents will inform us where it can be procured on more liberal terms. I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

MEDICUS.