I hope you will insert this note in your next publication, as your remarks implied a neglect of duty on the part of the medical officers, which, I am sure, at that time had no foundation.

I remain, Sir,

Yours, &c.

HENRY DUNN.

Wakefield, March 18, 1828."

Mr. Guthrie also well knows that another Gentleman, Dr. Young, who filled the same situation, denies having ever considered himself in any other light than as a *pupil*.

In conclusion, I beg to add, that although the resolution of the 2nd inst. is the immediate cause of my resignation, yet I have long intended to retire from the Institution, in consequence of my disapproval of the manner in which the business of the Infirmary has been for some time conducted, as well as from the inattention with which my suggestions for the benefit of the Establishment, and complaints of ill treatment at the Infirmary, have been received by former Committees.

(Signed)

CHAS. F. FORBES.

ATTEMPTED EXCLUSION OF MR. LAMBERT
FROM GUY'S HOSPITAL.

To the Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Governors of St. Thomas's and Guy's Hospitals.

GENTLEMEN,—The extraordinary circumstances attending the operation of lithotomy, recently performed by Mr. Bransby Cooper, cannot fail to have attracted your notice. It has been assumed by the Medical Officers of St. Thomas's and Guy's Hospitals, that the individual who now addresses you is the writer of the report of Mr. Bransby Cooper's operation, which appeared in *THE LANCET*, and was subsequently copied into other journals. In consequence of this assumption, it has been intimated to me by the surgeons of St. Thomas's Hospital, and the Treasurer of Guy's Hospital, that I am to be excluded from the wards and operating theatres of these institutions, from an apprehension, I presume, that I should give publicity to the medical and surgical practices of the paid and responsible servants of the public. I do not feel myself called upon either to avow or disavow that I am the writer of the report; but as I was present at the operation, and as I have witnessed nearly 100 operations of lithotomy, I may, perhaps, be permitted to offer an opinion, and I have no hesitation in stating, that the report published in *THE LANCET* is strictly

correct as far as it goes; and, when all the circumstances of the operation are taken into consideration, that the case is rather understated in *THE LANCET* than otherwise. In this opinion many, whose experience gives weight to their testimony, fully concur; and I may add, that a surgeon, also of considerable experience and ability, quitted the theatre at the expiration of three quarters of an hour, declaring he could no longer endure the spectacle.

It only remains for me, Gentlemen, to inquire whether you have sanctioned the attempt which has been made by the surgeons of St. Thomas's Hospital on the one hand, and by the Treasurer of Guy's Hospital on the other, to effect the exclusion of an individual assumed to be the writer of a report, unpalatable, because too true, to the surgeons of these institutions, though essential to the interests of humanity and public expediency; whether, in short, you are prepared to sanction a principle which is calculated to deprive me, and others who have been educated at these hospitals, of the rights and privileges for which large sums have been extracted from our pockets by the hospital surgeons, and the tendency, if not the design, of which is, to keep the public in ignorance of the manner in which those functionaries discharge their public duties?

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES LAMBERT,

Member of the Royal College
of Surgeons.

Walworth, April 9th, 1828.

THE BOROUGH HOSPITALS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—It was with the highest feelings of indignation that I read in your last Journal of the attempt to exclude a gentleman from the wards of St. Thomas's Hospital, after having paid so large a fee for what is called hospital practice. When I paid my admission fee as a pupil of that hospital, I stated to Mr. Whitfield, that it was probable I should stay in London more than twelve months, and asked him whether, after paying the fee for that period, I should be entitled to attend a longer time if I wished. He replied, "Most certainly; if you enter for twelve months, that will entitle you to attend as long as you please." This assertion was afterwards confirmed by the late Mr. Ledger, the then assistant apothecary, and I will certainly never give up my right to attend as often and as long as I please, without my money being returned.