efficient examining body in existence. They therefore procured the signature and presentation of numerous petitions, and they have reason to believe that the part which they thus took had an important effect, in conjunction with other movements, in obtaining the reconsideration of the whole question. The result has been, that Mr. Headlam's Bill, and another Bill brought in by Lord Elcho, are now in the hands of a select committee. The Graduates' Committee have taken great pains (through the instrumentality mainly of Dr. Storrar, Dr. Barnes, and Dr. Mackenzie) to assure themselves of the support of the great body of the medical graduates, and they believe that they are acting on this important subject in full accord with the Senate.

A vacancy in the office of Registrar having occurred, by the decease of Dr. Rothman, the Committee have not failed to press most strenuously upon the Senate the expediency and justice of conferring that office upon a graduate, in the event of a fully competent graduate being in the field. The committee know that more than one gentleman holding a degree in the University, and who would fill the office with high efficiency and credit, has presented himself.

F. J. WOOD, LL.D.	} Chairmen.
J. STORRAR, M.D.	
C. J. FOSTER, LL.D., M.A.	
R. BARNES, M.D.	} Hon. Secs.
W. SHAEN, M.A.	
G. BUCHANAN, M.B.	

The Chairman moved the adoption of the Report.

The following resolutions were submitted to the meeting:—

Proposed by F. J. WOOD, LL.D.; seconded by Mr. HARRISON, and carried by acclamation—

"That the Committee be fully authorized to accept any charter, or promote any Bill which, in their opinion, will so alter the constitution of the University as to place the graduates in the best position now attainable."

Proposed by Dr. STORRAR, seconded by Dr. BARNES, and carried unanimously—

"That this meeting approves of the course pursued by the Committee in reference to medical legislation, and would disapprove of a measure subordinating the University of London to the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons in any manner inconsistent with the high position of the University as a medical examining body."

Proposed by Dr. STEVENS, seconded by Dr. SNOW, and carried unanimously—

"That in view of the now pending election of a Registrar, this meeting feels bound to declare its opinion that the time has arrived when the unnecessary selection of non-graduates for important posts in the University cannot take place without serious detriment to its reputation."

A vote of thanks to the Committee was passed, Mr. JESSEL returning thanks.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting, which was well attended and characterized by the greatest unanimity of feeling, broke up.

THE CONFERRING OF DEGREES.

The annual ceremony of Conferring the Degrees took place on Wednesday, the 6th of May, at Burlington House, the Chancellor the Earl of Burlington presiding.

THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE GRADUATES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

THE SETTLEMENT OF THE NEW CHARTER.

After the conferring of the degrees, a large party of the graduates met at the Annual Dinner: Robert Barnes, Esq., M.D., in the chair. The toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the University of London," was given in an excellent address by the Chairman, which elicited much applause. The proceedings were rendered unusually interesting by the announcement from the Chair of a letter that day received by Dr. Foster from Mr. Shaw Lefevre, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, communicating the intelligence that the Senate had transmitted to the Home Secretary a Draft Charter embodying those measures of reform in the constitution of the University for which the graduates had so long contended, and which he hoped would offer a satisfactory solution of the question.

MUNIFICENT BEQUEST.—Mr. Fryer, of Bewdley, has bequeathed the handsome sum of £1000, free of duty, to the Birmingham Medical Benevolent Society.

Correspondence.

"Audi alteram partem."

ABSORPTION OF ANTIMONY.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I think, at the present time, every medical practitioner having any experience of the peculiar effects of the drugs supposed to have been administered in the late poisoning cases, or having a *bond fide* retrospect of instances bearing directly or indirectly upon the subject, merely performs a duty he owes, not only to the accused but to society at large, by making such known; and for this reason I now beg to submit to you, as the proper organ for its circulation, the following:—

Some seventeen or eighteen years ago, when a pupil at a large provincial hospital, a girl was admitted, with an anomalous pain of the shoulder-blade. Tartar-emetic ointment was used once or twice, rather freely; the consequence was a large crop of pustules, which healed and broke out, again and again, without any further application of the ointment. This continued uninterruptedly for three or four months, until the surgeon looked upon the remedy as worse than the disease, and remarked upon the singularity of the occurrence; and, to the best of my recollection, the poor girl was dismissed, and considered incurable of the effects of the tartar emetic; thus proving, in my opinion, the local absorption and elimination of the drug for an indefinite length of time.

The subjoined is copied, verbatim, from a medical periodical of the time.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Liverpool, May, 1856.

MEDICUS.

FRANCE.—ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. MEETING, 22ND JUNE, 1846.—*Experiments on Antimony.*—M. E. Millor has forwarded to the Institute a series of experiments, which prove that not only the drug *remains for a long time* in the system after it has ceased to be exhibited, but also that it exercises a special action on the chylopoietic organs. In the dogs submitted to observation, the liver increased to three times its natural size; and one bitch took tartar emetic during five days only, and a fortnight afterwards littered several living pups, in the livers of which antimony was detected in large proportions."

POOR-LAW SURGEONS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I shall feel obliged for space to inform your readers that officers from two hundred and twelve unions have joined the Poor-law Medical Reform Association, and that arrangements are now in progress for a public meeting, to be held in London at the latter end of this month, which will be duly advertised. In the meantime I trust those who are still taking time to deliberate, will speedily come to a decision, and unite with us in our determination to place our grievances before the legislature, and to seek justice for the most useful, the hardest-worked, and (I *hope*) the worst-paid class of men in her Majesty's dominions.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Royal-terrace, Weymouth, May, 1856.

RICHARD GRIFFIN.

"THE MIRROR."—OPERATION FOR PHYMOSIS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In THE LANCET of Saturday, April 26th, I observed a notice of a new operation for Phymosis. I think it due to myself to inform you that in 1850 I instructed Messrs. Weiss and Son to make me an instrument very similar to that of which you have given an engraving, and with which I operated upon a gentleman, with very satisfactory results.

My instrument, however, in my opinion, possessed the following advantage, which was suggested by the difficulty of bringing the incised edges exactly into apposition by sutures without any "puckering"—both blades of the forceps were perforated with three holes, opposite, and at equal distances. When the prepuce was placed between the blades, the slide was moved until it was firmly grasped. Three needles, armed with silk, were then passed through the holes, and then removed, after which the end of the prepuce was cut off with a scalpel. Upon returning the slide the cut surfaces were freed, and the ligatures slipped away through the holes in the forceps.

The penis then appeared to have *three* ligatures passing through one side of the prepuce, across the glans penis, and through the opposite side of the prepuce; these were then converted into *six*, three on each side, by drawing out and snipping across that part of each ligature which crossed the glans. They were then tied. I have used a similar instrument in operating for entropion.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,
Walcot-place, Lambeth, May, 1856. T. E. LADD, M.D., &c.

SCOTLAND.

[FROM OUR EDINBURGH CORRESPONDENT.]

THE end of the winter session here is marked by the disappearance of the greater number of the students, not for the short vacation merely, but for the summer months also. This arises from the custom of attending classes here in the winter session, which in London are included in the summer course. When, therefore, the last few days of the session have arrived, the regions tenanted by students, and the Quadrangle of the University, present scenes of bustle and confusion attendant on the meditated departure. English, Gaelic, and Irish, hurry about in felicitous excitement, some grasp ruefully their certificate cases, leaving one to dismal auguries that "very regularly" is not enclosed; and these, perhaps, are the jovial fellows of a few months previously; all, however, exhibit the same haste in their movements, and the same eager, active, and excited manner.

On Friday, the 11th ult., the courses of lectures which were commenced in November last closed. Professor Goodsir presented three gold medals to his class; two of these, given to the junior students, were gained by Messrs. Turnbull and Dickson, and the other by Mr. John Coghill, for the best prize essay. The Professor regretted not having been with his students so much during the session as he could have wished, but his medical friends had not allowed him; he then complimented the class upon their progress and good conduct throughout the session.

Professor Bennett, at the conclusion of his course, stated he had this session, for the first term, expounded his own views to the students, and although they had been opposed on several occasions by some of his brethren, still, he should have thought himself reprehensible in longer withholding them from his class. A short time since, when Dr. Bennett, at the Royal Medical Society, explained publicly his views, and invited discussion, those who censure them did not attend upon that occasion, and, consequently, the opportunity was lost to the Professor of combating successfully with adverse opinion. The summer session opened on May 1st.

Dr. Mathews Duncan has announced a course of lectures upon Midwifery "for females." A short time since Professor Donaldson rendered himself unpopular by opening a ladies' class for music, and Dr. Duncan seems about to follow his example. Is the class intended merely to instruct nurses, or to educate midwives? If the latter, he will hardly merit the applause of his brethren in following the American principle, and training female accoucheurs for the profession.

HARVEIAN SOCIETY.—At the anniversary of this Society, the meeting was more numerously attended than usual, both by the medical men of Edinburgh and those of the country. The great attraction of the evening was the address of the President, Dr. Malcolm. It is seldom we find medical addresses equally remarkable for their scientific and literary merits; but the subject chosen by Dr. Malcolm, "The Early History of Midwifery in the Scottish Capital," wide though it was, and presenting a field for research of unusual interest, was treated in a manner which reflects high credit upon the Harveian Society in their happy choice of a President. The address gave evidence of elaborate research, and will form an interesting and valuable addition to the annals we already possess upon this subject. I understand Dr. Malcolm's address will be published *in extenso*, and it cannot fail to increase his reputation as an obstetrician and savant of no ordinary stamp. Professor Simpson moved a vote of thanks to Dr. Malcolm for his admirable paper. The prize offered by the Harveian Society for the best essay "On the Production of Sugar in the Human Economy," has been awarded to Dr. James L. Bryden.

BOTANICAL GARDENS.—A further grant from Government of £200 a year has been added to the £800 previously allowed for these gardens. At the present time they present an excellent and charming appearance, and every arrangement has been

made to render them during the summer session a valuable adjunct to Professor Balfour's lectures. The perfect order and nicety of arrangement which seem to exist everywhere reflect high credit on Mr. M'Nab, the chief gardener, and is not a little due to the painstaking energy of the professor himself.

Madame Jenny Lind Goldschmidt has presented £150 to the Royal Infirmary.

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—The following gentlemen having undergone the necessary examinations for the Diploma, were admitted members of the College at the meeting of the Court of Examiners on the 2nd inst.:—

BYRAMJEE, RUSTAMJEE, H.E.I. Co.'s Service, Bombay.
CHATAWAY, ALLEN GEORGE, Pembridge, Herefordshire.
CLIFTON, ARTHUR CROWEN, Northampton.
DANIELL, WILLIAM COLE, Newport Pagnell.
GREGORY, CHARLES, Cheltenham.
HADDEN, JOHN WILLIAM, Van Dieman's Land.
HANDY, CHARLES EDWARD, Darlaston Wednesbury, Staffordshire.
HOWELL, GRIFFITH, Llanelly, Carmarthen.
MILFORD, FREDERICK, Sydney, Australia.
PORSTON, WILLIAM, Kirkby Lonsdale, Westmoreland.
TAYLOR, ADAM, Norwich.
WINTERBOTHAM, LAURISTON, Cheltenham.
M'CARNEY, EDWARD, Royal Navy.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—Names of gentlemen who passed their examination in the science and practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on

Thursday, May 1st, 1856.

DAVIES, EDWARD, Wrexham, North Wales.
JONES, JOHN, Swansea.
HOOPER, JOHN HENRY, York House, West-square, Southwark.
MANTELL, RINERS, Bitton, Bristol.
PARSONAGE, EDWIN, Wrexham, North Wales.
RENSHAW, HERBERT SMITH, Ashton-upon-Mersey.
SIDDALL, GEORGE OLDHAM, Chesterfield.
YOUNG, JOSEPH, Ramsgate.

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN.—At the general monthly meeting, on the 5th instant, the following Professors were unanimously re-elected:—William Thomas Brande, Esq., D.C.L., F.R.S. L. & E., as Honorary Professor of Chemistry in the Royal Institution; John Tyndall, Esq., Ph.D., F.R.S., as Professor of Natural Philosophy in the Royal Institution. Thanks were voted to C. W. Siemens, Esq., to Drs. Bence Jones and H. Sandwith, to W. B. Donne, Esq., and to Professor Owen, for their discourses on the evenings of April 11th, 18th, 21st, 25th, and May 2nd; and a special vote of thanks to Lord Stanley, M.P., M.R.I., for his present of a magneto-electric machine. The presents received since the last meeting were laid before the members.

MICROSCOPICAL CONVERSAZIONE.—On Thursday, the 1st instant, Mr. Pillischer, the well-known microscope-maker of Bond-street, gave a microscopical conversazione, which was attended by a large number of distinguished microscopists, members of the medical profession, and others interested in this branch of science. The object of this meeting was to inaugurate the opening of a microscopical room, which Mr. Pillischer has established for the use of microscopical observers. The room is supplied with microscopes of every description, with all their appliances, and with a large selection of standard objects illustrating nearly every branch of microscopical research. The conversazione passed off most agreeably, and the interest evinced by those present is a favourable indication of the success that must attend Mr. Pillischer's interesting and useful undertaking.

FUNERAL OF DR. CLUTTERBUCK.—The remains of the lamented Dr. Clutterbuck were consigned to their last resting-place, in the Kensal-green Cemetery, last Saturday, the funeral proceedings being unostentatious, and at the same time, solemn.

NEW MILITARY HOSPITAL.—The first stone of a new military hospital, to cost not less than £250,000, is to be laid by the Queen on the 12th instant. The site selected is between Netley Abbey and Hamble Cliff, on the north side of Southampton Water.