as reported by Gulliver, like this.* The remedy is as simple as the abuse is flagrant, viz.:—

“And be it enacted, that the laws prohibiting, under penalties, any person from practising as an apothecary in England without the license of the Apothecaries’ Company there, or in Ireland without the license of the Governor and Company of the Apothecaries’ Hall of Dublin, shall not apply to any person practising as an apothecary in any part of Great Britain, who is legally qualified to do so in Ireland, or to any person practising as such in Ireland who is legally qualified to do so in any part of Great Britain, or to any regular medical or surgical practitioner, provided such medical or surgical practitioner shall prepare medicines for the use of his own patients only.”†

Of course, a legal tribunal can alone determine the meaning of “a regular medical or surgical practitioner,” nor can such be defined. The above law is founded on the just principle of preventing any one from acting as an apothecary at large, unless qualified to do so throughout the United Kingdom; of permitting him to do so, if thus qualified; and of permitting every one entitled to practise medicine or surgery, to act as an apothecary within the sphere of his own practice only, as he must be qualified to act, if qualified to practise. Thus both the public and the profession would be protected, so far as the Apothecaries’ Act goes. M. D.

INVENTION OF A STILETTED CATHETER.—

To the Editor.—SIR: Thirty years ago I invented a “stiletted catheter,” with an internal hidden spring, and a regulating screw; the remains of which I have now by me. The instrument was made for me by Mr. Whitford, since dead, who then resided in “the Cloisters,” and it was approved by my revered preceptor, Mr. Abernethy.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

T. W. WANSBROUGH.

Fulham, June 17, 1837.

* Although an unqualified person dare not make up a prescription according to the discretion of a skilful physician and the rules of the Pharmacopœia, he may sell any ready made pills or other nostrum he pleases, and vend arsenic and corrosive sublimate under the name of a vegetable preparation. This is protecting the public with a vengeance,

† The following might be added:—“And be it enacted, that any person vending any ready prepared medicine, avowedly for the use of mankind, shall be considered, to all intents and purposes, both in civil and criminal legal proceedings, as the compounder of the same, and also as acting as an apothecary.”

SUGGESTIONS ON THE MODE OF REMUNERATING MEDICAL MEN FOR PAUPER ATTENDANCE.

By JAMES BEDINGFIELD, Esq. *Stowmarket.*

(Communicated by H. W. RUMSEY, Esq.
Chesham.)

AFTER the best consideration I can give the subject, I have arrived at the conclusion that the medical man would be best and most equitably remunerated for his attendance upon the poor, by being paid so much per visit, according to the distance he had to travel; thus, to all families living within one mile of his residence, he might receive 6d. per visit; within two, 9d.; within three, 1s.; within four, 1s. 6d.; within five, 2s.; within six, 2s. 6d.; further he ought not to go; and the country is now so fully supplied with medical men, that there would seldom be occasion for him to go so far.

For his visitatorial fee he should engage to furnish the necessary medicines; the only extra charges should be for midwifery, trusses, and leeches.

The power of giving or refusing orders for medical attendance ought to be taken from the relieving officers, and restored to the overseers and churchwardens of the parish in which the applicant resides, or, which would be preferable, vested in some humane and responsible person in each parish, chosen by the rate-payers. From extensive experience I can undertake to affirm, that the relieving officers are *unable*, even if they are willing, to do justice either to the poor man or to the medical attendant; and the overseers and churchwardens of large parishes have too many other parochial duties to perform, to permit *them* to pay the requisite attention to the sick poor.

The person selected by the rate-payers ought to be styled, in contradistinction to the present Guardians (who, with a few honourable exceptions, have constituted themselves the Guardians of their own pockets only), the poor man’s protector. The rate of payment I have named may by some be thought too high, by others too low; if so, it might be regulated by circumstances; thus, where the population is numerous, the practitioner could visit for something less; where the country is thinly inhabited, he might be paid something more. In urgent cases the humanity of the medical man would prompt him to visit his patient more than once a day, if necessary, but, to guard against imposition, he ought not to be paid for more than one visit per diem.

I become every day more and more convinced of the injurious tendency of the penny club system. In this neighbourhood its effects have been the following,—to induce the parish surgeon to neglect his

parish patients in order to compel them to become members of his club, by which line of conduct he flatters himself that he shall be twice paid, first by the parish, and next by the patient; here, however, his calculations will fail him, for he will soon discover that as the number of his club patients increases, his parish pay will be diminished. But these are not the only nor the greatest evils; the agricultural labourer is so inadequately paid for his services, that, low as the rate of admission to these clubs may seem, it requires more than he knows how to spare from his immediate necessities.

PROPOSAL OF THE
LONDON MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION
TO INTRODUCE
CHRISTIANITY INTO CHINA,
BY THE AGENCY OF
ENGLISH SURGEONS.

[The subjoined document has been sent to us for publication by an advocate of the scheme.]

THE Chinese still baffle European curiosity as they frown upon and condemn European morals and science. The love of gain, single-handed, or combined in puissant commercial companies; the thirst for a knowledge of Chinese habits and character, pursued under miserable privations by men of talent; the efforts to establish friendly and profitable intercourse made by splendid embassies; and the attempts to portray the superiority of Christian morality over Chinese mythology have all signally failed, or but imperfectly succeeded.

In physical characteristics the Chinese are superior to all other Asiatics. They are not fac-similes of the farsical caricatures which we are accustomed to see delineated, but powerful and well-shaped men. Their healthy climate, and habits of temperance and activity, will account for this. Their paternal form of government, the construction of their singular and difficult language, and many antique customs, prove that they must have segregated themselves from other tribes of the human race at a very early period in the history of mankind. Their moral and political advantages, in some respects, excel those of other nations; their people are generally educated; their aristocracy is truly noble, being that of talent, learning, and official character.

But "celestial" as they call themselves, their huge wall cannot exclude disease, and their characteristic timidity and debasing superstition, have prevented the advance of native medical skill,—dispensed, such as it

is, only to the rich. Consequently, every form of disease which can render man miserable, or loathsome, prevails unchecked amongst them. To some diseases they are peculiarly liable, as, from the smallness and oblique position of their eyes, and the practice of rubbing the tarsi with pearl stillettes, to ophthalmia, and its various results; from the habit of picking their ears, to diseases of that organ, and, from other causes, to enormous tumours of different kinds, and to fevers. Their "herbal" is abundant, and their medicines are derived from both the vegetable and the mineral kingdoms. Of the former many, little as they are known in Europe, appear to be active. Their "doctors" are in low estimation,—unsuccessful literati. They are ignorant of anatomy, and afraid to perform the simplest surgical operation. They have no schools. Their principles of diagnosis appear to consist in minute descriptions of the pulse, which they classify and connect with the five metals, the five planets, the five dæmons, &c., &c.

But, rational as the scheme of influencing such a people by means of medical science may be, what prospect have those who put forth this project that the policy of the Chinese will be relaxed in favour of medical men, or their sovereign contempt for every thing European, removed by their agency, so that they may penetrate their jealously-guarded towns, and be respected and honoured? We reply, that "the first departure from the letter of their exclusive laws, will be more likely to take place in favour of the dispensers of health than of any others, simply because the Chinese can have ocular and immediate demonstration of the advantages offered by the former," benefits which they urgently and constantly cry out for. Let the following facts, too, answer. In 1805, Dr. PEARSON introduced vaccination among the Chinese. It has been generally adopted in the provinces, and now native practitioners undertake to disseminate the vaccine virus for their own reputation and emolument. In 1827, Dr. LIVINGSTONE and Mr. COLLEDGE, first surgeon to the British Factory, opened an ophthalmic hospital at Macao, which was supported by the East India Company, by resident Europeans, and by the richer Chinese themselves. During the next five years 4,000 indigent Chinese were relieved of serious complaints, and many had their eyesight restored. Others have imitated this essay with success and encouragement from the native authorities at Canton. In 1835, Dr. PARKER, an accomplished American missionary and surgeon, opened an ophthalmic hospital at Canton.

"During the first nine months, 1674 patients have been received. Among the list of diseases were 416 cases of different ophthalmia, 85 of amaurosis, 103 of cataract, 135 of ectropion, 62 of pherygium, 324 of