DR. TURNER.

THE Professor of Chemistry in *University College*, breathed his last on Sunday, the 12th of February, 1837. The suddenness of this occurrence shed great gloom on the institution. On Monday morning the students were made acquainted with the painful event by the closure of the class-rooms for the day, and they were quickly excited by a desire to express their respect for his character by following his remains to the grave; and at a meeting on Tuesday a resolution was passed, that a request should be forwarded to the family of the deceased for permission to attend in the funeral train. This was acceded, and a committee accordingly made arrangements for the procession. On Friday night the body was borne from the house at Hampstead to the college, and at twelve o'clock on Saturday the corpse was conveyed to the new cemetery at Kensall Green. Upwards of three hundred students followed the hearse, succeeded by the professors and friends in mourning-coaches, and a long train of private carriages. The Rev. T. Dale, late Professor of Rhetoric in *University College*, and now Professor of Rhetoric in *King's College*, officiated at the interment.

Dr. Turner had for many sessions past been declining, and his thin and emaciated appearance always excited much attention in the new students; but his mind never indicated any sympathy with its tenement. He did not suffer more than ordinarily this session. He continued lecturing on till the 18th of January, when an attack of influenza interrupted his ordinary avocations, but getting better he lectured again on the following Wednesday, though with much difficulty, and for the last time; the catarrhal symptoms were renewed, pneumonia came on, his system could not bear up against the attack, and on Sunday, the 13th of February, he died, in the 40th year of his age.

In Dr. Turner science has lost one of her most distinguished votaries. He may, indeed, be said to have sacrificed his life upon her shrine. No man more ardently loved the object of his pursuits, and in the recent splendid discoveries of chemistry he felt the deepest interest. As a teacher he evinced clearness of intellect, and entire knowledge of his subject; he was precise in expression, and took a kindly interest in the progress of his pupils; and, as a consequence, he was admired and beloved by every member of his class. He was extensively known as an author, by his "*Elements of Chemistry*," a work which affords abundant evidence of diligent research, and an intimate acquaintance with the science.

MEDICAL AID TO THE SICK POOR IN THE UNIONS.

PETITIONS TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

"To the Right Honourable and Honourable the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses in Parliament assembled,—the Petition of the President and Council of the BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION:

"Humbly sheweth,—That your Petitioners, having taken into their most serious consideration the system at present adopted by the Poor Law Commissioners for affording medical relief to the sick poor, do highly disapprove of the same as unjust to the poorer classes, injurious to the community at large, and derogatory to the character and respectability of the medical profession.

"Your Petitioners therefore humbly, but earnestly, pray that your Honourable House will be pleased to make such inquiries into the alleged evils, and to enact such measures, as to your Honourable House may appear necessary: And your Petitioners will ever pray.

"G. Webster, Pres.

John Castle
Wm. Eales
M. W. Wagstaff
Patrick Mollison
Edwd. Doubleday
John Taylor
W. R. Harrison
N. Delph
Geo. Parsons
J. Syer Bristowe
Jas. Couthred
John Clarke

"J. M. Beane
R. Davidson
Jos. Howell
Thomas Porter
Charles Brady
H. Whitmore
R. Menzies
H. Sidden
R. L. Hooper
E. Crisp
Edw. Evans
S. I. Bayfield
George Hull."

Minute of Council, Feb. 9, 1837:—"Resolved,—That Thomas Wakley, Esq., M.P. be requested to present the Petition agreed upon, to the House of Commons, and that each Member of Council do obtain the support of any Member of Parliament he may be enabled to procure for such Petition."

WILLIAM EALES, Hon. Sec.

"To the Right Honourable and Honourable the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled,—the Petition of Gentlemen who are Members of the MEDICAL SOCIETY: LONDON:

"Humbly sheweth,—That your Petitioners have seen, with much regret, the adoption of a system, by the Poor Law Commissioners, of appointing medical officers to parishes, and the unions of parishes, established under the Poor Law Amendment Act, which they cannot but consider to be inconsistent with humanity, destructive to the health of the poor, and degrading to the medical profession:

"Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honourable House w.

use an inquiry to be instituted into the means that have been provided for the medical treatment of the sick poor in the parochial unions, or adopt such other proceedings as to the judgment of the House may seem best fitting: And, as in duty bound, I will ever pray, &c.

H. Clutterbuck
J. Whiting
T. E. Bryant
Geo. Pilcher
E. Meryon
D. R. Stable

"W. R. Harrison
Joseph Smith
H. P. Roberts
G. F. Whitely
Greville Jones,"
&c. &c. &c.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—At the first meeting of the BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, I observe that much discussion occurred respecting the relation in which the two colleges stand with regard to the great body of practitioners in this country, and also as to the support which the latter were likely to obtain from the pures and dubs. I hope that the medical men of Great Britain will not be such simpletons as to ally themselves in the new association with either one or the other of these gentry. Individuals, it is true, may be found amongst them who are sufficiently enlightened or discreet to aid our efforts for reform, but from the mass of them we have nothing to expect that is not inimical to our interests. If I err in the following statement, I shall easily be set right, but although I speak from memory, I believe that it is not incorrect:—

Some years ago, when the Apothecaries' Act was subjected to amendment in the House of Commons, a clause was introduced to give to general practitioners a power to charge, and obtain payment of, a reasonable sum for their time and attendance as medical practitioners. On the second reading of the Bill, the present Lord Brougham, (then Mr. Brougham) who took an active part in the measure, and, I believe, brought it forward, rose, and said, that he should withdraw this clause, as he was given to understand that it would *interfere too much with the privileges and usages of the other branches of the profession*. Now, at whose suggestion did this withdrawal take place? Thank Heaven! the day is past when *that party* can exert such a baneful influence in either House of Parliament; but what is still the interest and inclination of the parties in question? Talk of the medical man being poor, being in debt, being badly paid! Who can wonder at his condition? At work for the public incessantly, with scarcely time to attend to his private concerns, his *whole* life occupied in medical duties, his youth, his manhood, his old age, night and day, Sunday and week-day, meal time and bed

time, and, too often, the hours when he is himself sick,—who are they that stand between him and a condition of comfort and honour in society? Talk of an *inquiry* into grievances! of mild language! of not complaining! As reasonably might the Israelites of yore, when in Egyptian bondage, have been told not to complain when ordered to make bricks without straw. Let us, then, heart and hand, come forward, address the legislature, and demand redress of, not inquiry into, *well known grievances*. Admit no wily folks into our camp to swell the train of petitioners, which is large enough already. They will only be spies into our councils, or else *always in a minority* on our questions of reform, and of what use is a minority where all are wished to be unanimous? Drs. Johnson and Thomson have told us, plainly enough, that a *minority* there would be. I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

A GENERAL PRACTITIONER.

AWARD OF THE ROGET MEDAL.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—I have seen the various notices which have recently appeared in your Journal respecting the award of the Royal and Copley Medals by the Council of the Royal Society. The question at issue is one of considerable interest and importance, and has become one of notoriety, and of much discussion amongst the Fellows of the R.S., and I quite agree with your sensible correspondent "F.R.S." in thinking that "the matter is now in a state which calls imperatively for explanation, as well for the credit of the Committee, as for individual justice."

Dr. Roget is charged with having imposed upon the Committee, and palmed upon them papers as containing *discoveries*, which, in reality, *contain none*; and with having rewarded some sinister services rendered to himself by Mr. Newport, by obtaining for Mr. Newport the Royal Medal.

The Committee is charged with having wished, but not dared, to revoke their award of the Royal Medal to Mr. Newport, and with having endeavoured to correct one mistake by the commission of another, in the further award of the Copley Medal to Mr. Kiernan.

Mr. Kiernan is charged with having meanly acquiesced in an arrangement of the Committee to give him the Copley Medal, to quiet his disappointment at having been unjustly deprived of the Royal Medal.

If these charges be true, a flagrant outrage has been committed upon the interests of science, the munificence of Royalty, the reputation of the R.S., and the sacred trusts of office, by an individual, which demands public exposure. But if they be not true,