Fellows and Licentiates of the College of Physicians, where would be the field for emulation? Of what use would be sycophancy and subserviency, if a fellowship or a commissionership were not occasionally to reward the professor of those noble sciences?" But how are a high level, and one uniform denomination, to destroy emulation? The Fellows of the College have the same level and rank; so have the Licentiates. Has this level destroyed ambition and emulation among them? Has no FELLOW risen above his level in the grade? Has Elliotson's emulation been crushed by being in the *high level* of his class? Has no Licentiate risen by talent and emulation above his level? Is there no Licentiate, friend Green, who has got above yourself, in the estimation of his professional brethren, or society at large? Is it possible that a journalist, who is the organ (I will not use the vulgar expression which you apply to a contemporary) of the medical aristocracy or oligarchy, should be so defective of common sense and common reason, as to maintain that a high level of medical education, or of any education, would tend to "destroy emulation?" It would have precisely the opposite effect. As distinction could then result *only* from superiority of knowledge and talent, and could not be purchased by interest or sycophancy, the real and effectual stimulus to exertion would be constantly supplied, and talent would, still more surely than at present, attain *its level*,—far above the general level, however high that might have been fixed. So much for the two points now discussed. I shall pay my respects to you, friend Green, whenever your lucubrations attract the attention of your devoted servant,

GRACCHUS.

London, Jan. 2, 1834.

PROPAGATION OF LEECHES.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—On perusing the interesting account regarding leeches, in your Journal of this day, I thought the following extract from a lecture on leeches, delivered by me at the *Westminster Dispensary*, might be useful. Yours truly,

JOHN EPPS, M.D.

89, Great Russell-street, Dec. 28.

"Leeches, gentlemen, being thus valuable as medicinal agents, it has always been a matter of inquiry, *What is the best mode of keeping leeches so that they may PROPAGATE?*" A great variety of means

has been tried. No success attended any plan but one that was devised by the physician-general to the forces in one of our West India islands (I forget the gentleman's name). He took *clay*, and having worked it well, placed it in the centre of a large vessel in which he kept leeches. He found in a short time that the leeches burrowed holes in this clay, so as to give it a *perforated appearance*; and, much to his delight, observed *young leeches to appear after a short time*. After this, this gentleman found no difficulty in obtaining any supply of leeches."

This extract strikingly corroborates one remark of Mr. Sherriff's, namely, that the *earth*, which he recommends to be put in the box, *will answer better* if it be of a *clayey* nature. And I have very little doubt that if he watches with care he will observe *ova* at the proper season.

J. E.

CORRESPONDENTS.

On handing the letter of *Dr. Fergusson* to our reporter, that gentleman states "that he did not consider Dr. Fergusson to have been acting in hostility to the eighth resolution, and did not by any means intend to employ the term 'warmth' invidiously. With regard to the word 'triumph,' all that was meant in the report was, that Dr. Copland succeeded ultimately in bringing the meeting to act in conformity with his first decision."—At the request of Dr. Fergusson, the letter of Dr. F. is withheld from publication.

NOTICE.—Dr. Epps has in the press an account of a case of epilepsy, which was cured after the disease had existed twenty years.

G. J. P.—In reply to questions 3, 4, and 5, we may state that M. P.'s have now little influence in procuring those appointments. The regulations are too long to insert in this place, but if our correspondent will call at the offices of the Army and Navy Boards, he may obtain copies of them.

The enigma from Aylesbury or Woodbridge is unintelligible to us.

Ein Naturverständiger.—We have searched our list, and cannot find a single instance of early or late lectures on anatomy. Half-past two is the usual hour.

A Pupil should ask Dr. R. himself.

Preparing for publication "The Study of Osteology, or History of the Bones of the Human Body." Illustrated by five imperial folio plates, from Albinus and Cheselden. By T. Castle, F.L.S. Trin. Coll. Camb. &c.

ERRATUM.—In leader, last week, page 529, line 13, transpose one of the "and's" to the end of the line.