sumed its functions, the hæmorrhage from the gums and roof of the mouth ceased, and in a few days she recovered her usual health.

It is no more than justice to Mr. Jones to state, that the gold he used for her mouth was 18 e., and the gold solder 15 or 16 c.; and with my advice, as there was no pain, she wore the teeth during the whole time that she was under my medical treatment, though contrary to reason: I did so to prove to her the injustice done.

I would beg to add, that it is still the decided opinion of the above two D.D.S.'s, doctors of dental stupidity, that all amalgams, as well as the gold used in this instance, are very injurious. A more striking proof could not be afforded of the recent extraordinary progress of dental science and the admirable results of the new collegiate system.—I am, Sir, very respectfully yours,
A. C. CASTLE, M.D.,
Surgeon-Dentist
New York, Jan. 1847.

EXTRAORDINARY BIRTH.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Last week I attended a patient who was delivered of four children; and as such an instance is rare, I thought it would not be uninteresting to your numerous readers if I stated the particulars. I was called to her about eleven o'clock on Thursday night, and on my arrival, found her in strong labour, which had come on rather rapidly; the os uteri dilated, and the membranes pressing down at the os externum. These soon gave way, when a female child was born in the natural manner. On applying my hand to the abdomen, I felt the uterus still large, and on making a vaginal examination, discovered the membranes of a second child presenting, through which the feet were felt. The pains flagging, I waited for about three quarters of an hour, until they returned with some degree of force, when I ruptured the membranes, and the second child, a boy, was speedily born, footling. After this child was born, the uterus still continued large and hard, as if containing another child; the pains being rapid, I examined, and found the head of another child presenting. A male child was soon born. The uterus still did not feel quite emptied of its contents. This proved to be the case, for a fourth child was discovered, presenting the feet. This, a female, was soon born. They were all alive. The four funes were attached to a single placenta. The children were very small—not larger than seven months' children, as was to be expected. They lived between forty and sixty hours. The mother is doing well.—I remain, yours truly,

Great Suffolk-street, April, 1847.

GEORGE ELISHA NEWTH.

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—The following gentlemen were admitted Members of this Institution on Friday, the 16th instant—viz., Messrs. Peter Augustus La'Fargue, Asylum-road, Old Kent-road; Walter Yonge, St. Ives, Cornwall; Frederick Moore, Shelsley-Beauchamp, Worcestershire; Samuel Wilks, Camberwell; Hugh Robert Rump, Wells, Norfolk; Thomas Webb, Cheadle, Staffordshire; John Edward Ellerton, Aberford, near Leeds; Edward Adams, Great Barton, Suffolk; William Daniel Michell, Truro, Cornwall; David Hughes, Plas Newydd, Llandegla, Ruthin; and Charles Munday, King-street, Snow-hill.—On the 21st instant, Messrs. Henry Barlow Gibbon, Ashton-under-Lyne; Alexander Ferguson, Victoria-place, Hoxton-town; James Vaughan Hughes, Queen's College, Birmingham; Jabez Harwood, Sheffield; John Samuel Pearse, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; William Parker Shipton, Cheltenham; William Mutrie Fairbrother, London-road, Southwark; Richard Donald Harris, Gloucester; James England Gannon, Dublin; William Henry Sproston, Birmingham; James Laurence Cotter, Army; George Fry, Mayfield, Sussex; and John Thomas Campion, Exeter, Devon.

At the meeting of the 16th, Mr. Henry Piers passed his examination for naval surgeon: this gentleman's diploma from the London College is dated December 11, 1840.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—Names of gentlemen who passed their examination and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, April 15th, 1847.—Frederick Freeman Allen, Market Harbro', Leicestershire; William Palmer, Rugeley, Staffordshire; William George Harvey, Penzance, Cornwall; William Mott; William Ellis Hamby, Kingsand, near Plymouth; Abraham Jubb, junior, Halifax, Yorkshire; William Price, Wrexham, Denbighshire; Edward Haycock, London; William Alexander Bryden, Wadhurst.

THE DUKE AND THE QUACKS.—Observing the name of his Grace the Duke of Wellington advertised the other day as the patron and swallower of the pills of one of the pestiferous tribe of London medical quacks, we used the liberty of asking the illustrious duke, whether his Grace gave authority for the publication, and the following characteristic reply was received in course of post:—"Strathfieldsaye, April 10, 1847. F. M. the Duke of Wellington presents his compliments to Mr. McNab. He has received his letter. The duke knows nothing of the person alluded to, or his pills. No individual of his class has authority to use the name of the Duke of Wellington in any manner."—*Glasgow Constitutional*.

THE JACKSONIAN PRIZES.—At the late meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, the prizes founded by the late Samuel Jackson, Esq., were awarded to Mr. Thomas Callaway, Jun., of Wellington-street, London-bridge, for his Dissertation on Luxations and Fractures of the Clavicle, Scapula and Scapular end of the Humerus, and Treatment. This gentleman is a son of the member of the Council. The other prize, of equal value, was awarded to Mr. Edward Hulme, of Exeter, Devon, for his Dissertation on Asphyxia, its various Causes, Forms, and Treatment. The subject of the Jacksonian Prize for the present year is "The Nature and Treatment of Permanent Contraction of Muscles, especially in relation to Distortion and Disability." The subject of the Collegial Triennial Prize of Fifty Guineas is "The Origin, Connexion, and Distribution of the Nerves of the Human Eye, and its appendages," illustrated by comparative dissections of the eye in other vertebrate animals.

THE COOPERIAN PRIZE.—Considerable surprise has been occasioned by the appearance in this journal, on Saturday last, of an advertisement from the Physicians and Surgeons of Guy's Hospital, stating that they were unable to award the prize for the present year, the subject of the prize being the Structure and Uses of the Supra-Renal Capsules; the competitors not having, in their opinion, complied with the conditions of the bequest, and inviting any candidates aggrieved by the decision to make application to the umpires. It will be recollected that this triennial prize of 300*l.* was founded by the late Sir Astley Cooper, Bart.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.—*Norfolk and Norwich Hospital*: Dr. Arthur Tawke has been elected physician to this Institution, in the vacancy occasioned by the death of Dr. Lubbock.—*Taunton and Somerset Hospital*: Dr. Francis Henry Woodforde has been appointed one of the physicians to this Institution, in the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Dr. Catlett.—*Exeter Dispensary*: Mr. Pridham having resigned his appointment of Surgeon to this charity has been succeeded by Mr. J. W. Harris.

WESTERN MEDICAL AND SURGICAL SOCIETY.—The first Anniversary Meeting of this Society was holden in their rooms in Sloane-street, on Friday the 9th instant. The report of the Council was read. It commences by congratulating the members on the success which has hitherto attended the progress of the Society. There are upwards of sixty members; the library contains already more than 300 volumes, and the reading-room, which is open daily from ten in the morning till ten in the evening, has been regularly supplied with all the weekly and quarterly medical periodicals. The report proceeds to allude to the valuable communications which have been read at the monthly meetings during the first year, and the interesting discussions which have ensued, and dwells especially on the value of these meetings for promoting kindly feelings among the profession. It concludes with some suggestions, the result of a year's experience, for the future. The most important of these is, that the meetings should be held once a fortnight during the medical session, the monthly meetings being retained during the recess. The report having been received and adopted, thanks were voted to the president and other officers for their valuable services during the past year, and the officers for the present year were elected.

SIR JAMES CLARK was re-elected president; Messrs. Dickenson and Lane, and Dr. Mantell, were re-elected vice-presidents, with Dr. Hardwick, of Kensington, in the room of Mr. Woolley—the laws of the Society requiring that one of the vice-presidents should retire annually, and the lot having fallen on that gentleman. Mr. Woolley was elected a member of the council with Messrs. Gaskell, Godrich, Keen, Mackintosh, Mould, Pettigrew, Pollard, Seaton, Synnot, Warder, and Wilson. Mr. Muller was re-elected treasurer, and Mr. Barnes, secretary.

OBITUARY.—On Friday, the 2nd of April, 1847, died, at his house in Gracechurch-street, London, Richard Casson, Esq., surgeon. He had been in practice at Hull, in York-