PORTRAIT OF MR. HEADINGTON.

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To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—The great service your publication has rendered the profession generally, in exposing the torpidity of its public servants, has induced me to ask Mr. Luke, through the medium of your valuable Journal, to inform me, and the rest of the subscribers, what has become of the picture of R. C. Headington, Esq., and when the prints will be delivered to the one and two-guinea subscribers? It is about six years since I paid my subscription. By inserting the above, you will oblige

A CONSTANT READER OF THE LANCET,
AND AN
OLD SUBSCRIBER FOR A PRINT.

London, June 8, 1828.

STRANGULATED HERNIA.—TOBACCO ENEMA
SUCCESSFULLY EMPLOYED.

By J. A. IRVINE, Esq., *Bermondsey Square.*

T. EDWARDS, a porter, had been affected with reducible inguinal hernia for about sixteen years previously to the 6th of November, when, on returning from work in the evening, he found the rupture suddenly descend. When seen by Mr. Irvine on the following morning, he found a tumour of the size of a double fist, which was painful on pressure, the tenderness extending along the spermatic chord. The abdomen generally was tender, and also tense. Sickness, constipation, occasional hiccup, and frequent eructations, were prominent symptoms; the pulse was 82, strong and hard. The warm bath, bloodletting, and the taxis, were employed without benefit; cold applications to the swelling somewhat reduced its size and lessened the tenderness.

Throughout the two following days, the 8th and 9th, the constitutional symptoms remained unabated, and the tumour unreduced. On the evening of the 9th, it was determined to administer a tobacco enema, which, having been done, the intestine was returned in the course of ten minutes after the tobacco had produced its effects on the system. The infusion was used in the proportion of half a drachm of the herb to a pint of water; the whole was thrown up.

The patient went on favourably, and was speedily enabled to resume his usual employment.

STRANGULATED HERNIA.

Operation successful on a Man 72 years of age.

By J. TROUGHT, Esq.

THE subjoined case affords a remarkable instance of constitutional vigour in a rustic, who had exceeded the "natural" age of man. It presents a striking contrast to the enfeebled and shattered constitutions which the surgeon in London has to deal with.

CASE.—John Knox, a nail-maker, 72 years of age, had been subject to inguinal rupture of the left side four years, when, on the 3d of May, the hernia suddenly came down, and became strangulated. Bloodletting, and the subsequent use of the taxis, were had recourse to without effect, and on the following morning a tobacco enema was administered, with a like want of success. Mr. Trought then proceeded to the operation, and, upon laying open the hernial sac, found a knuckle of intestine, which was returned without difficulty.

When Mr. Trought visited the patient on the following day, to his great surprise he found the man sitting by the side of the fire, dressed, and apparently ailing nothing. It is important to mention, that an old nurse had administered a large quantity of yeast prior to the operation, and after its performance, when an injection was used, free evacuations from the bowels were speedily obtained. Four days after the operation, Mr. Trought found the man at work in his shop, and, to use his own expression, "as well as ever he was in his life." He had been an extremely free liver, and, in fact, subject to great excesses.

CASE IN WHICH LABOUR OCCURRED AT THE
SIXTH MONTH OF PREGNANCY, THE CHILD
STILL LIVING.

By JOHN GREENING, Esq., *Worcester.*

Mrs. —, a woman of spare habit, thirty years of age, on the 27th of June, 1827, complained of acute pain in the lumbar region, increased on inspiration, or upon motion. She had not menstruated for five months, and was confident that she was in a state of pregnancy. She had laboured under palpitation of the heart for several years, on which account blood was abstracted from the arm on several occasions.

On the evening of the 29th of June, after having been present at the labour of a neighbour, the patient was attacked with violent pain in the abdomen. Blood was taken from the arm, and a dose of laudanum exhibited. Early on the following morning, a fetus was expelled, and the placenta, at the same time, thrown into the vagina.

Both the mother and the child did well; there was a free secretion of milk, and the infant took the breast on the fourth day after delivery.