at the time. He complained of the tightness of the bandage, which was loosened, and gave him great relief. In the night he became suddenly worse, his countenance covered with perspiration; the emphysema rapidly increased. Mr. Weekes, the house surgeon, was called to him, but the patient had expired before he arrived.

Examination.

The integuments, covering the upper part of the thorax and neck, were distended to a great degree by air diffused in the cellular interstice; the face was considerably swollen and inflated, and the eyelids were closed. On opening the chest, the lungs were found in a collapsed state; and there were about two pints of dark bloody-coloured fluid in each pleural cavity. Six of the ribs on the left side, and seven or eight on the right, were fractured, most of them at their angles; several of them had penetrated the pleura costalis. On attentive examination a small superficial wound of the right inferior lung was discovered; it extended through the pleura pulmonalis, and slightly into the substance of the lung. The lungs, generally, were gorged with blood. On opening the pericardium a quantity of brownish turbid fluid escaped; and the membrane was of a deep red colour, crowded with minute vessels. The inflammation had extended to that portion of the membrane covering the heart, which was extremely vascular, and lymph was effused on its surface.

RUSSIAN ARMY AND NAVY MEDICAL SERVICE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Many English surgeons having proceeded to this place, in consequence of the official notification which has been addressed to foreign medical men, you will be doing a great piece of justice to the medical men in England, if you will have the goodness to communicate to them, through the medium of your valuable Publication, the contents of this letter, which may serve to give some idea of the treatment they will experience on coming to Russia. In the first instance, the notification states, they may either join the land or sea service. This is false; for on the application of *Englishmen* who have just arrived here, they have been told "the army is fully supplied;" and they may either embrace naval service, or return to whence they came. In the next instance, as regards the examination at the Academy, there are at present not less than thirty young men, principally Germans, with the

exception of three Englishmen, who came to Petersburg with the idea of entering the service, according to the notification, who have been in attendance on the learned professor at the Academy for the space of *three months*, and with every probability of remaining three months longer. The conduct observed towards them has been highly infamous, and the state they are now in, to my certain knowledge, is truly deplorable; in fact, nothing remains to be done but their immediate application to the different consuls or ambassadors, to be sent home as distressed subjects. Yesterday a body of them presented petitions to Dr. Cardanoff (the president of the Academy, in the absence of Sir James Wylee), for the return of their different certificates, preferring to get back as they can, to remaining in a country where they have been treated more like dogs than Christians. By making this publicly known, you will be doing much service to those gentlemen who have any idea of proceeding here.

I remain, Mr. Editor,

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY WILLIAMS, M.D.

St. Petersburg, July 3, 1823.

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ERRATUM.

In Mr. Sheldrake's address, page 718 of our last Number, for "No. 32, Upper Norton Street, Portland Place," read, "No. 7, Devonshire Street, Portland Place."