due to every gentleman who presents himself for examination. It is only fair to add, that there are some of the examiners whose conduct in some degree atones for that of their colleagues, and many a successful candidate has reason to congratulate himself upon having fallen into the hands of those who know how to temper mercy with justice.

The examiners at the College have no right to abuse the position in which they have been placed. Those who do so knowingly, wilfully, and persistently, are unworthy of the great trust which has been confided to them. A petition to the Council, signed by the students of the metropolitan and provincial schools, respectfully urging upon them the removal of those examiners who so far forget themselves as to descend to mean quibbles and passionate invectives, would, I think, scarcely fail to attain the necessary object.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

May, 1863.

A CONSTANT READER.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I am sure the younger members of the profession will have read the letter of Mr. Christopher Heath, published in your last week's impression, with no ordinary amount of satisfaction, exposing as it does the annoyances to which intending candidates for the membership are continually liable by the conduct of the Court of Examiners. I believe I am only giving expression to the sentiments of the majority of junior professionals when I say that the examiners of the Royal College of Surgeons conduct themselves uncourtously to the candidates at their examinations. To myself, one of their number was abusive, which is my apology for this letter. In May of last year I had occasion, with many others from Edinburgh, to present myself for the final examination, and I shall long retain a very lively remembrance of what took place between the examiner and myself.

For example: I was asked, "How would you treat fracture of the leg?" "Reduction, and perfect rest," was my speedy reply. This answer called forth from my tormentor the following: "What the devil do you mean! Do you suppose that the patient is likely to play at foot-ball while his leg is broken?" Being young and slightly nervous, and never having been trained to use vulgar and vicious expressions, it was not surprising that I should betray some excitement. This, however, passed quietly off, when I had recovered the feeling of shame and endless disgrace that would attach to me in the event of being rejected. But I was afterwards taxed with another question—"How would you treat a case of carbuncle?" "Stimulate and nourish from the beginning, and make crucial incisions," was my answer. I am sure no right-minded and feeling man will marvel that I should feel alarmed when I was talked to in the following manner: "We don't want any of your d—d book-learning here! You haven't attended the hospital."

This needs no comment, but I trust you will give the facts publicity in your impartial journal. In doing so, you will, I am sure, confer a great favour on many who are still consuming with anger at the unfeeling treatment they have received; besides helping to instil a little healthy feeling into the hearts of the gentlemen of Lincoln's-inn-fields, and teaching them that though they are great guns, and though they may "kill a pig every day," as the saying goes, the feelings of young men, who will occupy similar positions in the course of things, are dangerous toys, and not to be handled lightly.

I am, Sir, yours &c.,

May, 1863.

M.R.C.S.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I observe in your impression of Saturday last a letter from Mr. Christopher Heath, with reference to the examinations of the Royal College of Surgeons. Will you kindly spare me space for a few lines on the subject? I was one of the students who passed the anatomical and physiological examination at the College on the 30th ult. Not having the honour of a personal acquaintance with Mr. Cæsar Hawkins, I cannot be positive as to his identity; but I was told by other students, and believe, that he was one of the gentlemen who examined me, and I must say that my experience of his demeanour in no wise corresponds with that of Mr. Heath's pupils. His behaviour to me was both courteous and kind; and I may, *en passant*, make the same observation with regard to that of the other examiners whom I had the pleasure of seeing. I did not perceive any captious or unpleasant manner displayed by him or any one else whilst I was in the theatre; and I cannot but think that if a student present himself for examination pro-

perly prepared, he need not fear the questioning either of Mr. Cæsar Hawkins or of any other man.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Birmingham, May, 1863.

A THIRD-YEAR'S STUDENT.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—After reading Mr. Heath's letter in THE LANCET of last week, I felt myself bound to deny the correctness of his assertion, that *all* students have come to the same conclusion as himself regarding Mr. Hawkins' manner of treating them during their examination. Having passed the first professional examination last summer, I have much pleasure in bearing the highest testimony to the most gentlemanly behaviour of Mr. Hawkins, as well as the rest of the examiners, to me; and I am sure that no one who has paid the necessary attention to his subjects need be alarmed when presenting himself there.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Glasgow, May, 1863.

J. T. J.

* * Mr. Heath's manly expression of opinion has brought a flood of correspondence. We shall willingly ventilate any fair statements on the one side or the other; but it is desirable that correspondents should confine themselves, as far as possible, to statements of fact. No notice can be taken of unauthenticated communications.—ED. L.

ALLEGED LIBEL UPON A MANCHESTER PHYSICIAN.

The following correspondence is extracted from the *Manchester Examiner and Times*:—

To the Editor of the Examiner and Times.

SIR,—In reference to the report of the "Alleged Libel upon a Manchester Physician," in yours of to-day, I beg to observe that the action was not, as there stated, against THE LANCET, but against Dr. Roberts, of this city. It is not easy, from your report, for the public to understand the case, which is simply this:—Dr. Roberts, in a series of letters, some anonymous, published in THE LANCET, charged me with meeting homœopaths in consultation, and stated that such conduct was considered by the medical profession as improper and disgraceful, and he offered to find three cases in proof.

Subsequently, however, Dr. Roberts withdrew the cases, not being able to substantiate them, and in one of his pleas he alleged "that it was not disgraceful or improper to meet a homœopath in consultation," being directly contrary to the position first taken by him, and a contradiction yet to be reconciled. The court held on the argument, that even if such had been admitted to be true, *it was not improper or disgraceful to meet homœopaths*, and that, *so far*, the plea demurred to was good. But as to the letters in question, it was stated that if the object of the defendant was maliciously to place me in an invidious position, and to injure me in my profession, the publication of them might be actionable, *which is substantially the question yet to be tried.*

Yours respectfully,

101, Piccadilly, 8th May, 1863.

CHAS. CLAY, M.D.

To the Editor of the Examiner and Times.

SIR,—It is with much regret that I feel compelled to trouble you in consequence of a letter of Dr. Clay, inserted in your issue of Saturday last.

It is *not* the fact that I stated in my letters to THE LANCET that Dr. Clay's meeting homœopaths was "improper and disgraceful," or that I "withdrew the cases" mentioned by me, "not being able to substantiate them."

It was Dr. Clay, in his declaration, that used the words that it was "improper and disgraceful" for him and other medical practitioners to meet homœopaths; and in my second plea I alleged that his statement was not correct. My instructions to my counsel were that, although contrary to the usual etiquette, it was not "disgraceful" to do so; as a minority of the profession disagree to this rule, and no physician or surgeon would refuse to meet them if such refusal proved detrimental to a patient in danger.

To this plea Dr. Clay demurred, on the ground that I could not deny (what in fact I had *not* stated) that it was "disgraceful" to meet homœopaths, and it was on this demurrer that the judgment of the Court of Exchequer was given in my favour.

Mr. Baron Bramwell stated, in the course of the argument, that the declaration of the plaintiff *was* libellous on the profession, but *not my letters*; and the whole court gave judgment that my plea was *GOOD* and his *declaration bad*, thus deciding that my letters were not libellous, and, consequently, that no action was sustainable upon them.

Dr. Clay, from his letter, evidently leads you to believe that there is a question yet to be tried in the action. Now, he well knows, or ought to know, that the decision of the court *goes to the whole cause of action*, and that if he should, from any motive whatever, go to trial, he will have to pay for his experiment, as the court, after its decision, *must* set aside any verdict which might by possibility be given in his favour.

The cases mentioned by me, in which Dr. Clay had met homœopaths, so far from being *withdrawn*, were, under a judge's order obtained by *him*, actually *supported* by me; and the particulars of the cases were given by me to the court under my plea of justification.

In conclusion, I have to state that I was at first advised by my solicitors that my letters were *not* libellous, and that, consequently, I had a good defence to any action which the plaintiff might bring; and upon that advice I acted, and the result has proved its soundness.

If I had done anything wrong in the course I pursued, I should have been ready to make an ample and suitable apology; but I have only been discharging the duty which I owe to myself and to the other members of my profession by the line of conduct I have pursued.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
Chatham-street, May 11th, 1863. WM. ROBERTS, M.D.

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND. — The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted Members of the College at a meeting of the Court of Examiners on the 7th inst. :—

Alderson, Frederick Henry, Ipswich.
Clarke, William, Longsight, near Manchester.
Cooper, Horace, Caversham.
Edlin, Ebenezer William, Manchester.
Fox, Cornelius Benjamin, Truro, Cornwall.
Fuller, James Mortimer, St. John's-wood.
Gibbs, Edward, Birmingham.
Grubb, Richard Theodore, Cahir, Ireland.
Harvey, John Stevenson, Boulogne-sur-Mer.
Haward, John Warrington, Leicester-square.
Johnson, Richard Hison Daly, Liverpool.
Meadows, George Frederick Walford, Oley, Ipswich.
Nash, George Branson Valentine, Liverpool.
Pope, Edmund, Puddleton, Dorsetshire.
Richards, Joseph Peeke, Oxford-terrace, Islington.
Seabrook, William Milward, Brighton.
Stowell, Thomas, Brighton.
Terry, Septimus, Northampton.
Tibbits, Robert William, Ashton, near Bristol.
Wearne, Vivian, Helstone, Cornwall.
Webster, Hutton Joseph, Tunbridge Wells.
Welby, John Burdett, Leicester.
Wey, William John, Plymouth.

The following gentlemen were admitted Members on the 9th inst. :—

Bateman, Wm. Adolphus Fred., Richmond, Surrey.
Brockwell, John, Cleator, Cumberland.
Compson, John Charles, Stourbridge, Worcester.
Francis, Alfred Ollivant, Derby.
Hinds, Charles, Barbadoes.
Holyouke, Thomas, Kinver, Staffordshire.
Hunt, Henry John, Melksham, Wilts.
Hurlstone, Martin de Galway, Chester-st., Hyde-park-cornet.
Jones, William, Llangorse, Brecon.
M'Bride, James, Rathfriland, Co. Down, Ireland.
Miles, Thomas, Totness, Devon.
Peatfield, Thomas John, Edwinstone, Notts.
Pyle, Charles John, Amesbury.
Pyle, George Edward, Amesbury.
Soffe, William Edward, Bungay, Suffolk.
Steward, Joseph Septimus, Usmere Hill, Cumberland.
Summerhayes, Henry, Crewkerne, Somerset.
Swaby, Samuel, Prince Edward Island.
Turner, James Smith, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square.
Valance, Edmund, Brighton.
Whipple, John Henry C., Plymouth, Devon.
Wintle, Richard Prior, Earl's-court-terrace, Kensington.
Wood, Francis Henry, New Romney.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY. — The following gentlemen passed their primary examinations in Anatomy and Physiology at a meeting of the Court of Examiners on the 28th ult., and when eligible will be admitted to the pass examination :—

Allen, B. H., University College.
Baker, G. B., St. Mary's Hospital.
Briggs, E. A., Edinburgh.
Collingwood, J. E., St. George's Hosp.
Cooper, G. H. C., University College.
Couling, Henry, Guy's Hospital.
Dwyer, J. C., Guy's Hospital.
Finden, Woodforde, King's College.
Folliott, James, St. Barthol. Hospital.
Harding, T. H. G., University College.
Holmes, Frank, Manchester.
Jackson, H. G., Leeds.
Jewison, T. W., Leeds.
Joynson, G. T., Manchester.
Knapp, W. P., St. Barthol. Hospital.
Langhorn, Joseph, St. George's Hosp.
Madeley, G. H., King's College.
Martin, J. H., University College.

Meiklejohn, R. M., Edinburgh.
Morgan, L. W., St. Thomas's Hospital.
Nevitt, J. G., Leeds.
Nivison, T. R. S., Edinburgh.
Pearson, Henry, Manchester.
Percival, Thomas, Leeds.
Rigg, Thomas, Edinburgh.
Royds, W. A. S., St. Barthol. Hosp.
Shuldham, E. B., University College.
Smith, E. R., St. Barthol. Hospital.
Snewin, A. G., Charing-cross Hosp.
Spurgin, H. B., Guy's Hospital.
Stuckey, John, University College.
Tayler, G. C., St. Barthol. Hospital.
Watson, J. J., University College.
Webster, T. J., Manchester.
Whipp, Robert, Manchester.

The following gentlemen passed on the 29th ult. :—

Adams, A. B., London Hospital.
Barnes, Henry, Edinburgh.
Beckett, F. M., St. Barthol. Hospital.
Bell, Anthony, Newcastle.
Bell, William, King's College.
Bradley, Charles, University College.
Bullus, William, Birmingham.
Burton, T. B., St. Mary's Hospital.
Craigie, John, London Hospital.
Creighton, Thomas, Newcastle.
Davies, Herbert, University College.
Dawson, Henry, Guy's Hospital.
Dunn, W. D., Birmingham.
Elmes, Thomas, Dublin.
Evans, J. A. M., University College.
Fairles, N. W., St. Barthol. Hospital.
Forster, E. W., Newcastle.
Fyson, E. L., Guy's Hospital.
Gray, J. H., London Hospital.
Harding, Peter, University College.
Hodges, F. H., Bristol.
Jackson, A. C., Guy's Hospital.
Leach, S. F., Guy's Hospital.
Liddard, William, Middlesex Hospital.
Longbotham, George, Newcastle.

Mann, W. S., Birmingham.
Morison, John, University College.
Nason, T. R., Guy's Hospital.
Nimmo, Thomas, Edinburgh.
Pauli, C. G., Glasgow.
Philips, T. G., St. Mary's Hospital.
Reeves, H. A., Middlesex Hospital.
Rendle, George, Guy's Hospital.
Ruffa, Frederick, Birmingham.
Shedd, Ebenezer, London Hospital.
Shuttleworth, G. E., King's College.
Smith, H. R., Guy's Hospital.
Spilsbury, T. H., King's College.
Taynton, William, London Hospital.
Tidy, C. M., London Hospital.
Trennery, C. J., Guy's Hospital.
Tuckwell, D. G., King's College.
Walford, William, Edinburgh.
Weller, George, London Hospital.
Wheldon, A. H., Guy's Hospital.
Whitworth, Jas., University College.
Williams, E. O., Edinburgh.
Wolston, W. T. P., King's College.
Wykes, Edwin, Birmingham.
Wyllie, John, Edinburgh.

The following gentlemen passed on the 12th inst. :—

Barrett, J. W., Guy's Hospital.
Battersby, C. H., Dublin.
Battersby, H. W., Dublin.
Bennett, C. J., Edinburgh.
Branson, H. J., St. George's Hospital.
Brewster, Edwd., Charing-cross Hosp.
Eastes, George, Guy's Hospital.
Eatock, J. A., Manchester.
Evans, A. P., Birmingham.
Grindrod, J. A., Manchester.
Haslewood, A. O., Newcastle.
Heaven, Chas., St. George's Hospital.

Hilliard, H. C., Guy's Hospital.
Lightbody, W. H., Edinburgh.
Morris, J. L., Glasgow.
Moseley, A. J., St. George's Hospital.
Sutcliffe, W. H., Manchester.
Sutton, Thomas, Manchester.
Watson, J. B., University College.
Wilkins, J. C., University College.
Williams, John, Glasgow.
Wood, W. T. H., Guy's Hospital.
Wright, David, Edinburgh.

The following gentlemen passed on the 13th inst. :—

Bush, H. John Ryder, Middlesex Hosp.
Chandler, Henry Parry, Middlesex Hospital.
De Souche, Isaiah, Dublin.
Diver, Ebenezer, University College.
Hughes, William Lewis, Dublin.

Jones, David, Dublin.
Moreton, Charles Peyton, Dublin.
Oxley, Charles Frederick, Edinburgh.
Phillips, Thomas Richard, Dublin.
Pratt, Thomas Gray, Edinburgh.
Wood, Robert, London Hospital.

THE FELLOWSHIP. — At a meeting of the Council on the 4th inst., Mr. JOHN BURTON ST. CROIX CROSS, of the 11th Hussars, was admitted a Fellow, having been elected at a previous meeting; diploma of Membership dated Aug. 11th, 1837. Mr. WILLIAM TRAVERS, of the Charing-cross Hospital, has just passed the Preliminary Examination for the Fellowship, having been admitted a Member on the 17th of April, 1860.

At the meeting of the Court on the 6th inst., Dr. ARTHUR JOSEPH IRELAND passed his examination for Naval Surgeon. This gentleman had previously been admitted a Member of the Edinburgh College of Surgeons, his diploma bearing date June 4th, 1856.

[In the list published on the 9th inst. of gentlemen who passed their examinations for Membership of the College, for "Walter Henry Cape" read "Walter Henry Cope."]

APOTHECARIES' HALL. — The following gentlemen passed their examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on the 7th inst. :—

Brewer, Thomas, Halifax.
Gargory, Caleb, Birmingham.
Ferris, John Spencer, Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts.
Pilkington, Thomas, Enfield, Acornington, Lancashire.
Sharp, George Wyatt, Great Cumberland-street.
Thompson, William Allin, Oxford.
Woodman, Samuel, Finchley-road, St. John's-wood.

THE statement which appeared in the daily papers to the effect that Dr. Jenner is to attend the Queen to Balmoral this spring, is incorrect.

TESTIMONIAL. — Dr. Nicol, who has for a long time filled the office of Secretary to the Royal Institution of South Wales, is about to receive a testimonial in recognition of his services.