"Baron Alderson.—' Then you did very wrong, Gentlemen ; you should have found the bill, and then she would have been in custody, and no further danger from her could happen. If you have evidence offered to you of a party's guilt, the question of their state of mind is not for you to determine ; if you ignore bills on such grounds, you will have the community infested with all the mad people in the country.'

"The Grand Jury retired for a few minutes, and having returned a true bill, they were discharged."

This clearly shows that the Coroner was right in his direction to the Jury, the very same direction having been given by Mr. Baron Alderson, the Judge presiding in the *Central Criminal Court*, it being with the Crown (and the Crown only), as the fountain of mercy, to interfere, and order the discharge of the prisoner, should she become, at a future day, in a fit state to be set at liberty.

As a friend to the medical profession, I suggest that your correspondent, Mr. Brown, should be more discreet in his attacks, as undeserved censure redounds to praise, and his hasty observations and ignorance of the law of the land, show that he, at all events, would not be able to fill the office of Coroner, either with credit to himself, or with justice to his country. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A MEMBER OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION, AND
A CONSTANT READER OF THE LANCET.

Jan. 24, 1838.

Our correspondent, Mr. Brown, was right in condemning the verdict of "wilful murder," in so far as it was calculated to prejudice the case of the accused female when brought for trial before another tribunal.—
ED. L.

MR. ALLISON AND MR. PRITCHARD.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR :—Whenever you can allow me a little space in THE LANCET, I will say to Mr. Pritchard, of Hereford, that my intention was *not* to "nettle" him, but merely "to avoid jumping with him to conclusions." Although he still thinks that I ought to do so, I again beg leave to decline, and "to look well before I leap." As, however, the correspondence is before competent judges, I shall willingly *hasten* to say, that these observations will be final in the matter. I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

W. ALLISON.

Retford, Jan. 25, 1838.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

"ADVANCE THREE STEPS, BACKWARDS!"—
Militia-Officer Clown.

"THERE has been," says the "Globe" of Monday last, "an attempt, on the part of some of the members of the Senate of the *New University of London*, to introduce a sort of religious test into that institution. It has been proposed that all candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Arts shall be examined in *one of the four Gospels*, in the *original Greek*, and in *Scripture History*. The proposal was carried by a majority of one, the members being ten in favour of, and nine against, the rule. It was then suggested that, as the regulation involved at least an apparent departure from the principle upon which the University was founded, that of excluding all religious tests, the point should be referred to Government. This proposal was carried into effect, and the result has been that the Senate have been requested to reconsider their resolution. In this position, we believe, the affair rests at present."

And here it had better rest. Out of a Senate which could originate this regulation, in 1838, "what good thing can come?"

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Anti-Assassin. Not yet. They are the mere repetitions of the stupid and malignant trash which was repeatedly printed, we understand, in that most imbecile of all periodicals, "The London Medical and Surgical Journal," which expired, from downright starvation,—if an odious thing can be said to have died that never lived,—on Saturday, December the 16th, 1837. Is "Anti-Assassin" certain? We beg of him to forward the *addition* to the "moral proof." If it be the "scoundrel" in question, he shall receive a public castigation, a public scourging, from Essex-street to St. James's-square.

Again the publication of *Mr. Edmonds'* very valuable paper on the mean duration of life among the peers of England, is unavoidably delayed. It shall certainly appear, with the tables, next week.

BOOK RECEIVED.

An Inquiry into the Nature and Treatment of Cholera ; being Part I., Vol. II., of an Inquiry into the Principles and Practice of Medicine. By G. Calvert Holland, M.D., Physician to the Sheffield General Infirmary, Lecturer on Physic and Medical Jurisprudence, &c. Vol. II. London : Longman, 1838. 8vo., pp. 272.

ERRATUM.—In last week's Number, p. 629, line 30, for "preserved," read prevented.