bable that it had been of very long duration, and that the commencement of diseased action was, at least, coeval with the period of the permanent dentition. From the appearance of the bone (which was exhibited to the Society) there could be, as the author conceived, no doubt that the disease by which it had been destroyed was necrosis, or that it had up to a certain period undergone the natural process of cure, since the entire bone was enclosed, even to the condyles, alveoli, and coronoid processes, with a case of new osseous matter. This reparative process had, however, been interrupted by the separation of the periosteum from the new deposit in consequence of extensive disease of that membrane and suppuration within it. Thus the new bone also perished, and the process of reparation became arrested. The author removed the bone without difficulty, by dividing it into three portions, and the wound healed kindly. Care was taken to leave as many as possible of the teeth suspended in the gum, in the hope that a sufficient degree of solidity would be acquired in the process of healing to render them serviceable. The patient is now, nine months after the operation, quite well, with the exception of an inconsiderable sinus, which discharges in a trifling degree, and has the power of masticating solid food with surprising facility, when it is considered that the process is chiefly performed between the tongue and the upper teeth. There is no reproduction of bone, but the patient can bite with considerable firmness, and the form of the countenance is less altered than might be expected after the removal of so large a portion of its solid basis.

DUBLIN APOTHECARIES' HALL.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—As Secretary to the Court of Examiners of the Apothecaries' Hall here, I beg to correct a misstatement which appeared in the last Number of *THE LANCET*. In alluding to the discrepancies which prevail among the different examining boards, it was advanced, that whilst the London Court of Apothecaries' Hall extended the examination to every department of medical science, the Dublin Court restricted it to mere pharmacy, and that the licentiate of the latter corresponded with "the Continental pharmacien, or with the chemist who has been examined and licensed."

So far, Sir, from this statement being correct, the Dublin Court also requires from its candidates certificates of attendance on each branch of medical knowledge, and always conducts its examination in reference to subjects of general practice, the licentiate

apothecary being here, as in England, the only general practitioner.

Your giving insertion to the above will oblige, your obedient servant,

C. H. LEET, M.D., Sec.
Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland, Dublin.

March 20th, 1838.

DESERTION OF THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—I doubt not that when the attention of the ruling authorities is directed to the following, the grievance will be instantly redressed:—

Last month, business calling me to London, and having a great desire to see the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, I intended to pay it a visit, and accordingly went to the College, but on entering the hall I found it vacant; I wandered about the building for some time, being unable to find the museum, or any person to direct me towards it; and after waiting for some time I was, to my great chagrin, obliged to return without having fulfilled my object. Now, if it had only happened on this one occasion that there was no one present in the Hall, to show to members that attention which they have a right to expect, I should not trouble you with this letter, but, on consulting my medical friends, I find that it is a very usual circumstance. I certainly should think that gentlemen who contribute so materially as the members do to the funds of the College, ought to meet with more respect in their visits to that establishment. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A MEMBER OF THE COLLEGE.

The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S., with Notes. Edited by JAMES F. PALMER, in 4 vols. 8vo., with a vol. of Plates in 4to.

THIS valuable work is now completed, and in a manner which does credit to the editor, who has not only kept his promises to the public, but considerably exceeded them, as well in the extent of new matter added to the text, as in the length and value of the notes and illustrations. Having in a former number made some observations on the first volume, and on the general objects of the editor, we shall not repeat, on this occasion, what we then said. We have no hesitation in affirming, that most of the great modern improvements of surgery are mainly traceable to Hunter, whose works, like those of a kindred genius—Bacon—abound in luminous hints, which only require development to constitute them real improve-