vidual who may act in the manner described, if he be a duly-qualified physician or surgeon, and confine his practice, as to the supply of medicines, to the public institution to which he is attached, or to his private patients.

(Signed) " ' MAZIERE BRADY.

" ' January 4, 1840.' "

(*Dublin Paper.*)

* * Adverse decisions have been given by the judges in England upon the English Apothecaries' Act repeatedly; and whenever a physician prescribes and compounds the medicines, he then, without doubt, is practising as an apothecary within the meaning of the Act, and is forthwith liable to prosecution for the recovery of the penalties named in the statute.

ST. COLUMB UNION.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—As you have published one version of the St. Columb Union affair, you will, I hope, let mine appear also. When Mr. Bullocke and myself tendered in April last, the guardians expressed a wish that the surgeon whose tender might be accepted should engage an assistant, and we agreed to do so as soon as we found that we could not by ourselves perform the duty to the satisfaction of the guardians and the poor. Mr. Bullocke's tender being accepted by the guardians, it devolved upon him to obtain the required assistance; but as his appointment was not confirmed by the poor-law commissioners, he did not run the risk of engaging an assistant, so that the medical relief of the union has thus unavoidably been supplied by a single surgeon for nearly half a year. But now the guardians, with the sanction of the poor-law commissioners, have had the affair arranged in the way which they first wished, and Mr. Bullocke and myself, from Michaelmas next, have the appointment to the whole union. If, therefore, there have been any injustice to the poor in the above union, the blame must rest solely with the associated medical gentlemen of that union, whose attempt to coerce the guardians has recoiled upon themselves. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

EDWIN EDMONDS.

Penzance, Sept. 14, 1841.

* * Mr. Edmonds should return to school to learn the spirit and meaning of the word *coerce*, that he may not misuse the Queen's English in describing honourable efforts which find no echo in his own breast.

CHEMISTS' DINNERS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—The College of Physicians in London have decreed that no fellows or licentiates of their body shall agree or participate with chemists in the profits derivable from the sale of drugs ordered by them. This regulation is honourable to the college and beneficial to the public, and any infringement of its spirit deserves exposure. Notwithstanding this order, some chemists give dinner parties, to which physicians and prescribing surgeons, principally of the younger class, are in good numbers invited. These dinners are regarded as trade dinners, and the fellows, licentiates, and prescribing surgeons who attend them, are expected, as a *quid pro quo*, to recommend the shop of their friend; or, as often as they may be called upon, to lend their names for an advertisement recommendatory of some new preparation by Goodfellow, the chemist; and thus the chemist's shop is introduced to, and kept before, the public, and the chemist, in grateful acknowledgment, recommends his dinner friend, Dr. Cleverman, as the most suitable person to attend his customer, Mr. Stand-in-need. As you, Mr. Editor, have proved yourself willing at all times to expose abuses, I rely upon your readiness to give insertion to this note. I am, Sir, &c.

A HATER OF TRICKERY.

DISLOCATION OF THE FEMUR ON THE DORSUM ILII, WITHOUT INVERSION OF THE LIMB.—C. M., ætat. 23, muscular, had the injured limb shorter than the other by two inches, and incapable of extension, and without the slightest inversion of the foot. "There was an increased roundness of the joint, which appeared to be due to the flat external surface of the trochanter major, projecting directly outwards, differing from the usual flattened appearance observed. The head of the bone was with difficulty felt upon the dorsum. At first sight it seemed as if the bone had been fractured through the trochanter, but on rotation the head of the bone moved with the trochanter, affording a sufficient sign of dislocation. The patient could himself flex the thigh upon the pelvis to some extent, but the slightest attempt at abduction by another gave him great pain. In the reduction, when the head of the bone was brought down to the edge of the acetabulum," Mr. Bulley says, "I passed a towel under the upper part of the thigh, I drew the bone outwards, while an assistant rotated the limb inwards. In two minutes the head of the bone entered the acetabulum with the usual noise, and with the restoration of its functions. The man did well."—*Prov. Jour.*