which you object? The main feature of the Bill is the payment of the medical officers in proportion to the number of cases they attend, and the distance they have to travel. Do you object to this? If so, what other mode would you suggest?

The qualifications of the medical officers, and the extra medical fees to which they are to be entitled, are proposed to be left for arrangement to your Hon. Board, in conjunction with that of the Medical Council. Do you object to this?

The next point is the amount of payment proposed. Do you object to this? In a former letter I stated the Poor-law medical officers were willing to concede much in order to secure the support of your Hon. Board. With this spirit on their part, I respectfully trust you will not keep them at arm's length, but will endeavour to meet their views, and place this much-vexed question on an equitable basis. Possibly you would prefer to bring in a Bill as a Government measure, and thus carry out the views of the Right Hon. T. Sotherton Esq., who stated to the deputation of Poor-law medical officers as follows:—"The matter ought not to continue in its present state, and if I continue in office I will use the best means in my power to put this question on a better footing, and make such arrangements as will be satisfactory both to you and to the public."

I have the honour, &c.,

RICHARD GRIFFIN.

The Poor-law Board.

Extract from the Report for December, 1839, p. 249.

Col. Wade writes—"I do consider it exceedingly desirable that the experience obtained during the last four years of the various systems which have been in operation for affording medical relief should, with as little delay as possible, be applied towards establishing, not in this district only, but throughout the kingdom, uniformity of plan, uniformity of principle, in respect of the amount of remuneration. The plan to which I give a decided preference is that of a 'pauper list,' combined with the 'per case' provision for casual sick. Medical relief is, in its nature and consequences,—in fact, in every point of view, one only excepted,—unlike all other kinds of relief. It is true that, like every other kind of relief, it is injurious to the independence of the receiver; but it does not, like all others, in addition to this, tend to create again the destitution it relieves. Many will be poor again because they have found an easy access to relief; but no man will be sick again, because he has without difficulty obtained the aid of the doctor."

Poor-law Board, Whitehall, S.W., Dec. 1st, 1860.

SIR,—I am directed by the Poor-law Board to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd ultimo, on the subject of the draft of the Bill which you have prepared for the proposed redress of the grievances of the Poor-law medical officers.

The Board, in reply, direct me to state that they have already informed you, in their letter of the 19th instant, that they could not assent to the provisions of your Bill.

The Board direct me to add that, in their opinion, no sufficient reasons have been adduced to justify a departure from the general principles of medical relief as administered under the Consolidated Order of the 24th July, 1847, and which has received the approval of a Select Committee of the House of Commons, expressly appointed to inquire into its operation and results. Under such circumstances, the Board do not consider that any advantage can result from discussing the provisions of the Bill which you have submitted to them.

I am, &c.,

Richard Griffin, Esq., J.P. W. G. LUMLEY, Assist. Secretary.

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT IN CHINA.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—As you are doubtless anxious to give your readers all particulars about the profession abroad as well as at home, I take the liberty to inform you of the state of the Medical Department in China, and how the late Warrant—supposed to have been issued for the benefit of the surgeons—works. The fact is, it is here a dead letter, and men are, with reason, much dissatisfied, on the ground that they have been most unfairly dealt with. The promise of their being given the advantages of their rank is, out here, only so much wastepaper; and the reason advanced is, that the China expeditionary force is on Indian pay and allowances. Consequently, the assistant surgeon who arrives from England quickly discovers that he is mulcted of 2s. 6d. a day pay, and that his allowances are a mere myth. A dollar here represents a shilling at home. In other words, the same quantity of things that in England can be purchased for £10, costs nearly £50 at Hongkong, and higher up the

country £70. Instance the night of my arrival: not having been provided with quarters I slept at an hotel, and in the morning paid for my bed 13s. 6d., with everything else in the same proportion. Staff-surgeons are even worse off, many of them losing over 10s. a day pay; yet if they do not happen to get charge of a regiment or hospital, they draw neither staff pay nor allowances, but are worse off in a pecuniary point of view than any other body of men of their rank throughout the various branches of the service.

The Commissariat Department, whose Warrant was granted subsequent to that of the Medical Department, have theirs in full operation here, and reap the advantages therefrom accordingly, though that of the surgeons is ignored.

I feel confident that the foregoing is not generally known to the people of England, who at least, when they make a promise, are in the habit of keeping it.

I remain, Sir, yours respectfully,

Canton, Oct. 1860.

A LOVER OF FAIR PLAY.

THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS AND THE VACCINATION CERTIFICATE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—At a meeting of the students of the Manchester School of Medicine held a few days since, it was resolved to memorialize the Council of the College of Surgeons respecting the regulation issued by that body in August last, which requires all candidates for the diploma of the College to produce, before being admitted to examination, a certificate of special instruction in vaccination from one of the recently appointed Educational Vaccinators.

As we should be glad to know the opinion of the students of other schools with regard to this regulation, we beg you will be good enough to give the enclosed copy of the memorial we have transmitted to the College a place in your next issue.

We remain, Sir, your obedient servants,

DANIEL J. LEECH,
HERBERT GROVE LEE, } *Members of the*
JAMES GWYTHYR. } *Committee.*

Royal Infirmary, Manchester, Dec. 1860.

(COPY.)

To the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

We, the undersigned, students of the Manchester Royal School of Medicine and Surgery, beg to call the attention of the Council of the College of Surgeons to the injustice which we labour under, owing to the regulation concerning vaccination issued by the Council in August last.

By this regulation all who present themselves at the examination for the diploma of the College are required to possess a certificate of proficiency in vaccination. This certificate can only be obtained by attendance for six weeks at an educational vaccination establishment, which in Manchester is situated at a considerable distance from the hospital. In addition to the time spent in this attendance, all students are obliged to pay an extra fee for the certificate, an expense which, since the regulation is made retrospective, those who commenced their professional education previously to the present session by no means anticipated.

We beg to submit to the consideration of the Council, that by far the greater proportion of us have already been instructed in the theory and practice of vaccination by the surgeons with whom we have been resident, many of us throughout a period of several years, and that these surgeons, both from their general professional education and from the number of vaccinations they have annually to perform, may be considered fully qualified to give this instruction. The student who has for years been constantly engaged in the practice of vaccination under the superintendence of such a surgeon, can hardly be expected to derive much benefit from six weeks' teaching by the Educational Vaccinator.

The only advantage which this regulation affords to those who obtain the diploma of the College is, that they are thereby rendered eligible as Poor-law medical officers and as contractors for vaccination; but as, with the present scale of remuneration, few of us are likely to become candidates for such appointments, we beg to submit to the Council that it is unjust for all to be obliged to spend time and money in obtaining this certificate.

Your memorialists, therefore, pray either that the regulation

in question may be rescinded, or that a certificate of proficiency in vaccination from a duly-qualified surgeon may be recognised by the Council, as is the case with the certificate of practical midwifery. And your Memorialists will ever pray, &c.
(Signed.)

SPECIAL HOSPITALS.

WE, the undersigned, are of opinion that much detriment to the public and to the medical profession arises from the modern practice of opening small institutions, under the name of hospitals, for particular forms of disease, *in the treatment of which no other management, appliance, or attention is required* than is already supplied in the existing general hospitals.

The practice is injurious, first, because in the maintenance of numerous small establishments the funds designed for the direct relief of the sick poor are wasted in the useless multiplication of expensive buildings, salaries, and hospital appliances, and in the custom of constantly advertising to attract public attention.

London.

Sir Benjamin C. Brodie, Bart.,
President of the Royal Society.
Joseph H. Green, F.R.S.,
President of the Medical Council.
Thomas Mayo, M.D., F.R.S.,
President of Roy. Coll. of Physicians.
J. F. South,
President of Roy. Coll. of Surgeons.
Sir J. Liddell, M.D., C.B., F.R.S.
Director-Gen. Navy Med. Depart.
J. B. Gibson, M.D., C.B.,
Director-Gen. Army Med. Depart.
John Adams.
J. Alderson, M.D., F.R.S.
J. M. Arnott, F.R.S.
B. G. Babington, M.D., F.R.S.
T. G. Balfour, M.D., F.R.S.
William Baly, M.D., F.R.S.
A. W. Barclay, M.D.
T. A. Barker, M.D.
G. Hilario Barlow, M.D.
Robert Barnes, M.D.
Richard Barwell.
W. R. Basham, M.D.
Rayner W. Batten, M.B.
Lionel S. Beale, M.B., F.R.S.
J. Risdon Bennett, M.D.
Archibald Billing, M.D., F.R.S.
John Birkett.
P. Black, M.D.
W. Brinton, M.D.
J. S. Bristowe, M.D.
Charles Brooke, M.A., F.R.S.
T. Bryant.
G. Budd, M.D., F.R.S.
G. Burrows, M.D., F.R.S.
G. Busk, F.R.S.
G. W. Callender.
E. Canton.
T. K. Chambers, M.D.
T. F. Chilver.
W. D. Chowne, M.D.
Sir J. Clark, Bart., M.D., F.R.S.
Andrew Clark, M.D.
F. Le Gros Clark.
J. Lockhart Clarke, F.R.S.
Nathaniel Clifton.
N. H. Clifton.

London—(continued.)

Edward Cock.
John Conolly, M.D.
W. White Cooper.
Charles T. Coote, M.D.
Holmes Coote.
James Copland, M.D., F.R.S.
G. Critchett.
T. B. Curling, F.R.S.
E. Cutler.
Campbell de Morgan.
J. L. H. Down, M.B.
John Erichsen.
Arthur Farre, M.D., F.R.S.
F. J. Farre, M.D.
Robert Ferguson, M.D.
W. Fergusson, F.R.S.
G. T. Fincham, M.D.
W. H. Flower.
J. Cooper Forster.
J. F. France.
Patrick Fraser, M.D.
H. W. Fuller, M.D.
A. B. Garrod, M.D., F.R.S.
George G. Gascoven.
John Gay.
Henry Gervis.
S. J. Goodfellow, M.D.
R. D. Goolden, M.D.
R. D. Grainger, F.R.S.
Henry Gray, F.R.S.
G. T. Gream, M.D.
W. W. Gull, M.D.
S. O. Habershon, M.D.
T. Hammerton.
Henry Hancock.
C. J. Hare, M.D.
George Harley, M.D.
Cæsar H. Hawkins, F.R.S.
Charles Hawkins.
Francis Hawkins, M.D.
E. Headland.
Mitchell Henry.
Prescott G. Hewett.
J. Braxton Hicks, M.D.
Thomas Hillier, M.D.
W. A. Hillman.
John Hilton, F.R.S.

London—(continued.)

Francis Hird.
Luther Holden.
Sir H. Holland, M.D., F.R.S.
T. Holmes.
Barnard Holt.
C. Holthouse.
J. W. Hulke.
Jonathan Hutchinson.
William Jenner, M.D.
George Johnson, M.D.
H. C. Johnson.
C. H. Jones, M.D., F.R.S.
Sidney Jones, M.B.
T. Wharton Jones, F.R.S.
W. H. Judd.
F. Kiernan, F.R.S.
W. S. Kirkes, M.D.
S. A. Lane.
E. Lankester, M.D., F.R.S.
P. M. Latham, M.D.
William Lawrence, F.R.S.
Henry Lee.
H. Letheby, M.B.
Waller Lewis, M.B.
E. A. Lloyd.
Sir Chas. Locock, Bart., M.D.
James Luke, F.R.S.
G. Macilwain.
F. W. Mackenzie, M.D.
G. Mackmurdo, F.R.S.
J. O. M'William, M.D., F.R.S.
W. O. Markham, M.D.
John Marshall, F.R.S.
Sir J. R. Martin, C.B., F.R.S.
C. F. Maunder.
C. H. Moore.
C. Murchison, M.D.
E. W. Murphy, M.D.
J. W. Ogle, M.D.
Henry Oldham, M.D.
Richard Owen, M.D., F.R.S.
W. E. Page, M.D.
James Paget, F.R.S.
Nicholas Parker, M.D.
E. A. Parkes, M.D.
R. Partridge, F.R.S.
F. W. Pavy, M.D.

London—(continued.)

T. B. Peacock, M.D.
Benjamin Phillips, F.R.S.
C. H. Phillips.
H. A. Pitman, M.D.
A. Poland.
George D. Pollock.
H. Power, M.B.
Richard Quain, F.R.S.
C. B. Radcliffe, M.D.
F. H. Ramsbotham, M.D.
G. Owen Rees, M.D., F.R.S.
J. Russell Reynolds, M.D.
H. Hyde Salter, M.D., F.R.S.
W. S. Savory, M.B., F.R.S.
E. J. Seymour, M.D., F.R.S.
Alexander Shaw.
S. W. Sibley.
F. Sibson, M.D., F.R.S.
E. H. Sieveking, M.D.
John Simon, F.R.S.
F. C. Skey, F.R.S.
H. Spencer Smith.
Thomas Smith.
W. Tyler Smith, M.D.
Samuel Solly, F.R.S.
H. H. Southey, M.D., F.R.S.
Edward Stanley, F.R.S.
A. P. Stewart, M.D.
T. A. Stone.
H. Thompson, M.D.
Henry Thompson.
J. Toynbee, F.R.S.
Alexander Ure.
C. Waller, M.D.
W. H. Walshe, M.D.
Haynes Walton.
Nathaniel Ward.
Stephen H. Ward, M.D.
Thomas Watson, M.D., F.R.S.
W. Woodham Webb, M.D.
F. Weber, M.D.
John Webster, M.D., F.R.S.
S. Wilks, M.D.
C. J. B. Williams, M.D., F.R.S.
W. H. Willshire, M.D.
John Wood.
Thomas Wormald.

Aberystwith.

Henry Bell, M.D.

Aylesbury.

Robert Ceely.

Barnstaple.

Richard Budd, M.D.
Michael Cooke.
William Curry.
James Ford.
C. H. Gamble.

Bath.

W. H. Brace.
William Davis, M.D.
R. W. Falconer, M.D.
R. T. Gore.
George Norman.
John Soden.

Bedford.

R. Dennis Hacon.
J. Harris.
R. C. Hurst.

Birkenhead.

W. G. Johnson.
C. E. Prior, M.D.
H. W. Sharpin.
W. Thurnall.
G. Wharton, M.D.
C. O. Baylis, M.D.
William Chennalls.
S. D. Downing.
C. Evans.
C. Hayes Higgins, M.D.

Birmingham.

J. F. Stevenson, M.D.
J. Theodorick Vale.
Thomas S. Walker.
Alfred Baker.
David Bolton.
Wm. Sands Cox, F.R.S.
D. W. Crompton.
Bell Fletcher, M.D.
Oliver Pemberton.
James Russell, M.D.
James F. West.

Bolton.

F. S. Ferguson, M.D.
J. B. Garstang.
John Livy, M.D.
George Mallett.
James Pendlebury.
Robert Settle, M.D.
R. H. Meade.
W. Parkinson.
J. Poppleton.
J. N. Terry.