to prepare a statement of the facts with reference to Mr. Sheridan Wardley's assumption of medical titles, and transmit it to the editors of the medical journals and Medical Directory."

Mr. Sheridan Wardley is described in the Medical Directories as "L.R.C.S. Edin. 1848; M.B. Toronto, Canada, 1850; Corr. Memb. Toronto Med. Soc. Author of 'Wardley on Infant Management;' 'A Voice from a Young Surgeon;' 'The Adventures of a Medical Student.'" In the Directory for 1856 he is styled "Hon. Surg. Nottingham Disp." The following are answers to enquiries made of the secretary of the Edinburgh College of Surgeons and the registrar of the University of Toronto.

Duke-street, Edinburgh, March 12th, 1858.

SIR,—I do not find Mr. Sheridan Wardley's name in the list of licentiates of the College, and I beg to enclose a letter addressed to him, to which probably you will be so good as apply for an answer and forward it to me.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary,
Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh.
E. C. Buckoll, Esq.,
Hon. Sec. Med.-Chir. Society, Nottingham.

Duke-street, Edinburgh, March 12th, 1858.

SIR,—I observe that your name appears in the London and Provincial Medical Directory, of this and previous years, as a licentiate of this College of 1848; and as I am not aware that you ever obtained the diploma of the College, I must beg you to inform me when you did so, and whether it was by your authority that your name appears with that addition in the Directory. I request your early reply.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary,
Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh.
Richard Sheridan Wardley, Esq.,
Nottingham.

University of Toronto, April 5th, 1858.

SIR,—I have had the honour to receive your communication of the 16th ultimo, and have made a careful search amongst the records of this University for the name of Richard Sheridan Wardley, and without success. You will receive herewith a certificate of that fact.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. H. MORRIS, Registrar.
E. C. Buckoll, Esq.,
Hon. Sec. Nottingham Med.-Chir. Society,
Nottingham, England.

"I, James Henry Morris, M.A., Registrar of the University of Toronto, do hereby certify that I have carefully examined the register of this University, and that I cannot find the name of Richard Sheridan Wardley appearing therein. In witness whereof I do hereby set my hand and seal of this University, on this fifth day of April, A.D. 1858.

J. H. MORRIS, Registrar.
University of Toronto,
Province of Canada."

L.S.

DYSPNŒA FROM WEAK HEART.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—THE LANCET of the 12th ultimo contains the report of two cases narrated by Dr. Ogier Ward, before the Medical Society of London, in which he states that he believes "the dyspnœa in these cases arose from the heart being too weak to send a proper supply of blood through the lungs." This, I imagine, must be the cause of dyspnœa in the aged much more frequently than is usually supposed, in support of which the following case offers an example:—

An old lady, aged eighty-four, in whom no structural disease of either heart or lungs can be found, is frequently attacked with most distressing dyspnœa. At the commencement of the attack, her pulse becomes smaller, then intermits, and, if unrelieved, it becomes quite imperceptible, her breathing becomes most distressing, and each gasp appears as if it would be the last. If in this condition a little stimulus be administered—either the compound spirit of ether, the chloride of ether, or the sesquicarbonate of ammonia—she begins to improve, the pulse returns to its natural calibre and regularity, and the dyspnœa disappears simultaneously, and she continues in a comfortable state for days and sometimes for weeks without a remission.

The case has extended over a period of twelve months, and the last attack was relieved by small and frequently-repeated doses of the sesquicarbonate of ammonia.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. G. BARFORD, M.R.C.S.
Wokingham, Berks, June, 1858.

ABSCESS OF THE LIVER AND RIGHT KIDNEY.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In THE LANCET of Oct. 10th, 1857, p. 361, there is the "Report of a Case of Abscess of the Liver and Right Kidney," and you will find upon reference that I said, "that guided by the action of Nature in the case, it was not my intention to expedite the closure of the fistulous communication then still existing with the kidney." To this plan I adhered; and I have the pleasure of informing you, that eight months having now elapsed, the wound has completely healed, and the patient is in every sense quite well.

I shall feel obliged by your insertion of this note, as it completes the history of the case.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

Harrow-road, June, 1858.

WM. THORN, M.D.

SCOTLAND.

(FROM OUR EDINBURGH CORRESPONDENT.)

It is painful to have to assert that the cloud of discord hangs more heavily over Edinburgh than elsewhere; nevertheless, this seems to be the case, judging from many instances of no distant date. At elections for medical chairs, especially, this fact may be observed. At the election for the Chair of Chemistry on the 28th ult., the name of Dr. Blyth having been withdrawn, the town-clerk stated that a letter had been received from Dr. Douglas MacLagan on the subject of the election, with a request that it should be read. In his letter Dr. MacLagan states that Dr. Simpson called on him the previous evening with a request that he should withdraw the name of Dr. Anderson as a candidate. To this Dr. MacLagan refused to accede; upon which it is stated that Dr. Simpson observed, "Two of Dr. Anderson's leading supporters will leave him." Dr. MacLagan continues: "On my still declining to take any steps in this matter, Dr. Simpson said to me, 'Then Dr. Anderson, next year, will lose his appointment as chemist to the Highland Society.' To this I replied that it was not the gift of the Town Council, and they could not work the result." Dr. Simpson's reply, writes Dr. MacLagan, was, "It shall be worked." It is very much to be regretted that this conversation, whether the identical one or not, should have been brought before the public. Dr. Playfair's election amounted to a certainty; and that which was purely a *tête-à-tête*, might have remained so. At the close of the proceedings a letter was read from Dr. Simpson, which it only justice to insert here: "I have this moment had a letter of Dr. D. MacLagan to the Lord Provost placed in my hands. Allow me merely to state that Dr. MacLagan's account of our interview is quite incorrect in various particulars; that I called out of kindness both to Dr. MacLagan and Dr. Anderson, and for the good of the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow; and that I am greatly astonished indeed to find any gentleman make thus a public use of a private conversation." Thus the matter rests: *requiescat in pace!* The result of the election was, as everyone anticipated, in favour of Dr. Lyon Playfair; the numbers being—for Dr. Playfair, 25; for Dr. Anderson, 9: whereupon Dr. Playfair was declared duly elected.

For some time past the progress of the University Bill has been watched with lively interest, and, despite the opposition of the Town Council, a successful result seems to be no longer a matter of doubt. One great and singular imperfection, however, exists—namely, the exclusion of the medical graduates from the government of the Universities. When it is recollected that Edinburgh owes her high collegiate status to the reputation of her medical schools, has fourteen medical chairs, and confers annually a far greater number of degrees in medicine than in arts, such an exclusion appears impolitic and unjust. Considerable feeling has therefore been evinced on the subject, and, with a view to remedy the evil, a large meeting of graduates was held in St. George's Hall on the 29th ultimo. Dr. Begbie occupied the chair, and resolutions condemnatory of the exclusion were passed. It has been affirmed that the professors were adverse to the cause of the graduates, and the presence of several at the meeting called forth a suggestion that a memorial on the subject should be sent from them. Dr. Gairdner thought this should have been done long ago—an expression which threw the *onus probandi* upon Dr. Christison,