in the trade, Mr. Alderman invented another plan, by which the arms could adjust themselves independently, by working with the back of the couch, or could be thrown back or taken off, so that when a patient required a reading-desk, it could work with the arm, and be always kept to the sight of the eye. The above illustrations show the various ways in which this couch can be fitted up, and the variety of positions that can be attained by it. The points of action are marked in the diagrams 1, 2, 3, and 4. These are worked by a small windlass,

and are quite independent of each other, so that it is quite impossible for any part of the mechanism to get out of order. There are minor details, into which it is scarcely necessary to enter, but, taken together, they provide for every movement, every position, and every want of the patient. To appreciate Mr. Alderman's inventions properly, they must be inspected, and we strongly recommend all interested in the subject to examine for themselves these most useful specimens of mechanism.

In addition to the couch, Mr. Alderman has also invented, 1. A graduating self-adjusting invalid chair, in which the back, the seat, the arms, and the leg-rest, all work at the same time, so that not a muscle of the patient need be disturbed; and in order that he may get off or on, on either side, the arms are made to take off. 2. A self-adjusting equilibrium carrying-chair, by which a patient can be conveyed up-and down-stairs with perfect ease and safety, the chair always adjusting itself imperceptibly to the patient, and enabling the persons who support him to walk quite erect, with their arms down, and

without unnecessary exertion. This chair has also a stand upon legs, so that it can be used as an easy chair also. 3. A suspensory principle for lifting and suspending a patient from the bed whilst a clean blanket or sheet is supplied; whilst suspended the patient can be turned on either side so as to have his wounds dressed if it be required. 4. An improved spinal or sofa carriage, with a lifting couch, which has a stand upon easy castors for the room, so that a patient may remain upon the couch night and day, and go out for an airing when it is desired.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS.

At a meeting of the Poor-law medical officers of the parish of St. Mary, Newington, held at Walworth on Feb. 14th, 1856, —present, Mr. Lowne, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Perrin, and Dr. Marsh,—

It was resolved unanimously that Geo. G. Lowne, Esq., be elected secretary and treasurer.

That the above-named gentlemen do form an association for the purpose of affording every possible support to the excellent movement commenced by Mr. Griffin in aid of the Poor-law medical officers.

That a subscription of five shillings per quarter be at once entered upon, in order to meet the necessary expenses attending the petition to Parliament.

That a copy of the above resolutions be forwarded to the medical periodicals.

That this meeting cannot separate without expressing its deep sense of gratitude to Mr. Griffin for his strenuous and untiring exertions on behalf of his professional brethren, on so important a question, and that a copy of the same be forthwith transmitted to that gentleman.

MR. GRIFFIN'S APPEAL TO THE POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS.

At a meeting of the medical officers of the Uckfield Union, held on the 13th instant at Uckfield, it was resolved unanimously,—

1st. That the thanks of this meeting be tendered to Mr. Griffin for his exertions in the cause of the Union medical officers.

2nd. That Mr. George Holman be appointed local secretary and treasurer.

3rd. That a subscription of five shillings per quarter be paid to the local secretary to defray the necessary expenses.

4th. That this meeting entirely concur in the suggestions

contained in Mr. Griffin's circular, and pledge themselves to give them their best support.

5th. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to Mr. Griffin and the journals.

HENRY HOLMAN, Chairman.	} Medical Officers of the Uckfield Union.
CHAS. PENRICE,	
JOHN JONES,	
GEORGE HOLMAN,	
W. A. BRYDEN,	
STEPHEN MOYER,	

The surgeons of the Wisbeach Union held a meeting on the 9th instant, in support of Mr. Griffin's movement, when the following resolutions were passed:—

1st.—Seeing that it is in vain to expect relief from the local boards, and that the Poor-law Board is unable, or unwilling to afford it, it is expedient to petition Parliament to the following effect:—

“(A) That the salaries be re-adjusted on a fixed ratio, in proportion to the pauper population and the acreage; that it be paid by Government, re-adjusted every five years, and only cover attendance on permanent paupers.

“(B) That attendance on casual paupers be paid for out of the poor-rates, at so much per case, in proportion to distance.

“(C) That the fee for midwifery cases be fixed by the Commissioners in proportion to distance, and that the schedule for extra fees be extended to embrace all severe surgical cases.”

2nd.—That Mr. Wallace be appointed to act as local secretary, and that each member subscribe 2s. 6d. a quarter towards all necessary expenses.

3rd.—That the local secretary be requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions, with the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Griffin for his exertions in their cause, and that he also send a copy to the medical journals.

MEDICAL HONOURS.—Dr. Forbes Winslow has been elected Vice-President of the Juridical Society.