closes the Report. Space has precluded us from going beyond the mere outlines of this highly interesting Report, but we shall hope to recur to some of its more striking details at an early date.

Correspondence.

"Audi alteram partem."

TREATMENT OF EXTERNAL ANEURISM.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Will you permit me to correct two lines in your report of the meeting of the Medico-Chirurgical Society on the 9th inst.? I am therein stated to have said that "it was not necessary to resort to any means whatever to cure external aneurism: that I cured it in twelve days by low diet."

The impossibility of any surgeon making such a statement must be evident to your readers; but still I think it better to draw attention to the fact, as it might be quoted elsewhere. I have never seen but the one case of external aneurism—viz., that which I then brought forward—cured by position alone, but I believe that in similar instances, where the aneurism is small and entire, and the heart's action feeble, consolidation may take place as readily as in that instance. I never tried the effect in any case before, though I have met with some where I believe cure would have equally ensued.

In reference to the word "starvation," it is quite out of place wherever used. The diet is simply to be suited to each particular case, generally "restricted in quantity, but nutritious in quality."

Before concluding, I may make one observation in reference to the "*Dublin method* of treating aneurism." We have no such thing. The surgeons of Dublin treat each separate case as it occurs, by ligature, compression, or otherwise, just as the case requires, but, as a *general rule*, by compression.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOLLIFFE TUFNELL,

Vice-President, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

December, 1873.

"A GRATUITOUS MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH."

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—My attention has been directed to an article that appeared in your journal last week, in which you do me a great injustice. Your remarks have been copied into a local paper, and, as they are calculated to injure me in the good opinion of my professional brethren, both locally and generally, I must ask you to give as much prominence to my explanation as you have already given to your condemnation of my (supposed) unprofessional conduct.

You state that "Dr. Reid, a member of the Town Council of Pembroke, to save the ratepayers, has actually offered to give his services gratuitously" as medical officer of health for the borough. This I most positively deny. On the contrary, I have, since my election in November, 1872 (not "last November," as you state), repeatedly urged the Town Council to comply with the Act of Parliament, and appoint the necessary officers at sufficient salaries. Where you obtained the information upon which your remarks are based I do not know (nor is it material), but I will give you a brief account of the discussion, so far as I was personally engaged in it, and leave you to judge whether I have acted "unprofessionally" or not.

It happened that I entered the Council-room very late, when the subject of the appointment of a medical officer had been under discussion for a considerable time. As I entered, one of the members of the Council was referring to the circumstance that there were two medical men in the corporation who, he said, had sought to be returned by the ratepayers, and he thought it was the duty of these gentlemen to serve the ratepayers for nothing. I immediately got

up and—I give you my exact words as transcribed from a shorthand writer's notes:—"Dr. Reid said—Mr. Mayor, I have come in rather late, but heard the latter part of what Mr. Dawkins said. I am on the Sanitary Board for Pembroke, and shall be happy to give any assistance, but I am rather at a loss, as I have not heard all the discussion. I may say, however, that you will have to appoint a medical officer sooner or later." At a subsequent period of the meeting the following resolution was put and carried by a large majority:—

"That Mr. Lanning (the clerk) be requested to reply to the Local Government Board's letter of the 24th inst., stating that at their annual meeting on the 9th November last the sanitary committees were appointed for the year, on which committees there are two medical gentlemen acting; and also that at the same annual meeting two inspectors of nuisances were appointed for the year. They therefore hope that these appointments will be allowed to continue for the current year, when the Council will proceed to the election of the necessary sanitary officers."

I again rose and protested against the resolution as an evasion of the Act of Parliament, and stated that I would not act as a substitute for a medical officer of health, but that when any subject connected with the health of the borough came before the Council, I should be happy to give them the benefit of my professional opinion. At the same time, I cautioned the Council that if they did not make the appointment, the Local Government Board would send down a sealed order for them to do so, as had already been done in the case of the port sanitary appointments. I enforced my remarks by telling the Council that they might as well ask a printer, who happened to be a member, to do all the corporation printing for nothing, or a publican, another member, to supply the Council with liquor, as to expect me to undertake the duties they wished to thrust upon me. I could give you a verbatim report of what I said, but I fear it would be encroaching too much upon your space. I trust I have said enough to satisfy you and your readers that I have not deserved the strong reproof that you have thought proper (doubtless through a deficient knowledge of the facts of the case) to inflict upon me. I entertain a very strong feeling that public bodies should set an example to private individuals in obeying the laws of the land, and I would be the last person in the world to support or encourage, much less originate, such a subterfuge as that which you attribute to me. As to "saving the ratepayers," I am sure that the more fully the Public Health Act is put into operation, the less sickness there will be, and consequently the less pauperism, and, as a natural sequence, diminished poor-rates.

Hoping, as an act of simple justice, you will insert this letter in your next issue,

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

DOUGLAS A. REID, M.D.

Melville House, Pembroke, Dec. 20th, 1873.

PROFESSIONAL REMUNERATION AT PLYMOUTH.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I brought two charges against the Plymouth physicians: one, that in consultation with the general practitioners they paid two visits for one guinea; the other, that when attending a patient alone, they paid three, four, and even five visits for a guinea. To both charges "guilty" is pleaded, the plea being somewhat oddly accompanied with the most emphatic denial of the truth of my statements. This denial rests upon the fact stated by Dr. Clay and Dr. Prance, that they never pay more than three visits for the guinea. We are thankful for small mercies, and for this one among the rest; but I don't think we shall be convinced that *seven shillings* a visit is a very dignified charge for a consulting physician. I accept with pleasure the disclaimers as to the fourth and fifth visit made by these gentlemen, but it is curious that Mr. Cutcliffe, who has had a longer experience of this matter than I have, should have so strongly endorsed my statement, "from his own personal experience." It is also curious to find the wonderful unanimity of opinion which exists amongst the general practitioners here as to the numerous visits which physicians pay their patients for a guinea.

I decline to introduce the personal element into this discussion, and must therefore content myself with general statements. As to appealing to the local Medical Societies, that is a step to which I have not the least personal objection, but if Dr. Prance had read his LANCET he would have perceived that my letter was only a small contribution to the discussion which has been from time to time opened in your columns as to the best means of raising professional charges throughout the country. Here we are paying twice as much as was paid fifty years ago for many articles of necessity, and our professional charges are the same, or even less than they were then.

The fault lies with the leaders of the profession both in town and country, and until they amend their ways there is little chance of improvement.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully.

Devonport, Dec. 20th, 1873.

W. P. SWAIN, F.R.C.S.

Obituary.

HENRY W. FULLER, M.D., F.R.C.P.,
PHYSICIAN TO ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL.

DR. FULLER died on Thursday, Dec. 18th, 1873, after a short illness. He was the son of Mr. Fuller, the well-known and highly respected apothecary in Piccadilly, whose father had practised before him in the same house, now occupied by Mr. Fuller, the brother of the subject of the present memoir. Dr. Henry Fuller was born in 1820, and was educated at Rugby under Dr. Arnold; in 1838 he entered at Caius College, Cambridge, where he became Tancred Scholar. Simultaneously with his entry at Cambridge Dr. Fuller became a student at St. George's Hospital (of which his father and grandfather had been visiting apothecaries), and in 1843 he took the degree of M.B. In 1847 he joined the College of Physicians, and in 1848 became assistant-physician to St. George's Hospital. He became M.D. in 1851, and F.R.C.P. in 1852, and in 1857 succeeded Dr. Nairne as physician to St. George's, of which hospital he was senior physician at the time of his death.

Dr. Fuller published in 1852 a work "On Rheumatism, Rheumatic Gout, and Sciatica," which reached a third edition; in 1862 a work "On Diseases of the Chest," and in 1863 one "On Diseases of the Heart and Great Vessels," and these works were systematically advertised in such a way as to call for notice in these columns a year or two ago. Dr. Fuller was successful in attracting a large *clientèle*, and was much esteemed by the medical attendants of the middle classes of society, but cannot be said to have ever occupied a leading position in London. He was a sound and careful, if not brilliant, practitioner, and had great faith in drugs, which he ordered in large quantities and in peculiar combinations. Amiable and well-meaning in his disposition, Dr. Fuller will be regretted by numerous friends as well as by the large family which he leaves.

THOMAS TURNER, F.R.C.S.,
MANCHESTER.

THIS eminent provincial surgeon died on the 17th December, in his eighty-first year. Born at Truro, he began the study of medicine at Bristol at an early age, and subsequently was a pupil of Sir Astley Cooper, and for two years continued his studies in Paris. Mr. Turner became a member of the College of Surgeons in 1816, and immediately afterwards became surgeon to the Manchester Workhouse, which office he resigned after three years to commence practice in Manchester, where he spent the remainder of his long and useful life. In 1822 Mr. Turner began lecturing on anatomy and physiology, and in 1824 he succeeded in starting a complete medical school with the co-operation of the chemist Dalton, Mr. Kinder Wood, Mr. Ransome, and Mr. (now Sir James) Bardsley. This was the first provincial medical school recognised by the licensing boards, though courses of lectures had previously been recognised in Manchester, in the school of anatomy founded by the late Mr. Jordan, and elsewhere. Mr. Turner soon took the greatest interest in the welfare of the school, in which he

lectured for upwards of thirty years, and he lived to see it affiliated with Owens College, and about to enter upon a new and wider sphere of usefulness. In 1831 Mr. Turner was selected surgeon to the Manchester Royal Infirmary, and held office for twenty-five years, when he became consulting surgeon. He was elected a Fellow of the College of Surgeons in 1843, and was elected into the Council in 1865, being the second provincial surgeon so elected. He held office until last July, when he declined to be nominated for re-election.

Mr. Turner was an able surgeon, and soon gained a large practice both in Manchester and in consultation throughout the surrounding country. This did not, however, prevent his keeping up with the progress of science, and in 1843 he was appointed professor of physiology to the Royal Institution of Manchester, where he delivered annually a course of lectures, holding the appointment to the last. He also originated the Manchester and Salford Sanitary Association, and was chief promoter of the Infant Deaf and Dumb Schools, of which he laid the foundation-stone in 1859. In fact, Mr. Turner occupied a very prominent position in Manchester, and his loss will be deeply felt by all classes of society.

Mr. Turner was a Fellow of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, but did not contribute to its "Transactions." He was also a Fellow of the Linnæan and Harveian Societies. He was the author of "Outlines of Medico-Chirurgical Science," "Observations on Aneurism and Hæmorrhage," "Provincial Medical Education," a "Treatise on Dislocations of the Astragalus and Injuries of the Foot," and a "Retrospect of Anatomy and Physiology."

LOUIS AGASSIZ.

THE most versatile of living naturalists is no more. Louis Agassiz died in New York on the 14th inst., in his sixty-seventh year. He was a Swiss, having been born at Orbe, in the Canton de Vaud, where his father was a Protestant pastor. Educated at Biel and Lausanne, he completed his studies, with a view to the medical profession, at Zurich, Heidelberg, and Munich. Natural history, however, was his favourite pursuit, and comparative anatomy his speciality. At Munich he attached himself to Spix and Martius, interested by their travels in Brazil, and, on the death of the former, he co-operated with Martius in a monograph on the fishes of that country, comprising 120 species, many of them being little known. Prosecuting the inquiries thus inaugurated, he investigated and classified the salmonidæ and fresh-water fishes of Europe, publishing the first part of a great treatise on this subject at Neuchâtel in 1839, which was followed, at a few years' interval, by the second and third parts. The embryology of the salmonidæ formed the subject of his next work, which he brought out with the aid of Carl Vogt.

Earlier than any of these monographs he had investigated the subject of fossil fishes, and published the result in his "Recherches sur les Poissons fossils" (Neuchâtel, 1833-41). He visited England to study the fossil strata, and in 1844 published an account of the treasures found in the old red sandstone of the Devonian system. Similar studies were embodied in his treatises "Description des Echinodermes fossiles de la Suisse," "Monographie des Echinodermes vivants et fossiles," "Etudes Critiques sur les Mollusques Fossiles," and "Mémoire sur les Moulles des Mollusques."

His next field was the glacial system of his native land. His "Études sur les Glaciers," published in 1840 at Neuchâtel, took the scientific world by surprise, which rose into admiration on the appearance of his second work on the same theme at Paris in 1847.

In that year he left Neuchâtel, where he had held the Natural History chair since 1838, for Boston, U.S., whither he had been invited to hold a similar chair in the University of Cambridge. In 1852 he went to Charleston, in South Carolina, in whose Medical College he filled the chair of Comparative Anatomy for two years, after which he resigned the post, and returned to Cambridge. His name and fame in the Old World stood as high as in the New, and after being awarded a prize by the French Academy of Sciences, he was invited to Paris to fill the chair of the Faculty of Science. Like all original investiga-