of the State of Pennsylvania in session in Philadelphia, Sept. 22, 1915:

Whereas, An important drug, necessary for the cure of disease and likewise the prevention thereof, is no longer available to the medical profession of this country by reason of the European war, and

Whereas, This drug has been produced in this country, but cannot be supplied to physicians because its manufacturer is protected by patents, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania that the Secretary of the Interior or the Commissioner of Patents be respectfully urged to call upon the patentees to supply this drug or permit the same to be supplied by others, or to take such other means as his judgment may dictate to relieve the existing condition.

—Ed.]

Sixteenth Century Medical Poets

To the Editor.—The following stanzas by Dr. John Halle, written in 1564, were given me by Dr. George Dock of St. Louis in 1905. To the best of my recollection, Dr. Dock found them while browsing about among the old book shops of London, during the preceding summer. The verses contain much good advice applicable to medical practice today.

I have been unable to trace the history of John Halle. His name is not mentioned in the "Biographical Memoirs of the Most Celebrated Physicians and Surgeons" by Pettigrew, published in London about 1840. I have understood that he was the Dr. John Halle who married the eldest daughter of William Shakespeare. She was born in 1583. The verses were written in 1564, nineteen years before her birth, which would throw some doubt, although it would not contradict, this historical statement. As a commentary on gentlemanly conduct and medical ethics of the sixteenth century, I trust the verses will prove interesting to your readers.

WILLARD J. STONE, M.D., Toledo, Ohio.

GOODLYE DOCTRINE AND INSTRUCTION

By John Halle, 1564

<p>When thou arte calde at anye time, A patient to see; And doste perceave the cure to grate, And ponderous for thee:</p> <p>See that thou laye disdeyne aside, And pride of thyne owne skyll: And thinke no shame counsell to take, But rather wyth good wyll.</p> <p>Gette one or two of experite men, To helpe thee in that nede; And make them partakers wyth thee, In that worke to procede.</p> <p>For in so doinge, thine honestye Thou shalte well kepe and save; Also thy patiente thereby Right greate comforte shall have.</p> <p>By thys meanes thou mayste hap- pye learne, Ryghte seldome sene before; Of thee, or hym, whych fyrste thee taughte, Though thou have cunnynge store.</p> <p>And also if oughte goe a wrye, Or hinder in thy cure, The one maye mende the others faulte, While friendship dothe endure.</p>	<p>The wounded or sore man also, Shall have no cause to grudge In you suche uniformitye, Whyhe he maye see and judge.</p> <p>But one thinge note, when two or moore Together joyned be; Aboute the paynfull patient, See that ye doe agree.</p> <p>See that no discorde doe arise, Nor be at no debate; For that shall sore discomferte hym, That is in sycke estate.</p> <p>For noughte can more discomferte him, That lies in grieve and payne, Then heare that one of you dothe beare To other suche disdeine.</p> <p>Wherefore what so ye have to saye, In thinges about your arte; Let it be done among yourselves, In secrete and a parte.</p> <p>With one consent uniformlye Comforte the wounded man; But unto some good frende of hys Express all that ye can.</p> <p>See thou dispraise none other man His error though thou knowe; For sure an other for thy plage, Shall then like curtyse showe.</p>
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[COMMENT.—Dr. Stone seems to have somewhat confused Dr. John Halle with Dr. John Hall.

John Hall, who was born in 1575 and died in 1635, married Susanna Shakespeare, June 5, 1607. He is reported to have been a medical man of more than the average knowledge and ability, and was deservedly held in high esteem. Dr. Hall could not have been the author of the poem printed above if it was written in 1564. He was, however, the author of a book of which the following description occurs in the Surgeon-General's Index:

Select observations on English bodies; or, cures, both empericall and historically, performed upon very eminent persons in desperate diseases. First written in Latine by . . . living at Stratford upon Avon in Warwick-shire, where he was very famous, as also in the counties adjacent, as appears by these observations drawn out of severall hundreds of his, as choysiest. Now put into English for common benefit by James Cooke.

Dr. John Halle was borne in 1529. His biography is published in J. Aikin's "Biographical Memoirs," London, 1780, p. 181. In a series of articles on Archaeologia Anatomica by E. Barclay-Smith, published in the *Journal of Anatomy and Physiology*, 1900, xxxiv, 275, his work is especially discussed. He is the author of a book thus described in the Surgeon-General's catalogue.

An historical espoustation against the beastlye abusers, both of chyrurgerie and physyke, in oure tyme: with a goodlye doctrine and instruction, necessarye to be marked and followed of all true chirurgiens.

It is probable that the poem printed above is a portion of this work. Barclay-Smith states that:

The "Compendious work of Anatomie, more utile and profitable than any heretofore in the Englyshe tongue publyshed," annexed to Mr. John Halle's "A most excellent and learned worke of Chirurgerie," is perhaps the earliest anatomical treatise written by an Englishman, and published in England, now existent, but Halle is far from being the earliest English anatomical writer of whom we have record.

So far as can be determined, the first edition of his work has disappeared completely.

Barclay-Smith states that Halle, like many writers of his age, was bitten with an inexpressible desire to sing. He bursts into poetry on the slightest provocation. The following poem is quoted:

<p>But chieflye the Anatomye . Ye oughte to understande: If ye will cure well anye thinge, That ye doe take in hande.</p> <p>For by the same above the reft, Ye shall greate fame deserve, The life of many from manye streightes, To save and well preserve.</p> <p>Without the knowledge of whyche arte, Thou canste not chose but erre: In all that thou shalte goe aboute Thy knowledge to preferre:</p> <p>As if ye cutte or cauterize, Or use Phlebotomye: Ye can not but erre in the same, Without Anatomye.</p> <p>He is no true Chirurgien That cannot shewe by arte, The nature of eurye member, Eche from other aparte.</p> <p>For in that noble handye worke, There dothe nothinge excell, The knowledge of Anatomye, If it be learned well.</p>	<p>Endeoure therefore by all meanes, The same to knowe and kunne, For when thou haste it perfectlye, Thine arte is halfie wunne.</p> <p>For thereby shalt thou under- stande, Of eche member in dede, Their nature and their offices, And howe they doe procede.</p> <p>And unto what good use they serve, As well the leaste as moste, And by their hurte Prognosticate, What action will be loste.</p> <p>Whereby of knowledge and greate skill, Thou shalt obtaine the brute, And men to thee in generall, For helpe shall make their sute.</p> <p>Wherefore all honour, laude and praise, To God ascribed be, The Father, Sonne, and holye Ghoste, One God and personnes three.</p>
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—Ed.]

The Fate of Bone Transplants

To the Editor.—We have received a letter from Dr. C. A. McWilliams of New York, complaining that our Conclusion 2 on experimental bone work (*THE JOURNAL*, September 18) was unfair, in that it implied that because of lack of sufficient contact and immobilization, his wounds *suppurated*.

We hasten to correct this impression, as if this interpretation were put on the conclusion it would be manifestly unfair to Dr. McWilliams.

Exactly what we meant was that there was not sufficient contact and immobilization in his dog experiments, and not sufficient contact in his three clinical cases to secure primary union between the transplant and parent bone.

So far as other criticisms of the article by Dr. McWilliams are concerned, they pertain to the scientific value of the contribution, and will be answered at another time if need be.

We hope that the foregoing explanation will make the conclusion plain.

W. L. and C. P. BROWN, El Paso, Texas.

[The foregoing letter was referred to Dr. McWilliams who replied:]

To the Editor.—The original article by Brown and Brown is loosely put together, for most authorities consider "free" grafts to be nonpedicled grafts in contradistinction to pedicled grafts (either temporary or permanent). Brown and Brown evidently use the term "free grafts" to mean *noncontacting grafts*, but without any explanation of this fact, as one has to go through the article to learn what is meant. The authors have explained in the preceding letter their use of the term "primary union" in Conclusion 2. Universal application of the term "primary union" makes