DR. COOKSON AND MR. HILL.

To the Editor of The Lancet.

SIR,—Your correspondent, Mr. R. G. Hill, has an undoubted right to submit, through the medium of your pages, to the medical public as many of my official reports as he may happen to think proper; but I maintain that he has no right to sit down and invent nonsense, and then deliberately publish it to the medical world as the product of my pen.

Mr. R. G. H.'s version of my report, dated Aug. 25, 1840, must infallibly induce your readers to impute to me the perpetration of the following outrage on common sense, and on the intelligibility of our vernacular language:—

"If seclusion must be the apparatus, it ought to be as perfect as possible."

Now my words are these—"If seclusion must be, the apparatus for it ought to be as perfect as possible." I do not mean to say that this sentence is very elegantly expressed, but it is at least intelligible; at all events, I prefer my own words to those of Mr. R. G. Hill, and I beg to be allowed to set the matter right. As to any controversy with Mr. R. G. Hill, I decline it altogether. My creed respecting restraint and non-restraint is expressed in that part of my report which Mr. R. G. H. has obligingly left intact. In that creed I shall rest satisfied until the facts contained in the small brochure, which I take the liberty of inclosing for your perusal, shall be as publicly proved to be fallacies, as they have been asserted to be truths. Since those facts were given to the public, others of a similar nature have transpired; and the disclosures made by patients after they have left our galleries, and more especially those of a gentleman who left us only last week (disclosures which ought to form a part of our coming annual report) have not tended to increase my faith in that extreme which some call the non-restraint, but which you yourself have more truly, more candidly, and more aptly termed the keeper-restraint system. I have the honour to be, Sir, yours,

W. D. COOKSON.

Lincoln, March 1, 1842.

IMPEACHED REVIEW.

To the Editor of The Lancet.

SIR,—A most malignant and miserable review of Drs. Bellingham and Mitchell's "Materia Medica," was surreptitiously foisted into the "Dublin Medical Journal" for this month. The editor of that journal is most desirous, by every means in his power, to neutralise its malicious and mischievous tendency, and regrets exceedingly that his journal should have been used as a tool of for such a purpose. We take the liberty of apprising you of the above circumstance, as a copy of the work was sent to you for review, and we have been given to understand that attempts will be made to introduce a similar article into some other of the medical journals. We have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servants,

FANNIN AND CO.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN LONDON.

List of gentlemen admitted members on Friday, March 4, 1842:—Charles Ingram; John Carter Barrett; William Godfrey Watt; Benjamin Frederick Frankis; James M'Namar; William Carson; Thomas William Ransom; Henry Day; John Balfour Buchanan; John Deighton; Frederick Hughes Kelson; Douglass Nicholas Tucker; Charles Otter Gilby.

BOOKS RECEIVED.


The Dublin Journal of Medical Science; including the latest Discoveries in Medicine, Surgery, and the Collateral Sciences. No. 61, March, 1842.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. R.—It is not usual to insert essays of such a description as that sent, unsupported by new and well-attested facts, and contributed anonymously.

A Constant Reader (New-road).—A cockade warfare would make a trumpery fight. There is no statute law against the indulgence of the fancy. Mr. Moore pronounced it to be "military;" a quality that is anybody's, and very common in absence of a better. Mr. Tappertit was a "noble captain."

Socelius.—The loss of a pint of blood by a person in health must vary with the strength of his system: one man will bear it without a trace of change, while another will fall into a faintness that may with difficulty be recovered from. Most men would become pale. After this loss, all conditions remaining the same, nature would set herself actively to work to restore the vessels to their previous fullness. The expression "a spare diet" is too indefinite to reason upon; some pints of tea, with some of broth and some pounds of bread, may be considered a spare diet, but this is not the diet to restore or maintain health; an egg for breakfast, a mutton-chop for dinner at an early hour, with a moderate evening repast and but little fluid,