duty. The time is come when all illegal practice ought to be dealt with, when qualified men should be included by legal enactment within the pale of the profession, and when unqualified men should be rigorously excluded, and, if necessary, punished. But the Apothecaries' Society, if they wield the law against illegal practice at all, in the present state of the profession, should take care to direct it against undoubtedly ignorant and criminal quackery. Heaven knows, there are hordes of quacks unpunished, with whom they might fitly deal! Let them deal with the uneducated first, and then let them proceed to the half-educated, otherwise they excite the sympathies of the public for the prosecuted party, and against the legitimate members of the profession. It seems as though a fatuity lay about the authorities: if they remain torpid, the profession views them with contempt; if they make a move, it is done in such a crab-like, hesitating manner, that to give them respect, either for act or motive, is alike impossible. Cannot they try, for once, to do something acceptable, and test the new power of indictment against a good bevy of quacks of the obscene class, who, instead of deserving the compliments of counsel, may be publicly denounced as ignorant, vicious, and mischievous impostors?

PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS OF LIVERPOOL.

A PUBLIC meeting of the medical practitioners of Liverpool and its neighbourhood, called, by general advertisement, to take into consideration the propriety of petitioning Parliament in favour of Mr. WAKLEY'S MEDICAL REGISTRATION AND MEDICAL LAW AMENDMENT BILL, was held on the 18th inst., at the Medical Institution in that town. The meeting was very numerously attended. JAMES DAWSON, Esq., Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, consulting-surgeon of the Infirmary, in the chair.

The first resolution was proposed by Sir ARNOLD J. KNIGHT, M.D., and seconded by HENRY STUBBS, Esq., Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and surgeon to the Northern Hospital:—

"That the present unsettled and unsatisfactory condition of the laws relating to the practice of medicine in Great Britain and Ireland imperatively demands the earnest consideration of the legislature."

The resolution was unanimously carried.

The second resolution was proposed by SAMUEL MACCULLOCH, Esq., M.R.C.S., consulting-surgeon to the Fever Hospital and Workhouse, and seconded by THOMAS INMAN, M.D., M.R.C.S. and L.S.A., late senior surgeon to the Fever Hospital and Workhouse, London:—

"That this Meeting regard with satisfaction the Bill which has been introduced into Parliament by Mr. WAKLEY, 'for the Registration of Qualified Medical Practitioners, and for Amending the Law relating to the Practice of Medicine.'"

The resolution was carried, with only three dissentients.

The third resolution was proposed by JOHN SUTHERLAND, M.D., senior physician to the Dispensaries, and seconded by EDWARD PARKER, Esq., M.R.C.S. & L.S.A.:—

"That a petition embodying the foregoing resolutions be signed by the chairman on behalf of the meeting, and that it be forwarded to Lord Sandon for presentation in the House of Commons."

The resolution was unanimously carried.

The fourth resolution was proposed by HENRY S. TAYLOR, Esq., member of the Royal College of Surgeons, and seconded by WILLIAM M'KEE, L.R.C.S. Edin., and L.S.A.:—

"That it is the opinion of this Meeting, that the thanks of the medical profession are due to THOMAS WAKLEY, Esq., M.P., for the zeal and energy he has displayed in the cause of medical reform; and that the secretary be requested to write to the honourable gentleman, tendering to him the thanks of the medical practitioners of Liverpool, and at the same time urging upon him not to relax in his efforts to obtain the passing of the Medical Registration Bill."

The resolution was unanimously carried.

SELECTIONS FROM THE PETITIONS

IN FAVOUR OF THE MEDICAL REGISTRATION AND MEDICAL LAW AMENDMENT BILL, AND AGAINST THE CONDUCT OF THE CORPORATIONS IN OPPOSING THE MEASURE.

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition* of Frederick Smith Garlick, residing at No. 5, Cheapside, Halifax, member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, sheweth,—

That your petitioner views with interest the proceedings of your honourable House in relation to the Bill for the Registration of the legally-qualified Practitioners, and for Amending the law relating to the Practice of Medicine in Great Britain and Ireland, and your petitioner most earnestly and fervently prays that the said Bill may, without delay, be enacted into a law. Your petitioner deeply regrets that this Bill should have encountered the opposition of the presidents and councils of the London Medical Corporations, though, at the same time, he is aware that these bodies have ever shown an unwillingness to ameliorate, or in any way to improve, the condition of their suffering brethren, and, being irresponsible, have ever turned a deaf ear to their suppliant voice. Your petitioner, therefore, earnestly intreats your honourable House to render the profession to which he has the honour to belong that aid which is altogether withheld by the Corporations before mentioned, and to grant the appointment of a Select Committee to investigate the subjects of "Medical Registration and the state of the law relating to the Practice of Medicine and Surgery" in this country.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

FREDERICK SMITH GARLICK.

* This is the second petition from Mr. Garlick; and so active is this gentleman in the cause, that even this, his second petition, was written before the motion for the Select Committee was carried in the House of Commons on the night of Thursday, the 13th inst.

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition of Michael K. O'Shea, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and member of the National Institute of Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, residing at 17, Mount-street, Lambeth, sheweth,—

That the interests of the great body of members of the College of Surgeons are not truly represented by the Council of said College. That the said Council (an irresponsible few) have monopolized to themselves any advantage to be derived from being attached to the Institution. That they have not only neglected to protect their members, but by not enforcing the by-laws of said College have done a positive injury to the usefulness of the profession, the advance of science, and the public health. That under the existing disorder of affairs, the diploma of the College is in numerous instances a mere cloak for the practice of obscenity, fraud, and quackery, thus giving encouragement to immorality, spreading disease, and causing death. That from certain documents lately issued by said Council, they admit a knowledge of these awful consequences of their neglect. That with such proofs of their total abandonment of the profession, their opposition to the Registration measure, now before your honourable House, cannot be viewed other than as adverse to the interests of the members of the College. That the more ignorant and degraded the body of the profession may be, the greater the pecuniary advantages arising to the Council. That these allegations apply to all the corporations which have petitioned against the Registration Bill. And your petitioner therefore prays your honourable House to interfere and not permit such opposition to stop the progress of a Bill well calculated to remove such evils.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

MICHAEL KEATING O'SHEA.

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition of Robert Allen Kidley, of the city of Hereford, surgeon, sheweth—

That your petitioner views with interest the proceedings of your honourable House in relation to the "Bill for the Registration of qualified Medical Practitioners, and for Amending the law relating to the Practice of Medicine in Great Britain and Ireland;" and is decidedly of opinion that the passing of the said Bill would prove of great advantage to the medical profession, and still more so to the public, as neither the Medical Corporations of London nor the other British Colleges possess adequate power, nor take steps to attain it, for the protection of their members, so that the rights of their members and the health of the public are alike sacrificed to the nefarious practices of multitudes of pretenders to the healing art. Your petitioner therefore, in common with a very large number of the profession, is greatly astonished to hear that some of the British Colleges have even petitioned against the Bill. Your petitioner confidently looks to your honourable House for protection, and fervently hopes that a Select Committee may be appointed to investigate the subjects of Medical Registration and the state of the law relating to the Practice of Medicine and Surgery in this country.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.
ROBERT ALLEN KIDLEY.

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition of Richard Savage Penkivil, residing at Sampford Peverel, Tiverton, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, sheweth,—

That your petitioner views with great regret the opposing course taken by the governing corporations to the Medical Registration Bill and Medical Law Amendment Bill, now before your honourable House. That it is the opinion of your humble petitioner that the said Colleges &c. are endeavouring to hold to themselves, as heretofore, an usurping and monopolizing power for their own selfish and exclusive interests, without regarding the best interests of the profession or public. That the above corporations are seeking to perpetuate a corrupt system of management, which recent events have made so manifest. That your petitioner considers the provisions of the Medical Registration Bill so just and equitable, securing to all members of the profession equal rights and privileges, that your petitioner fervently hopes the said Bill will without delay be passed into a law in the present session of Parliament.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.
RICHARD S. PENKIVIL.

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition of Alexander M'Gregor, residing at South Hetton, Durham, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, sheweth,—

That your petitioner views with interest the proceedings of your honourable House, in relation to the Bill "for the Registration of Qualified Medical Practitioners, and for Amending the Law relating to the Practice of Medicine in Great Britain and Ireland," and your petitioner most earnestly and fervently prays that the said Bill may without delay be enacted into a law. Your petitioner had been a member of the National Institute of Medicine and Surgery up to the day of the declaration of the Council of the Institute, to oppose the Medical Bill, by which act the said Council have betrayed the trust committed to their care, and your petitioner (in common with numerous other members of the Institute) has caused his name to be removed from the list of that body.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.
ALEXANDER M'GREGOR.

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition of William Edward Coyte Bishop, Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries, London, and late Member of the National Institute of Medicine and Surgery, sheweth,—

That your petitioner is decidedly of opinion that the enact-

ment of the Medical Registration and Medical Law Amendment Bill, now before your honourable House, would prove of much advantage to the members of the medical profession, and of still greater benefit to the public; and your petitioner therefore anxiously hopes that the said Bill may be passed into a law in this present session of Parliament.

Your petitioner begs leave to state, that the Council of the "National Institute of Medicine and Surgery," by their opposition to the main principles of this Bill, have grossly deceived their constituents, and that your petitioner, together with five other members of the Institute, in this neighbourhood, have caused their names to be erased from the list of that institution.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray,
WILLIAM EDWARD COYTE BISHOP, Easington, Durham.

PETITION OF THE FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF GLASGOW.

To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The petition of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, humbly sheweth,—

That your petitioners have observed with much satisfaction that a Bill is now before your honourable House, intituled, "A Bill for the Registration of Qualified Medical Practitioners, and for Amending the Law relating to the Practice of Medicine in Great Britain and Ireland."

They have carefully considered the provisions of the said Bill, and are of opinion, that it is calculated to prove of advantage to the medical profession, by securing a uniform system of education for students in medicine, and by protecting the regularly educated medical man in the discharge of his professional duties.

Moreover, they believe that it would be of great general utility, by shielding the public from the pretensions of unqualified persons.

Your petitioners therefore earnestly hope that your honourable House will pass the said Bill into a law.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

Signed in name and by appointment of the Faculty, and sealed with the Corporation Seal thereof, by authority of a Meeting held the tenth day of May, 1847.

GEORGE WATSON, President.

PETITION FROM STUDENTS OF MEDICINE IN FAVOUR OF THE MEDICAL BILL.

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition of the undersigned, being students for the medical profession, residing in the city of Bath and its immediate vicinity, sheweth,—

That in a Bill before your honourable House, intituled, "A Bill for the Registration of Qualified Medical Practitioners, and for Amending the Law relating to the Practice of Medicine in Great Britain and Ireland," provision is made for the registration of qualified medical practitioners, and also for securing an uniform system of education for students in medicine, and for the examination of candidates for diplomas and licences to practice medicine throughout Great Britain and Ireland; and that, believing such provisions to be highly just, and fully expedient on public grounds, in preventing, to a very great extent, the practice of quackery, which is so injurious to the profession at large; and deeming, also, that the repeal of that part of the Act 55th George III., cap. 194, which enacts that "no person shall be admitted to any examination for any certificate to practise as an apothecary, unless he shall have served an apprenticeship of not less than five years to an apothecary," would be highly beneficial to the interests of the profession, your petitioners sincerely and anxiously hope that the said Bill may be passed into a law during the present session of Parliament, and as speedily as the forms of your honourable House may permit.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

J. K. SPENDER.	G. D. FREEMAN.	J. H. CRISP.
G. BARNARD.	H. DESPLAN.	H. LAWRENCE.
H. BENGOUGH.	R. B. PEARSE.	S. LANG.
E. MAISH.	J. SMITH.	