holding his anonymous and unauthenticated letter from publication are unjust, we here insert the communication from him to which reference was made in our "Notices to Correspondents:"—

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

January 21, 1842.

Sir,—If your note, appended to Mr. Hill's communication, be intended to give him the advantage of a covered retreat, I am wasting my time;* if, however, you wish the public to see fair play, you will withdraw your editorial ægis, and let him take his chance. Mr. Hill's simple record of facts is not quite so artless a production as you seem to imagine. Mr. Hill contrasts, by means of extracts from the journals, the violence and unmanageableness of Miss A. under restraint and under seclusion, in April and August, 1840, with her docility under a non-restraint management, in December, 1841, at least a year and a half afterwards; and he ascribes the change which time has effected in the case to *non-restraint*. Mr. Hill takes good care to avoid telling you that only three months before April, 1840 (the time when Miss A. appears to have been so violent under restraint), he made a record, in his own handwriting, which tells of excessive violence under the non-restraint system, and under his own care, superintendence, and management—violence which ended in the mutilation of another patient.

From the Surgeon's Journal.

"Jan. 5. Miss A. has been unruly, and has broken the water-closet door.

"8. Miss A. is unruly; assaulted M. S., who is unimproved.

"21. Miss A. is refractory. I have given the house-medicine.

"25. Miss A. broke three panes of glass last night.

"26. Miss A. has been violent.

"30. Miss A. having broken three panes of glass in her way to her sleeping apartment, I have ordered her in future to sleep in an apartment adjoining the gallery.

"Feb. 1. M. S. has a black eye: nurse says Miss A. struck her yesterday morning.

"2. M. S. is very weak, scarcely able to stand by herself; I have desired nurse to put her to bed: the *ear* is not so much swelled.

"R. G. HILL."

Now, why did Mr. Hill not make use of these *his own* records of Miss A.'s case under his own non-restraint system, and

* The note intimated that all replies, containing allegations of fact, contradicting the statements of Mr. Hill, must be authenticated to the editor by a name and address.—
ED. L.

under *his own* management of it, for the purpose of comparison with the state of the same case three months afterwards? And why did he make use of the records he has made use of in preference? It is in your power, Mr. Editor, to enlighten the public, or to keep them in darkness upon this subject; but, for my own part, I cannot very well see how you can avoid or object to asking him the question. Perhaps, also, he may, if you require it, favour you with a statement of the nature of the injury done by Miss A. to M. S.'s *ear*, and of the appearance of that ear at this present moment. I do not wish to intrude too much upon your pages, else I might put some questions to your elegant, liberal, and zealous correspondent, the "*Convert*," who, if he was sincere in his former opinions, ought to give others who *think as he thought* credit for sincerity also.
Yours,

PHILADELPHUS.

MEDICAL REGULATIONS OF THE POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—As the contents of a letter I have this day received from the President of the Royal College of Surgeons will be interesting to many of the readers of THE LANCET, I have inclosed a copy of it, and shall feel obliged if you will insert it in your next Publication. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

THOMAS HOVELL.

Clapton, Feb. 1, 1842.

"To T. Hovell, Esq., Clapton.

"4, Berkeley-street, Feb. 1, 1842.

"My dear Sir,—I am glad to have it in my power to inform you that I have again conferred with the poor-law commissioners on the subject of the various grievances of which the surgeons employed under the poor-law complain, and they have been pleased to make such alterations in their regulations about to be issued as will redress nearly all of them; and I have a confident hope that in the course of a reasonable time the whole will be removed.

"From the various communications I have had at different times with the poor-law commissioners, and particularly with Mr. G. C. Lewis, I am convinced that the members of the medical profession have firm friends in them, and I rely as much on their friendly feelings as on the justice of the claims which may be placed before them.

"A careful inquiry has satisfied me that the total sum paid by the different boards of guardians to all the practitioners in England and Wales in charge of the poor is not half what it ought to be, according to any of

the computations or calculations which have been made, either by doctors or assistant poor-law commissioners on the subject ; and if the guardians of the poor will not consent to give reasonable remuneration to a medical man for his attendance on the poor, the public must not expect them to be fairly or honestly taken care of.

"I beg you will have the goodness to communicate the contents of this note to the gentlemen who favoured the vice-presidents and myself with their company at the college, and that you will believe me to be most truly yours,

"G. J. GUTHRIE, President."

ELEGANT EXTRACTS.

(From an inelegant Handbill.)

"MACCLESFIELD MEDICAL AID SOCIETY.

"J. TURNER, Esq., Park Green, Surgeon to the Society."

"The inhabitants of Macclesfield and its vicinity are respectfully informed, that a society is being organised, which, for a small weekly subscription, proposes to ensure to its members the benefit of medical attendance and medicine, in case of sickness."

"Whereas, for the trifling sum of *one half-penny per week* to the Macclesfield Medical Aid Society, medicine and attendance may be had."

"The committee trust that a society concentrating in itself *such advantages*, at so *small a cost*, will *meet with the approbation and patronage of the public*, as they are conscious, from the great success of similar societies in the neighbouring towns, that if this is duly appreciated, their feeble efforts will *meet with the support which they think the object deserves*."

"This society admits *families of all ages*, in sickness or in health, residing within two and a half miles of the Macclesfield Sunday School. Each member shall pay one penny for entrance. Any female member paying sixpence on or before the birth of any of her children, such children shall become full members from the date of their birth."

"All persons paying one month's subscription, in addition to the entrance fee, on or before the 1st day of January, 1842, shall be full members, and entitled to ALL THE BENEFITS OF THE SOCIETY."

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Catalogue of the Preparations illustrative of Normal, Abnormal, and Morbid Structure, Human and Comparative, constituting the Anatomical Museum of George Langstaff. London: Churchill, 1842. 8vo. Pp. 518.

On the Treatment of Stone in the Bladder by Medical and Mechanical Means. By R. Willis, M.D. London: Baillière, 1842. 8vo. Pp. 183.

An Inquiry into the Nature and Pathology of Granular Disease of the Kidney, and its Mode of Action in producing Albuminous Urine. By George Robinson. London: Churchill, 1842. 8vo. Pp. 79.

Hydropathy; or the Cold-water Cure, as practised by Vincent Priessnitz. By R. T. Claridge. London: Madden, 1842. 8vo. Pp. 318.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AMADOU COMPRESSES.—Would Mr. Wetherfield be kind enough to inform a "Country Reader" where amadou may be obtained in sufficient quantities for the purposes to which he applies it.

Mr. Prout.—The proper time for learning Latin is at home or at school. A knowledge of the language ought not to have to be acquired at the period of life when the study of medicine itself should be commencing or is in progress.

A General Practitioner, at Macclesfield, in transmitting to us the handbill, from which we have elsewhere made sufficient extracts for all useful purposes, adds,—"*Hitherto we have kept self-supporting bubbles, and other such attempts to degrade the profession, at bay; and although the medical attendance on clubs is bad enough, and but of recent introduction in this town, yet with respect to this 'medical-aid' scheme there appears to be no limit. The young man styled Esquire Turner is a partner with one of the senior medical men in Macclesfield, who would thus appear to give a colouring to the scheme, and to create a new form of outrage upon the profession, since formerly only adventurers were culprits in this way. Much indignation is manifested that so old a member of the profession should suffer his junior to become a party to such a contemptible affair.*"

J. E. should make the application; let him lay his case fairly before the lecturers; he has gentlemen to deal with, and we doubt not that he will receive a satisfactory reply. The application is unusual.

Mr. Horne's communication is an advertisement. The plan he recommends is one of daily practice in all our hospitals.

Brauntoniensis should forward copies of his letter and the reply, without which an opinion on the proceeding cannot be given.

DR. PRICHARD'S NATURAL HISTORY OF MAN.—A correspondent, under the signature of *Medicus*, makes the following complaint:—"Some weeks ago it was announced on the cover of THE LANCET that a new work, on the Natural History of Man, by Dr. Prichard, would speedily be published, to be completed in *ten monthly* parts, price of each *eighteenpence*. From the high scientific character of Dr. Prichard, and from the general usefulness of such a work, not only interesting to the medical profession but to the public at large, I instantly ordered the