through the curriculum, he is doubtless aware of the attendant expense, and perhaps it may not have occurred to him that many, who have strained every point, and struggled through their first and second years, have absolutely no alternative but to obtain some situation, where, with economy and time, they may acquire funds sufficient to prosecute their studies.

With passed men the case is widely different; instead of having only one resource, there are ample opportunities of employment for them—the three services, or, if those fail, the mercantile marine, dispensary and hospital appointments. It is therefore selfish and unjust to demand protection, and wish to create a monopoly in the only branch of the profession in which a needy student can hope to keep his head above water. Surely, Sir, men who have dispensed for perhaps five or at least three years, and completed a year or so of their hospital attendance, are equal to all the requirements of a surgery.

If the "Qualified Assistant" complained of our employment in ships and situations of responsibility, he would have reason; but I hope, and no doubt my feelings are echoed by a large section of the incipient members of the profession, that, for the sake of justice alone, Mr. Rugg's motion will terminate in smoke.

Apologizing for the length of this, and trusting to your impartiality for its insertion,

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

March, 1854.

A COUNTRY UNQUALIFIED ASSISTANT.

EXCISION OF THE WRIST-JOINT.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In the number of your journal for January 28th, under the head of "Excision of the Wrist-Joint," by Mr. Fergusson, reference is made to the case of George G—, who it appears was expected to show himself again at this hospital, so that this result of the treatment might be noted.

This man came under my care early in May, 1852, not long after his discharge from King's College Hospital, when he complained of rheumatism in his shoulders; but, on examination, it was found that the pain arose from disease of the vertebra prominens, over which there was considerable swelling and eventual sloughing. Cough, diarrhoea, night sweats, and complete paralysis supervened, and the poor fellow died on the 10th of June following.

The sinuses at the wrist exhibited an unhealthy appearance, and necrosed bone could be felt. A post-mortem examination was not allowed.

Yours faithfully,

Gainsborough, March, 1854.

D. MACKINDER, M.D.

Military and Naval Intelligence.

MILITARY.—1st. or Grenadier Regiment of Foot Guards: H. Lawrence, gent., to be assistant-surgeon. — Coldstream Guards: Assistant-surgeon C. V. Cay, from the 97th Foot, to be assistant-surgeon. — 4th Foot: Assistant-surgeon F. M. Smith, from the staff, to be assistant-surgeon. — 28th Foot: Assistant-surgeon W. H. Brice, from the staff, to be assistant-surgeon; C. G. Irwin, gent., to be assistant-surgeon, vice Marlow, promoted to the staff. — 33rd Foot: Assistant-surgeon W. M. Muir, M.D., from the 42nd Foot, to be surgeon, vice Johnston, appointed to the staff; St. John Stanley, gent., to be assistant-surgeon. — 50th Foot: P. G. Martel, gent., to be assistant-surgeon. — 59th Foot: Staff-surgeon of the second class R. M'Whardie, M.D., to be surgeon, vice Braybrooke, appointed to the staff. — 77th Foot: R. G. Burton, gent., to be assistant-surgeon. — 93rd Foot: R. Menzies, gent., to be assistant-surgeon.

HOSPITAL STAFF.—Surgeon W. Braybrooke, from the 59th Foot, to be staff-surgeon of the second class, vice M'Wharrie, appointed to the 59th Foot; surgeon J. T. O. Johnston, M.D., from the 33rd Foot, to be staff-surgeon of the second class; assistant-surgeon E. Howard, from the 20th Foot, to be staff-surgeon of the second class; assistant-surgeon B. W. Marlow, M.D., from the 28th Foot, to be staff-surgeon of the second class; assistant-surgeon O'Connor D'Arcey, M.D., from the 5th Dragoon Guards, to be assistant-surgeon to the Forces, vice Ross, appointed to the 39th Foot.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.—Deputy Inspector General Verling, M.D., to be Inspector General of Ordnance Hospitals.

NAVAL.—Walter Dickson, M.D., (1848,) to the *Archer*, 14 screw corvette; John A. Corbett, M.D., (1849,) to the

Miranda, 14 screw steam sloop, Sheerness; Nicholas Littleton, (1851,) to the *Rosamond*, screw steam sloop, Sheerness; John B. Nicholson, M.D., (1853,) to the *Prometheus*, paddlewheel steam sloop at Devonport; William Macleod, M.D., (1853,) from the *Racehorse*, to the *Driver* paddle-wheel steam sloop, Sheerness; James J. Martin, (1853,) to the *Gorgon*, paddle-wheel steam sloop, Portsmouth, W. H. Sloggett, (1853,) to the *Conflict*, 8 screw steam sloop, Portsmouth.

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted members of the College at a meeting of the Court of Examiners on the 3rd inst.:—

ALDRIDGE, CHARLES JOSEPH, Myddleton Square.

BARTRUM, ROBERT HENRY, Norfolk Crescent, Bath.

BRODRICK, HENRY CRITCHLEY, Hon. East India Company's Service, Madras.

CHRISTIE, THOMAS BEATH, Pembroke House, Hackney.

DAY, WILLIAM HENRY, Stratton, near Swindon.

FOX, JOHN, Manchester.

GOULLET, ARTHUR PETER, Australia.

HO CHEE, JAMES, Hon. East India Company's Service, Bombay.

LAY, JAMES COCHRAN, New York.

STAINTHORPE, GEORGE FARBRIDGE, Newcastle.

LICENTIATES IN MIDWIFERY.—The following members of the College, having undergone the necessary examinations, were admitted Licentiates in Midwifery at the meeting of the Board on the 8th instant:—Messrs. John Theophilus Jenkins, Prince Edward's Island, Diploma of membership dated February 3, 1854; James Stevens, Bloomsbury-square, August 4, 1843; William Richard Goylls, Lock Hospital, April 2, 1852; Arthur Salter, Exeter, December 17, 1852; John Skinner, Exeter, May 2, 1851; Thomas Carr Jackson, Hamilton-place, New-road, May 30, 1845; Henry Cundell Juler, Norwich, December 2, 1853; and Eubulus Williams, Williton, Somerset, February 17, 1854.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—Names of gentlemen who passed their examination in the science and practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on—

Thursday, March 2nd, 1854.

BARTRUM, ROBERT HENRY, Norfolk-crescent, Bath.

JAMES, JOSEPH WILLIAM WILMOT.

JAMES, CHARLES POPE, Aldborough, Suffolk.

ROWCLIFFE, EDWARD HANCOCK, Tarporley, Cheshire.

WEBSTER, HENRY.

HUNTERIAN SOCIETY.—Mr. J. C. Wordsworth will read a Case of Scalding of the Glottis requiring Tracheotomy, on Wednesday, the 15th instant.

THE LEVEE.—The following members of the profession attended the levee which was held on Wednesday last:—Doctors Locock, Aldis, Walter D. Jones, F. H. Brett, Ashley, Macloughlin, Billing, Granville, Richard Bright.

NAPOLEON AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.—During Napoleon Bonaparte's exile in St. Helena the surgeon of the *Northumberland* was his constant visitor and his companion on riding excursions. On one of the latter occasions the Emperor having proposed several questions to the surgeon relative to the comparative skill of the French and English medical practitioners—the highest fees given to physicians in England—the expense of the medical staff attached to the British army and navy, &c.—stated that it was at one time his intention to have divided the medical men in France into three distinct classes; the first of which being selected from the most eminent of their profession should have had some honorary badge of distinction, whilst the third class should have been extremely humble, and allowed to administer none but the most simple medicines. "According to my idea," said he, "a physician, like a general officer, should be a man possessing great powers of discernment and observation, which will enable him to discover the position and strength of the enemy: such a practitioner will dispossess the foe without employing force, which might dilapidate the citadel. Now, I conceive that the applications of the lancet, or the administration of mercury, if carried too far, cannot fail of injuring the constitution which they are designed to improve."