doing of newly-commencing practitioners. Ere long, however, I discovered in the person of a chemist and druggist (though assuming the garb of a regularly-educated man) an individual who, by mean artifices, stratagems, and reports, hath cleverly circulated in the town and neighbourhood that he is a "doctor"—good and bold. Believe me, Sir, he prescribes and mixes up more physic than any medical man in town; he hath long pursued this career. Two cases, for which he alone prescribed, terminated fatally the other week. Such events frequently take place. A highly-respected medical gentleman was called in to one of his late cases. On his arrival he found the patient, a young lady, sitting on a chair, with her arm and head reclining on a table, on which a pillow was placed. On his touching her arm he was shocked at feeling it cold and pulseless. Alas! she was dead—quite dead! The chemist had never visited her! She was in the last stage of fever, petechiæ had begun to make their appearance, and her daily allowance consisted of dry toast, gruel, and cold water.

I am acquainted with two or three other cases equally glaring in ignorance. Such instances are horrible to relate. To think that a beautiful young lady, who a very short period before was in the meridian of happiness, should thus be allowed to die, without one effort being made on the part of a regularly-educated medical man to snatch her from the jaws of death! How long must such practices be continued? They are of no rare occurrence in the country. Is there no law—no protection against such dreadful consequences? Are our diplomas only waste paper and our profession a bug-bear?

I am, Sir, yours truly,

W. H.

Jan. 1832.

CHARGE OF UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT
AGAINST DR. R. CLANNY.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I submit the following to your judgment:—

Doctor Clanny of Sunderland visited a patient of mine, with me, named Hannah Barnes, who was labouring under epidemic cholera. In the same house resided Elizabeth Taylor, who was unwell from a stomach complaint. Dr. Clanny requested permission to see her; I granted it. Immediately he saw her, he said her disease was epidemic cholera. I remonstrated, and informed him Doctor Brown had seen the patient, and agreed with me in opinion. Dr. Clanny

departed, and about two hours after, I received the following note:—

“Sunday evening (8th Jan., 1832).

“My dear Sir,—I have been thinking much about the female patient whom I saw last, down stairs, and I cannot get over the impression that she is affected with epidemic cholera. Yours very truly,

(Signed) W. REID CLANNY.”

Doctor Miller (who has been in Asia) was visiting some patients with me at the time I received the above; he went and saw Elizabeth Taylor, and declared that her complaint did not bear any resemblance to cholera. Doctor Clanny, when he found he was unable to induce me to report it as cholera, informed the Board of Health, Sunderland, that I was withholding cases that occurred in my practice. This I allowed to pass, as Doctor Miller, a member of the Board of Health, had attended all the cases with me. Shortly afterwards I was favoured with a note from the Board of Health, requesting my attendance to answer a charge laid against me by Dr. Clanny, member of their Board. I attended at the time requested, but to my disappointment Doctor Clanny was not present to substantiate his charge. I repeated to the gentlemen present what I had said to Doctor Clanny, and the conduct he had been pursuing. With the dignity and good feeling of gentlemen, they said I had been misrepresented, and that they were satisfied.

Now, Mr. Editor, was it proper or professional for Doctor Clanny to send a person to visit my private patients without my knowledge or consent; to compel me to neglect my professional duties by coming a considerable distance to the place appointed for explanation, and then not to make his appearance?

Mr. Editor, the late noble-minded and liberal Doctor Armstrong had to grapple with this Doctor Clanny. I would not have made an allusion to the much-lamented Dr. Armstrong, had it not been that the patient whom Dr. Clanny wished to designate as labouring under cholera, occupied the room in which Dr. A. was born, and where he first devoted his attention to the study of medicine. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WM. CANDLISH.

27th January, 1832.

Ayres Quay, near the Quarantine
Station, Sunderland.

* * * Prudential motives have induced us to omit two or three passages which were contained in the foregoing communication. The parts omitted were scarcely essential to establish the chief points of the narrative.—ED. L.

BLUE STAGE OF THE SPASMODIC CHOLERA.

Sketch of a Girl who died of Cholera, in Sunderland, November, 1831.

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