stitutions appointed for the treatment of the insane, have a trust confided to us at once the most responsible, painful, and difficult. Our only emulation ought to be, not how we may best exalt ourselves or our system, but how we may most successfully advance the good of the whole; and I am quite sure, that where that real philanthropy is found which can alone give energy to our efforts, and support us in making them, *there* will be the least arrogant dictation, the most practical good sense, and a becoming professional respect towards those who are labourers with us in the same great cause. I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

C. C. CORSELLIS, M.D.

Lunatic Asylum, Wakefield,
March 13, 1840.

MEDICAL REFORM.—STUDENTS OF EDINBURGH.

At a meeting of the Students of Medicine at Edinburgh, held in the Natural Philosophy Lecture-room, Surgeon's-square, on Tuesday, March 3rd, 1840, the following resolutions were seconded, and agreed to unanimously. Mr. HOLT was in the Chair:—

1st. "That a petition to the House of Lords and another to the House of Commons, in favour of Medical Reform and for the Suppression of Quackery, be adopted."

2nd. "That a Committee of five be appointed to prepare such Petitions."

The following Petition, which is a modification of that adopted by the North of England Medical Association, was submitted to the Meeting, and approved:—

The Petition of the Students of Medicine of the University and Extra-Academical Schools of Edinburgh,

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

That your Petitioners (being Students of Medicine at Edinburgh) deplore the evil consequences ensuing, not only to the Medical Profession, but to society in general, from the want of an adequate legal constitution for the Medical Profession of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland:

That questions relating to the public health have not hitherto, in the opinion of your Petitioners, received from the Legislature of this country the degree of attention which is commensurate with their importance. The laws which have been passed with a view to regulate medical officers have not been sufficient to guard the public against the pernicious practices of ignorant pretenders to medical skill, or to protect the educated and duly-authorized practitioner from the unfair and unjust competition of persons who can produce no evidence of

their having made a suitable preparation for the duty of treating diseases:

That impostors of every description are, in consequence, allowed to prey upon society, and empiricism, in its most aggravated forms, is suffered to pursue an uninterrupted and most dangerous career:

That chemists and druggists are permitted to prepare and dispense every description of medicine, and to sell the most deadly poisons, without supervision or control; they are, furthermore, in the constant habit of taking upon themselves the task of prescribing for diseases, with whose nature it is impossible they can be acquainted:

That the Colleges and Corporate Institutions, which at this time preside over the Medical Profession, are wholly unequal to the corrections of the abuses complained of by medical men:

That the state of Medical Education in Great Britain is such as to require considerable amendment, there being in the United Kingdom not fewer than nineteen sources from whence are obtained diplomas and licenses to practise medicine, each varying from another in the extent of the education thereby enjoined, and the examination instituted, as well as in the privileges conferred:

Your Petitioners consider such diversity in the education and examination of candidates for medical practice, unnecessary and injurious:

Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honourable House will adopt such measures as will confer upon the Medical Profession a sound and efficient legal constitution, and place it under a system of government, based upon such principles as shall protect the interests alike of its members and the public,—ensure uniformity of education and examination for all who enter it,—prevent illegal practice,—and confer reciprocity of privilege on practitioners throughout England, Scotland, and Ireland:

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

3rd. "That it be left to the Committee to request a Member of each House of Parliament to present the Petition."

4th. "That the thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. WAKLEY for having so long and so perseveringly advocated the cause of Medical Reform."

Committee.—THOMAS HOLT, Chairman.

ALEXANDER ARMSTRONG.

JAMES LORD.

WILLIAM BATES.

THOS. B. WRIGHT.