

prohibition be not quickly rescinded, there ought to be an aggregate meeting of the Profession to take the matter into consideration, and to agree to a petition for presentation to his Majesty upon the subject.

DR. SIGMOND.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I beg you will do me the justice to state, that I most distinctly disavow all connexion with the house to which your correspondent “Chirurgus” alludes, and that if my name has been employed in the way he states, it is a most shameful and unjustifiable breach of truth. In the year 1829, when Dr. Milligan quitted England, I undertook his practice; a pupil of his, Mr. Wray, called on me, and requested me to visit for that gentleman, an establishment he (Mr. Wray) had formed, similar to the *Maisons de Santé* of Paris; I saw for him four or five patients, and paid about five visits, since which period I have never been near the place, nor did I at any time receive either directly or indirectly, the slightest remuneration.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
GEORGE G. SIGMOND.

Jan. 30th, 1831.

We feel much satisfaction in giving a place to this letter, because it is evident that a most unwarrantable use has been made of Dr. SIGMOND's name. A printed card, however, upon which that name has appeared, is in our possession, and it can be forwarded to Dr. SIGMOND, in order to satisfy his mind that we did not publish the former communication on the subject without just grounds.

It will be seen that Mr. JEWELL has also addressed us on the same subject, but not with the same effect as Dr. SIGMOND. We apprehend that Mr. JEWELL's communication will not prove very agreeable to the admirers of professional etiquette.

MR. JEWELL.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I can have no possible objection to state, in reply to your very *courteous* corre-

spondent “Chirurgus,” that I have, until lately, attended the institution in Holborn Hill, and to which several of the most eminent men in the profession have been also attached. I believe the plan of the institution to be precisely that adopted by the *Maison de Santé* in France, and the Asylum for the Recovery of Health in this country, except its being on a more confined scale. I beg to deny, in the most positive terms, having been remunerated in any way but by such fees as are usually given to medical men. I have the honour to remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE JEWELL.

Sackville Street, Feb. 1.

LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Monday, January 31, 1831.

Mr. CALLAWAY in the Chair.

PATHOLOGY OF HOOPING-COUGH.

Dr. BURNE brought forward the subject of the pathology of hooping-cough. Many reasons, he said, had concurred in concealing the morbid changes connected with this disease from the notice of the profession. Children seldom die absolutely of pertussis, in most cases, therefore, the appearances are not single, but are complicated with other pathological phenomena, disease of more than one tissue being present. Occasionally also the true pathological signs of pertussis are not so prominent in their character. His first post-mortem investigation of a case of pertussis took place in 1824, and he then noticed appearances which struck him as peculiar to that disease, namely, hepatization of the lobules of part of the lung, generally of its external border, frequently of the middle lobe of the right lung, and in that part of the left lung where the lobes face each other, especially in the fissures. Why changes should occur in these particular spots it was difficult to decide, but a peculiar locality of morbid changes is not infrequent in diseases of the lungs, in phthisis for example, in which, as it is well known, the superior lobes are most usually affected. One peculiarity which he believed to exist in the hepatization of hooping-cough, is, that instead of the increase or fulness in the volume of the lung which occurred in the ordinary or pneumonic hepatization, there is in pertussis a contraction or diminution in the affected parts. The degree of hepatization was small and circumscribed, confined to the lobules alone, the septa shrinking in, as it were, and leaving superficial furrows on the external surface. It appeared as if it arose from sub-