who *must* be well versed in the subject which he seeks to elucidate by the testimony of others,—the seer who, armed with the panoply of truth and knowledge, lifts the lamp of science over the immolated victim of crime or accident,—a noble and generous character, from the days of Hippocrates down to our own ; while the vampire of the law prowls among the carcasses of the dead, whose fate has, perhaps, been precipitated by the heartless chicanery of which it becomes the instrument.

AUGUR.

February 12th, 1839.

NOTE FROM DR. BURGESS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—I find that I have been misinterpreted in the report of the Westminster Medical Society published in THE LANCET of last Saturday. In relating the anecdote of white parents begetting black children, I did not mean to bring it forward as an argument in *favour* of those doctrines which inculcate that the mind of the mother during utero-gestation is capable of producing such extraordinary physical changes in the embryo ; on the contrary, Dr. Macartney never intended that it should convey any such meaning ; and my object in relating the circumstance was to show the absurdity of *some* of the arguments deduced in favour of the above doctrines.—Yours,

THOMAS H. BURGESS.

3, North Crescent, Bedford-square.

* * We offered no kind of “*interpretation*,” of Dr. Burgess’s statements. We merely gave an exact account of that which he said, leaving the words to interpret themselves.—REP. LANCET.

JOYCE’S AND ARNOTT’S STOVES.

(From a Correspondent.)—At the parish church of Downham, in Norfolk or Suffolk, there were lately introduced one of Arnott’s and two of Joyce’s stoves. A few Sundays after the introduction of the stoves (the overseers, having, however, in justice as it stated, used common charcoal in lieu of the prepared charcoal in Joyce’s stoves) several of the charity children were taken ill, and carried out ; and before the end of the service more than seventy of them were affected in various degrees. Some revived on removal to a purer atmosphere, others required various stimuli ; but, happily, all were eventually restored. The churchwardens profess to be ignorant whether Joyce’s or Arnott’s stove be the one in fault.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Obligation and Extent of Humanity to Brutes, principally considered with reference to Domestic Animals. By W. Youatt. Longman and Co., London, 1839. 8vo, pp. 218.

The Physiology or Mechanism of Blushing, &c. By Thomas Henry Burgess, M.D. Churchill, London, 1839. 8vo, pp. 202.

Illustrations of Operative Surgery. No. I. Amputations. Tipper and Co., Dublin, 1839.

The Veterinarian, Vol. XII., No. 134. Longman and Co., London, 1839.

The Cyclopædia of Anatomy and Physiology. Edited by Robert B. Todd, M.D. Part XVI. Sherwood and Co., London.

The Medical Portrait Gallery, with Biographical Memoirs of the most celebrated Physicians, Surgeons, &c., by Thomas Joseph Pettigrew. Part XII. Whittaker and Co., London, 1839.

Researches in Embryology (first series). By Martin Barry, M.D. London, 1839.

Elements of Chemistry, &c. By the late Dr. Turner. Sixth edition, enlarged and revised by Dr. Liebig and Dr. Turner. Part III., No. 1. Taylor and Walton, London, 1839.

Philozoa, or Moral Reflections on the Condition of the Animal Kingdom, &c. By T. Forster, M.B. W. Todd, Brussels, 1839. 8vo. pp. 94.

Thoughts and Observations on Pauperism, Poor-Laws, and Emigration, Medical Relief, &c. By William Fergusson, M.D. Highley, London, 1839. 8vo, pp. 23.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Candidus. It is not the business of a journalist to put such inquiries. They can be made personally. Most probably the temperature is of no consequence. But the process should be reversed, we think ; the warm water first and the cold afterwards. In *practice* this will be found the most tolerable proceeding.

Veritas. We cannot publish a petition from an anonymous person.

Communications have been received from *Philocrust*, *Candidus*, *Verax*, *Mr. Woolley*, and *Mr. Alfred Smee*. Mr. Smee’s paper shall appear next week.

Un Malhereux. The case is not hopeless, but we never give medical advice in this Journal.

Attention shall be paid to the communication from Reading. The pamphlet should be treated with contempt. Notoriety is evidently the object aimed at.

Gamma. Not just yet.