os uteri was a little dilated, but she had no pains. I could just discover, that the presentation was natural, and directly gave her some brandy and water, which was instantly rejected. I then infused thirty grains of the secale cornutum in hot water, and gave her; this remained on her stomach, but she had become nearly motionless; in twenty minutes a little pain came on and increased slowly; soon after the hæmorrhage abated, and was totally suspended. In five-and-forty minutes, she continued almost without pulsation, except when roused by the pains, till near six o'clock, A.M., when a living child was expelled, and was soon followed by the placenta; a little brandy was now given, and repeated at intervals, which restored her slowly, and she is now quite recovered. The ergot was given at half past two A.M., upwards of three hours before the expulsion of the child; but appeared to act regularly from the first, and the hæmorrhage was restrained as soon as the effect of the remedy became apparent.

I remain,

Your very obedient servant,

PETER ROGERS, M.R.C.S.

Looe, Cornwall, August, 1828.

GLASGOW ROYAL INFIRMARY.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—The remarks in *THE LANCET* of the 19th inst., on an operation lately performed at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, contain the grossest misrepresentations; of which, as they have greatly affected the credit of your Journal here, it is presumed you will be glad to insert a contradiction as early as possible.

The following is an abstract of the case alluded to, as it is detailed in the Journals of the Hospital.

J. P., aged 2. In right side of scrotum is a tumour, the size of a small walnut, which gives uneasiness when pressed. The abdomen is much distended, tympanitic, and, at lower part, tender to the touch. Bowels constipated; skin warm and dry; tongue white; pulse 120; thirst urgent. Nausea, occasional retching, and loathing of food for two days past.

The mother states, that three months ago she observed a small swelling in the situation of inguinal hernia of the size of a filbert. It gradually increased, descended into the scrotum, and in six weeks had attained its present size. Pressure readily caused its disappearance, which was always accompanied by a gurgling noise. It has been in its present situation for two weeks past, and he has had no stool for eight

days. Two days ago, nausea and retching came on. Taxis has been tried by a surgeon, but without success.

The taxis was again tried by both the attending surgeons. The child was ordered a warm bath, 3 grains of calomel to be followed by ʒij of castor oil, and if necessary an enema.

Five o'clock, P.M. The medicine not having operated, an enema was given which produced a scybalous stool. No diminution of the tumour, which is now more tender on pressure. The child is more restless; fever has increased, and pulse is 140. A consultation was immediately called; and although some doubts were entertained, an operation was determined upon, as, under all the circumstances of the case, the safest course.

It may also be stated, though not mentioned in the case taken in the Journal, that a short time after the tumour was first observed, it was shown to two surgeons, who both reduced it, considered it a rupture and recommended a truss.

Now, Sir, compare these symptoms with the statement of your correspondent, that there was neither fever, hiccup, vomiting of fætid matter, want of stools, tenderness over the abdomen, or in the parts, &c. and you will be at no loss what opinion to form of his veracity. He is deprived of the plea of ignorance or mistake, for the Journals of this Institution are open to the students, and kept with regularity.

Having contradicted the mistatement in this instance we need scarcely add, that it is expected of your justice, that you be more cautious with regard to future reports from the same quarter as your last. Strict justice, indeed, would demand that you should publish the name of your informant, that he may enjoy the reward of contempt to which his conduct so justly entitles him.

We might have dwelt more minutely on the case in question, but it will, in all probability, appear in the half-yearly account of the surgical practice of the Infirmary, which it is now usual to publish in the Glasgow Medical Journal.

We fear no inquiry into the accuracy of our statement, and shall not, like your correspondent, withhold our names. We might add to them, were it necessary, those of a hundred of our fellow-students,

J. R. WOOD,

WM. B. LORRAIN,

JAMES B. NEWLANDS.

Students at the Glasgow
Royal Infirmary.

Glasgow, July 29th, 1828.*

* We regret that a press of matter prevented us from giving an earlier insertion to this letter.—E.D. L.