measures were taken by Dr. Macpherson to stop the increase of the disease, by having every case, immediately it was detected, brought under medical treatment, with an abundant supply of fresh meat and vegetables for the whole force. This, with the other prophylactic measures usually adopted, speedily checked the disease, and it is now rapidly disappearing.

I have the honour to be, Sir, yours, &c.,

JAMES VAUGHAN,

Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, T. C.

Yenikale, Straits of Kertch, Crimea, Feb. 22, 1856.

P.S. I ought to mention that the majority of the medical men can converse fluently with their patients in Turkish, which is a great point gained, and so very necessary for the officers of this force.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In my last letter, the following words, "*salaries of the*," were omitted in the quotation from the statement of Mr. Bouverie, which should read as follows:—

"That with regard to the medical districts, and *salaries of the medical officers*, these were matters not immediately under the control of the Poor-law Board, these being settled in the first instance by the guardians." This correction is important, as it proves the utter inutility of petitioning the Poor-law Board on the subject. I am further strengthened in this opinion by the resolutions to petition Parliament passed at meetings held last week in London by the Associated Poor-law Medical Officers of the City of London; and at Cambridge by the medical officers of several Unions of that town and neighbourhood.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

Royal-terrace, Weymouth, March, 1856.

RICHARD GRIFFIN.

THE MEDICAL REFORM BILL.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I am desired to request you to insert the following resolutions in your next number.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

E. J. SHEARMAN, M.D.

Rotherham, March 12th, 1856.

At a meeting of the Medical Society of Rotherham—present, Dr. Shearman, President, Dr. Robinson, Dr. Hardwicke, Mr. E. Robinson, Mr. Stone, Mr. Darwin, Mr. C. Mellor—it was resolved,

"That the medical practitioners of Rotherham, observing the absence of any clause in the proposed Medical Act for preventing illegal practice by parties not *claiming or admitting* to be registered, do memorialize the Committee of the House of Commons to insert the clause in the present Apothecaries' Act, or one equally stringent for that purpose, before the Act is passed.

"That the thanks of the meeting be given to the President."

ON THE TREATMENT OF SCARLATINA ANGINOSA.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I quite agree with your correspondent on the treatment of scarlatina anginosa; and, if used in an early stage of the disease, I have always found the injection of warm water into the nares to be sufficient to cleanse away all unhealthy secretions collected there, without resorting to any severer proceedings to effect that desirable end.

Mr. Hanks, in his letter (see THE LANCET, March 1), has mistaken the object I had in view, and attributed to me intentions both piratical and unjust. My only reason for advocating that particular plan of treatment in the above-mentioned disease was purely for the benefit of suffering humanity, having proved its efficacy in so many cases.

It would have been better, before making such uncourteous remarks upon a neighbouring practitioner's communication, had your correspondent paused to consider whether he was acting judiciously in publishing his opinions on, and treatment of, *medical cases*, in the widely-circulated pages of THE LANCET, before he was placed in a position to do so by a well-known Society now existing in Blackfriars.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

Nassau-place, 1856.

F. C. CORY, M.D. &c.

THE NEW VACCINATION ACT.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I find in the new Vaccination Act that every four months the registrar will hand in a list of the children not vaccinated to the board of guardians, who will then, it is presumed, take steps to enforce the vaccination, &c. Permit me to suggest that every such list should be submitted by the registrar to the public vaccinator of his district one fortnight before he hands the list to the guardians, in order that he may have the opportunity of performing the operation in such cases as had been accidentally overlooked, or where, from sickness, absence, or ignorance, the necessary certificates could not be procured by the parents.

The act might also empower the public vaccinator to visit *any* child whose parents, declining to accept the public vaccinator, had neglected to produce a sufficient certificate from his private medical man, and to offer to vaccinate such child at the public expense. This may appear a harsh proposal, but unless the production of a certificate be enforced, the registration of vaccination will not be complete. This may appear, also, to sanction interference with the patients of other men, but I am convinced that it would produce the desired result by acting on the natural jealousy of the profession. At present, but few certificates are sent to the registrar from any others than the public vaccinators, and the true protective qualities of the vaccine lymph cannot be fully ascertained.

Moreover, by first acquainting the public vaccinator with the state of the list, the guardians would often be saved unnecessary trouble.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Hilton, March, 1856.

J. WEARNE.

SIR GILBERT BLANE'S MEDAL.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I am sure you will kindly allow me space to rectify a mistake, published in a recent number of your excellent journal, which if unnoticed may detract from the honour of the Blane Medallists. In THE LANCET of the 23rd ult. (p. 219), under the head of "Medical Prizes," the Blane Medal is described as being given for the "*best reports of cases*," whereas it is distinctly stated in the Admiralty Memorandum, printed in the authorised list of the Royal Navy, that this medal was founded by the late Sir Gilbert Blane, Bart., "*for the encouragement of naval medical science*," and to be conferred, on the decision of the Medical Director-General of H. M. Navy and the Presidents of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons in London, upon such medical officers "*as shall produce the most approved journals of their practice*." In the Admiralty letter which usually notifies or accompanies the medal, it is said to be conferred on "*medical officers who may have particularly distinguished themselves in the exercise of their profession*;" besides which, if any other proof were needed of its importance as a medical honour, the fact of the present Medical Director-General, Sir John Liddell, K.C.B., having been one of the recipients, as also that nearly all the others have become inspectors or deputy inspectors of hospitals, or are otherwise in good professional positions, will be a sufficient test of its estimation as a distinctive reward, and evidences that it is not a mere students' medal for well-reported cases, but the result of an honorary contest, in which several hundreds of medical men, who have been from ten to thirty years in their profession, are engaged.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant and old subscriber,

London, March 17th, 1856.

BALTIC.

PLURAL BIRTHS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I enclose and forward for insertion the report of a case of triplets which I attended in December last, but have been prevented from sending it to you before:—

On the morning of the 14th of December, 1855, I was summoned to the Union-house to attend S. M—, aged nineteen, a single woman, who I found on arriving there to be in labour; the membranes had broken, and a head presented. The child was now soon born; and, after waiting a little time, I made another examination, when I detected another bag of membranes, and a second head presentation. On rupturing this bag, a second child was speedily born. On exploring the abdomen with my hand, I could readily detect another fetus in utero. Consequently I again made an examination per vaginam,