joined rest. In a few days the patient went down stairs, and in about a week or ten days went to school. He was of a nervous lymphatic temperament, and complained of pain sometimes along the front of the thigh, and sometimes over the sacrum. His mother went to see him at the school, and finding the boy recovering but slowly, took him off to London, and consulted a Mr. Hutton of Gloucester-place. This lady, in writing to a friend, states that "Mr. Hutton at once pronounced the pelvis bone to be out of place, and said that her son must immediately undergo an operation; it was rather painful, but quite successful. Ice was ordered to the hip, and Mr. Hutton would go to Manchester in a week to see the patient. Immediately after the operation he walked briskly across the room with his usual gait." In a letter to myself this lady states that Mr. Hutton discovered "a displacement of the hip-bone, and consequent fall of the pelvis."

Not knowing who Mr. Hutton is, and being unable to find his name in the Directory, I addressed a letter to him to know what he had discovered in the case, as I know that patients often make mistakes in relating medical opinions and statements. In reply to my letter, Mr. Hutton states: "The nature of the case was *detachment of the pelvis and hip*, caused by a fall or some such thing. This operation is a very peculiar one; it requires a side twist. I cannot explain, but should be delighted to show you."

I shall make no comment on the above opinion. I do not know who Mr. Hutton is, but evidently he is a surgeon of great talent in diagnosis.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

L. OWEN FOX, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Broughton, Winchester, July 29, 1873.

PROGRESS OF CHOLERA IN GERMANY.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—As I receive frequent inquiries regarding the progress of cholera in the centre of Germany, I venture to give you the information contained in a letter which I had yesterday from Professor Baeumler at Erlangen. The towns hitherto visited by cholera in Bavaria are Munich, Landshut, Passau, Ingolstadt, Nürnberg, and Würzburg. The latter place seems to be as yet the most westerly point reached by the disease.

The average daily number of new cases at Würzburg does not exceed 20 in a population of rather over 40,000, and during the last days there has been a decrease in the number as well as the severity of the cases.

At Munich the epidemic has been mild, the greatest daily access of new cases being only 38 for about 160,000 inhabitants. The mortality is up to this time about 37 per cent.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Grosvenor-street, August 26th, 1873.

HERMANN WEBER.

ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—The one cheering occasion in this depressing country is when THE LANCET arrives, and we see that we have a steady powerful friend in it to advance our just claims; but "would you be surprised to hear" that the much-talked-of and written-about Warrant of March 1st, 1873, is still, in the middle of July, a dead letter in India? Alas! it is only too true. Here, all of us lately promoted surgeons-major (April 1st, 1873) only draw the pay and allowances of assistant-surgeons, as most of us have been doing for many years past—namely, 451 rupees per mensem. We applied for the proper pay (825 rupees a month) of our new rank, which had appeared in the General Orders, gazetted, and confirmed in this country, but have been officially refused. "Disallowed" appears across our abstracts for pay and allowances, claimed each month—"as we are supernumerary to the fixed establishment of British medical officers." Now I wish I was an Indian medico, as they are at once made supernumerary after completing twelve years' service, and get the 825 rupees.

It strikes me and others that a really very pretty job has been perpetrated (at our cost), so as to give promotion

simultaneously to about eighty of us youngsters (?). The majority of the batch are in India, and lots more are coming out in the first troop-ship. "India won't pay them, England has nothing to do with them, and no expense to the public is incurred by the pacifying *Gazette* of April 29th last!" Thus, no doubt, someone chuckles. I will not make a remark upon this little swindle, as it might be thought disrespectful, and nothing is further from my thoughts; but I vouch for the facts, as my empty pockets also verify, and ask you, Sir, to deal with them in your editorial columns. It may prevent some of the same batch of my brother officers being too sanguine when they get their orders for first "trooper." I can assure them that their present English pay and allowances are of much greater value than 451 rupees a month here, expenses of living having doubled in India lately.

Formerly, when we were promoted in this country, we were sent home if there were no vacancies. Now this is not to be done, but all assistant-surgeons (now called surgeons) who have been five years and upwards in India are to be sent *volens volens* home, taken away from regiments and batteries, so as to create vacancies for recently promoted men, who will by this move be still nothing more than departmental subalterns.

Do expose this the latest shuffle, and help

India, July 21st, 1873.

THE VICTIMS.

TUNNELING THE END OF URETHRAL INSTRUMENTS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I beg leave to state that the communication to THE LANCET of July 12th, 1873, page 63, bearing the above title, and signed "Honour to whom honour is due," contains misstatements which I desire to correct.

1. I never was "a student of medicine in Dr. Van Buren's office."

2. Dr. Van Buren had never seen tunneled urethral instruments until I made them known to him.

3. Dr. Van Buren stated to me, early in 1870, that he had never claimed to be the inventor of the tunneled sound or of any other tunneled urethral instruments.

I have the honour to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. S. GOULEY, M.D.,

Surgeon to Bellevue Hospital, New York, &c.

New York, August 9th, 1873.

THE "ASPIRATOR."

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—You did me the favour to publish in THE LANCET of June 11th, 1870, a statement proving my right of priority to the invention of the Aspirator, or exhausting needle-trocar, which had been claimed by Dr. Dieulafoy, of Paris, who had taken out a patent for the sale of the instrument in London, although I had for two or three years previously exhibited it on several occasions in Paris as well as in England. I should not have troubled you again on the subject had not Dr. Dieulafoy's claim been renewed lately on the occasion of his reading a paper at the meeting of the British Medical Association. In the cause of truth and fair play I would ask you once more to permit me to refer your numerous readers to my former letter in THE LANCET, since it so clearly shows how groundless are Dr. Dieulafoy's pretensions, in the face of facts repeatedly brought before his notice and that of the profession.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

PROTHEROE SMITH, M.D.

Park-street, W., August 15th, 1873.

RAPID RECOVERY AFTER LITHOTOMY.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—My experience enables me to confirm your remarks in your last issue on the comparative frequency in India of rapid recoveries after lithotomy.

In 1862, when I was civil surgeon of Mozuffurgurh, near Mooltan, I operated upon a lad about sixteen years of