THE MEDICAL PROFESSION AND LIFE ASSURANCE OFFICES.

THE GRESHAM LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I think the profession should have a caution as to filling up proposals for assurance with the above-named office, for medical men may be quite sure they will not be paid by it for the work they do. The correspondence enclosed herewith will satisfactorily prove this to be the case; and if you can find room to insert it, you will much oblige

Your obedient servant,

Frestwich, near Manchester, Feb. 25, 1852.

J. B. BINDLOSS.

(COPY.)

MR. J. B. BINDLOSS presents his compliments to Mr. Pott, and will feel obliged to him if he will send him six guineas, (or direct his agent in Manchester to do so,) that sum being his fee for filling up the proposals for assurance for Mr. — and his family.

To the Secretary of the Gresham Life Assurance Society.

The Gresham Life Assurance Society,
No. 37, Old Jewry.
London, Feb. 24, 1852.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 23rd inst.

I regret my inability to comply with your request.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

J. B. Bindloss, Esq., Frestwich,
near Manchester.

THOS. W. POTT, Sec.

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted Members of the College, at the meeting of the Court of Examiners, on the 5th inst.:—

ATKINS, AARON, Mile-end-road.

BEALE, BERNARD CHARLES, Bedford-square, Stepney.

CRISP, JAMES HENRY, Bath.

GORING, CHARLES, Demerara.

KIRKMAN, WILLIAM PHILLIPS, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

M'CANN, JAMES, Parliament-street.

PASKE, CHARLES THOMAS, Hon. East India Company's Service.

PILKINGTON, WILLIAM, Leyland, Lancashire.

RHIND, SAMUEL, Ross, Herefordshire.

WALMSLEY, STEPHEN, Liverpool.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—Names of gentlemen who passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on

Thursday, March 4th, 1852.

BUTCHER, JOHN BREAX, Devonport.

CRESSWELL, THOMAS HOBBS.

THE COLLEGE LECTURES.—Professor Owen will give his introductory lecture on Tuesday next.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL.—The annual court of this corporation was held in the board-room of the hospital on the 4th inst., Lord Radstock in the chair. This being the first annual meeting of the governors since the passing of the Act of Incorporation of the hospital with King's College, much interest was displayed. Reports of the general state of the hospital, and of the Building and Endowment Fund, were read and adopted. It appeared that the funds of the hospital had been heavily drawn upon during the past year, the increase of out-patients having been no less than 5148. This circumstance has necessarily produced a depressed state of the finances; and the report embodied an earnest appeal to the supporters of the institution for co-operation with the committee of management in augmenting its resources. The report from the Building and Endowment Fund Committee was most satisfactory. It appeared that great progress has been made towards commencing the new building, and that preparation is being made by the removal of houses and other obstructions, with the view to clear the ground for laying the foundation-stone, which will be done on the 16th of June next, the Earl of Ellesmere, the president of the institution, having consented to officiate on the occasion. It is a source of great congratulation to the supporters of this charitable institution, that their efforts to found an hospital in some measure commensurate

with the demands of this most populous district, are likely to be soon crowned with success. It is a subject of no little congratulation likewise to the public at large, to know that this portion of the metropolis will shortly be so greatly improved, by opening a densely-crowded neighbourhood; and that the burial-ground adjoining the hospital is now paid for, and taken possession of under the provisions of the Act of Parliament. The ground, henceforth, will never be used for the purpose of interment, but will be kept as an open space for the purposes of the hospital. Resolutions of thanks to the Committee of Management, the Building and Endowment Fund Committee, and others, for their exertions in the prosperity of the institution, were passed; and, after other special business had been transacted, the meeting separated with the unanimous thanks of the governors to the noble chairman.

We understand that his Excellency Lord Cowley has appointed Dr. Olliffe physician to the British Embassy at Paris.

APPOINTMENT.—Mr. W. Wright has been appointed Surgeon to the Whitehaven and West Cumberland Infirmary.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—This establishment continues, and deservedly so, as attractive as ever. No public resort combines so much of instruction and amusement. From the lectures delivered, old and young may derive many an idea which, clothed in more technical language, it would be difficult to retain. Mr. Pepper gives a very interesting lecture on the subject of Schönbein's experiments with ozone, while Dr. Bachhoffner makes a demonstration of voltaic electricity, illustrated by very beautiful experiments demonstrating its application to lighting purposes, and also as a terrific agent in the means of national defence. There is one point, however, to which the managers should direct attention. Such an institution ought to be a place of reference with respect to the materials used in the arts and sciences; and were a space set apart distinctly for such a museum of specimens, it would probably in a short time assume an important place in public opinion.

HEREFORD GENERAL DISPENSARY.—James Prendergass, Esq., has bequeathed £100 to this charity.

DREADFUL RAVAGES OF CHOLERA.—According to the last medical returns, 40,000 persons died of cholera in Jamaica last year.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL.—During the month, 8247 patients participated in the benefits of this national charity.

PAYMENT OF POOR-LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS.—The guardians of the Wolverhampton union are now engaged fixing the scale of remuneration to medical officers at so much per case for each pauper. The sums proposed are 2s., 2s. 6d., 3s., 3s. 6d., and 5s. 6d. per case. They are also discussing whether medical officers shall be appointed to each district, or whether the poor shall be allowed to employ any medical gentleman they shall please. The relieving officers are opposed to giving such an option to the poor, as in that case the doctors would oftener give an order for food than they would prescribe medicine. They also assert that they could produce a hogshhead of medicine which the doctors prescribed, but the poor never used. In fact, they say that almost all the applications are "bread-and-cheese cases," and that while they (the relieving officers) only gave 578 orders, the medical men had 1985 patients. The present remuneration paid the medical officers averages 1s. 4½d. per case.

THE IRISH SQUADRON.—The squadron at Cork has been undergoing quarantine, in consequence of measles having broken out in the fleet.

APPOINTMENTS UNDER THE IRISH POOR-LAW BOARD.—The poor-law commissioners have sanctioned the appointment of Dr. Thadeus M'Carthy, for the Kenmare district of the Kenmare union, at £100 a year; of Dr. Adrian Taylor, for the Kilgarvan district, at £80; and of Dr. Doran, for the Sneem district, at £60.

THE CORPORATION OF DUBLIN, AND DEGREES FROM ST. ANDREWS.—Dr. Banon, who obtained his degree of M.D. from St. Andrew's University, having been appointed physician to the Richmond Bridewell, the legality of the appointment was questioned; because, according to the 6th and 7th Geo. IV., such an officer must be a licentiate of a College of Physicians, and also a member of the College of Surgeons; and St. Andrews was not considered as coming under the denomination of a